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METHUEN: SCANDAL CITY

SEE PAGE 2&5



The City of Methuen has been plagued with scandal since January. Financial Crisis, an Unlicensed Superintendent, and State Oversight - Who is Responsible for This Whole Mess?

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VALLEY PATRIOTS OF THE MONTH

Middleton's Douglas Bryant - 5 Combat Patrols vs. the Japanese, Before He Turned 20

John Cuddy

VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

THE SILENT SERVICE

Middleton's Douglas Bryant originally hailed from Amesbury, Massachusetts where his father worked in the automotive industry. Prior to World War II, Amesbury had a bustling automobile industry,

but manufacturers such as the Walker Body Company did not survive the Great Depression.

After the Depression hit, with his dad laid off, the family moved to Snowville, NH (now called Eaton, NH) to a farmhouse that was offered to the family rent free, in exchange for repairs and farm work. Working as a teenager in various

jobs, including a stint building destroyers at the Charlestown Naval Shipyard, Doug could not wait to enlist and join the war effort. Enlisting in the US Navy at seventeen, he completed basic training, volunteered for submarines, and was sent to Engineman School, then on to the USS Seadog SS-401, a new construction boat in Portsmouth, NH.

I have had the honor and pleasure of meeting retired US Navy Senior Chief Bryant twice, once at the Submarine Veterans of America's dinner held at the Gerry Five Hall in Marblehead, MA, the second time at the same organization's summer cookout at a member's North Shore home.

At the Submarine Veteran's diner last spring, the Master of Ceremonies, went around the room, and asked each Submarine Veteran to stand, introduce themselves, and announce the date they qualified as a Submariner and the Boat (what sailors call submarines) they qualified on. Sailor after sailor stood up, said their name, the name of their boat, and the year they earned their "dolphins". (The official name is the Submarine Warfare insignia which all qualified sub sailors wear, but always called dolphins by Sailors). The crowd of around fifty sailors and their wives, erupted when Doug stood and said, "Doug Bryant, USS Seadog, 1944". Out of all the Navy men in the room, all except me wearing "dolphins", on their suit lapels, only Senior Chief Bryant was wearing his dolphins, his Navy diver qualification pin, and the coveted



Submarine Combat Patrol Insignia with five stars. Each star representing a combat patrol against Japan. This pin has not been awarded since 1945.

In his book, "The Navy gave me Shoes", Senior Chief Bryant describes in great detail his training and being mentored by veterans of other submarines, who were transferred to provide leadership on the newer subs. Navy men love to tell stories, in his biography, Doug talks about an older sailor, a veteran of earlier combat patrols on another boat, who

HERO: PAGE 24



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EDITORIAL: Methuen School Committee Had One Chance to Get it Right

Methuen has become the city of scandal and cover-ups. It is a reputation that has sadly been earned.

Since Mayor Jajuga took office in January, Methuen residents have been deluged with story after story of political insiders taking advantage of conflicts of interest, shady backroom deals, former officials getting jobs they don't deserve, city contracts given to campaign donors who were not the lowest bidders, outrageous union raises, and worst of all, nobody being held accountable for any of it.

So, it should have been no surprise when we learned that Superintendent of Schools Judy Scannell has been working for eight years without a license as Methuen's school superintendent.

We found it amusing that so many Methuen officials acted shocked... SHOCKED ... that Scannell had also worked for ten years as a school principal and never had a principal's license.

Who knew?

It is impossible for Judy Scannell to have fraudulently worked as a school principal for ten years with no license without

anyone knowing about it. It is impossible for her to have worked for eight years as a superintendent with no license without school personnel or school committee members knowing about it.

With all due respect to Methuen School Committeeman DJ Deeb, we find it irresponsible that he and the rest of the committee (except Jana DiNatale and Jana Pesce) voted to accept her resignation instead of firing her. It was also dishonest and lacking in "transparency" to focus on the financial impact or how many years Scannell "loved the children" in considering whether or not to terminate her or accept her resignation.

In his column below, Methuen School Committeeman Deeb states that if the committee had proceeded with a hearing to fire Scannell it would have cost money and that: "Nothing substantive would have come from termination."

That's just not true.

Because the school committee voted to accept Scannell's resignation, no questions asked, we will never know who inside the school system knew about

Scannell's fraud and looked the other way. Someone did. A hearing to fire her would have unearthed that and others would also have to be fired.

But we suspect that's why this went down the way it did. Mayor Jajuga and the rest of his committee accepted Scannell's resignation, threw her alone under the bus, and "moved forward for the sake of the kiddos" ... or more precisely, to protect the political insiders.

Because of this, we will also never know why the school personnel director didn't do anything about Scannell's license for the TEN YEARS she was a school principal before she became superintendent. We will never know why the search committee recommended Scannell to be superintendent in 2010 without doing a basic background search or researching her certifications.

Or maybe they did. Maybe that's the reason they chose Scannell, because it made her vulnerable to political influences. Maybe that's the reason so many politically connected family members work in the Methuen Schools these days.

Because of the school committee's decision to sweep everything under the rug, we will never know who made deals for better jobs, promotions, or raises in return for keeping Scannell's secrets.

With so many scandals plaguing Methuen in 2018, The Methuen School Committee had one chance to get this right, and they blew it. They had one chance to restore the voter's faith in at least one level of local government. They had one chance to call for hearings and truly be as "transparent" as they pretend to be at election time. They had one chance to hold people accountable.

Instead they took a walk, showing residents that Methuen really is as corrupt as people say it is and that nobody is ever held accountable for misdeeds as long as they are politically connected.

What's worse, when the committee voted to accept Scannell's resignation, not one of them called for an investigation as to how all this happened ... in plain sight ... right under everyone's noses ... for 18 years. We think that says it all.

Remember that next year at election time.

Superintendent Scannell Leaves with Tainted Legacy

D.J. Deeb

METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The City of Methuen has gone through a very difficult few months. The latest involves the controversy surrounding Superintendent Judy Scannell not having a license to be Superintendent of Schools and prior to that no license to be Principal of the Tenney and Timony Elementary Schools.

Deciding how to handle the revelations regarding Superintendent Scannell's lack of licensure was the most difficult decision that I have had to make in my 21 years of experience as a career educator and school committee member. Like many, I had mixed emotions: I was saddened, shocked, and angry. There were many factors that needed to be weighed in considering what were in the best interests of the children and the taxpayers of Methuen.

I moved to Methuen in 2011 and was first elected to the Methuen School Committee in 2013. There is no question that our students and our schools are in a much better place than they were in 2013. My evaluations of the Superintendent's performance were stellar and reflect this. In 2013, Methuen lagged behind state average and surrounding towns statistically with the number of students who graduate from high school in four years. Methuen had a 79% graduation rate. It is now over 90% (above state average of 85%). The dropout rate has been successfully reduced from 7.5% to 1.3% (now below state average of 2%). Five years

ago, Methuen lagged behind the state in technology integration. Now laptops are replacing textbooks in our schools and all classrooms are equipped with Smartboards. These tools allow our teachers to cater to all student learning styles resulting in increased student performance. People are moving to Methuen because of our schools. Enrollment has increased significantly. Judy Scannell and her team did a great job.

All of this certainly does not excuse the negligence on Superintendent Scannell's part to obtain proper licensure. It is the professional responsibility of every licensed educator to ensure that their license(s) are valid and up-to-date.

I was not part of the original committee that hired Judy Scannell as Superintendent in 2010, so I was unaware that a waiver had been granted at that time. I would not have voted to hire someone on a waiver. It is not the school committee's role to be a custodian of licensure. However, given what has transpired, I intend to propose that the School Committee adopt a policy to ensure that all proper credentials are verified each year by the Human Resources Department. There are many more policies that I plan to propose to restore confidence and move the school department forward in the coming months and I will discuss these more in detail at a later time.

When it was confirmed that Superintendent Judy Scannell did not have proper licensure, the School Committee acted immediately. The School Committee

had three options: (1) Accept her retirement; (2) Move forward with a process of termination; or (3) Accept her resignation effective immediately. I weighed each of these options very carefully and sought advice from legal counsel before making my decision. Legal counsel advised that if we accepted a retirement or if we moved forward with termination, the School District would be responsible for paying accumulated sick-leave buy-back, which would have cost nearly \$20,000. If we voted to move forward with termination, the school district would still have to pay \$20,000 in sick-leave buy-back and leave the Superintendent on payroll on administrative leave for up to 90 days while the process played out. This could have resulted in tens of thousands of dollars more in litigation fees while paying for two superintendents. Under the third option, the superintendent would leave immediately and forfeit sick-time buy-back. At our August 30th public meeting legal counsel made clear that the pension amount is decided by the Massachusetts Teacher Retirement Board and school committees do not have say in the matter. This is truly unfortunate and I would like to see legislation filed by our state delegation that imposes pension consequences for misrepresentations of or lack of proper licensure.

After struggling with my options I voted in favor of accepting the Superintendent's resignation effective immediately. I could never vote in favor of accepting retirement given the revelations that came out. Many are disappointed that I did not vote to go forward with termination, but the laws governing public employee dismissal are very different than the laws governing private companies. I do not agree with this but it is the reality on the ground. Voting to accept the resignation effective immediately on August 30th made the most sense to me in trying to be fiscally responsible to the schools and the city. Nothing substantive would have come from termination. The city and the schools would have been just stuck with paying thousands of dollars with nothing to show for it at the end of the day. It would have been a lawyers' field day.

By accepting the resignation Superintendent Scannell left immediately and we do not have to buy back her sick time. Although it may not have been the most popular and politically expedient decision,



we were stuck between a rock and a hard place given the legal ramifications. I truly believe that this was in the best long-term interests of our students, our schools, and our city moving forward.

With all of the negative publicity now in the Boston media, as well as the local press, the failure of Superintendent Judy Scannell to obtain proper licensure for her roles will be a dark cloud over her otherwise positive legacy that she lives with for the rest of her life, and rightly so. That is the worst punishment.

The Methuen Public Schools are a good school system. The teachers and administrators in Methuen are dedicated professionals who care deeply about the well-being of their students. Moving forward though it is my belief that we need to begin the search process for a new superintendent as soon as possible. I think that it is best to seek out professional assistance from the Massachusetts Association of School Committees or a similar outside organization to manage this search. I also support bringing in someone from outside Methuen to fill this role in order to restore confidence and to assess current practices.

D.J. Deeb is a Methuen resident and Secretary of the Methuen School Committee. Deeb is an Adjunct Professor of History/Government at Bunker Hill Community College and an Adjunct Political Science Instructor at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Deeb also serves as Social Studies Department Chair at Notre Dame High School in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He is the author of Israel, Palestine, and the Quest for Middle East Peace (University Press, 2013) and The Collapse of Middle East Peace (IUniverse, 2003).

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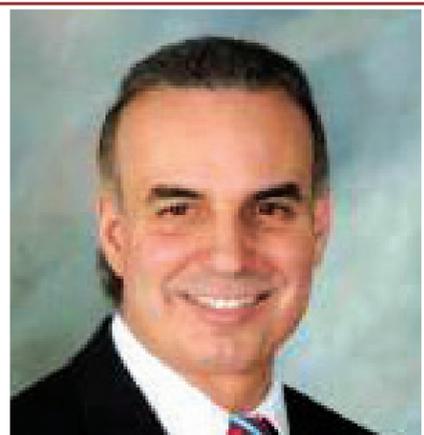
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Lawrence General Gets Grant to Support Latina Breast Health Outreach Program

Lawrence General Hospital has received a \$10,000 Targeted Grant to Advance Women from the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation. The grant money will be used to support the hospital's Latina Breast Health Outreach Program, a collaboration with the YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts in Lawrence. Since it began in 2011, this program has served more than 5,500 Latinas in the community, providing essential education about the importance of mammograms and maintaining overall breast health.

"In addition to providing education on breast health, we also schedule screenings and connect women to additional services like health insurance and primary care," says Deb Dailey, director of Radiology at Lawrence General. "Once a screening is scheduled, we also make reminder calls to ensure that patients get to appointments, and assist with navigation should they need follow-up visits or treatment."

According to the Susan G. Komen Foundation, Latinas tend to be diagnosed with late-stage breast cancer more often than most other ethnicities. This is due to lower mammography rates, as well as more delays in receiving follow-up care when screening finds an abnormality. This cultural disparity reinforces why the Breast Health Outreach Program continues to be relevant and important.

The Breast Health Outreach Program

is staffed by two employees who work in close collaboration with a team of bilingual YWCA outreach Health Ambassadors. Through a series of "charlas," or small group presentations, organized by the Health Ambassadors, local women receive education that is culturally and linguistically appropriate. The presentations are held in local churches, beauty salons, homes, and other informal gathering spaces.

"These are women who have limited access to health information," explains Dailey. "Anything we can do to educate them about the importance of being proactive about their self-care can have a major impact."

For more information about the Latina Breast Health Outreach Program, call 978-946-8000 extension 2437.

The Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation's Targeted Grant program supports hundreds of community-based organizations working for progress on a specific issue in New England. Lawrence General Hospital was one of 170 nonprofits to receive a \$10,000 grant. In total, Eastern is granting \$1.7 million in Targeted Grants this year to nonprofits in communities from New Hampshire to Cape Cod and throughout the South Shore, North Shore, Metro West, Merrimack Valley, and Greater Boston.

"WEATHER 101" WITH AL!

Al Kaprielian
VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

Welcome to September which is the month leading into the fall season. Recapping August, it was a hot and also a wet month. The daily high temperatures averaged above normal. Boston had the warmest August ever. Rainfall amounts were also above normal.

Concord NH had over ten inches of rain which was over seven inches above normal. This was a new record rainfall for Concord for the month of August. Lynn MA had 8" + of rain early Sunday morning August 12th. Back to the heat, Lawrence saw over twenty days when high temperatures reached 90 degrees or greater. Manchester NH also saw over twenty days when the high temperature reached 90 degrees or higher. The reason for the hot weather was a strong Bermuda high pressure system.

This is an upper level high pressure system off the east coast of the US. Its strength caused it to expand north into New England pushing the jet stream to our north. At times we saw cold fronts move in bringing cooler and less humid weather. However, the Bermuda HIGH PRESHA!system would re-strengthen and bring a return to hot and humid weather. We did see some severe weather during August. On August 4th an EF-0 tornado occurred in the Woodstock CT area. The funnel cloud then lifted back into the clouds and resurfaced back to the ground in the Dudley, MA and Webster, MA areas as an EF-1 tornado.

This tornado caused numerous trees and power lines to fall knocking out power to many homes. This resulted in numerous power outages. A tornado is a funnel cloud which is caused by severe thunderstorms. Severe thunderstorms can occur ahead of cold fronts when cooler less humid air

clashes with hot and humid air ahead of the front. This causes a clash of two different air masses. Towards the last few days in August we saw very hot and humid weather with temperatures in the 90s. Dew points were over 70 degrees making for oppressive humidity. With temperatures in the 90s and dew points over 70 this caused the heat index to reach 100-110 degrees. As a result, excessive heat warnings were issued for the Merrimack Valley on August 28th & 29th. Boston reached 98 degrees on August 29th breaking the old record high temperature of 96 degrees set in 1953. A cold front moved through on August 30th bringing an end to the very hot and humid weather.

On August 31th, the last day of the month, high temperatures remained in the 70s thanks to a high-pressure system in the Canadian Maritimes which brought on cooler air in from Canada. As we are now in September, the days continue to get shorter and the nights longer. This will cause the daily high temperatures to fall by the end of the month. We can still see hot and humid weather in September with temperatures of 90 degrees or higher. Next month we will recap September weather and see if the Bermuda high re-strengthens and gives us more hot weather. Remember during hot weather to drink plenty of water and also if you work outside take frequent breaks in shady areas.

Also, now that it is September, many of the lifeguards are no longer at the beaches. If the ocean appears choppy with large waves please be careful and use caution if going into the ocean. With no lifeguards in September you will be swimming at your own risk. Also in next month's article we will take a look at this year's hurricane season. It has got off to a slow start, however, this can change rather quickly. Enjoy the end of summer as fall will be officially here when I write next month's article. Enjoy and stay safe.

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Methuen Scandals and Cover Ups Show Lack of Leadership - State MUST Take Over NOW!

The City of Methuen is in a serious crisis. Not just a funding crisis but a management crisis, a leadership crisis and most frightening a structural crisis as a municipality.

First, we had the previous city council which was so corrupt and incompetent that it will take a decade or more to rectify the financial and political damage done to the town's operations.

We had a council president voting to create his own job and his own salary in the police department that he then was appointed to, but only after the council jumped through hoops to get the state legislature to pass a home rule petition so that they could override the city charter to give him the job.

We had a police superior officers contract that was voted on by councilors who claim they didn't know what was in it, a contract that stacked salaries of officers to the point where some were scheduled to get upwards of \$400K.

The current mayor, who was then a city councilor, voted on this contract even though his son (who is innocent in all this best we can tell) was a superior officer at the time. The Mayor's excuse for voting on his son's contract was that there is a loophole in the law that allowed him to vote on it. But, he didn't have to. Without his vote the contract would have passed 8-0 anyway. Yet, instead of taking the high road he voted on his son's contract anyway.

Not as widely reported is the fact that his son was appointed from lieutenant to captain shortly before that contract was voted on.

Then we have city accountant Tom Kelley. Kelley says he told two city councilors what was in the police contracts and that it was a bad contract but refused to say which two councilors he told.

That means he sat at a public city council meeting when the vote on that contract was discussed and voted on, and never said a word to his bosses, the Methuen taxpayers. He never said a word to the full city council before their vote. Yet, he was allowed to retire with full benefits on his way out the door, without being forced to say which councilors he privately told, and without being forced to reveal who else knew or why he purposely allowed the council to be lied to about what was really in the contract.

Then we learned that the city contracted with a trash company even though they were not the lowest bidder, the owners or principals of which gave money to the mayor's campaign.

Then Mayor Jajuga, without a vote of the city council, negotiated what city councilors say is an "illegal contract" with the superior officers (keep in mind his son is a



captain now) at a lower rate of pay under a "memorandum of understanding". He also sat in on council meetings where his son's contract was discussed. Not to mention tasking his "longtime friend" and aide in his office to negotiate said contract to give the appearance that he was recusing himself from the matter because of conflicts of interest.

SCHOOL FUNDING SCHEMES

Then we have the school department, which was in the red last year and had to be bailed out by Mayor Zanni who took money from the free cash account to balance their budget and pay their bills. This reduced the town's bond rating. Superintendent Scannell claimed it was because of special education and nobody questioned her or forced her to prove it.

Earlier this year, we learned for the first time that the school department was again overspending their budget, this time by a full \$4M that superintendent Scannell claimed was all due to unfunded special education mandates.

Our research shows that not all of that \$4M overrun was from special education, but Judy Scannell is highly respected, and we know she would never lie, so who would question her claims? Nobody did. City officials just took her word again and began the process of balancing her budget with a \$4M bailout loan from the state. Mind you, all the while the council was debating borrowing money to balance Scannell's budget, Scannell was giving out raises in the school department. But, that didn't matter, because School Committeeman DJ Deeb and other school supporters were feverishly trying to distract the public from school spending by keeping the focus on police salaries as if the cops are the bad guys for accepting the city's offer of monumental raises.

The new city council was then faced with the option of a fiscal overseer, a full fiscal control board, or a very low level of oversight by the state in exchange for the \$4M state bailout loan they had to apply for. Despite making some truly heroic votes, and being the first council to go through the budget line-by-line, at the end of it all they dropped the ball and decided they wanted the lowest level of oversight.

Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro warned her fellow councilors that there may be more scandals on the horizon and that only borrowing \$4M, and going with the lowest level of state oversight, leaves the city

more vulnerable for a much larger fiscal crisis in the future.

The council, concerned about maintaining their own power, ignored her warning and only borrowed the bare minimum of \$4M needed to balance the budget, and also went with the lowest level of oversight.

On top of all that, the city council took \$1.8M out of the police budget to punish the police, as if it was their fault that the previous city council voted on a contract that they admit they never read and didn't know what was in it. This means at least 27 or more layoffs of patrolmen within the next year, which hurts the public more than it hurts the cops.

SCANNELL SCANDAL

Then we learned that Superintendent Scannell lied about having her state certification and superintendent's license. First, she said she had gotten her license but let it lapse. But some great reporting by the Loop Weekly showed she never had it. Days later we learned that she was never certified as an elementary school principal either for the ten years she held that position.

The school committee, as we stated in this edition's editorial (page 2) swept it all under the rug when they decided to accept her resignation with no public hearing or investigation and no accountability for those who knew and let it happen in the first place.

SCANNELL ISN'T THE ONLY CITY EMPLOYEE WORKING WITHOUT A LICENSE

This week The Valley Patriot learned that the state has issued a letter concerning Methuen City Engineer Steve Gagnon saying he is not certified and not licensed as a city engineer. Gagnon was hired under the previous mayor and submitted his resume which clearly showed he was not certified as a city engineer and not licensed. The mayor hired him anyway. Councilors, who had to approve his hiring were told at the time that he was not certified but voted to approve his hiring anyway. He was approved with an 8-0 vote.

Now, the state has given the City of Methuen until the end of this month to rectify the situation.

Gagnon himself called the Valley Patriot after this story was posted on-line saying he has a letter from the state board stating he doesn't need to be licensed because he is only doing administration work and that

a private engineering consulting firm has been doing any actual engineering work.

Gagnon says the state gave him credit for 23 1/2 years of experience as an engineer but needs 25 years to qualify to take the state license exam. Gagnon says that the state would not count his time as an administrator for the City of Methuen. He says he didn't know anything about a letter from the state to the city about his license and says he has been working for 33 years for the City of Methuen. Gagnon said he also took classes to be a DPW Director but the city hired someone else.

In the meantime, Methuen Mayor Jajuga has known about the Gagnon letter from the state for weeks and has not notified the public nor told the city council while he tries to quietly rectify the problem behind closed doors.

Not exactly a transparent way to run government.

STATE MUST TAKE OVER

Without spending another thousand words on all the other disgraceful issues plaguing Methuen like; the Sweetheart Inn project where the developer gave money to the mayor's campaign; the community development board where three members resigned because the mayor took away their legal funding to fight the Sweetheart Inn project in court; or the Toll Brothers project, you start to see a pattern of, at the very least complete incompetence at every level of city government, and at worst total corruption by officials at every level of city government.

For their part the Methuen Superior officers union has asked for public documents from the school department to see how much they are spending on private contracts, how many city vehicles they have, and how much they have given in raises. To date, the mayor's office has violated the state's public records law (something I know a little bit about) and refused to turn over the information.

IN METHUEN NOBODY IS EVER HELD ACCOUNTABLE

It's clear that nobody in Methuen is ever held accountable for anything. Ever.

Methuen needs a full state takeover. The city is in far worse shape than Lawrence has ever been in.

Despite doing a great job THIS year, the Methuen city council needs to be disbanded.

The school committee needs to be disbanded.

The mayor needs to be removed, and a full state oversight board needs to be appointed to run the day to day operations of city government until such time as Methuen can operate effectively and honestly.

Methuen doesn't need a town manager or a different form of government. They don't need more term limits or any other kind of change in operations. The structure of Methuen city government is not the problem. The people running Methuen city government are the problem. With very few exceptions, too few to make a difference, the people of Methuen have shown that they do not possess the capability of running their city like grownups.



Tom Duggan is publisher of The Valley Patriot, hosts the Paying Attention Podcast, is an author, former Lawrence School Committeeman, and a 1990 police survivor. Subscribe to his YouTube Channel for live news and video. You can E-mail your comments to valleypatriot@aol.com

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What Happens at the Dump

WELLESLEY'S TRASH

A 2016 posting in the "The Swellesley Report" lamented the moral demise at the Wellesley Dump, otherwise known as the Take & Leave area within the town's Recycling & Disposal Facility. Apparently certain volunteers on site had turned this genteel Wellesley institution into a contentious environment by looting so much of the reusable items, that hardly anything decent was left for the shoppers.

According to Wellesley old-timers, people were once able to furnish their summer homes from items found at the dump. But a paradise it never was since there had supposedly been "plenty of catfights" over these spoils. The well-intended change to staffing by volunteers, who gave time in exchange for reductions to their real estate taxes, however, brought these different problems. And new rules were established: volunteers were to park in the lot on the other side of the dump to prevent them from easy access to their vehicles and hence excessive looting. They were also to wear orange vests when on duty, during which time they were prohibited from shopping. Only when their duty time was over and the vests off could they shop for 30 minutes, like everybody else. (My repeated calls for details and clarification to Jeff Brown, RDF Superintendent, weren't returned.)

But these new rules were not followed and I, having become a frequenter at about this time, after living in town for over 35 years and not believing in taking freebies if I could afford to pay (and if I couldn't, I did without..) became witness to the spiraling local drama in this picket fence utopia of plenty. An almost Shakespearean spectacle.

* **THEY GRAB AND SNATCHA** truck drives up to drop off gardening equipment and a rabble of volunteers and regulars, most of them seemingly their friends, grab at shovels, shears, an electric trimmer, other items—all are gone before they hit the drop-off table. A hose, still in the original package is grabbed by a volunteer, presumably, I think, to be placed in the gardening area. The man next to me asks whether anyone saw where it went and was directed to the volunteer who took it, only to hear her say she never saw it.

* **THEY LIE** Another volunteer interjects that this "other guy" — a man clearly just arriving from the adjacent parking lot— had taken the hose. Walking back to my car the would-be shopper passed me, grumbling: "Lying vultures- that's what they are."

* THEY CROWD YOU OUT

Fact is there's not much useable stuff in the designated areas for children, household, gardening etc. where the offerings once were plentiful. If one wants better items, one needs to stand right by the unloading area as cars come in. The problem is, certain volunteers get there first. If raised with the manners to wait one's turn one has no chance at all. The volunteer with the eagle's eye and pick-pocket's hand pushes forward and quickly sifts through a bag or box to extract a treasure. If observed by too many, s/he'll take the entire box and walk off with it, one presumes for distribution, but actually to load it into her/his car.

* **THEY PILFER** S/he walks it through the shopping area and, setting it down somewhat out of sight, takes what s/he desires, even tucking items into her/his garment. If followed by would-be shoppers, s/he proceeds to leave some items on the tables and shelves for distraction while hanging on to selected items and continuing to scan the contents along the way.

* **THEY DECEIVE** S/he keeps the booty in hand, under the arm-pit or slips it into one of the many discarded bags along the

way, then whisks it off into the storage hut or her/his car, parked adjacent, exactly where it's not supposed to be. Some volunteers have relatives who regularly drive up to collect their loot from the hut.

* THEY WORK IN TEAMS

Some volunteers work in teams, alternating the wearing of vests so one can grab and hand the other one without the vest items to ferry away. Vests are worn and taken off according to their momentary usefulness.

* **THEY REGULARS** There are the regulars, folks fascinated by this theatre of the absurd, or simply bitten by the freebie bug, — and the hard core hustlers, pickers and dealers.

* **THEY LASH OUT** Both pilfering volunteers and the rabble of hard corers resent those who show visible bewilderment over their excessive grabbing. One volunteer at the unloading area piles small boxes under her arm-pit from a container that had just been dropped off. She throws the entire lot at me for merely asking whether she had looked inside to first see the contents. Later she lashes out at me without being able to explain, why exactly she is so furious.

* **THEY CONSPIRE** One day an acquaintance tells me that she is afraid to go to the dump since she had complained about not getting any help with unloading a piece of furniture, one of the volunteer tasks, and was met with conspiratorial hostility by them the next time she showed up. Another person who objected to being shoved by one of the regulars was subsequently pushed by another member of that family.

* **THEY BERATE** A patron, unloading several pairs of skis and appalled at the mob going at him asked about the identity of these folks, which I didn't know. Having stood nearby, however, I was subsequently berated by a regular to "keep your (sic) mouth shut." Ad verbatim. That's what you had to do for being accepted, land a spot at the table of the dump elite, rulers over this second-hand kingdom. Sited right next to the storage hut.

* **THEY INTIMIDATE** "You talk too much," one of the volunteers admonished me, presumably after I was seen talking to friends on site or in the parking lot. "What kind of a place is this anyway, where one is forbidden to talk?" I asked. "You know," he said, "what I mean." "No," I answered, "actually I don't." — It only occurred to me later that he was concerned I would divulge their unmentionables, having spent considerable amount of time there, in part to collect information for this article.

BUT PEOPLE AREN'T STUPID Turns out that I wouldn't be divulging anything new since people really aren't that stupid. On August 15 someone left a large cardboard sign on the car of a volunteer with the words: **SO MUCH GREED**. Above the din of ever louder complaints these few words on a piece of cardboard hit the nail on the head loudest. Whoever had left this sign knew exactly whom to target and had carefully chosen his/her words, which, as language does, distinguished this writer. These words didn't insult, denounce or abuse but. They were directed at the worst offender personally, simply stating that person's inability to fathom the voracious greed of the other.

Walking back to my car that day a man passed me with a box of rusty nails. "So glad I found these," he said to me, "my Hydrangeas will love them — can't find much else around here no more."

* **THEY** does not refer to all volunteers but one or several.

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6th Annual Medford Strong Motorcycle Run for the Krystle Campbell Scholarship Fund

Boston's Best Comedians® and the Medford VFW Post #1012 will be hosting a Motorcycle Fundraising event on September 22nd. Registration starts at 8:00 AM and kickstands go up promptly at 11:00 AM at the Medford VFW Post located on 114 Mystic Avenue in Medford MA. The cost of admission is \$20 per motorcycle and \$20 per passenger; proceeds will benefit the Krystle Campbell Scholarship Fund. (Rain date Sun 23rd)

Medford, MA - Johnny Joyce, a Medford, Massachusetts native, started the first annual Motorcycle Run in 2013, namely, "MEDFORD STRONG MOTORCYCLE RUN", in honor of Krystle Campbell's memory and to benefit the Krystle Campbell Scholarship Fund.

Krystle Campbell, a 29-year-old Medford Massachusetts native was one of three people killed in the 2013 bombings at the Boston Marathon finish line. Krystle was a graduate of Medford High School and attended the University of Massachusetts. To honor Krystle, this Fundraiser was established to provide college scholarships to deserving Medford High School students to continue with their education. She will always be remembered for her beautiful smile, her infectious energy and enthusiasm, and her kindness.

"We are thrilled to be here for the 6th motorcycle run for Krystle and raise money for a great cause to keep her



memory alive especially here in the Medford Community. The run gets bigger each year and the amount of riders and support keeps growing."

After the run, entertainment, food and refreshments will be provided to the run participants as well as musical guest: FINDING DIMES.

If you wish to donate directly to the Fund, please forward your donation to: Krystle Campbell Scholarship Fund, Medford High School Attention: Jack Dempsey 489 Winthrop Street Medford, MA 02155 (please note a memo on your check: Motorcycle Run 2018).

Contact Information: Johnny Joyce (781) 820-3738 or johnnyjoycecomedy@gmail.com Website information: www.Bostonbestcomedians.com www.Facebook.com/medfordstrongbikerun

Audit Shows Need for Greater Focus on "Internet of Things" Technology

Boston — State Auditor Suzanne M. Bump is calling on the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) to take a proactive and comprehensive approach to support state government agency adoption of "Internet of Things" (IoT) devices. The call came as Bump today released an audit examining the Commonwealth's administration of IoT devices. The IoT refers to devices—such as health and environmental monitoring devices, items with GPS sensors, and roadway surveillance cameras—that are connected to the internet in order to collect, receive, and disseminate data. In the audit, Bump highlights examples of Commonwealth agencies using IoT devices during the audit period including electronic toll center cameras, motorist information signs, GPS devices on trains, and sensors to measure air quality.

The audit notes that some of the most significant challenges related to the adoption of IoT devices include cybersecurity, privacy, connectivity, and a lack of laws and regulations regarding the use of this new technology. As part of the audit, Bump's office surveyed state agencies about their current and planned use of IoT devices. While most responding agencies indicated they either currently use or may in the near future use IoT devices,

a plurality of agencies felt that because this technology is in its infancy, the risk of adopting these devices outweighed the benefits. A plurality also felt that their agencies could not currently effectively and efficiently manage the risks associated with IoT devices.

"As IoT technology becomes increasingly ubiquitous, state government has a choice: it can lead by proactively securing these devices and developing a comprehensive approach to ensure agencies are effectively protected when leveraging these tools, or it can react to challenges and threats when they are at an agency's doorstep," Bump said. "As the Commonwealth continues to take measures to improve its IT operations and security, the opportunities and threats presented by IoT devices must be a part of that strategy."

The audit calls on EOTSS to develop specific guidelines for state agencies to identify and secure IoT devices. In addition, it encourages the agency to formally document a specific plan to respond to incidents affecting the security of IoT devices. Finally, it recommends that the agency develop a policy that requires all state agencies to consult with the Commonwealth's Chief Information Officer before connecting IoT devices to the state's network.



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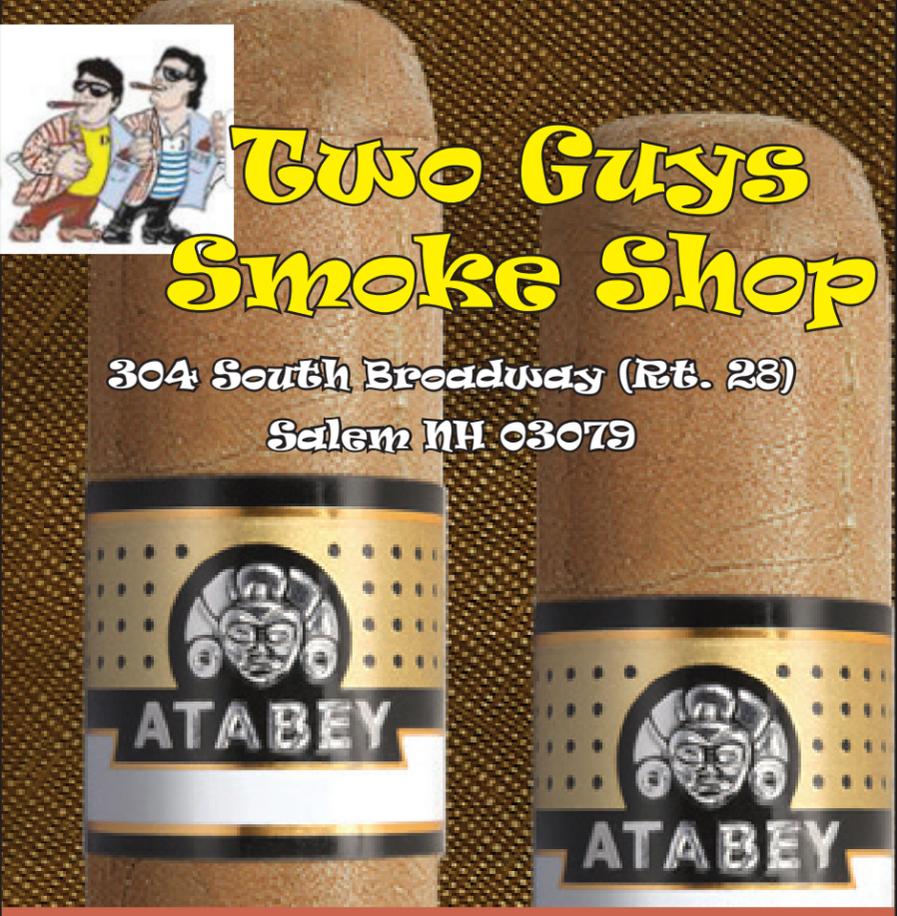
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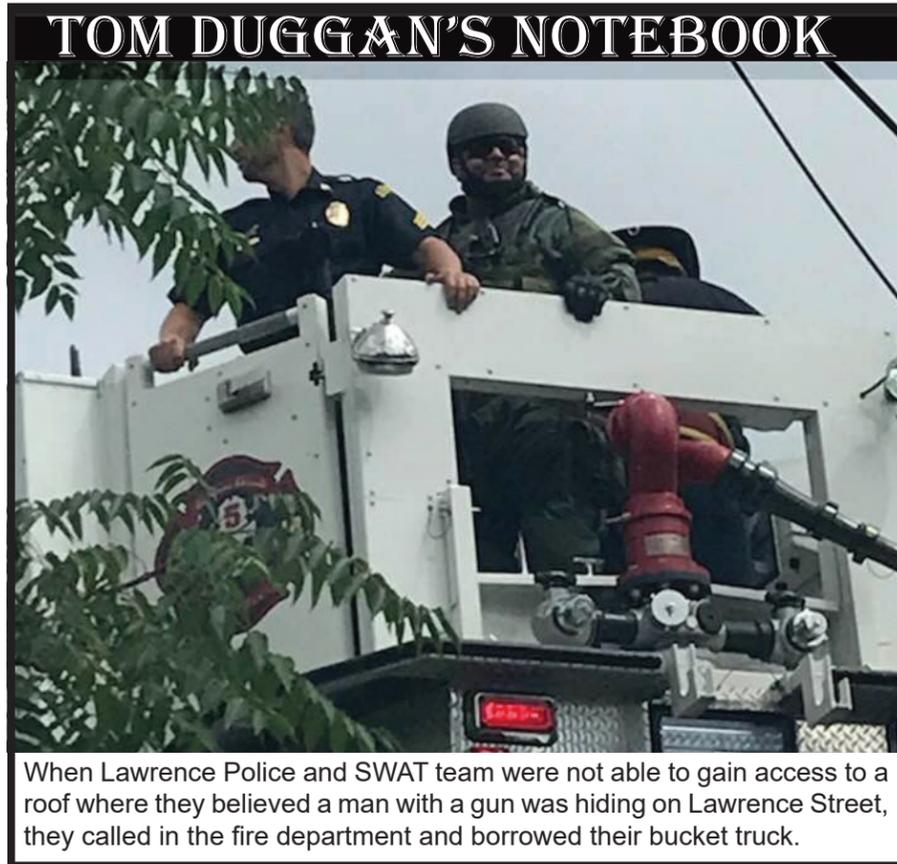
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WHEN YOU THINK YOU HAVE IT WRONG BUT YOU DON'T

On two occasions last month we reported a story on line that we thought we got wrong after it was posted. In one story we reported that a shooting victim from East Haverhill Street had died. Minutes after we reported the victim's death we were told by a police officer that he was, in fact, alive. Wasting no time to get the correct information to our readers, we corrected the story on line and reported that he was indeed alive. Instantly we were inundated with haters and attacked for "rushing the story" and being "reckless". We took the abuse for more than 12 hours as we tried to reach our two original sources to find out why they had told us the victim had died. As it turns out we were notified the following morning that we were NOT wrong in our reporting, that the victim had died at Lawrence General and had no pulse but was brought back within minutes of coding. But, our sources were a little busy at the time trying to save the man's life to get back to us and give us the update. So, in effect, what we reported was correct and true. He did die. But, we never got the follow up call to say he had been brought back. That didn't satisfy the haters though, who continued to post insulting and abusive posts about how we put the family through hell. Which was a lie, of course, because they were actually at the hospital at the time.

WHEN A STORY IS ACCUATE BUT WRONG

It doesn't happen often but there are times when we post a story that is accurate but turns out to be wrong. How is this possible? Consider the story we posted last month of a man who was reported on the police scanner to have taken a baseball bat to a man's head on Jackson and Essex Street. We posted that information as it went out on the scanner as we do every day. The story was indeed accurate as we only reported what police said on the scanner. But, when police arrived at the scene they found out that the caller who notified 911 of the incident, was wrong. As it turns out, when police found the victim at the hospital and interviewed him minutes later they learned that the man who attacked him did so with a milk crate not a baseball bat. That officer never reported that on the scanner, instead just adding the correct information in his report. We corrected the information as soon as we found out but that didn't stop the haters once again from attacking our credibility as if "we" got the story wrong in our "haste to get out a story fast". People need to keep in mind when they are consuming news in real time that wit-



When Lawrence Police and SWAT team were not able to gain access to a roof where they believed a man with a gun was hiding on Lawrence Street, they called in the fire department and borrowed their bucket truck.

nesses and even people involved in a crime may get things wrong or sometimes even lie. All we can do is report what we have when we get it. Most of our readers and followers are smart enough to understand that.

HELPING THE HOMELESS – TMF a non-profit group of volunteers provides a family meal to the homeless every week on Wednesday nights at 9PM at the Buckley Garage on Common Street in Lawrence. They rely on volunteers to cook or buy food to donate for the homeless and they could use your help. As I have been trying to help Michael Gorman, Sam Salib and the rest of TMF on Wednesday nights we are asking everyone in our Valley Patriot network to look inside your hearts and consider helping. We are particularly looking for people who own or run a food establishment to donate food on any given week. We are also looking for people. **MINICUCCI BEATS FERRY**

It's hard to imagine a seat gerrymandered for a Methuen candidate being won by a North Andover candidate but on primary day, Christina Minicucci defeated



former Methuen City Councilor Lisa Ferry for the state rep. seat being vacated by Diana DiZoglio (who is running for state senate). Minicucci out worked

Ferry for sure but in a normal election that probably wouldn't have mattered. We heard from many Methuen voters during the election that they were just not going to vote for a candidate who was on the previous city council that approved the police contracts that are now the focus of a major scandal and several investigations. When given the chance to distance herself from the police contract vote, Ferry chose to listen to Haverhill Mayor Jim Fiorentini who told her NOT to call for an investigation early in the campaign before anyone else had done so. If Ferry had been the first to call for a criminal investigation and announced to the voters that she was NOT part of the insider deals that lead to the police contract debacle, she may have had a chance of winning this race by showing the voters she was willing to be a leader and get to the bottom of what happened. Instead, she refused to address the issue at all. She was also completely disorganized.



People who asked for signs never got them. People who offered to help were never gotten back to, and there was no "get out the vote" effort other than Ferry knocking on doors. In the end she barely won in Methuen and got clobbered everywhere else. For her part, Christina Minicucci had an amazing "get out the vote" organization with help from Congressman Seth Moulton's office, local politicians, and even Methuen School Committeeman Jana DiNatale. Minicucci was EVERYWHERE for the two weeks before the election whereas Ferry was hardly seen at local events. Minicucci will face Brian Loscoco (R) in the final.

MARCOS V. LANTIGUA

For the third time in the past four year Willie Lantigua was defeated by the Marcos Devers/Dan Rivera team. It was a very low turnout in Lawrence and the difference between Devers and Lantigua was only 207 votes. Lantigua ran his traditional underground, grassroots campaign while Devers ramped it up with a very busy campaign headquarters and an unusual "get out the vote" effort. Congratulations to our friend Marcos Devers who deserved a hard fought win. There is no republican in the November final election.

DEMOCRATS VOTE FOR THE RICH WHITE GUY - Since democrats (as a party) say it is of paramount importance to have minority representation and "diversity" as well as minority set asides, and gay and transgendered representation in government. Yet, in the third congressional district race to replace Niki Tsongas there were ten candidates. This included a female minority Latina from Lawrence, a gay man married to another man, and a transgendered he/she/it in the race. Yet, at the end of the day democrats in the third district chose as their top two candidates a rich white man from Andover (Dan Koh) and a rich white woman (Lori Trahan) at the top of the ticket. If democrats really believed what they say they believe in, Juana Matias, a young, female Latina minority from Lawrence would have won hands down. In fact, if the Democrat Party truly believed in minority set asides, Koh, Trahan and the rest of the other nine candidates would have dropped out of the race and "set aside" their own ambitions and endorsed Matias. But, they didn't. Showing what hypocrites democrats in the 3rd district really are.

KEEPING TRUE TO THEIR PARTY

In the congressional race between Mike Capuano and Ayanna Pressley democrats showed they are true to their

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beliefs by throwing out a rich white guy in power for a black African American female. But, it's hard to understand why Capuano didn't just "set aside" his own seat in congress and just give Pressley the seat given how many times he has lectured the rest of us about minority set asides, affirmative action and the importance of minority representation. While I personally think set asides and "proportional representation" are racist and anti-American, at least the voters of the 7th congressional district showed they actually believe what they say they believe in.

IGNORANT VOTERS GET MAD BECAUSE THEY ARE BEING CALLED IGNORANT VOTERS

A few days before the primary we posted on line a message to uneducated voters. It said that if you are an uneducated voter and you don't know anything about the candidates, you don't know what a state senator does, or how long a state representative's term is you should stay home and let educated voters choose our leaders. Well, out came the ignorant voters to protest complaining about their "right to vote" as if we said they didn't have one (we didn't). One ignorant voter said that he knew nothing about the candidates but was going to randomly pick candidates because it was his right. Another person complained that we were engaging in voter suppression, which was true, we were trying to suppress stupid voters.

DAWN'S SIGN TECH- THANK YOU to Dawn's Sign Tech in North Andover for their continued support of not only The Valley Patriot but also helping the community with the North Andover Downtown Merchants Association and the North Andover Farmer's Market.

PODCAST GETS 72K LISTENERS

The Paying Attention Podcast ratings were released shortly before we went to print and our numbers are amazing. More than 72,000 people have viewed or downloaded the show on the various on-line platforms such as Spotify, Podbean, iHeartRadio, iTunes, etc. The Paying Attention podcast airs live every Thursday from 2-3pm.

FACEBOOK CENSORSHIP - AIDING AND ABETTING CRIMINALS

Late last month, we posted a video of

a violent group fight outside Malaya's nightclub in Lawrence. The fight was bloody and brutal with several victims having multiple injuries. Within minutes of posting that video, some of those involved in the fight and many of their girlfriends came on to my Facebook page demanding we take the video down -which I refused to do. Then they made threats that if I didn't take it down I would have "problems" but when I ignored their threats they launched a campaign on my page and their own pages to complain to Facebook to have my page taken down. They succeeded. The left-wing fascists at Facebook banned me from posting for 30 days claiming that my post "violated" their "terms of service". What's odd is that while I am not able to post on my personal Facebook page, they never took down the fight video. So, in essence, I am being punished for publishing news about violence in Lawrence because it violates their terms of service, but the video wasn't so bad that they would take it down. I urge you to read our editorial on line from November of 2017 called "Google/Facebook Censorship - Greatest Threat to Democracy".

FIELDING HELPS IANNUCCILLO WIN REELECTION - While it is very clear that the Eagle-Tribune didn't want Registrar of Deeds M. Paul Iannuccillo to win his primary earlier this month, he was able to secure reelection mostly because there were two candidates in the race splitting the anti-Iannuccillo vote after several hit pieces run by the daily paper. Those two candidates were Alexcy Vega and late to the race candidate Michael Fielding. If Fielding had stayed out of the race and supported Vega it's pretty clear that the negative publicity generated by the Tribune would have resulted in a loss for Iannuccillo. Instead, Iannuccillo won a close race. There is no republican opponent in the November election.

IT'S ESPINOLA V. FINEGOLD

We all know Barry Finegold is the anointed one in local democrat politics but a quick look at the numbers in last week's primary show Barry is not quite as strong as people think he is. In Lawrence, Barry was beaten by a Pavel Payano who had dropped out of the race weeks earlier. Enter Republican Joe Espinola, a former police officer with a Spanish sounding last name, Espinola has spent time at Daybreak Homeless shelter in Lawrence to find out what they need to service the poorest population in the poorest community in the district. Where has Barry been? Well, raising tons of money from his rich, white Andover friends. While Barry is busy raising money, Espinola is talking to real people with real problems and trying to find ways to help them. Remember, Finegold carried Willie Lantigua's water when Lantigua was Lawrence's mayor. He did away with Lawrence's residency requirement, he fought for Lantigua to get a \$4M bailout loan from the state predicting cops and firefighters would be laid off without it. And when Willie got that \$4M and laid off cops and firefighters anyway, Barry had nothing at all to say about that. Then there was Barry accepting campaign literature that was illegally printed at the Lawrence School Department under Wilfredo Laboy. And when he got caught, did Finegold pay back the taxpayers for funding his campaign literature? Of course not. Joe Espinola would serve his campaign well to remind people of Barry's past while he is doing the actual work of trying to help the poor people of Lawrence and fighting for what is right instead of what his party wants him to fight for. While

NOTEBOOK: PAGE 18

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Labor Day Violence in Lawrence Results in 4th Murder of 2018

While most people were enjoying Labor Day with family and friends at cookouts or at the beach, police in the City of Lawrence were busy with an unusual amount of violence after a very quiet and low crime summer.

LABOR DAY SHOOTING #1

First, a man was shot on Essex Street at about 6AM Monday morning.

“Officer Carlos Vieira was the first to arrive on scene and found a 35 year old Lawrence man with an apparent gunshot wound to his back,” according to Detective Tommy Cuddy.

The man was treated on scene by member of the Lawrence Fire Department, as well as, Paramedics and EMTs from Lawrence General Hospital, and transported to that facility by ambulance. He was subsequently transported to Boston Hospital with what are believed to be non-life threatening injuries. He was flown to Boston with gunshot wounds and is expected to live.

Shortly after the shooting Officer Michael Coluanti informed dispatch that he had located a gray sports utility vehicle, which was unoccupied, that had just struck a pole in the area of 700 Essex St, coming to rest into a fence. All responding units searched the area for suspects. Moments later, officers encountered two

males in the area of the Merrimack Courts housing projects on Essex Street, who began to flee upon seeing the officers. One male was apprehended by Officer Alexander Ovalles following a short foot chase. The second male fled on foot through backyards as several officers gave chase. He was apprehended a few blocks away hiding in a Lowell Street backyard with the assistance of an Essex County Sheriff’s K-9 Unit.

A family member told the Valley Patriot that while he is in stable condition at the moment, “he is still in really bad shape, we are very worried” she said asking not to be named.

Officers located a firearm in the suspect’s vehicle.

Arrested were: Jeffrey Graciani age 35 of Lawrence who was charged with assault with intent to murder, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and several firearms related charges. And Twaldo Baez age 35 of Lawrence who had active warrants for his arrest at the time of the incident.

LABOR DAY SHOOTING #2

SHOOTING BROOK STREET Shortly after 4pm Lawrence Police responded to a call of shots fired on Brook Street, a heavily populated gang neighborhood in North Lawrence.



Police arriving at the scene helped EMTs perform CPR and tried to stabilize the victim who was brought to Lawrence General Hospital and coded (No Pulse) before he could be put on a med-flight chopper for Boston.

The victim was identified as 20 year old

Jaithian Amador of Lawrence. Sources say he has a three year old daughter. Law enforcement sources say Amador was a suspect in a previous shooting where nobody was killed.

LABOR DAY SHOOTING #3

While police were conducting off the

MURDER: PAGE 15

An Interview with Comedian Dave Russo

PLAYING AT SALVATORE’S - FRIDAY SEPT. 21st

The Great Dave Russo will be appearing in Lawrence at Salvatore’s Restaurant on September 21st, 354 Merrimack St. - Lawrence, MA. 617-981-0984

The Valley Patriot caught up with Dave Russo recently and asked him about his appearance at Salvatore’s in Lawrence.

“I don’t have any political jokes because I don’t want the government to know where I am,” he said laughing.

That doesn’t mean Russo isn’t political in his personal life. Last month he performed at a fundraiser for U.S. Senate candidate Geoff Diehl. We asked Dave how that came about.

“Actually, I played softball at a charity event for The Hug Foundation with Geoff Diehl a couple of years back. I didn’t even know he was a politician. He was just a regular, cool guy, we had a blast. I think we went three and one, so we were winning that day. I’m really excited to be working at Salvatore’s in Lawrence, it’s kind of my home territory. I lived in the 01844 zip code for a while, I lived in Methuen when I was doing the Comedy Palace in North Andover, so I’m familiar with the Merrimack Valley folks from Methuen,

Lawrence, Tewksbury, Andover, North Andover and I’ll have the funny on. I also love Mike Agricola, the owner of Salvatore’s, he’s really an amazing guy.”

Emceeding the event September 21st is Valley Patriot publisher and host of Paying Attention Tom Duggan who has known Dave for about 8 years.

“Dave Russo was on my show when I was on WCAP in Lowell and I think we met at Puppy Girl Kate Whitney’s fundraiser in Everett, so this will be fun. I promise you, I won’t be that funny but Dave sure will be!”

Russo was a finalist on E! Entertainment Television’s reality show The Entertainer with Wayne Newton and went on to work with Wayne in Vegas for a few years. He was the first winner of the Boston Comedy Festival and was featured on Denis Leary’s Comics Come Home annual show at the TD Garden. Dave is a host on NESN’s Dirty Water TV and has also appeared on NESN’s Comedy All Stars and on the award winning show, Charlie Moore Outdoors with the Mad Fisherman. Dave headlines all over New England and does countless fundraisers and corporate events all over the country.



Dave Russo is playing at Salvatore’s Lawrence on Friday, Sept. 21st, 8:30 show ~ doors open at 7:30. Dinner & Show (\$20). Show Only: 8:30PM (\$10).

You can get tickets at www.russoat-salssept21.eventbrite.com

Additional fees may apply. For events with a discounted price, no coupon or promo code is necessary to purchase tickets. The show is Friday, Sep 21, 2018 at 8:30pm. Tickets are \$10 and

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Outgoing State Senator Barbara L'Italien Secured \$250,000 for a garbage skimmer to clean debris from the Merrimack River for the Clean River Project. She is seen here with Rocky Morrison.

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Airing a Couple of Country Grievances in Dracut

Brian Genest

VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

There's a lot to love about living in Dracut. I'm not going to talk about any of them in this column. Instead, here's a rant about things that make this townie even more grouchy than usual.

* Political signs littering the landscape like litter. Some intersections and properties in town are stuffed with dozens and dozens of them. There are signs illegally placed on public property, too. BTW, nothing says your candidate is weak and likely to lose more than putting two signs for them on your front lawn. Thanks for the warning, though.

* The Dracut firefighters union pushing debt exclusions to raise our taxes. Maybe if the firefighters supported a state rep candidate who could actually deliver adequate local aid for our town, they wouldn't have to support tax increases to build a new fire station. Full disclosure: My father-in-law was a Dracut firefighter and I have tremendous respect for the profession and those who serve our town. When it comes to the politics of the union, not so much.

* McMansions popping up in place of pastures. Also popping up are pushy people who live in them, demanding we cough up a gazillion dollars in funding for the schools. Otherwise, we're clearly all just cheap, horrible people who hate kids. Those of us in the town's middle class, including our retirees, clearly can't keep up with our expectations; please move to Lexington.

* Copper gutters and flashing on Dracut Town Hall. Maybe we should start calling it the Taj Mahal. Meanwhile, there's not enough money in the town's \$80 million annual budget for anything... Proposed overrides and debt exclusions have become business as usual every couple of years lately.

* The condition of Veterans Memorial Park. The place is a mess, thanks to broken concrete, playground equipment and glass. Not to mention the disgusting black mold on the splash pad. It's a shame and the town should be ashamed that it has been allowed to fall into such poor condition, especially considering most of the problems can be resolved relatively easily.

* The overpowering stench of cow manure. I'm all for Dracut being a right-to-farm community. But the right to breathe is good, too. Early last month, it smelled disgusting in my backyard for a couple of days. During the recent heatwave, you couldn't even go outside without gagging it reeked so badly. A load of bull crap, indeed!

* The smell of weed pouring out of cars when I'm out for a walk. Does every

other person in town smoke pot? Whatever, man... Just stop doing it while you're behind the wheel of your car!

* Empty nip bottles scattered all over the side of the roads. How much Fireball and peppermint schnapps can one town drink? Seriously, there are empties all over the place, along with cigarette butts, lottery tickets and other trash that motorists apparently toss out their windows.

* The way people drive when dropping their kids off at school. In the morning, these obnoxious drivers with kiddies on board ignore the lines on Lakeview Avenue and try to make it two lanes, so they can turn right into the school complex without waiting in traffic caused by the light. Teach your kids two lessons: Leave 5 minutes earlier and follow the rules of the road.

* Colleen Garry's disregard for following the rules. Whether it's driving around for 6 months with an expired inspection sticker on her car, not filing her state income taxes two years in a row or being fined \$5,000 for failing to follow the campaign finance laws for many years, she does her own thing. Considering she makes the laws for all of us, wouldn't it be nice if she followed them herself?

* Fourth of July fireworks being shot off on August 30th. Yes, they were awesome and I understand they had to be rescheduled because of rain. If the town wanted to wait two months, why not wait just one more day and make it an event for Labor Day weekend?

* Delivery people, door-to-door salesmen and condo folks with dogs who walk on my front lawn. My grass isn't a public park; it's private property. Kindly stay the hell off it, so I don't have to yell at you.

* The same door-to-door salesmen who ring my doorbell twice. Or three times. Or more. Just because you saw me sitting at the kitchen table doesn't mean I'm going to open the door. Unless I have to yell at you for walking on my lawn, of course. But thanks for stopping by.



Brian Genest is chairman of the Dracut Republican Town Committee. A marketing and communications expert with 20 years of success driving growth, maximizing ROI and boosting profits for consumer and high-tech brands, he has developed and executed strategic initiatives for a range of disruptive technologies, including robots, mobile commerce solutions and SaaS products. Earlier in his career, Genest worked as a newspaper reporter and editor for the Dracut Dispatch, Derry News and Billerica Minuteman.

ATF, Lawrence Police Recover Weapons Stolen from NH, Arrest Dangerous Gang Leader

In November of 2017, Detective O'Keefe of the Lawrence Police Department along with Special Agent Ryan Griffin of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives interviewed a confidential informant regarding an individual that was trafficking firearms to known Gangsta' Disciples and Kings of Tenney (KOT) members in Lawrence and Methuen, MA. Over the course of 6 months, the CI purchased 5 firearms along with 20 grams of heroin. After completing the investigation arrest warrants were issued on Friday, August 18th.

Members of Lawrence Police Gang Unit along with Massachusetts State Police, Essex County Sheriffs, Methuen Police, Haverhill Police and ATF executed arrest warrants on three individuals, Thursday August 16th .

Additionally, a search warrant was executed at 130 Tenney Street which resulted in a recovery of a Glock .40 firearm

along with 3 high capacity magazines, 2 additional magazines, 72 Rounds of Ammunition, 77 OZ of marijuana, 10 grams of fentanyl, 20 grams of class E.

The firearm was reported stolen from Nashua, NH in 2016

Orlando Delacruz 09/03/1991 formerly of Lawrence 35 Common Street,

(1) Trafficking in 1-2 Firearms

(1) Carry firearm without license

Dennis Gabin 05/15/1979 — formerly of Lawrence. MA 405 Riverside Drive

(3) Carry without license

(1) Possession of ammunition without FID

Possess large capacity

Distribute class B

Trafficking in 3-9 firearms

Alexis Chavez 08/15/1987— 130 Tenney Street, Methuen

(2) Carry without license

Trafficking in 1-2 Firearms

Possession ammunition without FID

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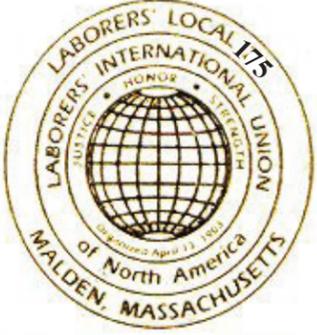
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~Mike Gagliardi,
Local 175 Laborers’ Union of North America

Results Demonstrate Legislature's Commitment to Education

Rep. Linda Dean Campbell

VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

As back-to-school season rolls around, now is as good a time as ever to express our appreciation to all who are dedicated to educating our students here in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is no surprise that Massachusetts was once again ranked the "Best State for Education" by U.S. News & World Report and the "Best School System in America" by WalletHub.

Our commitment to quality education for our children is evident in this year's increased State education funding and in the hard work that our teachers and administrators put in every day. That being said, there is always more we can do to support our students.

This year's state budget contained many victories for education, including an additional \$160.6 million in State aid to public schools and an additional \$25.6 million to reimburse school districts for costs associated with special education. This new funding will help to offset the rising education costs that are straining many school districts' finances.

The budget also included an additional \$52 million for early education.

In the same vein, the House passed legislation this year providing access to high-quality preschool programs for chil-



dren in underperforming school districts, which will narrow the achievement gap in those communities. I am proud that the Legislature continues to invest in our community's youngest students, as studies have demonstrated that early education investment is both cost-effective for taxpayers and critical for our children's long-term success.

Despite these budget victories, we must continue to expand the state resources available to our schools. When state funds for education are limited, the cost burden on already cash-strapped municipalities can be detrimental, as we have seen in many communities across the Common-

wealth. Although we are taking positive steps forward as a state, more funding must be made available.

One way to address the root of the funding issue is to update the formula by which school districts are allocated state dollars. The formula is in need of recalibration to better account for current education costs.

Efforts have been made in the Legislature to fix the funding formula, but the House and Senate were unable to reach an agreement this session. As a cosponsor of legislation on this topic, I believe it is important that we revisit this issue next session. To remain #1 in the nation, our

schools need adequate funding.

In an increasingly competitive age, we must step up to prepare our children for success later in life. Investing in the schooling of our kids is investing in a strong future for Massachusetts. I look forward to continuing to advocate for policies and funding to improve education in Merrimack Valley and the Commonwealth.

State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents the cities of Methuen and Haverhill in the State Legislature. She can be reached at (617) 722-2380 or Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov.

MURDER: FROM PAGE 11

Brook Street neighborhood and interviewing witnesses on Brook Street, another call of "shots fired" was reported at 14 Hancock Street, on the other side of North Lawrence.

Police found 9 shell casings and reported that nobody was hit. Witnesses say that the shooters were in a green Honda Civic and the shooter was one of two men sitting in the back seat. Police reported that they shot in the air and not at anyone.

Amador is the fourth murder victim in Lawrence in 2018. Last year at this time there were already nine murders in Lawrence.

FOUR MURDERS IN 2018 ONLY ONE SUSPECT CAUGHT

The first murder was on 550 Broadway on May 2nd when a man was executed while sitting in his car in the parking lot of an apartment building. No suspect has been arrested in that murder despite an extensive search of the area.

The second murder in Lawrence this

year was a stabbing death on Doyle Street that turned out to be a domestic gone wrong when a boyfriend stabbed his girlfriend to death. He was still at the scene when police arrived and was charged with her murder.

The third murder in Lawrence was on Hampshire Street on May 7th, when a man was executed with seven shots in the back in broad daylight by a man who was laying in wait as he exited a bodega at the corner of Alder and Hampshire.

Police have not made an arrest in that murder either, despite having video and photos of the actual shooting and getaway car. The victim had several IDs on him and his fingerprints came back to another person's identity.

Despite the four murders in Lawrence and the uptick in violence towards the end of the summer, Lawrence has seen a more than 50% decrease in violent crimes in 2018.

State Launches Additional Financial Aid Program at NECC

This fall, students heading to Northern Essex Community College, as well as the 14 other Massachusetts community colleges, may be eligible for additional financial aid, thanks to a boost in financial aid funding proposed by the Baker-Polito administration and included in the state's FY19 budget recently enacted by the legislature and signed by the governor.

The new MassGrant Plus represents the first significant expansion of the state's signature financial aid program in more than two decades, and, for the first time, part-time students are eligible, providing they are taking at least two courses totaling six credits per semester.

Made possible by an additional \$7.5 million in funding, MassGrant Plus will provide "last dollar" funding to bridge the gap between a low-income community college student's federal, state and institutional financial aid awards, and the total cost of tuition and fees.

"At Northern Essex, nearly 68% of our students are part time," said Lane Glenn, president of Northern Essex. "In many cases our students are working one or more jobs, supporting a family, and enrolled in two or more classes. This MassGrant Plus will make it much easier for them to continue their education."

"We're very pleased that Governor Baker and the legislature are moving so decisively to invest in our community college students," said Carlos E. San-

tiago, Massachusetts commissioner of higher education. "We're hopeful that with increased financial assistance we'll see more students able to complete their degree programs and move into good jobs or continue on to earn bachelor's degrees at four-year colleges and universities."

To be eligible for aid for the fall 2018 semester, students must apply for financial aid, using the standard 2018-19 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), by November 1, 2018.

For additional information on NECC financial aid call 978 556-3700, email sfs@necc.mass.edu or visit the college's financial aid website at <https://www.necc.mass.edu/afford/financial-aid>

With campuses in Haverhill and Lawrence, Northern Essex Community College offers over 60 associate degree and certificate programs as well as hundreds of noncredit courses designed for personal enrichment and career growth. Each year, close to 8,000 students are enrolled in credit associate degree and certificate programs on the Haverhill and Lawrence campuses; and another 2,600 take noncredit workforce development and community education classes on campus, and at businesses and community sites across the Merrimack Valley. For more information, visit the website at www.necc.mass.edu.

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Kittredge School 5th graders in North Andover and their parents rolled up their sleeves and helped set up & break down last week's market. They sold slush, popped up tents, stuffed bags, and made sure we got everything done in time to enjoy a beautiful market day. This week we will be joined by volunteers from Austin Prep, where they will help with set up and break down, while also working the slush booth. Thank you to the Kittredge School 5th grade for last week, and to Austin Prep for this week!

**M★Frank★
Moran**
State Representative



The crew at AFC Urgent Care in North Andover relax at the end of the day and catch up on all the news in The Valley Patriot. You can visit AFC Urgent Care on Merrimack St. in Methuen and Turnpike Street in North Andover.



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VOTE NOVEMBER 6TH!

Jim Lyons
State Representative



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U.S. Senate Candidate Geoff Diehl, Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan and famed comedian Lenny Clarke hang out in Boston at a Goeff Diehl fundraiser.



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most think Barry has this race locked up, Espinola may have a surprise for them come November. This could be the race to watch.

KAVANAUGH'S AIDE AND THAT "WHITE SUPREMACY SIGNAL"

With so many stupid people in this country obsessed with white supremacy conspiracies seeing Nazi's behind every bush it was more than amusing when Brett Kavanaugh was being confirmed by the U.S. Senate and conspiracy kooks claimed his aide was using hand signals to show support of "white supremacy". What made it amusing is that Kavanaugh's aide is not white. She is a Latina who is also Jewish. But, that didn't stop democrat hate mongers and left wing lunatics from flooding Twitter and other social media platforms to push their conspiracy theories to an uneducated and ignorant voter base so filled with hate for white people that they eagerly ate it up and spread the fantasy of "white supremacy" hand signals during Kavanaugh's hearing.

TEWKSBURY 10th ANNUAL ZERO WASTE DAY SATURDAY, September 22nd, from 9am-1pm, at the Wynn Middle School parking lot (rain or shine). As you know, this is a Drive Thru donating and recycling event co-sponsored by the Tewksbury Recycling Committee and the Tewksbury Congregational Church. Last year, more than 600 households participated!

ZWD is an opportunity for you to clean out your attics, basements, closets, and garages of used but usable items and pass them on to local people in need. To make it extra easy for you to share your donations, we've invited 16 organizations to collect at the Wynn Middle School parking lot so that you don't even need to leave town. Simply load up your car, drive on thru, and we will help you to unload your car and distribute your donations. We are also pleased to offer some recycling options. Zero Waste Day does not accept household hazardous waste. Hazardous waste is collected one day per month from April thru November at the Minuteman Regional Collection Center in Lexington. (To learn more about the next collection date on Sunday, September 16th, visit this link.)

Is ZWD for Tewksbury residents only? Tewksbury is a super generous town and, as such, we invite residents from surrounding communities to share in the ZWD experience. All are welcome! FREE Paper Shredding event at Enterprise Bank on ZWD.

One of our ZWD sponsors is Enterprise Bank, and they are kindly offering FREE paper shredding in conjunction with Zero Waste Day on 9/22nd at their Tewksbury Center Branch, located at 1120 Main Street. From 9am-12pm, all are welcome to bring up to 10 boxes of paper to their site for FREE shredding. www.zwdtekwbury.org

SIXTH ANNUAL PASSION FOR FASHION - The Sixth Annual Passion for Fashion Show and fundraising event

NOTEBOOK: FROM PAGE 9

to benefit the seniors who live at Nevins Nursing and Rehabilitation Centre takes place on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 6 pm at DiBurro's in Ward Hill. Tickets are a great value at just \$60 per person. This event sold out last year - purchase your tickets early! Channel 4's Chief Investigative Reporter Cheryl Fiandaca will again emcee. The Nevins Family of Services has been an integral part of the Merrimack Valley since 1906. They are a non-profit organization with a strong commitment to serving our most vulnerable citizens, seniors and disabled. All proceeds from this event will go directly to life enrichment activities for their residents. This year they have invited many of their first responders that help Nevins to model. We hope that you can be a sponsor as well as attend this wonderful event. Program advertisements are also available. For more information you can call (978) 682-7611 | lsha@hcnvins.org www.nevinspassionforfashion.com.

LAPLANTE ANNOUNCES PROJECT FUNDING - Council Unanimously Approves \$9.6M for Lawrence's District F Improvements. City Councilor Marc Laplante (District F) announces that the Lawrence City Council at its August 21, 2018 meeting unanimously approved over \$9.6 million worth of one-time improvements as part of the annual capital improvement project funding. Unlike the regular operating budget, this funding targets specific objects such as buildings and sidewalks that need construction, repair and attention.

"Thanks to our strong working relationship with Mayor Rivera, the City Council was able to agree with the mayor on funding priorities in the upcoming year," said Laplante, the Council's Budget and Finance Committee Chairman. "In fact, I am pleased to announce that the people who I represent will see tremendous improvements through projects and repairs that target where they live."

"Capital Improvement funds are a necessity if we want to improve the quality of life for residents in Lawrence," said Mayor Daniel Rivera. "I want to thank the City Council for their unanimous support of these funds and look forward to continue working together to make Lawrence better."

The following is a partial list of items that Councilor Laplante advocated for and ultimately got approval for:

- Museum Square Parking Garage Repairs - \$335k
- South Lawrence East Concession Stand - \$250k
- Continued Improvements at O'Connell (South Common) Park - \$210k
- Sidewalk repairs - \$1,250,000
- 3 new Mack Snow Fighters (snowplows)- \$500k

- Replacing Veterans' Street signs - \$10k
- Replace Roof at the Branch Library - \$20k

Purchases/work on each of these projects will be staggered throughout the upcoming year.

ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT DONATES FOOD TO LOCAL NON-PROFIT AGENCIES

The Essex County Pre-Release and Re Entry Center, also referred to as the "Farm," donates approximately 38,000 pounds of produce annually to stock food pantries or to provide meals to people of Essex County. From May till November it operates a thriving 6-acre farm that provides 2,000 pounds of produce a week to multiple non-profit agencies. Vegetables grown are: tomatoes, cucumbers, bell peppers, Italian peppers, zucchini, summer squash, butternut squash, eggplant, carrots, potatoes, watermelon, cantaloupe and corn. They also donate 5,000 pumpkins per year to 62 locations including schools, senior centers, child care centers, town harvest fairs and YMCAs.

In addition, vegetables grown here are served to inmates at the Middleton, Lawrence and Salisbury correctional facilities. This helps offset the cost of food for the Department.

"This program is a great example of the positive relationship between the Sheriff's Department and the community. It provides food for people in need, while providing vocational training to our inmate population. It is a win-win proposition," said Sheriff Kevin F. Copinger.

In the spring, Director of Food Services Kathy Lawrence, works with Pleasant Valley Gardens farmer Heather Bonanno Baker; to cultivate the soil, set up the irrigation system, and design the layout of the farm. Inmates at the facility plant the seeds, weed the garden, pick, wash, and box up the vegetables for pick up.

REPRESENTATIVE FRANK MORAN ANNOUNCES WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANTS FOR IMAJINE THAT AND NECC

State Representative Frank A. Moran (D-Lawrence, Andover and Methuen) announced the awarding of two Workforce Development grants to Lawrence's Imagine That and Northern Essex Community College. These state grants will be provided through the Workforce Training Fund Small Business Direct Access Program. This initiative supports the upgrading of skills programs for small business employees, thus enhancing the competitiveness and economic viability of small businesses around the Commonwealth.

* Imagine That was awarded \$35,000 to provide training for Profession/Industry Specific & Technical Skills through

June 30, 2020

* Northern Essex Community College was awarded \$142,313 to provide training in Leadership/Management/Supervisory Skills through June 30, 2020.

"Each year I witness the Workforce Training grants benefitting tremendous training centers and small businesses in our community and around the Commonwealth. Imagine That and NECC are two such worthy recipients, and I look forward to seeing our community benefit and thrive from the various new skills training that will be possible through these grants," said Representative Moran.

The Workforce Training Fund Small Business Direct Access Program funds pay for 100% of a training seat in various classes. A participating business must pay its employees' wages for 100% of the time they spend in grant-funded training.

MUSEUM OF PRINTING ARTS FAIR

The Museum of Printing will open its doors free of charge on Saturday, September 22nd, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for our PRINTING ARTS FAIR, in conjunction with Smithsonian magazine's Museum Day Live at the Museum of Printing, 15 Thornton Avenue, Haverhill, MA. The event is FREE and open to the public.

For information Contact the Museum of Printing at info@museumofprinting.org for more info. museumofprinting.org.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AT THE CARRIAGE BARN - The Carriage Barn Equine Adaptive Therapy Programs is looking for volunteers to assist with Therapeutic Horseback Riding & Carriage Driving, Fundraising, Events, and Fun Activities. Volunteers are needed at various times throughout the week to work with horses and clients.

Teens, adults and retirees welcome (volunteers must be at least 14 years old). Experience and horse knowledge is a plus, but is not required. Are you a student with a community service requirement (Honor Society, Scouts, 4-H, Graduation, etc)? If so, we would love to hear from you!

Anyone interested in learning more can contact The Carriage Barn at 603-378-0140, email info.carriagebarn@comcast.net, or check out our website at www.carriage-barn.org.

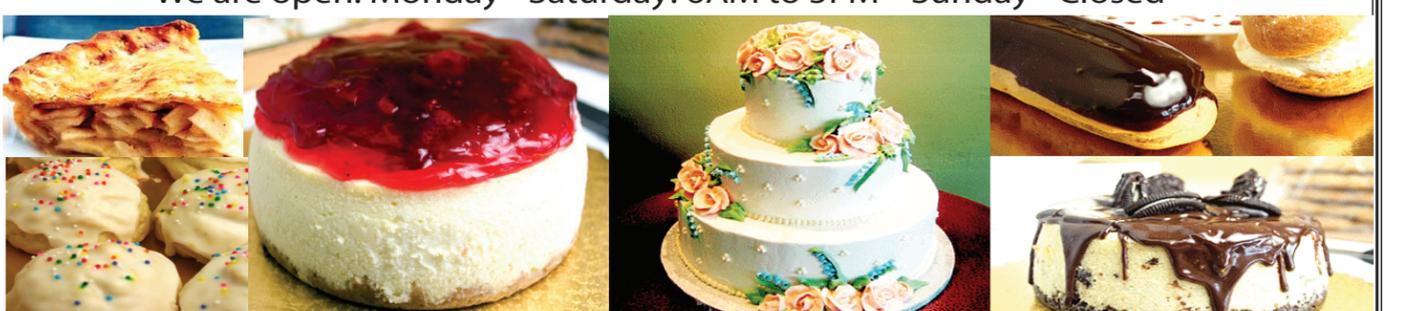
The program offers services in Kensington, NH and seeks to promote the health and well-being of individuals of all ages with disabilities by enhancing their physical, psychological, cognitive and emotional healing and strengthening through equine activities. The Carriage Barn is a 501c3 Not-for-Profit Organization, as well as a member center of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, International.



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ABBY'S TEEN TALK

Bulletproof Backpacks; the Newest Quick Fix for Gun Violence at Schools?

Abigail Juknavorian

VALLEY PATRIOT TEEN COLUMNIST

Two hundred dollars; that's the average price for the newest back to school accessory. What kind of accessory could be that expensive? Bulletproof backpacks. Following the deadly shooting at a high school in Parkland Florida, the demand to keep children safe and protected in school is higher than ever.

According to an article written for MONEY, Joe Curran (the founder of Massachusetts-based bullet-proof equipment maker BulletBlocker) estimates the sales of these bags have gone up between 200%-300%, with a 30% overall production increase.

While that all sounds interesting on the surface the questions that still remain in my mind are - how effective are these products, and is this just another band-aid style approach to tackling gun violence at schools? As a young student going back to school, one of my favorite things to do was to buy a brand-new backpack. Like most kids, I loved being able to pick one with fun patterns and colors, or the latest trends that I could show off to all my friends on the first day of school. Never in a million years would I think to have a backpack that would play a key role in saving my own life. In terms of effectiveness, most of these bags are only able to protect bullets from pistols and handguns. According to MONEY, the backpacks are potentially becoming less and less useful since the AR-15 continues to be the weapon of choice for many mass shootings.

There are many methods that our schools utilize in an attempt to keep gun violence out of their communities. Here in Massachusetts, as well as many other states, we use something called an ALICE drill. ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. That is the five step training platform that founder Greg Crane created. Personally I have

done more ALICE drills in my school career than I can count and honestly, I do believe that these drills can be very beneficial. However not once in this training program was there any mention of products like a bulletproof backpack. Maybe because bulletproof backpacks are not a solution? Instead, they are a band aid for an open wound.



On June 5, 2018, St. Cornelius middle school in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania gifted their eighth grade graduates a "good luck in high school" present. What was this present? A bulletproof Safe Shield™ insert for their

backpacks. David Hogg, a survivor of the Parkland school shooting responded on Twitter with this tweet, "To my fellow young people, we will not let this be our kids' graduation present." Personally, I couldn't agree more. What kind of statement are we making to our kids with this "solution"? It's almost like were telling them that they're going to be involved in a shooting at some time so they might as well be prepared. Is this really our new normal?

Waking up every day for school and wondering if today's the day where I'll be forced to run out of my school with my hands in the air fearing for the safety of myself and those I love is daunting to say the least.

As we kick off the 2018-2019 school year I implore each of us to ask ourselves, "Why do our children have to live this way and what can be done to put a stop to it for good this time?"



Abigail Juknavorian is a junior in high school and a resident of Methuen. She is a member of the YMCA Youth and Government Press Corps and a delegate to the UMASS Lowell Model UN.

Why You Should Care About Ayanna Pressley

Casey Pratt

VALLEY PATRIOT TEEN COLUMNIST

Republican or Democrat, everyone is happy to read a success story. Ayanna Pressley's story is a relatable one of struggling against society and being able to succeed despite these troubles. She has just won the Democratic primary for Congresswoman, and has no Republican opponent. She will represent the 7th Congressional District, if all goes as expected.

When told of her win, she was in shock. She was recorded in a very emotional video when she was told she had won. She is seen holding her heart, asking, "We won? We won?!" within a crowd of crying and hugging supporters.

Pressley is a truly admirable figure in politics, especially due to her focus on the group effort.

Even in her shock, she is still saying "we" won instead of "I" won. Her campaign revolves around her involvement in the community, and the amazing team that she has on her side. This is a win for all colored candidates, as she will be the first African American voted into Congress in Massachusetts.

The 7th Congressional District's voting history is interesting, because although the majority of the district is colored, they have a long standing history of electing white male representatives. Pressley is the

first female and the first person of color that has been sent to congress by that district.

Possibly due to this, or maybe simply to create a smear campaign against her, Pressley has been accused of using identity politics. Many are claiming that the only reason that she has gotten this far is by using this underdog story to get votes. She addressed this in a recent speech, saying that she does not want her gender or her race to define her, or overshadow her political goals.

However, she did say that she wants to be able to be proud to be a woman, and proud to be an African American woman.

As the first congresswoman, Jeannette Rankin from Montana, said, "We're half the population, we should be half the congress." Currently, 51.4% of the population is female, and only 19.3% of congress has women in it. Pressley's win is a victory for both sides of politics, as it is a further step towards equality.



Casey Pratt is a painter and photographer, and a bit of an adrenaline junkie. She also excels in English, and hopes to have a career photojournalist. Contact Casey on her Instagram, @acuriousteen

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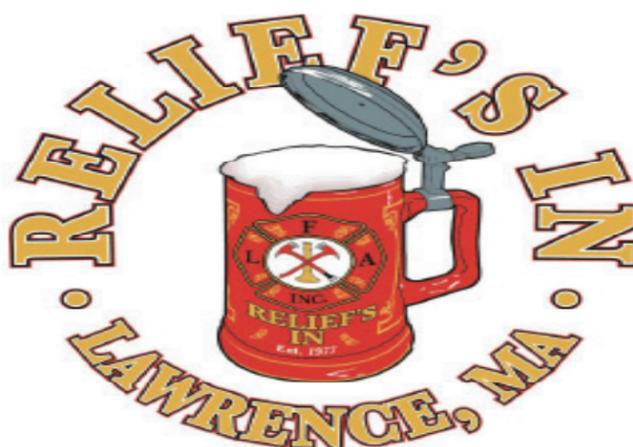
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Massachusetts Lawyers Are Happy To Maintain That Two Plus Two Makes Five

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

Recently-retired Justice Kennedy once wrote: "Nineteen Eighty-Four has one of the most brilliant scenes in literature. The protagonist is being tortured by his communist or totalitarian interrogators, and they want him to say that "Two and two is five." And finally he can't stand the torture anymore, he says, "Okay, two and two is five." But, the torture continues. He said, "Why are you continuing?" They say, "The torture continues not until you just say it, but until you believe it." And, this is a powerful reminder that governments want to plan your destiny. They want to plan what you think, and this must never happen."

I am frequently reminded of this, living as I do in progressive liberal Massachusetts, the nation's conscience for social justice, economic equality, gender equality, rule of law, democracy, a free press, saving patients with substance use disorder from prison, relieving pain in patients, watching the watchmen, and a transparent approach to open records throughout government.

VP readers know about Dr. Michael Langan. Like me, Dr. Langan sought relief from the state Supreme Court. His case couldn't be more slam-dunk. The medical board ordered a lab to switch sample numbers, used the switch to claim he tested positive for alcohol and charged him \$600 per week for drug tests they knew were pointless. When he would not pay them anymore, they suspended his license. He became bankrupt and lost his home.

Chief Justice Ralph Gants asked the board's lawyer who would pay for the additional year of weekly drug tests that the board demanded before considering giving Dr. Langan's license back. The board will not pay said their lawyer. Oh OK, said Gants. Case dismissed. Sensible people concluded the fix was in.

I went before Gants too. That court had rendered a decision in a case called McGuinness v. DOC. That decision was textual, logical, unassailable and I said #MeToo. In my case Gants gave the board's lawyer a big speech about seizure of liberty and due process violations. Then after the cameras were switched off and the audience had gone home he issued an unsigned opinion that was the exact opposite of the textual analysis in McGuinness. Sensible people concluded the fix was in.

Whenever I mention this to Massachu-

setts lawyers however, Orwell reappears. No no, they tell me, Gants is passionately committed to justice. The SJC is always correct. The SJC is simply waiting for the right vehicle to set the board right. If you thought Gants' and the SJC's opinion was incorrect, the error is in you and you need re-education.

Meaning I need to learn that "Two and two is five." And that Gants is passionately committed to justice.

Federal courts in Massachusetts follow the same playbook.

In 2017 Judge Nathaniel Gorton turned a deaf ear to my patients and myself for seven weeks and never held a hearing. He allowed the defendants to suspend my medical license by blocking an emergency petition for seven weeks. At the same time he held hearings within 48 hours on emergency petitions in other cases. Sensible people concluded the fix was in.

Gorton then burst into a second lawsuit of mine, threw off the original judge and promptly dismissed it without a hearing. Sensible people concluded the fix was in.

My patients and I appealed the dismissal. The 1st Circuit appeals court sat on it, and ignored for eight weeks my emergency motion to stay the license suspension pending appeal. So I filed an application with the U.S. Supreme Court to give me my license back while waiting for the appeal.

Immediately, at 9am on Monday morning the next week, Judges Thompson and Torruella dismissed our appeal. This way they invited the Supreme Court to dismiss my stay application as moot because no appeal is pending anymore. Sensible people concluded the fix was in.

Massachusetts lawyers however strive mightily to avoid that basic conclusion. No no, they tell me, it is an expression of the judges' humility that they acknowledged they were powerless to grant us relief from Judge Gorton. Our judges are our last bulwark against tyranny. If you say anything bad about our judges, democracy itself will be in peril. If you do not recognize that, the error is in you and you need re-education.

Meaning my patients and I are to ignore the four fingers staring us in the face and truly believe that we see "Five." And that our federal judges are passionately committed to justice and the nation's founding principles. No thanks. We leave that to people with Massachusetts Bar Cards.

LAWYERS: PAGE 29

BENEATH THE SURFACE

The Smoke of Satan Has Entered

Paul Murano

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

In his homily in 1972 on the solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Pope Paul VI made this ominous statement: "The smoke of Satan has entered the temple of God." A few years prior, the pope wrote *Humanae Vitae* (1968), reaffirming the Church's constant teaching against contraception. This should have been the dam to stave off the tide of the sexual revolution and subsequent culture of death. It was not. For the first time in modern Church history a doctrine definitively defined was met with public dissent. This was followed by mass confusion on what it means to be human and watering down of morality in the western world.

Today we have experienced the fruits of the contraception mentality – the delinking of the unitive from the procreative meaning of sexual love – in the rationalization of perversion for the sake of pleasure. The strategy was ingenious: once you rupture the objective love-giving and life-giving meaning of sex you can rationalize all disordered desires. Add to this a distorted notion of liberty, and human reason is defeated.

It wasn't long before the media and academia came on board – the professional rationalizers were in full swing, conditioning society to accept violations of human nature as individual 'freedom'. Time Magazine called it "the new morality." In truth it was simply the age-old attempt to seek freedom from God, illustrated so succinctly in Adam and Eve hiding from God as soon as they had sinned (Gn 3:8). Yet, these professional rationalizers, unable to see that the smoke of Satan has already permeated their own professions, are certainly unable to see that the last and greatest obstacle to the goal of total misery and death for mankind is the Catholic Church.

The Catholic Church is the one bulwark that has remained steadfast in teaching the truth despite this demonic strategy. That teaching will not, and cannot, change. However, something dubious, as that Pope Paul VI noted, was infiltrating. Today we know it as the Church scandal, and it must be crushed.

Yet, in dealing with this scandal, the liberal media doesn't know what to do with its own cognitive dissonance. If they cover the scandal (which makes them salivate) they'd have to cover this pope's potential involvement. They can't do that since they secretly see him as one of their own. If they call it a pedophilia scandal (which they love doing) they would have

to admit that almost 90% of it involves homosexual behavior with adolescents. They would rather cover up this fact. Quite a quandary.

So, what is a Catholic to do in the midst of the current public scandal? Here are some thoughts. First, be calm, for we have the promise from above that the gates of hell shall never prevail (Mt 16:18). Second, do not forget that being faithful to the Church means being faithful to Christ. Christ is the essence of the Church, not the frail human element. The Church is His mystical body, formed and animated by His Spirit, without which there is no salvation.

Part of the New and unbreakable Covenant promise is that the Holy Spirit will keep the means of salvation within the Church pure and available to all until Jesus returns - despite the level of sin or holiness in His ordained priests. This means divine truth (His word) and divine life (His sacraments) will remain undefiled. As I told my students, if, hypothetically, every bishop became a mass murderer tomorrow, the sacraments would still be valid and dogma still be infallible. These clergy may end up in hell, or jail, or both (although we'd hope for their repentance); but whenever they validly administer a sacrament or proclaim a definitive doctrine, it is Christ who acts through them, sometimes despite them.

We cannot forget that of the twelve people Jesus hand-picked to be the pillars of His Church, one betrayed Him (Judas), one denied Him (Peter), and all but one (John) abandoned Him in His time of suffering on the cross. If we can see greed, pride, and fear in the original twelve, why would anyone expect the Church to be scandal-free at anytime during her earthly journey? Recall the words of Jesus after He told His crowd of followers they must eat His body and drink His blood, for "whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." Most of His disciples left Him, going back to their former way of life. "Jesus then turned to His twelve and asked, 'Do you too want to leave?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life'" (Jn 6:56, 66-69).

Being faithful to Christ means remaining faithful to His Church - despite how human sin and turmoil may temporarily taint her exterior. The Church is the new Noah's Ark of salvation for the New Covenant, even though pirates continuously seek to come aboard to disrupt her path. It

SATAN: PAGE 30

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IN THE GROOVE with Cindy Annis

John Lennon Pt. II

Cindy Annis

VALLEY PATRIOT VINYL COLUMNIST

Welcome back! When last we left, I think we were talking a little about John Lennon's first solo album. "John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band." It had it's good and bad critiques. Let's move on, though. In 1971, John came out with his next piece of solo work. He went into this piece trying to leave some of the hurt and anger behind him and the results showed. Well for the most part, anyways. "Imagine" was released on September 9, 1971, in the U.S. "There is a substantial amount of good music" on this album. He still had his fingers pointed at many people on a few of the songs, but the great stuff showed right through. It was no secret that Paul McCartney had problems with the Lennon Ono relationship in its early days, and "How Do You Sleep" was calling out Paul on these feelings. Paul didn't deny this at all, and he actually confirmed this. He didn't know the healing power of that confirmation. In the mid-1970s John changed his remarks on the song and said it was about himself. Don't forget about the title track on the album. "Imagine" would go on to be a cry of peace at war rallies and many other protests not just in this country, but all around the world. I think this was his best piece of work.

Even as a Beatle, John was involved with politics. He had his opinions and he let them be known. Outside of the Beatles it wasn't any different. If there was a cause, John was there. That is not to say John just jumped into everything antigovernment, but that John was, at least in John's head, a loving caring person of the world and he wanted to help make it a better place.

John and Yoko moved uptown to New York in the summer of 1971. In December of the same year they released the single. "Happy Xmas (War Is Over.) The Harlem Community Choir helped John and Yoko on this single that they co-wrote. One of the most popular, of the modern-day

Christmas songs. A simple melody for a set of simple words for a spectacular day. Christmas!

The fact that John hated the Vietnam War was well known, and that he wasn't a fan of Richard Nixon was also a fact heard round the world. Oh yes, President Nixon knew this and in early 1972, the Nixon folks wanted John out of the U.S. They started a push to deport John and refuse him permanent residency here in the states. He fought with immigration for over four years. This whole battle took its toll on John and he had battles with depression and alcohol. The latter of which he temporarily lost when he got drunk and cheated on Yoko. He left her for a while out of embarrassment for what he had done to her. She wrote, "Death Of Samantha" because of this.

1972 was when John and Yoko worked together on a double album. "Some Time In New York City" was released in June of 1972 and was backed up by a New York band called Elephant's Memory. This was another compilation of songs about John's causes, such as women's right, Britain in Northern Ireland and John's immigration problems. As with other albums where the finger is being pointed at everyone, it didn't do very good commercially. This album was criticized for its "heavy handed and relentless," attacks on the government and on other causes of John's. Tony Tyler called John, "a pathetic, ageing revolutionary." One of the singles released in the U.S. was called "Woman Is The N*gger Of The World" and was played live on the Dick Cavett Show on May 11. Because of the racial slang, the song didn't get much radio air time. This album also prompted the last two full length concerts John Lennon would ever play. John and Yoko did two benefit concerts in New York. Elephant's Memory joined them on stage with a few other guests. The concerts were to benefit the patients at the Willowbrook State School Mental Facility, and were held at Madison Square Garden.

There is so much to say about John Lennon.

LENNON: PAGE 29

Reading Labels To Better Health

Rick Bellanti

HEALTH & WELLNESS COLUMNIST

When following a healthy diet, it is important to not only read the nutrition labels on the product you purchase but also understanding what all those numbers mean. Consumers look at food labels for different reasons but no matter what that reason is for each individual, the main goal is to be informed about the food you are buying (and consuming) and effectively use this information while following your healthy diet.

The label you find on products you purchase, will vary depending on each individual product and will be product specific however, more often you will see the most important information right away. Serving size, servings per container, calories per serving and dietary nutrition information are most common, such as sodium content, fiber and fats. It is important to know that most of these labels and nutrition daily values are typically based on the American 2,000 and 2,500 calorie diets.

If you are serious about your health and your weight loss goals, it is very important that you learn how to read these product labels, or your weight loss will slow down or may even creep up on you, without you knowing why. The first two items to look for when reading a product label should always be "Serving Size" and "Servings Per Container" most people tend to just jump down to the calories right away, not realizing they are not correctly figuring out their calorie intake.

Always check the serving size, If there is only one serving per container, then yes, the calorie intake would be correct (if you consume the whole package at one



sitting). However, if there are two or more servings in the package, then you need to know that if you eat the whole package at one sitting, you are consuming two or three times the amount of calories at that time. Remember that it also multiplies the nutrient level as well, so the sodium milligrams and fat could double or triple, if you don't pay attention to serving size and that is where you'll get into trouble.

After you figure out the amount of calories per serving, you need to look at the nutrients listed in the next section of the product label.

Typically, the next part of the label will have fats, cholesterol and sodium content. The fats may have three categories: total fats, saturated fats and trans fats. Trans fats are really bad for you, they raise your LDL (the bad cholesterol) and lower your HDL (the good cholesterol) and may increase your risk of certain chronic diseases, like heart disease, some cancers, or high blood pressure.

Be vigilant with your reading of product labels and really look into the numbers and of course the ingredients as well. For example, if a certain product claims to have 0 Trans fat, it doesn't necessarily

HEALTH: PAGE 29

Attorney Arthur Broadhurst



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HERO: FROM PAGE 1

was transferred off to a new construction submarine. This man's first submarine was lost with all hands onboard, on its next patrol - one of the fifty-two US Navy submarines lost in World War II. Of the 16,000 American Submarines who served in World War II, 3,606 were lost in the war. Basically one in five American submariners did not survive the war. Submariners had the highest casualty rate in the US Military during World War II. This fact was kept secret by the US Military until Japan surrendered. Many families believing their sons and husbands were simply out on patrol, but actually had already been killed in the war; their boat sunk.

Two submarines, the USS Thresher SS-200 and USS Narwhal SS-167 are tied with fifteen combat patrols each. Both boats survived the war. Seven World War II Submarine skippers received the Medal of Honor. They include former Andover, Massachusetts resident George Street and the only man to land combat troops on mainland Japan during the war, Admiral Eugene Fluckey. On the USS Barb SS-220, Fluckey and his men, took some scuttling charges, paddled ashore on a raft, and blew up a Japanese train using the sub's scuttling charges. As the Barb's commanding officer, Admiral Fluckey sank confirmed seventeen Japanese ships, including a carrier, a cruiser, and a frigate.

Senior Chief Bryant's USS Seadog SS-401, completed five war time patrols, earned two Battle stars, and sent several Japanese ships to the bottom. The most decorated ship in the US Navy during World War II was the carrier USS Enterprise CV-6, with twenty Battle stars, a Presidential Unit Citation, and the U.S. Navy Unit Commendation. ENCS Bryant remained in the US Navy after the war, serving as a submariner, a Navy diver, an instructor. A veteran of World War II, Korea, the Cold War, and Vietnam, he retired in 1967 as a Senior Chief Petty Officer. He married his wife Virginia, and the couple had two daughters, Susan and Maureen. He worked in various high tech jobs on the North Shore, until he retired for a second time at age seventy two. For the young men and women in the Merrimack Valley reading this, he completed all five of his Combat Patrols before is twentieth birthday!

They are called the "silent service", because they are the smartest, best trained, and best paid sailors in the US Navy. Once they are "qualified in submarines", they are eligible to receive submarine duty pay throughout their career. Submariner Frank Harrington is the Commander of the Submarine Veterans Base in Marblehead, Massachusetts, he qualified on the nuclear attack sub, the USS Cavalla SSN-684. Base Vice-Commander is Frank Hood, who qualified on the USS Seahorse SSN-669, another nuclear attack sub. Similar to an American Legion Post, Submarine Veterans call each local group a "base".

The current US Navy fleet, has eighteen Ohio class submarines, fourteen ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) and four guided missile submarines (SSGNs) In addition to eleven Virginia class (SSNs) three Seawolf class (SSNs) and thirty six Los Angeles class (SSNs) fast attack and attack submarines. Most of their daily activities are highly classified, with the crew not allowed cell phones or cameras onboard. While the last Submarine Combat patrol pins were awarded in 1945, on January 17, 1991, the opening night of Operation Desert Storm, for the first time since the surrender of Japan in 1945, an American submarine fired in combat, firing twelve Tomahawk missiles from the Submarine deep in the eastern Mediter-

anean Sea.

Sadly, on October 1, 1990, the last diesel attack submarine, the USS Blueback (SS-581) was decommissioned. The USS Blueback earned two Battle stars during the Vietnam War. The US Navy operated a diesel research submarine, the USS Dolphin (AGSS-555) until January 15, 1997. This submarine served the fleet for thirty eight years, the longest career of an US Submarine.

Looking to the Navy's future, US Navy doctor Commander Marilisa Elrod, is qualified as a medical doctor, qualified as a US Navy diver, and qualified in Submarines, one of the first women in the military to qualify on a sub, a 1996 graduate with honors, from the US Naval Academy. Commander Elrod earned an Honors degree in Natural Sciences at Trinity College, Cambridge University. CDR Elrod then studied at The Ohio State University, completing an MS in Statistics and a PhD in Biostatistics and graduated with an MD in June 2005. Currently stationed at the Naval Hospital in Norfolk, VA. A civilian once said to me, disappointed after his son joined the US Army, he felt that only young men and women who join the US military are youngsters without options. This young Navy officer could and would succeed anywhere!

Thanks to Submarine Veteran Frank Harrington for introducing me to his brother submarine veterans. Much of the information for this article came from Jeff Wignall and Doug Bryant's book, "The Navy Gave Me Shoes", (available on Amazon) which should be on the required reading list in our public schools. Purdue University graduate and former Naval Submarine Officer Frank Hood has the perspective of serving as a midshipman and an officer on both a diesel boat, the USS Entemedor (SS-480) and a nuclear submarine, the USS Seahorse (SSN-669). Over a beer, I learned much about submarines from the former Ensign Hood. My favorite being the stories of "sticky buns" made by Navy cooks late at night for the submarine crews. His book is available as well on Amazon and is titled "Poopie suits and Cowboy boots; Tales of a Submarine Officer during the Height of the Cold War".

The US Navy and Hollywood, both call submarines the "Silent Service", that may be true. Considering the Marblehead submarine veterans are modest men, who will talk all day about "sticky buns", their families, and their first beer at seventeen in a bar in Panama, but will say nothing of their bravery in traveling under the North Pole on a submarine, attacking a Japanese ship, or launching missiles at Iraqi Troops during the opening salvo of the Gulf War.

To any Valley Patriot readers who served on Submarines, please consider joining the Submarine Veterans of America, simply go to either of their websites, Marblehead, MA is www.marbleheadbaseusvi.org or their National site is www.ussvi.org. The group is robust, with 12,468 members, but the Submarine Veterans tell me that they want every submariner to join their organization.

John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees) after retiring from the Navy, he earned a BA in History and an MA in Economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 21 years. If you know a World War II Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com.

TV TALK with BILL CUSHING



2018 Fall TV Preview: What You Should Watch

Bill Cushing

VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

The new TV season is upon us and just like every year there are lots of new shows. Which are worth devoting your time to? This column will hopefully help you decide the answer to that question. Here are some of the shows I think will be worth checking out.

Jack Ryan (Amazon) - John Krasinski (The Office) stars in this TV adaptation of the popular Tom Clancy novels. Krasinski will play Jack Ryan, the character made famous in the movies by Alec Baldwin, Harrison Ford, Ben Affleck, and Chris Pine. In this incarnation, Ryan is a young up-and-coming CIA analyst thrust into a dangerous field assignment for the first time; he uncovers a pattern in terrorist communication that launches him into the middle of a dangerous gambit with a new breed of terrorism. Premiered August 31st on Amazon.

Mayans M.C. (FX) - Kurt Sutter's long-awaited Sons of Anarchy spin-off is set in a post-Jax Teller world. Ezekiel "EZ" Reyes is fresh out of prison and a prospect in the Mayans M.C. charter on the California/Mexico border. The series stars JD Pardo, Edward James Olmos, Clayton Cardenas, Sarah Bolger, Michael Irby, and Richard Cabral. Premieres September 4th at 10 pm.

Kidding (Showtime) - Jim Carrey stars as a Mr. Rogers type children's TV icon coping with his crumbling family life in this new series directed by Michel Gondry (Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind). This one is getting a lot of buzz. Premieres September 9th at 10 pm.

Norm Macdonald Has a Show (Netflix) - The former Saturday Night Live actor has a new talk show on Netflix. Guests will include David Letterman, Drew Barrymore, Chevy Chase, Jane Fonda, Michael Keaton and Judge Judy. Adam Eget will be Norm's sidekick. Premieres September 14th on Netflix.

The Good Cop (Netflix) - Tony Danza and Josh Groban star as cops who are also father and son in this dramedy from Monk creator Andy Breckman. Groban plays a pathologically honest detective who tries to keep an eye on his crooked but kind-hearted dad (Danza) when he's not solving murders. Premieres September 21st on Netflix.

A Million Little Things (ABC) - This

drama series centers on a group of friends from Boston who bonded under unexpected circumstances. Some have achieved success, others are struggling in their careers and relationships, but all of them feel stuck in life. After one of them dies unexpectedly, it's just the wake-up call the others need to finally start living. If you're a fan of TV dramas like 'This Is Us' then this is one that you'll want to check out. Premieres Wednesday, September 26th at 10 pm.

The Romanoffs (Amazon) - This highly anticipated series, created, written, produced, and directed from Mad Men mastermind Matthew Weiner, will feature eight separate stories about people who believe themselves to be descendants of a Russian royal family. An impressive cast will star in the series and will include Diane Lane, Paul Reiser, Aaron Eckhart, Noah Wyle, Amanda Peet, as well as Mad Men alum John Slattery and Christina Hendricks. Premieres October 12th on Amazon Prime.

Homecoming (Amazon) - Julia Roberts stars in her first television series, a psychological thriller based on the podcast of the same name. Roberts plays Heidi Bergman, a caseworker at a facility treating soldiers returning from war, and a veteran eager to rejoin civilian life. Stephan James and Bobby Cannavale will also star. Premieres November 2nd on Amazon Prime.

Camping (HBO) - Jennifer Garner and David Tennant star in this new comedy series from the creators of 'Girls.' The series follows married couple Kathryn (Garner) and Walt (Tennant) who have planned a delightful camping weekend for Walt's 45th birthday. Let's just say the trip doesn't turn out quite as planned. Premieres October 14th.

That's it for this month. Hopefully this gave you some idea of what to watch this season. Enjoy!



If you have any questions about TV you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.

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Jesus Christ's Blood Speaks Better Things!

Peter Larocque
RELIGION COLUMNIST

God bless you and greetings my friends in the wonderful name of Jesus! I have touched on this month's subject before but due to some recent events I believe a reminder is in order. Let's read together this verse in Hebrews 11:4, "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh." I'm sure you are familiar with this story of the first murder in the Bible, which also introduced the first crime scene.

We know from television ratings, that one of the favorites was CSI, now we have NCIS and all its off shoots. These television programs showed us how blood, DNA at a crime scene tell a story, well that is what we have going on here with Cain and Abel. The Bible written long before DNA testing told us this in Leviticus 17:11, "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: ..." Let's read together, Genesis 4:8-10, "And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. 9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me [God] from the ground." What was Abel's blood crying to God? Vengeance! Vengeance! Vengeance! According to scripture, vengeance belongs to God only, Deuteronomy 32:43, says, "Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people." Psalms 94:1-4, "O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself. 2 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud. 3 LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph? 4 How long shall they utter and speak hard things? and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?"

Holy Scripture tells us what Abel's blood was crying to God who in this case was The Crime Scene Investigator. After reading the report of the investigation [Scripture] we can clearly see that this whole crime took place over "How to approach God". Abel brought a blood sacrifice and Cain brought fruit from the ground, no blood. Scripture tells us and Adam would have instructed his boys that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins! (Hebrews 9:22 tells us, "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.") We now know Abel's blood was crying for vengeance!

In these following verses Jesus shows us his Heart toward Jerusalem. We can be rest assured that God is not finished dealing with the people of Israel! Matthew

23:34-39, "Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: 35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. 36 Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. 37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! 38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. 39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." You see, no talk of Vengeance!

Going forward we now need to read, Hebrews 12:24, "And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."

Now we introduce the New Covenant of Grace which began after Jesus Christ fulfilled the Old Covenant of the Law of Moses by shedding his blood on the Cross, which speaks better things, not vengeance!

Now, as part of our Christian journey, we get to joyfully look at some of the better things that Jesus' blood speaks like, Jesus fulfilled the Law of Moses, Matthew 5:17. Grace & Truth came by Jesus Christ! John 1:17, We are at Peace with God! Romans 5:1. Healing! Mark 16:18. Freedom! John 8:32, 36. No condemnation! Romans 8:1. Acceptance and Forgiveness! Ephesians 1:6-7. Colossians 1:14. Protection! Romans 8:31. Jesus' Blood Speaks Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification, Redemption! 1 Corinthians 1:30. Romans 5:17. Provision! Philippians 4:19. Prosperity! 2 Corinthians 8:9. Sonship! Galatians 4:6-7.

So, as I conclude, Jesus' Blood still speaks today,

The Law is Fulfilled!
Grace & Truth!
Peace with God!
Healing & Freedom!
No Condemnation!
Acceptance & Forgiveness!
Protection!
Wisdom, Righteousness & Sanctification & Redemption!
Provision & Prosperity!
Sonship!

So my beloved Friends, Preachers, Pastors, Church Leaders, we need to speak only what the Blood of Jesus is speaking today and not Vengeance! Vengeance belongs only to God which is way above our pay grade!

I love you all,
Peter Larocque
peterlarocque@hotmail.com

Robin's Kitty Corner

Spirit Cat

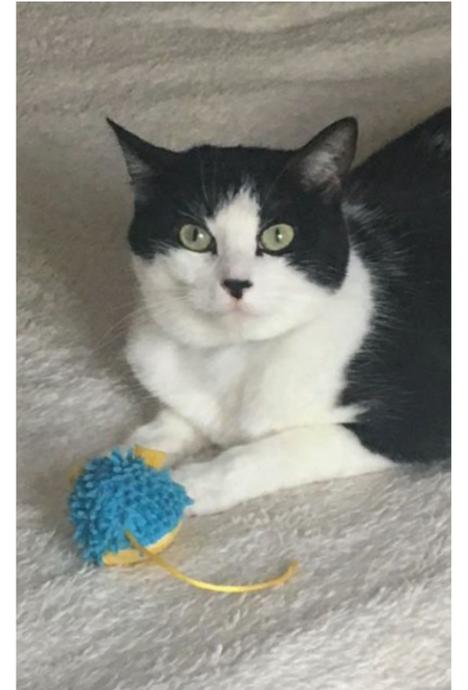
Robin Desmet
VALLEY PATRIOT KITTY COLUMNIST

My cat Nora is a spirit cat. Does this mean that she has mythical powers or that she brings me good luck? No, nothing like that. A spirit cat is a cat that is exceptionally shy. Spirit cats are usually under socialized, meaning they have not had enough human contact and are not used to being handled and touched. They are usually rescues that are found as "older" kittens, 6 months to a year old, in either hoarding situations or living outside. Unlike cats that are feral, which do not do well indoors and are considered "unadoptable", these spirit cats will actually thrive indoors when they are placed in the right home.

Spirit cats do not do well in homes with young children. Noise and commotion will quickly send a spirit cat into hiding. This type of environment is stressful for the cat and life is not fun for the cat when most of its time is spent cowering under a bed. Children will not enjoy a cat that runs away when they try to play with it, and spirit cats do not do well in homes where they feel scared and are being chased all the time. Spirit cats do much better in quieter homes.

Spirit cats prefer to come to you, rather than the other way around. They will approach you on their own terms, most likely when you are watching television or sleeping, when all is quiet and they feel safe. They may allow you to pet them, or they may prefer to just be near you or around you. That being said, these spirit cats will usually form a strong bond with one or two people in your household. They will come out when their special person is around, but be virtually invisible when you have visitors. These cats are not "mean" cats, and they do not bite or scratch or show aggression. They are much more likely to run away and hide than scratch or attack when frightened.

Spirit cats are unique in that they almost always get along with other cats. They prefer cats to people in most instances, and will usually thrive in households with



other cats. They will engage in play if they see other cats having fun first, and they can often be seen lying next to their cat friends and mimicking their behavior. They make great companions for other cats in the home.

So why would anyone adopt this type of cat? Spirit cats are typically adopted by kind hearted individuals with cats of their own who are either looking to give a shy cat a good home or to find a friend for their own cats. These shy cats can linger in shelters or in foster care, and they are often overlooked by potential adopters who are looking for sweet, playful kittens or for the quintessential lap cat. Spirit cats are great for busy people that want to provide a home for a needy animal, but do not have a lot of time to devote to their pets. These spirit cats are very independent and will seek you out when they are comfortable, but for the most part they prefer to hang with their animal friends. Spirit cats aren't for everyone, but they can make wonderful pets in the right circumstances.

Author: Robin Desmet, Rph and MSPCA volunteer.

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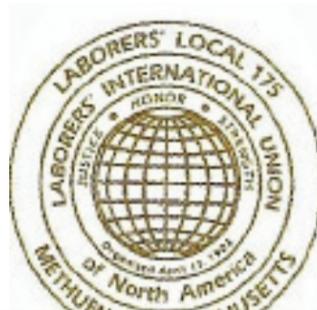
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M. Paul Iannuccillo, Register

William Francis Galvin
 Secretary of the Commonwealth
 of Massachusetts

ANDOVER

Michael C Silverman, Shanshan Wang & Jinhuang Lu, \$295,000, 49 Lupine Rd Unit 7
 Rogers Realty Trust & Glenn A & Jennifer L Rogers Trs, Gregory Vemis, \$590,000, 2 Cameron Rd
 Matthew & Kathryn Hershey, Philip H Martin & Melissa Malone, \$850,000, 5 Oriole Dr
 Bin Xi & Juan Yang, Janethe D De Oliveira Pena & Jose E Goncalves De Mendonca, \$575,000, 4 Sunset Rd
 Carol L Madden Tr & George C Madden Revocable Trust-1998, Michael C Silverman, \$369,900, 54 Tewksbury St
 James M & Kristina A Collins & Ursula T Tomlinson, Scott A & Jeanne E Clark, \$465,000, 57 Cheever Cir
 Edward J & Lisa E Ganem, Matthew C & Stefanie L Sousa, \$660,000, 12 Charlotte Dr
 Erica L Ates, Michael Reichert, \$210,000, A2 Colonial Dr Unit A2-3
 Martin A & Kathleen M S Serrano, Jason S & Heather L Badower, \$665,000, 48 High Plain Rd
 Richard W Lyman III & Amy E Lyman, Katherine Y Fergus & Chris J Machold, \$1,120,000, 375 South Main St
 Jeds Realty Trust & Susan A Klein Tr, Jamie Dedoglou, \$195,000, A1 Colonial Dr Unit 5
 Johns Homestead Realty Trust & Jerry Johns Tr, Solange Silva, \$250,000, 52 High St Unit 16
 CA Investment Trust & Yvon Cormier Tr, Doreen M Bushashia, \$1,175,000, 28 Crenshaw Ln Unit 11-2
 Kimberly A Colombo, Sarah Ihugo, \$629,900, 10 Pettingell Ave
 Mary & Stephen Kurkul, Marcia S Jacobs, \$625,000, 18 Summer St Unit 2
 Kathleen M & Matthew T McMillan, Kevin Francis Murphy & Meghan Theresa O'Day Murphy, \$643,500, 13 Strawberry Hill Rd
 Mathew S & Whitney C Bourgeois, Matthew T & Kathleen M McMillan, \$671,000, 6 Strawberry Hill Rd
 359 River Road Realty Trust & Deborah A Picard Tr, Joseph B & Colette Gencorelli, \$665,000, 359 River Rd
 South Church/South Church Inc, Andover Community Trust Inc, \$200,000, 8 Lupine Rd
 Thomas M & Erica L Tassinari, Bharath Kodali & Chaitanya Rao Kaita, \$860,000, 2 Patriot Dr
 Joseph H & Mary Ann N Alwan Trs & Alwan Realty Trust, Gaurang & Dhara Satija, \$1,400,000, 2 Meadow View Ln
 Yvon Cormier Tr & CA Investment Trust, Mark E Zuckerman Tr & Mark E Zuckerman 2015 Family Trust & Lori J Hunt Tr & Lori J Hunt 2015 Family Trust, \$1,300,000, 27 Crenshaw Ln Unit 15-1
 Brian O & Courtney M Salazar, Clayton Mohamed & Jennifer Weininger, \$721,025, 5 College Cir
 Meng Zhou Tan, Li Zhou Iyengar, \$300,000, 25 Railroad St Unit 410
 Kristen E & Ralph J Perrotti Jr, Dana & Jody Repici, \$215,000, A1 Colonial Dr Unit 7
 Frances Bonier Tr & Richard J Bonier Irrevocable Trust, Catherine Bonier, \$380,000, 66 Cross St
 Silvija Aprans, Laura Malitsky, \$460,000, 1 Powder Mill Sq Unit 305A
 David & Leslie R Silverstein Trs & David Silverstein Living Trust & Leslie R Silverstein Living Trust, Work Inc, \$774,900, 26 Burton Farm Dr
 Chen-Hung & Yun Hsiao Chang Living Trust & Chen-Hung & Yun Hsiao Chang

Trs, Travis J Dallas & Rylynn Stoner, \$690,000, 6 Carmel Rd
 Maria A Guerrero & Arthur J McCabe Jr, Cui Qin chen & Xiaoxin Yu, \$749,900, 8 Heather Dr
 Timothy C & Diana L Rodenberger, Chandrashekara Mallappa & Chetana Koranahalli Shivanna, \$672,400, 3 Yardley Rd
 Frederick & Jeanne P DeLisio Trs & DeLisio Family Realty Trust, Philipp & Kristen D Harlov, \$300,000, 63 Andover St
 Ajdin & Elvedina Liskovica, Cristobal & Susie Rodriguez, \$285,000, 450 Brookside Dr Unit K
 Jane & Yu-Lin Wang, Timothy & Diana Rodenberger, \$930,000, 25 Stirling St
 Pulte Home Of New England LLC, George & Linda D'Andrea, \$349,295, 1 Francis Dr Unit 1203
 Edward A Schoen Tr & Schoen Realty Trust, Jonathan & Courtney Ofria, \$735,000, 10 Cricket Cir
 Michael R Walsh, Taimur Ellahi & Pusha Karim, \$295,000, 1200A Spring Valley Dr
 Amy Z Chen, Jessica S Reyes & Grace L & Timothy L Chu, \$899,900, 2 Endicott Rd
 William R & Rachel L Anastasia, Matthew Corrado Giampietro & Jennifer Bracken Dunn, \$390,000, 442 Lowell St
 Horsman Realty Trust & Stanley J Horsman Tr, Jonathan C & Melanie Casey, \$835,000, 260 Chandler Rd
 Jonathan & Sherilyn Kasper, Christopher M Robichaud Tr & CR Andover Trust, \$600,000, 9 Linda Rd
 David E & Deborah H Vivian, Jessica Ball & Gregory Cantave, \$869,000, 4 Germano Wy
 John J & Deborah Blanchard, Wangqing Yuan & Zi Yan, \$126,000, 1 Colonial Dr Unit D1-04
 Manu Jain & Rohini Sharma, Jason & Kellyann Coughlin, \$655,000, 396 High Plain Rd
 Anandhaveni & Marimuthu Shankar, Xingguang Zhu & Linyun Han, \$925,000, 2 Farrwood Dr
 Timothy E Redmond, Janet Muasya, \$314,000, 3 Binney St Unit B
 Chuanjun Wang & Yihui Zhu, Sujit Arun Jalgaonkar & Supriya Gawas, \$475,000, 18 Dale St Unit 5-B
 Frank A Nelligan Jr & Barbara Nelligan, William P McLean Jr & Bryanna M McLean, \$496,000, 14 Arthur Rd
 Lorraine M Sampson Est & Keith T Sampson, Monica Farcas, \$550,000, 15 Farrwood Dr
 Lisa M & Sean M Paige, Vincent G & Andrea Cinsneruli, \$515,000, 12-14 Juliette St
 Renee D Madlangbayan, Daniel Michael & Caroline Hayes Lopez, \$545,000, 17 Wildwood Rd
 Armand M Hyatt Tr & Nadema A Gemmell Tr & Lamprey Shipman Andover Real Estate Trust, Geoffrey S & Sally G Conway, \$587,500, 32 Shipman Rd
 Pulte Home Of New England LLC, Carlos & Paula T Santos, \$383,945, 1 Francis Dr Unit 209
 Stephen C & Janice L Fay, Derek A & Kelly S Parsons/Kelly Parsons, \$768,500, 5 Penacock Pl
 Zachary C & Kristin E Bergeron/Kristin E Kutch, Jonathan Eng & Cindy Leigh Russo Eng, \$565,000, 48 Lovejoy Rd
 Kenneth P & Eileen Doherty, Andrew J Sullivan Tr & Janean Doherty Sullivan Tr & Sullivan Family Revocable Trust, \$875,000, 3 Timothy Dr
 Matthew L Olsen, Kristopher D Cui & Gillian R Baresich, \$400,000, 18 River St Unit 1
 McSweeney Development LLC, Massimo

Panzica & Rosella Distefano, \$765,000, 543 Lowell St
 Alfred E Dussey Tr & Dusey Investment Trust, Zachary C & Kristin E Bergeron, \$680,000, 18 Algonquin Ave
 Twenty Five Bobby Jones Drive Nominee Realty Trust & Robert W & Courtney S Merklinger Trs, Donald & Debra Stanley, \$930,000, 25 Bobby Jones Dr Unit 8-3
 Clara Christine Maynard Est & Tracy L Harris & Glenn S Newsome, Jared & Sarah Foley, \$630,000, 10 Appletree Ln
 Nancy & Wayne R Frerichs Trs & w & N Frerichs Realty Trust, Qian Xu & Shuhao Wen, \$1,380,000, 11 Ashford Ln
 Peter K & Alison C King, Christopher A & Amanda E Simeone, \$650,000, 4 Wedgewood Dr
 Robert E & Colleen F Anderson, William E Stewart III & Alexa Stewart, \$580,000, 26 Pasho St
 Katherine Fergus, Paul & Jami Marad, \$1,009,000, 10 Orchard St
 Edward R Kelley, Richard L Southwick & Mikaela D Bourgeois, \$480,000, 158 Shawsheen Rd
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 Fossella Realty Trust I & Innocenzo S & Lina S Fossella Tr, Robert & Colleen F Anderson, \$810,000, 15 Marie Dr
 Michael L & Ellen Baker Alden, John & Christine Nason, \$943,500, 271 Highland Rd
 Andrea M Deyermond, Wenyuan Leng & Ying Jiang, \$559,000, 2 Tanglewood Wy South
 James A & Holly Hayner, Cynthia Jane Pitera, \$449,500, 185 Greenwood Rd

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Richard Danner, Tomas Alexandro Calcagno & Ana C Reynoso, \$444,700, 104 Jennings St
 Maritza Vega, Kyle W & Susan T Ring, \$275,000, 96 Pearl St
 Esperanza Realty Corp, A & M Real Estate LLC, \$725,000, 118-124 South Union St
 Cedar Best Construction LLC, GM & E Realty LLC, \$124,000, 20 Knox St Unit 27
 Juana M Naveo, Natividad Rodriguez Donastor & Maria A Beras De Rodriguez & Michael S Rodriguez Beras, \$490,000, 55-57 Lexington St
 MKAC Realty LLC, Alexander Sanchez & Julie Tasca, \$231,000, 130 Marston St
 John R Slauter Jr & Sharon Slauter, Shaun P Mulrey, \$266,000, 30 Greenfield St
 Simeon Ortega, Aldrin Santiago, \$150,000, 11 Bunkerhill St
 351 Prospect LLC, Friba LLC, \$520,000, 27 Summit Ave, 351 Prospect St
 Berkeley LLC, Odwar Flores, \$295,000, 20 Norris St
 LA Belle Maison LLC, Luis Abreu, \$490,000, 9 Stevens St
 Molly C Lavallee, Adriana Zapelini & Ronaldo Quirino, \$300,000, 182 Easton St
 Routhier Family Trust & Lauren Keane Dowley Tr & Rachel Roby Tr, Hilda Vasquez & Miguel A Cruz, \$420,000, 73-75 Inman St
 Johnny Matos/Johanny Diaz, Caroline G & Marillendy Silverio, \$424,000, 164-166 Abbott St
 Arlenny Gutierrez, Eurides Batista & Damaris Magdalena Frias, \$381,000, 29 Crestwood Cir
 Anita Aronson-Walker, Sirila Ventura, \$200,000, 95 Byron Ave Unit 2
 Charles Will & Joan F Curtis, Chetan

Shah, \$124,900, 242 Mount Vernon St Unit 7
 Juan Peguero, Jose M & Leslie Ann Villa, \$280,000, 275 Cypress Ave
 42-44 Jamaica St. LLC, Liban I Mohamed, \$279,900, 42 Jamaica St Unit 3
 M & B Realty Trust & Marc A Johnson Tr & William J Ray Tr, FJS Realty LLC, \$520,000, 567-569, 573A South Union St
 Bernardo Martinez, Ronaldo Alcides Castro Maldonado, \$246,000, 25 Arlington St
 Jolene Malonson/Jolene F Malonson, Felix torres, \$238,000, 76 Exchange St
 Fernan Luna, Carmen Y Damian, \$444,000, 1075 Essex St
 Rosanny & Jose Benito Taveras, Francisca A Delacruz & Jose A Rodriguez Colon, \$470,000, 57-59 Walnut St
 Jennifer Lemoine/Jennifer St Pierre, Daniery & Michelle J Diaz, \$275,000, 157 May St
 Oscar Velez, Juan C & Lucy M Milano, \$455,000, 28-30 Oregon Ave
 Yanet Alt Martinez, Stephanie Mojica, \$290,000, 46 Texas Ave
 Robert A & Judy M Grundy, Joas Pena, \$295,000, 60 Salem St
 Glenda M Torres & Brenda L Roldan, Jeuris R Taveras, \$455,000, 40-42 Belmont St
 Lam Bui, Ziad Abuwardeh, \$192,500, 89 Jamaica St Unit 4
 Samantha Pagan & Elizabeth Dieppa & Joaquin & Taina Pagan, Ruben D Fuentes, \$105,000, 13 Eutaw St Unit 13C
 Jesse Jake Maheux, Ruben David Apellaniz, \$85,000, 25 Logan St Unit 4
 Paul R & Denise M Dion, Marelina A Perez Jimenez & Wirelis Jimenez, \$475,000, 45-49 Market St
 Johnny M Montas/Johanny M Ulloa, Maribel Mena Garcia & Juan O Vasquez & Noela Vasquez Mena, \$490,000, 212-214 Walnut St
 MT Realty LLC, W Martins Realty LLC, \$130,000, 86 Broadway Unit 1
 Denise Realty LLC, Hector A Arias-Torres & Virmania R Monegro, \$475,000, 61-63 Ferry St
 Robert H Cory III & Joseph L Sousa, Alba Vargas De Rodriguez & Ismaldy Lopez, \$465,000, 36-38 Cornish St
 Jorge Torres-Guzman, Christopher Peguero & Dimaris Fontanez, \$290,000, 28 Packard St
 Bank Of New York Mellon, Jesus Trejo, \$243,600, 78-80 Park St
 Youssef Azzi, Pierre Phanord & Eunice Phanord Mathon, \$270,000, 87-87A Newbury St
 Belkis Salas-Jordan & Angela M Salas Est, Keiris Y Santana & Hector Reyes, \$390,000, 70 Saunders St
 Felix Benitez & Felix D Benitez, Friba LLC, \$85,000, 279-281 Prospect St
 Deborah & Roy Cruz, Rafael Vega, \$313,600, 9 Westwood Ter
 Pedro A Torres, Ana Miledis S Gomez De Binet & Ramon Binet, \$330,000, 51 West St
 Jairon & Jacqueline Garcia, Gladys Minerva Brito Rodriguez & Claudio Junieris Montero Montilla, \$240,000, 36A May St Unit A
 Lorraine E Gagnon & Laurie M McCadden & John J Gagnon, Rosa & Julio Abreu, \$395,000, 9 Mount Vernon Cir
 US Bank Trust NA TR, Jose M & Virginia Martinez & Pedro T Pena & Maria A Tavares De Pena, \$140,000, 21 Crescent St Unit 3
 Christine Casado Tr & 4-6 Swan St. Realty Trust, Luis R Caro & Gloria Ivette Galarza, \$405,000, 4-6 Swan St

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REAL ESTATE: FROM 27

Hugo Cortes, Jimmy E Castro Aguilar & Madelyn H Castro, \$460,000, 8, 8A-8 1/2 Portland St

Thomas A Wila & Katherine A Hinchcliffe & Jane I Wila Est, Sergio Prensa, \$284,000, 57 Jefferson St

Essex Management & Realty Property Inc, Maria A Gonzalez & Jason Manuel Arias, \$455,000, 9-11 Oregon Ave

K & G Realty Trust & Kamil & Gabrielle Dahne Trs, Matthew Rasetta, \$105,000, 260 E Haverhill St Unit 19

Aileen Duffy/Aileen Duffy-Brown & Douglas A Brown, Olman A Ixla & Noelia S Cardona, \$340,000, 16 Dartmouth St

Juan M Espinal & Yelida Sanchez, Leo J & Deborah L Lamontagne Trs & Lamontagne 2017 Trust, \$245,000, 2 Durham St

Stephan Woodsum & Barbara Garipey, Essex Management & Realty Property, \$290,000, 28-30 Granville St

Maribel Gutierrez, Tabatha Gutierrez, \$102,800, 30 State St

Denise Godfrey, Elvis C Santos & Elizabeth Torres, \$298,000, 205 Olive Ave

Chloe LLC, Juan & Christina Baez, \$360,000, 25 South St

Emile D Levasseur, Juana Yudy Santana De Velez & Aris V Velez, \$280,000, 10 Nelson St

Brian McCullough, Cesar Kulakauskas, \$235,000, 22 Perry Ave

Soner K Uguz, Yvet E Sanchez Guerrero & Edwin E Suero-Mendez, \$290,000, 106 Butler St

James J Masotta, Elsa Ramona Diaz & Dioselyn Carpio, \$307,000, 34 Kendall St

Barbara J Smith, Pablo A Sandoval & Hortencia Garcia, \$247,000, 56 Ferry St

Daniel P & Coleen B Cuddy, Grabiell B Medrano & Raiza L Encarnacion Ogando, \$440,000, 53 Osgood St

JMF Realty LLC, Francis & Michael Ortiz, \$397,900, 202-204 Saratoga St

Eli Simon Realty LLC, 222 Essex Realty LLC, \$3,800,000, 204-210, 218-230 Essex St

Juan Belliard, Steven & Irma McNally, \$270,000, 31 Hudson Ave

Danny E Azzi, Deyanira Balbi, \$106,000, 262 East Haverhill St Unit 22

Kathleen A Hughes Tr & Raleigh Realty Trust, Guillermo Vargas Martinez & Marleny Marte De Vargas, \$435,000, 25 Wendall St

Nunez LLC, Arlenny Y Gutierrez, \$500,000, 208-214 S Broadway

South Union Propco LLC, Manik Zaman & Rukhsana Ansari, \$2,200,000, 77-91 South Union St

Aneudys Puello, Nestor Matias, \$340,000, 41 Durso Ave

Bosco P Kwok Revocable Living Trust & Bosco P Kwok Tr, Victor A Garcia, \$205,000, 69 Garfield St

Bernarda M Cardenes, Alejandro Sanchez & Carmen N Gonzalez, \$432,000, 40-42 Perry Ave

Frank J Brucato, Sandra Grullon Nunez, \$315,000, 141 Newton St

City of Lawrence, Gamal Salama, \$5,100, 568 Essex St

METHUEN

Homes At Great Oaks LLC, Jules Marcellin & Mirlande Gassant, \$570,000, 4 Sadie Ln

Alex B & Rachael L Nutting, Monor Lun, \$435,000, 4 Hollow Tree Ln

Brenda Smith/Brenda Craig, Michael J & Barbara L Carr, \$410,000, 104 Temple Dr

Robert E Romanowsky, Matthew & Nicole E Conrad, \$275,000, 2 Spencer St

Frances Paulino, Thomas Nardone, \$354,000, 4 Monroe Ave

Martha J Coates, Maria A Vargas Diaz, \$520,000, 9 Briarcliff Dr

Gail & Fremont Waitt, Century Builders Inc, \$125,000, 24 Benefit St

Pinnacle Builders LLC, Nicholas & Alyssa Feola Trs & Tam Fam Trust, \$579,500, 9 Liams Ln

Peter Bousios & Panagiotos Bousios & Althanasia G Bousios, Flavia Rubim, \$470,000, 217 Oakland Ave

49-51 Lowell St. Realty Trust & Kimberly & Douglas H Andrew Trs, Jose E & Joanna Frias, \$310,000, 49-51 Lowell St

Steven & Kathleen Mulligan Trs & Mulligan Tyler St. Trust, GT Builders LLC, \$110,000, 228 Tyler St

Thien Se Pou & Chanthly Kim, Dermont J O'Keefe, \$720,500, 8 Valley View Wy

Pinnacle Builders LLC, James & Amanda Sanderson, \$579,500, 3 Liams Ln

Bruce Lessard, Elizabeth A Price, \$158,000, 375 Merrimack St Unit 18

22 Buttonwood Drive LLC, Joseph J & Alysha Cardinale, \$549,900, 22 Buttonwood Dr

Guillermon Rivera & Lisomar Burgos, Sildy P Abrego, \$309,900, 171 Edgewood Ave

Tom Nguyen, Faith & Erica Turan, \$385,000, 21 Randolph Ave

Paul C Smith & Jennifer K MacLeod, Marcus Henry & Lyndsay Kennedy, \$385,800, 82 Sheldon St

Rukhsana Ahmed, Paul C & Jennifer K Smith, \$567,500, 5 Margarets Wy

Mark T Wolfendale, Frank A & Jaime P Tine, \$319,500, 74 Dracut St

Roger N Barbin Est & Josephine A Toscano, Dianne Tarquinio, \$345,000, 10 Schley St

Juan S Atehortua, Tebei R Nombu-Acha, \$475,000, 19 Spruce St

Debra DiCenso, Stephen G Belanger Jr, \$379,000, 25 Rolling Ridge Ln

Wemel Real Estate LLC, Juan Rosario, \$450,000, 27 Elm St

Mildred Chiarenza, Shane M Leonard, \$200,000, 14 Dexter St

Antoine M & Joumana A Azzi, Mireille A Azzi Tr & Sema Realty Trust, \$365,000, 31 Oakmeadow Ln

Methuen Cooperative Bank, Yefry K Paniagua, \$216,000, 23 Mystic St

Cammat Realty Trust & Debra L Mathias Tr & Charles A Matses Tr & T & R Realty Trust & Gilbert G Campbell Tr, Massinnovation Methuen LLC, \$2,250,000, 99 Pleasant Valley St

Michael Mattogno, Anthony J Gordon, \$230,000, 19 Hampshire Rd Unit 19-205

Martin A & Damarys Castillo, Juan Alcides Cordero Gonzalez & Bellanilda Cruz Mercedes, \$400,000, 10-12 Plymouth St

Sean Fountain, Juan M Guerrero & Jaime L Fugate, \$338,900, 534 Prospect St

Adam J Vernatter, Michele H McGonagle, \$368,000, 6 Milk Ave

Francis R Gardner, Nancy Jimenez & Stephen S Fistner, \$230,000, 16 Willow St

Carmelina Chretien, Edward Garcia-Baez, \$442,500, 153 Lowell St

Dunsteadler Dawn Louis, Scott Lassiter & Michelle Frazier, \$472,500, 7 Amalfi Rd

Elaine Kevass, MIA Investments Properties LLC, \$250,000, 24 Comet Rd

Ramon & Brenda Tejada, Modesto & Maria E Polanco, \$354,900, 10 Falcon St

Jean M Mezzetti, Eloi & Michelle Teixeira, \$345,000, 19 Stillwater Rd

Elaine B Maninos, Mary Alachy, \$155,000, 945 Riverside Dr Unit 16B

Costechepe Realty Trust & Carmela T Previti Tr, Huy Dinh Vu, \$105,000, 71 Mystic St Unit 12

William Wallace, Charles P Tavano & Kathy Champagne, \$270,000, 25 Sawyer St

Michael Maglia, Jose Parra, \$345,000, 34-36 Vermont St

Rachelle & Eric J McBride, Ryan Lally, \$254,000, 3 Park Ave Unit 2

Randald & Christina Bartlett, Jeremy Hall & Jessica Gurka, \$400,000, 3 Douglas Ave

Morin Family Revocable Trust & Richard A & Maureen A Morin Trs, Jeffrey Sine, \$340,000, 296 Howe St

Claire A Fusco, Salah & Adel S Hamani, \$256,900, 23 Hampshire Rd Unit 23-217

Roy D & Elaine J Moesta, Cindy Rowbotham & Daniel P Jones & Diane Rowbotham, \$449,900, 31 Garfield St

Bao Phan Tr & Cypress Trust, Wellington

Ramos & Joely D Reyes-Salazar, \$325,000, 68 Pinehurst Ave

John J DiGloria Est/John D DiGloria Est & John DiGloria, Krista C DiGloria, \$300,000, 4 Booth Rd

Toll MA IV LLC, Gerald Padian, \$696,419, 90 Pine Tree Dr Unit 120

Homes At Great Oaks LLC, Randald & Christina Bartlett, \$629,735, 7 Sadie Ln

Elizabeth Ann Veilleux Est & Richard Castros Sr, Kathleen Goulma, \$330,000, 23 Marjorie St

Maurice J Forzese, Mojosaba Realty Trust, \$300,000, 35 Oak Meadow Ln

Diane Beauregard, Malia Vo, \$246,000, 45 Washington St Unit M-62

Jose Pabon/Jose J Pabon & Rubi Pabon, Victor M & Stephanie Antunes, \$320,000, 11 Belmont St

Robert S McLeod III & Susan McLeod, Kimberly A & Steven Crowell, \$432,000, 31 Lorenzo Cir

Riverside Drive LLC, Donna Morse, \$235,000, 34 Burnham Rd Unit 105

William E & Sharon D Simone, Nick H Truong & Tiana N Dao, \$405,000, 34 Conte Dr

Michael A & Linda M Larson, David Beauregard Jr & Hillary Beauregard & Diane F Beauregard, \$369,900, 10 Fenwick Cir

Donna R Morse, Constitution Properties LLC, \$225,000, 4 Brookside Ct

Toll MA IV LLC, William E O'Mara Jr Tr & Marie Ashe O'Mara Tr & O'Mara Family Nominee Trust, \$740,359, 24 Sequoia Dr Unit 50

Christian Hbaiter, Todd McNally, \$208,500, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 6-205

Steven L & Nicole M Annaldo, Jose A Betances, \$365,000, 14 Boornazian Rd

Charlene M Lemieux Tr & Lemieux Realty Trust, Charles A Saulino Jr, \$330,695, 58 Lowell Blv

Cruz 2013 Family Trust & Jose M Cruz Tr & Susan T Figueiredo Cruz Tr, Thomas Dicey Jr & Paula C Dicey, \$397,000, 107 Pleasant St

Janet Katimy, Maryanne Galluzzo & Paul Holbrook, \$315,000, 14 West Ayer St

Peter Silva, Harry S Checo, \$395,000, 44 Linwood Ave

Charles E Chadsey III & Kathleen D Michel Tr & MDK Properties Realty Trust, RFR Development Inc, \$550,000, 95-101 Phillips St

Angela Ruiz/Angela Doyley & Jermaine Doyley, Kathleen M Charles & Howard Collier, \$359,000, 219 Hampshire St

Lorraine Tremblay Davis, Oliver Han & Brianna Saunders, \$280,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 4-202

Jean F Drouin, Edward J Rauseo, \$180,000, 45 Washington St Unit 34

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Rosemarie Majkut/Rosemary Majkut, Steven Majkut, \$265,000, 46 Pond St
 Michael M Stabile Tr & Michael M Stabile Living Trust, Gregory Loney & Rebecca Hercule, \$368,000, 695 Jackson St
 Rafael Alvarez Jr, Jacqueline & Marcos Cruz Mejia, \$313,000, 156 Lowell St
 Gerald & Pamela Rourke, Mario M Dalelio & Morgan E Reny, \$319,000, 291 Lowell St
 John B & Kathleen M Pierce, Donald L Linn & Janice M Binette-Linn, \$1,250, Capitol St
 Ronald M & Patricia A Ramsden, Florence Elixus & Gaby Wagnac, \$411,000, 9 Summer St
 Lisa Seng, Peter Rey & Jennifer Ann Lyons, \$374,900, 7 Netti Ave
 Steven J & Bonnie R Merrick, Austin D Bradshaw & Janel F Shea-Bradshaw, \$615,000, 728 Lowell St
 Jean Abourjeili Tr & Danny Realty Trust, Leomir De Oliveria, \$480,000, 518 Pleasant St
 Deutsche Bank National Trust Co Tr, Jayson Martin, \$197,393, 29 Christopher Dr Unit 68
 Robert P & Valerie J Beaudoin, Anthony Roman & Yasmin Pereyra, \$455,000, 29 Old Homestead Rd
 Robert Johnstone & Bruce Johnstone Est, Joseph Cianciolo, \$209,900, 4 Sawyer Pl
 Joseph R & Kristen Zisa/Kristen McKelvie, Timothy Joseph Mueller, \$294,000, 22 Loring Rd
 Toll MA IV LLC, Jerry C Chen & Diane K Giberson, \$762,775, 77 Pine Tree Dr Unit 71
 Evelyn Viera, Jose Vega & Diana Maldonado, \$310,000, 13 Cross Ave
 Kelly & Eric Demmons, Alyson Serwacki & Ryan Lavoie, \$350,000, 151 Tyler St
 Timothy W McElhinney, Iliana Ledesma & Pedro Soto, \$355,000, 20 Hobson St
 Gloria A Lyons, Andrea Mavroides, \$300,000, 35 Landing Dr
 Taylor R Robidoux, James Carnevale, \$512,500, 31 Atkinson St
 Keith E Jones, Elcio Denoni, \$290,000, 15 Gervais Wy Unit 1
 Shadi Ibrahim & Meray Marawi, David P Whipple & Malinda A Murphy, \$360,000, 15 College Ln
 Alexander J Inglese, Kendal I Moran, \$395,000, 147 Washington St
 Theresa & Jonas Pettersson, Andres Murrillo, \$385,000, 12 Pleasant Cir
 Ayesha Khan Revocable Trust & Rashid & Ayesha Khan Trs, Eric & Katherine Deutchman, \$425,000, 8 Apple Crest Dr
 Richard A Aufiero & Ronald A Aufiero, Luis R & Angela M Landivar, \$324,800, 7 Queen Ave
 Jonathan Tremblay, Michael C & Rosemary Steene, \$280,000, 9 Rosewood Rd
 Jonathan A Vega, Phuong M Vuong & Anthony Luong, \$325,000, 6 Home St
 David J & Sally Ann Williamson, Gina Maynard Tr & Colonial Cottage Realty Trust, \$294,000, 13 Pleasant Cir
 Jeffrey Paolino & Sean Gallagher, Angel Perez, \$373,000, 154 North St
 Saban & Mubecel Catalbas, Luis Fernandez, \$305,000, 60 Strathmore Rd
 Tricia A & Michael D Martin, Kenia Mieses Espinal, \$190,000, 179 Pleasant Valley St Unit E
 James M & Laura L Hajjar, Abdelhakim Maliki & Jennifer L Dumont, \$569,000, 52 Arrowwood St
 Sarah L McCarthy/Sarah L Dumont, Alfredo DiMauro III & Jennifer DiMauro, \$361,000, 48 Causeway St
 Riverside Dr LLC, Dallas & Janet Taylor, \$240,500, 34 Burnham Rd Unit 203
 Maroun & Mirna Bechara, Genaro Lantigua-Gomez & Jeyfi R Rosario, \$480,000, 81 Birchwood Rd
 Ricardo & Minerva Fernandez, Carlos R Rodriguez Martinez & Juan C Rodriguez, \$500,000, 23-25 Annis St

NORTH ANDOVER

Keri L Stella, Joanne Emrich, \$398,900, 70 Millpond
 Timothy Panunzio Tr & 40 Edgelawn

Avenue Realty Trust, Joetta Silva Tr & Unit 40EL-1 Edgelawn Avenue Realty Trust, \$185,000, 40 Edgelawn Ave Unit 1
 George E Canellakis & Sandra P Rincon, Joel J & Kathryn L Simes, \$700,000, 115 Sherwood Dr
 Belford Construction Inc, LRC Builders LLC, \$780,000, Kelsey Ln
 Richard & Danica Cheslofska, David A Tortorella, \$567,000, 25 Woodberry Ln
 Michael & Nicole Murphy, Richard & Danica L Cheslofska, \$687,000, 186 Candlestick Rd
 Strumpfler 2014 Family Trust & Julia E & Richard M Strumpfler Trs, Lauren J & Patrick R Kennedy, \$550,000, 16 Woodberry Ln
 Denise Muise, David Miller & Nancy B Starks-Cheney, \$520,000, 2701 Tupelo Cir Unit 2701
 Craig R Lemerise, Harrison David Starkweather & Diana Le, \$340,000, 35 Mount Vernon St Unit L
 Carrie M Crouch, Nathan J & Elizabeth M Hebert, \$479,900, 31 Moody St
 PR Investments LLC & Mr Investments LLC, Spiro C & Megan Pappadopoulos, \$780,000, 1060 Great Pond Rd
 Ronald J Wells Est & Lynda Renzello, Lynda Renzello, \$179,500, 30 Alcott Wy Unit 30
 Susan Bournival, Charles Andrew Johnson & Nicole N Benjamin, \$800,000, 365 Johnson St
 Querzoli Family Revocable Trust & Stephen T Querzoli/Steven T Querzoli Ind Tr & Lynne M Querzoli Ind Tr, John Paul Patrick & Meghan Elizabeth Wilhelm, \$677,000, 259 Dale St
 Sheila G Byers, Paul W & Charlotte A R Lyons, \$380,000, 27 Alcott Wy Unit 27
 Sukru & Ozlem Uluoglu, Joshua Heath & Courtney Desisto, \$490,000, 710 Chestnut St
 Brad M & Christine Depierro/Christine F Diaz, Nikolaos Sfikas, \$213,000, 45 Edgelawn Ave Unit 45EL-5
 Cheng Jiang, Francisco Guevara & Ana Lissette Mendoza, \$295,000, 21 Andrew Cir Unit 21
 Key-Lime Inc, Christie Xu & Bao Fu, \$490,000, 38 Hepatica Dr Unit 36
 Marc M Torrisi, James D & Carman-Marie C Estabrooks, \$400,000, 112 Colgate Dr
 Ned & Judith Epstein, Brian O & Courtney M Salazar, \$855,000, 200 Blue Ridge Rd
 Joanne E Smith Tr & Joanne E Smith Trust-2014 & Ronald A Smith Trust-2014 & Ronald A Smith Tr, Michael & Sarah Gurr, \$639,000, 43 Vest Wy
 Jonathan Stucky, Stephen T & Lynne M Querzoli Trs & Querzoli Family Revocable Trsut, \$416,500, 47 Cochichewick Dr Unit 16
 Robert H Wolfman, Raymond & Pamela J Rossetti, \$311,500, 69 Millpond
 Marion & Nellie Palanjian, Souad Marzouk & Mustapha Wakif, \$350,000, 200 Massachusetts Ave
 Jackie A O'Brien, Lauren Parillo, \$427,500, 3 Elm St Unit 2
 Paul & Diane S Cogliano, Robert Joseph Wood II & Danielle Capobianco, \$741,000, 56 Abbott St
 Jaime Floresquero/Jaime Flores Quero Diaz & Ana Floresquero/Ana Margarita Llamas Castro, Efreem C & Jessica R Gonzales, \$557,000, 265 Salem St
 Lesley J & Claire A Fusco, Shoaib Sheikh, \$270,400, 110 Kingston St Unit 110
 Maureen G Perkins Est & Leigh & Tod Perkins, Paul Cogliano, \$395,000, 92 Millpond
 Robert J & Terri L Mauthe, Brookfield Relocation Inc, \$810,000, 15 Windkist Farm Rd
 Brookfield Relocation Inc, Jaime & Ana Floresquero, \$810,000, 15 Windkist Farm Rd
 Richard J Gaudet, WK Real Estate Inc, \$330,000, 347 Massachusetts Ave
 Hassan Hussien/Hassan Hussein & Shaimaa Ahmed, Donna L Carlstrom & Alise M Dix, \$515,000, 456 Summer St

HEALTH: FROM 22

mean it has zero trans fats, it may have as little as a half a gram per serving. Check the ingredients list if you see products listed such as partially hydrogenated oils, that means it has trans fats. (not good)
 Sugars, added sugars and hidden sugars are very tricky to catch if you don't know what to look for. If you are concerned about your intake of sugars, make sure that added sugars are not listed as one of the first few ingredients. Other names for added sugars include: corn syrup, high-fructose corn syrup, fruit juice concentrate, maltose, dextrose, sucrose, honey, and maple syrup.
 The next section of the product label will be the Fiber content and also vitamins, like vitamin A, vitamin C, calcium,

iron etc. These are all typically based on the American 2,000 calorie daily diet. Eating enough of these nutrients can improve your health and help reduce the risk of some of the diseases mentioned above.
 When using the Nutrition facts label for a healthier you, remember these key points. Saturated fats, trans fats, cholesterol, sodium and sugars should be kept as low as possible or avoided at all costs. Make sure you are getting plenty of fiber, potassium, Vitamins A and C, calcium and iron. Good luck and happy label reading.
Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs, and has lost 160lbs since the start of 2015. You can find Rick on Facebook at: Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti

LENNON: FROM 22

non, that I am having more trouble deciding where to stop, than I am finding stuff to put down on this paper! Well. Let's go into what John calls his "lost weekend." John and Yoko were having their problems at this time. This was around 1973, around the time John released "Mind Games."
 "Mind Games" was released in October of 1973, and it did well. This was the first of many albums John would produce himself no longer needing the help of Phil Spector. Still having and airing his political points of view, but showcasing his musical and lyrical talents to drive this album to #9 in the U.S. The title track was released as a single at the same time the album was released, and it climbed the Billboard Charts to #18.
 Back to the "lost weekend." So, John and Yoko split for 18 months. Yoko knew there were problems so she asked her music coordinator, who was friends with both John and Yoko, to suggest to John that they start having a physical relationship. She was good looking and 24 years old, and John was taking a hiatus from Yoko. So, John agreed. The two of them spent the next eighteen months in Los

Angeles and New York City.
 I really hope you folks are enjoying this little history of John Lennon, because I find I will have to go into a part three! John was a very unique guy, and a unique Beatles. All four of the Beatles were very special, but John had a way about him and a philosophy about him that was truly different, not only from the other Beatles, but from other people. He had no problem speaking his mind whether or not someone was listening, or not! What he couldn't put into conversation, he put into lyrics and then just added music.
 So, please join us next month for the conclusion of John Lennon. The musician, the man, and the human. Let me know what you think of the column and subjects. Let me know who you might want me to write on. I love suggestion subject matter. See you next month!
You can hear John's music when you listen to Cindy's Vinyl Vault. Remember, we play the best music ever recorded on vinyl. We're at 980 WCAP Radio every Sunday night at 10:00, Monday night at 11:00 and Wednesday night at 10:00, and remember folks, it's not how old it is, but how great it sounds!

Michelle Lacey/Michelle Lacey/Michelle Valarezo & Eric Valarezo, Jillian & Zachary Connally, \$429,000, 659 Waverly Rd
 Margaret A Passaggio, Alexis Gonzalez & Jessica Soto, \$407,000, 95-97 Cotuit St Unit 2
 Christopher J & Cynthia L Allen, Eric A Frederick & Jessica K Carlson, \$555,000, 45 Elm St
 Kathleen M Charles, Kimarie Glasgow, \$234,000, 88 Farrwood Ave Unit 12
 Maria J Noble, Lucas J Noble & Amanda L Dalton, \$700,000, 35 Shannon Ln
 Rein P Kampersal Jr & Melissa C Kampersal, Christopher J Nix & John E Pollock, \$515,000, 1041 Johnson St
 Matthew Doyle, Lucas Gresek, \$508,500, 499 Dale St
 Mohammad H & Sally G Maleknia, Rein & Melissa Kampersal, \$735,000, 172 Coventry Ln
 Michelle J Robertson, Peter N Larochelle, \$719,000, 197 Abbott St
 Robert Palmisano II, Kristen Anne Kazanjian, \$187,000, 6 Fernview Ave Unit 8
 Walker Road Realty Trust & Nowell Z Bloomenthal Tr, Leb Realty LLC, \$57,500, 2 Walker Rd Unit 2-7
 Ramanathan K Ramanathan & Meena Vairavan, Fabrice K & Noella T Kandjanga, \$455,050, 12 Meadowood Rd
 Katelynn Ann & Ryan J O'Connell, Rachel & William Anastasia, \$432,000, 46 Thorndike Rd
 Sandra Nease Hammond, Lisa M Fothergill, \$250,100, 148 Main St Unit A-210
 Ronald & Lauren Lopez, Joseph T &

Anne J Quinn, \$316,000, 180 Chickering Rd Unit 306C
 William Hughes Jr, Line Drive Realty LLC, \$309,000, 52-54 Prescott St
 Marc E Bourassa & Phyllis-Ann Morrissey, Ryan T Myers & Christine E Sullivan, \$555,000, 178 Granville Ln
 Bonnie M Peruffo & Peter E MacPhee, Manh Huynh & Thanh Tuyen Nguyen, \$235,000, 48 Fernview Ave Unit 12
 Helen L Tiberio Tr & Tiberio Family Realty Trust, Alexander Kinsley Ramirez & Fausto Kinsley Duran, \$445,000, 12-14 Commonwealth Ave
 Lauren Cramer & James J Baptiste, John S DeCoste III & Amanda C DeCoste, \$551,000, 537 Boxford St
 Martin S & Antoinette D Fischer, Kelly & Eric Demmons, \$509,000, 700 Middleton St
 Recardo A DeJesus Est & Christina M Hughes, Arinze Ejiofor, \$385,000, 2211 Turnpike St
 Thomas Licciardello Tr & Claire A Foley Irrevocable Family Trust, Sebastian Christophe R & Brittany Musielak, \$620,000, 372-374 Main St
 Meghan Carr, Arthur Guthrie, \$195,000, 13 Walker Rd Unit 2
 David M & Holly A Kelsay, Jamie N & Russell D Norris, \$1,250,000, 10 Glenore Cir
 Andrea R & Mark H Sanborn, Daniel M Goldman Tr & DMG Realty Trust, \$131,000, 807 Turnpike St Unit 202 & Unit 204

SATAN: FROM 21

means never to cut and run, but to be courageous in the midst of the storm, living and speaking the Truth with clarity and charity. Pray and fast for the purification of ourselves, the Church, and the world.

Paul Murano teaches philosophy and theology at two local colleges and hosts the radio talk show 'Beneath the Surface'



speaks on topics where faith and reason meet, and also plays at local venues as a solo singer-songwriter-musician. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com

on 980 WCAP. Podcasts are at <https://archive.org/details/@veritas777>. Paul has graduate degrees in philosophy and theology and is certified in health care ethics. He



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City Violates Public Records Law Refusing Methuen Superior Officers' Records Requests

The attorney for the Methuen Superior officers union has requested public information from the city regarding salaries and contracts for other city departments to compare the salaries of superior officers' and their proposed raises and spending.

According to a letter from Attorney Gary Nolan who represents the union, a public records request letter was sent on July 23rd and the city has refused to comply.

According to the state's new public records law (MGL CH 66) the "A custodian of a public record shall, within ten days following receipt of a request for inspection or copy of a public record, comply with such request."

Agencies or municipalities that are found to have violated the state's public records law by a Massachusetts court can be fined not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000.

To date, the city has refused to comply with the state's public records law and has not turned over the information requested by the union.

The union is seeking record of correspondence between the mayor's office and other officials relating to the proposed Memorandum of Understanding recently negotiated, salaries and contracts from the school department, salaries and contracts from the fire department, the department budgets of several departments, patrolmen's salaries, teachers union contract and other public documents.

The Valley Patriot has obtained a copy of the letter sent on July 23, 2018.

1. All non-privileged correspondence between the mayor's office (mayor and designees) and the city council (electronic or written), both individually and collectively, relative to the issue of the Supervisor's wage calculation under both the existing CBA as well as the proposed compromise MOU.

2. Copy of the complete budget breakdown for the Fire Department for FY2019 and FY20, including the total compensation for each fire officer, and including the total percentage increase (i.e. year to year percentage increase for total compensation, and not just % increase of the COLA) for each year of the current Fire Dept. CBAs (we are requesting a breakdown in the form similar to the form used

as Attachment A of the Police Supervisor MOU, and are looking to determine the same information with respect to the fire employees – including base plus additional compensation, and the total compensation for each officer/supervisor, and including the total percentage increase over each successive year of the current Fire CBAs.

-Same information is requested for the police patrolmen (current CBA);

-Same information is requested for the teachers' union (current CBA);

-same information for all other bargaining units which had CBA's approved for the same duration as the current Police Supervisor's CBA.

3. Any and all bargaining history, notes, or other documents reflecting the City's negotiation, agreement, and subsequent council approval of the current police supervisors' CBA.

4. Any and all documents, notes, minutes, or otherwise reflecting the funding, pre-funding, or discussion of same, of the first year of the current police supervisors CBA, the current Teachers CBA, the Current fire CBA, and the current police patrolmen's CBA.

5. Did the School department, or anyone on its behalf, purchase new vehicles in the past year? If so, please describe what was purchased, when purchased and the entire costs associated with the purchases, and provide all documents reflecting that purchase, including school department budget documents reflecting the same.

In addition to the above, the Union also requests the following public records from the Methuen School Department:

-Names and total compensation and hire dates for all new employee hires from July 1st 2017 through June 30th 2018

-All records of any transfer of funds from all Methuen Public Schools financial accounts from January 1st 2018 through June 30th 2018.

-Purchases of all equipment and supplies from January 1st 2018 through June 30th 2018.

-All new contracts granted to any outside of the school department private vendors or agents for services rendered.

Gary G. Nolan, Esq.
Nolan | Perroni, P.C.

State Police Capture Masked Man on Motor Bike After He Shoots up Home on Kingston St. in Lawrence in Broad Daylight

Last month, Lawrence Police responded to a call for "shots fired" on Kingston St. in South Lawrence around 2:30pm on a Wednesday afternoon.

The Valley Patriot was on the scene minutes later as police talked to witnesses, scoured the area, and collecting shell casings and other evidence.

Witnesses told The Valley Patriot that a man on a bicycle came driving by the house and pointed while a second man on a motorbike rode by only seconds later firing at least 8 rounds (maybe as many as ten) at the house.

Lawrence detectives and uniformed officers searched the neighborhood and canvassed the area looking for both men but were initially unsuccessful.

Police did obtain surveillance footage from a neighbor which captured the shooting. The shooter had on a mask and was driving down Kingston Street the wrong way.

Witnesses told The Valley Patriot that they believe the shooting was a warning to someone living in the building and was gang related.

The owners of the building said their 1 year old child was playing in the front living room when the bullets ripped through

the outside of the house.

"We were so worried," the owner told The Valley Patriot. "They could have hit my son, he was in that room when they shot."

State Police with assistance from Lawrence Police arrested Wilmer Roque, 22, of Methuen, after locating him at the Sunoco gas station on the corner of Broadway and Arlington Street in Lawrence.

Police say Roque is a member of the vicious street gang the Trinitarios that was responsible for the brutal murder of a Bronx teenager in New York last month.

Roque was found on a stolen moped and charged with armed assault with intent to murder, attempted murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, possession of heroin and cocaine.

After searching Roque's moped police also found a 9 mm handgun with a full magazine containing 15 rounds, which is illegal in Massachusetts.

Roque also had a warrant for trafficking cocaine.

Despite several shootings in the last month, Lawrence has seen a reduction in violent crime by nearly 50% since the first of the year.



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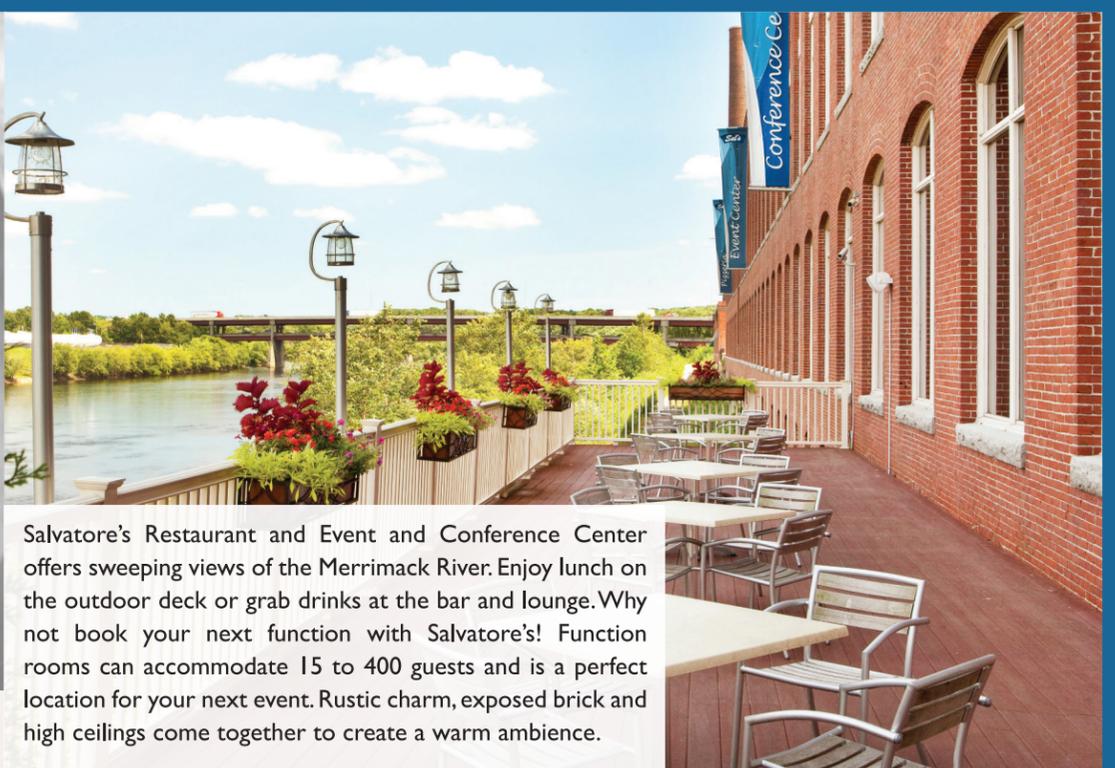


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