



# THE VALLEY PATRIOT

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2004

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## Sex Offender Registry Nightmare

SEE PAGE 5

Massachusetts State Auditor Suzanne Bump Recently Audited the State Sex Offender Registry. Her report is startling and exposes "dangerous" criminals unaccounted for.



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## VALLEY PATRIOTS OF THE MONTH

### VAV Raises \$15K From 24-Karat Gold Motorcycle

Veterans Assisting Veterans (VAV) a 100% volunteer, 501C3, which donates 100% of its proceeds to veterans, veterans' causes, veteran organizations and veteran charities, received a \$15,000 check from Kelly Auto Group. Kelly Auto Group, with locations in Lynnfield, Beverly and Danvers, MA, who recently became

aware of the storied 24 karat gold-plated motorcycle donated to VAV and the cause behind it. The 24-karat gold motorcycle had been donated to VAV last year and had been featured in several publications. The motorcycle was displayed at Boston Harley Davidson in Revere and waited for the right buyer. The right buyer was Kelly

Auto Group, who saw an opportunity to help veterans.

VAV will contribute \$10K to the Ironstone Farm VAV/Owl Diner Veteran First Responder PTSD Program, which helps Police, Fire, EMT and Corrections personnel. The additional 5K will be donated to other veterans and veteran causes. "We heard about VAV, their volunteer mission for helping their fellow veterans and that's why we bought this bike," said Ron Janard of Kelly Auto Group.

VAV is celebrating over six years of

helping local veterans. A sampling of organizations VAV has helped during that time is Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, which houses veterans and operates throughout the Merrimack Valley, held a Vietnam Veterans Concert, Track Wheel Chairs for Combat Wounded Veterans, NEADS that supports the training of service dogs and Veterans Homestead, which operates a hospice for veterans in Fitchburg, to name a few. Without the support of the community these veterans would not be helped.



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**IN YOUR CORNER**

**Making Housing Affordable for First Responders**

**Senator Katy Ives**  
 MASSACHUSETTS STATE SENATE

I recently testified on a bill I filed S733, "An Act Relative to Access to Housing for First Responders." This legislation would allow MassHousing, an independent, quasi-public state agency focused on providing financing for affordable housing, to create a special home loan program for first responders who are required to live within a minimum distance from the municipality they serve. Those eligible for this program would meet program income limits and live in the eligible home as the primary residence for the term of the loan, in addition to other common-sense requirements required by the program. This legislation spurred MassHousing's interest in meeting with me regarding programs that are currently in place.

MassHousing is a not-for-profit agency that helps low and moderate income first time homebuyers in Massachusetts as well as offers certain home repair loan programs and a military homeownership program. It's important to note MassHousing does not use tax dollars to give out loans, they instead lend out money they make from selling bonds.

MassHousing works with local lenders to offer their products to income eligible customers, which vary by city and town. They also take into account your credit-worthiness, but a person with a combined annual income of \$139,590 would be eligible for a \$424,100 single family home

in Essex County with as little as 3% down.

They also offer a home repair loan program for lead paint removal and septic system repair loans. Loan amounts range between \$7,000 to \$50,000 and are a safe alternative to what sometimes are predatory loans.

Operation Welcome Home is a mortgage program for veterans, active service members, reservists and Gold Star Families looking to becoming first time homebuyers. This loan offers a 0% interest, deferred down payment or closing cost assistance loan option of up to 3% for eligible borrowers and up to a 97% loan-to-value first mortgage.

MassHousing should be used as an option in obtaining first time home-buyer loans and especially for first responders who may not know that they could qualify. First responders, including law enforcement officers, firefighters, and EMTs, have found difficulty affording to live in the communities they serve. Whether you support or oppose residency requirements for first responders, it remains true that many of these public servants wish to live where they work, but struggle financially to do so.

I will be hosting a regional informational session for all first responders in the near future to learn how they can access these programs.

To learn more about MassHousing visit [www.masshousing.com](http://www.masshousing.com)

Senator O'Connor Ives can be reached at [KATHLEEN.OCONNORIVES@MASENATE.GOV](mailto:KATHLEEN.OCONNORIVES@MASENATE.GOV)

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**"WEATHER 101" WITH AL!**

**FALL IS HERE!**

**Al Kaprielian**  
 VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

Welcome to October and the changing color of the leaves. With the longer nights and shorter days we will see the continuation of the daytime temperatures declining as we go through the month. Peak foliage in the Merrimack Valley occurs around the middle of October.

During the last week of October into November, the peak colors move south to Cape Cod & the islands and the south coast of New England. During the month of September we saw an active month with hurricane development. Hurricane Irma caused a lot of damage in Barbuda and other islands in the tropics. Prior to Irma there was

Hurricane Jose which passed within 140 miles south of Nantucket. Jose caused windy conditions and rain over Cape Cod & the islands. Due to the southward track and weakening of Jose over colder ocean waters his impacts were felt more over Cape Cod & the islands. Hurricane Irma became a strong and dangerous hurricane as she gained strength over the very warm ocean waters east of Florida. Initially Irma was to track more along the east coast of Florida however as days passed by the computer models started to shift her track more over western Florida. Irma caused extensive damage in the Florida Keys. The center of Irma, known as the eye, tracked over Marco Island and then northward to over Naples, Florida. Irma weakened considerably as she tracked across Georgia and over land areas. Even though Irma weakened, she still produced plenty of rain across Georgia and surrounding areas. Irma weakened as a result of losing her strength and energy from the warm ocean waters.

After Irma, another hurricane formed. This hurricane was named Maria. Maria, also like Irma, became a strong and dangerous hurricane over very warm ocean waters.

Maria tracked right across Puerto Rico and caused widespread damage as well as widespread loss of electricity to the island. Maria tracked northward off the east coast of the U.S. passing not far offshore from North Carolina. If Maria continued tracking north she would have had an impact on New England. However, we were saved from getting hit by Maria by a cold front. This cold front mover off the east coast on September 28th caused Maria to take a right hand turn and track out to sea. Like Jose and Irma, Maria caused high surf and dangerous rip currents at area beaches. The greatest impact in rough surf from Maria was at Cape Cod & the islands along with the Rhode Island coast. After Maria tracked out to sea, we saw our weather return to summer heat and humidity.

Some new record high temperatures occurred. The reason for the heat and humidity was the regain in strength of the upper level high pressure system over the eastern U.S. From September 24th through the 27th we saw high temps in the 80s and a few locations reached 90 degrees plus. Dew points climbed into the upper 60s and lower 70s making it feel quite uncomfortable for late September. This weather made it feel more like late July than late September. This hot and humid weather ended on September 28th when the cold front came through. Much cooler and less humid air moved in behind the cold front. It was this cold front that caused hurricane Maria to turn east and move out to sea. After this cool weather we saw another warm up during the middle of the first week in October. As we moved into the first full weekend in October, the Northern Jet stream became more active. This caused a series of upper level disturbances to bring clouds and a return to periodic showers.

In next month's article we will recap October's weather and take a look at what we can expect going into November. In the meantime, enjoy the fall season and the changing of the leaves!



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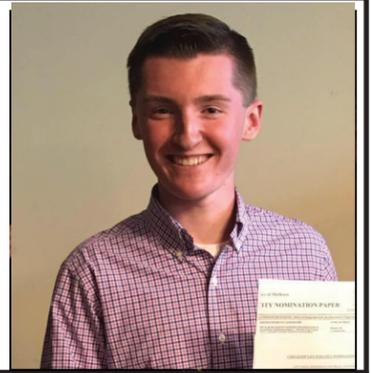
Jessica Finocchiaro



Steve Gillis



Ryan DiZoglio



Ryan Hamilton

## Methuen Voters to Choose Three At-Large City Councilors

There are nine members of the Methuen City Council. Every two years, voters across the city elect three councilors at-large and two councilors who represent each of the three districts; East, Central and West.

The function of the city council is to approve the city budget, hire and fire the city attorney, approve the hiring or firing of city department heads, and approve certain types of contracts. The city council also passes local ordinances such as fines for excessive noise, trash burning, and business regulations.

There are five candidates seeking the three open at-large seats on the council. Voters are allowed to vote for up to three candidates. Voters who mark more than three candidates for the at-large race will invalidate their ballot and nobody will receive those votes.

JEN KANNAN - Jen has been a city

councilor at-large for two terms and is seeking her third and final term in the at-large spot. She is a former candidate for mayor and owns Kannan and Pricone plumbing business with her husband Bill. She has a son on the police department, a daughter in the school system and has a family that has been involved in public service for decades. Jen is expected to top the ticket again this year as she did two years ago when she beat then candidate, Jim Jajuga, who many thought was teflon and unbeatable.

Kannan initiated a Policy and Procedure Committee which passed unanimously by the Council. Kannan is chair of the committee and just finished the first ever policy and procedure handbook for the city council, which will include; The Council Rules (which they updated), new roles for the chair and vice chair, and will also include a letter from the City Solicitor outlining the open meeting law and the conflict of inter-

est law. It will also include a letter from the City Auditor. At her first council meeting in 2016, she called for an immediate public hearing on the proposed trash/recycling proposal (toter system). She voted no and spoke against it, it was ultimately defeated.

JESSICA FINOCCHIARO - Jessica is a member of the Greater Lawrence Technical School Committee and is serving her second term. She is a realtor for Century 21 McLennan and Companies. She has two masters' degrees in public administration and finance and government. She also manages more than \$40M on all the boards she sits on.

In her four years on the committee she brought actual transparency to a board that was quite resistant to openness. As the results of Jessica's efforts, her committee is now broadcasting and recording their public meetings. Jessica is also on the Board of

Directors of YWCA, Psychological Center, MVPASAP, Phil Lahey's substance abuse project, and previously ran unsuccessfully for state senate. Finocchiaro says her top two priorities are addressing the opioid epidemic and increasing state funding for basic services. Finocchiaro is the only candidate in the at-large race who is being endorsed by State Rep. Diana DiZoglio.

STEVE GILLIS - Gillis is running a very unconventional campaign for local office. A strong Trump supporter, Gillis is trying to make "Methuen Great Again" posting news on his facebook pages and campaigning for more responsible spending as well as wanting to "drain the swamp" by bucking the political insiders and seeking to expose all the back room deals being made in Methuen politics.

"My top priority is getting everyone on the same page to take a pledge to start true

METHUEN: PAGE 24

## Prayer and Action Can Bolster Gun Control

Joe D'Amore

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

As I write this, countless families and friends of the victims of the Las Vegas massacre are now receiving the bodies, released from official coroners after a week of inexplicable tragedy. Sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, family members and friends felled in the prime of their lives in a moment of joy are finally returning home after a week that must surely have felt like eternity for many. The funerals will begin a new phase of a life turned upside down for so many. Closure at best is marginal for anyone. The suffering also extends to those injured and their loved ones.

For some of us prayer is a very significant and meaningful way to express our sorrows and condolences. It is a way to petition our God for granting peace in the hearts of those affected. And when this is

done, publicly coupled with a moment of silence, it is the only way to demonstrate to those who are in the throes of unimaginable grief that they are not alone. It is an undeniable form of respect for life and those living. There isn't a more powerful way to demonstrate love for strangers in their moment of need and to express unity with them.

For House Representative Seth Moulton and Senator Elizabeth Warren however, these basic concepts of human decency are absent from their public life. Warren callously tweeted "...prayers and moments of silence are NOT enough". Moulton created a public spectacle by declining to observe a moment of silence on the floor of the U.S. House of Representative in protest of inaction on gun control.

Their irresponsible actions are not representative of many people they supposedly "represent". At the hour when fami-

lies were resigning to a new reality and while others were praying that perhaps the notice of the passing of their loved one was a mistake, they failed to exercise the quintessential evidence of exemplary leadership in trying times: Humility.

I wonder if they were to be so courageous in protesting against an unacceptable war. Would they engage in the same behavior on the holy grail of social justice? Would they not salute the flag to honor men and women in harm's way? Would they disrespect veterans by not observing a moment of silence for the fallen? Would they "draw a line in the sand" with a tweet that victimizes people that have sacrificed?

Somewhere in the translation I fail to see how effective leadership is predicated on offending people when they are broken hearted.

And when it comes to protesting who

or what are they protesting to? It is far more difficult to affect legislative change by bi-partisan action, negotiation and promoting sensible public policy responses. And the hour to do so should follow when the families have at least the tentative beginnings of closure such as funeral or a return home of someone injured. Rather than resorting to badly-timed, offensive and ineffective theatrics, they should take inventory of their working relationships in congress and lead a necessary sea change in gun control.

I don't know if the representative and senator have a spiritual bearing. What I do see clearly is they are very passionate people. And people with passion have hearts. I have prayed they and everyone else in congress use the backdrop of this tragedy as a time for unity. I pray that they follow the promptings in their hearts, whether morally based or spiritually guided, to

GUNS: PAGE 6

## Lowell's Belvidere Neighborhood Spoke with a Large Bat in Preliminary

John MacDonald

VALLEY PATRIOT LOWELL COLUMNIST

By a clear majority, the Belvidere neighborhood in Lowell spoke with a loud voice and once again dominated the direction of Lowell.

The Preliminary election of Tuesday September 26th should be a wakeup call, but it's not a surprise. The rest of Lowell who proclaimed it wants a new direction, certainly didn't come out in the preliminary election to prove it. Not to the candidates, because the candidates did their job. This was a wake-up call to anyone who doesn't live in Belvidere. What was learned in the preliminary vote really wasn't about the high school location. This vote was about who's in control.

Belvidere historically has overseen the city. Its voting block has put in power

the Old-Guard Belvidere elite. It's not good enough to just live in Belvidere, but you must be established Old-Guard, the privileged or an old name. You can't be a newbie to Belvidere, that doesn't count. Unless, of course, you follow the play-book. Then you just get a nice pat of the head. Look... this isn't everybody who's lived in Belvidere for generations, but it certainly is the majority... the numbers prove it.

This vote is Old-Guard vs. the rest of the City of Lowell. However, the rest of Lowell earned this result on election night. The Highlands, Centralville, P-Ville, South Lowell... didn't come out and vote in the primary. It's your own fault. The rest of Lowell allowed Belvidere to win the evening and as a result, possibly the destiny of the city for the foreseeable future. Unless... the rest of

the city wakes up!

The Old-Guard was more than victorious on election night. They were loud and clear. Whether it be a high school, a power plant, cell tower, new business, hotel... it doesn't matter. Whatever it is... if Belvidere doesn't want it, it isn't happening. Why? Because the rest of Lowell allowed it. You stayed home on election night and just expected good results. It doesn't work that way. You must get out and vote.

If you're from the Highlands... you just allowed the Old-Guard in Belvidere to tell you who's in control and what you can and cannot have. If you're from South Lowell... you just allowed Belvidere to make the call on the High School. Get the drift?

So, if you want to have a say in the future of your city, mobilize and take

control. VOTE! It's that simple. If you want the Old-Guard, Belvidere, Not in My Neighborhood Elite to run things... do nothing or basically... do what you did on election night. Ed Kennedy will be your mayor... Again, and Eileen Donoghue your next City Manager. Belvidere will be tranquil, but the rest of the city, an economic development and educational failure. The teachers are great, but the facility will hold us all back. Your kids, grandkids... hell even their grandkids will suffer the consequences of your actions.

It's the Old-Guard vs. The rest of Lowell. November 7th... you decide.

Here's my 9 - Mercier, Elliott, Leary, Belanger, Rourke, LeLacheur, Finn, Chau and Gignac. Here's your future folks... Now go earn it!

# Audit Finds 1,769 Sex Offenders in Violation

## Nearly 1,000 Never Classified

BOSTON — An audit released last month by State Auditor Suzanne M. Bump found that as of February 2017, the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB) did not have a current address for 1,769 convicted sex offenders, of which 936 had never been classified.

The failure to classify these 936 offenders means that members of the public had no way of determining if an individual who posed a significant risk of reoffending lived in their communities, nor did the public have access to critical information about these offenders, such as their names, photographs, registration status, and offenses, which the law requires be included in the registry.

Section 178F of Chapter 6 of the Massachusetts General Laws requires SORB to obtain violators' addresses from executive-branch agencies such as the Department of Revenue (DOR) and the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) "when there is reason to believe a sex offender required to register has not so registered." Bump's audit found that despite having agreements with the DOR

and DTA to share data for the purpose of confirming sex offender addresses, SORB was not conducting these verifications. An analysis by Bump's office using just one of the executive branch databases available to SORB found 39 sex offenders who were in violation of registration requirements that collected public benefits in Massachusetts from DTA. In the audit, SORB indicates its intentions to utilize its existing data-sharing agreements with DOR and DTA, and explore opportunities to build similar agreements with other state government agencies.

"When government commits to the taxpayers that it will provide a certain level of safety – and transparency – it has an obligation to do everything within its authority to meet that obligation. As technology and data collection continues to change and improve, our state agencies have an opportunity to utilize that change to break down the silos that have historically existed in government," said Bump. "In this case, the sex offender

registry is only as good as the information it contains, so without taking the steps to expand and use data-sharing agreements with other state agencies, it is not fulfilling its mission."

After a person is convicted and sentenced for a sex crime, SORB is tasked with providing a classification of 1 (low-risk of re-offense and danger to the public), 2, or 3 (high risk of re-offense and danger to the public) to determine how their information is released to the public and their level of oversight.

Of the 936 offenders who had not received a classification level during the audit period:

- 237 are convicted of indecent assault and battery on a person aged 14 or older;
- 177 are convicted of indecent assault and battery on a child under 14 years of age;
- 143 are convicted of rape; and
- 129 are convicted of rape of a child with force.

Finally, the audit found that SORB did

not ensure that all sex offenders were assigned a final classification before they were released from incarceration.

Other audits by the office have similarly found agencies not accessing or sharing information that would protect the public. A 2014 audit of the Board of Registration in Medicine (BORIM) found that BORIM received only two reports of criminal activity for licensed physicians from state courts during an eleven-year period. However, the Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) system showed 82 other physicians with either a criminal conviction or continuation without finding that were not reported to the state during the same period. As a result of that audit, BORIM established a new data-sharing process in which it receives information about physician criminal activity from the Executive Office of the Trial Court.

"Unfortunately, SORB is not alone in its failure to establish good data-sharing arrangements that will improve its effectiveness. It can be hard to break down walls," said Bump.

The Sex Offender Registry Board was

BUMP: PAGE 30

# Rivera vs. Lantigua - The Rematch from Hell!

Tom Duggan

VALLEY PATRIOT PUBLISHER

Yup, it's the scenario from hell for anyone who cares about the conditions of the City of Lawrence, how it affects the surrounding communities, and indeed the rest of the state. You know, the people paying all of Lawrence's bills because they still can't get their act together after 50 years of fake loan giveaways and state grants to pay for basic services.

On the one hand, we have incumbent Mayor Dan Rivera who has done yeoman's work trying to repair some of the damage done to the city's image under the Lantigua administration, but has an ego that acts like a brick wall to any real progress or new ideas. He also spent far too much mental energy on the city's image and not enough on fixing the problems that caused that image.

He treats people badly, doesn't keep his word, abuses his authority as mayor to settle scores, throws his police officers under the bus at every opportunity, refuses to settle police and fire contracts, and is incapable of transparency, and being open minded about ... well, anything.

On the other hand we have... Willie Lantigua.

You see the problem.

In many ways, Rivera has been a disappointment, but that may be our own fault. Perhaps we all had unrealistic expectations of him as someone above reproach, because we were comparing him to the "evil" Willie Lantigua.

Nevertheless, Rivera came into office four years ago with a tidal wave of good will and an unusual coalition of people from many different demographics willing to pitch in to help him make Lawrence better. He squandered that good will.

Today, many of those who were cheering for Rivera four years ago are either sitting on the sidelines, or publicly campaigning for Willie Lantigua. Part of the reason for that is the mayor's inability to explain his reasons for the decisions he makes. This has left many to assume the worst political motives behind his actions. True or not, perception is reality.

Despite his many flaws, Rivera has done some really good things for Lawrence.

Under the Rivera administration, Lawrence's credit rating has gotten better.... not a lot better, but in Lawrence any improvement is welcome since the rest of

us are paying the bills.

Rivera has hired 23 new police officers, and purchased 15 new cruisers. He also reopened the Bailey Street Fire Station and hired three new firefighters.

Lawrence has seen more than \$200M in private business and residential development in the city over the last four years, and while the mayor can't take credit for all of it, his administration had to work with each of those developers for each of those projects to move forward.

Rivera has also renovated and updated 22 baseball, and other fields throughout the city, though we are still waiting for the South Lawrence East Little League field.

Add to that 139 streets properly paved after four years of a Lantigua administration putting only a base coat on streets and touting them as being "repaved" which cost the city millions in additional repairs when they fell apart.

Granted, the funding for those road repairs came from state taxpayers (as usual) and our local reps had to fight for that money at The State House, still - Rivera deserves credit for pushing the issue and spearheading the effort to get the streets done and done correctly.

It's an interesting side note that Rivera won his election against Lantigua four years ago because of the way Lantigua treated the Lawrence Police, but this year most of the police officers are supporting Lantigua. The Lawrence Patrolman's Union even took a vote of no confidence in the mayor.

As for Lantigua, he's a master. It's fascinating to watch him in action while he campaigns throughout the city. Lawrence voters, in particular Dominican Lawrence voters treat him like he's a rock star. They light up when they see him. He knows them by name and asks about their family members by name. He remembers whose mother is sick and the name of the grandchild having problems at the Arlington School. For sure, Lantigua has the "Dominican vote".

His problem is trying to put together a wide enough coalition of other voting blocks to defeat the man who defeated him four years ago.

Lantigua has secured the support of all but one of the failed mayoral candidates (out of 9) and is visible knocking on doors every day. Talking to voters on Broadway

LAWRENCE: PAGE 25

## PAYING ATTENTION EXTRA

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Linda Dean Campbell  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Brewing discussions here in Massachusetts about taxes prompted by ballot question initiatives provide us an opportunity to look at the big picture. This opportunity is now energized by recent tax changes proposed at the federal level. Let the games begin!

It is likely that Massachusetts will never shed the label it has carried for decades as having one of the highest taxation rates in the country.

The good news is that in recent years our State has actually been in the relative middle of the pack in terms of overall tax burden. One must look at the many ways we tax: state and local tax, property tax, income tax, sales tax. Our income tax rate is higher than most comparatively speaking, but our sales tax rate is actually comparatively lower than most others, even before factoring in the fact we do not tax food & clothing.

This puts us in about the middle of the country for taxes paid to state government and below the other New England States with the exception of New Hampshire.

Now comes the "but" ~ which is a significantly higher cost of living resulting from high energy costs; transportation costs; medical care; and especially the high cost of housing eat away at the bottom line and makes that "middle of the country" tax rate seem larger for the vast majority of our citizens.

So, if one is not fairly wealthy, the cost of living in Massachusetts is very high. A cost of living study several years ago found that Essex County was one of the most expensive places to live when considering average living expenses against average family income. It is exceptionally challenging for our young people starting out to find an affordable apart-

ment, and, at the other end, our elderly often must sell their homes to downsize and have great difficulty finding an affordable, more supportive environment, in which to live.

Additionally, Massachusetts matched the national trend in growing income inequality almost exactly with the 1 percent of income earners grabbing 83 cents of every new dollar made from 2009-2013. This trend continues to strongly march forward into 2017. To be a top 1 percent earner in Massachusetts you need to make around \$500,400.00 each year.

Top earners in Massachusetts make about 30 times more than the bottom 99 percent of us. This ratio is higher than it is within 44 other states.

We all need to look at this big picture as we analyze and evaluate any new tax plans coming out of Washington or the State House. One can argue that all taxation plans need to be judged on how they address an ever growing income inequality. This trend is unprecedented in this country and likely is a threat to both our democracy and the general welfare of our people.

Government played a most constructive role in the middle of the Twentieth Century in creating a large and economically secure middle class, a class that both made and bought our manufactured goods; paid our taxes; fought our wars; and created stable and safe neighborhoods in which to live.

This success can be replicated with new policies that address the challenges of our own times. Let the debates begin. I very much look forward to your thoughts and opinions on this important topic.

*State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents Methuen and Haverhill in the Legislature and is currently serving as the Vice Chair of The Committee on Revenue. She can be reached at 617.722.2380/ Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov*



### Methuen Exchange Club 2017

The 2017 Methuen Exchange Club Board was sworn in last month including Board of Directors: Bob Mundry, Stephanie Charette - not pictured, Kathy Jones, Brad Jones, Mike Boute - not pictured, Steve Arsenault, Jennifer Jones- President, Jack MacLeod - treasurer, Linda Buell- President-Elect, Kerri Flemming - Secretary, Carrie Lavallee - past president. New members inducted (all paperwork returned from national with approval to pin) Anne Whelan, Pastor Bill Ingraham, Brian Kingsley and Tom Duggan.

### Rt. 110 Convenience Store Sells Another Jackpot Winner

Rt. 110 Convenience Store has sold yet another Jackpot Winner for Mass Cash! The winner was sold on September 9th and was the store's 3rd Mass Cash Jackpot winner sold in the last 4 years. "We feel blessed to be part of a store that has sold many Big Jackpot winners in the past 12 years we have owned the business," said Hasmukh Vora, the store owner.

Below are the list of all the winners sold to date at Route 110 Convenience:

- Five \$1 Million Dollar Winners Sold in Scratch Ticket
- One - \$2.5 Million Dollar Winner Sold in Scratch Ticket
- Three - \$100,000 Mash Cash Jackpot Winners



### GUNS: FROM PAGE 4

hold at bay their political impulses and do what is right by the American people.

Our representative and senator have a marvelous opportunity to lead this effort because they come from Massachusetts. And Massachusetts has set a national standard that was recently praised by Nevada officials for responsible, balanced gun control. We're not perfect but we have several things in good order that can be modeled nationally. In this state we have universal background checks, child safety rules and comprehensive regulation of large capacity firearms and magazines. Though no deaths should be the ultimate goal, Massachusetts can claim the lowest gun fatality rate of all 50 states; about 3 per thousand. In 2014 Massachusetts enacted wide-sweeping legislation that provided rules and enforcement guidance for background checks for all private gun sales and access to a national instant criminal background database. This also

included a vital check and sharing of pertinent mental health information.

There is plenty to take comfort from our own state that we have good controls in place. But ultimately it is a dangerous world and you can't legislate evil completely out of our lives. At the very least our passionate and articulate senators have an opportunity to lead with a tail wind of legislative accomplishments from their own state. Not unlike healthcare and education, Massachusetts's home-grown legislative accomplishments should be made conspicuous on Capitol Hill. It's time to promote them in open forum in a spirit of cooperation and set aside destructive politicizing that creates a public policy void that keeps us all in more danger than we need to be.

Joe D'Amore writes from Groveland

The Psychological Center cordially invites you to  
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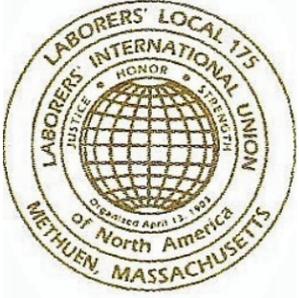
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# Laborers' Union

(LOCAL 175)

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*"Lawrence Mayor Willie Lantigua stood with union workers on the Lawrence High School Project, and many other projects in the city. Willie will protect union jobs again when he defeats union-buster Dan Rivera!"*

~ Mike Gagliardi



# Mayor/Alcalde For the GREAT City of Lawrence

## Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera is a union buster!



- \* Refuses to negotiate with Patrolmen's Union, no contract 3 years
- \* Refuses to negotiate with Firefighters Union, no contract 3 years
- \* Refuses to negotiate with DPW Union, no contract 3 years
- \* Routinely violates union contracts by illegally firing employees
- \* Micromanages union employees and violates union contracts
- \* Interferes with union employees 1st Amendment rights



*"We all know what Dan Rivera's campaign is really all about. Dan is running for Congress next year and he can't do that if he doesn't win re-election!" ~ Mike Gagliardi, President, Laborers' Union Local 175*



**ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th!**

# A&M Auto Body Moves from East Boston to Lawrence

With all the bad publicity surrounding Lawrence's crime and corruption problems, you might think that small businesses like A&M Auto Body would be resistant to moving into the city. But, Angelo Memmolo of East Boston says he sees Lawrence as a "great opportunity" to expand the auto body business his father started when he was a kid.

"Moving to Lawrence was a great opportunity for me. It's very hard to find a shop at a reasonable price. I hear in the industry that Lawrence is actually a good opportunity business-wise, and a lot of the insurance companies that I talk to say they are looking for good, quality shops to work with. So, I think Lawrence presented me with a unique opportunity to grow my business and I feel very lucky we found this location. I'm happy to be here and I'm proud to say my business is in Lawrence.

A&M Auto Body is located at 341 South Broadway where the old Metropolitan Auto Body shop used to be across from the Haffners Car Wash. They are open from 8AM to 6PM, Mon-Fri. Saturdays from 9AM to 2PM, (closed Sundays).

"But, there are times we are here late.

I will wait for a customer if they call me late in the day or something happens late in the day.

"We provide towing and also handle glass and mechanical work. We set up our customers with Enterprise car rentals. We try to be a full service one-stop shop, so if someone needs a paint job or something we don't do here, we have other businesses that we work with where we can send them to get those things done.

## YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

"My father started A&M Auto Body in 1982. It was located in a shop inside another building called Bens Auto Body in East Boston. He started with a partner. In the beginning they were Alex and Matteo. That's how it became A&M. Within a year Matteo left, so my dad decided to go ahead with the business on his own."

"Because my dad didn't have an education, he couldn't read and write, he did a lot of grunt work. He worked really hard. He broke his back so to speak, for the owner of the building for 16 years before he opened up his own business."

Angelo says his dad rented a stall, a two car bay and a garage that had 8 bays in it. He rented one bay at first. "It was a struggle for him at first."

Angelo says he worked for his father in high school, but in college he got into a really bad car accident. "So, I couldn't work for a while. Dad hired other people and he succeeded in the business until he gave it to me when he was diagnosed with cancer in 2003."

"When I took it over from him we went from renting one bay, to 2, and from there we grew and grew."

"We could only grow so much where we were, because we were sharing space with the other businesses so our opportunities were limited. So, as we were growing (around 2012 or 2013) I took over half the building we were in, but we were still sharing space. It was a lot of hours and a lot of grinding. Nothing ever came easy doing business in East Boston. It was really hard trying to get a big customer base. Not to mention that the customer base had changed significantly over the years."

## DIRECT REPAIR FACILITY

"In Massachusetts, the regulations are changing. They are trying to get more direct repair facilities ... and as a side note, Massachusetts is the only state in the country that does it this way."

"So, for the last 5 or 6 years, the state



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is trying to find shops that will work with them under their rules and regulation. If you get into an accident depending on who the insurance carrier is, they used to steer their customers to their facilities. So, the industry has changed a lot in the last few years."

"Most people don't know what a direct repair facility is. That means there's an

ANGELO: PAGE 12

## WINTER IS COLD

Get Warm. Get Help.

(Even if you work.)

Get help paying your home heating bill from LIHEAP, the fuel assistance program of the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council Inc.

### You may qualify if:

- ◆ The combined income of all household members falls within federal and state income guidelines.
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### To Apply

FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS: Call (978) 681-4950 or visit [www.glcac.org](http://www.glcac.org) to make an appointment. Provide documentation of the gross income of all household members 18 years and older for at least the previous four weeks. Home visits are available only for handicapped and elderly residents who are homebound.

PRIOR-YEAR APPLICANTS: You should receive a LIHEAP application in the mail. Follow the instructions to complete the application and return it to GLCAC's LIHEAP as soon as possible.



*Funding is limited and cannot be guaranteed after April 30, 2018.*

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## Franklin Miguel: Lawrence Needs Voter ID

Lawrence city council candidate Franklin Miguel has called for more oversight in local elections. Historically, the city has never enforced any voter ID in any of its elections, but one local candidate believes that it could be a welcomed change to how things operate.

Franklin Miguel is a local candidate running for councilor at large; he has said that his story is very much a "Lawrence Story".

"I was born in the Dominican Republic, and through my academic achievements, I received a scholarship to continue my studies here in Massachusetts; I graduated with my bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Merrimack College in 2008. After earning my degree, I had a choice: I could return to my family in the Dominican Republic or stay to give back to the community that I now call home and live the American Dream. My choice was clear, I decided to stay. I decided to make my life here, raise a family, and achieve the success only the United States of America offers."

The state of Massachusetts does not require any resident of the state to prove their residence if they are an active voter. The City of Lawrence follows suit with that and only requires it for voters that have been marked as inactive.

"There are a lot of topics that candidates are talking about in my race, this isn't one and I think it should be added to the

much-needed discussion about improving our city." Franklin earned his U.S. citizenship in 2015, however in national elections for the Dominican Republic, voter ID is a requirement.

"Being born in the Dominican Republic offers me the insight in their elections. When we voted, we all have to show our Ids and prove who we are, after we are, then marked on our finger to prove that we voted and cannot vote again. It seems like a drastic change, but I believe that bringing voter ID to Lawrence would go a long way in improving the legitimacy of our elections in the eyes of the residents."

There are six candidates vying for three spots in the Lawrence-At-Large race, the final election will take place on Tuesday, November 7th. Franklin Miguel is the first candidate in the race to publicly call for voter ID in Lawrence's municipal elections. "We need the right people in office who know the meaning of hard work and determination to move our city forward. This is only one of the many topics that I think are important to our city, but it's one that is not being talked about and I wanted to change that. Voter ID is something to be proud of; it's a declaration of who you are and the rights we have as Americans. It's not something we should shy away from. Be proud to show your ID and proud to vote in a city like Lawrence and a country like ours."



## HEROES IN OUR MIDST

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Keep an eye out for our next book signing!

# Kathy's Lawrence Notebook - Election Edition

**Kathy Runge**  
LAWRENCE COLUMNIST

Why are most of our elections in Lawrence a choice between who you can't stand the least? I can endorse almost no one in the November elections. Much to my surprise, it is Dan Rivera vs William Lantigua in the mayoral race. Boy, was I ever wrong about Lantigua. I may leave the mayoral race blank.

Many people in Lawrence were surprised to receive a pre-primary call from our Republican Governor, Charlie Baker, endorsing Mayor Rivera. Does Governor Baker think that Rivera would ever endorse him? Don't hold your breath, Charlie! Rivera faithfully used every Democratic hash tag and repeated every anti-Trump saying the Democrats were putting out there in the last presidential election.

In the Councilor-at-Large race, can someone give me any reason that Brian DePena should be re-elected? He might be a great person, but I don't know what he's

done in his capacity as a councilor that speaks for his reelection.

Pavel Payano, school committee member for many years, is another at-Large candidate. He has a poor attendance record at the school committee meetings. Payano says he wants to prepare for the city to take back control of the schools, but in 2016 he advocated in front of the council for Emmanuel Castaneda, a college student with no experience, to replace the school committee vacancy in District A, over an education professional with years of experience.

I haven't heard at-Large candidate Ana Levy say much except that "together we are the solution". Let's get working on that. DePena, Payano and Levy appear to be running as a slate, which means that they will oppose Rivera's plans if he gets re-elected and will let Lantigua do whatever he wants if he gets elected. I have nothing negative to say about these people personally, but can't recommend voting for any of them.

I do endorse at-Large candidate Richard Russell. He will do what's right for the city. He knows how the legislative process works in the city and is ready to make positive contributions. He is generally more prepared for council meetings than a large portion of the current council. As always, I am a member of his campaign team.

At-Large candidate Franklin Miguel is a civil engineer who seems intelligent and well spoken. He's spent a lot of money on his campaign, so you have to keep in mind that he must have bigger plans.

The last of the at-Large candidates is Jose Santiago. Santiago has legislative and law enforcement experience, which is a plus. I think he's probably a good choice.

I'm going to leave the district races to you. In other council news, the Ordinance Committee cancelled yet another of its meetings at the last minute, inconveniencing well over a dozen residents with items that were scheduled to be discussed. Two weeks later, they made some of these petitioners wait until the end of the meeting to be heard.

The ban on marijuana businesses finally passed on October 3rd after another excruciating public hearing. Why a multitude of people felt compelled to speak in favor of a ban that they knew was going to pass escapes me. To any old timers like me out there, this is what is meant by virtue signaling.

At the September 19th council meeting, discussions on two items were suspended by charter objections, which immediately cease all discussion until the next meeting. After the second one, which was about parking issues on a section of Park Street, a recess was called and a group of councilors went into the lobby and continued discussions with the residents. When the fifth councilor came into the lobby I reminded them of the Open Meeting Law, which prohibits a quorum from privately discussing items. The rules are for everyone else to follow.

Please vote on November 7th, your vote really does count.

## Andy Vargas and the Truth About Deporting Violent Felons

If there's one thing I really hate, it's when a politician deceives the public with promises that sound like one specific thing, when in reality it's the exact opposite.

So is the case with Haverhill City Councilor Andy Vargas on the issue of sanctuary cities and his claim that he is for "deporting illegal aliens who commit violent crimes."

In order to pull off the deception, Vargas (and others) have to play word games with definitions, so don't be fooled by the sneaky terms they use.

By definition, police working in a "sanctuary city" can arrest a rapist or murderer who is also an illegal alien, but cannot notify immigration to have him deported.

Ever.

Yet, Vargas purposely leads people to believe that sanctuary cities are simply communities that protect grandmas from being deported for getting a parking ticket.

Politicians like Vargas who get backlash for supporting sanctuary cities have found



### PAYING ATTENTION! with Tom Duggan

a new way to pretend that they don't. Now we have the "Safe Communities Act" which allows supporters of illegal aliens to claim they are for the deportation of "violent felons". Here's what they don't tell you:

A "Safe Community" is one where police can only deport a small number of extremely violent criminals, like 1st degree murderers. But, the law is written with such vague language that police still cannot deport criminals who commit other violent offenses like wife beating, rape, manslaughter, gun offenses, and drug dealing.

The goal is to pretend they are tough on crime and by default, must oppose sanctuary cities. All the while their true position is that they do not want to deport anyone

for any reason, ever ... period. Everything else is smoke and mirrors.

They may be willing to compromise on deporting 1st degree murderers because it gives them perfect political cover to hide their real agenda.

The reality is, Andy Vargas is fighting on every level to allow nearly every violent felon to stay in this county no matter how many times they've been deported, or how many violent crimes they've committed. His rhetoric on the issue, while clever, only proves that point.

I don't think we would let a politician say they are against rape while supporting measures that prevent the arrest of 95% of the rapists. So, why are we allowing politicians to say they are for deporting "violent felons" while they also defend sanctuary cities? Why do we excuse it when they

claim to be in favor of any deportations while they fight against those very deportations as community activists?

Here's something you can do for fun.

The next time a politician refuses to say they oppose sanctuary cities, but also claims to be for deporting violent felons: ask them who specifically they would deport. Ask them if they want to deport all violent felons. Which families would they break apart and which would they let stay together? If you get a chance at a bonus question ask them if they think drug dealing is a violent felony.

Then stand back and watch them; the veins in their head pulsate while they try to come up with any other topic to talk about.

If a politician wants to be an advocate for all illegal aliens, regardless of their criminal activity, they should just be honest about that. That's something I would at least respect.

But, when politicians like Andy Vargas can't tell the whole truth about where he really stands on the issue, that is something nobody should respect.

# EAST END



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## Celebrating and Acknowledging our Veterans and Servicemembers

Donald Jarvis  
VALLEY PATRIOT REPORTER

For the third year in a row Preserving Newbury is hosting Wreaths Across America in Newbury, Massachusetts. Wreaths Across America is a national nonprofit organization founded in 2007, which continues to expand their annual wreath-laying ceremony. The wreath laying ceremony began at Arlington National Cemetery and now stretches to cemeteries across our great country. The program was founded by a Maine businessman, Morrill Worcester and in 2014 Wreaths Across America provided each and every headstone at Arlington National Cemetery a wreath – 227,000 wreaths in total. This year, Preserving Newbury's goal is to provide a wreath for each and every Veteran grave within the town's limit - 600 wreaths in total. It's a lofty goal! And I know we can do it!

Preserving Newbury recognizes Veterans' Day in the fall and Memorial Day in the spring. However, our Servicemembers

sacrifice their time and safety every single day of the year to preserve our freedom. In many homes across the United States, there sits an empty seat for a loved one who is serving, or a loved one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. This is why our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach, every single day. Throughout the year, Preserving Newbury works in numerous ways, on multiple projects to show our Veterans and their families that they are never forgotten and we appreciate their service.

The wreath laying ceremony often moves, touches and inspires the people who bear witness to it. When a volunteer places a wreath on a Veteran's grave, we encourage them to speak that Veteran's name aloud, and thank them for their service and sacrifice. The feeling of acknowledgement and appreciation is palpable. In Newbury, we have Veterans who have served in nearly every war and conflict that the United States has been part of — from American Revolutionary War to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our goal is that each and every Veteran,

Servicemember, and their loved ones experience honor and appreciation during this ceremony.

Stretched amongst seven burying grounds and cemeteries — there are 600 veterans and one resting place of an unknown civil war soldier. Newbury was founded in 1635, and a number of Newbury Veterans served and played a critical role in the American Revolutionary War and the founding of our country. Newbury Servicemembers continue to lead by example in their past or current service. As military members, their individual and group contributions have created a proud history for the citizens of Newbury. Our aim is to celebrate that history that so many have given their lives for.

Today, there is an opportunity to be a part of something that is bigger than any individual, family or community. Imagine that your donation of a wreath is one in an ocean of 600 wreaths that help us remember, honor, and teach. You become part of that honor when you donate one or more wreaths.

The wreaths and accompanying



ceremony allows our Veterans to live in our hearts and minds. It also reminds us of the humble fact of how much family members miss their loved ones who were lost or have passed.

We honor their spirit, as well as, the spirit of all current and past Servicemembers. And finally, we teach our community and next generation that kindness of heart and honor are characteristics that can be brought forth anytime. For only \$15, you can sponsor a Veteran's Wreath that truly honors and memorializes those who served our country.

Purchase one today at [www.Newbury-Wreaths.com](http://www.Newbury-Wreaths.com). Thank you and God Bless America.

## Hero Boxford Cop Laid to Rest

Mrs. Michele Marie (O'Brien) Nowak, 54, a Reserve Police Officer with the Boxford and Middleton Police Departments, beloved wife of Mark E. Nowak, died unexpectedly due to a cardiac incident, Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 in New Hampshire.

Born in Salem, she was the daughter of the late Paul A. and Mary E. (Riley) O'Brien. She was raised and educated in Beverly and was a graduate of Beverly High School, Class of 1982. She continued her education at Salem State College.

Officer Nowak began her career in Law Enforcement with the Essex County Sheriff Department. Following her marriage to her beloved Mark and the start of her family, she focused her energies to raising her beloved children. She loved being a mom and wife. When the kids were older she went back to work as a Reserve Police Officer with the Town of Boxford Police Department in 2005 and became the DARE Officer in 2008 for the Town of Boxford interacting with the children and educating them on the dangers of drugs and alcohol. A role she cherished and took very seriously. In 2007, she joined the Middleton Police Department as a Reserve

Officer and was currently a member of both Police Departments. Her professional and personal wisdom had a profound impact on the Tri-Town Community.

Michele was very proud of being a police officer. She was well respected professionally by her superiors and her contemporaries and liked by all. She loved the people she worked with and took extraordinary pride in making her communities a better and safer place to live.

Mrs. Nowak was active in professional and civic circles. She was the former President of the Massachusetts DARE Association. She was a long-time member of the Recreation Commission in the Town



of Middleton and was a dedicated communicant of St. Agnes's Church in Middleton. A friend of Bill W., for over 29 years, Michele enjoyed the fellowship, community and friends she made over the years; it was a cornerstone in her life.

Above all else in her life, family always came first. She was a loving wife, mother, sister and aunt who loved to spend time with her family. She loved the outdoors and enjoyed spending her free time fishing and snowmobiling with her family. Her children were the center of her life. She was ultimately proud of them and their accomplishments. They were her world.

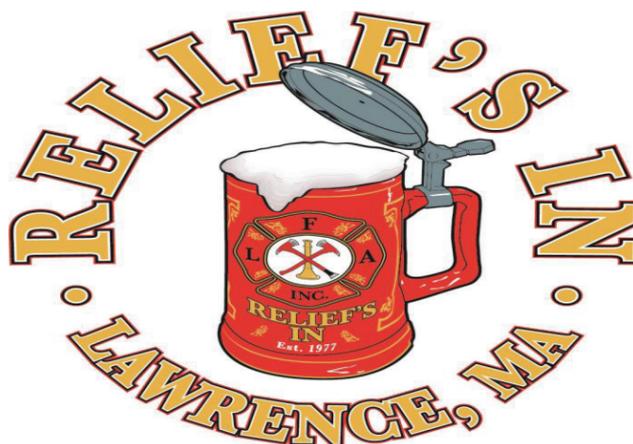
She found a best friend and partner in her devoted husband Mark and they had a deep love for each other. Mark and his wife spoke on the phone everyday while he was at sea. They were a wonderful team together and showered each other with love and affection.

Michele was a kind hearted, caring person who always had a smile on her face. She was a special individual who devoted her life to helping others and cared for all those around her. She will be remembered for her zest for life, her magnificent smile, her dedication to her community and her commitment to her husband and children. She will be deeply missed and always remembered.

Michele is survived by her loving husband of 25 years Mark Nowak of Middleton, her daughter Allyson Mary Nowak of Middleton, her son Christopher George Nowak of Middleton, her sister Marissa Mears of Salem, her brother Kevin O'Brien of Beverly, her mother-in-law, Renate Nowak of Salem and many nieces and nephews and her fellow Officers and her many dear friends. She was the daughter-in-law of the late Salem City Councilor and Danvers Police Officer George A. Nowak.

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## Firefighters, Dental Partners in Lawrence Team Up to Help Puerto Rico

When hero Lawrence firefighters Juan "Manny" Gonzalez first heard about the hurricane devastation on the island of Puerto Rico, he said he knew he had to do something.

"Many of us here in Lawrence have friends and family in Puerto Rico including me. The death and destruction there is just so heartbreaking. Some people still can't find their family members and loved ones. We are such a rich and giving country that we should be able to help without waiting for the government or someone else."

Gonzalez runs a non-profit called "Heal Lawrence" which helps supply food and basic needs for Lawrence families displaced by fires in Lawrence.

"We don't want to distract from what we are doing with Heal Lawrence, but we wanted to set up some kind of mechanism to help the people of Puerto Rico and make sure that money or items donated get where they are supposed to go."

Gonzalez said he and firefighter William Pagan approached the firefighters union to help out and formed a new group called 'Lawrence Firefighters United for Puerto Rico' or LFFUPR.

He says he has also reached out to fire departments in other cities and towns to match what LFFUPR are doing and added that the Lawrence fire chief is reaching out to other chiefs across the state to see what they and their associations can do to help as well.



"I am going down there myself. I am going to fly to the island with whatever money or items are donated so we can personally make sure everything that is donated gets to the families of Lawrence of residents and those who truly need it."

"I also met with Dr. Izedian at Dental Partners in Lawrence on South Broadway who said they want to pitch in and help raise items and money for the devastated families. It's really heartwarming that so many people and so many businesses like Dental Partners are willing to drop everything and lend a hand to help these poor people."

Gonzalez says that what is most needed

are flashlights, batteries, toiletries, clothing, diapers and baby food. "But we will accept any item people want to drop off," he added.

"We are also asking people to make financial donations but we want them to know that we are not going to be handing out money in Puerto Rico. What we are doing is working with The Valley Patriot to identify local people with family on the island and then finding out what specific needs they have. If they need cell phones, batteries, or some kind of special medication, we will go out and purchase those items with the donation money and then

personally deliver the items when we get to the island."

Lawrence Firefighters United for Puerto Rico is a 501(c) 3 non-profit so all financial donations are tax-deductible.

Anyone wishing to donate items or money to the relief effort can drop them off at any of the fire stations in Lawrence or can mail a check made out to Lawrence Firefighters United for Puerto Rico but mail the check to the Lawrence Firefighters Local 146, PO BOX 533 Lawrence MA, 01841.

"With what little publicity we've gotten on Facebook and through word of mouth we've already received an outpouring of support that's pretty incredible."

"Last night, I got a call from someone in Amesbury who wanted to know where they could send a check because they just didn't want to donate to a large organization. People are rightly afraid to donate because, look at what happened in the Dominican Republic last year. For every 2 containers that showed up on the island the government took one. So, much of the needed supplies never reached the poor people in that country. So, now we know. We get donations and we personally supervise their delivery. That's something I learned at the Valley Patriot's annual charity BASH. You guys do it right and we want to build on that."

Gonzalez says because of the lack of electricity and electronic communications

PUERTO RICO: PAGE 24

## ANGELO FROM PAGE 8

insurance company in your office to help you with all the paperwork as a one stop-shop. But, in Massachusetts, as a customer, you can go wherever you want. You don't have to be directed anywhere. The state is trying to change that. The state wants more direct repair facilities and that's hurting the small shops.

"Insurance companies are trying to get us to do the work. To service in this business today you have to work with all insurance carriers. So, if you don't work with them, you aren't going to be successful. As a business you won't make it."

"We work with everyone and we have a great network. We work with the insurance company for you. We will make sure you get your body work done right and done fast so you can go on with your life and not have to worry about going

out and finding someone to repair the paint, or the glass or any of the other things that most body shops won't do. We subcontract that out but we save you the time of finding someone to do that work.

"Angelo says that he is happy to be in Lawrence and adds that every community has problems, "but you don't let stuff like that prevent you from being successful. Lawrence is our new home and we are happy about that. We are doing well in the short time we have been here. We hire people locally, we do the work locally, and we go out of our way to make the experience as easy for the customer as possible.

We will even drive your car to you when it's done if you are local, or help you make arrangements to get your vehicle if you are outside the area.

## South Lawrence East Little League Needs Your Help

Bryan Thomas  
SLE LITTLE LEAGUE

The South Lawrence East Little League provides spring and summer baseball and softball for about 250 boys and girls from South Lawrence from ages 4-19.

We begin baseball for the kids of our community in April and end in July each year. We have 9 divisions starting with T-ball ages (4-6) all the way through big league ages (16-19).

We teach our kids sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect for everyone and, of course, baseball. Our goal is to keep them active as we encourage them to excel at both sports and school work.

There are many expenses involved

in operating a successful little league program. We provide uniforms and equipment for every player. During the season, our operating costs include umpires and baseballs. We don't have a concession stand to help offset those costs and consequently have expenses that remain unpaid.

South Lawrence East Little League is in desperate need of help in taking care of our remaining expenses of \$650 for our equipment POD, \$450 and umpire assigning costs of \$200.00.

If you can help our league please contact me, Bryan Thomas directly at (978) 390-2351 or Tom Duggan at the Valley Patriot at (978) 771-4091.

We thank you for your kind donation in helping us complete our season.



### MEETING INFO

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month.  
From 6:30-8:30pm

Lowell General Hospital  
Saint's Campus  
2nd Floor Board Room  
1 Hospital Drive  
Lowell, MA 01852

## Parents of Murdered Children & Other Survivors of Homicide Victims

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# TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK

## THE RACE FOR CONGRESS AND THE DEMOCRAT RESHUFFLE

Lawrence's freshman State Representative Juana Matias certainly doesn't have any self esteem problems these days. Defeating Marcos Devers in a low turnout state primary a year ago, Matias has already declared she's ready to replace Niki Tsongas as your next congressman for this district. Yeah... seriously. Wide eyed, and as naive as any freshman politician can be, Matias is well meaning and she has a lot of good ideas, but she has a lot of bad ideas too.

None of that matters because, in order to be viable in a congressional race, Matias needs to be able to raise a million and a half dollars. She barely raised a few thousand in her Democrat nomination for state rep. and it's extremely doubtful that she could raise the kind of money she would need to win a Democrat primary.

As a side note, with Matias running for congress, that leaves her state rep. seat open for, possibly, Marcos Devers to return. It also could be an attractive seat to whoever loses the Lawrence mayor's race this November. Either Rivera or Lantigua would certainly be front runner candidates for state rep after running in a mayor's race.

### AND THEN THERE'S BABS

State Senator Barbara L'Italien is also thinking of running for congress next year, which would leave her state senate seat open since she can't run for both jobs. Word is that former State Rep. Barry Finegold is eyeing a return if Babs jumps in the congressional race.

### FIorentINI IN OR OUT?

With all the democrats scurrying to climb up the political ladder and step over each other to get there, Haverhill Mayor Jim Fiorentini refuses to say whether he's running or not. We all know Jimmy has been drooling over the state senate seat (now held by Katy Ives) and the congressional seat (now being vacated by Niki Tsongas). Recently I asked Fiorentini if he was running and he did what I call the Fiorentini shuffle. He first tried to change the subject, then he tried making it a joke and then he just ignored the question and tried to enlist others in a different conversation. Our sources say Fiorentini is waiting to see the results of the Lawrence Mayor's race because, as everyone knows, if Dan Rivera wins reelection in November, he starts running for congress the next day. Fiorentini needs Lawrence to win a primary and he can't do that with a popular Lawrence mayor in the race.

### CANDIDATES LINE UP TO SUP-

## PORT WILLIE LANTIGUA

Even though he came in first in a crowded field on primary day, 57% of the voters on Election Day, voted against Dan Rivera. All of his political opponents, except Jorge Jaime, have publicly endorsed Willie Lantigua.

**RICH RUSSELL** - So, by now you guys know that our photographer Rich Russell not only won the preliminary election for Lawrence City Council At-Large but until the very last precinct came in on Election Night, Russell was in 3rd place out of 9 candidates (six were nominated). When the last precinct came in Rich ended up in 4th place. Since the top three candidates are elected to the city council on Tuesday, November 7th, that means Rich has a fighting chance to win. A Vietnam veteran, and a guy who does a lot of volunteer work in the community, I think I can speak for everyone at The Valley Patriot when I say we are all pulling for you, RICH!

### POOR MODESTO!

You almost have to feel bad for Modesto Maldonado. The former city council president has had his name on the ballot for several years (city wide) and he was expected to either win the primary for mayor or be the third candidate. Not so. Maldonado's performance on the campaign trail showed that politically he is a paper tiger. Maldonado placed 4th out of nine candidates (mind you Bill Green was in 5th place).

### SPEAKING OF BILL GREEN

Bill Green lost the mayor's race for one reason and one reason only. He has no moral compass. He is incapable to recognizing who to trust and who not to trust because, quite frankly, he is himself an untrustworthy person. He posts people's private text conversations on Facebook (I could do a whole column on that), he lures people into feeling bad for him with his tales of persecution, and then he uses everything he learns about the people around him to set them up for public humiliation. At one point in the campaign Green did a YouTube video in a wife-beater T-shirt, displaying multiple tattoos up and down each arm, with a whiteboard behind him. The topic of this particular masterpiece was how mad he was at his campaign manager, whom he had just fired, making personal and legal accusations ... as if the voters give a damn about his internal political squabbles. Bill Green had a legitimate shot at the mayor's race this year when he entered the race. He had a unique message of a cop, persecuted by his own fellow officers for exposing corruption in his own department. The problem for Mr. Green is

that none of it was true. Besides the fact that he filed a bogus lawsuit against the city with the MCAD, and cost taxpayers more than \$45,000 in legal bills to outside law firms, he was certainly a problem cop. He acted hostile to anyone (including other cops) who told him anything he didn't want to hear. He was fired for not turning in money he made on side work while off-duty, not to mention allowing a prisoner to escape and lying about an alleged assault. The more Green picked fights with people who were not necessarily his enemies at the beginning, the more quickly everyone realized what a nightmare Bill Green would have been if he had won. He coulda been a contenda...

**SID HARRIS LOSES...** The City of Methuen only had one primary last month to eliminate one candidate (out of 5) in the East End District City Council race.

Putting aside the absurdity of not having primaries in all districts to fill empty spots on the ballot - the odd man out was Sid Harris. Surprising to some, since he was up against three other people who have never run for office before. Not so surprising to my regular on-line readers who were following my critique of all the candidates as they were campaigning.

This wasn't just a loss; this was a slaughter. And one that was well deserved. Not because Sid's a bad guy, he's not. (His profanity laced, personal attacks on Facebook aside). The fact is, Sid was just a terrible candidate. He didn't want to put the time or effort into doing the work that other candidates were doing. He didn't do interviews, didn't buy advertisements, didn't knock on doors in any significant numbers, and he conducted himself on the campaign trail like his anointment to the council was a foregone conclusion. Harris, a lifelong activist in Methuen was defeated by Steve Saba, Eunice Zeigler, Dan Grayton, and Adam Chiocca. Two of those four nominees will be elected to represent the East District for the next two years on the city council. The election is November 7th.

### JAMIE ATKINSON CASHES OUT

I was warned not to complain about it, but I just can't sit back and watch corruption take place without making my feelings known. Methuen City Council Chairman Jamie Atkinson made the deal of all deals where he sold out the taxpayers and the voters for a cushy city job. Oh sure, the powers that be made sure the "i"s were dotted and the "t"s were to make it technically legal, but make no mistake about it, there was nothing right about what happened here. It's bad enough that Atkinson was caught colluding with the (then) city



## FREDDIE SAYS

"GO RICH RUSSELL!!!"

**If you don't VOTE on NOV. 7th you are letting other people control your lives.**

**Freddie also Says  
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attorney during meetings via text messages a few years ago. Whatever you think of him, Atkinson has been able to find a way to leverage his political power for personal benefit. As much as I like the kid, (and I am aware of his personal struggles), taking this city job after selling out is nothing short of corrupt and everyone who allowed it should hang their heads in shame.

### SOUTH LAWRENCE EAST LITTLE LEAGUE NEEDS YOUR HELP

The South Lawrence East Little League has been playing on sub standard fields for the last four years and the man who runs this organization, Brian Thomas, has been taking money out of his pocket every year to help kids pay for uniforms, to pay the umpire fees, and even pays for a storage pod to store the equipment at the field. But Brian can't do it alone forever. And he's treading water but you can tell his legs are getting tired. So, I am appealing to all my advertisers, friends, and readers to take a minute to read Brian's appeal for help and donations on Page 12. Surely with all the civic organizations and charities in the Lawrence area, we can come up with five or six thousand dollars to help out Brian to service the hundreds of kids SLE little

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

★★★ JESSICA ★★★  
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**SPECULATION TV - CNN**

With all that's going on in the world; famine, war, terrorism, racism, race riots, hurricanes, Russian hysteria, mass shootings, etc., what was CNN talking about last weekend while Hurricane Nate was barreling down on New Orleans? Secretary of State Rex Tillerson MIGHT have ... MAYBE ... called Donald Trump a moron...so says an unnamed source ... you know, a guy nobody can confirm even knows what he's talking about. Panel discussions, wild speculation, it was practically wall to wall. Tillerson himself called it "petty nonsense" and he's right. He gave a detailed report on the UN and actions our government were taking and why. Yet all the press cared about was asking petty questions like, did you call Trump a moron? It's just baffling that there are human beings who think that qualifies as "news".

What used to be "news" is now gossip, rumor and speculation specifically scripted and designed to manipulate viewers to hate who they want you to hate. Love who they want you to love. And, do so without any independent thought of your own. When I was growing up that was called propaganda, not news.

**ARTHUR HUTTON MEMORIAL MINI GOLF TOURNAMENT** sponsored by the Methuen Exchange Club, will be held Thursday, October 19th, at JayGee's Ice Cream & Fun Center at 602 Lowell Street, in Methuen. TEE TIME: 5pm (closes no later than 8pm). Hole Sponsorship: \$100. Tickets: \$12 each. Enjoy a round of golf and an ice cream sundae!

Please make checks payable to the "Methuen Exchange Club", P.O. Box 1008, Methuen, MA 01844. For more information please contact Jack MacLeod at (978) 314-5081 or Susan Hutton at (978) 681-8897

**FAMILY SERVICES** - The Federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, under the U.S. Department of Justice, has awarded Family Services of Merrimack Valley (FSMV) a one million dollar grant which will be used to implement (and lead) the "Massachusetts (MA) Success Mentors Collaborative", a student mentoring initiative in the cities of Lawrence, Holyoke and Springfield, MA. The program, which will be executed over two years, will specifically target young people in each of these communities who

are at risk for dropping out of school. The mentoring program will match individuals currently connected with the students' school (teachers, administrators, etc.) who will advise the students, providing guidance, motivation and accountability for attending school and staying on track with academic demands.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "HOT TOPICS IN EMPLOYMENT LAW"** - Welcoming all Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Members and Future Members. The Presenters: Attorneys William E. Hannum III, Jaimie A. McKean, and Jaimeson E. Porter of Schwartz Hannum PC, based in Andover, focusing exclusively on labor and employment counsel and litigation. • Compliance With The Massachusetts Pay Equity Law – The most significant provisions of the Pay Equity Law, which will become effective on July 1, 2018. • Preliminary Considerations In Effectively Handling Litigation – The most important strategic considerations that companies should balance during the early stages of all litigation matters. • Enforceability Of Restrictive Covenants – How employers can protect themselves when departing employees engage in unfair competition.

DATE: Friday, October 13th, Noon - 1:15 PM, at Joe Fish Seafood Restaurant & Bar, 1120 Osgood St., Rte. 125, North Andover, MA 01845 978-685-3663

**HORSEMANSHIP CLASSES AT CARRIAGE BARN** - The Carriage Barn is pleased to expand their Horsemanship class offerings this fall. Horsemanship classes are for beginner and independent riders ages 6 & up. Learn about horses, safe care, management & handling, nutrition, first aid, horseback riding, vaulting, and carriage driving. Adult/Child Horsemanship Class is for adults and children to learn together (1 child per adult). The class is being offered weekly on Saturdays from 1 to 2pm. Adult Horsemanship Class is for ages 18 and up and will be offered once a week on a weekday evening. Each weekly class will be an hour in length and the cost is \$100 per month, per attendee. Classes begin in October. The Carriage Barn offers inclusive experiences for all in a kind & supportive atmosphere. Small group sizes. Our facilities include indoor and outdoor arenas, heated tack room, sensory trails and

NOTEBOOK: PAGE 27



Massachusetts Secretary of Veterans' Services, Francisco Ureña, Essex County Correction Officer Toni Wakester, and Essex County Sheriff Kevin Coppinger.

## Sheriff Holds National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony

On September 15th, the Essex County Sheriff's Department held a service to remember the sacrifices and recognize the service of those who were prisoners of war (POW), as well as those who are missing in action (MIA), and their families.

Presiding over the service was Essex County Sheriff Kevin Coppinger, Massachusetts Secretary of Veterans' Services, Francisco Ureña, and Vietnam Veteran, former POW, Timothy Sullivan.

The Vietnam War Veterans of Massa-

chusetts Missing in Action Memorial was unveiled on March 29, 1994 at the ECSD Headquarters.

It is the only monument in Massachusetts to recognize the Vietnam War Missing in Action soldiers.

Also participating at this year's commemoration will be the U.S.S. Constitution Color Guard, the Essex County Sheriff's Dept. Honor Guard and the Irish-American Police Officers Assn. Pipe and Drum Band.



## Lawrence/State Police Gang Unit Arrest Three on Heroin Distribution Charges

LAWRENCE – Lawrence Police and the Massachusetts State Police Gang Unit arrested two men and a woman on Wednesday for trafficking heroin, illegally possessing firearms, and one for driving without a license, among other charges.

The combined state and local police gang units conducted surveillance and followed Baez-Arias, and Elvin Santo after sending an undercover informant to purchase drugs with marked cash. After stopping and finding the marked money on the suspects (shortly after the buy), police arrested the two men.

Police then secured a search warrant of an apartment on Summer St. in Lawrence, the keys of which were seized from one of the suspects during the arrest.

During the search of the Summer St. apartment, police discovered nearly \$30,000 (street value) of heroin and cocaine, large wads of cash, a Dominican passport, multiple cell phones, and drug packaging equipment and material.

Police also arrested Jocelyn Rosario who was in the vehicle during the controlled drug buy. She was charged with being knowingly present where heroin is kept.

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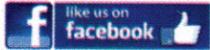
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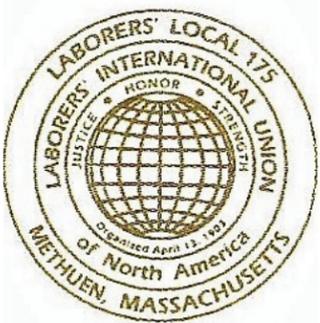
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## Methuen City Council At-Large

**IN THE GROOVE with Cindy Annis**

# Elton John

Cindy Annis

VALLEY PATRIOT VINYL COLUMNIST

Elton John was born on March 25, 1947 in Pinner Middlesex, UK. His birth name is Reginald Kenneth Dwight. Dwight was raised by his grandparents in a council house until he turned six years old and his parents got married.

Dwight found a friend in music. When his parents would be arguing, he would go to his room and listen to the radio. By age 3, Dwight could play songs on the piano by ear. So, his parents got him piano lessons when he turned 7. Helen Piena, his teacher gave Dwight books to help him catch up with the other students since he could not yet read music. The lessons got him a scholarship at 11 years old to the Royal Academy of Music. He also learned music theory at the academy.

His mother was very interested in what her son was doing with his life. His father, on the other hand, couldn't care less about his son or his wife. They got a divorce when Dwight was fourteen years old. Later that year, Dwight's mother re-married a caring and supportive husband named Fred Farebrother.

With a little help from his family, Dwight started playing piano on Thursday and Saturday nights in the bar at the Northwood Hills Hotel. Known as Reggie, the 15-year-old played songs that he wrote and some classics from Ray Charles and Jim Reeves.

In 1962, Dwight formed a band with his friends called Bluesology. In 1965, Bluesology had their first hit with the song "Come Back Baby". After the success of their first record, Bluesology played backup for groups like the Isley Brothers and Major Lance. After playing with Long John Baldry at the Marquee Club 16 times, Dwight got sick of playing as a backup performer.

In 1967, Dwight answered an advertisement he saw in the 'New Musical Express' magazine. The advertisement was placed by Artists & Repertoire agent for Liberty Records, Ray Williams. When Dwight met Williams for the first time, Williams gave Dwight a stack of lyrics by Bernie Taupin. Dwight wrote music for the song and mailed it to Taupin. This was the start of something big when they both met and recorded the song 'Scarecrow'. Six months after their first song, Dwight officially changed his name to Elton John. The name is a mashup of Bluesology saxophonist Elton Dean, and singer Long John Baldry.

In 1968, the duo joined DJM records as staff songwriters for two years. They worked like an assembly line. Taupin wrote lyrics in under an hour, while John wrote the music in half an hour. Lyrics would get scrapped if John couldn't write music for the lyrics.

While the duo was writing for everybody else, music publisher Steve Brown suggested that the duo write songs that Elton John

could record as a solo artist. In 1969, "Empty Sky" was released. The following year, the self-titled "Elton John" was released.

In August of 1970, John had his first concert in America at the Troubadour in Los Angeles, California. Drummer Nigel Olsson of the Spencer Davis Group and bassist Dee Murray helped with the background instrumentation at the successful concert.

Things didn't start going good for Elton John until 1972 when Davey Johnstone joined the band on guitar and backup vocals. That same year, "Honky Château" was released and went to number one on the Billboard charts. After that album was released, seven more albums also went to number one.

By 1973, John created his own record label simply called 'Rocket Records'. Artists like Neil Sedaka and Kiki Dee were signed to the label. John didn't record himself on Rocket Records, instead he signed a contract with MCA records in 1974. That same year, Elton John rubbed elbows with one of the great performers in music history.

Elton John and John Lennon paired up together and recorded the Beatles hit song "Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds." Later that year, Elton John recorded "Whatever Gets You Through The Night" with John Lennon. The duo performed at Madison Square Garden that year in what would be Lennon's last live performance.

In 1975, Pete Townsend of 'The Who' asked John to be in their movie adaptation of the musical "Tommy". John sang the song "Pinball Wizard" in the movie.

Later that year, John fired the drummer and bass player of the band. In 1976, in front of a crowd of 75,000 people in Wembley Stadium, John introduced his band of both old and new members. The new bass player was Kenny Passarelli, and James Newton Howard played the keyboard. Originally, Caleb Quaye and Roger Pope came back with Davey Johnstone and Ray Cooper.

Moving on to 1987, Elton John had to have surgery on his throat to remove polyps. After the surgery though, his voice never returned to normal.

The songs of Elton John are known by both young and old audiences. In addition to just recording songs for top 40 radio, John teamed up with Tim Rice to write the soundtrack for the 1994 Disney film called 'The Lion King'.

All of his charity work for AIDS paid off in 1998. In February of that year, Elton John became the first openly gay musician to be knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

*That's the story of Elton John. Tune in to Cindy's Vinyl Vault on 980 WCAP Sunday nights at 10, Monday nights at 11, and Wednesday nights at 10. Get your fix of the best music from the 50s 60s and 70s and even make a request at 978-454-4980. Remember it's not how old it is, but how great it sounds.*

**TV TALK WITH BILL CUSHING**



# Bill's TV Talk Mailbag

Bill Cushing

VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST



From time to time, my column will feature questions asked by readers regarding the world of TV. Feel free to email me with any questions you may have about TV at BillsTVPat@gmail.com, and I'll do my

best to answer you and may feature your question in a future column. Here's what we got!

*I finally caught up and finished the new Twin Peaks revival. While it was confusing at times, I found it fascinating to watch and enjoyed the return of all my favorite characters. What's next for the series? – Sandra from Salisbury*

Sandra, I'm glad you enjoyed it. It wouldn't be Twin Peaks if it wasn't confusing. I found it hard to follow at times myself, but overall a fun experience and one that fans of the original should definitely not miss. This was always intended as a one season revival, so currently there are no plans for any further episodes. But for what it's worth, Showtime was very pleased with it and said the door is always open to David Lynch and Twin Peaks if he wants to make more.

*The season premiere of This Is Us was a real tear-jerker, I loved it. What can we expect for the rest of season 2? – Jo-Ann from Methuen*

Jo-Ann, while we finally learned how Jack died in the premiere, there is still a lot about Jack we haven't learned. He will still continue to be a big part of the show. This season will explore Jack's youth and his terrible relationship with his father. The producers are in the process of casting an actor to play a younger version of Jack.

*Please give me some scoop on the second season of Stranger Things!! It's my favorite and I can't wait for it to come back! – David from North Andover*

Season 2 of Stranger Things will delve more into the government conspiracy part of the story. Executive Producer Ross Duffer said "We wanted to explore the idea of how they could keep something like this covered up, and what

happens if you're not able to keep a lid on this." You can also expect a lot more 80s nostalgia this season, including a plethora of references to the movies of the summer of '84. This season will take place in the fall of that year.

*I was completely stunned by the death of Linda on Blue Bloods. I never saw it coming. What's the story behind it? – Laurie from Haverhill.*

You weren't the only one, Laurie. Fans of the show felt shocked and blindsided by the premiere. This was just simply a case of Amy Carlson, who played Linda, wanting to move on. Her contract was up at the end of last season and it was her decision not to renew it. The fallout from Linda's death will resonate for the rest of this season.

*I am a big fan of Survivor and I still enjoy it very much, but how has it been able to last so long in such a competitive TV landscape? I wonder how long it will be around. – Chris from Woburn*

As a big fan of the show myself, I get asked this question quite a bit. Survivor is now in its 35th season on CBS. How is it still "surviving" you ask? One reason is that it still does very well for CBS in the ratings, averaging almost 9 million viewers a week. That is nothing to sneeze at in this day and age of a million channels and streaming services. Another big reason for its longevity and success lies in its ability to reinvent itself every single season while retaining elements of the original formula. They also have a great host, Jeff Probst, who is much more than that. He's a huge part of the show. For example, he keeps the action going with his tribal council questioning and has been at the center of many big moments, particularly cast-away Jeff Varner outing tribemate Zeke Smith as transgender at tribal council last season. Don't worry Chris, I don't see Survivor going anywhere anytime soon.

Ok everyone, that's it for this month. Keep those questions coming!

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

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# D.J. DEEB

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- \* Methuen Homeowner and Taxpayer
- \* Teacher/Dept. Chair, Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School
- \* Adjunct Professor at Bunker Hill Community College and UMass Lowell



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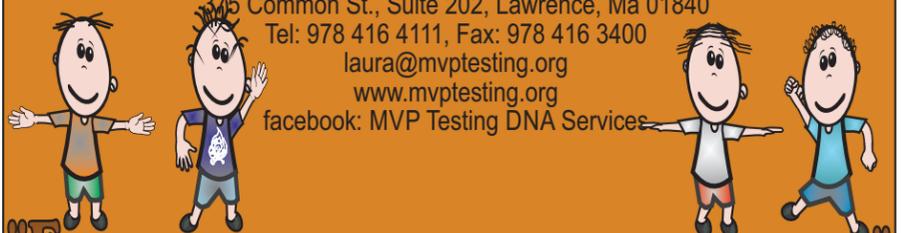
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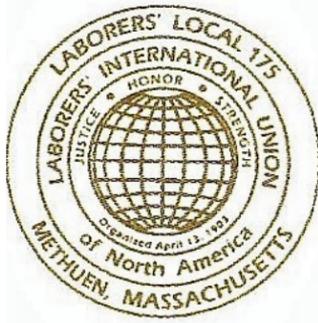
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## Charlie Baker Supports Selfish Drug Addicts But Not Hard Working Americans

**Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD**  
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

In Whitman this week a confirmed heroin-abusing narcissist in an Audi rammed a Chevy into a truck. The woman driving the Chevy was crushed on the spot. After the crash the drug addict left the other woman dying and ran on foot to meet her drug dealer to purchase \$50 worth of heroin.

This is what drug addicts and their choices are. Getting to meet her drug dealer took precedence over calling 911 to save the life of the woman who was dying because of her and her alone.

Apologists claim we should excuse this because addicts' brains are different from those of us who would have stopped and called 911 to save a human life. Not one day goes by without someone beating that drum in the media.

Soon it will become politically incorrect to state that drug addicts need to be held responsible for their choices. People who say so will be called haters. After all, drug addicts must be treated with reverence and sympathy.

The only reason these apologists like Charlie Baker have kept mum so far about this drug addict is because the woman she killed was the mother of a police officer.

Charlie set the 'it's not their fault they're drug addicts, it's their doctor's fault' ball rolling with his inaugural address where he explicitly blamed doctors for drug addicts overdosing on heroin, even though the parents of the dead addict, he tearfully abused, themselves said their son never got anything from doctors.

Charlie continued demonizing doctors while giving Mexican drug cartels a pass, even after the Boston DEA pointed out the huge onslaught of pills and fentanyl from Mexico. Nope, said Charlie, we need to destroy pain patients to keep the focus away from the Sinaloans.

VP readers have read here about how doctors openly tell patients that they are afraid of losing their license and that they do not prescribe pain medicine for any patient anymore.

Charlie had an absolute victory last week when a friend of mine killed himself because he could not get any doctor in Massachusetts to treat his severe pain. He had been in a horrendous accident back

in the 90s where he flew 60 feet through the air and broke 18 bones, including his pelvis. He worked hard for years with metal plates holding him together. All of this was on top of severe arthritis from working hard as a mechanic and from his service in the armed forces.

My friend was forced to seek help from a "pain" doctor affiliated with the Brockton Hospital because his family doctor retired and I was under threat of having my medical license stolen.

The "pain" doctor immediately ordered that he must go off pain medicine completely because Charlie does not want anybody to be on pain medicine at all. I am unable to understand a single legitimate medical reason for taking a 62 year old man totally off pain medicine when it had been safely helping him for ten years to stay active, earn a living and be a grandfather.

Well, Charlie and the compliant Brockton doctor got their wish. My friend killed himself last week because he could not get out of bed due to severe pain, could not do the things he loved, could not be there for his large family and a dozen grandchildren, could not earn a living. He was able to take his Harley out just once this past summer.

When my patients and I went to federal court to get my stolen medical license back, he had hoped that Judge Gorton would quickly do what he must by law. Last month I wrote that Charlie must be bringing tremendous pressure on Judge Gorton. The Judge still hasn't touched our emergency petition in four months.

I had told my friend to hold on till my license came back so I could help him again as I had done for years. He could hold on only so long, waiting for Judge Gorton to do the right thing.

My friend killed himself because Charlie unlawfully blocked access to a legitimate medical treatment that has been helping humans for thousands of years. He died because he could not get any pain medicine to keep him alive. His death seals the success of Charlie's policies.

Congratulations Charlie! You just made a law-abiding, hard-working, loyal patriotic veteran kill himself. Savor your victory!



## Black Cats

**Robin Desmet**  
VALLEY PATRIOT KITTY COLUMNIST

Halloween—a holiday for witches, ghosts, vampires, and the much maligned black cat. But what is it about black cats that brings out the haters?

The reputation of the black cat as an evil creature started back in Europe in The Middle Ages. In 1233, Pope Gregory IX claimed that Satan took the form of a black cat when walking on the earth. Many black cats were killed as a result. Stray cats were frequently seen in alleys being fed and cared for by lonely old ladies. Some of these disheveled old ladies became targets and were accused of practicing black magic and witchcraft. Their cat companions became guilty by association.

Superstition and fear of black cats continued during the 16th century. According to folklore, a father and son were traveling by foot at night when a black cat happened to cross their path. The pair began throwing stones at the defenseless creature, who ran into a nearby home where an elderly woman resided. The next day, the old woman emerged from her residence with bruises all over her body. The father and son began to spread the rumor that the old lady was a witch, and that she could turn herself into a cat at night in order to wander the streets undetected. Thus began the superstition that a black cat crossing your path will bring bad luck and that witches can take the form of cats at night.

In Massachusetts in 1692, the association of black cats with evil, witches, and death continued. The Salem Witch hysteria helped to fuel the fear of black cats and to further the idea that black cats were either witches in disguise or were the

companions of women practicing witchcraft.

Fortunately for black cats, not all of the folklore surrounding their existence is negative. In ancient Egypt, all cats, including black cats were considered sacred. Cats were symbols of grace and protection and the punishment for harming a cat was severe.

In Scotland, if a black cat appears on your doorstep, it is a symbol of prosperity. British and Irish sailors consider black cats to be good luck on board their ships. The fisherman's wives also consider black cats to be lucky and often have one at home to help insure their husband's safe return.

Today, I think most of these stories about black cats are largely regarded as myth and folklore. While the black cat is ubiquitous at Halloween, it is not really feared. I know many people, myself included, who consider black cats to be beautiful animals and very desirable as pets.

Another myth about black cats is that they cannot be adopted during the month of October. Shelters do not want to see cats sacrificed, tortured, or used as an accessory to be discarded when Halloween is over. Despite this, most shelters do not restrict the adoption of black cats around Halloween. Instead, potential adopters are screened and interviewed prior to adoption, to insure that the cats are being adopted into the proper homes.



So, if you're looking to adopt a black cat in the near future, just throw a pinch of salt over your left shoulder and head over to your nearest animal shelter.



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## Beneath the Surface

# Heaven and Hell: They Really Exist?

Paul Murano

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Man is the only creature who is aware of his own impending death. We all know we will die, and as we grow more mature we realize the lightning speed at which this life flies by. It may occur naturally with age, or with a man-made disaster like in Las Vegas, or by natural disaster like a hurricane Irma, or a disease that could take you within weeks, or even an accident that could kill you instantly. We may die before birth by natural miscarriage or by abortion. The bottom line is that our personal death is relatively imminent. After that, what is next? Many believe we will spend an eternity in perfect happiness or misery - heaven or hell. But are these places real? Let's go beneath the surface on this question of the afterlife.

First, we can make one general observation about death and the human condition: belief in an afterlife is universal. This does not mean everyone who has ever lived has consciously believed in life after death. However, every people and every culture since pre-historical times seems to have held some form of this belief. We see it in cave paintings, pyramids, and ancient literature. This belief was present in pagan polytheistic religions, ancestor-worship cultures, and those that believed in reincarnation. Finally, we have seen it in the great monotheistic religions of the world spanning back four millennia. This fascinating phenomenon of a universal knowledge of life after death can be distinguished into three categories: human intuition, human reason, and divine Revelation. Let's take a look at each.

With regard to intuition, the pre-Socratic pagan world universally held that life continues beyond the grave. It made no sense to them that the unique personhood of each individual would end with the cessation of bodily function. Hence the ancient world and far eastern cultures to this day believe in some form of continued existence of life after death, revering their ancestors even after they have passed on.

With regard to reason, the great philosophers of the ancient and medieval world

came to the conclusion through reason alone that we survive bodily death. The component of our being that is able to grasp immaterial objects such as thoughts and ideas must be immaterial itself, and therefore survive death of the material body. Only something physical can grasp a physical object, like a hand does to a pen; and likewise only something immaterial can grasp an immaterial object, like a mind does to an idea. Physical brains process perception of the material world through the physical senses, like other animals; but our immaterial rational powers enable us to understand essences and ideas, use reason, and freely choose to act over and above our physiological impulses. Physical things cease to exist by decomposing and disintegrating. With immaterial or spiritual things there are no parts to decompose. Hence, the soul continues to exist after the body dies.

Lastly, with divine Revelation there is an element added to intuition and reason: faith. God has revealed it. Christianity holds that God broke into history to communicate the important truth that we are made for union with Him, in this life and forever in the next. This means perfect happiness and fulfillment once all the effects of sin are eradicated. Since the redemption project was consummated in Christ's sacrifice, all we have to do is say 'yes' to His grace and invitation with a willingness to cooperate. A 'no' is a rejection of God's love and a choice to live apart from Him. Our choice is fixed at the moment of our death; its trajectory will be magnified through eternity. It is reasonable to conclude, therefore, that this ultimate choice is to what all our lesser choices in life ought to be directed.

In keeping with this theme, it is important to note that from pre-historical pagan times it has been universally believed that justice plays out after death. One's afterlife correlates with how one has chosen to live this life. This is also the case in Christianity, the notable difference being bodily resurrection and a belief that God is merciful and offers help to us in overcoming our self-imposed unhappiness. The only block to perfect never-ending

**HELL: 31**

# Artificial Sweeteners The Silent Enemy

Rick Bellanti

VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

I am one to talk, as I became addicted to diet sodas back in 1986, when I first started seeing a nutritionist at a local hospital with weekly nutritional counseling sessions. I'm sure they didn't know then, what everyone knows now about the health risks with drinking diet sodas (or diet anything for that matter).

I was addicted to regular soda, drinking up to a six pack or more a day of soda. One of the first suggestions she had was for me to switch to diet soda and in that first week alone I lost 9 pounds from all the extra calories I was no longer ingesting. This was my calorie intake a day from six cans a cola (140 calories x 6 cans) was 840 calories day for just my drink of choice but that's not the real shocker; each 12 ounce can of soda has 39 grams of sugar, that's 234 grams of sugar a day! Not counting the food eaten that day as well.

Diet sodas truly are the enemy of your body and is anything but "diet" so don't be fooled, it is secretly making me, you and all of us unhealthy. Did you know the artificial sweeteners in diet sodas have been known to trigger headaches? And if you are one of the millions of people that suffer from migraines, please look at what you are putting into your body; many people who suffer from migraines were able to pinpoint the triggers linked to their soda drinking.

Did you know that drinking a mixed drink of alcohol along with diet soda will get into your system faster making you more impaired quicker, because the artificial sweetener in diet sodas are known to absorb into our bloodstream faster than normal sugar.

The artificial sweetener in diet sodas trick your brain into thinking you are having something sweet, these artificial sweeteners have been shown to have the same effect on your body as sugar triggers insulin, which then puts your body into fat storage mode and of course leads to weight gain.

Even though it has no calories, if you are trying to lose weight in the long run, it's just not going to happen. Most people gain weight from this and in the worst

spot, your mid section. It's also been said that people will tend to eat more calories justifying they can get away with it because their drink of choice is "diet" and has no calories, so it could be psychological as well.

Eating more food and drinking diet soda is a collision course for the makings of bad cholesterol, bigger waist and mid section, high blood pressure, elevated glucose levels and there you have it: Type II Diabetes. Lately, there have been findings with connections to stroke and dementia but more research is being done to find direct connections.

If you are trying to lose weight, get rid of the word "DIET" from your vocabulary, but also from the food and drinks you purchase. If the word diet is in there, then it's NOT good for you. It means they have taken something out of the ingredients and replaced it with something else and that is usually chemicals - (as in the artificial sweeteners in diet soda but also in every day foods - (especially the worst: prepackaged food products). These items will trick your body and brain into thinking you are eating something that you are not and disrupts the body's natural ability to regulate calorie intake based on the sweetness of the normal foods. It tricks you into thinking you can overeat and you'll crave more, its a vicious cycle and you will not lose weight no matter how hard you try.

Healthier low-calorie choices are everywhere including water, skim milk, and unsweetened tea or coffee. My favorite drink of choice is sparkling water / plain soda water with fresh pieces of fruit, cut up, like strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and oranges. Keeping your body healthy with water goes way back to my very first column, drink half your body weight in water daily. You'll thank me later.

Rick Bellanti is a health and wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs, and has lost 160 lbs since the start of 2015. If you have any questions or comments, please post them to his Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti Facebook page and once a month he will address a few of the topics here.



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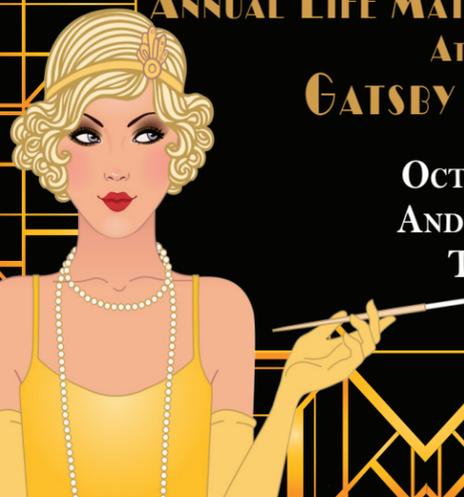
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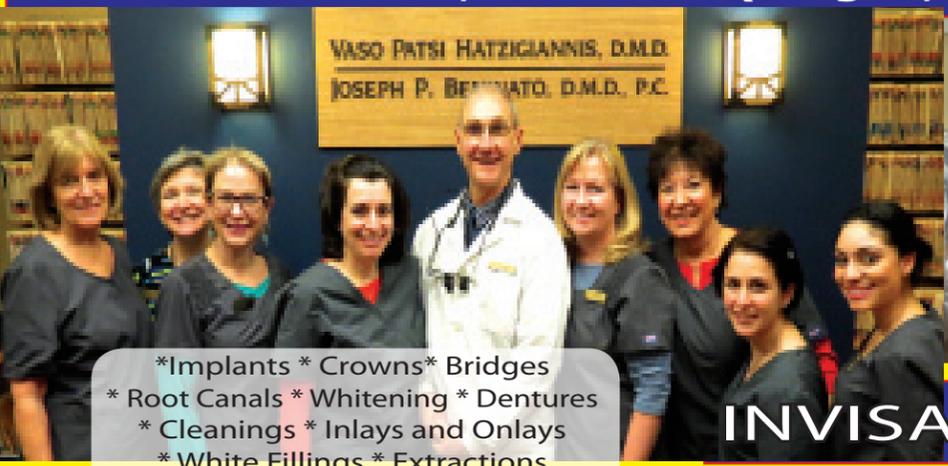
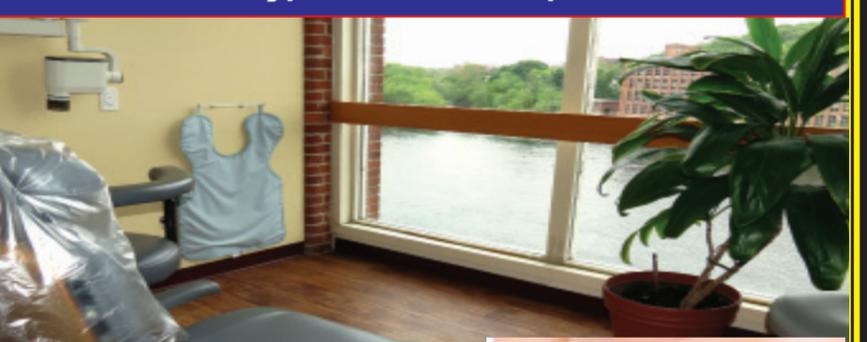


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**METHUEN: FROM PAGE 4**

transparency. What makes me different than my opponents is that I am not, and have not been an elected official. I am, however, an informed citizen of Methuen who studies the issues from the perspective of a resident only. I have been active in providing Methuen citizens a forum to speak out about actions town government is taking that they do not agree with. In particular, the town's powers to arbitrarily take average resident homeowner's property and give it to a developer to construct low-income housing."

"I am concerned that Methuen [officials] are more interested in assisting private developers such as in the Methuen Square Affordable Housing Project, because it will adversely affect Methuen's quality of life; increased traffic problems, concentrated lower income housing, increasing that area's need for additional police protection, increase attendance at local schools that are already at maximum capacity, reduce the value of surrounding properties and this development will act as a housing magnet for populations outside of Methuen. Methuen needs to have Councilors who are not part of the good old boy system, who will make sure that any development plans are open and endorsed by the citizens of Methuen."

**RYAN DIZOGLIO** - The third DiZoglio in recent memory to run for office, Ryan is the brother of school committeeman Nick DiZoglio and the third cousin of State Rep. Diana DiZoglio, who is not endorsing him in this race.

"I'm not running on my name," he said. "Though it does help," he admits. DiZoglio says he is taking nothing for granted and is knocking on as many doors as he can to find out what voters want from their city government. DiZoglio ran unsuccessfully two years ago for the East District City

Council seat, a loss he says was probably a good thing.

"The voters aren't just going to vote for you just because you have a famous name. They want to know what you are going to do for their neighborhoods. They want to see you doing the work. So, this year I'm campaigning harder, knocking more doors and doing more."

DiZoglio works at Loss Mitigation Services where he helps distressed homeowners avoid foreclosure. He says his top two priorities are to provide seniors tax relief or services and establish a capital plan that will provide sidewalks and fix streets, as well as to provide infrastructure that will lift the burden of Methuen being dependent on residential taxes.

**RYAN HAMILTON** - A newcomer to politics, Hamilton is 19 years old and says his youth and inexperience in local government are more of a plus for his candidacy.

"I don't owe anyone any political favors," he told The Valley Patriot. "I don't have any political enemies either. That means I can look at every proposal that comes to the city council with a fresh look at it on the merits not on who proposed it or who is behind it, or any of the other things that distract politicians who have been around a long time."

Hamilton says he is basing his campaign on community engagement, public safety, education, and small business growth. "I think what makes me different than the other candidates is that I'm not going to guarantee you that I'm going to do everything by myself. I want to work with my fellow council members and state officials and make it a real team effort."

Hamilton is also calling for an audit of all city programs and services as well as a budgetary audit.

**YOUR MONEY**

**Financial Planning for Adult Children with Special Needs**

Alex Talcott

VALLEY PATRIOT MONEY COLUMNIST

If you're a parent of a child with special needs, you've likely dedicated much of your life to researching, providing, and advocating for the best care for your child. So naturally, you may worry about what will happen when you are no longer able to supervise your child's care due to declining health, illness, or death. Fortunately, there are steps you can take to better ensure your child has sufficient financial resources along with a dedicated support system. Here are six areas to help protect your child's future.

1. Include your child in the process. To the extent you're able to, talk with your child about his or her future. If employed, is her job sustainable for the future? Does he feel comfortable managing everyday finances? Where does he naturally turn to for support? Understanding your child's wishes and being realistic about his or her abilities will help you craft a long-term support strategy.

2. Provide guardianship and decision-making support. If your child needs support making financial, legal or medical decisions, it's important to obtain guardianship and/or conservatorship from the courts. With this authority granted, you can designate who should have this responsibility when and if you are no longer able to fulfill the role. Communicate early and often with the family members or delegate who will oversee and provide support for your child's care, so that they know what to expect. It's important for your delegate to know what decisions your child can make independently, and where he or she may need some assistance.

3. Create an estate plan. Establishing an estate plan is key to ensuring your wishes are followed and may help your heirs avoid probate court. Ask your financial advisor and estate planner to help you include protections for your child within your estate plan. Provide care instructions in the event of your death or if an accident leaves you unable to manage your child's care.

4. Save strategically. A tax-advantaged ABLE account, created by the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act in 2014, is one way to create a financial cushion. Earnings grow tax deferred, and funds can be withdrawn tax-free if they're used to meet qualified expenses for your child. The law defines "qualified expenses" broadly, allowing funds to cover the

costs of health care, assistive technology, housing, education, legal fees or personal support services. Anyone can contribute to the account, so that means grandparents, siblings, even family friends can help grow this nest egg. Your financial advisor can help you determine if your child meets eligibility requirements and review annual contribution limits to help you maximize this resource.

5. Set up your inheritance. If you'd like to leave money to provide for your child, consider if establishing a special needs trust makes sense for your situation. Simply naming your child as a beneficiary in your estate could compromise his or her eligibility for government benefits such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid. There are several types of trust accounts that allow your child to maintain government support, often by providing funds directly to a care service or through a trustee. There are advantages and considerations for each option, so consult your attorney for guidance.

6. Research living arrangements. If your child is still living at home, explore housing options that will provide a safe environment tailored to his or her abilities. Researching your options is crucial, even if you intend for your child to reside with a sibling or another family member. Circumstances such as divorce, job loss or illness could prevent the family member from providing the level of care your child needs and deserves.

By addressing the areas above, you can feel more confident that your adult child will be well cared for.

*Alex Talcott, JD, is a Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. in Middleton, Massachusetts and Portsmouth and Bedford, New Hampshire. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for over 10 years. To contact him: (603) 319-3108; 25 Chestnut St., Ste. 300N, Portsmouth, NH, 03801; www.ameripriseadvisors.com/alex.talcott*

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**PUERTO RICO: FROM PAGE 12**

on the island he couldn't even wire money to his own sister two days ago.

"I tried sending her a WalMart MoneyGram but there is no way for them to receive it. I had to cancel the MoneyGram and send cash through the mail. I don't think people realize there's nothing left. There's no place to cash a check. There's no place to receive money transfers. There's no way for many people to get medications or prescriptions from a doctor, or even phone service so they can call their families here in the states to tell them what they need."

Gonzalez says that his mission to help the people of Puerto Rico will not take away from the work he is doing with Heal

Lawrence and pledges to have plenty of firefighters and volunteers here in Lawrence to help families displaced by fires while he is on the island.

"Heal Lawrence is strong and there will be people here to help while I'm away. But, this is a worthwhile endeavor and we can use all the help we can get!"

Anyone wishing to donate items or money to the relief effort can drop them off at any of the fire stations in Lawrence or can mail a check made out to Lawrence Firefighters United for Puerto Rico but mail the check to:

Lawrence Firefighters Local 146  
PO BOX 533  
Lawrence MA, 01841.

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## From Israel to the Valley Patriot



## This is What Heroism Looks Like

### Forest Rain

VALLEY PATRIOT ISRAELI COLUMNIST

A regular man, Niv Nehemiah would have preferred to remain anonymous. His family takes no comfort in being told that he is a hero. They want him to heal, to stop being in so much pain.

Two months after the terror attack in the Yavneh grocery store, where he works, everything is a challenge. He can now walk with support. Slowly, painfully. His speech is improving.

The knife that plunged into his head and his neck, ripped his vocal cords, missing the jugular by millimeters.

Real heroes don't look like comic book super-heroes. They aren't necessarily big, strong or muscular. They are people, uncomfortable with the title. When told they are heroes, they tend to blink, look away and then say: "I just did what I had to do." Or, like WW2 veterans say: "the heroes are the ones that did not come home."

When asked about his heroism, Niv says simply: "I'm not a hero.... The main thought I had in my head was that I am fighting for my life for my children and my wife."

When asked if he had to relive the attack, would he choose to run away, Niv answers: "No. The instinct is to fight, for your family."

The signs of his injuries still very visible, Niv is in obvious pain. For him, the

battle against the terrorist is not over. He has difficulty swallowing. The things we do with ease, without even thinking about them are difficult for Niv and yet, he has decided that he wants to attend the trial of the terrorist.

When asked why, Niv explains: "It's not to show that I won, that I am out of this a 'hero'. It is to show the people of Israel that we stood against terror and won."

It is not easy to look your would-be murderer in the eye. It is not easy to look calm and dignified when you are in pain. Niv's personal battle is now to heal but yet again he is thinking of something bigger than himself. During the attack, it was his family. Now it is his Nation. His indomitable spirit will not accept anything less than victory.

This is what heroism looks like.

Beware the person who claims the title of hero with ease and with pride. They are not worthy.

Courage is usually considered to be lack of fear but that is not true. Niv's courage during the attack came from terrible fear of never again seeing the people he loves most. Niv's courage to stand in front of his attacker, to show that although the terrorist broke his body he could not break Niv's spirit – that comes from sheer determination.

Heroism is not about being stronger than other people; it is about loving something more than yourself.

## Magliocchetti Lends a Hand With an \$1,100 Donation to Haverhill Schools

HAVERHILL, MA – School Committee Member and candidate for State Representative, Paul Magliocchetti today helped Haverhill Schools get ready for a new school year, donating \$1,100 for a new computer cart. This donation is the latest of several Magliocchetti has made throughout the years including donating his salary as a School Committee Member.

"Both my children and I are products of the Haverhill School system. As a graduate, a parent and a School Committee Member, I know our educators do a tremendous job not only preparing our kids for the future, but dealing with a host of social problems," said Magliocchetti. "They do this in spite of the continued decline in school funding which forces them to either use outdated equipment or none at all. This donation, I hope will, in some small part, help our teachers out and let them know that we support the incredible work they do each and every day."

Magliocchetti added, "Ensuring our children have the best education

possible is one of the main reasons I am running for State Representative. I want to work with our schools to find the avenues for success for our students. Whether that is coming together to solve the social and mental health issues our kids face to reduce the dropout rate, or opening new doors to education and training that provide our children with the skills to have good paying jobs, I will continue to fight for our schools, our teachers and our children."

Magliocchetti is a first generation American and a lifelong resident of Haverhill. A former Police Athletic League coach and small business owner, Paul currently is an Attorney/ Partner at Sheehan, Schiavoni, Juras and Magliocchetti, LLP. In addition he also serves as a member of the Haverhill School Committee, Chairman of the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, and Chairman of Bethany Homes. Paul and his wife Julie have three children, Massimo, Isabella and Lucas.

## Rep. Lenny Mirra Endorses Shaun Toohey for State Rep.

To the Editor:

Haverhill residents are facing an important choice when they go to the polls on November 7th to elect a new state representative from the 3rd Essex District.

As a friend, a neighbor, and as someone who will be that new legislator's colleague in the House of Representatives after Election Day, I am writing to urge the people of Haverhill to vote for Shaun Toohey to be their next state representative.

I know Shaun to be a good person. He's a family man who's proud to call Haverhill home and proud to raise a family here in the Merrimack Valley. He is also a successful small business owner who knows the importance of hard work, managing money responsibly, and doing a good, honest job for the people he represents.

These are all skills that are sorely needed on Beacon Hill. I know we can trust Shaun to make fiscally-responsible decisions about the state budget. Like me, he will argue vocally to bring more money back to cities and towns in the form of

local aid, and he will fight hard to keep as much money as possible where it belongs – in taxpayers' wallets. He'll work tirelessly to keep our streets safe and to make our schools as successful as they possibly can be. And he will do his best to help promote economic development throughout the region so people in Haverhill have the jobs they need.

Most importantly, I know how much Shaun wants to dedicate his best effort to make Haverhill a better place. He is committed to the community and he wants to work with others to make the city a safe, affordable, and vibrant place to live and work.

I trust Shaun, and I know he will be a great state representative. I urge your readers to join with me in supporting his campaign, and I urge everyone in Haverhill to vote for Shaun Toohey for state representative on November 7th.

Sincerely,  
Lenny Mirra  
State Representative  
2nd Essex District

## LAWRENCE: FROM PAGE 5

and Common and Essex Streets every day.

What's important to most people who live in Lawrence is public safety. Right now the public does not feel safe. No matter who wins the mayor's race the police department will be the loser. So too, will be the people of Lawrence who innocently go about their lives afraid of being the next victim of the next shooting, or the next home invasion.

Make no mistake about it, Lantigua and Rivera are no friends of the police.

Lantigua stripped the department down with 29 layoffs and multiple demotions. Rivera, as a councilor approved it. As mayor, Rivera has been hostile to the police, micromanaging their every move and meddling in their investigations. Rivera can say that Comstat numbers prove crime is down in Lawrence, but then conceals those numbers from the press. This from a guy who promised transparency four years ago when running against Lantigua the first time.

On the other hand Willie Lantigua accused Lawrence firefighters of purposely setting fires to make him look bad, after he laid off 28 firefighters and closed two fire stations.

To be fair, Lawrence has made some legitimate gains under both Dan Rivera and Willie Lantigua. Those gains should be recognized by both sides in this contest. They deserve the credit for the good things they have done. But, they also bear the burden of responsibility for the things they have done wrong, or most importantly, what they haven't done.

Either way, Lawrence continues to be the biggest money scam the world has ever seen. The city gets grants and other funding from the state and federal government to pay for municipal operations. [Nearly 80% of Lawrence's budget comes from the state.]

If Lawrence over-spends and goes into debt, the state floats the city a loan. The following year, the state increases Lawrence's funding so that Lawrence can take that state tax money, and use it to pay back the loan they owe to ... the state.

So you see, it doesn't really matter who wins Lawrence's election on November 7th. Lawrence is designed to be perpetually dependent upon state and outside funding through a failed system that has led Lawrence's chance of success to be right where it is today.

A real leader for Lawrence would be trying to break that cycle of failure and be willing to make political enemies by doing real things to really change it.

If only there was a leader like that in Lawrence. Instead, Lawrence has one guy looking for redemption, and another guy looking to run for congress.



Tom Duggan is publisher of *The Valley Patriot*, an author, former Lawrence School Committeeman, and hosted the *Paying Attention!* Radio Program for 20 years. You can

E-mail your comments to [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com)



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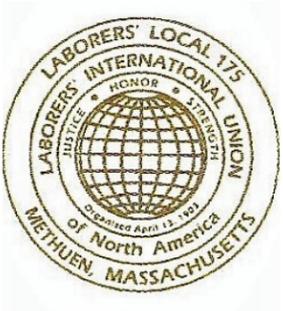
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Mike Gagliardi, President, Laborers' Union Local 175

**NOTEBOOK : FROM PAGE 15**

gardens. Clinic proceeds help support The Carriage Barn's adaptive therapy programs. For more information, please contact The Carriage Barn at carriage-barn@comcast.net or 603-378-0140.

The Carriage Barn Equine Adaptive Therapy Programs is a 501c3 Not-for-Profit organization that seeks to promote the health and well-being of individuals of all ages with disabilities by enhancing their physical, psychological, cognitive and emotional healing and strengthening through equine activities. Program activities further this purpose by utilizing horses to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to form unique relationships that nurture and empower them in a way that brings new insights, self-confidence, improved communication, and relaxation. In the context of a quiet, natural outdoor setting, these activities provide a serene learning environment.

**STEAMPUNK PARTY** - Essex Heritage to Host Steampunk Party on October 20! Wind back the clock to the Gilded Age for an unforgettable party at the farm of railroad tycoon T.W. Peirce.

Have you ever wanted to travel back in time? Essex Heritage offers you an opportunity to wind back your clock to the Gilded Age to experience an alternative history in which technologies from the industrial revolution are reimagined in steampunk style - elaborate works of art, fashion, and mechanics - at Stop the Clock! A Steampunk Party at Witch Hill in Topsfield on October 20 at 7:30 PM.

Get your tickets before time runs out! Tickets are \$40 for Essex Heritage members, \$50 for non-members. Tickets are available online at EssexHeritage.org/StopTheClock. Ticket includes entrance, Victorian styled dancing, a drink ticket, and light nibbles. Steampunk attire is encouraged! Stop the Clock: A Steampunk Party at Witch Hill, sponsored by Pierce Farm at Witch Hill, Deacon Giles Distillery and the Topsfield Fair, is a fun fundraising event for Essex Heritage, now celebrating 20 years of preserving and enhancing the unique natural, cultural, and historic places of the region for those who live, work, and visit. The party will be held at Peirce Farm at Witch Hill, 116 Boston Street, Topsfield, MA 01983.

**BRUSH ART** - Two organizations have worked together to organize a special veteran-themed exhibition this fall. Artwork accepted was inspired by veteran-related subjects such as: art by veterans, art of veterans, military images, veterans' activities after service, and veteran programs. The exhibition includes painting, mixed media, works on paper, and photography. The winner of Best in Show will receive a \$200 cash prize.

Exhibit Title: Honoring Our Veterans  
Exhibit dates: September 30 to November 11, 2017. Closing Reception: November 11, from 2 to 4 PM (Veterans Day). Lowell Gallery Partners with Ironstone Farm to Present 'Honoring Our Veterans' Exhibition

**MUSICAL** - Acting Out! Theater Company of Lawrence presents the remarkable musical "James and the Giant Peach" Based on the book by Roald Dahl, "James and the Giant Peach" Oct. 27th-29th & Nov. 3rd-5th, features songs by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul, winners of a Tony for "Dear Evan Hansen" and an Oscar for "La La Land." Acting Out! performs at the Daly Theater, 56 Island St., Lawrence. Tickets \$15/\$18. For tickets & information, go to actingouttheater.com or call 866-811-4111. Due to limited seating, advance purchase is recommended.

**BUTTONWOODS MUSEUM**  
Luce Archaeology Collection Open House on Saturday, Oct. 21st, 10am-2pm

Join us for an open house and Q&A with artifacts from the Frederick A. Luce Collection and learn about pre-European contact Native Haverhill history. Program will showcase artifacts (such as lithics, steatite bowl fragments, ceramics, etc) that span the ancient occupational periods in more detail. Archaeologist, Rhea Fuller will describe their uses, and talk about the people who made and used them in their daily life along the Merrimack River. Come see how projectile points were made at the ancient tool technology demonstration! This is a drop-in event, open to the public and free of cost.

**METHUEN POLICE OPEN HOUSE**  
Mayor Stephen N. Zanni and Police Chief Joseph Solomon are pleased to announce that the Methuen Police Department will be hosting its annual open house on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Methuen Police Department, 90 Hampshire St. The open house will feature tours of the police station, K-9 demonstrations and S.W.A.T. equipment. Methuen Police vehicles will be on display for visitors to explore, including motorcycles, all terrain vehicles (ATVs), patrol vehicles, the public safety boat and the department's personal watercraft. Residents can meet "Chase" from Paw Patrol and try on police equipment, and children who attend can put together a free child I.D. kit. There will also be a Methuen Police Department "selfie" station for attendees to snap pictures, which they can share on social media by using the hashtag #MPDOpenHouse Free food and refreshments will be provided.

**21ST ANNUAL LAWRENCE VIET NAM MEMORIAL 4MILE RUN & WALK.**

Sunday, 29th Oct. 20th. The event is the season's premier running event in the Merrimack Valley and will go Rain or Shine. Walk begins at 10:30am. Runners at 11am.

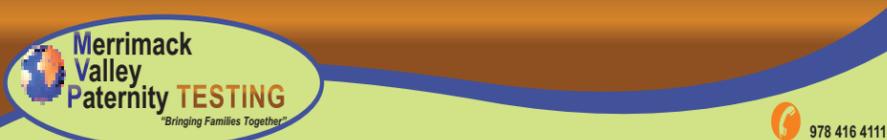
Registration online at: [http://www.lightboxreg.com/lvm\\_2016\\_2017?mobile=0](http://www.lightboxreg.com/lvm_2016_2017?mobile=0)

Start & Finish at the world famous Claddagh Pub 399 Canal St. in Lawrence, MA. Great family fun and HUGE post-race dinner! For more info about race and Sponsorship opportunities, please contact Hoppy Curran, Race Dir. atTheCooze14@yahoo.com

**METHUEN HOUSING STRATEGIES WORKSHOP**

Throughout 2017, the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) has been working collaboratively with local communities to create the first Regional Housing Plan for the Merrimack Valley. In August we began discussing the housing needs in Methuen. The next step will be to define what strategies and partnerships need to be in place to accomplish local and regional goals to create housing for all. The final plan will include a chapter, focused on Methuen, that will serve as our community's certifiable housing production plan over the next 5 years.

On October 17th, participate in the Methuen Community Housing Strategies Workshop to discuss housing needs in Methuen. The workshop will begin with an overview of the needs assessment developed over the summer, followed by a facilitated, interactive discussion of what strategies should be implemented to meet these needs. We will meet at 6:30 PM in the Great Hall of the Searles Building, 41 Pleasant Street for this workshop. To view the presentations from the recent Open House and other information about this project, visit MVPC's Regional Housing webpage: [mvpc.org/programs/regional-housing-plan](http://mvpc.org/programs/regional-housing-plan). Finally, MVPC invites you to be part of an ongoing, online conversation using coUrbanize. To participate and add your ideas anytime, anywhere, visit: <https://courbanize.com/projects/mvhousing>



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**Property Sales, Foreclosures for SEPTEMBER, 2017 in Andover, North Andover, Lawrence, & Methuen. From Northern Essex Registrar of Deeds M. Paul Iannuccillo (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, address, and price.)**

**ANDOVER**

Laurence & Jean Cookson & Cookson Balmoral Realty Trust, Brian Winters, 11-13 Balmoral St., \$412,500.00  
 Anthony Greico, Aldo & Mary-Kay Esposito, 25 Bateson Dr., \$795,000.00  
 Kathleen Vay, Antonio Butura, 22 Railroad St. Unit 209, \$240,500.00  
 Jason & Dawn Bono & Dawn Mrozinski, Hare Realty Trust, 73 High St., \$459,900.00  
 Homer & Irene Pien, Patricia Bauer, 5 Athena Cir., \$671,500.00  
 Patricia Mulcahey & Patricia F. Mulcahey Revocable Trust, Vikram & Shveta Sharma, 4 Kenilworth St., \$531,000.00  
 John & Kristina Campanelli, Zenon & Charlene Smotrycz, 6 Trevino Cir., \$1,612,000.00  
 Yvon Cormier & CA Investment Trust, Torben & Deanna Colberg, 56 Chandler Cir., \$1,325,000.00  
 Cai-Xing Yu & Ning-Fei Huang, Kathleen Deschene, 19 Michael Way Unit 37, \$325,000.00  
 George Hughes, Ahmed Hamada-Ibrahim & Shahira Hamzaoui, 6 Sorrento Cir., \$744,900.00  
 Charles Gendron & Robert Peterson & P&G Realty Trust, Ryan & Evelyn Messiner, 79 Woburn St., \$984,000.00  
 Sheryl Kaplan, Clarence Morse, 28 Suncrest Road, \$585,500.00  
 Ivan & Mai Yee, Bel Andrickson, 7 Crescent Dr., \$199,000.00  
 Derek Larocca, Rocco & Maria Deste-fano, 30 A-3 Colonial Dr., \$106,000.00  
 Jawahar Raina & Kalpna Koul, Costin & Madalina Barbu, 5 Porter Road Unit 202, \$190,000.00  
 ASC Realty Trust & Anne Connors, Leyne & Shannon Inc., 3 Rose Glen Dr., \$500,000.00  
 Maria Rodman & Maria Clarizia, Moon & Kyesook Kim, 22 Railroad St. Unit 301, \$299,000.00  
 Sara Wells Condon & Sara Wells, Nancy Sun & Giuliano Amantini, 10 Coventry Ln., \$932,000.00  
 Max Mueller, Daud Sharif, 75R River St., \$350,000.00  
 Austin & Caralyn Stern, Aaron Pawelek & Susan Diachisin, 4 Highland Ave, \$500,000.00  
 Michael Reed, Colin & Kristen Sullivan, 201 River Road, \$529,900.00  
 Paul Greystone, Michael & Jennifer Hart, 354 North Main St. Unit 310, \$235,000.00  
 Scott & Laurie Hylton, Pike School, 36 Sunset Rock Road, \$1,200,000.00  
 Carlo Esidore, Joan Westbrook, 36 Central St. Unit 6, \$298,000.00  
 Jean & Ken Shapiro & Jean Heisterkamp-Shapiro, Ming Jia & Liza Zhou, 18 Wildwood Road, \$817,000.00  
 Sargent MA Realty Trust & Charles & Heidi Sargent, Ann Olga Dibona Revocable Trust & Ann Olga Dibona, 29 Canterbury St., \$950,000.00  
 Mark & Joanne Lightbown, Leo & Meghan Lamontagne, 69 Maple Ave, \$629,900.00  
 Hart Realty Trust & William & Michael Hart, Andrew Meckel, 203 High St., \$390,000.00  
 Michael Ellis & Vitalija Trocki-Ali-povaite, Eric & Elaine Gray, 29 Stevens St., \$398,000.00  
 Barbara Pattullo, John & Rosalia Coombe, 3 Buxton Court, \$439,900.00  
 ASC Realty Trust & Anne Connors, Leyne & Shannon Inc., 3 Rose Glen Dr., \$25,000.00  
 Karl & Anelise Bateson, Marc Lajoie & Tina Enrico, 9 Hartigan Court, \$450,000.00  
 Melmark Inc. & Melmark Home Inc., Phoeurn Sar & Melinda Chao, 79 Hampshire Road, \$420,000.00

Robert Conrad Jr. & Karen Conrad, Srikanth Thiagarajan & Nandhini Rao, 11 Dascomb Road, \$576,000.00  
 Jerome & Christine Brunelle, Xin You & Su Huang, 80 Washington Park Dr. Unit 12, \$162,000.00  
 Joshua & Anna Emery, Xiaoyu Cen, 1 Colonial Dr. Unit C1-3, \$199,000.00  
 Ronald & Tara Wiltshire, Valliammai Palaniyappan & Palaniyappan Murugap-pan, 55 High St. Unit 5, \$289,900.00  
 William Vanloon, Navin & Ritu De-wagan, 1100 Spring Valley Dr. Unit C, \$290,000.00  
 Janice Copeland & Laura Gresh & Marino Realty Trust, Timothy Sullivan, 365-367 North Main St., \$700,000.00  
 Kathleen O'Keefe, Zhuofan Zhao & Fang Jiang, 40 Colonial Dr. Unit 8, \$205,000.00  
 Kwang & Insook Yoon, Ketki Hatle & Anand Minajigi, 751 Brookside Dr. Unit 751, \$345,000.00  
 Bruce & Lynn Hook, Qing Tan, 45 Ab-bot St., \$1,312,500.00  
 Dwight & Gloria Davis & Gloria P. Davis Revocable Trust & Dwight L. Davis Revocable Trust, Richard Abbott, 43 Ori-ole Dr., \$660,000.00  
 William & Doreen Cleary, Ian & Courtney O'Connor, 10 Arthur Road, \$575,000.00  
 Frank & Anne Macmillan & Anne Cavaleri, John & Michelle Russell, 20 Fosters Pond Road, \$665,000.00  
 Thomas & Shana Wesley, Massih & Denise Massihzadegan, 50 Center St. Unit 1, \$229,650.00  
 Raymond Adams, Shilpa & An-anta Chakravartula, 20 Birch Road, \$657,500.00  
 Ramabhadran & Sharmila Varadarajan, Jacob & Maria Geller, 14 Osgood St., \$634,900.00  
 Eric & Kimberly Lynn, Joseph & Nicole Guilmartin, 6 Pomeroy Road, \$574,500.00  
 Jeffrey & Karen Sheehy & Karen Sheehy 1999 Family Trust, Duane & Barbara Montopoli, 330 South Main St., \$1,375,000.00  
 Thomas & Margaret McQuillan, Steven & Sharon Kerzner, 10 Brundrett Ave, \$750,000.00  
 Keung Chi & Lucinda Lee Ng, Peter & Mary Neal, 8 Danforth Cir., \$674,800.00  
 Bruce & Catherine Burnett, Peter & Elena Pop-Damkov, 9 Glen Meadow Road, \$575,000.00  
 Herbert & Margaret Haigh, Moulay Me-hdi Kanzi & Lisset Belghiti, 12 Webster St., \$475,000.00  
 Andrew & Elizabeth Blanchard, Ste-phen & Mary Kurkul, 18 Summer St. Unit 2, \$610,000.00  
 Christos & Effie Kombouras & Kom-bouras Realty Trust, Devin & Lauren Kin-ney, 6 Scotland Dr., \$1,123,000.00  
 Jason Rozen, Francis Morey & Suzanne Sharpe, 69 Corbett St., \$280,000.00

**LAWRENCE**

Daher Group Inc., Erik Pena, 9 Glenn St., \$335,000.00  
 Kourisanz LLC., Blue Cod Hold-ings LLC., 25 Marston St. Unit 301, \$2,995,000.00  
 Selma Goldberg & Lauren Pray & Pa-mela Bruckman, Frank Moran Jr., 40-42 Jennings St., \$285,000.00  
 Wilton Ortega & Monica Garcia, Maria Ruiz, 20 Canton St., \$147,000.00  
 RB Asset Management LLC., Amin & Marlene Caceres, 25 Josephine Ave Unit 25, \$270,000.00  
 Luis Velasquez, Migdalia Acevedo, 61 Maple St. Unit 31, \$144,000.00  
 Mary Emmanuel, Glendy Rivera, 312 Water St. Unit 33, \$138,000.00

Alan & Glenn Dibenedetto & Nancy A. Dibenedeto Family Trust, Francisco baez & Leroy Montanez, 178 Berkeley St., \$250,000.00  
 Michelle Wallace, Rosanny Taveras, 179 Spruce St., \$265,000.00  
 Lenin Alberto, Ana Vera, 650-652 Lowell St., \$330,000.00  
 Francisco Munoz, JG Forest LLC, 11 Forest St., \$233,000.00  
 BCAD LLC, Rosario Dilone, 18-20 Bennett St., \$310,000.00  
 Francisca Diaz, Carolina Alonzo, 46 Amesbury St. Unit 2A, \$46,000.00  
 Daniel Reynoso, Maria Santiago, 12 Berkeley St., \$410,000.00  
 Ravy Lor & Kim Ly, Dilenia Cabral, 334 Andover St., \$500,000.00  
 KPRO Properties & Aridua Cuevas, Torriselly Cruz, 53-55 Basswood St., \$450,000.00  
 Sirron Development LLC, Ariza Her-nandez Castillo & Evaristo Hernan-dez, 19 Norris St., \$423,000.00  
 Michael J. Colombosian Irrevocable Family Trust & Jill Colombosian & Harry Demirjian & Demirjian Family Trust & June Colombosian Living Trust & June S. Colombosian Trust, Gerson Du-arte, 59 Sylvester St., \$325,000.00  
 William Realty LLC, Long Dang & Ann Marie Lorraine Lee, 60A Beacon St. & 60B Beacon St., \$340,000.00  
 Betty Martin & Lisa McGinness, Meli-da Hiraldo, 66 Woodland St., \$303,000.00  
 Suzan Swales, Elvin Solis, 159 Emmett St., \$215,000.00  
 Sonia Graca & Nelson & Sonia De-melo, Chidoize Nwokeji, 30 Border St., \$159,500.00  
 Bank of New York Mellon, 208 Farnham St. LLC, 208 Farnham St., \$135,900.00  
 Ann Marie Amaral, Lucas & Michael Mcardle, 159 Easton St., \$260,000.00  
 Ovidio Prieto & Jennifer Caceres, Paula & Emmy Pena, 38 Abbott St., \$245,000.00  
 Audley Jones, Narciso Pinales Ramos, 85 Brookfield St., \$274,900.00  
 PM & LM LLC, Ragael Mejia, 10 In-man St., \$265,000.00  
 Maria Ortega & Avenego Urena, Julian Rojas, 368-370 Lowell St., \$400,000.00  
 Sambo & Ravann Sok, Jose Rivas & Helen Cabrera, 16-18 School St., \$379,000.00  
 Arminda Divinio, Maria Paulino & Karina Genao, 14-14A Bennington St., \$305,000.00  
 LTH Realty LLC, Dismantling LLC, 26 Wendell St., \$300,000.00  
 John & Elizabeth Shuman, Norberto Lopez, 16-18 Holton St., \$350,000.00  
 Y&H Commercial Properties LLC, Juan Veras Elena, 8 Winslow Place, \$280,000.00  
 Peter & Lisa Piconne, Winthrop Realty Trust, 1131 Essex St., \$203,000.00  
 Robert & Mary Houde, Omar Villa & Maria De Martinez, 36-38 Woodland St., \$385,000.00  
 Maxina Gonzalez & Maxima Malatesta, Karina Cruz, 5 Moran Court, \$203,000.00  
 Mary Ann Hagg, Castelmart Properties LLC, 42 Norris St., \$160,000.00  
 Marvin Gomez, Ramon Araujo-Rosario, 45-47 Bellevue St., \$408,000.00  
 Priciliano Valdez, Carolina So-lano & Sixta Nunez, 346-348 Ames St., \$362,000.00  
 Esdras & Glenda Javier, Lysia Pierre, 12 Allyn Terrace, \$300,000.00  
 Adam Finn, Robert Boley & Francel-iz Velazquez, 16-16A Packard St., \$330,000.00  
 Modesta Ortega & Andres Mejia, Eva Trinidad & Pedro Ortega, 366 Lowell St., \$440,000.00  
 Loyd & Donna Frazier, Edwin &

Marisela Duran, 7 Dewey St., \$372,000.00  
 Paul Johnson & Saxon Management LLC, 280 Broadway Realty LLC, 280 Broadway, \$355,000.00  
 Sui Thu & Muoi Truong & Thu Truong 2013 Trust, Mayelin Cespedes & Reyes Diaz Medina, 114 Ames St., \$405,000.00  
 Jorge Inc. Pueblo Supermarket Inc., Jose Batista, 309 Park St., \$450,000.00  
 Robert Querengasser, Yosmary Ortiz, 17 Salem St., \$243,000.00  
 Jose & Wendy Estrella & AG&J Realty Trust, Juan Cabrera & Germana Balbue-na, 148-150 West St., \$400,000.00  
 Carmen Martinez, Lazaro Canela & Lil-liam Decanela, 2C Woodland St. Unit 4A, \$210,000.00  
 Ana Vargas-Peralta, Mandy Guevara, 19 Adams St. Unit 1, \$195,000.00  
 Melisa Rodriguez & Melisa Lemire, Virgen Deaza, 25 Garfield St., \$235,000.00  
 Roberto Rios & Meredith Gonzalez, Dung Vo & Thuy Ngyuen, 114 Genesee St., \$295,000.00  
 Juan Encarnacion, Rudeidamia Calcano, 481B Hampshire St. Unit B, \$241,500.00  
 Charles Asadoorian & Manchester Realty Trust, Diverse Real Estate LLC, 40 Manchester St., \$60,000.00  
 Chloe Investments LLC, Antonia Car-dona, 102-104 Hancock St., \$297,500.00  
 David Williams, LC Properties LLC, 161-163 Spruce St., \$80,000.00  
 EW Andover LLC, Cort Lawrence LLC, 435 Winthrop Ave, \$6,700,000.00  
 Essex Management & Realty Property Inc., Maria Reyes & Alejandrina Then-reynoso, 215-217 Water St., \$405,000.00  
 David Vallone, Jason & Jennifer Val-lone, 57 Kingston St., \$175,000.00  
 James & Christine Bizeur, Pedro Madera & Lydia Alvarado, 55 Rollins St., \$315,000.00  
 US Bank NA TR, Nilvia Torrado & Edgar Fernandez, 51-53 Winthrop Ave, \$320,000.00  
 Gilda Rivera, Carmen Orsini, 190 Wil-low St., \$265,000.00  
 Kersten Theberge, Edily Vasquez, 166-168 Water St. Unit A, \$187,500.00  
 Stephen Port & Colleen Griffin, Robert Murphy, 52 Wedgewood Road Unit 52, \$180,000.00  
 USA Housing Urban Development, Mercedes Garcia, 5 Richmond Court, \$153,000.00  
 Malta Rios, Rhadalis Alfonso, 63 Me-chanic St. Unit 2, \$162,000.00  
 Julio Cruz & Carlos & Jan Diaz, Adrian Urena, 184-186 Spruce St., \$462,000.00  
 Modern Solution Investment Inc., Rodolfo Cepeda, 19 North Boylston St., \$210,000.00

**METHUEN**

Daher Group Inc., Erik Pena, 9 Glenn St., \$335,000.00  
 Kourisanz LLC., Blue Cod Hold-ings LLC., 25 Marston St. Unit 301, \$2,995,000.00  
 Selma Goldberg & Lauren Pray & Pa-mela Bruckman, Frank Moran Jr., 40-42 Jennings St., \$285,000.00  
 Wilton Ortega & Monica Garcia, Maria Ruiz, 20 Canton St., \$147,000.00  
 RB Asset Management LLC., Amin & Marlene Caceres, 25 Josephine Ave Unit 25, \$270,000.00  
 Luis Velasquez, Migdalia Acevedo, 61 Maple St. Unit 31, \$144,000.00  
 Mary Emmanuel, Glendy Rivera, 312 Water St. Unit 33, \$138,000.00  
 Alan & Glenn Dibenedetto & Nancy A. Dibenedeto Family Trust, Francisco baez & Leroy Montanez, 178 Berkeley St., \$250,000.00

**CONTINUED NEXT PAGE**

**CONT. FROM PAGE 28**

Michelle Wallace, Rosanny Taveras, 179 Spruce St., \$265,000.00  
 Lenin Alberto, Ana Vera, 650-652 Lowell St., \$330,000.00  
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 BCAD LLC, Rosario Dilone, 18-20 Bennett St., \$310,000.00  
 Francisca Diaz, Carolina Alonzo, 46 Amesbury St. Unit 2A, \$46,000.00  
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 Adam Finn, Robert Boley & Franceliz Velazquez, 16-16A Packard St., \$330,000.00  
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 Robert Queregasser, Yosmary Ortiz, 17 Salem St., \$243,000.00  
 Jose & Wendy Estrella & AG&J Realty Trust, Juan Cabrera & Germana Balbuena, 148-150 West St., \$400,000.00  
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 Chloe Investments LLC, Antonia Cardona, 102-104 Hancock St., \$297,500.00  
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 Kersten Theberge, Edily Vasquez, 166-168 Water St. Unit A, \$187,500.00  
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 USA Housing Urban Development, Mercedes Garcia, 5 Richmond Court, \$153,000.00  
 Malta Rios, Rhadalis Alfonso, 63 Mechanic St. Unit 2, \$162,000.00  
 Julio Cruz & Carlos & Jan Diaz, Adrian Urena, 184-186 Spruce St., \$462,000.00  
 Modern Solution Investment Inc., Rodolfo Cepeda, 19 North Boylston St., \$210,000.00

**NORTH ANDOVER**

Anthony Adamczyk, Michael Suffolketto, 291 Middlesex St., \$430,291.00  
 Davor & Monika Roglic, Charles & Deborah Papalia, 91 Mill Pond, \$334,000.00  
 Catherine & Marie Farren, Janet Sacco, 200 Chickering Road Unit 208B, \$265,000.00  
 Garry Oneill, Colleen Santora, 499 Waverly Road, \$490,000.00  
 Paul & Catherine Hutchins, Jason Reinold, 15 Stacy Dr., \$330,000.00  
 Kathleen Hillis, Daniel McGonagle, 204 Middlesex St., \$389,000.00  
 Robert & Margo Perriello, Richard & Tennille Travers, 136 Lancaster Road, \$862,000.00  
 Scott & Gina Wright, Donna Nassar, 350 Berry St., \$475,000.00  
 Thomas & Carolyn Barnes, Christopher James Papa, 76 Saunders St., \$340,000.00  
 Walter & Mark & Virginia Wilson, Stephen McCarthy, 595 Boxford St., \$305,000.00  
 Susan G. Catalogna 2012 Family Trust & Susan & Mark Catalogna, Jeffrey Ruck, 28 Foss Road, \$642,000.00  
 59 Cotuit St. Realty Trust & Dolores

Depiano, Sonik & Manorama Malla, 59 Cotuit St. Unit 1, \$384,500.00  
 Robert & Jillian Dubman, Carlo Esidore, 45 Millpond, \$375,000.00  
 William & M. Lorraine Dubman, George Fetatsidis & Joanna Miltiadou, 24 Commonwealth Ave, \$300,000.00  
 Salafia Chickering Realty Trust & Paul Salafia & Joan Derwitsch, Neal Corbett, 210 Chickering Road Unit 101A, \$310,000.00  
 Megan Nickerson, Eric Teuber & Stephanie Serrentino, 175 Main St. Unit 6, \$156,000.00  
 Loren & Mary Carlson, Benjamin Luke Simpson, 117 Bridle Path, \$635,000.00  
 Rise Redevelopment LLC, Robert & Jillian Dubman, 497 Wood Ln., \$621,500.00  
 William & Laurel Roebuck, Stephen Bailey, 25 Farewood Ave Unit 1, \$151,000.00  
 Sanjeev & Seema Gupte, Jaime Castillo & Raquel Hernandez, 42 Martin Ave Unit 2, \$425,000.00  
 Kimberly Tsoukalas, Shane Smith & Amanda Soares, 32 Silsbee Road, \$385,000.00  
 David Mesinger & Maria Galvagna, William Dow & Brigitte Bonenfant, 161 Raleigh Tavern Ln., \$670,000.00  
 Jessica Durney, Greg Terry & Mackenzi Martin, 465 Stevens St., \$350,000.00  
 131 Appleton St. LLC, North Shore Real Estate Solutions LLC, 131 Appleton St., \$300,000.00  
 Richard Travers III & Richard Travers & Tennille Travers, Richard & Lauren McGreehan, 15 Weyland Circle, \$752,000.00  
 Yongjian Yu & Libing Shi, Mark & Susan Fagan, 1024 Turnpike St., \$438,000.00  
 Joanne Shaughnessy, Donald & Angela Fortenbacher, 90 Wintergreen Dr., \$624,000.00  
 Jody Allen & 82-84 Belmont Nominee Trust, 82 Belmont St. LLC, 82 Belmont St., \$395,000.00  
 Michael & Linda Piscatelli, Russell & Patricia Ryan, 39 Millpond, \$335,000.00  
 Nancy Norton & Nancy Walsh, Robert & Jessica Durney, 110 Pembroke Road, \$410,000.00  
 Barry Doherty, Mark & Nancy Derderian, 4 Harvest Dr. Unit 224, \$4,500.00  
 Diane Demoulas & 1575 Great Pond Road Realty Trust, Brian James, 1575 Great Pond Road, \$965,000.00  
 Frederick & Margaret Fenton, Margaret Welch, 148 Main St. Unit F-541, \$225,000.00  
 William Boddy III & William Boddy IV & Belmont St. Nominee Realty Trust, William Donahue, 87 Belmont St., \$700,000.00  
 Kathleen Olenio, Margaret Bray & William Gosselin, 292 Salem St., \$485,000.00  
 Robert & Jennifer Keegan, Adam & Karen Flaherty, 1180 Turnpike St., \$470,000.00  
 Manucher & Apsar Fardi, Mostafa & Maryam Amini & 58 Edgelawn Amini Realty Trust, 58 Edgelawn Ave Unit 12, \$182,000.00  
 Suman & Shobhana Patel, Neeta Goplani & Abhishek Bhattacharya, 177 Rosemont Dr., \$739,000.00  
 John Faro & Shirley Tessier & Carol Petraitis, Bread & Roses Housing Inc., 51 May St., \$310,000.00  
 Mark Keegan & Shirley M. Keegan Trust, Douglas & Patricia Saal, 148 Main St. Unit B-334, \$232,000.00  
 James Thyne & Elizabeth Pelczar, Azevedo Lima, 67 Cotuit St. Unit 1, \$361,000.00  
 Brenda Ann Clark, Shaun & Sophie Milliken, 862 Salem St., \$619,000.00  
 JMF Realty LLC, Christopher Hagerty & Lisa Benincasa, 742 Boxford St., \$675,000.00

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Century 21

# 1st Amendment Case in NH Scheduled for November

**Tom Duggan**  
VALLEY PATRIOT PUBLISHER

The slander and libel trial against Salem, NH resident Michael Demers begins on November 28th in Hillsboro Superior Court.

Demers is being sued by Acadia Insurance for slander and defamation after publishing satirical artwork and parodies of their company and company employees on-line.

Acadia is seeking to silence Demers who has been spearheading a boycott against Haffner's Oil Company (and their contractors) after they over-filled the Demers family oil tank in 2007, causing more than 200 gallons of oil to spill into the basement of the family home. More than 50 gallons of oil spilled out of the vents and down the foundation wall, seeping into the ground on the Demers property. Those facts are not in dispute.

Demers sued Acadia, (the insurance company for Haffner's Oil) as well as Haffner's, Enpro, and Ambrose Environmental after he and his mother got sick, claiming it was the result of the toxic fumes from the oil spill that was not adequately cleaned up.

Demers lost that court case, but took to

YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter to ask the public's help to refurbish his mom's home, as well as to call for a public boycott of Haffner's and the other companies involved.

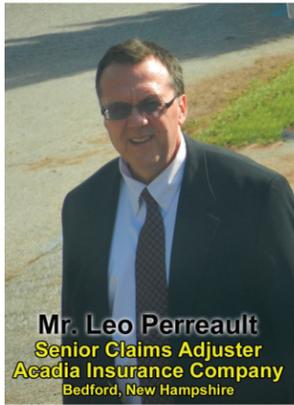
"They had a moral obligation to keep their word. They said they would clean this spill and put us in the same position we were in before the spill. They half did the job, and we got sick. Now they are suing me to stop me from telling my story. They say that because we lost the legal action we have no rights to talk about it. Well, we do have rights. We have the right to tell people they made a promise to their customer and they never

kept their word. We have the right to call for a boycott. That's the American way."

Demers says that Acadia is trying to stop his boycott by stopping him from promoting it on social media.

"My artwork and parodies are essential to promoting a boycott and that's why they are trying to silence me. If I can't promote it, there is no boycott."

For their part, Acadia Insurance claims that the Demers parodies and boycott give the impression that they were legally negligent or responsible after a jury of eight has already ruled in their favor. They also object to Demers' use of photos of their



**Mr. Leo Perreault**  
Senior Claims Adjuster  
Acadia Insurance Company  
Bedford, New Hampshire



employees involved in the oil spill and its aftermath, calling his behavior harassment and defamation of character.

"It says right at the top of my webpage that this is not a legal claim; it's a moral claim," Demers says.

"I don't know how they can even make the allegation that I'm making a legal claim. It's all smoke and mirrors. It clearly states at the top of my website that we lost the court case."

"So, OK maybe it's legal to screw over a 73 year old woman ... fine. They have all the high priced lawyers on their side. But that doesn't make it right. They never made us whole. I have the right to say that, and I'm going to keep saying it. My

mom is now bankrupt because they knew the law and they exploited the law. She maxed out all her credit cards on hotel bills that they promised they would take care of while we were out of the home. Now they are saying I'm bullying them? A multi-million dollar company that's spends more money on lawyers to silence me, than they would have spent if they had built my mom a brand new home?"

"You can't make this stuff up."

Acadia, Haffner's and Ambrose are not seeking monetary damages from Demers, rather, they are seeking to censor his activity on-line as well as put a stop to his boycott. The Valley Patriot will continue to follow this story.

## BUMP: FROM PAGE 12

established by Chapter 29 of the Acts of 1996 to comply with the 1994 Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, which requires states to create a registry of sex offenders and crimes against children. SORB works with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to ensure the proper registration of sex offenders in Massachusetts.

It is the only entity tasked with classification of each registered sex offender. SORB states its mission is "to promote public safety through educating and informing the public in order to prevent further victimization. This is accomplished through registering and clas-

sifying convicted sex offenders by risk of re-offense and degree of danger and disseminating the identifying information of those offenders who live, work and/or attend institutions of higher learning in the communities of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts."

At the time of the audit, its registry contained records of 21,808 convicted sex offenders. Of those, 13,127 lived in Massachusetts; 5,260 had moved out of state while another 3,421 were either incarcerated or had been deported.

The Board consists of seven full-time members appointed by the Governor.

A copy of the audit can be found online.

## Update Regarding Andover Youth Services

ANDOVER - Town Manager Andrew P. Flanagan is seeking to provide the public with an update regarding the ongoing situation with Andover Youth Services, which has generated numerous inquiries from the public who are concerned about AYS and its programs.

Andover Youth Services Director Bill Fahey has returned to duty after serving discipline. An investigation by the Town Manager's Office showed that there had been a failure by Fahey, as AYS Director, to adequately supervise a former member of AYS staff while that member worked for AYS.

Based on information received this past summer, an administrative investigation led by Town Manager Flanagan determined that, while employed by AYS, the former employee had engaged in inappropriate conduct towards two program participants. Although the conduct was found not to have violated criminal law, it was obviously highly improper. The investigation concluded that despite AYS management's awareness that the conduct had occurred, inadequate steps were taken to address it or to prevent it in the future. The Town therefore took appropriate measures consistent with labor law after concluding its investigation.

"I understand that there is tremendous public interest in this situation, and rightfully so. Up until now, we have not been able to provide additional information because the investigation was still ongoing, and we did not want to jeopardize it," Town Manager Flanagan said. "We had to allow this process to come to completion, so that we could also take steps to prevent this from happening in the future. At the same time we also have to protect the privacy interests of past and present AYS program participants. I am grateful to all of our residents for their patience and cooperation."

The Andover Police Department was no-

tified and determined that while the former employee's actions were inappropriate and certainly violated a number of rules and regulations, none of them rose to the level of criminal charges. For that reason, in addition to state statutory mandates regarding the protection of children, the former employee's name cannot be released.

The Town of Andover will also conduct a top-to-bottom review of reporting procedures and supervisory expectations. All employees with supervisory responsibilities will also be retrained in town procedures and state law. A number of changes have already been put in place and others will be detailed in the coming days and weeks.

The following written rules have been put in place, effective immediately, for employees involved with youth programs operated by AYS and by the Recreation Department:

Any employee who engages in inappropriate conduct towards or with program participants will be dismissed if the conduct is confirmed by investigation. In addition, employees who learn of such conduct by other employees must immediately report the conduct to their department head and to Director of Community Services Joseph Connelly, or face dismissal themselves.

"The Town of Andover continues to evolve as an organization, and as part of that effort we will be aggressive and consistent in our efforts to develop policies that maintain and promote the safety and well-being of our residents," Town Manager Flanagan said. "Trust in our services is paramount and consistent with our mission and will continue to be a hallmark of our organization as a municipal government."

The Town of Andover and Andover Youth Services look forward to its next chapter and continuing to provide excellent opportunities for our youth in a safe, secure, and nurturing environment.

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# HELL: From Page 20

joy is one's prideful refusal to accept this divine mercy.

One final thought. For generations Catholics would meditate regularly on what was aptly called "the four last things" – death, judgment, heaven, and hell. Since secular materialism infected western culture, this priority for many has been placed somewhat on the back-burner. Nonetheless, all the internal and external evidence points to the universal belief that there is life after death. What, then, could possibly be more important than the choice of where to spend eternity? As Augustine once said, it is ultimately a choice between God and self, His (perfect) will and our (disordered) will. Do we humbly accept His forgiveness and resolve to con-

form our lives to the objective good? Or do we stubbornly deny, ignore, or reject it? This is the difference between heaven and hell. Faith, reason, and intuition all appear to confirm what mankind has held from the beginning: that heaven and hell are real. Our free choice determines which will become real for each of us.

*Dr. Paul Murano teaches philosophy at Rivier University and North Shore Community College and hosts Beneath the Surface radio show on 980 WCAP. Paul has a doctorate in marital theology, is certified in bioethics by the NCBC. He is founder of Heartbeat Pregnancy Help in Burlington, and is a singer-songwriter-musician. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com*

# A Different Perspective!

Peter Larocque

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

God Bless and Greetings to you all in Jesus' Mighty Name!

Have you noticed that there are lots of strange and dark happenings going on in our world today and they are getting crazier as the days go by. First it was the weather, then an eclipse and then more bad weather leaving destruction in its path and now mass shootings. Plus the on-going global fight against terrorism!

In spite of all this, I am here today to declare that if you are a Christian, a Believer in Jesus Christ and He is your Lord and Savior, then don't be discouraged because you have Hope! The Apostle Paul wrote in 1Thessalonians 4:13, "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." We are not to sorrow as the others, meaning those who are not saved, who are not born again. As Born-Again believers we have a HOPE, and that Hope is the Return of Jesus Christ to gather us, His church, His Bride together to meet Him in the air and forever we will be with the Lord! Before things get really bad and a lot worse, Jesus will take us out of here!

We are living in the end times and this world is not going to get any better. The world is going to get a lot worse and darker, but for us believers God has different plans which we can read in 1 Thessalonians 5:9, "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ," God has not appointed us to wrath! Romans 5:9, adds these words, "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

Very clearly scripture tells us believers that God hath not appointed us to wrath and that the Blood of Jesus Christ has saved us from the wrath to come! The wrath of God is for the unbelieving world in which we are just passing through! We don't have to get caught up in the worries and cares and concerns of this world. God promises to take care of us, our families and our loved ones! Even though trouble is all around us, it doesn't have to involve us!

As Believers our perspective towards the many dark events going on in this world today should be a Psalm 91 attitude! Take a look at these verses in Psalm 91:5-11, "Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; 6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. 7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. 9 Because thou hast made the

LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; 10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." See verse 7, "A thousand shall fall at thy side and ten thousand at thy right hand but it shall not come nigh thee." Trouble may come close but the promise from God is that it shall not overcome you!

Take a look at these other comforting verses of Scripture that our Father God would have us know concerning times of trouble.

2 Chronicles 15:4, "But when they in their trouble did turn unto the LORD God of Israel, and sought him, he was found of them."

Psalm 9:9, "The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble."

Psalm 27:5, "For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock."

Psalm 37:39, "But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble."

Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 91:15-16, "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. 16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

Psalm 107:6, "Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses"

The one common denominator that makes this all happen for the Believer is found in Psalm 91:1, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." Notice the 911? (God did this just for us! Mankind thinks that he made this up, think again!)

So where is this secret place that we should dwell in? It is in Jesus Christ! Look at what Hebrews 4: 14-16 has to say, "Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.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 our High Priest is there in our trouble in our time of need to help with Grace and Mercy!

Let's keep our heads up and our eyes on Jesus! Any Time Now!

Love, Peter Larocque

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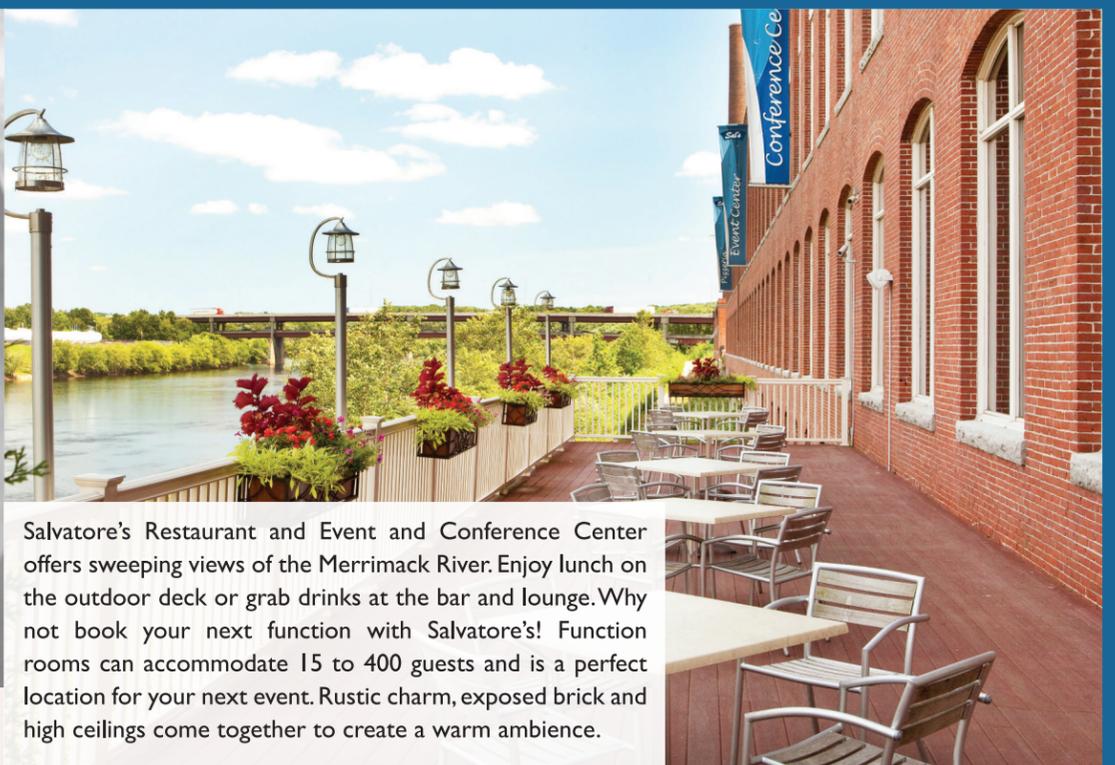


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