



THE VALLEY PATRIOT

"Congress shall make no law..."

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2018

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VELOZ Auto Group

COLUMBIA GAS DISASTER

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JEFFERSON STREET IN LAWRENCE



PHOTO: TOM DUGGAN

Thousands of people in Andover, North Andover, and Lawrence, are still without gas, some still cannot go back to their homes. Hundreds of businesses worried they may not reopen. The Columbia Gas Disaster brought out the best in Lawrence.

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VALLEY PATRIOTS OF THE MONTH

Lt. Frank Korycki - Island Hopping Across the Pacific to Japan

John Cuddy

VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

The town of North Andover and City of Lawrence can both lay claim to a distinguished US Army Veteran of World War II's Pacific Theater of Operations, Lt. Frank Korycki. A 1936 graduate of Johnston High (now North Andover High).

He graduated from Wentworth Institute of Technology in 1939, recalling that tuition was around seventy five dollars a year. After finishing college, he worked in Amsterdam, NY for New York Power and Light as a Boiler technician, until the Andover Draft Board drafted him. Frank grew up in North Andover, but raised his family on Stevens Street in Lawrence, and

now he resides at Ashland Farm Senior Living Community in the Town of North Andover. Recently, I enjoyed an ice cream on a hot day at Ashland Farm with this very articulate and interesting 100 year old World War II Veteran.

Lt. Korycki trained at Camp Edwards on Cape Cod with the 26th Division, called the Yankee Division. Later he was selected for Officer Candidate School, and went on to Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Frank served as an officer in a US Army 1897th Aviation Engineer Battalion, part of the 931st Aviation Engineer Regimental Headquarters, along with two other Battalions the 836th and the 841st.

These units, along with other Army, Australian, and Navy Construction Battalions were given the mission to complete or repair captured Japanese airfields throughout the Pacific Theater. Lt. Korycki served with his unit on the islands of New Guinea, the Philippines, and Okinawa.

Very proud to say, I served in the US Navy, forty years after Frank. I was stationed in the Philippines and on Okinawa, and I recall that damage from World War II was still visible on both islands well into the 1980s. How dedicated and committed were the Japanese troops? Consider the service of Lieutenant Hiroo "Hiroo" Onoda of the Japanese Army, who surrendered in the Philippines in 1974, and only after the Government of Japan sent his former commanding officer to bring him out of the jungle, twenty nine years after the war ended.



US Army Engineer Aviation forces and US Navy Seabee Battalions were combat multipliers in the Southwest Pacific Theater and worldwide during World War II. According to US Army Major Natalie Pearson's thesis on the World War II Aviation Engineer's; twenty Engineer Aviation Battalions served in the Pacific theater of operations, each was staffed with twenty seven officers and over seven hundred enlisted soldiers.

After reading Major Pearson's thesis, I learned that during World War II, the

HERO: PAGE 25



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EDITORIAL: Methuen Councilors Are Playing Games with People's Lives

Methuen City Councilors are playing games with people's lives and the safety of police officers and it has to stop.

Last month, City Councilor Steve Saba mounted a successful effort to cut \$1.8M out of the city's police budget. He did this to get even with superior officers for accepting raises in their contract that, supposedly, nobody knew about. He did this, even though the police budget was balanced at the time (even with the raises). And he made those cuts to police while giving MORE money to the schools even though it was the school department who overspends their budget by \$4M.

Saba threw childish jabs at the cops and belittled women on the council, even saying during one meeting that if the chief and mayor cannot run the department without the \$1.8M that HE cut, they were "incompetent" and "we should find someone else who can."

The fact is, when layoffs have to be made, captains will be demoted to lieutenant, lieutenants will be demoted to sergeant, sergeants will be demoted to patrolmen, and 30+ patrolmen will have

to be laid off. This leaves the people of Methuen with fewer cops to respond when they call for help. Slower response times means more victims of rape, shootings, domestic violence, house breaks, car thefts, etc.

This is reckless and irresponsible as Saba and his colleagues are not punishing the people they are mad at (the superior officers, the chief and the mayor).

The people they are hurting most are citizens of Methuen and the cops who remain on the department after the layoffs: as they will have fewer officers and longer wait times when they call for backup because THEY are the ones being assaulted or being shot at.

On top of all this, (as if this wasn't bad enough) one of the specific line items Saba and his cohorts on the council cut, was the line item that pays for police protection at the Santa Parade, the Halloween Stroll, and other community events. The chief warned that those events cannot take place without police protection and cutting those funds could result in canceling those events. Saba and his colleagues

didn't care. And when the mayor said he was coming back for an appropriation to pay for these events, Councilor Saba grandstanded, insulted the chief and the mayor, and tried to make it look like THEY were canceling the community events as some kind of political "trick" to "get more money into the police budget".

Then there was councilor Joyce Campagnone who suggested the police superior officers all "sit on their offices" advising them to get out from behind their desks and "step up" to help out with these local events.

Forgetting of course, that they still have to be paid.

It was a disgraceful display of disrespect for the men and women of the Methuen police who put their lives on the line every single day to protect THEM and their families.

It was truly a low point for Methuen City Council, which, until now had done heroic work to try and fix the funding problems they inherited from the previous administration.

Saba, Campagnone, and the rest who

followed, knew what they were doing when they cut police funding for petty political reasons. They know cutting cops will result in victims of violent crime not getting the help they need. And they also know that police officers calling for backup are less likely to get it with 30 less cops on the streets to respond. We hope no officers lose their lives as the result of the council's political grandstanding.

It is shameful beyond reason.

Yet they don't care. And now they want to blame Mayor Jajuga and Chief Solomon to deflect from their own reckless actions. Mayor Jajuga is not the bad guy here, neither are the chief, the patrolmen, or the public.

The blame lays squarely with Steve Saba and his colleagues.

This is not an abstract political issue. This is life and death.

Steve Saba and his colleagues on the city council are playing with fire, and when police officers or members of the public get hurt or killed as the result of their actions, the blood of those victims will be on their hands.

Methuen School Committee Moves on Residency, Licenses, Superintendent Search

D.J. Deeb

METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

At its September 10th and September 25th meetings, members of the Methuen School Committee wasted no time in voting to adopt policies to address student residency and educator licensure concerns. The latest moves are intended to increase transparency and accountability following revelations in August that the former Superintendent did not obtain her educator license and resident concerns that the influx of new students into Methuen may include some non-residents.

There are over 7,000 students in Methuen Public Schools and the district conducts random residency checks of students across grade levels regularly, but it has been about 7 years since a complete audit was done. The last time the full audit was done, only a handful of students were found to be non-residents. These full audits are very time consuming and expensive since they take resources and the focus away from other things. Nevertheless, the Methuen School Committee voted unanimously to be pro-active and conduct a full audit across all grade levels over the next 2 years.

On September 10th, members of the Methuen School Committee also voted unanimously to adopt for a First Reading

a new School Committee Policy mandating "Verification of Staff Licensure Procedure." This new policy requires that all professional staff keep their licenses up-to-date and provide regular copies of the same to the Human Resources Department. This new policy is designed to proactively ensure that all professional employees obtain and regularly renew their required licenses/certifications. The policy itself reads:

"The main goal of putting a procedure in place to verify staff licensure is to ensure that every staff member is abiding by Methuen School Committee Policy ensuring proper DESE and State Agency Licenses are held by all staff members."

Furthermore the policy clearly states that "actions may lead to termination of employment" if the "proper license is not secured."

Also, at the September 10th meeting, the School Committee voted to instruct yours truly as Secretary to contact the Massachusetts Association of School Committees [MASC] to seek out professional advice and options in the District's search for both a permanent and interim Superintendent. I did this right away and MASC Field Agent Mike Gilbert addressed members of the Methuen School Committee at the televised September

METHUEN: PAGE 17

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Methuen Mayor Violates Open Meeting Law ~ Emails Committee on How They Should Vote

School Committee Member Calls Mayor's Behavior a "Disgrace" and a "Circus"

Methuen Mayor Jim Jajuga has violated the state's open meeting law by sending out emails to the entire school committee telling them how they should vote on an upcoming matter before the committee.

As mayor, Jajuga sits as chairman of the school committee and admitted last night that he "overextended himself" during a screaming match with other school board members over the appointment of Brandi Kwong as interim superintendent after the resignation of Judy Scannell.

Kwong, the assistant superintendent, was groomed by Scannell to replace her before her scheduled retirement at the end of the year. Scannell's untimely resignation last week, came after it was learned that she never obtained her license to be superintendent 8 years ago, and was never certified or licensed to be an elementary school principal. Scannell served as a principal for ten years.

According to the state's open meeting law, a public official may email other members of their board concerning an upcoming matter before their board "so long as the email does not reach a quorum (majority) of the public body (committee)."

"A public body member may lawfully email quorum of the public body only to discuss scheduling a meeting, distribute a meeting agenda, or to distribute reports or documents to be discussed at a meeting, provided that no opinion of a member of the public body is expressed." (MGL 30a S.18)

Jajuga, however, sent the following email (below) to the entire school committee prior to their public meeting Monday night, telling them they should vote for Brandi Kwong as interim Superintendent for the remainder of the school year.

At least two members of the school committee told The Valley Patriot that they informed the mayor that his email was an open meeting law violation and that they did not appreciate "being told how to vote" prior to the public matter even coming before them.

Jajuga screamed at fellow board members at Monday night's meeting saying the committee should not do a wide search for a new superintendent and that Kwong



should be appointed immediately.

Committee member Jana DiNatale said she wanted to move forward with a search but the committee voted against her measure after Jajuga's screaming fit. A motion was then made to appoint Kwong immediately but that motion failed.

"It's so unfair what's happening here tonight. This is unprofessional ... I'm ashamed of what is happening here tonight," DiNatale said on the motion to appoint Kwong without a search.

Committeeman Bob Vogler told the mayor he (the mayor) had already made up his mind and would not support appointing Kwong at that meeting, saying that the mayor can complain about the process "because you already made up your mind so, to you, the process doesn't mean anything." Vogler told his fellow board members that if they were going to go down this road they should just appoint Kwong tonight.

After shooting down DiNatale's motion for a search, School Committee member Nicholson made a motion to appoint Kwong but only got one other vote, Mayor Jajuga. The committee then reconsidered DiNatale's motion for a search which passed the second time around.

After the meeting, DiNatale posted the following message on the Valley Patriot's Facebook page.

"I would not have voted that way if I

JAJUGA: PAGE 11

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I ask for your vote on Tuesday, November 6th

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IN YOUR CORNER with SENATOR IVES

The Natural Gas Disaster Requires All Hands on Deck

By State Senator Kathleen O'Connor Ives

Due to my concern about the major impacts on the residents affected by the natural gas disaster, I penned a letter to National Grid. Senators Bruce Tarr, Barbara L'Italian, and Representatives Frank Moran, Diana DiZoglio and Juana Matias signed on in support of the letter which stated the following:

September 21, 2018
President Marcy L. Reed
National Grid Massachusetts
40 Sylvan Road
Waltham, MA 02451

Dear Ms. Reed:

In the aftermath of the Merrimack Valley natural gas disaster, one young man is dead, thousands of residents and businesses still do not have access to natural gas, and many people are suffering. The temperature is dropping, and it is our responsibility as the undersigned elected legislators to ensure everything possible is being done to help residents not only return to life as normal—but to insist the natural gas delivery system, operations, and equipment are much safer than before.

This can progress more quickly if all the skilled technicians available are put to work. United Steelworkers Locals 12012 and 12003 deserve new contracts immediately, which include fair benefits and healthcare, as well as high safety standards that reflect the level of responsibility and expertise their duties require. This experienced and ready workforce needs to

be utilized.

In the public's interest, we formally request that a plan move forward now to include USW Local 12012 and Local 12003 workers in the response to the mutual aid request under the State of Emergency. This will undoubtedly help residents in and outside of the impact zone with short-term natural gas safety concerns, as well as long-term recovery efforts. And, we have received official notification that under current operations, it may be many weeks before the gas system is fully restored to the impacted area.

National Grid certainly has the resources to move forward with a win-win approach to contract negotiations. In May, National Grid stated that FY 2018 pretax profits rose 24%, expecting business in the U.S. would continue doing well, since the bulk of its profits came from U.S. operations. National Grid made a pretax profit of \$3.66 billion in one year and stated it would also benefit from an approximately \$2 billion tax credit in FY 2018 following a reduction of the corporate tax rate in the U.S. It is shocking that The Merrimack Valley natural gas disaster should never have happened; every effort must be made on recovering and preventing it from happening again. The ratepayers and on-the-ground workers are the source of your success. Residents deserve all of the natural gas technical support available, and your lock-out is preventing this.

Senator O'Connor Ives can be reached at KATHLEEN.OCONNORIVES@MASENATE.GOV

"WEATHER 101" WITH AL!

Al Kaprielian
VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

Welcome to October and the first full month of fall. During the month of October we will see the foliage at its peak. The nights will continue to get longer and the days shorter and this will cause an increase in the change of color of the leaves.

The last areas in New England to see the peak foliage is areas along the New England south coast including Cape Cod & the Islands. These areas see peak colors around late October into early November.

The warm weather which occurred in September has delayed the arrival of the peak colors by one to two weeks. Recapping September, it was another month of above normal temperatures and above normal rainfall. Boston averaged four degrees above normal for the month of September. The upper level high pressure system located off the east/southeast coast of the US impacted our weather due to its strength.

This resulted in warm temperatures causing the warmer than normal weather. The major weather feature in September was Hurricane Florence.

Florence was a dangerous hurricane out in the open Atlantic Ocean. As Hurricane Florence moved closer to the southeast US coast we started to see her winds become weaker. This was due to stronger winds aloft (shear). This causes the cumulonimbus clouds in the hurricane to become less developed.

Even though Florence's winds weakened, her rainfall did not. Parts of North Carolina got three feet of rain. Heavy rain also occurred in South Carolina. The winds from Hurricane Florence caused numerous power outages across the southeast US. The upper level winds over the southeast US were weak so this caused Florence's movement to drastically slow down. The slow movement over the Carolinas caused the heavy rain to continue longer making for higher rainfall totals.

Here in New England we did get some

rain from the remnants of Florence. However, unlike the Carolinas, the remnants of Florence moved along much more quickly in our region. In fact the sun came out in the afternoon during the day of her remnants. Hurricane Florence occurred during peak hurricane season. Peak hurricane season runs from Mid-August to Mid-September.

After peak hurricane season is past we can still see the formation of hurricanes. Hurricane season runs through November 30th which is the last day of hurricane season for our hemisphere. It's not impossible for a tropical storm or hurricane to occur in November. If this occurs, it is not every year. As we move through October there can be an increase in the development of coastal storms. We are getting closer to the season of coastal storms. We have even seen snow on Halloween due to a coastal storm.

The heavy wet nature of the snow with that storm caused numerous power outages. As September ended we saw some cooler air arrive from Canada. Will this cool air invade the month of October and give us a cool month or will the upper level subtropical high pressure system (Bermuda High) to our south/southeast re-strengthen and bring some warm weather in October? Stay Tuned! In past Octobers we have seen temperatures of 80 degrees or temps. in the 80s so you may not want to put the shorts away yet.

In next month's article we will recap October and see how warm/cool it was. Now is the time to prepare for winter.

If you do not have a generator you may want to get one. It's good to have one in the winter in case the power goes out. The generator can save your pipes from freezing. Meanwhile, enjoy fall apple picking and going to fall festivals. Stay safe and enjoy this season, which is the transition period between summer and winter.

Al Kaprielian is a famous weatherman. He is the exclusive weather columnist for The Valley Patriot after decades of being the lead meteorologist in New Hampshire.

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THE DISASTER

Sitting in my office listening to the police scanner it was obvious from the time the first call went out that the explosion on Chickering Road in Lawrence was not a routine call.

Not long after that call went out I was jarred out of my seat by the urgency and bewilderment in the voices of the firefighters as they called out another fire, and then another, then two at a time, then and three.

I've been covering news for more than two decades and chasing police and fire calls even longer than that, and the only time I have ever heard that kind of sheer panic ... almost terror ... in the voice of a public safety official over the scanner was the night Woburn Police Officer Jack Maguire called in while he was being murdered. From the minute that first call went out I could tell this wasn't a routine fire. What I didn't know, was that this would turn out to be the biggest disaster in the Merrimack Valley in my lifetime.

THE RESPONSE

At first I manned the office and called for our news spotters to start fanning out across South Lawrence to get photos, videos and any information they could get as the calls for fire and explosions continued to come in, one after the other.

"Farnham Street we have another one" ... "We have two on Salem Street, and at least one, maybe two more on Kingston."

It seems like forever, but it was only about 30 minutes before I decided to pack up my gear and head into the city from my North Andover office.

Durso Ave, Mount Vernon, Brookfield St., Jefferson ... the calls kept coming and it seemed like it wasn't going to stop.

As I approached the Lawrence line at Mass Ave the police officers recognized me and let me past the blockade they had already set up.

All of South Lawrence was now cordoned off at every entrance, nobody in from any direction. From almost the second I passed the police roadblocks and made my way to Salem Street I could smell an ugly odor of wood smoke, mixed with what seemed like walnuts, and maybe rotten eggs. It was eerie.

People were grabbing their belongings and fleeing their homes; elderly residents getting help from strangers, good Samaritans giving assistance to the disabled without being asked.

The people of Lawrence had no idea what was about to happen but in true Lawrence fashion almost everyone involved was reaching out to neighbors and friends instead of just being concerned with themselves.



Paying Attention! WITH TOM DUGGAN



ON THE FRONT LINES, "IT WAS HELL"

As Lawrence firefighters tried to tackle the dozens of calls coming in, pulling people out of burning buildings, some exploding, some collapsing, the chief in neighboring Methuen (Chief Tim Sheehy) was also listening to all of this on the scanner and without missing a beat ordered all his firefighters into Lawrence.

"I wasn't going to wait for them to ask. They were in trouble, big trouble" he told me later. "They needed help and my guys responded immediately. I was so proud of them. They were amazing. We were the first outside department coming into Lawrence and we had no idea what we were walking into. It was hell; that's the only way I can describe it. It was hell."

It wasn't long before every off duty firefighter was called in from every surrounding community.

Then the hair on the back of my neck stood at attention and my heart dropped faster than that feeling you get on a roller coaster as the unthinkable happened.

"We need an ambulance we have a firefighter down."

Hearing "firefighter down" went right through me like a stab in the heart. Sec-

onds later it came again. "We have two more down".

I was scared for the first time in years. I was scared for the firefighters and the cops running into the exploding homes. I was scared for the poor people they were trying to save. And I was even more scared that the explosions and fires seemed like they were never going to stop.

I often get mocked on Facebook when I say firefighters and police officers are heroes. Most people have no idea the seriousness of what our first responders deal with in the moment when a tragedy strikes. They have no idea what responding to such events does to their psychological and emotional health.

These were true heroes. Running into exploding homes while everyone else is running out. Dodging falling rafters and ceilings, carrying children out to their crying parents, and many, many of them overheard saying to their fellow police and firefighters "What the HELL IS GOING ON?"

While the rest of us were getting news updates on social media and television, the first responders didn't have time to stop and find out why this was all happening. They only knew that there were more

fires to put out, more people to rescue, and an endless list of other homes going up in smoke as they struggled to put out the fire they were tending to.

AN EERIE WEEKEND

By the time the calls of new fires started to die down it was past sundown and most of South Lawrence was completely evacuated. Only cops, firefighters, EMTs and utility workers were allowed into that section of the city. Once it became completely dark I was lucky that the state and local police let me stay in what we were calling "the hot zone" of South Lawrence.

I went live on Facebook and drove through the abandoned neighborhoods as dozens of State Police units crisscrossed every single neighborhood in a grid like fashion simultaneously. It was quite a site to see. And it was so pitch black that every time I turned a corner I had to slow my car to a crawl, because even with my high beams on I couldn't see more than 10 feet in front of my car.

Some neighbors refused to leave and found me streaming live on Facebook asking if I could come by their location. Others who had evacuated outside the hot zone asked me to drive down their street to see if their homes were still there. Some worried that their pets were still inside. I even looked for some lady's cat.

Others who came on the live feed wanted me to drive to their family members home who had decided to stay behind. There was only one incident of looting that we saw on Beacon Street, but police were only seconds behind them and put a stop to it right away.

THE AFTERMATH

By sun up I hadn't been to bed. I had come back to the office which now had no gas and was officially part of the evacuation area in North Andover. I used backup batteries and hot spot on my phone for internet connections and it was then that I learned that this wasn't just Lawrence, but that 30 or more homes went up in Andover and 13 homes exploded in North Andover.

With sunup turning to early Friday morning hundreds of people flooded social media trying to coordinate relief for people who fled their homes, some with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

We saw community activists like Debo Brown and Kelly coordinating donation efforts and Joe Zingales from Century 21 in Methuen loading and unloading trucks with his entire office staff. Politicians like Geoff Diehl, Myra Ortiz, Ana Levy, and Joe Espinola had taken off their campaign buttons, peeled off their campaign T-shirts and jumped into assembly lines of people unloading cases of water, food, diapers and clothing. Hundreds of volunteers poured into Lawrence and brought donations to the House of Mercy, Daybreak, the Lawrence Senior Center, the Parthum School, the Arlington School, the Elks Club, shelters and donation areas were set up all over the city. It was the most orderly uncoordinated effort I had ever seen. There was no preparation or meetings, people just showed up, found a way to help and did what they could.

COLUMBIA GAS MIA

With all the firetrucks in Lawrence from all over New England, state police and local police from all over the Valley, volunteers and utility workers from each corner of Massachusetts, the one thing we didn't see was even one worker from Columbia Gas. Not one. Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera called out Columbia Gas

COLUMBIA GAS: PAGE 11

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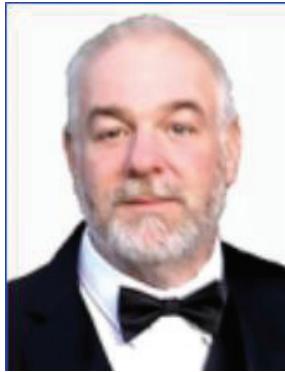


9th Annual Pancake Breakfast and the 6th Annual Walk & Wag for Veterans

Sponsored by Operation Delta Dog

On Saturday November 10th, 2018, Operation Delta Dog will be holding their 6th Annual Walk & Wag for Veterans Fundraiser. The event will be held from 10am to 3pm at Great Brook Farm State Park, 984 Lowell Street, Carlisle, Massachusetts. Operation Delta Dog is a nonprofit organization with a mission to rescue shelter dogs and train them to work as service dogs for disabled veterans who suffer from Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The dogs get the homes they need, and the veterans get the help they deserve! The event will host a silent auction, raffles, 50/50 raffle, balloon animals, the Yappy Hour Doggie Bar, Flying High Frisbee Dog demonstrations, plus food trucks, music and the scenic walk that everyone enjoys.

This year's event holds a special place in our hearts as we will be walking in memory of Scott Clegg, who tragically passed away on May 30th of this year.



Scott was a patriot and supporter of veterans; he spent much time advocating for their causes. He was known for his generous heart and spirited, principled positions on many local and national items.

This year at the Walk & Wag for Veterans, Scott's wife Ann along with family and friends will be walking in his

memory as part of "Team Scott Clegg". In addition, the American Automobile Association (AAA) will be making a \$5,000 donation to Operation Delta Dog in Scott's name.

For eight years, Scott has been an integral part of Roger Twomey's Annual Veterans Pancake Breakfast. Scott could be seen speaking with the many local veterans at the event and he was most notably tasked with manning the DJ station where he would play big band and patriotic music. This year, the 9th annual breakfast will

CLEGG: PAGE 34

Essex County Sheriff's Dept. Pays Tribute to MIA/POW'S

Sheriff Kevin F. Copinger led a service on September 21, 2018 to commemorate National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Ceremony was held at the Essex County Sheriff's Department (ECSD) Headquarters in Middleton next to the Vietnam War Veterans of Massachusetts Missing in Action Memorial which is the only monument in Massachusetts that recognizes the Vietnam War Missing in Action soldiers.

A procession by the Essex County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard and ECSD Recruit class 18-02 began the program. Correctional Officer Richard Gamble, Sergeant United States Army and Correctional Officer Heath Coburn, Staff Sergeant, United States Army raised the flags while ECSD Sergeant Ann Zannini sang the National Anthem.

Security Investigator Jerome Jellison, Staff Sergeant, United States Army led the Pledge of Allegiance and Reverend Marya DeCarlen delivered the invocation.

Sheriff Kevin F. Copinger in his welcoming remarks explained how the names of 10 soldiers have been added to the monument this year.

These soldiers had gone Missing in Action but had their remains returned prior to the monument being unveiled in 1994.

"These soldiers gave the ultimate sacrifice and are being honored with their fellow brothers," said Sheriff Copinger. Captain Arthur Statezni, Technical Sergeant, Air Force Reserve read the Missing Man Table Ceremony with Correctional Officer Brandon Anderson, Sergeant, United States Army.

This ceremony, which is the setting of a separate table in honor of our Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action, has been a tradition in place since the end of the



Vietnam War.

Captain Shane Ehlers, Specialist, United States Army and Correctional Officer John Cassidy, Staff Sergeant, United States Air Force read the names of the 26 soldiers who have had their remains returned as well as the 39 soldiers still Missing in Action.

Taps was played by Lynn English Senior Alex Patten. Massachusetts Secretary of Veterans' Services Francisco A. Ureña spoke regarding the importance of honoring the sacrifices of the soldiers by remaining diligent in the search for closure of all the soldiers remains being returned to their families.

The keynote address was given by Joyce Dalton from Wilmington who spoke of how her brother, Ensign Ronald Dow Eaton, went MIA on June 25, 1952 in the Wonsan area of North Korea and has never been returned. In closing, Sergeant Ned Shinnick with the Irish American Police Officers Association Pipes and Drums played Amazing Grace and The North-shoremen played God Bless America.



Photo: Chief Mass Communication Specialist Alex Diaz

Methuen Native Serves in Navy Hunting Mines in the Pacific

By: Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class David Wyscaver, Navy Office of Community Outreach

SAN DIEGO – A 2015 Methuen High School graduate and Methuen, Massachusetts native is serving aboard an Avenger mine countermeasure ship designed to clear mines from vital waterways across the globe.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Roddrick Guerra is a Navy mine-man serving aboard USS Champion under the command of Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

As a Navy mineman, Guerra is responsible for watch standing, as well as sweeping and hunting for mines.

"I like that the mineman rate is very diverse," said Guerra. "We have an expanded skill set where we conduct a variety of unique tasks."

Guerra credits success in the Navy to many of the lessons learned in Methuen.

"It's important to be open-minded and try to see the good in everything and everyone," said Guerra.

Mine countermeasure ships are designed as mine sweepers/hunter-killers capable of finding, classifying

and destroying moored and bottom mines. These ships use sonar and video systems, cable cutters and a mine detonating device that can be released and detonated by remote control.

Hunting mines is a slow, laborious task that requires a ship to stay in one small area until it's done, according to Navy reports. Since 1945, mines have sunk almost four times more US ships than all other threats combined, said Navy officials.

The worldwide threat, which today totals more than a million weapons of some 300 different types, from rudimentary but still-dangerous World War I-era contact mines to highly sophisticated, multiple-influence and programmable weapons, reports the Navy. These figures are for sea mines, proper; they

do not include underwater-improvised explosive devices that can be fashioned from fuel bladders, 50-gallon drums, and even discarded refrigerators.

The ships use remotely operated mine disposal system and a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) mine neutral-

NAVY: PAGE 34

Methuen Police Charge Man With Kidnapping After Locating Missing Teen

METHUEN — Chief Joseph Solomon reports that the Methuen Police Department arrested a man last week for allegedly kidnapping and providing drugs to a juvenile. Charles W. Anderson of Manchester NH. was arrested and charged with:

Possession of a Class B Substance Distribution of a Controlled Substance to a Minor Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor Kidnapping At approximately 1:45 p.m.

On Wednesday, Sept. 12, Methuen Police detectives assigned to the Narcotics/Gangs and Intelligence Unit were conducting an investigation on the west side of the city.

As a result of that investigation, detectives observed what they recognized as a narcotics transaction and subsequently stopped the vehicle involved and arrested Anderson and a 16-year-old male who was inside the vehicle after cocaine was found in their possession. After further investigation, detectives determined that the 16-year-old male had been reported missing from Manchester, New Hampshire.

Through their investigation, the Methuen detectives learned that the boy

had been forced to enter ANDERSON'S vehicle and was allegedly threatened with death if he attempted to flee.

After allegedly taking the boy and holding him against his will, ANDERSON allegedly drove to the Methuen area to purchase cocaine, and required the boy to ingest the drug.

"The detectives in charge of this case did an excellent job in identifying this situation and arresting this suspect," Chief Solomon said.

"I am thankful that they were able to conduct a thorough investigation and rescue this boy from an extremely dangerous individual."

"Every parent's worst fear is that their child will be taken from them," Mayor James Jajuga said.

"I'm so grateful for the work of our police department, which resulted in a young man being reunited with his family." Methuen Police contacted the boy's parents, as well as the New Hampshire Department of Children and Families and the Manchester Police Department. The boy's name is not being released. ANDERSON was held pending arraignment in Lawrence District Court.

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An Open Letter to the Victims of the Columbia Gas Explosions and Fires:

The Napoli Shkolnik law firm is proud to be working with the citizens of Massachusetts that have recently suffered damages as a result of the Columbia gas fires and explosions. On Friday, September 28, Napoli Shkolnik, David Raimondo and Associates and the Cunha Law Firm commenced two separate legal actions against Columbia Gas and its parent company.

The first action was filed as a class action and seeks to recover business losses for local businesses harmed by the gas outage and the fires. The class, if certified by a judge, seeks to include all businesses that have lost earnings or revenue as a result of Columbia Gas and its negligent conduct.

The second action was filed on behalf of Dean and Mona Thornhill and their family. The Thornhill's family home in North Andover was severely damaged by fire and smoke. This case seeks to recover damages for the Thornhill Family including property damage , out of pocket expenses , mental anguish damages.

Our firms stand ready to assist any of the residents or businesses of Andover, North Andover or Lawrence. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers go out to the many victims of this disaster. We call upon Columbia Gas to fairly compensate all of the victims as quickly as possible.

Patrick Haines
David Raimondo
Brian Cunha

Una carta abierta para las víctimas de las explosiones y los fuegos de Columbia Gas:

La Firma de Abogados Napoli Shkolnik se enorgullece por trabajar con los ciudadanos de Massachusetts que recientemente han sufrido daños como resultado de los fuegos y de las explosiones causadas por Columbia Gas. El pasado viernes, 28 de septiembre, Napoli Shkolnik, David Raimondo y Asociados y la Firma de Abogados Cunha Law Firm comenzaron dos acciones legales en contra de Columbia Gas y su empresa matriz.

La primera acción legal fue presentada como un pleito de clase y espera recuperar pérdidas comerciales para negocios locales afectados por la falta de disponibilidad de gas y por los fuegos. Si la clase es certificada por un juez, se espera incluir a todos los negocios que hayan perdido ingresos o ganancias como resultado de la negligencia incurrida por Columbia Gas.

La segunda acción fue presentada en representación de Dean, Mona Thornhill y su familia. El hogar de la familia Thornhill localizado en North Andover fue severamente afectado por el fuego y el humo. Este caso pretende recuperar los daños causados a la familia Thornhill en su propiedad, por gastos no presupuestados y por angustias mentales.

Nuestras firmas se encuentran listas para asistir a cualquier residente o negocio de Andover, North Andover y Lawrence. Nuestros pensamientos y oraciones están con todas las víctimas de este desastre. Solicitamos a Columbia Gas para la compensación justa y lo más rápida posible para todas las víctimas afectadas.

Patrick Haines
David Raimondo
Brian Cunha

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Mike Gaylord,
Local 175 Laborers' Union of North America

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PAYING ATTENTION, COLUMBIA GAS: FROM PAGE 5

live on TV, pointing out the disgrace of absence and lack of communication from minute one.

A full 24 hours later we still had no help from Columbia and the inadequate press statement by the Columbia Gas official only made it worse.

THE RECOVERY DIASTER

Nearly a full month after the tragedy of the Columbia Gas Disaster most people still have no gas. That means no heat, no cooking, and no showers. Columbia opened insurance claim centers for those affected and hired subcontractors and other companies to replace gas pipelines and try to restore service. The National Guard was called in to help coordinate getting food and water to victims and first responders.

State Representative Diana DiZoglio said that even now Columbia Gas is not responding adequately to local officials. "I'm happy they are picking up steam as far as the restoration of gas services are concerned," DiZoglio told me. "However, they need to step it up big time regarding communication and overall customer service efforts. As many residents have been expressing to me, they are still getting different stories from different claims adjusters depending on the day."

DiZoglio said she and her colleagues were so concerned about lack of answers from Columbia Gas that she and the Merrimack Valley delegation on Beacon Hill sent a letter to Columbia expressing their many concerns about victims with no help and no answers "and we still have not received a response from Columbia Gas or Eversource. This is completely unacceptable. They have had plenty of time to get

back to us and they just haven't."

"So, when residents call me to express their enormous frustration that Columbia Gas isn't responding to them, I want them to know that I hear them and share their frustration because Columbia Gas is treating the legislative delegation no differently. It's a total breakdown of communication across the board on every level. But, I can say I am really proud of local mayors and town managers, volunteers, the firefighters, my God.... and front line workers for doing a tremendous job. While Columbia gas is ignoring us, they stepped up to the plate any and every time they could."

FIRE CHIEF MORIARTY ON THE RECOVERY EFFORT

I asked Fire Chief Brian Moriarty, (who had taken charge like a five star general though all of it), how his department was handling the aftermath.

"It's an ongoing process" he said with frustration in his voice. "It was very taxing in the beginning, the tension and pressure of the immediate stuff is over now, but every day it's something. We are still dealing with this every day. Everyone is working well together at the fire stations; Columbia Gas is making sure everyone has what they need here."



"Our guys are working extensively to make sure everything remains safe. We are covering the trailer parks. We have increased fire protection on the south-side. We are inspecting the shelters daily to make sure things are going well down there. We have extra crews when they are purging the lines, which is almost every day. We are manning full crews. Everyone

here in the department has stepped up, they are real heroes. They were really heroic that day, what they did, what they handled with such limited resources."

I asked the chief how he was dealing with the funding issues of having so many more men on duty every day, and all the overtime that they must have. "Columbia gas is reimbursing us for all of it," he said. "They are giving us the equipment we need. They have agreed to pay for a lot."

BUSINESS LOSSES

While thousands of residents are still affected, hundreds of businesses were also affected by the power and gas outage in South Lawrence, Andover, and North Andover. Some have already gone broke and will never reopen. Others are struggling to borrow money and recover from untold losses, hoping they can reopen and hoping they can regain their customers to

move forward.

Mike Agricola, owner of Salvatore's Restaurant on Merrimack Street in Lawrence told me "This disaster crippled me."

"We had a slow year last year and things were just starting to pick up, we were just starting to do well again when this happened. Now it will take forever to catch up. I decided to pay my workers through the outage because they have mortgages to pay and families to feed, and it wasn't their fault they couldn't work."

Agricola threw away thousands of dollars of food when they were finally let back into the building a full week later.

"I still have vendors to pay, rent to pay, salaries, the expenses and the losses are incredible. Even if we stay busy now that we are open, and even with whatever we get from the insurance company it's going to be a long time to get back to where we need to be. But, I thank God. We were so lucky. Some businesses will never reopen. Some people lost their homes and everything they own. That family lost their son. So, with what we lost, and it was a lot, I still consider myself lucky. So many people have it so much worse."

And that my friends, is the real spirit of Lawrence.



To m 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

JAJUGA VIOLATES LAW: FROM PAGE 2

knew the true reason, because I wanted to have that discussion held in public. If they want to complain about me communicating with the public, let them do it in public." Jana DiNatale Methuen School Committee.

"My comments were directed at the circus that took place last night, due to the Mayor once again attempting to substitute his own judgement for proper process, this time as defined by the committee in our last executive session.

"It was a disgrace and placed our Acting Superintendent in an unfair position. It also created a sense of uncertainty where there isn't need to be concern. We have a capable Acting Superintendent who has agreed to remain in the role as we do our due diligence in appointing an Interim Superintendent. The Committee intends to have her continue to play an active and important role in moving this district forward in any scenario – our current initiatives and progress will not be disrupted. Further, whom-ever is appointed interim deserves to have a process that will result in the role being

defined and supported."

The correct process is for the committee to conduct a proper search for interim, considering all applicants to find the best leader for our schools both in the short and long term."

"There is a misperception in the community that we are leaning one way or another. While some members have expressed such views please understand that I am keeping an open mind until all information is before us." ◊

JAJUGA'S ILLEGAL EMAIL

Mon, Sep 10, 2018 at 3:22 PM

When we last met on Thursday, August 30th, our major order of business was accepting the resignation of former Superintendent Judy Scannell. The Committee also approved the appointment of Brandi Kwong as Assistant Superintendent, while instructing my office to provide information on the process for appointing an Interim Superintendent (as well as potential candidates).

As I thought about the pros and cons

of hiring an Interim Superintendent other than Dr. Kwong, as well as beginning the process of hiring a permanent Superintendent to lead the Methuen Public Schools, it became very clear to me that this would not be the best way to proceed. As Mayor and Chair of the School Committee, I feel that stability for the schools is the most important factor at present. Former Superintendent Scannell has left a strong team behind, and it is my belief that this team – under the direction of Dr. Kwong for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year – is best equipped to provide that level of stability.

In discussions with Dr. Kwong last week, she made it clear that she has a strong network of fellow educational professions – both in and out of Methuen – to provide support for her as Interim Superintendent. Her initial proposal to utilize her current leadership team to backfill pieces of her duties as Assistant Superintendent is a good starting point for discussion between her and the School Committee about how to maximize our opportunities during this academic year.

I have also heard from dozens of people in the Methuen Public Schools – teachers, administrators, parents, and citizens – who have spoken to Dr. Kwong's professionalism and expertise as a leader in the system. Admittedly, she had labored in the shadow of a dynamic and personable individual for the six years she previously served as Assistant Superintendent. I believe that, on her own, Dr. Kwong will do an excellent job of leading the Methuen Public Schools for this school year.

Perhaps most importantly of all, I want us as a School Committee to spend this academic year focusing on an open and inclusive search for a permanent Superintendent to take the Methuen Public Schools into the next decade. I don't feel that a bifurcated process – first searching for an Interim, and then a permanent leader – is the best use of our time. Obviously, this decision rests with the entire School Committee, and I look forward to a frank and open discussion at this evening's meeting before deciding how to proceed.

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For those of you who have no clue what a state senator does, or the role of a governor's councilor, or what the registrar of deeds is charged with, please stay home. There are already too many stupid people voting who have no clue what they are doing in the ballot booth. If you are an educated voter however, you should make sure you vote no matter what party you are in, or who you are supporting. And by the way, there is still time to educate yourself. Go online and look up the candidates, check out where they stand on the issues. Go to the Secretary of State's webpage and see the various races on your ballot this November. You can also do a search to see who gave money to each candidate. Please choose wisely, elections have consequences.

U.S. SENATE – ELIZABETH WARREN VS. GEOFF DIEHL

The race for the U.S. Senate has gotten ugly with Senator Warren traveling around the country running for president, calling police officers "racist from front to back", and supports the racist terrorist group "Black Lives Matter" who are responsible for the murders of at least a dozen police officers across the country. She wants to rewrite the constitution, and routinely hurls juvenile insults at President Donald Trump ... all the while saying Trump is juvenile for his insulting nature. I call her the "two wrongs make a right" candidate. She thinks women should be paid more than men, while pretending she supports "equality" and she betrayed fellow left winger Bernie Sanders in the presidential primary two years ago to support the establishment candidate Hillary Clinton.

Moderate Republican Geoff Diehl was criticized by John Kingston in the republican primary for "working with democrats" in the Massachusetts legislature as if that's a bad thing. He just wasn't "right wing enough" for the base of the GOP and he took a lot of grief for it in the primary. Unlike Warren, our sitting state senator, Geoff Diehl has been to Lawrence's Daybreak homeless shelter and pledged to get them the funding they need to service the homeless in Lawrence. He even showed up to hand out food and water during the Columbia Gas Disaster, donated portable heaters and portable showers to Lawrence residents in the aftermath of the disaster, and though he knows he is going to lose Lawrence 9-1, he just keeps coming back. Elizabeth Warren has NEVER been to the Daybreak Shelter in Lawrence, which is odd considering she pretends to care about the poor and downtrodden. Lawrence is the poorest community in Massachusetts, and the Daybreak Homeless Shelter services the poorest population in Lawrence yet, never once in the last six years did Eliza-

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK



The Valley Patriot received numerous complaints that Columbia Gas workers were in their neighborhood standing around for hours on end with nothing to do. We followed some of these crews and found out it was true. Many waited for long periods of time for supervisors, infuriating residents who were still waiting for their gas service to be restored.

beth Warren pick up the phone and see what the people at Daybreak need. Never mind that she has never bothered to tour the facility. Not once. While Warren calls cops racist, Diehl calls them "Heroes" and even made a TV commercial thanking our first responders for putting their lives on the line every day. He also showed up at our annual BASH the last TWO years and gave scholarships to Latino kids from Lawrence High School when he wasn't even a candidate. I am sure Warren will call him a racist before all this is over, as that is her boiler-plate accusation against anyone she doesn't like. But, Diehl is as genuine as they come and win or lose, he really does care about the people of Massachusetts. Warren only cares about political power and running for president. I don't know if Diehl can beat Warren in such a left-wing state, but if anyone can, Geoff can. I am voting for Diehl over our absent senator who couldn't care less about the homeless people of Lawrence while she campaigns on the backs of the poor.

FINEGOLD
V. ESPINOLA –
STATE SENATE
(Andover,
Tewksbury,
Dracut, and Law-
rence)
Former State



Rep. and State Senator Barry Finegold is trying to recapture his seat in the state senate. Barry abandoned the job four years ago to run for State Treasurer but lost

that bid. The senate seat is currently held by Barbara L'Italian who decided not to run for reelection so that she could run for congress. Barry, a democrat, is facing off against Joe Espinola, a republican and former police officer from Dracut. Barry is a liberal and never saw a tax hike he didn't like. He carried Willie Lantigua's water for four years when Lantigua was mayor of Lawrence, doing away with residency and taking the police and fire chief out of civil service. He also spearheaded exactly one major piece of legislation, "Baby Drop Off" where irresponsible parents can abandon their children at a fire station, no questions asked. I'd like to point out that the people of Lawrence have not seen Barry since the last time he was on the ballot (four years ago). Joe Espinola, on the other hand, has been a staple in Lawrence for the

last few years. He has helped with homeless outreach, he has appeared at community events, and even put away his political buttons during the Columbia Gas Disaster to



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pitch in and help the people of Lawrence. We didn't see Barry during the aftermath of the explosions. We didn't see him at the shelters. He was nowhere to be found. If you are looking for a liberal candidate who will tow the party line and do what the leadership on Beacon Hill tells him to do, Barry Finegold is your candidate for sure. If you are looking for a conservative who wants to lower taxes, and will challenge leadership on Beacon Hill, fight for opioid rehab funding and more money for cops, Joe Espinola is your candidate.

STATE REP. LYONS VS TRAM (Andover & North Andover)

State Rep. Jim Lyons is republican and by far the most conservative member of the legislature. He opposes abortion, taxes, supports the death penalty, and endorsed ultra conservative Ted Cruz in the presidential primaries two years ago. He supported Donald Trump in the final election. His opponent, Mrs. Tran is a left-wing democrat who hates Donald Trump and opposed the appointment of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court because he is a traditionalist who believes the constitution says what it means and means what it says. She supports abortion on demand up to birth, wants to abolish ICE, supports sanctuary cities for illegal aliens, wants to give government benefits to illegals, supports higher taxes and more government control over your life. Lyons does not. If you think Elizabeth Warren isn't liberal enough for you, Tram is your candidate. If you think Trump isn't conservative enough for you, then Lyons is your candidate. There are no candidates who are as opposite on issues than these two candidates.

CONGRESS - GREEN VS TRAHAN

In full disclosure Rick Green is a personal friend who donates money to our Lawrence High scholarship fund at our annual BASH (in March) every year. He has been a big grassroots supporter of conservatives in the Merrimack Valley. He is a conservative republican who is liberal on social issues (which technically makes him a moderate) and has made the infrastructure of our roads and bridges a top priority. You may have seen his commercial where he swims home because traffic on the bridge is so backed up. Laurie Trahan is a liberal democrat who beat 9 other candidates in the primary and used to work for former Congressman Marty Meehan. Like all the other Democrats running she is a far-left candidate but surprisingly, her rhetoric has not been as outrageous as the other democrats on the ballot. While others have called for doing away with law enforcement (ICE) and advocate for the racist criminals of "Black Lives Matter" Laurie has been more mature and tempered in her tone, focusing instead on staple issues

CONTINUED UNDER FREDDIE



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like education and “equality”. This is the congressional seat currently held by Niki Tsongas who is stepping down.

**STATE SENATE - DIZOGLIO VS
SOME OTHER GUY**

I'd love to tell you who is running against Diana DiZoglio for State Senate (the district runs from Newburyport to Methuen) but I honestly don't even know his name. We have seen no commercials, no newspaper ads, received no literature in the mail, and he has never showed up at any public events we have seen. Though he's a republican (I think) he has never once reached out to anyone in our network during the campaign. Quite frankly I didn't even know Diana DiZoglio had an opponent until I asked her just prior to going to print. When she said “yes” I told her “don't even tell me his name, the guy is obviously not even campaigning”. As such, I am supporting Diana who, in full disclosure is a solid supporter of The Valley Patriot, the Paying Attention Podcast, and has always been accessible when we reach out on issues affecting the public.

**STATE REP. LOSCO VS
MINNICUCCI (Methuen, North Andover,
Lawrence, Haverhill)**

Being a right-wing conservative I would have thought the republican in this race (Losco) would have reached out to the Valley Patriot or the Paying Attention Podcast long ago for an interview or even just to introduce himself. But that never happened during this election cycle. While Christina Minicucci has been literally everywhere I look, Mr. Losco has been a ghost. So, it's hard to give you the analysis of this race other than to say Christina Minicucci is a left-wing tax spender and Losco is a conservative who wants to lower taxes (at least according to his literature).

**STATE REP. COLLEEN GARRY VS
RAY LECZYNSKI (Dracut)**

State Rep. Colleen Garry is the most conservative democrat in the House of Representatives. She is being challenged by newcomer, republican Ray Leczynski who is a liberal on social issues and conservative on fiscal issues. Garry is the front runner in this race as the people of Dracut are pretty happy with her performance over the years. But, issues like her opposition to the death penalty for cop killers woke up some of the more conservative democrats in Dracut (me too, by the way) and some of those voters might be voting

for Ray on election day.

RUNNING UNOPPOSED

Lawrence Democrat State Rep. Frank Moran is running unopposed. Also running unopposed is Marco Devers who is not an incumbent but beat Willie Lantigua in the democrat primary election in Lawrence last month. Register of Deeds Paul Iannuccillo had two candidates running against him in the primary but no candidate running against him in November.

CAMPBELL VS. GONZALES

This could be the race to watch. State Rep. Linda Dean Campbell is a democrat who represents Methuen and a small section of Haverhill. She is a veteran and has been very active in the legislature for increasing veterans' benefits. She is active with the Methuen Exchange Club and various other organizations in Methuen. She is also a part of leadership on Beacon Hill which doesn't sit well with a lot of people. She has voted for some very left-wing proposals (transgender bathrooms for example) even though Linda herself is much more moderate. Challenging Linda is Anand Gonzalves who is running as an independent but touts himself as a conservative. He is a first-generation immigrant from India and is taking this election very seriously. This could be the race to watch as Anand is putting in a lot of work going door to door to talk to actual voters.

BALLOT QUESTIONS

We took the best explanations of the three Massachusetts ballot questions that we could find online from Ballotpedia.com so that our readers will understand each measure in next month's election. They are published on page 18. I'm pretty ambivalent on question #1, the staffing requirements for nurses in hospitals. I am leaning towards voting yes since I found out how many millions of dollars the hospitals are spending trying to defeat this question, but I still haven't made up my mind. On question #2 I am a firm NO. Citizens United is a Supreme Court ruling that basically states that corporations (which are taxed and regulated by the government) have rights just as individuals do. Liberal democrats hate citizen united because they don't want companies (or owners of companies) to have rights, while they regulate them to death. Nonetheless, the Supreme Court has ruled, and this question is not only unconstitutional... it is also anti-constitutional. Question #3 is yet another left-wing attempt at making a law celebrating transgender sexuality and erasing gender norms. There are two genders, men and women. Someone who is born a man and wants to be a woman is fully free to dress like a woman, act like a woman, and even get his friends to go along and pretend he is a woman. That's his right. But, he's not a woman and the rest of us should not be forced by law to pretend that he is. I'm a NO on question three for what it's worth.

STEVE SABA DECLARES WAR

Methuen Councilor Steve Saba and his campaign committee are making calls and recruiting people in Methuen politics to mount a massive PR campaign against ME for saying I wish that HIS cuts of 30 police officers would result in HIS family getting police protection last in Methuen when the cops are busy.

Saba and his minions have been calling around demanding that elected officials fight his battles for him and publicly denounce me (as if that's their job) because I said on my show that since Steve is responsible for laying off 30 cops, the police should go to his neighborhood last when they call 911 for help. Why should the rest of Methuen have to wait for police protection when people like Steve Saba pushed to lay off 30 cops? Let HIS family wait. In fact, what I said was “Lay off the cops who work in his neighborhood so that GOD FORBID Steve Saba's wife is getting raped, the cops go to his house

NOTEBOOK: PAGE 20

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The Choice is Crystal Clear in Dracut

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VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

If you love the culture of corruption on Beacon Hill...

If you love record-high state spending and tax increases...

If you love a state representative who votes with the progressive Democrats 89% of the time...

Don't bother reading this column; it won't be of any interest to you. Feel free to carry on with business as usual. Send Colleen Garry back to the state house for a 13th term in office. After 24 years in office, you know exactly what you're going to get: more of the same.

But it doesn't have to be that way. This year, the people of Dracut and Tyngsborough have a Republican choice for state representative: Ray Leczynski. And the differences between the candidates couldn't be any clearer.

A Dracut native from a large and well-known farming family, Ray Leczynski is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He's a financial professional with more than 25 years of private-sector business experience. In other words, Ray Leczynski isn't a career politician. He's one of us and he'll vote like us – and for us – at the state house.

Ray Leczynski will work with Governor Charlie Baker to bring two-party balance to the legislature, reform state government and conduct the people's business with honesty, integrity and accountability. And isn't it about time?

Unlike the incumbent, Ray Leczynski won't vote for Robert DeLeo for house speaker, take campaign money from his PAC or vote with him and the progressive Democrats the vast majority of the time.

Speaking of Colleen Garry's voting record, she's doing everything she possibly can to hide it!

Just like she did with her Democrat opponent in the primary election, Colleen Garry is refusing to participate in more than one debate with her Republican opponent in the general election.

Colleen Garry says having two debates – one in Dracut and one in Tyngsborough – would divide the district. Of course, she holds fundraisers in both towns, but that's OK, right?

If anyone is diving the district, it's Colleen Garry and her campaign fundraising practices. In Dracut, you had to donate \$100 to visit with her at Warren Shaw's house or pay to eat Chinese food. In Tyngsborough, she gave away spaghetti for free. So much for fairness and equality in the 36th Middlesex District.

If Colleen Garry's record is so great, why doesn't she want anyone talking about it, including herself? Could it be because she has 24 years in office and zero legislative

accomplishments? Could it be because she says one thing and does another? Could it be because she has a legacy of broken promises?

Public safety is a perfect example. When she ran for office way back in 1994, Colleen Garry said she was in favor of the death penalty. She's had a strange way of showing it. Colleen Garry has consistently voted against the death penalty ever since, including for terrorism, torture and murdering police officers.

Ray Leczynski will support our police, protect our citizens, and maintain law and order in our state. He's in favor of the death penalty for murderers of police officers and pledges to introduce the necessary legislation to make it the law in Massachusetts.

Ray Leczynski believes in the rule of law and in legal immigration. He will never support illegal immigration and he will never vote to make Massachusetts a sanctuary state.

Colleen Garry can't be trusted to tell us the truth and she can't be trusted to keep us safe!

She also can't be trusted when it comes to taxes. Colleen Garry has a history of voting for billion-dollar tax increases, starting back in 2002.

This year, Colleen Garry voted for the "Grand Bargain." It's certainly a great deal for the special interests and Beacon Hill power brokers. But it's going to cost taxpayers a small fortune: \$775 million in new taxes, to be exact.

What's worse than raising existing taxes and creating new ones? Being dishonest about your votes. Colleen Garry claims she voted against the automatic gas tax, but that's an absolute lie. She flip-flopped: Colleen Garry was against it, before she was for it.

Colleen Garry is a hypocrite, an embarrassment and a failure. Dracut and Tyngsborough deserve better than a state rep who wants to duck the voters, duck her record and duck the important issues facing our towns. Vote Ray Leczynski – for a change!

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.

SEE PAGE 21

Open All Year

Cristy's PIZZA

Warren Calls on VA Inspector General to Provide Update on Criminal Investigation into Veteran's Death at Bedford VA

Senator Demands Clear, Substantive Update from Inspector General More Than Two Years After Veteran's Tragic Death

Washington, DC - United States Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) sent a letter to the Inspector General (IG) of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to reiterate her request for an update on the status of the IG's criminal investigation into the death of a Vietnam veteran and patient, William R. Nutter, Jr., at the Bedford VA over two years ago. Senator

Warren initially requested the information last October, but the VA has provided no update other than indicating that the investigation into this tragedy is still ongoing.

Bill Nutter, a veteran with two tours of duty in the Vietnam War and 21 years of service in the U.S. Army Reserves, died on July 3, 2016 allegedly in part due to the neglect of a nurse on duty who was playing video games and failed to monitor his condition. Last October, Senator Warren wrote to then-Secretary Shulkin asking that he work to expedite the VA Inspector General's (IG) investigation into the allegations regarding Mr. Nutter's death at the Bedford VA, and brief her staff on its outcome. Shulkin responded in writing that the ongoing nature of the investigation

compelled him to withhold any comment at the time. Senator Warren requested an update from the VA again last month and has yet to receive a briefing or formal written response.

In her letter, addressed directly to VA Inspector General Michael Missal, Senator Warren noted that Mr. Nutter's death occurred over two years ago, and her initial request was made nearly one year ago, but that the VA has yet to provide a meaningful update on the status of the investigation.

"Since Bill Nutter's death, more than two years have passed without the release of any public findings or conclusions by the Inspector General," wrote Senator Warren.

"While I understand that the Inspector General requires time to conduct thorough and independent investigations, the family of Mr. Nutter deserves a full and transparent explanation of why he died, who was disciplined, and what steps have been or need to be taken to prevent any tragedy of this kind from occurring again."

Senator Warren called on the Inspector General to provide a clear, substantive update on the progress of its investigation and to publicly release its conclusions.

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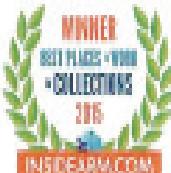
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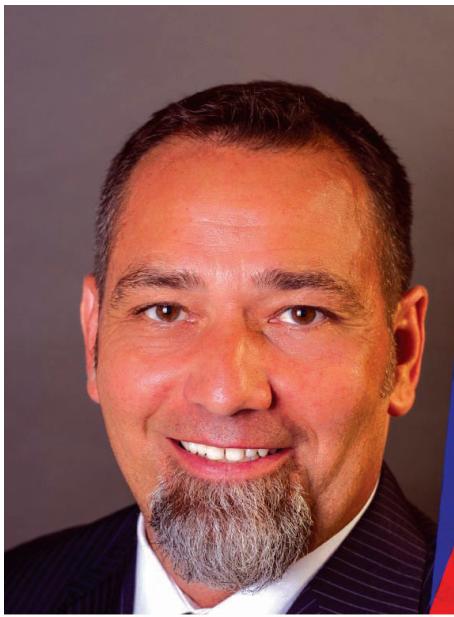
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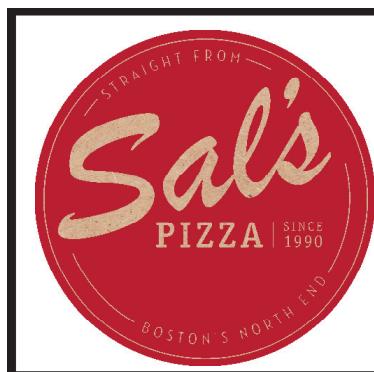
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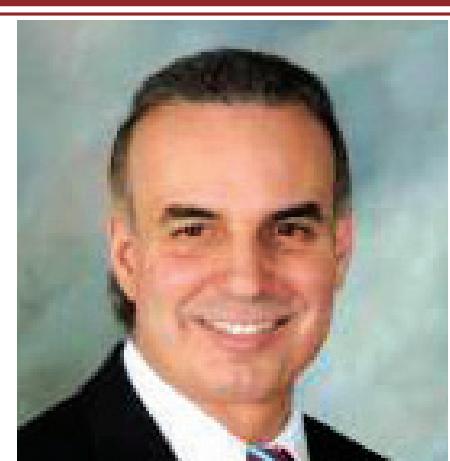
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Gas Explosions, Gas Leaks, and Legislative Action

Rep. Linda Dean Campbell
VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

We must accelerate work to prevent gas-related disasters from happening in our state in the future.

Many of the underground pipes that deliver our natural gas are old and made of metals that corrode over time. As a result, it is reported that the pipeline network across our state contains at least 16,000 leaks.

This session, I cosponsored a bill that would prevent utilities from charging rate-payers for the cost of leaked gas. In July, the Legislature passed part of this bill into law. Starting in 2020, utilities will have to annually report the amount of gas they lose through leaks. This is an important first step but must be followed up with deadlines for these leaks to be fixed.

Although updating our infrastructure is important, it is not enough. We must also ensure that an adequately trained workforce exists to maintain that infrastructure. The Legislature passed an economic development bill this year that allocated \$75 million for workforce development grants, as well as \$250 million for infrastructure improvement grants through the MassWorks program. These kinds of investments will lower the risk of future

catastrophes while yielding economic growth for the Commonwealth. By investing in our workforce, we are investing in the safety of our residents and the preservation of our neighborhoods.

As always, we must also continue to support our first responders so they are equipped to handle emergencies on a moment's notice. I want to thank our public safety officials for their dedication and sacrifice over these past weeks, and I remain committed to enacting policy to protect their health. That is why I secured \$420,000 in this year's budget for machinery that washes cancer-causing chemicals out of firefighters' gear and filed a bill to expand access to lung cancer screenings for firefighters.

The Legislature has taken strong action this session to improve infrastructure and prevent disasters, but our state now needs specific action to eliminate the risk of gas explosions. No community should have to endure what the Merrimack Valley has endured this month. I will continue to push for policies that keep communities safe across 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.

Anand Gonsalves is Running for State Rep. in the 15th Essex District

Methuen, MA – Anand Gonsalves of Oakland Avenue is running for State Representative in the upcoming election from the 15th Essex District. Anand is dedicated to meeting the residents of the district to earn their votes and to represent them in the State House.

Anand Gonsalves is a first-generation immigrant and has a passion for helping people in his community. He is focused on the struggles he sees parents and businesses engage in every day, and pledged to work to create a government that provides solutions rather than roadblocks.

The following are the main issues Anand's platform will be addressing:

Taxes – Reduce taxes by eliminating the wasteful spending in the budget

Education – Support strong school funding to support the youth and our teachers

Infrastructure – Fight for greater fund-

ing for roads and bridges.

Maintaining Fiscal Discipline – Advocating for all the tax payers in our district. Opposing waste, fraud, and abuse in the state budget.

Public Safety – Advocating for strong police, fire and rescue services. Aggressively fighting the Opioid epidemic.

Seniors – Supporting policies to help seniors stay in their homes.

Veterans – Prioritizing needs of those who Protect our freedom

The 15th Essex district consists of precincts 1,4,5,6,8,9,11,12 in Methuen and Ward 2 Precincts 1,2, Ward 5 Precinct 2 and Ward 7 Precinct 1 in Haverhill.

The General Election is November 6th.

Anand Gonsalves can be reached at PHONE (978-494-4056) and EMAIL (anand.gonsalves@anand4rep.com), and can be found on Facebook.

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Massachusetts Ballot Questions 2018

QUESTION #1 LIMITING THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS NURSES ARE RESPONSIBLE TO CARE FOR *

The Committee to Ensure Safe Patient Care (Yes on 1), is leading the campaign in support of Question 1. The committee raised \$8.08 million and spent \$8.10 million, including in-kind services. The committee is supported by the Massachusetts Nurses Association, which contributed \$7.95 million (98.49 percent of the total contributions). The group argues that limits on how many patients a nurse can be assigned to would allow nurses to spend more time with patients and therefore reduce mistakes and readmissions. [2]

The Coalition to Protect Patient Safety (No on 1) is leading the campaign in opposition of Question 1. The committee raised \$13.35 million and spent \$12.14 million, including in-kind services. The coalition is supported by the Massachu-

sets Health and Hospital Association, which contributed \$12.68 million (94.97 percent of the total contributions). The group argues that enforcing limits on nurse-patient assignments will increase patient wait times and force hospitals to cut back on services. They also argue it would be too expensive for hospitals to hire more nurses, resulting in hospitals closing down. [3]

QUESTION #2 OVERTURNING SUPREME COURT RULING "CITIZENS UNITED"

Question 2 would establish a 15-member commission called the Citizens Commission Concerning a Constitutional Amendment for Government of the People. The commission would be tasked with advocating for and advising about policies to define inalienable constitutional rights as belonging to individual living human beings, not artificial enti-

ties or collections of human beings, and recommending the amendment of the U.S. Constitution to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Citizens United v. FEC*. The commission would also urge state legislators to support the ratification of such an amendment. The commission would also be required to develop reports on (1) political and election spending in Massachusetts, (2) the legal ability of the state government to regulate corporations, (4) proposals for federal constitutional amendments, and actions recommended for advancing the proposed amendments to the U.S. Constitution.[3]

Of the commission's 15 members, the governor would appoint three members, the secretary of state would appoint three members, the attorney general would appoint three members, the speaker of the House would appoint three members, and the president of the Senate would appoint three members. Any resident of Massachusetts could apply to serve on the commission. Commissioners would not be paid. [3]

The measure would take effect on January 1, 2019, and the commission's first report would be due on December 31, 2019.[3]

Proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution requires (a) approval by a two-thirds majority vote in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate or (b) a constitutional convention requested by the legislatures of two-thirds (34) of the states; the constitutional convention method has not been used for any of the 27 amendments to the U.S. Constitution so far. Once proposed by Congress or a convention, an amendment must be ratified by three-fourths (38) of the states.

QUESTION #3 ANOTHER TRANSGENDER/ GENDER FLUIDITY BILL

This law adds gender identity to the list of prohibited grounds for discrimination in places of public accommodation, resort, or amusement. Such grounds also include

race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, disability, and ancestry. A "place of public accommodation, resort or amusement" is defined in existing law as any place that is open to and accepts or solicits the patronage of the general public, such as hotels, stores, restaurants, theaters, sports facilities, and hospitals. "Gender identity" is defined as a person's sincerely held gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior, whether or not it is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth.

This law prohibits discrimination based on gender identity in a person's admission to or treatment in any place of public accommodation. The law requires any such place that has separate areas for males and females (such as restrooms) to allow access to and full use of those areas consistent with a person's gender identity. The law also prohibits the owner or manager of a place of public accommodation from using advertising or signage that discriminates on the basis of gender identity.

This law directs the state Commission Against Discrimination to adopt rules or policies and make recommendations to carry out this law. The law also directs the state Attorney General to issue regulations or guidance on referring for legal action any person who asserts gender identity for an improper purpose.

The provisions of this law governing access to places of public accommodation are effective as of October 1, 2016. The remaining provisions are effective as of July 8, 2016.

A YES VOTE would keep in place the current law, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity in places of public accommodation.

A NO VOTE would repeal this provision of the public accommodation law. [14]

* Information from ballotopia.com

24th workshop meeting. The School Committee is expected to take votes moving forward with these searches at the regular October 8th Meeting. As I wrote last month, moving forward though it is my personal 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 evaluate current practices. I will report more on what happens with these in a future column.

Finally, on another note, the Methuen School Committee agreed to research the feasibility of putting together a Redis-

tricting Subcommittee to address the growth in student population and class sizes due to overall population growth in the city over the past 15 years. This is sure to be controversial politically as it may lead to a change in some neighborhood schools, but it is necessary to address overcrowding at the elementary level. More on this to come.

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).



Members of TMF (The Movement Family) showed up at House of Mercy on Baystate Road in Lawrence to help coordinate the relief effort the morning after the Columbia Gas Disaster.



Chelmsford Firefighter Tim Shannahan from the Wish Project delivering donated items to House of Mercy in Lawrence where donations were being accepted for victims of the Columbia Gas Disaster.



Lawrence Native Steve Johnson with Vietnam Veteran Mike Kane who grew up at 3 Garfield St. in Lawrence, (and Baptized at St. Patrick's Church). Mike was laid to rest in the Phillipines last week. "It's funny that this address was in both of our lives in different ways and at different times," says Johnson. "Mike will be missed by many friends and family. Yesterday we donated all his medicines to a local hospital for the poor. They were extremely happy to receive the heart medication due to its cost here in the Phillipines. Boxes of diabetes needles will go to good use," he added. "I'm glad something good came out of this. Mike can finally rest. Feels kind of lonely without my hometown boy.... He will be missed"



Sunday, October 7th was the last day of the North Andover Farmer's Market. The Farmer's Market was made possible because of a donation by Lowell 5 Bank.



While United States Senator Elizabeth Warren was trapping around the country running for president, her republican challenger Geoff Diehl spent his time helping Lawrence residents who were victimized by Columbia Gas by donating portable shower and space heaters to residents who still don't have heat nearly a month after the gas explosions. Diehl was asked why he keeps coming back to Lawrence given that no matter what he does he is still going to lose Lawrence 9-1. "It's the right thing to do, people are hurting." he said.



Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan holding a copy of Richard Lawrence's new Book "Light Bright, Damn Near White" with Civil Rights Hero and former Lawrence City Councilor Richard Lawrence holding Duggan's book "Heroes in Our Midst, From the Pages of The Valley Patriot." Richard Lawrence flew in from California last month to give a talk to the West Baptist Church in Andover about his book, his experiences with Martin Luther King and the state of race relations in America.

INTERVIEWS WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES TO SCORE POLITICAL POINTS

A photograph showing a man in a suit and tie sitting at a table, writing in a notebook. Across from him is a woman in a green blazer, gesturing with her hands as she speaks. The background is dark, suggesting an indoor setting like a press conference or interview.

TWO HOURS AFTER GAS EXPLOSIONS BEGAN IN LAWRENCE



For 14 years we have been looking for the perfect model to be our official "Valley Patriot Girl" and it seems we have finally found her. Kathy Woodard of Bradford is a huge fan of The Valley Patriot and reminds you all to keep an eye out for Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan's new movie "Lawtown" which will be released next month. Kathy agreed to join us at the movie premier. Details to follow.

Anand ★ Gonsalves ★

State Representative



Please Vote Tuesday November 6th

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last" since he is the one that cut police response time.

Maybe then Saba would understand the seriousness of the police cuts HE is making and how he is putting cops' lives at risk, WOMEN'S lives at risk, and the public safety of Methuen citizens at risk!

But, Steve Saba didn't have the balls to call me himself to express his displeasure with my comment. He didn't have the balls as a real man to send me an email or deal with this one on one. Instead, he is calling other elected officials to get THEM to denounce my comment. In fact, he even had his daughter go on Facebook and post that I "wished her mother was raped". How disgusting. Steve Saba is a bully but when challenged he hides behind other people to try and paint himself as a victim for political advantage. He is purposely distracting the public from the fact that it is Steve Saba who is putting lives at risk by cutting cops in Methuen. I say BRING IT ON STEVE! You go ahead and get your campaign supporters to attack me while you hide. You get your family to attack me while you hide. You get the Tribune or other media outlets to attack me while you hide behind them all like the coward that you are. You never once had the stones to pick up the phone and settle this like a man, but you want everyone else to fight your battles for you. So, I stand by my comment. If YOU are going to cut cops in Methuen with your \$1.8M cut to the police budget, then YOUR Family should be the first to lose police protection, not the innocent citizens of the City of Methuen. Why should THEY have to wait for the cops to come and save them when YOU are the one who reduced police response time with your reckless and petty actions at the council table. If you want to exploit the word "rape" to gain political capital that's on you. But, coming from a guy who belittles and attacks WOMEN at every single Methuen City Council meeting, I find all of this downright HILARIOUS.

SO, WHAT IS THE STANDARD FOR A FIRE WATCH IN LAWRENCE?

The City of Lawrence put a fire watch on a home on Haverhill Street last year in a move to take possession of the home of two little old ladies. The fire watch ordered at a cost to the owners at \$1,000 a day on their house for almost five months. That's the longest fire watch in the history of Massachusetts. Mayor Dan Rivera justified this saying the condition of the building wasn't safe. So, we find it interesting that after the Columbia Gas Disaster Dan Rivera didn't order a fire watch anywhere in the city with all those crumbling "unsafe" buildings. Weird huh? A home on Haverhill Street that has never had a fire, was ordered a 5 month fire watch and the city is trying to extort more than \$150K from the owners of that house (almost more than it's worth) so that they can take the property, but with dozens of buildings affected by the Columbia Gas Disaster, he has ordered exactly ... ZERO....so, as Paul Harvey used to say, "And now you know the rest of the story."

KAVANAUGH CONTROVERSY

It's clear with the circus of the Brett Kavanaugh hearings that the fascist college campus culture has come to the political mainstream of the Democrat Party. They

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NOTEBOOK: FROM PAGE 13

screamed, they cried, they tried to bust down the doors of the Supreme Court yelling "shut it down", they manufactured gang rape allegations against Kavanaugh, they spent hours dissecting his high school year book, and in the end, it was a WOMAN, Senator Susan Collins who cast the deciding vote to confirm Kavanaugh. During this circus, the leaders of the Democrat Party said due process was not important. They said the concept of "innocent until proven guilty" was not important. They complained that Kavanaugh was an evil monster because he believes the constitution says what it says and doesn't say what it doesn't say. They are beside themselves that now, the majority of justices will actually apply the text of the constitution to the legal cases before them. Why is that so irritating to democrats in D.C.? It's because they hate the constitution. They want the constitution to be a "living breathing document" that changes when they feel like it. They want to be able to rewrite the constitution to get the result they want. They also want to be able to govern based on mob rule, bogus rape accusations, and kangaroo courts. These are the same people who think you do NOT have a right to bear arms even though it's actually IN the constitution. But, simultaneously believe you DO have a constitutional right to an abortion, which is actually NOT in the constitution. What they want is a document that can be perverted to say what they want it to say rather than what it actually says. By the way, the liberal democrats are really lucky that the constitution is NOT a "living breathing document that changes with the times". Because if it was, a day could come where the times have changed, and women will no longer have the right to vote. As a living breathing document, we could end up with a culture in the future where the prohibition against slavery no longer applies because the text of the 14th Amendment "changed with the times". Talk about not being smart enough to be on their own side.

TRINITARIAN CHURCH INDOOR FLEA MARKET OCT. 27th

North Andover's Trinitarian Congregational Church will host an indoor Flea Market on Saturday, October 27, 2018, from 8am to 1pm in the Scout Cabin behind the church, 72 Elm Street. This reimagined event will include 14 dealer tables, as well as delicious homemade baked goods for sale. The church also will sell raffle tickets for generously donated gift cards. Proceeds of the Flea Market benefit the church's ministries and missions.

ESSEX CHAMBER MUSIC PLAYERS ANNOUNCE CONCERT SERIES

Sunday Nov. 18, 2pm. NECC's Hartleb Technology Center, 100 Elliott St., Haverhill: ECMP concert; Robin L. Øye: Premiere "Pangs of Memory, Fallen Snow" for flute, cello and piano for flute/ alto flute, cello and piano.; Sergei Rachmaninoff: "Ne poj, krasavitsa," Op. 4, No. 4 (Sing not, fair maiden); Elaine Erickson: "December Celebration" for flute and piano; Brahms: "Piano Trio No. 1" in B major, Op. 8 for Violin, Cello and Piano

(38:00); Daniel Kurganov – violin, Michael Finegold – flute, Mickey Katz(of the Boston Symphony) - cello, and Constantine Finehouse – piano.

22ND ANNUAL LAWRENCE VIETNAM MEMORIAL 4 MILE ROAD RACE will be held on Sunday October 22nd, at the Claddagh Pub at 9:30am (Registration) 10:30am race. To register in advance, send check for \$22 to Lawrence Vietnam Memorial 7 Cyprus Ave Lawrence, MA 01844. 18 young men from Lawrence died in Vietnam. God Bless America!

MRT's MUSICAL COMEDY WHODUIT MURDER FOR TWO

LOWELL, MA – Joe Kinosian, the original star and co-creator of the Off-Broadway sensation Murder for Two will lead the Merrimack Repertory Theatre (MRT) cast of the musical-comedy whodunit October 17 – November 11 at the Nancy L. Donahue Theatre at Liberty Hall, according to Artistic Director Sean Daniels and Executive Director Bonnie J. Butkas. Murder for Two, framed by the authors, Kinosian and Kellen Blair, as The Marx Brothers meet Agatha Christie, will be the second show of MRT's 40th Anniversary Season and its 264th production since 1979. For tickets or information, visit www.mrt.org, or call the Box Office at 978-654-4678.

BOX OFFICE - For tickets to Murder for Two, October 17 – November 11, 2018, or subscriptions, visit www.mrt.org or contact the MRT Box Office at 978-654-4678. Subscriptions for any three shows start at only \$73 (Previews, Zone C seating). 2 for \$40 In celebration of the 40th Anniversary Season, MRT will offer a limited number of seats at "2 for \$40" for all performances throughout the season with Promo Code Happy40th. (Select seats only, strictly limited availability.)

MUSTARDS RETREAT AT NEW MOON - First there was Peter, Paul and Mary, the definitive folk music trio. Now Mustard's Retreat carries that torch. The trio is Libby Glover, Michael Hough and David Tamulevich. They perform at the New Moon Coffeehouse in Haverhill on Saturday October 20th at 8:00 pm. Local musician, Jon Svetkey, best known for his band, The Loomers, opens the evening. The coffeehouse is located in the Universalist Unitarian Church, 16 Ashland St, Haverhill MA. Admission to the show is \$20; \$10 for those ages 18 and under. Tickets for this show are available at the door starting around 6:30; doors open at 7:30. Tickets may be reserved prior to the show by visiting www.newmooncoffeehouse.org, or by calling 978-459-5134.

The easiest way to get to the New Moon Coffeehouse is to take Rte. 495 to exit 51A (Route 125 South). Stay on Route 125 South for about 1.5 miles. At intersection of Routes 125 & 110, look left for a red brick church. Turn left onto Kenoza Ave (aka Rte 110). Then first right by UHaul trucks. And right onto Ashland St. There are 2 parking lots available behind the church, on both sides of Ashland St. The coffeehouse entrance is also there, at the back of the church.

NEWBURYPORT: FALL FAIR & SILENT AUCTION - Historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church is holding its legendary Fall Fair and Silent Auction on Saturday, November 10, 9am - 2pm. St. Paul's is located at 166 High Street, Newburyport, MA. The Fair traditionally attracts hundreds of people throughout the North Shore. Enjoy a hearty breakfast from 8am - 10am and take a break from your shopping spree for lunch, served from 11:30 a.m. to 1pm, without having to leave the grounds. Make your bids at the Silent Auction anytime from 9pm (and don't forget

to check in near closing to make sure your bid is the winner!) Pick up your winning bids between 1pm. and 2pm., or they can contact you to arrange pick-up. Find us at www.stpauls-nbpt.org and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stpauls.nbpt/> or Twitter @StPaulsNBPT

NORTH ANDOVER MASONS HOST OCT. 13th FLEA MARKET - The public is invited to attend a Fall Flea Market hosted by the Masons on Saturday, October 13th, from 8am – 1pm at the Cochicowich Lodge, 19 Johnson Street, in the Old Center of North Andover. The event will feature great bargains at dealer tables. Lunch also will be available. Proceeds from the Flea Market will be used for maintenance and repairs to the Lodge, where the Masons have met since 1924. For more information, call Ruth Ann Smith at 978-683-6875.

MUSEUM OF PRINTING

The Museum of Printing is pleased to invite the public to a special slide lecture by Lance Hidy, who will speak about Ansel Adams Environmentalist and Photographer on Saturday, November 3rd, at 1:00 p.m. Free admission. Photographer Ansel Adams (1902–1984), devoted his life to sharing the transformative power of wilderness through his art, and to leading the environmental movement. Speaker Lance Hidy was chosen by Adams to collaborate on the final book of his career, 'Yosemite and the Range of Light' (1979). Hidy continues to design the official Ansel Adams books for the Ansel Adams Trust and publisher Little, Brown & Company. Through his first-hand experience, Hidy brings a personal perspective to the Ansel Adams story.

In his lifetime Adams shot over 40,000 photographs; he produced several dozen books that have sold over a million copies; he cofounded the first museum department of photography at the Museum of Modern Art; and, for nearly 40 years he was a leader in the Sierra Club. The lecture is enlivened by quotes from Adams' autobiography, and by dozens of his finest photographs. A collection of Lance Hidy's work is on permanent exhibit in the Museum's art gallery. We invite you to partner with us in supporting our guests as they develop foundations and collect the tools necessary to build healthy futures.

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES GALA

Your sponsorship of The Psychological Center's 3rd Annual Overcoming Obstacles Gala, Empowering the Future will assist each of our guests on their journey towards self-sufficiency and a brighter tomorrow. The people whose lives you make a difference in — are eternally grateful.

WELLFORCE AND HOME HEALTH FINALIZE PARTNERSHIP - They announced that they have joined forces to create one of the largest home health and hospice providers in the region. Home Health Foundation is now a member of Wellforce. Together, the organizations will expand and enhance post-acute care in Eastern Mass. with a focus north of Boston into Southern New Hampshire and Maine.

With this agreement, first announced in July and filed with the Health Policy Commission, Home Health Foundation joins Wellforce to partner with current home care members, Circle Home and Hallmark Health VNA and Hospice. Home health services provide a vital link in the continuum of care and delivering care in the home can improve the health of residents, make care more affordable and provide a better quality of life to those with serious and chronic illnesses. Coordinated home health services have been shown to increase patient satisfaction, reduce unnecessary hospital admissions and decrease readmissions. These services also help providers manage costs in risk contracts and reduce costs to patients, many of whom have high deductible insurance plans.

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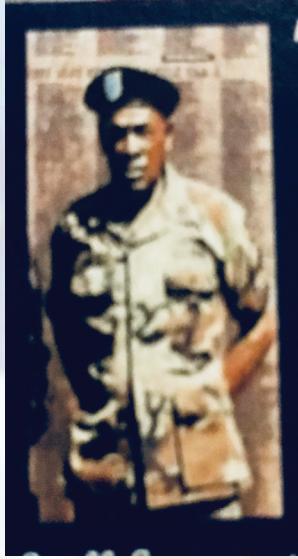
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ABBY'S TEEN TALK**A Teenage View of the Brett Kavanaugh Hearings****Abigail Juknavorian**

VALLEY PATRIOT TEEN COLUMNIST

"Justices continue to think and can change. I am ever hopeful that if the court has a blind spot today, its eyes will be open tomorrow." - Ruth Bader Ginsburg

On Tuesday July 10th, 2018, Brett Kavanaugh was nominated to the Supreme Court by current president Donald Trump. In the weeks that followed, the United States Senate has been preparing and carrying out hearings in order to make a decision about whether or not to appoint Kavanaugh as the newest judge to the nation's highest court. The reactions from many have been a mix of both positive and negative. Recently, Kavanaugh has been accused of sexual assault by three named women; Dr. Christine Blasey Ford, Deborah Ramirez, and Julie Swetnick. It leaves many, including myself, wondering if Brett Kavanaugh is the right fit to take on such a large massive role as a Supreme Court justice.

Even before the sexual assault allegations came to light, Brett Kavanaugh said some things that made people feel uncomfortable. At the moment, many fear that he would be inclined to overturn Roe v. Wade because of earlier comments made where Kavanaugh says, "I am not sure that all legal scholars refer to Roe v. Wade as the settled law of the land at the Supreme Court level since the Court can always overrule its precedent, and three current Justices on the Court would do so."

As stated in an article from Rolling Stone, there is "overwhelming evidence that Kavanaugh would like to see reproductive rights in America rolled back significantly."

The evidence for that statement comes from Kavanaugh's decision on the Garza v. Hargan case where the Trump Administration would not allow a 17-year-old woman leave a government-funded shelter in order to get an abortion. Kavanaugh exuded a tendency towards caution and compromise.

Many feel that this could foreshadow an unwillingness to make waves on the

Supreme Court. Kavanaugh's decision on the case was to keep the young girl, titled Janet Doe, from leaving the shelter to proceed with this procedure that could ultimately have helped change her life; maybe even for the better.

Recently, Brett Kavanaugh and Dr. Christine Blasey Ford testified on the same day in a fiery he said, she said battle. His comments on his teenage years and day to day life habits made me question his ability to function properly in the highest court of law. Kavanaugh made several comments about how he "drank beer with his friends" in his younger days and how "almost everyone did. Sometimes I had too many beers. Sometimes others did. I liked beer. I still like beer."

Alcohol, and specifically how much of it he drank, was obviously at the center of the Judiciary Committee's hearing. All three women that have come forward with their claims of assault claim that Kavanaugh was drinking during the time of said events.

It's evident that he was extremely into drinking from his yearbook quote that referenced several drinking games and other inappropriate acts.

It leaves many to ponder, do we as a nation want a man who has a appalling past of unhinged parting and inappropriate behaviors to dictate their basic rights as a human being? As the FBI investigation into Brett Kavanaugh begins, more and more people begin to question if this man is really the right fit for the Supreme Court. Hopefully the investigation will conclude soon with sufficient evidence either for or against Kavanaugh and the American people will be able to move on and our government can once again focus on the important work of serving its constituents.



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 the Midterm Elections Matter**Casey Pratt**

VALLEY PATRIOT TEEN COLUMNIST

According to the Pew Research Center, since 1948 voter turnout during presidential elections has been around 10% higher than the turnout at midterm elections. But why?

In the end, the answer is publicity. The presidential election is currently televised in a way similar to a sporting event; it's a competition against two teams. It's an easy, black-and-white event that gives people a feeling of unity that they're searching for, and gives them an easy "other" to target.

People put up signs, wear their team's colors and merchandise, and even bet on which side will win.

The midterm elections are not as exciting. It's not televised nationally, there's not the same sense of urgency, no one is talking about them on SNL; it feels like Congress doesn't matter.

According to a poll done by The Boston Globe, out of 1,000 people, only 33% of people could name one or more of the senators representing their state. Comparatively, when people get amnesia in movies and TV shows, one of the most popular questions to ask to see how aware they are is, "Who is the president?"

Despite what people seem to believe, the president is not the only person in power in the government. Although historical figures such as Andrew Jackson may like to think so, presidents are not all powerful. Nor can they make any impactful differences in a community, unless the problem is also national.

Congress, however, usually can, or at the least state representatives will respond to letters of complaint in a relatively timely manner. Congress also has a lot of power over the president.

Checks and balances is a system in place in our government, where the electoral branch, or the president, cannot make any drastic changes to our national systems without the other branches, judicial and legislative, agreeing to carry out

that change.

The midterm elections are the chance that parties have to take control of the Legislative Branch, and despite them going largely ignored, The Constitution claims the Legislative Branch is the most important of the three.

The Founding Fathers gave them the most power of the three branches because they were concerned the office of President could become tyrannical, and believed that Congress could stop that from happening.

The Legislative Branch creates the laws that run America, and the President cannot force them to create new laws, nor can he create new laws on his own.

They are also able to impeach the President, and any of the Supreme Court Judges. They have the power to over-

ride judicial decisions by creating new laws, and they can propose amendments to add to The Constitution if they feel it is necessary.

The mid-term elections are an important political event, and should not be quadren-

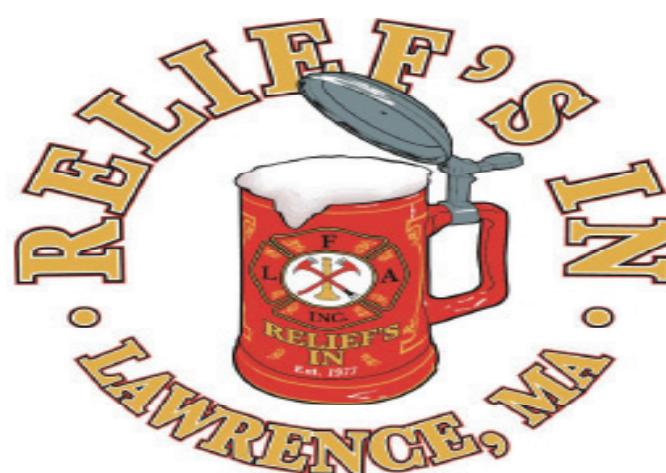
nially ignored by more than two thirds of the country. People should make educated votes when they have the opportunity to, whether or not they think their vote will matter, because what if it does? If they want to keep their party in power or shift the party influence, they need to vote in the midterm elections.

Congress may be slow to pass laws, disinteresting, and in the same desperate need of a change in faces as the rest of politics, but that does not negate their crucial role in the inner workings of the country.



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, @acurioussteen

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Sheriff Coppinger Will Bring up the Rear Rather Than Lead From the Front

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

Valley Patriot readers know that in June I had written a plea to Essex County Sheriff Kevin Coppinger to provide medical treatment in-house to inmates who need opioid receptor agonists to remain well. It would have preserved their lives as well as reduced smuggling-related crimes and opportunities for corruption of the jail staff. Coppinger refused to show any leadership or recognize the science.

On September 19, 2018, Coppinger and his department were sued in federal court by the ACLU on behalf of Geoffrey Pesce, a fresh inmate with a suspended driver's license who was due to be jailed because he had no one to drive him to his methadone appointment. Apparently his methadone clinic did not care about his transport problems and did not let him keep a couple of doses at hand for emergencies. For that reason he is now in jail. Hey, this is Massachusetts. Nothing better may be expected.

You can follow that lawsuit here - https://www.pacermonitor.com/public/case/25684401/Pesce_v_Coppinger_et_al

VP readers also know that similar lawsuits had already been filed in Maine and other states. You can follow the Maine case here - https://www.pacermonitor.com/public/case/25176735/SMITH_v_FITZPATRICK_et_al - but not for long because it has already been settled. The case was handled by the Maine Attorney General at public expense.

Unlike Coppinger, the Mainers chose

to follow science and provide medical treatment to the inmate who sued and others like him. This not only preserves the inmates' Constitutional and human rights, it also vastly reduces the opportunities for corruption and extortion of inmates by jail staff.

One is forced to wonder if Sheriff Coppinger really wants to reduce corruption within his staff.

Unlike in Maine, Coppinger has yet to accept the primacy of science. And instead of choosing to be defended by a public attorney, Coppinger has chosen to fight the case using a private attorney, you know, Jajuga-style. Stephen Pfaff from Louison, Costello, Condon & Pfaff on Summer Street in Boston is defending him and the department. This naturally means that we will spend a lot of tax dollars needlessly fighting established science until an assured eventual defeat in court.

The court has set a date of October 19, 2018 for Coppinger to file his response to Pesce's request for an injunction and the Hearing is set for November 5, 2018 at 03:00 PM in Courtroom 11 before Judge Denise J. Casper. Instead of a quick settlement without a monetary penalty we are now assured of losing a civil rights lawsuit. And when damages are ordered by the court it is only the tax payers who will get the bill.

But hey, just think of the opportunities for corruption still until that happens, the money made from smuggling suboxone in, the sexual favors extracted from inmates. Like stealing candy from a baby.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

And the Two Become One Flesh

Paul Murano
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

It has been said that the reason marriage vows are taken in close proximity to the altar is because marriage is a sacrificial offering of one self to the other. In order to become 'one couple' the lives of 'two individuals' must be sacrificed.

This sacrifice of two singles into one union is ratified at the altar and consummated at the marriage bed. The first is verbal union, the second bodily union. "That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two become one body (Gn 2:24).

How can two persons become one body or one flesh? One way is literal, the other metaphorical. Both are essential. Let's go beneath the surface to take a closer look.

There is a natural order to consider that is fully aligned with reason and science, which we do not create. It includes living bodies. Every body has different parts and every living body has the equivalent of a head and a heart. These main elements are different, interdependent, and necessary for the survival of the body. No body – whether it be a human body, a family, an organization, or a nation – survives without a healthy head and healthy heart. Eve came forth from Adam's side: she is the heart of humanity.

When these two halves of humanity come together they create something greater than themselves, and each must leave their old self behind. Analogously, once hydrogen and oxygen come together to make water they can never go back to their former existence. Once a male reproductive cell and a female reproductive cell come together and form a child, they can never go backwards to their former existence as gametes. Something greater has been created which cannot be denied. When a man and woman come together to exchange their very body-selves, they too can never pretend there is no union, even if that union does not create a child. The fusion of persons in their genetic material and spirit is permanent by nature, and hence has always been known to be what consummates a marriage to make it unbreakable. The natural union of shared selves cannot be dissolved.

But union cannot and does not occur without the proper elements. If two plugs came together or two outlets, for example, there can never be electricity. A metaphorical head and heart are necessary for a new living body to exist. They are the complementary building blocks. A heart nurtures the internal affairs of the body, caring for the parts and members from within. A head looks outward to lead, protect, and provide. Hidden and humble, the heart keeps the body alive including her

head with blood and oxygen, yet cannot survive without the head's command for her to do so. Without two complementary opposites, physically and psychologically, no real union can form. A body cannot have two heads and no heart, or two hearts without a head. They are equal, different, and both necessary.

St. Paul speaks of marriage as the union of head and body, imaging Christ's relationship to His bride the Church:

"The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the Church, his body...Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loves the Church and gave Himself up for her... Husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no man ever hates his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, as Christ does the Church... Each one of you should love his wife as himself, and the wife should respect her husband" (Ephesians 5:25, 28-30).

Notice the different yet complementary ways man and woman are naturally ordered to love, according to their masculine and feminine natures: It can be summed up in two words from St. Paul's passage: cherish and respect. The man cherishes his wife as his own flesh, and the woman respects her husband as her own head.

Politically incorrect? Extremely. True? Absolutely. When Jesus was challenged by the Pharisees about this He responded:

"Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together let no man put asunder" (Mt 19:4-6).

This is the mystery of marriage. When two become one they become three. A triadic union. This is most concretely evident with the conception of a child, but is still real with the consummating creation of lover, beloved, and love. Ultimately, this is all a reflection of the Creator God who is Love – eternal Trinity by virtue of eternal unity.

 Paul Murano teaches college philosophy and theology and hosts 'Beneath the Surface' radio talk show on WCAP. Podcasts at <https://archive.org/details/@veritas777>.

Paul has graduate degrees in philosophy and theology and is certified in health care ethics. He speaks on topics where faith and reason meet, and also plays at local venues as a solo singer-songwriter-musician. E-mail Paul at PDJM@aol.com



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IN THE GROOVE with Cindy Annis

John Lennon Pt. III

Cindy Annis

VALLEY PATRIOT VINYL COLUMNIST

Yes, I think we all agree, there is a lot to John Lennon. May Pang and John went to New York City and there they spent 18 months. A lot happened during this time John calls his "lost weekend." The album "Mind Games" was released in 1973, and the credit for this one went to the "Plastic U.F. Ono Band." Ringo Starr was also doing some work and John contributed "I'm The Greatest" to Ringo's album.

John and Harry Neilson did some damage at the Troubadour Club while John was in a drunken stupor. They got kicked out on the second account because they were disturbing the performance of the Smothers Brothers. He was in New York when "Walls And Bridges" was released in 1974. The song "Whatever Gets You Through The Night" was on this one and Elton John was on this song. Elton was, of course, on piano and also back-up vocals.

I like this part. John and Yoko had one child. On October 9, 1975, Sean was born. Yoko found out she was pregnant and actually considered an abortion. She had numerous miscarriages in the past and didn't want another one. She and John talked and she decided to have the baby. John had to promise to be at home as a big part of the family, though. So between 1975 and 1980 John did the good father thing and stayed at home and made breakfast and did laundry. He also had Sean's pictures taken every day of Sean's first year. He also created many drawings of Sean that were released as "Real Love: The Drawings Of Sean." John said that Sean may not have come out of his belly but I made his bones with every meal and I saw to his sleep and he swims like a fish because of John. He was in Tokyo when he announced his time off from music so he and Yoko and Sean could be a family. Oh, yes, when he went back to music in 1980, the first single to come out was "Starting Over."

John and Yoko had just finished up an evening recording and mixing music. The

limo took them to their Manhattan apartment. They got out and started towards the place where they lived. Mark David Chapman came up from behind them and shot John in the back four times. John died on the way to the hospital in a police cruiser. A few hours earlier, John had signed a copy of "Double Fantasy" for Chapman. The next day Yoko said there would be no funeral. She said John always prayed for humanity so please pray for John. John's ashes were spread in Central Park and later Strawberry Fields Memorial was created there.

Chapman's attorney told him not to, but, Chapman pleaded guilty and avoided a trial. He got 20 years to life for this crime. He has already been denied parole 18 times. I hope they lost the key. Oops! I am not supposed to go emotional here. Sorry.

John and Paul McCartney are considered one of the best co-writers of the 20th century. John had 25 number one singles that made it to the US Hot 100 Charts. Just in the United States he sold over 14 million albums with "Double Fantasy" to be his best-selling album; it won a Grammy Award for Album of the Year in 1981. The 2002 BBC Poll voted John 8th of 100 Greatest Brits. Rolling Stones Magazine ranked him 5th of 100 Greatest Songs of All Times and 38th of 100 Greatest Artists of All Times. In 1965 he became a Member of the Order Of the British Empire, and he was inducted into the Song Writers Hall of Fame in 1987, and also the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.

I hope you enjoyed this three-part series on the "man," John Lennon. I really enjoyed writing it. I am sure I learned more about him than I actually knew, so, thank you. See you next time with something great!

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!

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Increasing Fiber For a Healthier Life

Rick Bellanti

HEALTH & WELLNESS COLUMNIST

Fiber is an essential part of a healthy diet, and a diet high in fiber may help reduce the risk of diabetes, obesity and heart disease. Fiber is very important to digestion, it is a plant-based nutrient that is also a type of carbohydrate but, unlike other carbohydrates, it cannot be broken down into digestible sugar. It helps with regularity, weight management, blood sugar regulation, cholesterol maintenance and more.

Dietary fiber is something that our bodies need for a healthy digestive system. However, it is never actually digested or absorbed by our bodies. Most Americans do not consume enough fiber in their daily diet, and it is recommended that men should aim for 30 to 38 grams of fiber a day, while women should try to eat at least 21 to 25 grams of fiber daily. Reading those product nutrition labels, I spoke about last month is very important.

When you have insufficient amounts of fiber in your diet, you may feel tired or discomfort such as constipation, bloating and cramping. On the other hand, too much fiber in the diet can cause food to pass too quickly through the intestines resulting in lesser nutrient absorption and loose stools.

There are two types of fiber, soluble and insoluble.

Soluble fiber turns gel-like in the stomach and slows down your digestion. This action helps lower and regulate cholesterol and blood sugar levels. Soluble fiber is known to help decrease blood glucose (blood sugar) levels. It also helps lower blood cholesterol. The second kind, or insoluble fiber remains unchanged, keeping



its shape in the digestive tract until eliminated through the body. This type of fiber makes stools easier to pass and assists in making waste softer, yet heavier so it can move along the intestines easily without causing digestive discomfort.

Most plant-based foods contain both soluble and insoluble fiber, but the amounts of each vary in different foods. The best food sources of soluble fiber include beans, lentils, oatmeal, peas, citrus fruits, blueberries, apples and barley.

While good sources of insoluble fiber include foods with whole-wheat flour, wheat bran, brown rice, cauliflower, potatoes, tomatoes and cucumbers. Some foods, like nuts and carrots, are good sources of both types of fiber.

Fiber is great for Heart-Health. It helps lower cholesterol, because as your digestion improves, the liver pulls cholesterol from the blood to create more bile acid, thereby reducing the amount of LDL (bad) cholesterol.

Fiber supplements are not as good as the fiber found in foods, but people struggling to get enough fiber in their diets, from food alone, will often turn to store bought fiber supplements. They may have

HEALTH: PAGE 35

Attorney Arthur Broadhurst



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Holy Family Hospital Nurse Found Negligent in Helen Bousquet Sleep Apnea Case

Helen Bousquet died while in an unmonitored recovery room following knee surgery at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, Massachusetts in 2012.

LAWRENCE, Mass., Oct. 1, 2018 / PRNewswire/ -- A jury in the Essex County Superior Court in Lawrence, Massachusetts found that a Steward Health Care owned Holy Family Hospital nurse was negligent in her care of Helen Marie Bousquet on Monday, Sept. 17. The lawsuit was initiated by her son, singer Brian Evans.

Bousquet, 62, died following knee surgery at the Methuen, Massachusetts hospital. One named defendant settled prior to the trial.

"The health care in this country is atrocious," says Evans. "It doesn't matter what health insurance you have if the hospitals are terrible," he says.

According to a recent John Hopkins University study, over 250,000 Americans die a year due to medical errors. Evans began a campaign to bring attention to Sleep Apnea immediately following her passing. 39 United States governors have issued Sleep Apnea Awareness Proclamations, many mentioning Ms. Bousquet by name despite her never having visited most of the states in her life time. Evans believes she should have never been cleared for the surgery in the first place.

Evans, who was the opening act for Joan Rivers, who also died from negligence in a hospital, ran for Congress in Hawaii to bring attention to Sleep Apnea and medical errors. He won the primary in the state of Hawaii in August.

"My mother gave her life to me and supported me like no other. I am glad that the jury came back and provided my mother with justice, and so that everyone who tried to make me look crazy over this for suing now know I wasn't. The first sign of Sleep Apnea is snoring. Don't nudge your loved one, bring them to a doctor. To you, snoring is annoying. To them, they could be dying."

"You get one mother. This one is mine and they will remember her name," concludes Evans.

The Physician-Patient Alliance for Health & Safety has created The Helen Marie Bousquet Fund in her honor. <http://www.pphs.org/sleep-apnea-patients-death-was-preventable>. Crowe and Mulvey of Boston represented Evans.

For more case information: Mark Andrew Biltz 808-276-1151 or via email at mark@brianevans.com

HERO: FROM PAGE 1

Commander of the Allied Forces in the Pacific, General of the Army (Five Stars) Douglas Mac Arthur's strategy across the Southwest Pacific was to "assault, consolidate, and assault again". To accomplish this, U.S. forces faced many challenges that required modification in multiple areas, particularly in supply and supply distribution. U.S. forces faced difficulties of covering 3,000 to 4,000 miles of ocean from Pearl Harbor to Tokyo, to maintain lengthy supply lines and to resource soldiers. The Engineer aviation units and the US Navy Seabee Battalions faced problems such as shortages in supply and equipment, construction materials, and transportation assets to distribute supplies. They also encountered initial transportation difficulties moving heavy equipment and supplies from ship to shore, which landing craft would later overcome.

One of Frank's most vivid memories of the war was where he was when the two Atomic Bombs were dropped on Japan. During the last months of World War II, Frank was leading US Army soldiers on the island of Okinawa, Japan in Construction projects supporting the planned Allied Invasion of Japan. Frank stated that given the chance, he would again vote for Harry Truman for President, and supports Truman's decision to end World War II by dropping the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Frank was serving on Okinawa when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, which also happened to be his twenty seventh birthday. Frank's service, in the "Island Hopping Campaign" across the Pacific, saved American lives, and sped up the end of the war. Quoting US Army Major Pearson, he and his comrades were "a force multiplier"!

Sadly, one of the reasons for the need to form US Army and US Navy Construction Battalions during World War II, was the incident on Wake Island earlier in the war when the Japanese executed ninety-eight Americans who were civilian construction workers on the island. Their story is told in an article by US Army Major Mark Hubbs, recalling how ninety eight sons, fathers, and husbands were killed on October 7, 1943. All of these men were unarmed American prisoners.

Frank has two brothers, both now de-

ceased, Julius who was disqualified from Military service due to poor eyesight, and Stanley, a US Army Infantryman, who Frank had the pleasure of meeting up with, while both were serving in the Philippine Islands during the War. After the war Frank worked as a boiler technician at several manufacturing firms in the local area and ended his career at the Tewksbury State Hospital facility. He was married at Holy Trinity Church in Lawrence in 1943, to his wife Philomea. The couple was happily married for 70 years. Frank and Philomea have two daughters, Kathy and Frannie, five grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. Shortly after World War II, but prior to purchasing the family home on Stevens Street in Lawrence, a local judge named Daly, blocked his family's eviction from a Tower Hill apartment during a dispute with his landlord, the judge stating, "You're not evicting a World War II Veteran on my watch".

Last month we featured the Veteran's Organization, the "Submarine Veterans of America", encouraging our readers who served in the Submarine Forces to consider joining. This month, we are featuring the largest Veteran's Organization in the United States, the "American Legion", and inviting all Veterans to a meeting Saturday October 20, at 12:45pm at the Dracut American Legion 574 Broadway (Route 113) in Dracut. We welcome all Veterans at the Post. Please bring a photo copy of your DD214. Our political clout as Veterans, comes from our membership in these organizations.


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



'Ozark' Hits Its Stride in a Terrific Second Season

Bill Cushing

VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

After the first season of the excellent Netflix drama 'Ozark' there were many comparisons to 'Breaking Bad.' While 'Breaking Bad' was a story about a man transforming from upstanding citizen to hardened criminal, 'Ozark' deals with a couple taking that same journey. With 'Breaking Bad' we had Walter White. With 'Ozark' we have Marty and Wendy Byrde. By no means is 'Ozark' as good as 'Breaking Bad' yet, but its second season has cemented its status as one of TV's best and most binge-worthy dramas.

Jason Bateman and Laura Linney return as Marty and Wendy, who ended up in the Ozarks after an unfortunate association with a Mexican drug cartel. Marty's time as the money manager is taking a backseat this season to a new career path. This time the plan is to launder all of the dirty drug money through a casino.

However, the new endeavor brings the Byrdes in contact with a whole slew of new and unsavory characters. It also is straining the family's relationship with each other.

Bateman, who doubles as producer and occasional director this season, is perfectly suited to play Marty and delivers an excellent performance as he does in most of his roles. Linney's role got even juicier this season as Wendy begins to assume a much more pivotal role in the business.

But the star of season 2 is Julia Garner. Her performance as Ruth Langmore has made her the most captivating part of 'Ozark.' This season Ruth wrecks a marina, breaks up fights in the strip club she manages, and juggled assorted tasks from Marty, and watches out for her cousin Wyatt, all while contending with the return of her toxic father after his release from prison. Garner is a scene stealer



and is most certainly bound to win an Emmy someday.

The rest of the returning supporting cast is excellent. Sofia Hublitz and Skylar Gaertner as the Byrde kids Charlotte and Jonah can be just as calculating as their parents. Harris Yulin as Buddy, who shares a house with the Byrde's, has plays an expanded role this season as well. Jason Butler Harner as Roy Petty, the FBI agent trying to bring the Byrde's down. Trevor Long as Cade Langmore, Ruth's ex-con father, and Peter Mullan and Lisa Emery as Jacob and Darlene Snell, do a little scene stealing of their own. They're business partners of Marty's and they don't exactly make things easy for him.

Janet McTeer was a welcomed addition to the cast this season. She plays Helen Pierce, the lawyer for the cartel, who comes in and keeps an eye on Marty. She has some great scenes with Bateman, Garner, and Linney.

Ozark's writing is smart, with great dialogue. All of the actors are excellent. The casino storyline was a nice wrinkle.

It made season two even better than the first and laid plenty of groundwork for season three.

If you're going to watch 'Ozark' make sure you've got several free days, because once you start, you won't want to stop until it's done.

Seasons 1 & 2 of 'Ozark' are currently streaming on Netflix.

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.

Follow me on Twitter @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion.



Dr. Vaso Hatzigiannis D.D.S.

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Jesus, More Than “Just a Means to an End”

Peter Larocque
RELIGION COLUMNIST

God Bless you my friends! Did you know that Jesus Christ wants to be more than just a “means to an end” for your life? Here is what Wikipedia says about the term “means to an end” “it refers to any action (the means) carried out for the sole purpose of achieving something else (an end).” For example, is Jesus just there for us for fire insurance? Jesus himself refers to hell in Mark 9:43-48, as a place of “fire that never shall be quenched.” Did Jesus come just to keep us out of hell? If that is true, how can one have a loving intimate relationship with Him? This has all the makings of a man-made religion which puts parameters on Jesus which is just the opposite of what He desires. Jesus wants to be a part of every area of our lives 24/7, not just on Sundays. Like the old Christian song named “He Lives” says, “He lives He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way.” That’s the difference between religion and relationship!

We read in Hebrews 4:16, “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Jesus really wants to be our help and give us his mercy and grace and this is available by simply coming boldly to him and asking. Tell him the good, the bad and the ugly that’s happening in your life! Yes, I am saying unload on him! About everything! For instance, if you are not happy about the gas situation in the Merrimack Valley tell him!

The good news is from what I understand is that when this horrific event is all said and done, those living in the affected areas are getting new gas appliances, kitchen stoves, water heaters and for those who need it, gas heaters! And in addition, all new gas meters, pipes and services from the street to the house.

Now this my friend is God’s Restoration! Have you read the 23rd Psalm lately? Psalm 23:1-6, “The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.”

The shepherd promises, I shall want for nothing, He will lead me, He restores my soul, His rod and staff comfort me, and if I find myself walking through the valley of the shadow of death, I will not have to fear evil and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

Allow me to ask you this, does the sheep keep the Shepherd or does the Shepherd keep the sheep? It’s Obvious! We just need to allow Him to take care of us, we are His sheep! Look at these verses in John 10, beginning in verse 11, “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”

John 10:14, “I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.” And John 10:27-29, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.” What a comfort it is to know that we are in Jesus’ hands and His hands are in God Almighty’s hands!

So, without any shadow of a doubt, Jesus is more than just a means to an end! He is able, meek and with us always. He is The Bread of Life, The Light of the World, The Door of the Sheep, The Good Shepherd, The Resurrection and the Life. He is The Way, The Truth, The Life and The True Vine. He is our Lord and Savior, the Captain of our Salvation. He is Alpha and Omega, The First and The Last, The Beginning and the End. He is 100% Man and 100% God! And He is Coming Back for us! Now this is The Jesus we can have a loving intimate relationship with!

His Sheep Hear His Voice! Let’s keep on Hearing!

*Love You all,
Peter Larocque
peterlarocque@hotmail.com*

Robin's Kitty Corner

Tragedy in Lawrence

Robin Desmet
VALLEY PATRIOT KITTY COLUMNIST

The day the gas lines exploded is one that will not quickly be forgotten by residents in the Merrimack Valley. It was a day filled with confusion, fear, and tragedy. Nobody knew what was happening or why it was happening. Was it terrorism? Sabotage? Negligence? First responders from towns near and far raced to help as residents hurriedly evacuated with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

By the weekend, the city of Lawrence had morphed into a ghost town. Streets normally teeming with vehicles and pedestrians were deserted, save for emergency vehicles and a few stragglers lugging groceries from afar. An eerie calm settled over the city, the incessant honking of horns replaced with a deafening silence.

While the human suffering of this tragedy is first and foremost in our minds, a disaster of this magnitude affects everything and everyone in the region, including our pets.

In stark contrast to the quiet that descended over the city of Lawrence was the bustling activity simultaneously taking place at Nevin’s Farm in Methuen. When tragedy struck, Nevin’s staffers immediately sprang into action, opening the doors to families in need, offering to shelter the pets of displaced families for as long as they needed.

The typically busy shelter was a scene of controlled chaos like I have never seen. Staff and volunteers streamed into the shelter, each person working tirelessly to help the displaced animals and console their distraught owners. Volunteers from shelters as far away as Connecticut arrived to offer assistance. Donations poured in. Members of the community called and stopped by, offering to help. Staff and Volunteers that had arrived early in the morning were still there long after clos-

ing. Nevins nation pulled together in an incredible show of teamwork and solidarity fueled by adrenaline. In the end, 92 animals were given temporary shelter at Nevin’s Farm. Each animal had a space where they rested in relative privacy and comfort while the world swirled around them.

It was beyond heartwarming to see people unite during this time of tragedy. But, while many people have been impacted by the gas explosions, none has been affected more than the Figueroa family of Lawrence. Omayra Figueroa’s home exploded and family friend Leonel Rondon was killed in the blast. Omayra’s daughter Shakira was home at the time of the blast and has suffered catastrophic injuries. Shakira has already undergone numerous surgeries and she remains hospitalized at this time. Her brothers Christian and Sergio were in a car in the driveway when the home exploded and both are suffering from internal injuries. The home is a total loss and the entire family is suffering from physical and emotional trauma that most of us can only imagine.

The Figueroas have been customers of Packard Pharmacy, my family’s business where I work as a pharmacist, for over 15 years. We are deeply saddened by the tragedy that has affected the Figueroa family and our hearts go out to this family that has suffered so much. We are currently collecting donations in the form of gift cards and/or cash or checks made out to Omayra Figueroa. Donations can be dropped off at the pharmacy where they will be held under lock and key or mailed to Packard Pharmacy at 128 Parker St., Lawrence, MA 01843.

Thanks to all of the volunteers and first responders who helped during this time. God bless the Figueroa family and all who have been affected by this tragedy.

Author: Robin J Desmet, Rph and MSP-CA volunteer.

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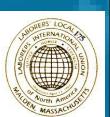
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To our neighbors,

As a North Andover based company and long-time residents of the Merrimack Valley, our thoughts go out to all those impacted by the recent gas crisis. While it is unknown exactly when gas services will be restored in the Merrimack Valley,

ACE Solar would like to offer assistance where we can.

If you purchase an ACE Solar system for your home between now and December 31, 2018, we will convert your gas water heater to an electric water heater at no cost to you.* We hope this will help you and your family begin the return to normalcy with hot water while the solar system will help to offset the additional electricity cost for decades to come.

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*Offer available to homeowners of Andover, North Andover, and Lawrence, and cannot be combined with any other offer. ACE Solar will purchase and install a new 30, 40 or 50-gallon RHeem electric water heater, or equivalent, at no cost to the homeowner. Offer available until December 31, 2018, restrictions may apply.

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ANDOVER

Steven W Raffa, Russell S Channen Tr & Haggetts Nominee Trust, \$10,000, Haggetts Pond Rd, High Plain Rd

James & Anna M Maldonado, Cattle Crossing LLC, \$350,000, 33 Sutherland St Greg E Sousa & Paul Dornan, Robert N Platt, \$347,670, 1 Francis Dr Unit 303

Peter Guza, Michael J Ristuccia, \$584,000, 422 High Plain Rd

Erik Giangregorio, Vinod Aggarwal & Shimpy Walia, \$751,000, 166 Haverhill St Joshua Lang, William P & Lauren P Tammaro, \$999,900, 6 Durham Dr

Juan Hernandez, Hamid Danesh & Tahereh Sharifian Mardan, \$972,000, 4 Stoneybrook Cir

VCF & SCF Real Estate Trust & Victor C Fernandez Tr, Serenity Residential LLC, \$1,150,000, 204-210 North Main St

Corinne B Arfwedson, Hannah Mathew, \$435,000, 1 Powder Mill Sq Unit 204A

Windle Realty Trust & Valerie M Windle Tr, Mohammed Elkhadiji & Fouzia Faleh, \$163,000, 90A Washington Park Dr Unit 3

Matthew D Raposo, Daniel & Yekaterina Vainshtein, \$500,000, 110 Cross St

Francisco A & Sobeya D Frias, Soonha & Kyung Lee, \$700,000, 92 Dascomb Rd

Richard T & Karyl L Nimmo, Matthew L Olsen, \$710,000, 56 Prospect Rd

Pamela A & Louis J Finelli Trs & Three Beaches Trust, Marlaina Luciano, \$545,000, 44 Dufton Rd

John B & Mariann E Mucci, Matthew & Kristen Naffah, \$755,000, 15 Greenbriar Cir

John Slattery, Michael Pescatore & Deanna Vasilakis, \$736,000, 9 Greybirch Rd

Anne C Keeler, Jonathan & Antoniette Dean, \$590,000, 11 Starwood Crossing

Maureen G Imielkowski Est & Linda Taylor Arvanitis, Thomas Carnevale Tr & 200 Bridge Street Realty Trust, \$3,000,000, 31 Webster St.

James F & Jacqueline Keating, Sankar Ardhanari, \$859,000, 29 Stirling St

Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Robert George Mullally & Viktoria Korman, \$660,000, 9 Farrwood Dr

Toll MA IV LLC, Robin B Colombosian, \$10,000, 55 Argilla Rd

Cynthia J Pitera, Robin B Colombosian, \$530,000, 55 Argilla Rd

Pamela A & Louis J Finelli Trs & Three Beaches Trust, John S Freitas Tr & One Four Five Seven Trust, \$129,000, D3 Colonial Dr Unit 6

David Vo Nguyen & Christine Ha Nguyen, Marie Anne Swain, \$367,200, 1 Francis Dr Unit 304

Frank H Conrad Jr, George Goldberg & Paula King Goldberg, \$511,190, 1 Francis Dr Unit 312

Thomas J Nolette, Jeffrey E & Mary Ann Kaplan, \$327,000, 22 Railroad St Unit 413 Charlie Alicea, Stephen P & Lauren P Vallarelli, \$2,150,000, 3 Reynolds St

Luis Vargas, Debra J McQuaide Tr & Debra J McQuaide 2004 Revocable Trust, \$1,300,000, 27 Buttonwood Dr

John J & Lisa McDonald, Michael Romano & Michael Licciardi, \$330,000, 8 Laurel Ln

Platinum Real Estate LLC, Patrick McNally Hughes & Stephanie Leigh Hughes, \$684,500, 197 Lowell St

Francisco Pena & Matilde Sosa, Manoj Kumar & Vibha Vajhallya, \$722,500, 12 Nollet Dr

Theresa Webber, Carrie S Vooght & Dana B Loud, \$949,000, 7 Fosters Pond Rd Huy Nguyen/Huy Nugyen, Liwei Zhou & Weinan Qiu, \$1,180,000, 22 Powers Rd

Brianna A Stidsen, Sam & Kerin Miller, \$369,500, 5 Walker Ave

Joseph J M & Joanne K Henningsen, Benjamin & Marybeth Heyd, \$629,000, 203 High St

Frances Favuzza Tr & Frances Favuzza Family Trust, 148 Haggetts Pond Road Realty Trust & Laura Szekely Tr, \$425,000, 148 Haggetts Rd

David & Ira Lapsley, Cory J & Colleen A Boston, \$670,000, 6 Pheasant Run

Ursine 2011 LLC, Mark C & Ann Marie E Sutton, \$1,350,000, 117 Salem St

Frank P DiNoto & Marion R DiNoto Est & Sam F DiNoto Est, Wendy Quinn, \$755,000, 124 Wildwood Rd

Edward T & Anisa Flannery, Lynn Haven Blais & Garrett Hunt, \$605,000, 2 Sheridan Rd

Klever Vasquez & Imelda Rodriguez/Imelda Serrano, R Jamieson Waldinger & Elizabeth G Ryland, \$1,075,000, 8 Blueberry Hill Rd

Jose R Queliz, Julian Gent & Jessica Ann Ferro, \$439,800, 32 High Plain Rd

Jacquelyn Phelan & Robert & Jacquelyn Morasse, Gary Jaworski, \$559,900, 170 Porter Rd

Anna M Anderson, Kenneth A & Theresa M Lepitre, \$803,000, 83 Tewksbury St

JCDT Development LLC, Ramagopal Anthanth & Geeta Vemuri, \$708,000, 6 Ravens Bluff

Marilyn Garcia & Jose Moret, James S Katiskas, \$454,000, 349 South Main St

Michael J Rullo, Tilahun Anshu & Nancy W Kariuki, \$984,625, 9 Whittemore Ter

LAWRENCE

Daryl L & Grace K Ruelle/Grace K Hachey, Andres R Arias, \$340,000, 505 Riverside Dr

Jonathan & Elizabeth Harris Ross, Noelia Robles & Alexander Luna, \$426,000, 95 Newton St

Discovery Bay Holdings LLC, Celmar Ramirez Perez & Maria D Vega Perez, \$450,000, 16-18 Wilmot St

Regis Holdings LLC, Gianny A Montero Moscat & Miguelina A Moscat Silverio, \$420,000, 63 Cross St

Allison J Battis Tr & McLaughlin Family Realty Trust, Christopher Suardi, \$500,000, 34 Rowe St

Susan T O'Connor/Susan T Elias & Jamie Beaudoin, Luis D Queliz & Kilsy A Martinez, \$270,000, 21 Sherman St

Stephen & Stephanie Desousa/Stephanie Jordan, Joseph Kelly Leary, \$338,000, 1 Standish Rd

Kerry A & Christopher R Nota, Francisca DeJesus, \$410,000, 172 East Haverhill St Wells Fargo Bank N A, Nunez LLC, \$440,000, 59 Bellevue St

Gregory & Lisa Ann Anderson, Frank A Perez Marte, \$448,000, 96 Butler St

Ernest H Carter III & Valerie Carter, Rafael Javier Jr & Maria Javier, \$116,000, 41 Railroad St

Matthew J & Kristen B Naffah, Kanaiyalal & Kailash Patel, \$125,000, 90 Beacon St Unit 11

Karen L Moss, Kanaiyalal & Kailash Patel, \$127,000, 244 Mt Vernon St Unit 9

Annette Boudreau & Bernadette Boudreau & Lloyd Murray, Laddi Properties LLC, \$110,000, 86 Beacon St Unit 2

Jennifer L Moisan & Paula M Moisan, Laddi Properties LLC, \$130,000, 88 Beacon St Unit 9

Gary E & Barbara M Jenkins, Gabriely M Quiles, \$262,500, 13 Norris St

Loralie Brennen & Gregory Kneeland,

Thomas Carnevale Tr & 200 Bridge Street Realty Trust, \$3,000,000, 20 Ballard Wy

Michael R Blanchard & Valerie Sodano, Ana Dolores & Jose M Rodriguez, \$455,000, 20 Berkeley St

Regis Holdings LLC, Frija LLC, \$500,000, 239-241 South Union St

Regis Holdings LLC, Marisol & Luis Reynoso, \$380,000, 33 Bennington St

Ilana Itenberg & Oleg Y Urim Trs & Ilana Itenberg Revocable Trust, Abel Cano Jr, \$537,000, 84-88 Maple St

Sudip & Anita Sharma Ghimire, Rosa A Suarez, \$225,000, 22 Oregon Ave

Dinoris Perez, Cesar V Aquino, \$420,000, 60-62 Floral St

Frederick R & Sharon T Coram Trs Frederick and Sharon Coram Family Trust, Maria Ivellisse Trigueros & Olga M Aragon De Lorenzo, \$170,000, 3 Woodland St Unit 14

Joseph Reed/C Joseph Reed & Lee M Reed Est & Lillian M Reed Est, Eidon E Cruz & Arelis A Polonia, \$285,500, 11 Glenwood Dr

Roger J & Paula D Berthold Trs & BF Realty Trust, Phung M Tu, \$125,000, 158 High St Unit 1-A

Hieu Duc Hong, Jean Bonhomme Bisimwa & Bertille Bintu Busane, \$175,000, 40-50 Margin St Unit 1

Ko Ueno, Emmanuel Nsuami Ngimbi & Jacqueline Eboto Bosusu, \$175,000, 50 Margin St Unit 2

Nichols 2014 Family Trust & Arthur A & Pamela J Nichols Trs, Andrea Marte Almanzar & Carlos A Peguero, \$290,000, 5 Martha Ln

Joseph J Averka Tr & Averka Realty Trust, Luis Marino Olivo, \$323,500, 1110 Essex St

Toll MA IV LLC, Joel Ruiz & Aurelia M Valdez, \$315,000, 40 Oakside Ave

Robin B Colombosian, Joanna & William Olivieri, \$290,000, 1133 Essex St

C H J Brooks LLC, Yenissi L Cruz, \$302,500, 32 Hough Rd

C H J Brooks LLC, Edwards F Perdomo Marte & Elida F Encarnacion, \$380,000, 55-57 Dorchester St

Jeffrey & Jennifer Wang Trs & J&J Family Trust, R&M Properties Inc, \$200,000, 52 Methuen St

Anna C & Vincent G Fazio, Randall F Hart Tr & Benchmark Realty Trust, \$100,000, 20 Park St

Leonard C & Ellen S Liuzza, Amanda Amelia Drumond, \$134,900, 88 Beacon St Unit 11

37 Houston Avenue Realty Trust & Marie T Joslin Tr, Ernst & Egenie Desir, \$507,000, 50-52 Monmouth St

Kyle T & Carrie A Jenkins/Carrie A Dion, Diomaris Pimentel, \$419,000, 304 Ames St

Lawrence & Sheila T O'Donnell, Little Car Realty LLC, \$575,000, 20 Embankment St

Zheng Zhang & Qingqing Liu, Stephanie Portillo-Rosales & Marlen Jazmin Arias-Solis, \$270,000, 12 Kingston St

Cindy Rowbotham & Daniel Jones, 301-371 Market Street Realty Trust & David Kagan Tr & Mark Kagan Tr, \$2,525,000, 371 Market St

Cynthia Sadie Persichetti & Stephen M Persichetti & Raymond G Persichetti & Gary J Persichetti, Felix Rodriguez Vasquez & Damarys D Urena & Felix De Jesus Rodriguez Urena, \$335,000, 130 Oxford St

Jonathan & Michelle Hurtig/Michelle H Hurtig, Jose R Cepada, \$298,000, 48 Oakwood Ave

Jennifer E Rensink, Felix A & Carmen P Taveras, \$345,000, 119 Andover St

Paul Michaud Tr & 20 Berkeley Trust,

Leonardo Presley Fernandes, \$490,000, 10-12 Lafayette Ave

Monica Caraballo & Gloria Caraballo, Cesar Burgos, \$325,300, 18-20 Boxford St

Karen L Colombosian Tr & Linda A Colombosian Tr & Robert Colombosian 2009 Revocable Trust, Aracely Polanco & Lucia Gonzalez Santana, \$430,000, 1087-1089 Essex St

Karen L Colombosian Tr & Argilla Road Realty Trust, QVM Properties LLC, \$290,000, 32-34 Fitz St

William S Fullilove, Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity Inc, \$40,000, 29 Spruce St

Mark S Welch, Giselle M Brito & Julio Valentim, \$294,000, 133 Emmett St

Bolin Geng & Danni Zhong, John L & Virginia Adams, \$299,900, 21 Jefferson St

Judith F Judson, Floyd A Brock, \$250,000, 11 Columbus Ave

Christopher L Porter, Raynold Benitez & Denizabel Ramirez, \$302,000, 27 Woodland St

Krishnakant B Patel/Krish B Patel & Meenaben K Patel/Meena K Patel, Angela Y Germosen, \$306,500, 347 Haverhill St

Stephen McCarthy, Luis A Ferry & Tanzania M Ferry Castro, \$290,000, 1125 Essex St

Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Luis Claudio & Elizabeth Camilo, \$378,000, 342-344 South Union

Sick Boy Homes LLC, Nancy M Acosta & Alexis A Rosario, \$303,000, 9 Rita Ln

Deatrice A Wade, Pedro E Soto & Ivonne Beauch

REAL ESTATE: FROM 31

& Belarmina Esteban Lopez, \$439,900, 9-11 Elsmere Ave

Jo-Ann Jean Tr & Rebecca J Flynn Family Trust, Gil Emilio Carabello, \$400,000, 77-79 Ashland Ave

Merrimack Valley Habitat For Humanity Inc, GGC LLC, \$109,000, 23 Pilgrim Ave Unit A

Merrimack Valley Habitat For Humanity Inc, John & Danielle Chivers, \$259,000, 14 North Lowell St

Patti J Castricone Tr & Cathy A Hamilton Tr & Castricone Family QTIP Trust, Paul Moses, \$265,000, 6 Cynthia Ln

Basket of Hope LLC, Anthhony J Patterson, \$325,000, 120 Howe St

Patrick C & Allison C Amorella/Allison C Mauti, Ernest H Carter III & Deanna Lesser, \$420,000, 12 Douglas Ave

Cesar M German , Luis A Charles, \$270,000, 2 Elm St

Luis X Valdez, Pierre Caidor, \$530,000, 32-38 Phillips St

Yenissi L Cruz, Marie Flore Laine, \$436,500, 86 Druid Hill Ave

Chloe LLC, Steven D & Donna M Lizotte, \$700,763, 83 Pine Tree Dr Unit 68

Chon Thi Lo & Thomas Tan Dang , Rolf Jean, \$350,000, 52 Brook St

Steven J & Heidi D Chaff, Joao M & Lucy F Medeiros, \$270,000, 21 Hampshire Rd Unit 217

Lebel Investments LLC, Richard L & Joanne L Sherburne, \$385,000, 37 Houston Ave

Sharon Fillyaw, Richard A Sierra, \$269,900, 22 Washington St Unit 1

Thomas R & Marianne E Carabine, Dalfany Cruz & Pamela Pimentel, \$379,000, 63 Riverview Blv

Regis Holdings LLC, Darren George Jones, \$260,000, 31 Arnold St

Jonathan L & Jennifer L Strauss/Jennifer L Abraham , Brendan Rastello, \$300,000, 11 Ridge Rd

Laurel Realty Trust & Adele LaFrenier Tr, Van T & Tam T Phung, \$378,000, 171 Berkeley St

Mark & Anne Marie Sutton, Matthew A Haymer & Teri M Haymer & Justin J Haymer, \$382,500, 19 Oak Meadow Ln

Jeffrey M Hajj, Daniel Turini & Margarete H Corelli, \$7,500, 32 Comet Rd

Eileen M & Barry F Hunt Trs & Eileen M Hunt Revocable Trust of 2016 & Barry F Hunt Revocable Trust of 2016, Scott Richard & Taiwo T Magown, \$280,000, 3 Loring Rd

David G Moro & John M Moro, Brox Industries Inc, \$70,000, 229 Lowell Blv Toll MA IV LLC, John & Carol Mc Cal-

lion, \$205,000, 45 Christopher Dr Unit 117

Stephen P & Lauren B Vallarelli, Priscila Cremon, \$435,000, 63 Walton Ave

John P & Deborah A Conlon, Daniel M Giuffrida, \$589,900, 1 Liams Ln

Jose M Marine, Katherine Gonzalez Gil & Enemegilda Gil, \$310,000, 8 Church St Lisa Miragliotta, GPG Union Street LLC, \$1,500,000, 76 Union St

Rachel Simili, Belford Construction Inc, \$280,000, 62 Lorenzo Cir

Brian Blouin, Barry J & Susan M Keefe, \$616,326, 88 Pine Tree Dr Unit 121

Philip W Parker, Beth A Coburn &

Thomas M Lemist, \$316,000, 68 Olive St

Bruno Family Nominee Trust of 2002 & Kristan J Bruno Tr & Joseph X Bruno, Jeremy A Barrett, \$278,000, 123 Lawrence St

Jose & Griselda Portillo, Michelle Hunt, \$275,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 2-214

Laura C Goodwin, Boris Santos Deras & Yanira Barrera Albeno, \$495,000, 71-73 Tenney St

Massiel V Inoa, Brian M & Christina M Tanguay, \$335,000, 6 Magnolia Rd

Sam Joseph Cafiso, Chadi Chakar, \$292,000, 15 Briarcliff Dr

David J Hering & Mercedes Escobar Martin, Enilda & Joshua Javier, \$410,000, 17-19 Milk Ave

U S Bank NA Tr, Jeremy & Lindsey Be-auregard, \$306,000, 55 Sawyer St

Yenny R Guzman, Suresh K Raut, \$325,000, 396 Oak St

Javier Arriola, Oscar Alcantara-Mejia & Ciriaco Del-Rosario, \$500,000, 86-88 Tower St

Andrea M Mavroides, Leslie Ferreira, \$480,000, 38 Cox Ln

Paul H Wilbur & Patricia S Brown, Alexis Antonio Morales, \$290,000, 11 Durrell St

Martine E & Gary R Weber, Dawnmarie C & Robert C Duzan, \$280,000, 172 Lowell St

Keri L Blanchette Tr & Campanile Family Irrevocable Trust, Robert C Dewhirst, \$245,000, 3 Blake St

Flowserve US Inc, Leah N Cappellucci, \$260,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 2-213

Catherine J Dawson & Margaret E Torla Est & Robert F Torla & John E Torla &

Cindy L Torla Murphy & Suzanne Hall & Jill Torla, Johanna Duran, \$211,000, 17 Carleton St

Richard F Levis Tr & C R F Levis Realty Trust, Carolina D De Leon & Lenny Monsanto, \$310,000, 30 Hawthorne Ave

AG&J Realty Trust & Wendy Y & Jose A Estrella Trs, Edwin C Taylor III & Leslie A Taylor, \$2,500, 55 & 57 Olive St

Andrew Meckel , Rachel Mariano & PJC

Irrevocable Family Trust, \$695,646, 35 Pine Tree Dr Unit 92

Norman S Porter , Sandra M Biancardi, \$247,000, 8 Brown Ct

John D Fairweather & Gail A Fairweather Est, Steven R Riquinha & Diana Hess-Riquinha & Jose Daniel Riquinha Vidinha, \$245,000, 25 Grove St

Robert J Hamel & Paula A Daher & Stephen P Hamel & John R Daher, Lexicon Government Services LLC, \$417,000, 62 Sevoian Dr

Essex Properties LLC, David A Alvarez, \$417,000, 62 Sevoian Dr

Ronald J & Judith E Raye, Mark & Eneida Walters, \$124,500, 50 Danbury Dr Unit 50-16

Joao Ricardo Deborba & Alessandra Deborba, Christine M Diodati Tr & Christine M Diodati Family Trust, \$400,000, 33 Russell Farm Rd Unit 37

JMF Realty LLC, Clifford R & Joanne S Hall, \$609,340, 78 Pine Tree Dr Unit 126

C L & R Realty Corp, Cameron Hastings, \$239,000, 45 Washington St Unit S-89

Sadie R & William J Sherman, Stephen P & Mary E Dunn, \$435,000, 27 Herrick Dr Unit 91

Audrey L Melito, Ke Lu, \$410,000, 34 Nevins Rd

Maxwell Trejo, Freddie A & Rebecca Johana Peralta, \$250,000, 18 Victory Dr Unit 1

Macandrew & Sheleagh M Dougan, Mary Al Achy & Fadi Francis, \$470,000, 59 Cox Ln

U S Bank NA Tr, 18 Chelmsford Street LLC, \$197,000, 18 Chelmsford St Unit A

Sam Taveras, Scott W Sherman, \$455,000, 13 Landmark Dr

Bernadette C Tremblay Est & Linda M Depelteau, Dennis Mirugi & Robert Mwangi & Victor Ndichu, \$568,500, 602 Prospect St

James A Beagan, Jesus Anziani, \$355,000, 48 Union St

Erin J Harris Tr & Harris Family Irrevocable Trust & John P & Patricia M Harris, Juan Gonzalez, \$187,000, 45 Christopher Dr Unit 93

Toll MA IV LLC, Paula Campbell, \$409,900, 101 Rolling Ridge Ln

Barbara E Siegel Tr & Siegel Realty Trust , Juan Carlos Pena Marte & Soranyi Pena Marte, \$405,000, 50-52 Adelaide Ave

David Quirk & Jennifer Adler-Quirk, Philip T Gandolfo Jr, \$355,000, 8 Winthrop Ave

NORTH ANDOVER

Mohammed Ghani/Muhammad Ghani & Sabreen Vatao, Nicholas A & Andrianna D Hirth, \$667,500, 40 Booth St

George & Evelyn Ghiloni, Marie E Dyer, \$226,000, 50 Farrwood Ave Unit 7

HSBC Bank USA NA TR, Eric Knibbs, \$185,000, 688 Jefferson St Unit 57

Ronald H & Susan S Smits, Full Circle Properties RE LLC, \$200,000, 46 Water St

Mateo Family Irrevocable Trust & Ruth Heath Tr, James & Laura Previer & Heather Tevrow, \$515,000, 75 Russett Ln

NE Home Investments Inc & JP BRE Ventures LLC, Adam Gifford, \$232,500, 1 Harvest Dr Unit 103

Michael P Ferraro & Robert J Ferraro & Thomas J Ferraro & Mark B Ferraro, Olivia E Davanzo, \$375,000, 28 Alcott Wy Unit 28E

Allan Hope & Charles Hope Companies LLP, Joanne Henningsen, \$550,000, 76 Granville Ln

North Andover Realty Corp, Jonathan Edward & Michelle Helena Hurtig, \$720,000, 41 Fox Hill Rd

Joel & Xionnette Taveras, Chris M & Jessica M Kozakis, \$219,500, 60 Edgelawn Ave Unit 5

Lexicon Government Services LLC, Gabriella Schreiber, \$230,000, 1 Harvest Dr Unit 209

Nadia Abrahamian Ind Tr & Sarkis Abrahamian Ind Tr & Nadia Abrahamian Revocable Trust & Sarkis Abrahamian Revocable Trust, Charles M Ludwig & Ashley Giardina, \$220,000, 52 Fernview Ave Unit 52FV-12

William S & Judith P Holt Trs & Fifty-Nine Millpond Nominee Realty Trust, Ryan M Sifferlen & Brianna E O'Brien, \$482,000, 1 Gray St

Walton Revocable Trust of 2017 & Robert D & Therese Walton Trs, Freckle International LLC, \$230,000, 112 Autran Ave Unit 1

Lucia Shold & Debra Carelli & Anthony S Carelli & Maria Carelli & Julia Marcillo, Stephen & Melissa Daly, \$235,000, 48 Fernview Ave Unit 8

Kevin D & Donna M O'Brien, Karen Guilmet, \$494,000, 22 Buckingham Rd

Daniel P & Leah Lanen, Wesley Dos Reis Araujo, \$301,000, 4 Harvest Dr Unit 305

833 Capital Group LLC, Messina Development Co Inc, \$290,000, 383 Abbott St

Amy E & Gerald Stabile Jr , Jeffery Oren Brown, \$543,000, 21 Ash St

Elizabeth A Hall, Kyle & Jennifer Beau-doin, \$700,000, 66 Palomino Dr

Toll MA IV LLC, Debbie Jean Mosher, \$530,000, 42 Hewitt Ave

Phyllis A Black, Nicola Tracanna Tr & NT & AT Realty Trust, \$220,000, 69 Fernview Ave Unit 69FV-11

Barbara Buonaugurio, Jeremy & Susan Hamel, \$582,000, 933 Great Pond Rd

REAL ESTATE: PAGE 35

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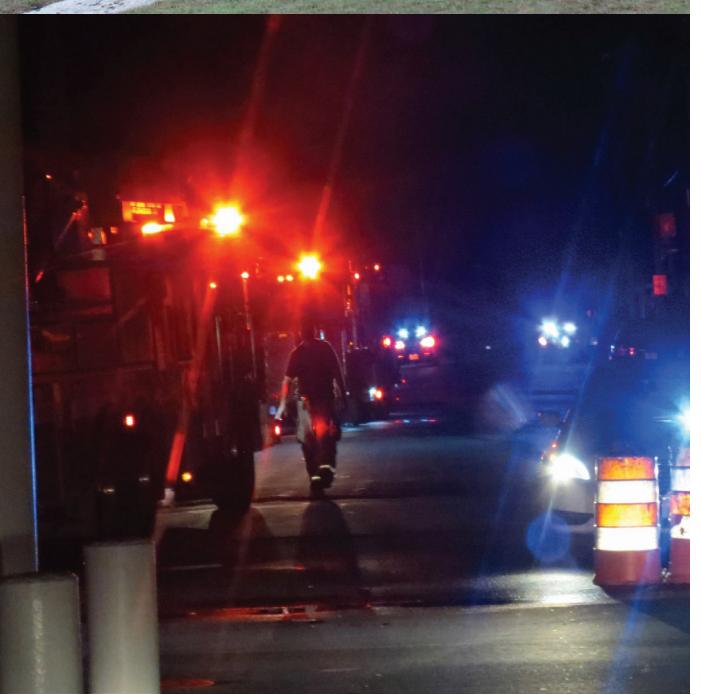
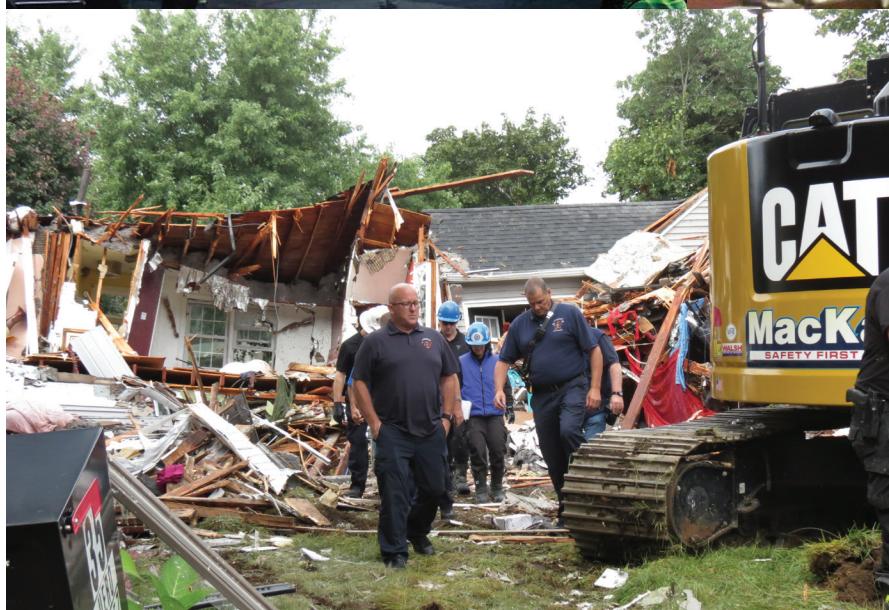


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The Valley Patriot on the Scene of the Columbia Gas Explosions





Former Police Officer and candidate for State Senate Joe Espinola appeared on the Paying Attention Podcast on the United Podcast Network. Espinola is running against Barry Finegold.



Carrie Wieland of House of Mercy in Lawrence is also a board member of Isaiah's Place in Salem New Hampshire. Carrie was asked to speak at this years fundraising Gala at the Atkinson Country Club in Atkinson NH.



Chelsey Lafone of Groton drove to Lawrence the day after the Columbia Gas Disaster to donate clothes and children's toys to the families displaced by the explosions and fires. Chelsey came back several times with friends who collected items from the private school "Lawrence Academy" in Groton.



Lawrence Police detectives conducted a prostitution sting in August and the Valley Patriot was on the scene as detectives rounded up 14 prostitutes and one man for solicitation. Chief Roy Vasque says this is a constant problem in the city and his zero tolerance policy is designed to eradicate the problem.

CLEGG: FROM PAGE 6

take place on Sunday, November 4th, 2018 from 8:30am to 11am at the Firefighter's Relief's In, One Market Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts. The event provides veterans an opportunity to enjoy a complimentary breakfast, while listening to patriotic music and socializing with friends, family and fellow veterans. This event is open to the public, tickets are only \$5 a person and veterans always eat free. Tickets for the breakfast are available at the door. This year the event will donate \$1,000 to Operation Delta Dog in Scott's name.

Please support your local veterans by attending these great events.

For more information on Operation Delta Dog visit www.operationdeltadog.org

To donate to Team Scott Clegg, (1) visit: www.operationdeltadog.org, (2) then click on the Walk & Wag box, (3) click donate to participants, (4) under search type: team Scott Clegg.

With saddened hearts,
The Friends of Scott Clegg

NAVY: FROM PAGE 6

ization system. The disposal system detects, locates, classifies and neutralizes moored mines and mines resting on the seabed. The vehicle uses high-frequency, high-resolution sonar, low light level television, cable cutters and explosive charges to detect and dispose of mines, while remaining tethered to the vessel by a cable and under control of the vessel. Each ship accommodates a crew of 80.

"The best part of serving on a mine

sweeper is the close bonds you build with your shipmates," said Guerra.

As part of the Navy, Guerra explained that sailors are helping to build a legacy that will last beyond their lifetimes, including helping to develop new war-fighting capabilities to continue the Navy's success on the world's oceans.

"Being in the Navy, I always get to learn something new and I have developed some great and lasting friendships," said Guerra.

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GoFundMe Page Set Up for Shannon

For those who know Shannon, you know that she is a beautiful person inside and out. She is a wonderful mother to Reagan, a loving wife to Mike, an amazing daughter, sister, and aunt. She is also a caring and patient 5th grade paraprofessional and substitute teacher for the Parthum Middle School and an incredibly loyal friend.

What you may or may not know, that along with being all these things, Shannon is a fighter. She has spent her whole life battling Neurofibromatosis Type 1 (NF1). NF1 is a genetic disorder that affects multiple systems within the body and affects approximately 1 in 4,000 individuals worldwide. NF1 is characterized by changes in skin coloring (pigmentation) and the growth of tumors along nerves in the skin, brain, and other parts of the body. While Shannon has never let NF dictate her life, in these last few years, NF has thrown a few curveballs Shannon's way.

Shannon had begun to have regular seizures, the side-effects of what would later be diagnosed as a brain tumor. Shannon did what Shannon always does and began adjusting to her "new normal". She received news in April 2018 that she would need to have surgery to remove the tumor on her brain as well as go through radiation therapy post-surgery. The surgery was only successful in removing forty percent of the tumor on Shannon's brain. While recovering, Shannon received the news that she qualified to begin a clinical trial for a new drug that was developed specifically for NF. Being part of this clinical trial meant that Shannon would not need to have radiation therapy.

HEALTH: FROM 24

the same cholesterol-lowering and blood sugar stabilization effects (if you can get enough of them), but a supplement alone does not have as much fiber as a fiber-rich food. In order to get all the benefits of fiber, many people may opt for a high-fiber diet. Remember, when incorporating more fiber into your diet, start slowly, adding as little as 5 grams a day for a few weeks and gradually increasing it to where you are

comfortable. If you start too much fiber too fast or in excess, fiber can cause bloating, cramps and even diarrhea. Let your body get used to having more fiber.

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 ♦

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Protest Online Censorship

By FaceCrookJail.com

Facebook, Twitter, and Google are the judges, jurors, and executioners of the Internet.

It's especially concerning when hyperlocal news sites are shut down. Time and time again, we find local reporters are the ones that break the best stories. Ones that the larger media outlets were hoping they would not have to cover. Not only that, they are often the only sources for local news. People like Tom Duggan, who do what they do out of love for the community, should not be censored.

We cannot afford to lose the protection provided to everyone by the freedom of the press and a public criminal justice system, just because criminals don't want their pictures in the paper.

Created in protest to this censorship, FaceCrookJail.com is a directory of those that have been silenced. We encourage you to share your stories on the site and break away from Facebook's secret court.

The big Internet companies have engineered themselves into a unique and unrivaled position. Algorithms steer people to content while perpetually gaining intelligence on them. Meanwhile, users are hooked. They have developed a sense of ownership, after countless hours spent uploading pictures and providing insight into their thoughts and emotions. Millions of people even use linked apps, like the ones labeled "personality quizzes", behind the Cambridge Analytica scandal.

They feed the machine personal information on one end, view ads on the other. It's the perfect system to govern and manipulate what people see.

There's no doubt that bias and political agendas have worked their way into the censorship process. This has always been a concern as it's no secret that Silicon Valley leans to the left.

When Trump won the Presidential Election in 2016, they exploded. The tech giants vowed to work together and block "unsafe speech" across the entire web. This, while demands from the radicalized left to take power "by any means necessary", were being made.

Now, Google will prevent politically incorrect pages from coming up in search results. They will also block site owners from using Google ads to earn money, if their content isn't "safe". Either one of these acts of censorship is enough to cripple your average blog or niche forum website.

Facebook and Twitter ban users for ambiguous violations including "bullying" and "hate speech". Facebook will "jail" and restrict users in various ways, even while taking money to promote the posts. If you're "shadow banned", people will silently stop seeing your posts and you won't have a clue. These are just a few of their misleading and underhanded tactics.

Reporting posts as a way to enforce standards is mob rule. It's an excuse for the companies, and their employees, when they silence political adversaries. Encouraging people to report content they disagree with is dangerous to free speech. It's re-enforcing the idea, to a whole generation, that words hurt and all you have to do is scream loud enough to make the opposition disappear.

The censorship has gone too far. It's time for politically incorrect people to protest. The left will interpret our silence as submission to their PC agenda. Now we must band together more than ever, to prove their efforts have backfired. Otherwise they will claim victory and continue their push to block speech beyond the Internet.

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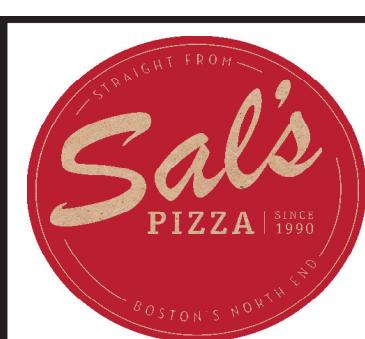
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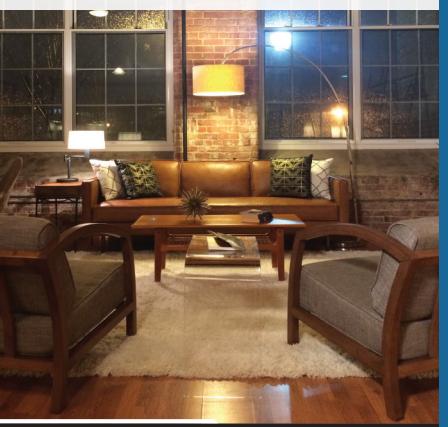
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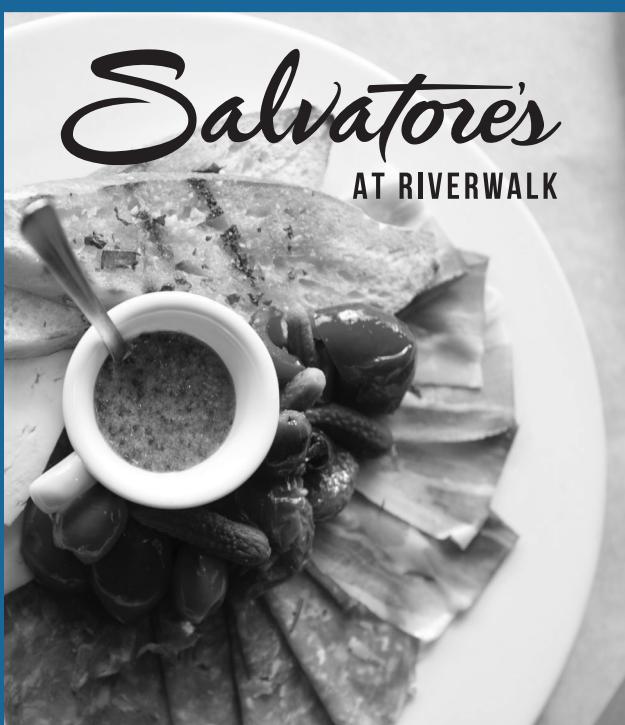
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