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MAY, 2018
VOLUME 15, ISSUE 5
Edition #175!

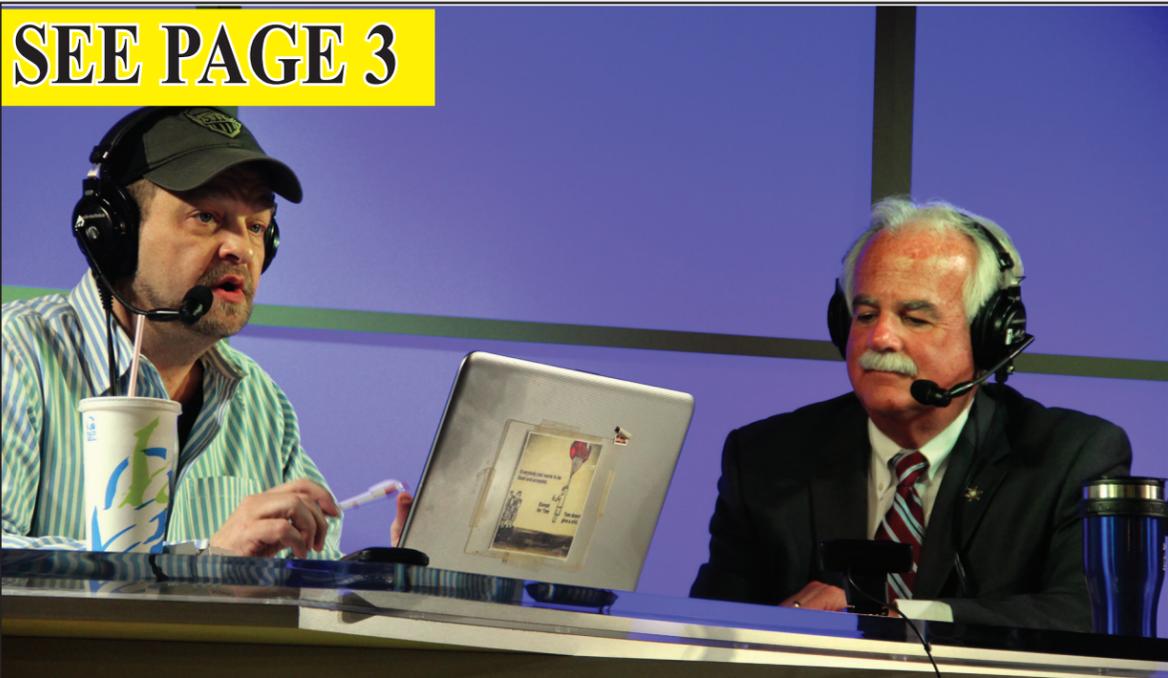
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Sheriff Coppinger on the Opioid Crisis



Essex County Sheriff Kevin Coppinger joined Tom Duggan on the Paying Attention Podcast (at the Studio 21 Podcast Cafe in Salem, NH) last month to talk about addiction and how the Sheriff's Department deals with treatment and prevention. You can download previous broadcasts of "The Paying Attention Podcast" on iHeartRadio, iTunes, Spotify, GooglePlay, Podbean, Spreaker, and YouTube.

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VALLEY PATRIOTS OF THE MONTH

Hero in Our Midst, Angelo Dindo ~ The B29 Air Offensive vs. Japan

John Cuddy
VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

May 28th is Memorial Day. This story is to help start us on our reflections of what that day means to each of us and our families.

Born October 20, 1919, in Barre, Vermont, Angelo Dindo worked for the

national men's clothing chain of Montgomery Ward before joining the military. Sgt. Angelo L. Dindo first served our Nation in the Vermont National Guard from 1939-1941, later joining the U.S. Army Air Corps at Ft. Devens, Massachusetts in 1942.

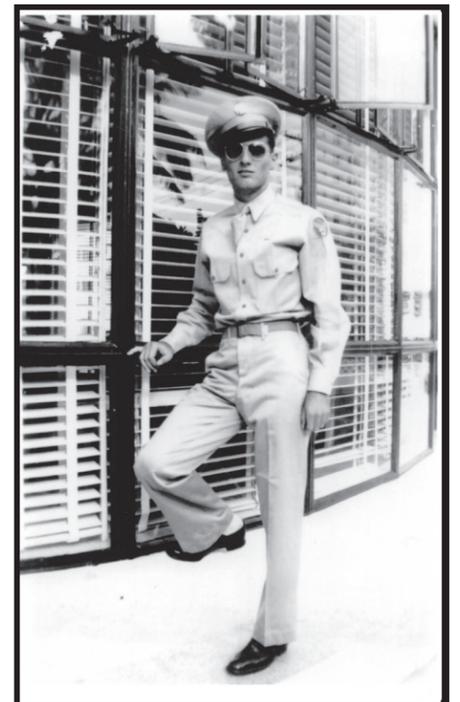
The Army Air Corps selected him to be trained as a radio operator at Scott Field,

Illinois, and after completing training he was initially assigned to patrol the relatively quiet Caribbean Theater hunting German submarines flying on B24 Liberators.

In 1944, Sgt. Dindo was reassigned to Salina, Kansas to be trained as a B29 Radar Operator. After training, he deployed to Saipan, which along with Guam and Tinian, are part of the Marianas Islands. Assigned to the B29 V-11, these bombers were often called "Ships" by their crews. The U.S. Army Air Corps unit that Sgt. Dindo flew his missions with, was the 877th Squadron, 499th Bomber Group, part of the 73rd Bomb Wing.

Primarily manufactured by Boeing, which even after over seventy five years passing since VJ Day, (Victory over Japan Day) the company still boasts of the plane's abilities on its web site. Tested in flight for the first time in 1942, the B29 Superfortress was crewed by eleven men, (some models ten men), five officers and six enlisted men. Four 2,200-horsepower Wright Double Cyclone engines powered the 105,000 pound B29 Bomber. The plane had a top speed of 365 mph, and a cruising speed of 220 mph. Defended by twelve .50-caliber machine guns and one 20 mm cannon. The crew could deliver a devastating 20,000-pound bomb load on the Empire of Japan.

According to the official U.S. Army reports on Dindo's bomber V Square 11's April 1945 mission, declassified in 1958, these documents state that B29 V Square 11 (Tail 3483) on April 24, 1945 suc-



cessfully bombed its primary target, and continued in formation to bomb a secondary target. Hit by a Japanese Fighter over its secondary target, the bomber managed to stay in the formation for about three minutes. Smoke started to come from the cockpit and right wing. Ten crew members (this B29 had a crew of eleven men) were seen to jump from the burning plane by other crews in the formation. B29 Aircraft V Square 53 (Tail 4670) descended to an altitude of 400 feet in the area where the parachutes hit the ocean, and dropped a

HERO: PAGE 20



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EDITORIAL: SNOWFLAKES WEEP OVER COP KILLER PHOTO

Last month John Williams murdered a Somerset County Sheriff's Department Corporal named Eugene Cole in Norridgewock, Maine. Corporal Cole was a 13-year veteran of the department. His son is also a Somerset County deputy.

The murder of Corporal Cole touched off a nationwide manhunt after it was learned that he was arrested a few weeks earlier in Haverhill on gun charges, but set free by yet another out of touch Massachusetts judge.

Despite the political rhetoric about guns in Massachusetts, you can pretty much commit any crime you want with a weapon and most of the time you will still be free. That's because our feckless government officials talk a good game when it comes to guns, but do absolutely nothing to make sure those who illegally use them are actually removed from our streets.

The murder of Corporal Cole was savage. That's because the man who murdered him was himself, a savage. And yet, when police finally located him in

the woods of Maine and took his photo for identification purposes, (see photo at right) those who empathize with criminals, decried the treatment of this killer as "undignified."

One Democrat took to twitter (mind you this person works in the "news") whining that, by the police taking such a photo it made them "no better than he is. The police are supposed to be better than that."

This is the reason Corporal Cole is dead today. And it's the reason there will be other Corporal Cole's in the future.

There are far too many people in positions of power in the media and in our government who believe that police taking a photo of a murderer in an unflattering light makes them "no different" than a violent hard-core killer with no soul and no respect for human life.

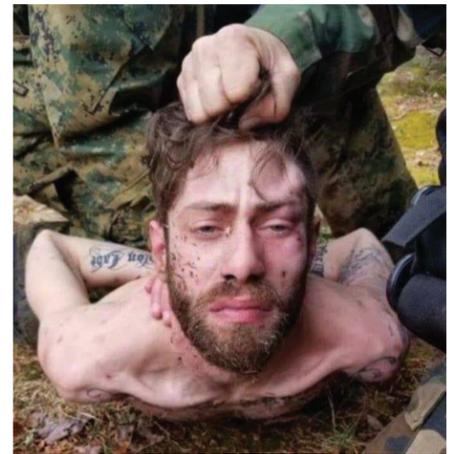
They are dangerously out of touch with the reality of what happens on our streets, with their armchair fantasies about how real people are supposed to respond to real danger and real evil every day. Yet, they

know nothing of these dangers much less how to combat human evil. They willingly give aid and comfort to evil men who laugh at their fantasies and continue to victimize the innocent.

We are tired of this nonsense permeating our government and media, and dictating how our officials deal with such human waste like John Williams.

In fact we are disappointed that John Williams was taken alive at all. Death is the only solution for animals like this. Now that he has been captured he will surely continue to victimize others and maybe even take human life yet again.

'No, no,' the criminal sympathizers in the media will cry. 'He should be put in jail where he can't harm anyone ever again' - as if being in jail means he has no access to other humans to victimize. Surely, John Williams will still be able to victimize jail guards or other prisoners while incarcerated. And maybe, just maybe, our system will fail yet again - as it did with Dominic Cinelli in Woburn,



or William Rodriguez in Lawrence - and John Williams will be freed on some technicality, or let out by some out of touch parole board to kill again in the future.

Rest in peace Corporal Cole and thank you for putting your life on the line to protect us from animals like John Williams, animals that far too many people in power prefer to side with ... over your life.

Methuen Firefighters Run Benefit for McLachlan & Buldoc Families

Firefighter Paul Bolduc has been on the Methuen Fire Department for 26 years and Lieutenant James McLachlan for 21 years. They are two of the most respected members of the Department. Unfortunately, these two men who have dedicated their lives to helping others are currently facing challenges in their own lives.

Paul's wife Christine, 47, and Jim's daughter Alyssa, 15, have been diagnosed with cancer, a disease that has affected almost all of us in one way or another. Christine is battling breast cancer while Alyssa is fighting thyroid cancer. In an effort to support Paul and Jim, and help their families with the high costs of treatment and care, the Methuen Firefighters Local 1691 is holding an event on Friday, May 18, 2018, 6pm-midnight at the Relief's In, 1 Market Street, Lawrence, MA.

Says Methuen Fire Department Chief Tim Sheehy, "Jim, Paul, and their families are a part of the Methuen Fire Department family. As they go through these challenges, we want to make sure they know that we are with them. The response from the community has been outstanding.

"We encourage everyone to purchase a ticket to the event to donate to the cause. We are going to have some terrific raffles and auction prizes. Moreover, it will be a strong gathering of friends in support of Christine and Alyssa. These are special families and this will be a special night for our community of firefighters and friends."

Both Paul and Jim appreciate the support, "Thanks to everyone for their well wishes," says Lt. McLachlan. "We are going through this as a family and we appreciate the support of the Methuen Fire Department, Firefighters Local 1691, and the community."

Paul Bolduc adds, "We really appreciate



Alyssa McLachlan

all the efforts. I wouldn't leave this area and all of our friends for anything. What a great community we live in. Christine and I both want to stress how important yearly mammograms are. We have a long road ahead, but the support has been great."

The evening will include some great raffles, auction, and Cash Bar. Tickets are \$20 per person. If you would like to donate a gift basket or raffle/auction prizes, we welcome any contributions. We understand that this is a busy time of year, so if you cannot make it to the event, we hope that you will consider purchasing tickets and making a donation to the cause. Anyone who purchases a ticket is entered to win a \$1000 cash prize whether they attend the event or not.

For tickets and donation information, contact Methuen Firefighters Local 1691 President Franny Barry at 978-479-7339. We appreciate your involvement. Thank you for your support.

IN YOUR CORNER with SENATOR KATY IVES

Senate Funds Narcan Bulk Purchasing to Bring Down Cost for Municipalities

The State Senate included funding in the Fiscal Year 2018 supplemental budget for the Municipal Naloxone Bulk Purchase Trust Fund, which allows municipalities to purchase naloxone for municipal first responder agencies at a discounted rate.

I filed an amendment to this supplemental budget that would allocate \$150,000 to replenish the naloxone bulk purchase program, administered through the Department of Public Health. Funding in the Trust Fund for cities and towns to buy the anti-overdose drug also known as Narcan, has depleted and the cost has almost doubled during this deadly epidemic.

It's critical that the cost of purchasing Naloxone stays affordable for our cities and towns, so they're not subject to financial hardship for their efforts in responding to the opioid crisis and saving lives every day. This funding will bring the cost back down.

The trust fund was created in the FY16 budget to accept payments made by participating municipalities for the purchase of Naloxone. The fund first got \$325,000 through a settlement reached by Attorney General Maura Healey's office in 2015. The agreement with Amphastar Pharmaceuticals Inc. resolved concerns over the sharp price increase for Naloxone in late 2014, when the wholesale price more than doubled from less than \$15 per dose to

more than \$30.

The legislation establishing the trust fund authorizes the Department of Public Health to reduce the cost of naloxone for municipal first responder agencies below the negotiated State Office of Pharmacy Services (SOPS) purchase price. The state buys Narcan in bulk at discounted prices from pharmaceutical companies, using the money from the state municipal naloxone bulk purchase trust fund. The state then passes on the discount to municipalities. With the established trust fund established, the State Office of Pharmacy Services is able to pre-pay for Naloxone. It is estimated that total savings for municipalities realized through the bulk purchase program was approximately \$186,000 in FY 16.

Funding ran out in October of 2017 and without money in the fund, the cost of naloxone for municipalities shot up from \$40 to \$71.02 for a box of two doses of the nasal spray.

The concept of making bulk purchasing available to municipalities was a budget priority of mine in 2015 and although this is not a panacea for this epidemic it is a lifeline for so many plagued by this disease.

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

The Valley Patriot is published monthly before the tenth of each month by The Valley Patriot, Inc., 75 Main St., North Andover, MA 01845. All contents Copyright (c) 2012, Valley Patriot, Inc. All rights reserved. Subscriptions are \$60 per year and sent via U.S. Mail.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Valley Patriot, Inc., PO Box 453, North Andover, MA 01845.

Letters to the editor, columns and op/eds can be submitted to valleypatriot@aol.com. The Valley Patriot is not responsible for the opinions expressed in submitted letters or columns. It is the policy of The Valley Patriot not to edit or exclude submitted material based on content.

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Sheriff Coppinger, Paying Attention to the Opioid Epidemic

PART 1

Last month Essex County Sheriff Kevin Coppinger appeared on the Paying Attention Podcast with Tom Duggan to discuss the opioid crisis and what he is doing in the Sheriff's Department to help stem the tide.

"I served in the Lynn Police Dept. for 32 years, before that I was a police officer in Lynnfield for 3 and I transferred over. I came up through the ranks, served a lot of different jobs mostly in uniform patrol then administrative, up until I was chief for the last seven and a half years before I decided to run for sheriff.

I love the city of Lynn, I still live there, born and brought up there. But, Lynn like any community is affected by this opioid epidemic. Let me just rephrase that, substance abuse epidemic. It's everywhere. We actually started tracking this epidemic back in the 1990s before it was the high topic of the media. We saw trends where people were overdosing, particularly mixing prescription medications, and we tried to get out in front of it the best we could. But like most of the Northeast United States now it's even worse, it's starting to explode with the heroin epidemic and now we are seeing the fentanyl and the carfentanyl. I'm certainly no expert. But, I'm the type of guy who likes to ask question, and if I don't know something about a particular area I like to go to the experts and ask them and tap their brains and get as much information as I can.

As you heard in that video (at the open of the show Tom played a video clip of then candidate Kevin Coppinger talking about the opioid crisis) I've always been a proponent of the three initiatives: prevention, intervention, and treatment

and rehab. In my role as chief you heard me there talk about the prevention pieces of it. I think that's huge. This epidemic, as you said during your opening comments, it's not going away. It's expanding. We've slowed it down a little bit, not just us but collectively. But, we haven't found a solution to it. I think we are in a temporary hiatus.

Tom asked how you can measure the effectiveness of the money spent on prevention. "We see all these prevention programs, anti-bullying prevention, obesity prevention, we don't know if they work. How do you measure the effectiveness of these prevention programs given how much money is spent on them.

"It's not that scientific; a lot of it is your gut. When you talk about prevention, what we try to strive for when working with the kids is teach good decision-making skills. That's going to help them across the board. Like you mentioned bullying, dating violence, substance abuse, it's teaching those good decision making skills that are going to help them especially as they go through those adolescent years.

It's difficult, can you ignore it? No. Can you measure it? No, not really. Do you remember the old Dare program way back when? That's what some of the opponents would say, well you can't measure what you've prevented. Well, that's true. But, I'm a firm believer that if you've saved one you've been successful. You know, during my off time I do a lot of little league coaching and I would see some kids that were not participating in the prevention programs and over the years now some of these kids have ended up in correctional facilities. Through my career I saw them come through the system. So,



I'm a firm believer that it helps.

The Intervention piece with the law enforcement piece, doing 20 odd years as a cop I believe in that."

DUGGAN: And you were a beat cop too, you weren't one of these guys who sat behind a desk and answered phones you were out there wrestling with people.

"Yes did my time in the streets and came up through the ranks, and I also worked in a small town. -. as a cop in Lynnfield so I saw it in a small town and a good-sized city, the City of Lynn. And I can tell you this, this substance abuse issue does not discriminate against anybody. Its rich, poor, black, white, straight, gay, catholic, protestant, Jewish, whatever you are, it affects everybody. Some folks want to believe it's not in their town? It's there. So, you have to have the investigations, you have to do the police work together at all three levels; local, state and federal.

You have to pool your resources, you

have to have collaborative partnerships. You have to go out and make the arrests and they have to go through the criminal justice system.

And then you get the treatment and rehab piece of it. That's been the big gap for a long time and it's one of the reasons I decided to move on from police chief and move into corrections. When I was chief you see the same people all the time. You lock them up, they go to court, they get convicted, they go to jail, they come back out and they are doing the same thing again. It's awful to say but a lot of it is generational. You see the same families. You have fathers and sons, we have them in some of our facilities. We have to try and break that mold somehow or other.

One of the things that has bothered me, even during the election I would ask the audience how many people have been affected or know someone who has been

OPIOIDS: PAGE 25

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Lawrence Man Pleads Guilty to Interstate Opioid Trafficking Conspiracy

BOSTON – Two men pleaded guilty in federal court in Boston to their roles in an opioid trafficking conspiracy involving the distribution of fentanyl, heroin, and oxycodone across Massachusetts and Florida.

Johnny Urena, 30, of Lawrence, pleaded guilty yesterday to one count of conspiracy to distribute and to possess heroin and fentanyl with intent to distribute, one count of conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute oxycodone, and one count of conspiracy to launder monetary instruments.

Jenssi Astacio, 32, of Sunny Isles Beach, Fla., also pleaded guilty today to one count of conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute oxycodone and one count of conspiracy to launder monetary instruments.

U.S. District Court Judge Denise J. Casper scheduled their sentencing for July 24, 2018, and July 31, 2018, respectively.

Urena and Astacio were arrested along with seven others in March 2017 for their roles in a widespread conspiracy involving opioid trafficking and money laundering offenses in Massachusetts and Florida. Their arrests were the result of a three-year federal investigation into opioid-trafficking in New England.

From at least 2014, Urena conspired with co-defendants to sell quantities of heroin and/or fentanyl in Massachusetts, and to receive, transport, and distribute large quantities of oxycodone pills shipped from Florida to Massachusetts. Urena then deposited the cash proceeds of drug sales into various funnel bank accounts in order to conceal the nature and ownership of the funds.

Astacio shipped – and directed other co-conspirators to ship – large quantities of oxycodone pills from Florida to Massachusetts, negotiated with other co-conspirators the sale of oxycodone pills for redistribution, and directed co-conspirators to use bank accounts to launder the cash proceeds of their illicit sale of drugs.

Co-defendants Darren Infante, Juan Reyes, George Noukas, Moses Rodriguez, Craig Drummond, and Gorky Gonzalez have pleaded guilty. Infante is scheduled to be sentenced on May 23; Reyes' sentencing is scheduled for June 20; Noukas and Rodriguez are scheduled to be sentenced on June 25; and Drummond and Gonzalez are scheduled to be sentenced on July 17.

The charges of conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute heroin and fentanyl provides for a sentence of no greater than 40 years in prison, a lifetime of supervised release, a fine of \$5 million, and forfeiture.

The charges of conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute oxycodone provides for a sentence of no greater than 20 years in prison, a lifetime of supervised release, a fine of up to \$1 million, and forfeiture.

The charge of conspiracy to launder monetary instruments provides for a sentence of no greater than 20 years in prison, up to five years of supervised release, a fine of up to \$500,000, or twice the value of the property laundered, and forfeiture. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lel-

DEALER: PAGE 26

“WEATHER 101” WITH AL!

Weird April Weather

Al Kaprielian

VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

April, the first full month of spring, saw chilly temperatures with the month averaging below normal temperatures.

Some of the days in April featured some snowflakes. The reason for the chilly temperatures was a persistent trough over our region. This trough brought in chilly air from Canada. Snow fell as late as April 19th. The chilly weather continued on the last two days of the month. An upper level low pressure system over the region provided a cool and damp end to April.

This upper level low pressure system contained a lot of cold air in the upper levels of the atmosphere. This cold air aloft produced some snow in western Massachusetts on the evening of April 29th. Upper level low pressure systems can occur during the spring season.

As the month of May began this upper level low pressure system moved off to the northeast of our area and was replaced by an upper level ridge of high pressure. This upper level ridge of high pressure brought a significant warm-up to the area. During the spring months even with a significant warm-up, temperatures can be a lot cooler along the coast. The ocean does not warm as quickly as land areas in the spring. The ocean is constantly moving and evaporation is occurring as well.

These two features cause the ocean to warm more slowly than the land areas. Evaporation is a cooling process and takes heat out of the air. Evaporation occurs when a liquid goes into a vapor

stage. Evaporation is continuous over the ocean waters. Due to the chilly ocean temperatures in the spring this can cause backdoor cold fronts to form. Usually cold fronts move from west to east however, a backdoor cold front moves from northeast to southwest. Winds behind the backdoor cold front cause onshore winds with the wind blowing off the chilly ocean waters.

This can also cause quite a contrast in temperatures between areas well away from the coast versus areas right along the coast. Also during May we can get cold fronts that arrive from the northwest and bring chilly air from Canada. Therefore, as a result of this it is not safe to plant vegetables in your garden until after May 20th. We are still vulnerable to chilly nights and frost prior to May 20th.

Also during the month of May we start to see more thunderstorms and tornadoes, especially over the southern states of the U.S. With temperatures getting hotter in the south and southwest U.S., this hot air can clash with cooler air from the north. This clash in air masses can produce severe weather including tornadoes. With the sun getting higher in the sky during the month of May we will see our daily high temperatures increase as we go through the month. In May the chances of snow greatly decreases, however, are not zero.

In May 1977 a snowstorm occurred during the first half of the month. The heavy wet snow caused numerous power outages as it put weight on the trees and

APRIL: PAGE 25

The Problem Everyone Wants to Ignore, The Homeless in Lawrence



Paying Attention!

WITH TOM DUGGAN

Driving through the City of Lawrence it's almost impossible not to notice the homeless population, whether they are pan-handling on the corners of the busiest intersections, or hassling people for a cigarette or a dollar outside local establishments.

Unfortunately, most people turn their heads and pretend not to see the human carnage of the destitute, the addicted, and the mentally ill who wander the streets with nobody to turn to.

Driving through the streets of Lawrence every night, I estimate there are at least 200 homeless people sleeping on the streets. Some have rigged make-shift tents along the railroad tracks, at Den Rock Park, along the banks of the Merrimack, or in the woods along the Spicket and Shawshen Rivers.

That doesn't include the 50-55 people sleeping at the Daybreak Homeless Shelter on Winter Street which is at capacity every night and severely underfunded.

Daybreak operates on grants and donations but, surprisingly the City of Lawrence contributes zero dollars to fund Daybreak and has shown no interest in doing so in the near future. Despite platitudes and promises made by state officials at election time, Daybreak continually struggles for funding to service the homeless. They come in and tour the facility, creating photo-ops to make it look like they are dedicated to helping Day-

break, but once the election is over, Carina Pappalardo has to run private fundraisers, and beg those same state officials for what amounts to pennies out of the state budget. And she never gets what she really needs, which, right now is another building to occupy. She gets zero help from the Lawrence City Council, zero help from the Mayor's office, and with the exception of Diana DiZoglio, very little help from state officials.

What makes that so surprising is that every single elected official in Lawrence runs for office promising to be the voice of the poor, the elderly, the disabled, and the downtrodden. They blivate on and on to the media about how the Democrats are for the little guy. Yet, while most of the elected officials in the city talk a good game, talk is really all they do.

IMPORTING THE HOMELESS

There are very few people making any effort at all to help the homeless in Lawrence, and with all the billions of dollars that have been pumped into the city over the last few decades, you might be surprised to learn that none of it has gone to solving the issue of homelessness, addiction, and the mentally ill who walk the streets.

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera holds the belief that the more services the city provides for the homeless, the more homeless people will be attracted to Lawrence from surrounding communities.

And he's not wrong about that.

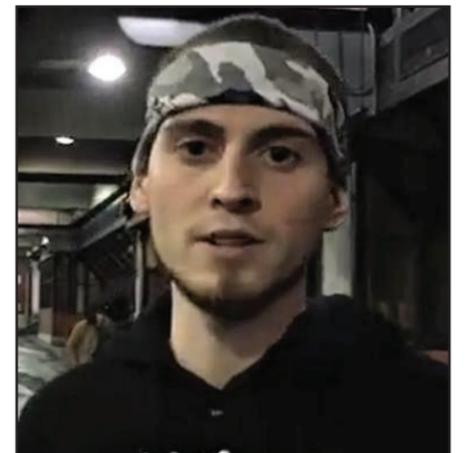
A large number of homeless people in Lawrence are not originally from Lawrence. In the last six months alone, I have met homeless people from Swampscott, Revere, Methuen, Andover, Londonderry, Salem-NH, Boston, Worcester, Rhode Island, and Vermont. That's because those communities provide no services to their own residents who become homeless.

When Methuen or Andover residents who paid taxes all their lives hit hard times and suddenly become homeless, the elected officials in those towns have zero services for their own residents. So, where does a Methuen (or Andover, or North Andover) resident go when they find themselves destitute? They go to Lawrence, because the myth is that this is where the services are.

One of the homeless success stories from the Daybreak Shelter that we highlighted in a Valley Patriot two years ago was originally from Chicago. He said he made his way to Lawrence because he heard there were a lot of services for the homeless here. Newsflash... there aren't.

But, while Mayor Rivera has been resistant, maybe even hostile to the idea of spending any city money on the homeless issue, he did hire a homeless coordinator to work in his office in order to identify homeless people who are actually from Lawrence. Anil DeCosta's job is to target that subset of the homeless population and try to match up their needs with some kind of government service or program, with the goal to get them long term assistance... somewhere else.

Rivera also had the police clean out the criminal enterprise that was "tent city" under the central bridge, where drugs,



Michael Gorman from The Movement Family (TMF) a Group of Volunteers who Feed the Homeless at the Buckley Garage on Common Street every Wednesday Night.

prostitution, and hundreds of dirty needles, made it impossible for families to enjoy the very expensive Pemberton Park on the banks of the Merrimack.

SO WHO ARE THE DOERS? WHO HELPS THESE PEOPLE?

For starters, The Greater Lawrence Psychological Center funds the Daybreak Homeless Shelter. It is the only "wet shelter" in the area (one of two in the state) that accepts homeless individuals who may have been drinking or on some kind of drug when they show up looking for a place to sleep.

This is a very difficult population to service because addiction is usually accompanied with mental illness, behavioral and social problems, or psychological disorientation. Putting 55 people with a

HOMELESS: PAGE 6

Methuen Artist to Star at "Buzz Bash" at Gillette

Methuen artist Maddi Ryan says she started her love of music as a young child when she used to stand on the coffee table and sing for her parents. "I used to give them flashlights so they could shine them on me while I was up there singing, it was so much fun. I always wanted to be a singer and now I'm doing what I love to do," Ryan told the Valley Patriot.

At 20 years old, Ryan has already established herself on the music scene playing local venues. Her professional debut was at CMAFest 2015 in Nashville, TN, alongside Colin Axxxwell and Moonlight Valley, with special guest, Jayson Chance of Colt Ford.

Next month, Ryan will be one of the featured performers at the One Mission Buzz Off for Kids with Cancer Post Buzz Bash, hosted by Rob Gronkowski at Gillette Stadium [June 3rd at 10AM].

"I always love to do charity events whenever I can. It feels good to give back and be a part of something that really helps people. I do a lot of volunteer work, so when something like this comes up, I never say no. It's a way to mesh my love of singing and community service."

Ryan's PROMOTER and licensed booking agent, Cynthia Conigliaro of CC Talent PR in Boston says she called Maddi and asked her if she was interested in playing the Buzz Off Bash, "she said yes before I even finished asking her the question," Conigliaro told the Valley Patriot.

"She is very eager to sing anywhere, but she really likes to do charity events."

Conigliaro is one of the organizers of the Buzz Off Bash and said she knows this

is exactly the kind of event Maddi loves to do."

"Since I found out I was going to be playing at the Buzz Off, I decided to donate all the tips I received at my gigs to the One Mission Foundation."

Ryan says that she has raised over \$700 so far, in the last month and a half.

The One Mission Foundation sponsors the Buzz Off Bash to show kids with cancer that they are not alone and raise money TO SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH CANCER. According to their website, One Mission has shaved 5,464 heads, raised more than \$6.7 Million and assisted over 8,000 patients with cancer and their families.

"The Buzz Off is a really great event that raises awareness and support for the One Mission Foundation. The public is invited and I hope people from the area come to support kids who are going through a lot and help us make a difference," Ryan said.

A DIVERSE ARTIST

Maddi Ryan isn't just an entertainer who plays country/pop locally, she is involved in much more. Ryan is a student at Boston University, majoring in Communications and minoring in Psychology. At BU, she is a part of BUTV10, where she appears as an anchor and host of two shows while also working as a writer and field reporter on another. She co-hosts a radio show on WTBU, the BU radio station, and is a member of the Eta Chi chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta at BU. Ryan is also in the process of creating a record label on campus. "What I'm really excited about is



maddiryan.com

starting a record label at BU," said Ryan, "it's a group of students who really love the music industry and want hands-on experience, which is why I wanted to start it. We scout artists in the Boston area and hold weekly pitch calls with record label representatives. I'm excited for the future." In addition, Ryan also models for David Nicholas International, Inc., of Andover, MA, and is a certified Hospice volunteer.

Cynthia Conigliaro says she is excited to be working with Maddi despite her age. "I work with all different types of artists

all over the country, mostly New England, and I have to say Maddi is really a unique artist. She has a great stage presence; she understands her audience and knows how to give them what they are looking for. She's so young, one of the youngest I've ever worked with, but when you see her and it seems like she's been performing for years and years. She has a maturity level that's really fabulous as a singer/songwriter. She can perform in all kinds of settings. It's clear from watching her that she loves what she does. She is a born performer."

The UNICO Merrimack Valley Benevolent Committee Awards \$33,500 to Local Charities

A brief award ceremony was conducted prior to the monthly UNICO Merrimack Valley Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, May 2nd at the Doubletree hotel, Andover, MA.

UNICO of Merrimack Valley, celebrating its 28th year as a Chapter of UNICO National, has raised and distributed close to \$1,000,000 to local charities. UNICO National is the largest Italian-American Service Organization in the United States.

In order to continue to support area organizations caring for the needs of others, UNICO Merrimack Valley conducts its annual golf outing to raise money. All of the money raised goes to scholarships

and community service projects within the Merrimack Valley. We look forward to the continuation of this mission and to the impact that this effort has on the lives of others.

UNICO of Merrimack Valley Benevolent Giving for 2018

Aaron's Presents - \$3,000 Leah Okimoto/Mentorship program in Lowell
St. Augustine Church - \$1,000...Father Peter Gori/Citizenship application fee for Dora Gonzalez

Merrimack Valley Food Bank - \$3,000...Amy Pessia

Tilton Elementary School - \$1,500... Beth Perry/Just Breathe Yoga

Project Entertain - \$1,500...Aiden Trundy/Entertainment at Nursing Homes
Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School - \$2,000...Sister Maryalyce Gilfeather/Scholarship for Ameer Rodriguez

Lazarus House - \$3,300...Laura Miller/Scholarship for new culinary internship
Essex Art Center - \$3,000...Cathy McLaurin/Tarbox Elementary Art School Program

Ironstone Farm - \$3,000...Deedee O'Brien/Care for a horse for one year

The Professional Center for Child Development - \$2,000...Lindsey Mayo/Assistance for Brixton to attend Pre-School Program

Esperanza Academy - \$2,000...Sarah Young/Summer Camp sponsorship for Angelica Sanchez

Bellesini Academy - \$3,250...Julie Difilippo/Scholarship for one semester for Nashly

Family Services of Merrimack Valley - \$1,000...Liz Sweeney/Assistance with Stand & Deliver Mentor Program

Straight Ahead Ministries, Inc. - \$1,000...Assistance to Hector Brito and his mission to assist homeless Vets

Lawrence General Hospital - \$3,000... Tom Cahill/Purchase of two new hospital grade sliders, ottomans and one extra chair per bay in the Special Care Nursery.

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An Honest Discussion on Guns... I Want to Know

Joe D'Amore

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

The Federal Assault Weapon's Ban (AWB) enacted in 1994, prohibited the manufacturing, for civilian use, a variety of fire-arms loosely categorized as assault weapons, as well as detachable, large capacity magazines. It was a subsection of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The aim was to curtail dissemination of dangerous, military weapons to the general public. Effectively, it was a 10-year ban. Remarkably, the ban - as similar measures today - did not apply to previously manufactured weapons, just new ones.

It had a "sunset provision" which meant it could be allowed to expire. I want to know why did Congress fail to renew these legally vital controls to promote public

safety to stay in effect past 2004? Why did Congress not continue on a path to use this 10-year reprieve to build additional comprehensive measures to protect the general public?

The Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act of 1993, known as the "Brady Bill", mandated federal background checks on firearm purchases and imposed waiting periods. The legislation was a major legislative victory for President Clinton and it was named after James Brady, the former press secretary of President Reagan who was shot in an assassination attempt on Reagan by John Hinckley on March 30, 1991. Later versions enabled a system of background check's reporting to federal agencies. The legislation provides key protective elements and later versions enabled a national system of background checks reporting to law enforcement authorities.

I want to know why there are numerous loopholes for dangerous gun purchases with the disconnect in our legal system such as gun show purchases and transferring of fire-arms by purchasers to non-registered owners. The legal framework for public protection is a mass of confusion, with states pursuing their own controls, completely uncoordinated with either federal provisions (some non-existent) or other states. In some states for example, all you have to do is cross the border into the state next door to purchase, possess and use guns in a manner that is illegal in your own backyard.

Additionally, there is also virtually unrestricted marketing allowed by gun manufactures like Smith and Wesson that promote dangerous elements of militancy and sophomoric manhood as qualifications to own a weapon of war.

There isn't a modern nation anywhere

in the world where children are being slaughtered in what otherwise would be considered safe locations such as schools, play grounds and other public places.

I want to know why is Congress incapable of understanding that the priority of remedies for preventing these tragedies is approximately in reverse to what, collectively as a failed governing body, they continue to pursue today. The poster child for this idiocy is President Donald Trump who 24 hours after the Parkland tragedy espoused the principals of mental health treatment sources and security for schools. The silence on the central method of preventing the tragedy - gun control- was as deafening as gun shots.

Priority one must be that the killer at Parkland should have never been allowed to purchase and possess a dangerous weapon of war with high volume, detach-

GUNS: PAGE 26

HOMELESS: FROM 4

laundry list of social problems all together in one place at the same time presents some unique challenges for the workers and volunteers who staff the shelter.

Daybreak is at capacity (55 beds) almost every single night, even in the summer. People who sleep at Daybreak get breakfast in the morning, can do their laundry, but have to leave early in the morning. Most go out and pan-handle to get enough money to buy drugs, wander the streets, or try to find some other place to go.

SOME GO TO HOUSE OF MERCY

On Bay State Road off of Water Street in Lawrence is a place called House of Mercy.

It's a place the homeless in Lawrence can go during the day where they can talk to someone about their problems, get clothing, take a shower, even get a haircut. It's kind of like day care for the homeless.

House of Mercy provides spiritual counseling and church services too, and even serve the homeless lunch. Most of the people who show up at House of Mercy are the hardest of the homeless to service. They are generally a subset of the homeless population that has been on the streets the longest, many are HIV positive, and most of them have completely given up on trying to have any other kind of lifestyle.

"We do it because they are still people," Carrie Wieland said to me on one of my visits to House of Mercy last month.

"They have big problems, problems too big for us to solve. It's a very difficult group to work with, but we are here to help them now, to help them today. That's what most of them need; a shower, a meal, someone to talk to ... today. We aren't trying to save the world, we just want to give them a little dignity and hope that some of them will see there's a better way if they want to turn their lives around." House of mercy also has a mobile health clinic that visits once or twice a week to service the medical needs of those who come looking for help.

THE MOVEMENT FAMILY

Each night there are between 6-10 homeless people who sleep at the Buckley Garage bus stop on Common Street, whether it's 75 degrees or 2 degrees outside.

Michael Gorman (25) of Methuen is a member of a group called TMF or "The Movement Family". He says the group was formed back in 2011. "We have a meeting once a week, every Thursday night, and come up with ideas on how to help this population," Gorman told me.

TMF sets up tables and chairs at the Buckley Garage every Wednesday night

at 9pm and serves a full family style meal to the people who sleep there. I asked him how it got started.

"We were meeting and we said, what about setting up something for the people who are living at the bus station? What about talking to them and learning about them, and why they are out here. We wanted to try and make it deeper than just bringing food. You know, we want to see if we can teach them a life lesson. So we will bring a white board sometimes and we will do goal setting with the homeless people.

"[We will ask] who's thinking about going to detox? Who's thinking about going to get a bed at a homeless shelter, and try to work with them to get them out of here. We don't want them to be comfortable here. We want to get them out of here."

Gorman says the food they serve on Wednesday nights are donated by individuals "so we can serve a family meal, talk to them, interact, many of them are struggling from addiction. I enjoy it."

"We come, bring tables and chairs, we serve food donated by differed people and places and interact with them. Many of them are struggling with addiction." Gorman says he enjoys what his "Movement Family" does because he says, that the homeless are still people and those people have basic and immediate human needs. "Why wouldn't we want to help with that given that many of us in "the Movement Family" are or have struggled with these same kinds of issues in the past. We know what it's like."

"Many people in TMF are struggling with different life situations themselves," Gorman added, saying that some in his group are high school drop outs, "some have had to deal with incarceration, people struggle with self-harm" and a myriad of other psychological and personal issues. "But we are a very diverse family, we also have some great people at TMF who are actually going for their bachelor's degree and come from great families. We stick together and trying to make the world a better place, but we know it's an uphill battle."

When I interviewed Gorman he was serving his fifth weekly meal at the garage. He said it would be great if local restaurants or eateries would pitch in and donate a dinner once a week. "If just one store or restaurant could donate a meal that would be huge for these people. They are hungry. They need food, and there are a lot of people who have the means to help but the problem is trying to get the word out. Most don't understand the severity of the problem."

He says he has received some help from Carrie and the crew from House of Mercy and Sue Lauren from "Blanket Me" a non-profit in North Andover. Gorman says the group can be contacted on their Facebook page and welcomes any help people or businesses can give. "It's all about spreading the word that these are human beings. Regardless of why they are out here, if they are hungry we should be doing what we can to feed them."

FIRE AT DAYBREAK

While there are other individuals and small groups in the city who are trying to help the homeless, it's a myth that Lawrence is filled with city and state services for people with nowhere to go. The fact is, there really isn't much our government officials have done (or will do) and the business community has done even less.

Last month a kitchen fire burned the Sunday dinner that was supposed to feed the 55 occupants at the Daybreak Shelter. I was live on Facebook at the time and our Valley Patriot readers began making calls on their own to local food establishments asking if they might be interested in donating some pizzas so that Daybreak could feed the homeless that night. Brianna Lent took it upon herself to call a pizza chain in Lawrence and Methuen asking for help, but both pizza shops said no.

COR UNUM TO THE RESCUE

Saint Patrick's Church in Lawrence funds a full-service restaurant for the homeless and even feeds people who are not homeless but having financial difficulties. They do so with no money from the city or any other government agency. We reached out to Cor Unum the night of the Daybreak fire and found Ricky Simard, one of the volunteers who was just getting into his car to leave after closing up for the night. When I told him what happened at Daybreak he didn't give it a second thought. He took his keys, opened the doors back up, walked me to the kitchen, and offered everything they had left in the freezer. It was truly inspiring.

VETERANS NORTHEAST OUT-REACH (VNO)

There is no greater organization in New England than VNO. What once started with a couple of Marines putting out coffee for fellow veterans at a store front on Essex Street 20 years ago has blossomed into a full-service facility for homeless veterans and their families. Run by John Ratka and Randy Carter, VNO has dozens of housing units for veterans, provides food, clothing, job assistance, job training, programs for addicts, health care, and will even help veterans navigate the maze of VA paperwork to help them get benefits they may not even know they are entitled to. In the last 4 weeks Randy and

John have taken two individuals who were living on the streets of Lawrence - one addicted to heroin, the other an alcoholic with mild dementia - and put them into their own apartment, stocked the fridge and cabinets with food, gave them clothing in their own sizes, and has been able to secure a real job for one of them.

"We are located in Haverhill and we have a lot to offer any veteran we can convince to get to our doors," Randy Carter says.

"With leadership from guys like John Ratka and the staff at VNO, we go out and talk to the homeless and try to find out which among them have served their country. One individual brought to our attention by The Valley Patriot was a Vietnam Veteran who served on an aircraft carrier and was sleeping at a bus station every night. He had no idea how many benefits were available for him but once we could convince him to come in the doors, we were able to meet his needs in no time."

While so many people look away when they see the homeless on the streets of Lawrence - or anywhere for that matter - the few who are actually tackling this issue are making a huge difference because they understand that ignoring the problem doesn't make it go away. In fact, refusing to help those most in need drive them to commit crimes, take drugs, and puts them on a more destructive path than they are already on.

Granted, some of them are difficult. Some are ungrateful, some are just assholes who have no interest in making their lives better and are looking for good hearted people to exploit so they can get their next heroin fix. Some have issues with violence and have criminal records. Some even refuse the help offered by the few who reach out to help.

But at the heart of almost every homeless story I've heard so far, is the issue of opioid addiction.

And with so few rehab facilities, so few beds, so little government interest in tackling the opioid crisis, and so few resources for people who actually want the help, the homeless population in Lawrence is only going to continue to grow.

But they are still people. And it's up to us to make sure our representatives in government, or business community, and residents of this area are aware of the problem, but moreover, what they can do to help, even in small ways.

Because, when someone is really hungry, when someone is really cold in the winter, when they have basic human needs not being fulfilled, it is inhuman to shrug our shoulders and say "hey they caused their own problems, they can't be helped."

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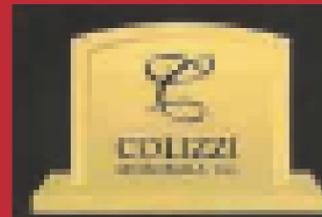



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DESECRATING JIM MICELI - THREE PEOPLE YOU SHOULD NEVER, EVER VOTE FOR - Within hours of the death of Tewksbury/Wilmington State Rep. Jim Miceli last month - and long before he was even waked or laid to rest - two local politicians started to campaign door to door collecting nomination signatures to replace him in the legislature. I'm sorry but that's just sick. The three offenders caught by the Valley Patriot were Erin Buckley, Marie Sweeney, and Mark Kratman, who apparently thought so little of Miceli's family, or his decades of service, or even just common decency, that they were practically tripping over each other trying to get a political advantage out of Miceli's passing. And while they were desecrating the memory of our long-time friend Jim Miceli, Republican Pina Prinziavalli - who is already on the ballot - suspended her campaign out of respect for the deceased representative. For her part Marie Sweeney posted this on her Facebook page trying to mitigate any criticism of her despicable behavior. "The legal reality is that for a name or names to be on the Democratic Primary ballot, signatures need to be into the office of the Town Clerk(s) by May 1, 2018 for certification. That's next Tuesday! So no disrespect meant... Jim Miceli would be the first to understand the pragmatic need to fulfill the requirement of the election law." Actually no, Ms. Sweeney. The one thing people like me loved about Jim Miceli is that he cared more about people than he cared about politics. Jim would never do such a morally reprehensible thing.

I hope all our Valley Patriot readers remember Kratman, Sweeney, and Buckley come election time as the candidates who stepped over the body of a distinguished man like Jim to further their own selfish personal agendas. Clearly these are three who care more about themselves than anyone else and I say SHAME ON THEM!

WHERE WAS BABS?

So, for the last few years State Senator

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK



Last month, during the Welcome Home Fundraiser for Vietnam Veterans at the Relief's In in Lawrence, Randy Carter from Veterans Northeast Outreach Center in Haverhill presented a Certificate of Appreciation for 10 year old Calleigh Curran. Calleigh made bracelets and sold them for \$1 each and then donated the money (\$40) to Veterans Northeast Outreach for homeless veterans. Carter said when her grandfather, Hero Vietnam Veteran Ed "Hoppy" Curran gave him the check and told him where it came from.

Barbara L'Italien (who is now running or congress) has been promising to attend our charity BASH and even hinting that she might kick in a few dollars for our scholarship kids from Lawrence High. But at the end of the day do you know how many times L'Italien actually showed up? Zero! On the other hand, freshman state rep. Juana Matias - who is also running for congress not only attended our charity BASH, but personally put together a gift basket for our raffles which went to benefit Veteran's Northeast Outreach in Haverhill. She didn't hire someone to buy one and she didn't task a staff member to put it together. She personally made a basket for our

raffle and then came to the event to help out veterans and scholarship kids. As for the other candidate for congress? Crickets! Apparently they just really don't care about Lawrence kids going to college or helping homeless veterans... so I hope my readers remember all this come election time, especially if you are a Democrat. Because as of right now, the ONLY democrat in the congressional race who actually seems to give a damn is Juana Matias.

THE 2018 HAPPENSTANCE

HORROR FEST on JUNE 12th at CHUNKY'S CINEMA in HAVERHILL The 3rd annual Happenstance Horror Fest is here. Presented by George James



Fraser of Stained Glass and Blood Bath Productions. The HHF features the very best of independent horror short films from around the world. Taking pride in its punk rock party atmosphere the HHF hosts of variety of artists and horror themed vendors from the New England area. Special guests and judges will be in attendance as well as many filmmakers.

George James Fraser started the film festival in 2016 as a way to present independent horror to large audiences. Each year a Fraser/Stained Glass and Blood Bath film is premiered. This year that film is Salt and Iron starring William DeCoff and Marissa Joy.

Awards are presented for best local, national, and international. The audience will also get the chance to vote for their favorite films in various categories including best death, best score, best FX, and more. 2018 will feature the very first recognition of women in horror award sponsored by Morbidly Beautiful.

Chunky's Cinema and Pub has been home to the HHF since the beginning. Offering a full menu of food and adult beverages, the venue has a comfortable atmosphere where servers will keep your drinks full as you enjoy sitting in the seats that are actually pulled from old Cadillacs and other classic cars.

Fraser's goal in this event is to hold a film festival that stands out from the rest. The HHF encourages a rowdy crowd and hopes to hear every bit of screams and laughter without concern. And there will be plenty to be had.

The festival is taking submissions for films under 20 minutes as well as trailers. HHF is also seeking sponsors that are available to take part at any budget.

Facebook Facebook.com/happenstance-horrorfest

Entries Filmfreeway.com/happenstancehorrorfest

Tickets happenstancehorrorfest.ticketbud.com

Stained Glass and Blood Bath Facebook

Facebook.com/stainedglassandbloodbathproductions

SUICIDE DOCUMENTARY SCREENING - "Suicide: The Ripple Effect" will be shown on Thursday, May 31st, 7:30pm at Solomon Pond Stadium 15, 591 Donald Lynch Blvd. Marlborough, MA

<https://gathr.us/screening/23304> In 2015, Author Kathleen LaPlante finished writing and then published a book about her father's suicide and the resulting clustering in her family tree. The title is "Unraveling My Father's Suicide" Since then Kathleen has continued to take on

CONTINUED UNDER FREDDIE

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FREDDIE SAYS

MMMM TASTE OF METHUEN!!!! May 15th!!!

Freddie also Says EAT AT THE DAILY DOSE CAFE at PENTUCKET MEDICAL IN LAWRENCE 978-557-8601

If elected, Ferry says her legislative priorities will be “supporting ongoing work and funding to tackle the substance abuse/opiate epidemic; additional education and special education funding and support; workforce development opportunities in the 14th Essex district, housing; employment and training efforts to support veterans; and supporting efforts to assist our senior citizens and public safety personnel.”

Ferry does have competition in the primary from political insiders in North Andover. When we finally hear from that candidate we will be happy to pass along her information.

LAWRENCE CITY COUNCIL PASSES FUNDING TO IMPROVE O’CONNELL PARK - The Lawrence City Council unanimously approved the expenditure of a \$400k grant to fund the second phase of improvements at O’Connell Park, aka the South Common.

The state’s Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant, part of Governor Charlie Baker’s effort to provide funding to communities to improve their parks and recreation areas, will continue supporting the upgrades and other improvements started last year at O’Connell Park.

“The O’Connell South Common has long been in need of renovations,” said Mayor Daniel Rivera. “I want to thank Governor Baker and his administration on their commitment to improving open space and parks throughout the commonwealth and I thank the City Council for their partnership and support as we work to improve the South Common and increase the quality of life throughout our community.”

“Thanks to Mayor Rivera and his team who applied and secured the funding for this grant,” said District F City Councilor Marc Laplante. “This park is in my district and has been in desperate need of attention.”

Work will begin in July 2018 and will include the following improvements:

- * Installation of lighting along walking paths
- * New benches, tables, trash receptacles
- * New Volleyball Courts
- * New Multi-Sport Courts
- * Removal of overhead electrical wires

“City government is

following through on a promise made to residents to make this park a welcoming and safe place to play and enjoy family activities,” added Laplante. “I am very happy that our families will have a first class park to spend their free time.”

O’Connell Park is named after Philip O’Connell, a Lawrence resident who was killed in action as a medic in France during War World One.



Robin Desmet (owner and proprietor of Packard Pharmacy, is The Valley Patriot’s Kitty Columnist. Robin won an Editor’s Choice Award at our Annual BASH! In the background is U.S. Senate Candidate Geoff Diehl.

Robin Desmet, Forest Rain Win Valley Patriot Editor’s Choice Award

Each year The Valley Patriot honors two Valley Patriot writers for outstanding writing or taking the high road in public discourse while also taking very bold stands on some of the most important issues that shape our culture and our community.

Columnists, reporters, and even letter writers are eligible for this award. It is given out at our annual BASH the third Friday of March.

This year our first winner of the Valley Patriot/Editor’s Choice Award was The Valley Patriot’s Israeli Correspondent

Forest Rain. Forest contributes original stories and columns from her hometown in Israel and has made a great contribution to educating our readers about the Middle East and terrorism.

Our second Editor’s Choice Award winner this year is The Valley Patriot Kitty Columnist Robin Desmet. Desmet was presented the award by Lawrence City Councilor Marc Laplante who said he was “really happy to make the announcement because Robin Desmet’s business, Packard Pharmacy, is in my district.”

projects to help raise awareness of the insidious nature of suicide, and to help develop life affirming options for people to deal with such unbearable pain. A new documentary film, “Suicide, The Ripple Effect,” contributes to this. 50 tickets need to be reserved ahead of time, or the event won’t take place. Please go to <https://gathr.us/s/23304> If you have questions, feel free to contact Kathleen at klaplante2@yahoo.com and feel free to forward this to others.

LISA YARID FERRY OFFICIALLY ON THE SEPT. 4th DEMOCRATIC STATE PRIMARY BALLOT

Former Methuen City Councilor Lisa Ferry is officially on the state Democratic ballot for State Representative in the 14th Essex District to replace Diana DiZoglio who is stepping down to run for State Senate. Ferry is not just a former councilor but also works in Haverhill Mayor Jim Fiorentini’s office. Last month Ferry officially turned in 234 certified signatures to the Elections Division in the MA Secretary of State’s office. She says she collected signatures “from voters mostly door-to-door in Methuen, North Andover, Lawrence and Haverhill.”

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Flirtin' with Disaster: The Lawrence City Council and the Open Meeting Law

Kathy Runge
VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

The Ordinance Committee finally had two meetings in a row, so the May 1st meeting of the full council contained over 20 of their reports. It was the first council meeting since March 6th that had any of that committee's reports on its agenda.

The Open Meeting Law (OML) requires posting agendas 48 hours before meetings, excluding weekends and holidays, so Patriots Day prevented any reports from the Ordinance Committee's April 12th meeting being included at the council's second meeting of April.

The Lawrence City Council has a rather spotty record of complying with the OML, which also prohibits a quorum of councilors from discussing issues before that body in private.

At the council's May 1st meeting, a quorum of councilors disappeared into their side office during a recess when they were having trouble agreeing to sell a city property to a local non-profit. They quickly passed the item after the recess, raising questions about what occurred in the side room.

Another probable violation of the OML occurred at the Ordinance Committee meeting of April 12th, when Councilor Payano joined the four committee members at the table in front of the room. This formed a quorum, constituting a meeting of the full council, which requires 48 hours' notice.

Councilor Payano didn't vote, but seemed to be an active participant in the discussion, asking questions of people in the audience who were at the podium, suggesting amendments to the documents, and restating motions for clarity.

Councilors also seem to be giving out resolutions in violation of the OML. A picture on Facebook dated April 1st shows Councilors Payano, Rodriguez, Levy, and Vasquez handing a proclamation to a lo-

cal theater group. The caption claims the Lawrence City Council issued a proclamation in support of a local production of "El altar de la locura".

The four councilors above can give as many proclamations as they want as a group of four councilors, since they do not constitute a quorum, but the "Lawrence City Council" can't give out a proclamation unless it appears on an agenda. I searched agendas through December of last year and found no such item.

On May 1st, we had another demonstration outside City Hall honoring the struggles of immigrants, especially illegal ones. From the pictures I saw, hardly anyone came. However, our neighborhood planner Wendy Luzon was earning her taxpayer funded salary at the rally.

People seem to be getting immigrant fatigue. Even the immigrants are tired of hearing about it. Just keep showing that caravan at the southern border disrespecting our laws, waving Guatemalan and Mexican flags, getting married to strangers, and demanding to be let into our country. Please, keep showing them.

One group that will never get illegal immigrant fatigue is the Lawrence City Council. At the Ordinance Committee meeting mentioned earlier, one of the items Councilor Payano discussed was regulations for surveillance cameras the police want to deploy.

One of the committee's major concerns is making sure illegal immigrants are protected and "minorities" are not unfairly targeted by these cameras. How does that even work in Lawrence?

Payano, although an active participant in committees he's not a member of, missed a meeting of a committee he actually is a member of, the Budget and Finance Committee. Where was he, you ask? He was sitting in the audience at the School Committee meeting. Councilor Payano, could you please just do your job?

The #MeToo Mob Scene A Movement Without A Cause

Aliana Brodmann E. von Richthofen
VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

On the first day of my job at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute I came across a woman clearing out her cubicle in observable humiliation as her co-workers stood by, straining to avoid eye-contact with her. A newcomer and unfamiliar with hostile work environments until my employment at the Cancer Institute, I offered my help. "That's ok," she said "I'm outa here. Paresky is a sadistic psychopath and this place kills more people than it saves. Just hope she'll find her match one day."

Susan Paresky was VP of Dana-Farber's Fundraising Department and had just hired me as Senior Writer. I knew enough about human interactions to not take one party's words for fact without hearing the other side. However, this scenario of employees being ostracized, gas-lighted and isolated to the point of others fearing retribution for socializing with them was to repeat itself frequently. I often remembered Debbie's parting words until I myself became the target of vicious assaults three years later. No. It wasn't anything sexual as far as I can tell, though one never knows what really drives someone to relentless acts of depravity against another. But the onslaught of deliberately destructive actions, intended to humiliate and marginalize me were brutal.

I still live with the aftermath, as do most victims of workplace psycho terror. That's what I thought about when I read a prior month's edition (02/2018) of the German magazine FOCUS, which featured an interview with Meryl Streep, prominent mouthpiece on the #MeToo Mob Scene. When asked by the interviewer: "Where

does abuse begin?" Streep couldn't answer. Finally, she said: "I don't believe that's the question here."

That, however, precisely is and must be the question as the definition of abuse better be understood to aid real victims and before indicting someone of this crime. I for one can tell you exactly when the abuse at Dana-Farber started. The same time I developed heart palpitations in response to being wrongly accused, first for allegedly "snooping in company files," then being unfairly warned about alleged "poor writing skills," being excluded from departmental meetings, demoted from "Senior Writer" to "Writer" and generally marginalized, then totally avoided as though I was carrying the bubonic plague.

No, the abuse wasn't sexy like an unwanted kiss, slap on the tush or touching (whatever that is) my thigh. None of such vaguely suggestive acts could even come close to the unsettling, hurtful and debilitating assaults I was repeatedly harassed with over the nine months I managed to continue work after addressing Dana-Farber's racism.

Victims or those who truly care about real victims can tell you everything you would ever want to know about abuse. It's deliberate, physical or psychological, meant to inflict pain, shame and harm to the point of destruction. Anything else is a misunderstanding, rudeness, arrogance or other behavior within the varying shades of grey in human discourse. But it is not abuse. And to obscure this reality is denying the crime of actual abuse and hindering the pursuit of it.

The other question begging to be asked is: Why the #MeToo Mob scene is
ME TOO: PAGE 26



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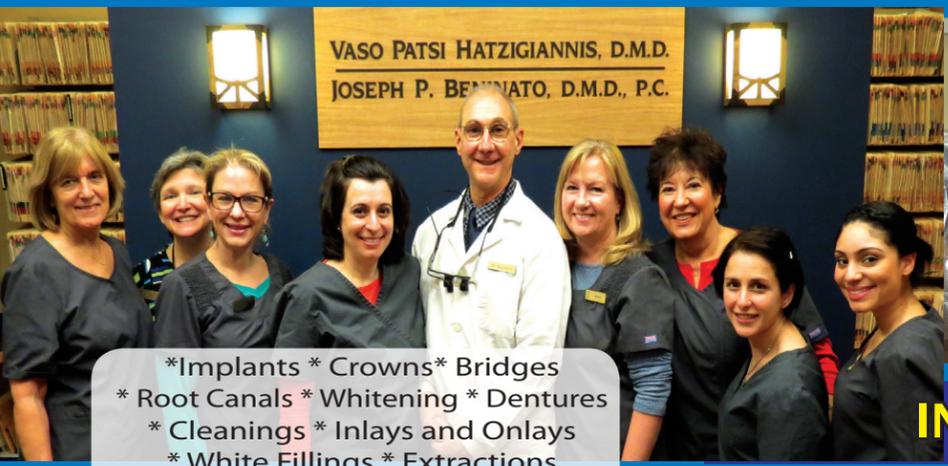
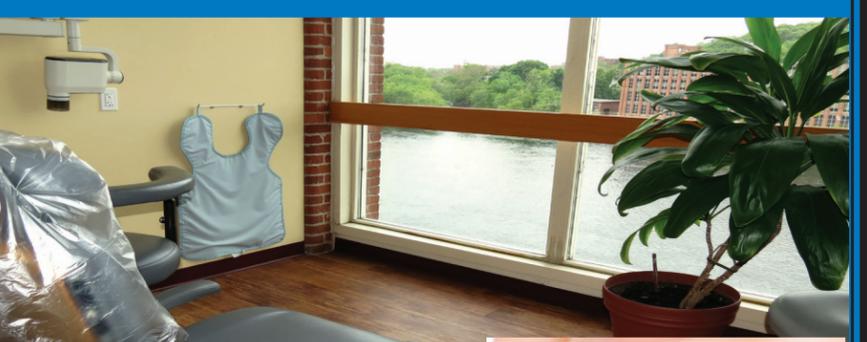


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Rep. Colleen Garry Should Blame Herself For Challengers

Brian Genest
VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

Congratulations to State Rep. Colleen Garry (D-Dracut). She has accomplished something that few entrenched Democrat legislators in Massachusetts ever seem to do: draw two challengers for her seat, including one from her own party. Someone chill the champagne!

Here's her problem: Colleen Garry has failed to deliver for Dracut and Tyngsborough. That's one of the reasons she's facing challenges from both sides of the aisle. Exhibit A: There have been so many Proposition 2 1/2 override attempts in Dracut while Colleen Garry has been in office that most of us have lost count. If Dracut was getting enough of our tax dollars back from the state via aid for schools, public safety and other critical needs, the town wouldn't have to keep trying to squeeze residents for even more property taxes to cover the shortfalls.

Enter Democrat challenger Sabrina Heisey, a member of the Dracut School Committee who's running for state representative because she's concerned about the Chapter 70 program, which provides state aid to public schools. Sabrina Heisey told the Lowell Sun that if Colleen Garry "was doing what she needed to do for education at the State House, then I wouldn't need to challenge her."

Republican Ray Leczynski, a political newcomer from a large and well-known farming family, is also a challenger for the seat. He's running on a platform of two-party balance, fiscal discipline and government reform. (Full disclosure: He's my wife's cousin and my choice for state representative.) Ray Leczynski will face off against the winner of the Democrat primary – and there's a strong possibility that it won't be Colleen Garry. Someone open the champagne!

Have you seen the dozen Democrats running for Congress? This is a group of lefty lefties like you've rarely seen before, even for Massachusetts. These candidates are going to be a gigantic factor in the race for state representative, too: Their supporters will be out in full force for the September primary and, depending on the voter turnout, could help propel self-described "progressive" Sabrina Heisey to victory. If Colleen Garry isn't afraid, she isn't paying attention.

After all, for Beacon Hill politicians like Colleen Garry, there's only two ways to run in any election: unopposed or scared. So Colleen Garry should be twice as frightened as usual – of her two challengers and her record, which they'll be talking about with thousands of voters in the next several months.

That's Colleen Garry's biggest problem of all, regardless of her challenger: her voting record. For years, she's tried to po-



sition herself as a "conservative" Democrat. There's no phonier political folklore! Colleen Garry isn't conservative on taxes, state spending, house leaders, term limits, political donations, following the rules, the death penalty or anything else. With Colleen Garry, the joke's on taxpayers, conservative or otherwise.

Simply put, Colleen Garry has 24 years in office and absolutely zero pieces of signature legislation to her credit. (She's been in the majority party the whole time, too.) What Colleen Garry does have is a strange knack for focusing on the wrong things. Her recent priorities include raising the fines for jaywalking and silencing free speech.

In case you missed it, Colleen Garry filed a bill to shred the First Amendment, silence her political opponents and make sure no one hurts her feelings. It backfired, big time. Colleen Garry caused an outcry of opposition, with the Lowell Sun, Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance, Boston Herald and Boston Globe all coming out against her unconstitutional, anti-American and completely silly proposal.

Here's the irony: Colleen Garry was fined \$5,000 by the Office of Campaign and Political Finance for not keeping adequate campaign finance records for many years and now wants to amend the very law she violated. Clearly, Colleen Garry is a legislator who really knows how to work the system, for herself. Dracut and Tyngsborough deserve better!

Colleen Garry has had her chance – for more than two decades. This year, the voters will have a choice in the primary. And a second choice in the general election. It's about time. Someone pour the champagne!

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

Methuen School Committee Increases Budget a Whopping 13%

D.J. Deeb
METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Members of the Methuen School Committee voted to request that the mayor and School Committee approve a budget of \$82.5 million, a 13% increase over last year's budget of \$72 million. This comes after years of not filling positions through attrition as enrollment numbers continue to climb and Special Education mandated costs continue to soar. Even though I understand the need for many of the provisions that this budget addresses, I could not bring myself to vote in favor of such an increase. I am sure that most Methuen residents have not seen a 13% increase in their pay checks. I feel that it is too much to ask for from the taxpayers who continue to see their property taxes rise. In addition, for the past 3 years I have been critical of overspending by other Municipal Departments. Last month I detailed some of the wasteful spending that the city has engaged in last year and recommended cuts to city spending.

Last year, in FY 2018, the School Department was the only major department in the city to reduce its operating budget. It cut its operating expenses by 2 percent. It should be noted that 81% of school districts in the Commonwealth spend above state-mandated Foundation levels for their school systems. Historically, the City of Methuen has spent at or below Foundation levels, but if the mayor and City Council approve this budget request it will raise Methuen school spending to above Foundation levels.

Members of the Methuen School Committee commissioned Superintendent Judy Scannell and her leadership team months ago to prepare a budget that meets the needs of all of the students in Methuen

Public Schools. Supt. Scannell and her team did a fabulous job preparing such a budget and presenting statistics and supporting information to substantiate their requests. Supt. Scannell and her team did their job well. It is now up to city officials to balance competing interests and to put the brakes on spending. It should be noted that although the proposed approved budget contains increases in Maintenance and Repair for the upkeep of buildings and grounds, new staffing positions, and mental health counselors, it does not create or allow for any new administrative positions.

In considering the Methuen Schools Budget, the following facts taken from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regarding Methuen Schools should be noted:

- * Bottom 15% of districts for total per pupil expenditure
- * Bottom 9% of districts for per pupil expenditure for administration
- * Bottom 38% of districts for per pupil expenditure for guidance and school psychologists
- * Bottom 34% of districts for per pupil expenditure for classroom teachers and specialist teachers
- * Bottom 5% for per pupil expenditure for instructional materials, equipment, and technology
- * Bottom 20% for per pupil expenditure for operations and maintenance
- * Bottom 23% for per pupil expenditure for other teaching services

All things considered, the teachers and support staff are doing an excellent job educating and providing quality services to the students of Methuen Public Schools without user fees and bus fees. Not many

METHUEN PAGE 26



Thank you to Pentucket Bank, our Secretariat Sponsor, of Cinco de Derby,



and everyone who supported the programs of The Psychological Center—Daybreak Shelter, Pegasus House, and Women's View, by attending or sponsoring the sold out event.

We look forward to seeing you next year!




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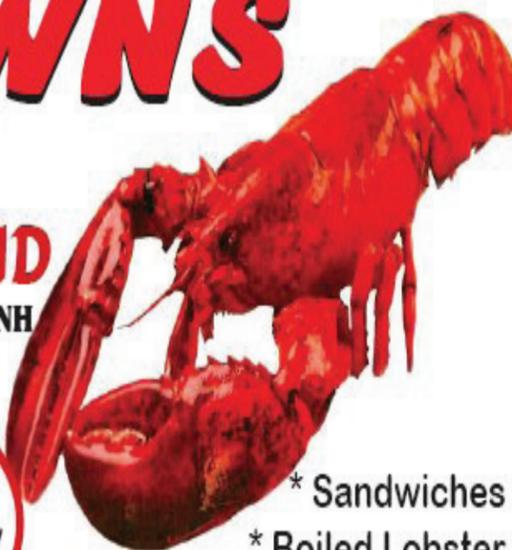
The crew at Royal House of Roast Beef in Methuen want to remind all our Valley Patriot readers that the Methuen Exchange Club is hosting its 16th Annual "Original Taste of Methuen" fundraiser on Tuesday, May 15th at the Methuen Army National Guard Readiness Center, 679 Lowell St. The event will run from 6 - 9pm. Tickets are \$30 each; to purchase, contact Jack MacLeod at 978-314-5081 or Linda Buell at 978-609-3630. Tickets will be sold at the door. For four years in a row, Royal House of Roast Beef has been a favorite among our secret Valley Patriot taste testers who sample all the food and nominate the top three restaurants with the BEST DISH Award at the "Taste" Good luck Royal House on making it 5 years in a row!



Our good friend Hasmukh Vora contacted The Valley Patriot last month saying he was sorry that he could not make our charity BASH in March, but wrote a \$100 check for our ROTC scholarship winner Darleen Santos from Lawrence High School, bringing her total to \$3,400! Thank you so much to Hasmukh at Route 110 Convenience Store in Methuen ... You are always there to help us in our efforts to help the kids in Lawrence.

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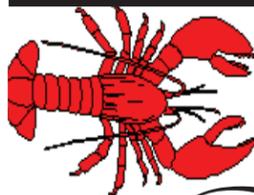
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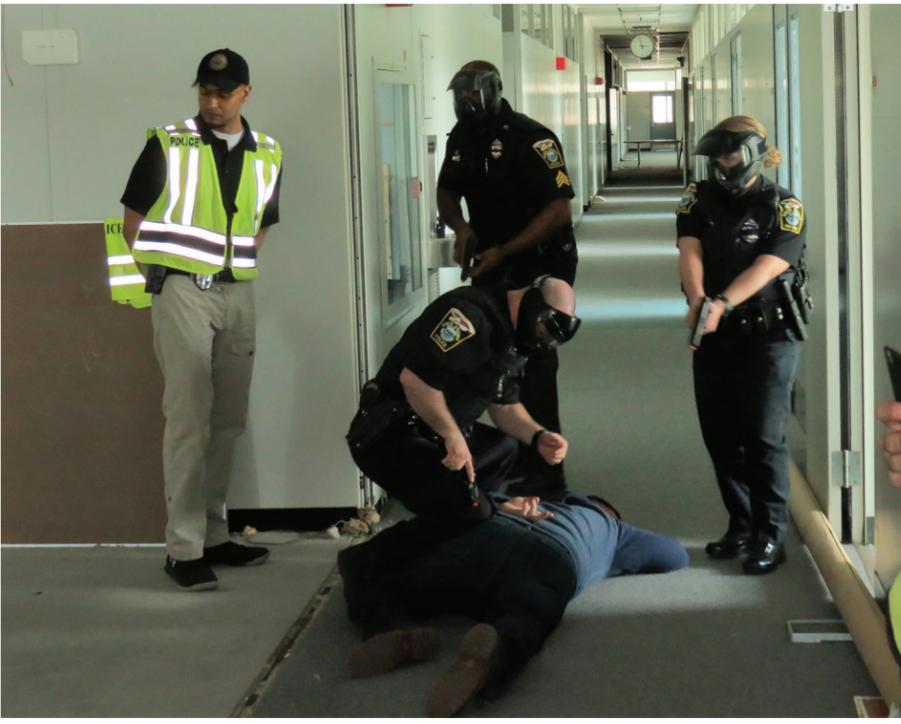
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North Andover and Lawrence police held an active shooter training drill last month at Osgood Landing on Rt 125 in North Andover where officers learned the new tactics on how to deal with live shooter scenarios after the Parkland, Florida high school massacre.



PHOTO: ELIZABETH CRAMPTON

Donald Trump's former Press Secretary Sean Spicer was in Boston last month to endorse U.S. Senate candidate Geoff Diehl and was thrilled to get his copy of The Valley Patriot. As a Navy veteran he was also happy to get a signed copy of Heroes in our Midst.



Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker (I) with the Trask family, and his secretary of Veterans Services Francisco Urena (far right) for the dedication of the Caitlin Trask Bridge in Haverhill. The bridge was named for Caitlin with a crowd of more than 300 people in attendance.



The Greater Lawrence Psychological Center derby race winners First Place – Pest End Exterminating, Second Place – Desiree Ortiz, The Savings Bank, Third Place – Francesca Pappalardo, Central Catholic High School.



Linda Firth and the Lowell Five Bank on Rt. 125 on North Andover donated \$15,000 to the North Andover Farmer's Market, which is sponsored by the North Andover Downtown Merchants Association (NAMA). Firth says Lowell five cares about the community we are a community savings bank and thought it was a great opportunity to be a part of the neighborhood. Selectman Phil DeCologero from NAMA says the \$15,000 will go to advertising and promoting the Farmer's Market, making the website more user friendly for vendors and the public. The Farmer's Market starts on June 25th and will run every Sunday throughout the summer.

YE GAY OL'E VALLEY

A Day of Silence at Methuen High

Dani B. Langevin

VALLEY PATRIOT LESBIAN COLUMNIST

On April 26, Methuen High School students observed a Day of Silence and have been for a number of years. A Day of Silence is a national event bringing awareness to the silencing effects of anti-LGBTQ+ name-calling, bullying and harassment in schools. We silence ourselves to pay tribute to those who were silenced by others. A sampling of people who have been silenced are the 49 patrons at the Pulse night club in Orlando, Florida, 32 patrons who were purposely burned to death at a gay bar in New Orleans in 1973, and the two year old son of Ronnie Antonio Paris who was beaten to death by his father because he thought the boy might be gay and didn't want him to grow up to be a sissy. There's literally tens of thousands of more stories I could tell.

As co-adviser to the GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance) at Methuen High, my members often express how marginalized they feel. They do not see their community supported, there's no representation of their history in any curriculum, and they don't feel safe. They feel silenced. This was incredibly disheartening to me and when I shared these feelings with our principal he was genuinely taken off guard and wanted to help make a change. I think we've got a longer way to go than we imagine.

The night before the Day of Silence the GSA hosted a fundraising event at Fuddruckers in Methuen. We would gain 20% of the proceeds from people's tabs that brought with them a coupon provided for the fundraiser. Two weeks earlier the sophomore class hosted the same exact fundraiser. They received over \$750.00 from the proceeds of that night. What did GSA receive from our fundraising event? We received a whopping \$66.00. The message, to me, was loud and clear.

I sat there for three hours, with two of my officers and one member of the GSA, watching almost nobody come and support us. What really spoke volumes to me, and I'm not sure if it was recognized by my members, was that not one administrator or staff member came. NOT ONE! I was angry, hurt, and embarrassed. No wonder the members of the GSA feel marginalized and invisible. What I was also surprised and hurt by was almost none of the GSA members came. Our president didn't even come stating, "I thought

nobody would show." I was very angry at that action. You're the president! You show up if there is one hundred, one, or none who show. However, this all speaks volumes to the fact that our community is being silenced by a deafening lack of empathy.

Almost 100 students signed up for the Day of Silence. This seemed to be a great show of support, but I wonder how many of them really felt the need to show their support and how many signed up just to have an excuse to not have to participate in academic conversations. I think this because, although almost 100 signed up, on any given Thursday there are only about ten people who show up regularly for our meetings. Why aren't the 100 showing up, if they truly want to support us? I know the answer. They're afraid people will think they're gay as if it's some horrible affliction.

The support we saw, on the Day of Silence, is haughty and disingenuous. That night, at Fuddruckers, I felt utterly dismissed for the first time in over twenty years. My fellow GSA members are clearly not important enough for almost none of the 2,000 MHS students to show and not one of the 128 faculty members. Don't get me wrong, I love teaching at MHS. I truly believe I am working side by side with some of the best educators in the country and I don't believe they purposely brushed us off, but they certainly didn't make an effort toward a show of support. As far as the students go, I don't go a day where one or more of them impresses me with the wonderful young people they are becoming and, like the faculty, I don't believe their lack of support is purposeful either. So, why then aren't they actively supporting my members and community? Why have they silenced themselves to the injustices that have been perpetrated on us over and over again? What does our community need to do to be heard and have solid active support? What do I need to do to get more students to attend our meetings?

After our "Breaking the Silence" celebration, I met with the two officers who accompanied me the night before and my co-adviser. We discussed the changes we want to make next year to make our voices be heard. We've decided that we are going to raise them as loudly and as proudly as we can. We are going to make ourselves so visible and audible that we cannot be ignored. We will be silenced no more.

BENEATH THE SURFACE



'Paying Attention' to Relationships in the 21st Century

Paul Murano

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

On the last Paying Attention Podcast show with Tom Duggan the topic we discussed was relationships.

Tom (editor of the Valley Patriot Newspaper) and I spent an hour discussing love, dating, relationships, and marriage in the context of 21st century America.

It will be the first of many on the topic. [You can see it here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGGDfdj4Xcc ... or you can download the audio on Spotify, iHeartRadio, iTunes, GooglePlay, PodBean, etc.]

Tom was open about his personal life and expounded on his experience, which may be considered typical in 21st century secular America. It included several relationships with different women that lasted several years each, a cohabitation of eleven years, and a couple deep heartbreaks that are still with him to this day. How many people today are walking around with shattered hearts and cynical attitudes about ever finding lasting love?

Many.

And how many have poor self esteem due to feeling used, or being dumped, or feeling they have wasted prime time in their lives waiting for a 'commitment-phobe'? Too many to imagine. There are a number of reasons why these things occur, but the obvious question to ask is:

How can we avoid it?

I raised two important points during the show that I thought could help answer this question – neither of which receive enough conscious consideration until it's too late.

The first point was found in this question I asked Tom: "To what end?" Why are you dating? What is the purpose of the relationship? Tom kept insisting there is no end, or ought to be none. But every-

thing we do has a purpose. If it is communicated honestly and openly between the two parties there will be no false expectation. This is the first point. In days of old the purpose of "courting" was very clear. Two people got to know each other in the context of their lives, families and communities, for the sole end of discerning marriage. In a short period of time they are able to discern whether they could be a good fit for marriage, and if not, they part amicably and remain friendly.

There is a concerted effort to guard not only the body, but the heart; and not only one's own, but also the other's. This makes sense. Otherwise, how selfish is it to lure another into an emotional and/or physical bond, only to eventually let them go when "it's time to move on"? A person of good will does not want that experience and memory remaining in someone who will eventually become another's spouse.

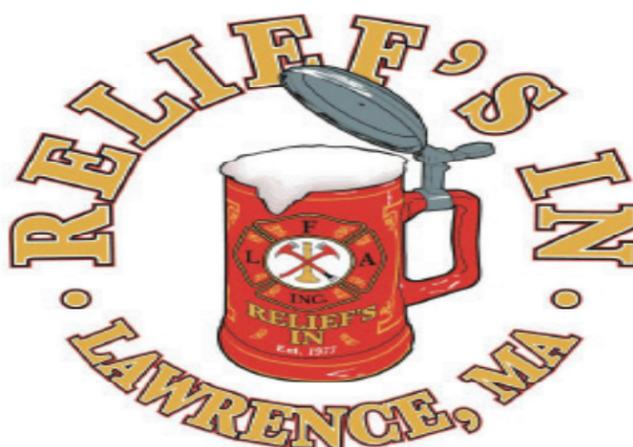
The second point I was trying to make is that personal love – the kind that lasts – is chosen, not felt. It is a total and unconditional commitment to the other, despite one's own interests. This sounds foreign to many formed by our culture, but it is clear from both experience and what is etched in the solemn vows of marriage: "I take you...for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness or health...until death do us part." There is no wiggle room there. Nothing in these vows make stipulation for "unless we fall out of love," or "unless you gain 50 lbs.," or "unless someone younger and prettier comes along," or even "unless you break these vows." Wow. That is unconditional. This kind of love is voluntary, i.e. agape-love, not eros (see Valley Patriot archive for my article, "What is Love?").

Tom claimed you cannot help who you love. When it comes to eros-love that may

LOVE: NEXT PAGE

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If You Are Not With The Collective, You Are Disruptive

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

In April 2018 historians in Prague rediscovered original footage from the notorious Slánský show trial. Said the historians, "One day, when we can make it available for the public, you will be able to see the facial expressions, people's movements, the body language and the staged performances. Because this was nothing to do with due process. It was all rehearsed." Which is why progressives stole the reels when their regime collapsed in 1989. Slánský's co-defendant, Artur London, survived and wrote a book about the "process" of fabricating a show trial, which became a celebrated Costa-Gavras movie - The Confession - with Yves Montand and Simone Signoret playing husband and wife. Progressives banned it of course.

The same applies to show trials staged by Charlie Baker's state medical board. I was put through one that was almost the real Slánský, and closely witnessed another. The system depends on coercing a confession from the targeted doctor. Confess! Confess! Just as in progressive regimes, the doctor's lawyer invariably railroads the target on behalf of the state. The doctor is threatened with immediate license suspension, and public tarring by the compliant press who always quote the state's press release as the truth. Most doctors quickly fold, falsely confess, and many then, appalled, commit suicide.

The doctors' suicide response is no different from the targets of the original show trials (like Slánský himself), as respected persons who occupied society's upper rungs, had contributed to the nation for years, had made many personal sacrifices, saved many lives, and now were



tortured by illiterate thugs who couldn't survive in the private sector as independent professionals, slandered and demonized by actual lowlifes who were drug addicts and now live as rent-seekers.

This state, like those progressive regimes, hates talking about these suicides and would love to adopt their practice of treating suicide statistics as state secrets. Try asking Charlie Baker for those suicide numbers.

The illiterate employees who populate the state medical board know no medicine, and are committed solely to making a fabricated false narrative the state record. To achieve that, they block the target from earning a living, the Massachusetts equivalent of solitary confinement, sleep deprivation and beatings on the soles. Want your license back? Confess!

The difference between the originals

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LOVE: FROM 16

be true, since physical and/or emotional attraction is involuntary. Hence the term 'FALL in love.' However, other animals too have these passions that well up from within. Truly human, personal love is chosen, a free will commitment to the other. Spousal love is faithful, permanent, and open to life. For the single person there may be a number of good reasons to not pursue an attraction. For the married person there is no good reason to pursue one that isn't one's spouse.

Lastly, putting these two points together - the purpose of dating being clearly communicated, and true love being a total selfless and permanent commitment - then why are people involved in "relationships" from the time they're in middle school?

How does this make sense in the bigger

picture, knowing that eros without agape quickly devolves into selfishness and abuse? Unfortunately most people who call themselves adults condone these couplings out of ignorance or lack of courage. If we care about people, including our own children, we will not want them to fall into this trap and will remind each other of what is written in our nature.

Paul Murano teaches philosophy at Rivier University and North Shore Community College, hosts Beneath the Surface radio show on WCAP and co-hosts Paying Attention podcasts. He possesses a doctorate in marital theology, two masters' in philosophy and theology, and is certified in health care ethics. He is founder of Heart-beat Pregnancy Help in Burlington, and is a singer-songwriter-musician. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com

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IN THE GROOVE with Cindy Annis

Ringo Star

Cindy Annis

VALLEY PATRIOT VINYL COLUMNIST

O.K. folks. This is what you have been waiting for from me. The Beatles. So, what I am going to do is do one Beatle at a time and then I will do the Beatles as the group. It has been said that Ringo was the poorest of all the Beatles being valued at only about five million dollars. That was back in the 1980s. Well, his value has gone up a bit. What do you say that we get to know the man!

Sir Richard Starkey MBE, Member of the Most Excellent British Empire, was born on July 7, 1940. We have his actual birth place as 9 Madryn Street, Dingle, Liverpool, England. He didn't have any brothers or sisters, but his mother, Elsie Gleave, loved him dearly. His father, Richard Starkey, was an avid ballroom dancer with Elsie and they danced the local circuit until the birth of "Little Ritchie." His dad felt that Elsie was no longer interested in dancing or cooking or much of anything else after the baby came. He felt that she had an odd fixation on the baby, and it didn't take a long time for him to lose interest in his family and the two of them divorced leaving Elsie and Ritchy with bills and rent, and little money. Ritchy didn't see too much of his dad. He says maybe three times since the divorce has he seen his dad. They had to move to a different section of the Dingle where it would be a little cheaper to live. So, in 1944 they took what little stuff they had and moved to Admiral Grove, also in the Dingle of Liverpool.

Elsie knew they would not make it on the 30 shillings a week she got from her ex, so she went out and took on numerous menial jobs like cleaning homes. This helped out a lot and then she landed a barmaid's position at a local pub. This was pretty good money and tips. She held onto this job for about twelve years.

Ritchie was not a healthy youngster as at an early age of only six he needed to have his appendix taken out. Shortly after that he got peritonitis which put him into a coma for many days. It took him almost a year to recover from that and he had to stay in the hospital during much of the recovery. When he got out, in May of 1948, he missed a lot of school. By the time he was eight, he still couldn't read and was very bad at mathematics. This was nothing that a few years of tutoring wouldn't fix. His neighbor and friend, Marie Maguire Crawford would get him all caught up to his peers in school.

Then, in 1953, Ritchie developed tuberculosis and was hospitalized for two years.

While in a long-term facility for his illness, the staff did what they could to keep up the spirits of the patients. Some of the physical therapy that was used was a make-shift band the staff put together. The residents were the band. Ritchie got his first taste of percussion in this band. He was the bass drummer using a cotton bobbin on a stick for the mallet and Ritchie would bang on the cabinet aside of the bed. From that point on, he was all about the drumming. His friend, Marie Crawford got him a copy of "Bedtime For Drums" by Alyn Ainsworth while he was there.

When he got out of the hospital, this time, he went to school but again, was way behind academically. He did, however, excel at hands on such as mechanical and the arts like drama. His mom remarried, and Harry Graves and Ritchie hit it off wonderfully. It was said they never had a cross word with each other. Harry introduced Ritchie to the Big Band music and vocalists. He didn't go back to school after that and stayed at home and learned the music and the drums of that music!

In about 1955, Ritchie tried getting work, but, with the lack of schooling he never really learned work ethics or discipline. He had a few different jobs, one of which, Harry got for him as an apprentice machinist at a manufacturing company in Liverpool. While putting in his time there he made friends with Roy Trafford who also had a heart for music. A local type of music was called "skiffle" and Trafford taught it to Ritchie and he fell in love with it.

Ritchie Starkey and Roy Trafford made lots of noise, I mean music with their hand made instruments. Another neighborhood friend and co-worker, Eddie Miles, who played guitar joined them and they rehearsed before work, during break times and more after work. These three called themselves "The Eddie Miles Band," and later renamed themselves, "The Eddie Clayton and the Clayton Squares. So, two guitarists and a percussionist using anything from thimbles with washboards to keys on garbage cans for rhythm, started sounding pretty good.

Harry Graves gave Ritchie a used set of drums in 1957 that had three pieces- a snare drum, a bass drum and a garbage can lid for the cymbal. This was just what the band needed

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Adopting A Lifestyle For Healthy Living

Rick Bellanti

VALLEY PATRIOT CONTRIBUTOR

Did you know there are many diets out there that claim you can lose weight? Did you also know how many there are? Or how many even work? To put an answer on that question is like asking how many songs have been written? Or how many stars are in the galaxy?

There are just too many to mention and way more than we need to know about. Many diets may work on the short term but quite frankly most diets just don't work for long term health benefits. Recent studies have shown that more than 60% of the world's population is on some type of diet. Although some weight loss can usually be achieved through food restriction and/or increased exercise, the overwhelming majority of people regain the weight that they have lost over the long-term.

Most assume that when a person regains their weight it was because they stopped their diet or exercise, lost willpower or maybe they just did not know better and they were not properly instructed on their diet of choice. Many seem to think that it's a behavioral or character trait that cannot be changed in the short term which leads to regaining the weight.

Last year I did a column on your home scale and (tongue and cheek I said) how it constantly lies to you, it is not your friend even if it shows an improvement in your weight, and let's be honest our weight changes from day to day or week to week. My weight recently had a ten-pound difference from my home scale to my doctor's scale (on the same day). Throw the scale away, or at least just weigh yourself once a week or month,

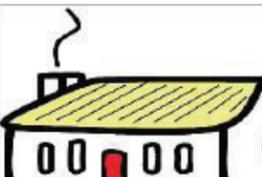
but remember it's just an average of the past week or month, not 100% accurate. Do not get discouraged by a number.

You have to realize, our bodies have a lot of stored energy in fat and sugar. Weight gain or loss is a very slow process resulting from your total food intake and the amounts of exercise over many days, weeks and even years. Sure a scale is a good idea and it may give you a starting point if you are looking to lose weight, but to obsess over it every day weighing yourself, in the long run puts continuous stress on your body (and mind). Thus, setting you up for diet failure. Go by how you look, feel and how your clothes fit. All non-scale victories.

The behavioral change you have to make is not a short term diet (even if you just need to lose a little weight). The change you need to make needs to be a lifestyle change. Lifestyle changes are more effective long term than starting any fad diet. Adopting a new lifestyle refers to not only the foods we eat, but also the activities you choose to participate in and how you live your life. Taking away processed foods, sugary sodas and limiting alcoholic drinks is a great start, but also smoking, not exercising regularly can put stress on your body hindering your new lifestyle you want to adopt. Good eating habits should combine with a regular exercise to achieve your optimum new healthy lifestyle.

By eating processed foods, you are getting highly concentrated portions of mostly sugar, fat and sodium, which causes cravings, then overeating and finally weight gain. The diet industry is a billion dollar business, but did you know the best "diet" for your health has the

HEALTH: NEXT PAGE



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to get them some decent gigs before the skiffle era ended and made way for American Rock and Roll. At the end of 1959, Ritchie joined up with Al Caldwell's Texans. The Texans were a skiffle band that wanted to go from skiffle to rock and roll. What they needed wasn't Ritchie Starkey, but his complete drum set. Ritchie was just included in the package. They were called Rory Storm and the Hurricanes when Ritchie joined them. This was also about the time Ritchie Starkey became Ringo Starr. Rings on his hands and a little country western flare was what he was going for.

The Hurricanes were one of Liverpool's hottest bands in the early 60s. They were offered a three-month contract with "Butin's" in Wales. Decisions had to be made. Starr was almost done with his five-year apprenticeship. He would have to forget about that to take this contract. So, he decided to be a professional musician. This contract opened up so many doors for the group. More than that, so many doors were opened for Starr! When they accepted a contract in Hamburg, Germany, they were top billing over the Beatles and they were paid more, also! On October 1, 1960 Starr first met the Beatles. On October 15th, Ringo Starr played the drums with John, Paul, and George. Starr quit The Hurricanes in 1962 and on August 14, 1962, Ringo was asked to join the Beatles by John Lennon.

Although the Beatles were the biggest part of Ringo Starr's musical life, we are going to save that for when I do "The Beatles!" But, we are not done here!

Why don't we take a look at some of Ringo's solo stuff? In 1969, September 20th,

John Lennon told the rest of the Beatles that he had quit the band. The news didn't come out until April of 1970 when Paul McCartney announced that he was quitting the Beatles. Ringo decided, of course, it was time to move on. Ringo went on to play drums for Lennon and Yoko Ono on their albums "Plastic Ono Band" albums that came out in 1970. He also helped out with George Harrison on his All Things Must Pass, 1970, Living In A Material World, 1973, and Dark Horse, in 1974. Ringo was also a performer in The Concert At Bangladesh in 1971. In 1972, Ringo started directing films. The list of songs Ringo did solo or with other bands is simply astounding. Songs such as "Photograph," and "You're Sixteen," would reach #1 in the U.S. In 1973. These two songs would also be on Ringo, Ringo Starr's first rock album.

The list goes on and on, unfortunately, the column space doesn't. One more thing about Ringo Starr is that he was just knighted as Sir Richard Starkey at Buckingham Palace by Prince William for services to music. Ringo and Paul McCartney are the only two Beatles to be knighted.

I hope you enjoyed this one as much as I did. Watch for the rest of the Beatles in the future. You can hear Ringo's music when you listen to Cindy's Vinyl Vault. Remember to listen to Cindy's Vinyl Vault. We play the best music ever recorded on vinyl. We're at 980 WCAP Radio every Sunday night at 10:00, Monday night at 11:00 and Wednesday night at 10:00, and remember folks, it's not how old it is, but how great it sounds!

HEALTH: FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

lowest cost? That's because it's changes, simple changes, that you can make on a daily basis. No one is forcing you to eat a cupcake for breakfast, it's up to YOU to make the choice.

The most healthy "diet" recommended today is just a well-balanced healthy lifestyle choosing whole grains, proteins, nuts, organic fruits and vegetables and lean meats. If you want to make a permanent change in your life, then you need to make a permanent change in your lifestyle. Typical fad diets are no longer the answer, you need to revamp your new lifestyle to include

well rounded meals and daily exercise. Making these lifestyle changes does not always equal immediate weight loss results, but for most, the weight will start to come off. Just stick with it, and make slow gradual changes that are going to become new permanent habits.

Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs, and has lost 160lbs 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.

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 BillsTVTalk@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!

As a huge fan of The X-Files, I was very underwhelmed by the season finale. Please tell me they're not going to end it there. With all the talk about Gillian Anderson being done with the show, it makes me wonder if the show has a future. - Alex from Newburyport, MA

Hi Alex. I couldn't agree more. The season (possibly series) finale left a lot to be desired. While there is nothing set in stone, Chris Carter has continually said that everyone is open to continuing the series without Agent Scully. Carter says that he thinks the show still has life left in it, and that he never intended the season 11 finale to be the end of the series. My guess is that we haven't seen the last of The X-Files in some form.

I really enjoy Lethal Weapon on FOX. Are we going to see a 3rd season? - Jo-Ann from Methuen, MA

Jo-Ann, a few weeks ago I would have told you that a third season of Lethal Weapon was a slam dunk. But over the last couple of weeks stories have surfaced of tension on the set between the 2 stars of the show Clayne Crawford and Damon Wayans. Crawford has reportedly been accused of emotional abuse and creating a hostile work environment. Reports also say that the relationship between him and Wayans has suffered irreparable damage. So at the moment, a third season is very much up in the air. Stay tuned.

When is this revival-mania going to stop? Twin Peaks, The X-Files, and Will & Grace among others... isn't enough, enough? How about some new ideas? - Steve from Lawrence, MA

Steve, I couldn't agree more. While I have thoroughly enjoyed some of the reboots and revivals, I would prefer new ideas on TV. But I hate to tell you that if you are not a fan of these revivals, then

you may just want to shut off your TV for a while because they don't appear to be going away anytime soon. Other revivals in the works include Murphy Brown, Magnum PI, The Greatest American Hero, Starsky & Hutch, Miami Vice, Party of Five, Mad About You, The Office, Cagney & Lacey, and yes even Blue Clues.

Homeland is having its best season in years, what can we expect next season? - Kathy from Nashua, NH

Kathy, I couldn't agree more. This season has been great and has really breathed new life into the show. The show will move back overseas for season 8, with the action taking place in Israel. We can also expect a fairly big time jump in the series of at least 2 years. Unfortunately it was recently announced that season 8, due sometime in 2019 will be the shows last. Personally I think this is a good idea. As good as this season has been, I can't help but wonder how much they can put Carrie through and still keep the show at least somewhat realistic. However it wouldn't surprise me to see the show come back or continue in some form in the future.

Is there a website or Facebook page that I can follow to check and see if some of my favorite shows are being renewed or canceled? - Beth from Salisbury, MA

Beth, yes you can certainly follow me on Facebook and on Twitter @ BillsTVTalk. I update the pages daily with breaking news of cancellations and renewals. Here are a few recent ones that you may have missed. Recently canceled: Here and Now (HBO), The Path (Hulu). Recently renewed: Billions (Showtime), NCIS (CBS), Grey's Anatomy (ABC), Killing Eve (BBC America).

That's it for this mailbag. Thanks for all the questions and keep 'em coming!

Do you have any questions about TV? Email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future column. For daily TV news, follow Bill on Twitter @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk.



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YOUR MONEY

Don't Derail Your Retirement: Watch for These Three Risks

Alex Talcott

VALLEY PATRIOT MONEY COLUMNISTS

If you're in or nearing retirement, you're likely thinking about it as a time to relax, check items off your bucket list, and enjoy what you've earned. But from a financial standpoint, it's important not to get too comfortable. Once you leave the workforce, you will likely be reliant, at least in part, on your savings to cover living expenses. So it is important to stay diligent and be aware of potential risks to your financial security. Here are 3 key risks to keep an eye on.

1. Not revisiting your investment strategy - As you approach or enter retirement, you may have to re-assess your risk tolerance and make sure that your portfolio aligns with your goals, the lifestyle you want in retirement, and your financial situation. Remember that you may have less time to recover from market swings, so consider protecting your portfolio as you prepare to live off your savings. That said, being too conservative isn't always the right solution. With many retirees living decades in retirement, you will likely have time for your assets to grow or at least, keep up with inflation. Plan to periodically review your portfolio in retirement to make sure you're comfortable with your progress and risk tolerance.

2. Spending too much too quickly When retirement rolls around, you may find you have more money accumulated than you've ever had before. This can lead to a false sense of financial security and prevent you from adjusting spending in retirement. But if you begin spending at an unsustainable level in the early years of retirement, you risk depleting your nest egg too quickly. If you dream of traveling or starting a business after you step away from the workforce, factor those activities into your retirement

budget. That way you can feel good about enjoying what you've earned while also being cautious about not outliving your assets.

3. The rising cost of living - Many retirees believe the amount of money they can generate from their investments and other sources of income, such as Social Security, will be sufficient when retirement begins. But keep in mind that, historically, the cost of living has risen over time. For example, if you live for another 25 years after you retire and the cost of living rises by an average of three percent per year, your annual living expenses could potentially double in that time. Consider the possibility that retirement may be much more expensive as time goes on. Accounting for inflation impacting the most prominent items in your budget, such as health care or travel, is a good place to start. The benefits of being prepared - Preparation and discipline can keep you on track and feeling secure about your finances in retirement. You can take steps to help address these risks prior to leaving the workforce with proper planning, diligent saving and a portfolio that is aligned with your goals and risk tolerance. If you're already in retirement, these risks deserve consideration to help continue to manage your assets on the way to long-term financial security.

Alex Talcott, JD, is a Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. in Portsmouth and Bedford, New Hampshire and Middleton, Massachusetts. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 10 years. To contact him: (603) 319-3108; 25 Chestnut St., Ste. 300N, Portsmouth, NH, 03801; www.ameripriseadvisors.com/alex.talcott Investment advisory products and services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., a registered investment adviser. Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2017 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

HERO: FROM PAGE 1

lift raft to the crew.

Of the eleven B29 Bombers in the formation on April 24, 1945, nine return to Saipan successfully, Sgt. Dindo's bomber V Square 11 was shot down by a Japanese fighter, and another B29 V Square 6 (Tail 4683) was forced to perform an emergency landing on the Japanese Island of Iwo Jima, secured by U.S. Marines on March 26, 1945, less than a month earlier. U.S. Navy Seabees were working twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to keep the island's three airstrips operational.

According to Louis Dindo, Sgt. Dindo's only brother, just the bomber's tail gunner, a Sgt. Jack Kropf, survived the war. Sgt. Kropf was repatriated from a Japanese POW camp at the end of the war. In his report after being released from the POW camp, Sgt. Kropf said he was the last man to bail out, and landed by himself in the water. He found the life raft that was dropped and climbed in. He was picked up by the Japanese Navy, and spent the last months of the war as a POW. The body of the pilot, Lt. Ray Antonucci, who was also senior officer on the bomber, was found by a Japanese fisherman two miles off shore and buried in Japan. After the war, the fisherman was kind enough to show troops from General of the Army Douglas MacArthur's "Army of the Occupation of Japan" where the body was buried. Pilot Ray Antonucci was identified from the Army laundry markings on his uniform. Unfortunately, nothing else is known that confirms the fate of the other nine men. Including this month's "Hero in our

Midst", Sgt. Angelo Dindo, U.S. Army Air Corp, who is still loved by his brother and in the prayers of his family. Sgt. Dindo is Missing in Action, (MIA), since his remains have not been recovered, he is still on watch, still serving our nation. Sgt. Dindo is forever twenty-six years old. Memorial Day has a special meaning for his brother Louis Dindo, and Louis's family.

We celebrate two military holidays in May. Armed Forces Day, May 19th this year, which honors the young men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The other, a holiday almost sacred to those of us that wore our Nation's uniform, is Memorial Day on May 28th. Memorial Day is not meant to honor our Nation's Military Veterans, that is what Veteran's Day is for on November 11th. Memorial Day is for the 405,399 men and women who did not return from World War II, and many more who did not come home from Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf Wars. Every Memorial Day, I think of Robert Dean Stethem, a United States Navy Seabee Diver 2nd Class, who was 24 years old, when murdered by Hezbollah terrorists during the hijacking of the commercial airliner he was aboard, TWA Flight 847 in June of 1985. I also say a prayer for Seabee Construction Electrician Second Class Thomas Orr, who died while repairing a runway at U.S. Naval Base Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico in September of 1989 after Hurricane Hugo. I talked to him just an hour or so before he died. Born and raised in Lawrence, I think of the eighteen young men from Lawrence,

An Evening with The Wine Novice

John MacDonald

PAYING ATTENTION COLUMNIST

On a mild early spring evening in Lowell, Massachusetts, sparkling clean stemware adorned the tables at the Nesmith House in Lowell. The 1843 Mansion, named after its original occupants John and Harriett Nesmith was the stage for a Middlesex Community College class on red wines. The instructor for the evening, Jim Campanini, who's perhaps better known as the longtime "Editor in Chief" of the Lowell Sun Newspaper, and now known increasingly as "The Wine Novice".

The Nesmith House, purchased by Middlesex Community College in 1994 was restored to its original glory and is even better with a modern kitchen and lighting for functions galore. When I walked through the thick oak and meticulously ornate doors of Nesmith House I was quickly greeted by friendly staff and led to the dining room, where Jim Campanini the instructor stood with a smile. There was no sign of Jim the newsman, just the articulate, well versed, knowledgeable Italian wine expert, writer of precious pressed grape articles and a BLOG called "The Wine Novice".

Jim is starting to become known across the country for his interesting and informative articles on wines. He takes his readers on a journey and tells tales of his discoveries; however never writes about wines he dislikes. Campanini's also made characters of his stories as well-known as his articles. His cat, neighbors, traveling companions or an example, his wife Mary Lee, who's now known as "The Wine Goddess".

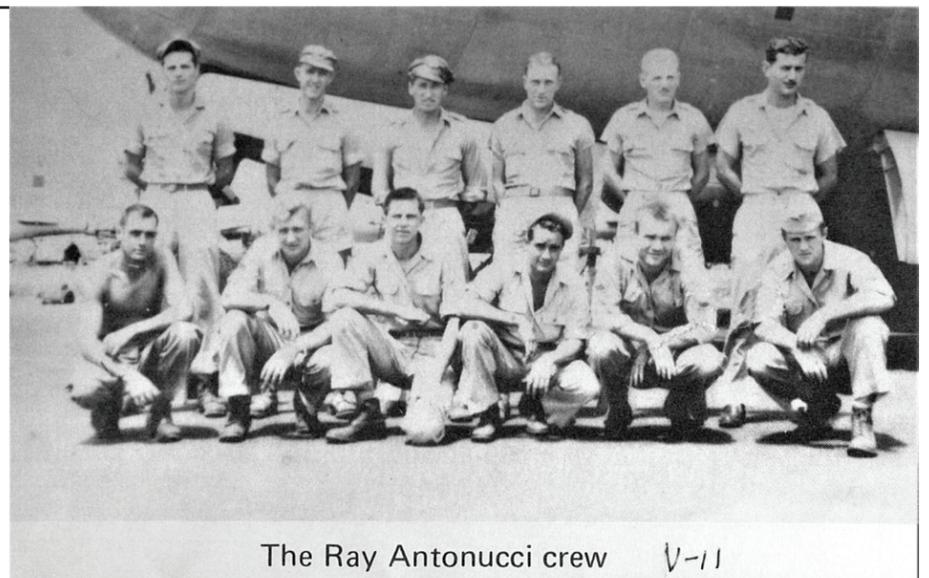
Yes, Jim is an actual wine professional and has taken and passed the difficult course to become a recognized Italian wine expert. French wines and other wines around the world are certainly on his mind as well as his experienced palate, but his Italian heritage at this moment... defines his passion and now certified expertise.

Before the class began the room started to fill with some well-known people from across the Merrimack Valley. Heads of education, experienced political types and business people from all sectors of success. The lights in the room seemed to shine brighter as the class began and Jim took each student through the styles and types of red wine. The five "S"'s of wine tasting and the nuances of aromas. Locations of where certain red wines came from and were made, became as interesting as the featured wines that Jim's students got to taste. A 2014 L'ECOLE No. 41 Syrah from Walla Walla Valley, Washington and The 2015 Velvet Devil Merlot from Mattawa, Washington were some of my favorites. Other wines from California, Chile and even an Italian Roscato were poured and then paired with wedges of Brie, grilled sweet sausage with a plum glaze and other delectable treats designed by his master chef, "The Wine Goddess" herself.

As the evening played out, the class was given a test to ascertain how much we absorbed... besides the alcohol. Jim tested our knowledge and then handed out certificates, which displayed each student's name and the stamp of completion. The bottom line is that "The Wine Novice" shared his knowledge, made the class interesting and fun, while allowing the attendees to make quick friends with the people they sat with at their table.

If ever you happen to come across a Middlesex Community College catalog of courses, I highly recommend that you look for Jim Campanini's wine class. He not only teaches a class on reds, but also educates students and readers about white wines. He not only instructs, but he has fun and imparts with humor. Besides the wine... the talents of his chef the "Wine Goddess" is enough reason to take the class alone.

It truly was a wonderful surprise and a fantastic evening in Lowell, Massachusetts... Salute! Jim Campanini!



The Ray Antonucci crew V-11

not much older than me, who did not return from Vietnam.

To honor those who will never be able to celebrate Veteran's Day - I challenge everyone reading this article to spend their Memorial Day in some meaningful way, honoring those who gave their lives serving our great Nation. Please do not go shopping, or attend the "Memorial Day Sale at the local Car Dealer". Instead, attend church, plant flowers at a Veteran's or loved one's grave, hang the American Flag out at your home. Some even better suggestions, take your grandkids to a zoo, take your children to a park and toss a football, spend time with an elderly relative on Memorial Day. If you have a cookout, how about inviting the neighbor you do not know, or an uncle, who drives you crazy, but has no one else. And say

a pray for the men and women who gave their lives for our Nation. Memorial Day belongs to Sgt. Angelo Dindo, U.S. Army Air Corps. Memorial Day belongs to the more than 400,000 men and women who did not come home from World War II. Memorial Day does not belong to a Mall, a Car Dealer, or a Golf Course.

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

Rivers of Living Water (Part 1)

Peter Larocque

PAYING ATTENTION COLUMNIST

As Christian believers we recently celebrated the Death, Burial and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen! But God doesn't stop there. He has more for the believer! The more is revealed in His Word!

Jesus himself told his disciples before ascending into heaven what those who would believe on him could look forward to which we can read in the Gospel of Mark 16:17-20. "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18. [If] They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. 19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. 20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen."

Likewise during Jesus' earthly ministry he said this which is recorded in John 7:38-39, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) = [Meaning Crucified, Resurrected and Ascended]. The question that is now before us is what is this Spirit that was to be given and received?

Let's begin our inquiry with John the Baptist who came before Jesus and knew that Jesus was going to make more available to the believers. John the Baptist said in Matthew 3:11, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." He also said in the Gospel of John 3:30, "He [Jesus] must increase, but I [John] must decrease." In other words with the coming of the Greater the Lesser must step aside!

When Jesus knew his time on earth was coming to an end, he began preparing his disciples for his soon death and departure. In doing so he began speaking about the Holy Spirit, the Comforter which he would send and that they would not be left comfortless.

This is known as the upper room discourse which we read in John 14:1, "1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." Verses 16-18 of same chapter, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, [another of the same kind as Jesus] that

he may abide with you forever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: [like an orphan] I will come to you." Verses 26-27 add this, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

We can read Jesus' further instructions to his disciples before ascending to Heaven in Luke 24:49, "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Then again Jesus said in Acts 1:4-5, "And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." Followed by verse 8 of same chapter, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

To summarize, the instructions he gave were;

Stay in Jerusalem.

There I will send The Promise of my Father which is to be endued with power from on high which is to be baptized with the Holy Ghost, [Spirit] which is Receiving Power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you!

Then (not before) you shall be witnesses unto me!

These instructions now set the stage for what is about to take place which we can read about in Acts 2:1-4, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Next Month we will continue and I will explain why what took place on Pentecost and experienced by His Disciples is so important to the Christian believer today!

Love to all of you!

Peter Larocque

Robin's Kitty Corner

Heartbreak

Robin Desmet

VALLEY PATRIOT KITTY COLUMNISTS

Losing a kitten is one of the most difficult parts of animal rescue. No matter how much time goes by, you never forget the ones you've lost. Anyone who fosters or rescues animals for any length of time is bound to face this heartbreaking situation at some point in their career, but knowing this does not make it any easier.

My first brush with heartache came early in my days of volunteering. A fellow volunteer and I went to check on a feral colony of cats in Lawrence that I was working on trapping and neutering. We entered the yard where the cats liked to hang out and immediately saw Trixie sitting on the back staircase.

Trixie was the last cat in the yard that had not yet been spayed or neutered. She had been present in the yard and had watched as I trapped her friends one by one. But try as I might, I could not trap Trixie. She was wise to my games and all the tuna in the world could not convince her to go into the trap. Naturally, she got pregnant.

As the other volunteer approached Trixie to say hello, I walked over to check the shelter I had built for the cats. I removed the cover, looked inside, and immediately saw 3 kittens curled up together. To my horror, all of them were dead. Apparently Trixie had had her kittens the night before, but none of them had survived. It could have been the cold, the inexperience and youth of the mother, or they may have been sick. I will never know. What I do know is that it was utterly heartbreaking.

In the end, I was finally able to trap Trixie and get her spayed. She still resides in Lawrence with the rest of her colony, but I will never forget that sad day.

My latest experience with heartbreak occurred very recently. I was trapping a mother cat and her 5 kittens in Haverhill. This furry family had it good compared to most feral cats. They had a roomy shed for shelter with soft blankets and were getting fed daily. The pretty yard was quiet and peaceful and seemed relatively safe. On the first day, I was lucky enough to catch 3 of the kittens in the morning and the



mother later on that afternoon. The kittens were about 4 weeks old, and all of them were thin and dehydrated and needed medical care. In the evening the homeowner and I searched inside the shed for the other kittens. The homeowner was the first to spot the kitten and called me over. I edged over slowly and caught a glimpse of the kitten curled up amongst the clutter. I took another step closer and the kitten didn't move. My heart sank. Feral kittens always run away when you get close to them. This poor little guy did not make it.

The next day while I was at work the homeowners succeeded in rescuing the remaining kitten. Rescuing 4 out of 5 isn't bad, but it is still heartbreaking to lose one.

These types of experiences are disheartening at best, jarring at worst. But despite the sadness, I think it is important not to let these terrible experiences discourage oneself from the important work of trying to save these animals. I realize that there will always be heartbreak, but the good that is done definitely outweighs the sadness. And so, the work continues.

If you have any questions, please contact me at: Robinjd@comcast.net

This ad donated by Kathleen LaPlante, Author of "Surviving My Father's Suicide"

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Property Sales, Foreclosures for APRIL, 2018 in Andover, North Andover, Lawrence, & Methuen. (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, address, and price.)



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M. Paul Iannuccillo, Register

William Francis Galvin
 Secretary of the Commonwealth
 of Massachusetts

ANDOVER

Yilmaz & Elizabeth Surehan, Michael & Alicia Pritchard, 134 Chandler Road, \$640,000.00
 Michael Simeola, Karen Lindberg, 16 Balmoral St. Unit 319, \$251,200.00
 David Amerault, Ling Chen & Bin Lin, C1-5 Colonial Dr. Unit C1-5, \$210,000.00
 Ghulam Shaikh & Shazia Zeb, Kevin & Barbara French / French Family Trust, 500 Brickstone Dr. Unit 500, \$330,000.00
 Wendy Contos / Powers Family Trust, Sean & Dana McMahon, 401 High Plain Road, \$510,000.00
 Charles & Holly Tomes, Justin & Tammie Elerath, 22 Lincoln St., \$550,000.00
 Pulte Homes of New England LLC, David & Joyce Powers, 1 Francis Dr. Unit 309, \$498,855.00
 Simon & Faye Hung / Hung Realty Trust, Hui Yang & Wei Wang, 4 Shadow Ln., \$933,000.00
 Leslie Mann & MSL Realty Trust, Norman & Amanda Shipley, 286 South Main St., \$2,700,000.00
 JCG Investments LLC, Huy Nguyen & Van Le, 200 B Brookside Dr., \$275,000.00
 Paul & Kathleen Romano, Roberto Magitteri, 11 Alison Way, \$865,000.00
 Alex LLC, Carolina Properties, 1 Manning Way, \$600,000.00
 Meredith Mondejar, Ashley Karwowski, 1 Wild Rose Dr. Unit 2, \$179,622.00
 Black Hawk Development LLC, Mark & Erin Nardone, 191 Holt Road, \$425,000.00
 Robert & Helen Trott, Stephen & Barbara Bessette, 35 Chandler Cir., \$445,000.00
 69 North St. LLC, Qun Su, 33 Boardwalk Dr., \$609,900.00
 Prasanth Ramalingam & Priyanka Nagarajan, Ephesus LLC, B3 Colonial Dr. Unit B3-6, \$115,000.00
 Colonial Dr. Corp., John Crowe, A1 Colonial Dr. Unit A1-3, \$190,000.00
 Richard & Audrey Joyce / Aspen Cir. Realty Trust, Mohamed Abdallah, 1 Aspen Cir., \$655,000.00
 Jayne Farnham & Paula Eichner, Elizabeth Bardetti, 17 Lincoln St., \$500,000.00
 Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Daniel & Wendy Griffis, 1 Francis Dr. Unit 306,

\$503,165.00
 Robert & Pauline Hamilton, Richard & Katie Carr, 2 Bannister Road, \$555,000.00
 Cattle Crossing LLC, Xuejing Liang & Nan Zhang, 2 Noel Road, \$755,000.00
 Richard Cressey & Carolyn Raber, Trevor Moore, 18 Summer St. Unit 4, \$624,900.00
 Joseph & Elizabeth Bardetti, Jason & Linda Deeken, 8 Seminole Cir., \$850,000.00
 Ann Pozerycki & Washington Park Realty Trust, Sam Daher, 40C Washington Park, \$200,000.00
 Edward & Sheila Medeiros / EM & SN Medeiros 2015 Trust, Thomas & Judith Hudkins, 50C Washington Park Dr. Unit 9, \$200,000.00
 Cathryn Crowe, Joel & Emily Keefe, 56 Lucerne Dr., \$500,000.00
 Kristen McMahon, Adryen Oliveira, 3 Hackney Cir., \$632,000.00
 Barbara Kiley, Chelsea Mencio, 36 High St., \$650,000.00
 Timothy & Janis Wright, Don Elrod & Asha Nadipuram, 81 Argilla Road, \$610,000.00
 Muzaffer & Carin Yasli, Michael Lee & Angela Moon, 300 Brookside Dr. Unit F, \$350,000.00
 Charles Wiesman / Anne French / James J. Wiesman Supplemental Needs Trust, Gregory & Jacqueline Stimpson, 5 Stinson Road, \$639,500.00
 Cornelia Lemaitre, Nan Shen & Pengyu Hong, 8 Sunset Rock Road, \$770,000.00
 Stephen & Gina Elberry, Paul & Aubrey Ebbighausen, 275 North Main St., \$685,000.00
 Karen Robidoux (Desrochers / Jones), Barry & Theresa McQuade, 25 Brundrett Avenue, \$500,000.00
 Kathleen Carr, Matthew & Nora Johnson, 5 Arundel St., \$495,000.00
 Edward & Erin Stewart, Hallie & Laura Malitsky, 6 Longwood Dr., \$265,000.00

LAWRENCE

Roberta Rosmarino, Johnny Rosa & Roberta Alexopoulos, 43 Inman St., \$235,000.00
 Marianne Rheume & Marianne Rheume

Revocable Trust, Fernando & Heather Da Costa, 74-76 Sylvester St., \$335,000.00
 Joseph & Cynthia Carberry, Sixto Figueroa, 11 S Boylston St., \$433,000.00
 Kimberly & Marc Michaud, Paul Nartiff, 73-75 Brookfield St., \$360,000.00
 Daher Group Inc., Eddie Tala, 10-12 Warwick St., \$433,000.00
 Purinton Realty LLC, Jorge Orsini, 84 Salem St., \$430,000.00
 Maria Trejo, Joel Maria, 155-157 Boxford St., \$480,000.00
 Pedro & Francisca Vasquez, Rigoberto Bernal & Anatalia Diaz, 21-23 Byron Avenue, \$415,000.00
 Scot Gabriel & Gloria Schaufenbil, Leandro Almonte & Rosa Peralta, 5 Danforth St., \$359,000.00
 Juan Carlos Polanco, Juan G. Diaz - Polanco, 10 Pilgrim Road, \$290,000.00
 Enida Narkus, Collins Haverhill LLC, 99 Bradford St., \$145,000.00
 Isai Mencia, Rafael Bisano & Aurelio Rodriguez, 1-5 Trenton St., \$100,000.00
 Daniel Santana, Brian Tam & Cindy Woo, 11 Lawrence St. Unit 710, \$78,000.00
 Charette Realty LLC, Bema Properties LLC, 149 Berkeley St. 153 Berkeley St. 161 Berkeley St., \$2,880,000.00
 Arismende & Aida Ortega, Ruel Pena, 189-191 Andover St., \$410,000.00
 Ovispo & Jaqueline Ortega, Ricardo Ortega, 312 Water St. Unit 3, \$50,000.00
 La Belle Maison LLC, Renovb Homes LLC, 11 Florence Avenue, \$99,000.00
 David Quiroz, Feliz Soto, 137 Saratoga St., \$359,000.00
 Jose & Rafaela Sandoval, Julissa Mane-Conception / Maria Perez / Martha Rodriguez, 156-158 Emmett St., \$470,000.00
 Leonard Blum, KYM Properties LLC, 250-252 Prospect St., \$600,000.00
 Merrimack Valley Habitat For Humanity Inc., Isidoro Jimenez & Ordaliza Gomez, 124-126 Phillips St. Unit 2, \$230,000.00
 Merrimack Valley Habitat For Humanity Inc., Joseph Maldonado & Diana Santos, 124-126 Phillips St. Unit 1, \$230,000.00
 Francis Ortiz, Eryc Infante, 240 Water St. Unit F, \$185,000.00
 Raul Ortega, Joya Gargano, 242 Mount Vernon St. Unit 3, \$123,500.00

Adrian Santiago & Carmen Santos, Eder & Orialse Moran, 3 Monroe St., \$300,000.00
 Johanne Frias, Maggy Mendoza, 4 Florence St., \$240,000.00
 Natalya Chamberlain, Juan Romero, 8 Orchard St., \$210,000.00
 Darin Elliot, Melvinson Polanco & Nelyssa Sanchez, 108-110 Farley St., \$316,400.00
 Rafael & Rosa Martinez, Luis Castillo, 60 Springfield St., \$134,900.00
 Amable Salazar & Esmeralda Lopez, Robert Pena, 79-81 Everett St., \$409,000.00
 Sui Thu / Muoi Truong / Thu Truong 2013 Trust, Abraham Lantigua, 180-182 Union St., \$375,000.00
 Wilson Javier, Wilneida Javier, 34 Fulton St. Unit 34, \$120,000.00
 Kathleen Guselli & Winthrop Realty Trust, Pascual Lora & Dilsia Taveras, 1131 Essex St., \$329,500.00
 Pedro Roman, Andy Guillon & Katherine Morales, 5 Kendrick St., \$419,000.00
 Fang Dong, Luis Abreu, 57-59 Brook St., \$325,000.00
 Sandra Devita, Purinton Realty LLC, 55 Farnham St., \$275,000.00
 George Koontz, Yeury Quezada & Jolainny Depouerit, 317-319 Park St., \$369,900.00
 David Estrella, Roberto Martinez & Porfiria Deperalta, 100-102 Andover St., \$380,000.00
 Alexander Quezada, Abel Perez & Marisela Martinez, 27 Market St., \$327,000.00
 Saint Christopher Properties LLC, Alexander Quezada, 129-131 Bowdoin St., \$400,000.00
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 Anna Sabando, Anthony Ansaldi & Cameron-Bishop/Janton Trust, 24-26 Inman St. Unit 7, \$95,000.00
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 Chloe LLC, Chris-Sco Corp., 113 Prospect St., \$120,000.00
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 Ivona Grzejka & Dariusz Lic, La Belle Maison LLC, 9 Stevens St., \$330,000.00
 La Belle Maison LLC, Jorge Morales & Denisse Marroquin, 2-4 Colby St., \$395,000.00
 Emelania Gutierrez, Rael Ortiz & Tomasa Ordonez, 472 Hampshire St., \$359,900.00
 Annette Adames, Jose Almonte & Berkis Polanco, 199 Newbury St., \$316,000.00
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 William Kelliher, RJJM Inc., 8 Nelson St., \$115,000.00
 Jose & Eugenia Cruz, Ramona Salcedo, 78-80 Lexington St., \$490,000.00
 German & Ana Delia Lember, Jose Grullon & Johnny Cruz, 91-93 Trenton St., \$420,000.00
 US Bank NA TR / Pedro Martinez / Kelvin Nunez, Maximo Calderon & Miosotis Del Carmen Olivo, 12-12A Wendell St., \$424,000.00
 BRBS Properties LLC, Stephen Philipov & Todor Ialamov, 245-247 Bailey St., \$415,000.00

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 EBM Properties LLC, Roberto Reyes, 1 Perry Avenue Unit 1, \$167,000.00
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 NAI Entertainment Holdings LLC, 6 Chickering LLC, 200 Winthrop Avenue, \$3,000,000.00

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 Margaret Zinno & Methuen Realty Trust, Bruce & Jolene Puglia / 102 Lindberg Realty Trust, 102 Lindberg Avenue, \$125,000.00
 Dana / Mark / Calire / Katherine Linton & Robert Arsenault, Mark & Gayle Linton, 19 Almont St., \$150,000.00
 TSB Realty LTD, Cathleen Kavanagh & 175 Pelham Realty Trust, 175 Pelham St., \$4,100,000.00
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 KT Construction LLC, Martin Garabedian, 212-127-37B Hampshire Road, \$90,000.00
 James & Diane Dore / Dore Family Irrevocable Trust, Robin Beaublanc & Marcline Chery, 2 Alfred St., \$280,000.00
 Wendy McCorry & Wendy S. McCorry Family Trust, Habib Belgacem, 1 Riverview Boulevard Unit 8-108, \$250,000.00
 Roberto & Maria Correa, Maria Correa, 92-94 Kenwood Road, \$24,000.00

Germaine & Arthur McConnachie, Aaron Caras, 212 Lowell St., \$200,000.00
 David & Nancy Butler, David Ngo & Gina Vue, 5 Chausse Dr., \$510,000.00
 Jose & Carla Cabral, James Gill & Lacey Kelly, 68 Pleasant St., \$316,000.00
 Jean Abourjeili & Danny Realty Trust, Jose & Carla Cabral, 51 Pleasant St., \$435,000.00
 Seaport Homes LLC, Junior & Wendy Delosangeles, 4 James Road, \$347,500.00
 Matthew & Maria Bourgeois, Dina Latulippe, 20 Washington St. Unit 3, \$211,000.00
 Jonathan & Shawna Marsan, Matthew Jasinski, 101 Adams Avenue, \$315,000.00
 Wayne Feugill & Jane Finnegan, Yessenia Gentry, 99 Center St., \$205,000.00
 Wayne Feugill & Jane Finnegan, Juana Paredes, 97 Center St., \$195,000.00
 Ian Timmons, Ana Burgos, 44 Lippold St., \$449,900.00
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 Toll MA IV LLC, Vito & Sandra Sansone, 6 Tahoe Cir. Unit 29, \$721,240.00
 Sean Kiley & Judith L. Kiley Living Trust, Daniel & Amita Kiley, 13 Maguire St., \$300,000.00
 Toll MA IV LLC, Richard & Donna O'Connell, 14 Sequoia Dr. Unit 45, \$634,406.00
 Kathy Antoon (Amato), Donald Cunningham, 22 Campbell St., \$390,000.00
 Anne Belmonte, Rani & Venkata Vadlapatla, 1 Riverview Boulevard Unit 8-211, \$247,000.00
 Patricia Cappucci, Brooke Eklund, 23 Hampshire Road Unit 204, \$175,000.00
 Toll MA IV LLC, Richard Young & Parakh Agarwal, 5 Tahoe Cir. Unit 32, \$741,800.00
 John & Helena Silva, Rafael Rivera & Marlyn Martinez, 6 Maple Ridge Road, \$536,000.00
 Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. TR., Dunateo Investments LLC, 1 Elsmere Avenue, \$194,000.00

Maryellen Mcleod, EK LLC, 23 Hampshire Road Unit 114, \$183,500.00
 David Campanile, Siddharth Gehlot, 52 High St. Unit 20, \$110,000.00
 Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. TR., Claudia Coronado, 9 Duston Dr., \$294,500.00
 Freckle International LLC, Carlos Castanaza, 51 Reservoir St., \$235,000.00
 US Bank NA TR, James & Ellen Fitzgerald, 4 Hampstead St., \$252,000.00
 Cynthia & Marshall Barchard, Vanessa & Pauster Boursiquot, 23 Stillwater Road, \$329,900.00
 Johanne Frias, Rosena Mompremier & Jean Wantergus, 19 Albion St., \$459,000.00
 Toll MA IV LLC, William & Mary Ellen Crosby, 52 Pine Tree Dr. Unit 139, \$668,019.00
 Erik & Lauren Carratu, Salvator & Jessica Baio, 4 Dewey St., \$335,000.00
 Joseph & Linda Ratte, Virgilio Velez, 6 Anderson Dr., \$413,000.00
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 Peter & Loriann Gangi, Jennifer Haskell & Paithe Toomy, 58 Lyndale Avenue, \$412,000.00
 Samuel & Mary Ellen Kalil, St. Christopher Properties LLC, 16 Tyler St., \$215,000.00
 Cedar Real Estate Corp., Jonathan & Teresa Mailloux, 3 Erhardt Terrace, \$368,000.00
 Francis Murray, Michael Camuso & Jessica Stella, 97 Currier St., \$220,000.00
 Barbara French, Oswald Martinez, 4 Tyler St., \$396,000.00
 Jodie Furey (Geary), Rachel Ling, 1 Riverview Boulevard Unit 6-201, \$240,000.00
 US Bank NA TR, Bernardo Pena, 8 Moisson Avenue, \$241,500.00
 Theresa Demonaco, Christopher Cronin & 5 Canobieola Realty Trust, 5 Canobieola Road, \$222,000.00
 New England Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, H&H Properties LLC, 411 Merrimack St. Unit 1, \$570,000.00
 Hales Landing LLC, Maria Soares & Sarath Men, 30 Marjorie St. EXT, \$494,900.00
 Mitchell & Barbara Jacoby, Andrew Hepner, 147 Tyler St., \$389,000.00
 Sean Murray & Michelle Finn, Hector Fabian & Nancy Defabian, 22A Adelaide Avenue Unit 22A, \$200,000.00
 Tae Ho Cho & Kyung Jin Cho, Iryna & Tadevush Batsevich, 5 Dundee Avenue, \$410,000.00
 David Donovan, Orlando Ortiz, 27 Laurel Avenue, \$265,000.00
 Charles Mello, Justin Thompson & Ilana Marram, 1 Locust Road, \$694,900.00
 Paul & Joan Fortuna / 15 Lady Slipper Ln. Realty Trust, Victor De Jesus, 15 Lady Slipper Ln., \$551,000.00
 Lisa Coito (Higgins), David & Kimberly Galpin, 15 Norgate Road, \$305,000.00

NORTH ANDOVER

Peter Capobianco to Michael Donahue, 87 Farrwood Avenue Unit 87FW-12, \$180,000.00
 Francis & Ellen Murphy / Murphy Family Investment Trust, Minta Shirely & Terry Gann, 169 Gray St., \$499,000.00
 Forest View Realty LLC, Robert Dewitt, 6 Tolland Road, \$485,000.00
 William & Kimberly McNamara, Wesley & Dayana Sasilva, 99 Marian Dr., \$515,000.00
 Kyle & Heather Olson, Gopal Paripally & Neeraja Pakka, 19 Kara Dr., \$880,000.00
 Jeffrey Neals, Kristina Leo, 206 Dale St., \$385,000.00
 Guilherme & Gloria Machado, Jaad Chhab & Julie Sauchuk, 52 Farrwood Avenue Unit 52FW-1, \$150,000.00
 Richard & Terese Pandolfo, Carlos & Natascha Restrepo, 29 North Cross Road, \$895,000.00

Patricia Gorham & Gorham Trust of the George V. Gorham & Margaret M. Gorham Revocable Trust, Frank Demoria & 144 Chickering Road Trust, 581 Chickering Road Unit 5, \$305,000.00
 Sharon Holland, Kyle & Emma Hammond, 257 Boxford St., \$555,000.00
 Louis & Gina Luciano, Rachel & Steven & Weeks, 23 Edgelawn Avenue Unit 23EL-6, \$216,600.00
 Berry / 144 Co. LLC, Poorna Mutnuri & Sireesha Pendyala, 22 Compass Point Unit N4, \$498,300.00
 Gundy Beach LLC, Alessandro & Valdirene Botassi, 1 Harvest Dr. Unit 308, \$300,000.00
 Kevin & Marybeth Foley / SE Foley Realty Trust, Silvio & Maria Moscaritolo / Moscaritolo Family Trust, 350 Greene St. Unit 307, \$325,000.00
 Neil Mulcahy, Allen Canning & Alexander Moody, 193 Greene St., \$399,000.00
 Salvador Vinals, Andrea Barry, 36 Millpond, \$301,000.00
 Bank of New York Mellon, William & Michele Phillips, 87 Foster St., \$391,125.00
 C&S Construction LLC, Richard Tanner, 0 Massachusetts Avenue, \$8,000.00
 Shawn Ferris & 67 Riverview Realty Trust, Andrew Arbia, 67 Riverview St., \$305,000.00
 Kalvis Terauds, Ming Chu & Xinrong Su, 1 Walker Road Unit 1-8, \$145,000.00
 Glenn Kelloway, Ralph Sharp & Susan Praetz, 36 Autran Avenue, \$490,000.00
 Christopher Helfrich / Hillary Boffetti / Erica Nelson, Howard Clayman, 148 Main St. Unit 0-405, \$219,900.00
 Christopher & Laura Moulson, Richard & Alison Topping, 49 Paddock Ln., \$665,000.00
 Atlee of Delaware Inc., Gary & Michael Doyon / Doyon North Andover Real Estate Trust, 10 Bayfield Dr., \$1,800,000.00
 William Bourassa, Meshar Realty LLC, 555 Turnpike St. Unit 51A, \$165,900.00
 Pauline Dion, Saigayan Kugabalasooriar, 17 Andrew Cir., \$260,000.00
 RDM 1099 Salem St. LLC, Sukru & Ozlem Uluoglu, 1099 Salem St., \$820,000.00
 Jayson Martin, Dean Carrozza, 30 Fernview Avenue Unit 30FV-6, \$225,000.00
 Paul Morton, Eden Realty Group LLC, 1 Walker Road Unit 6, \$185,000.00
 Vibhash & Jagruti Desai, Shahriar & Elizabeth Ghandchi, 221 Webster Woods, \$899,500.00
 Katie Goodrich, Vivekanand Patel, 67 Fernview Avenue Unit 4, \$210,000.00
 George Earley / Earley Irrevocable Trust, Karen & Robert Carberry, 365 Massachusetts Avenue, \$383,000.00
 Kevin & Melanie Foley, Michelle Von Handorf, 197 Vest Way, \$725,000.00
 Berry / 114 Co. LLC, Arun & Mamta Gupta, 16 Compass Point Unit N1, \$521,740.00
 Kevin & Kristine Lash, Kevin & Melanie Foley, 50 Avery Park Dr., \$885,000.00
 Joseph Pacios & Vickie Gallant, Mohamed Douffir & Wissal Nouchrif, 11 Rosedale Avenue, \$640,000.00
 Giles & Laurie Macdonald, Ralph & Antonietta Devito, 279-281 Osgood St., \$475,300.00
 William & Grace Durfee, Jeffrey & Amanda Zolla, 9 Turtle Ln., \$610,000.00
 Thomas & Vinh Dang / Chon Lo, Thomas & Andrea Hart, 125 Palomino Dr., \$667,000.00
 Ryan & Caitlin Piskadlo, Margaret McHale, 105 Farrwood Avenue Unit 9, \$200,000.00
 Daniel & Maranda White, Robert Palmisano, 6 Fernview Avenue Unit 8, \$151,900.00
 Cheryl Kettinger & Kettinger Family Nominee Trust, Joel Hanley & Kate Farnham, 26 Woodberry Ln., \$487,000.00
 Martin & Shelley Krueger, Michael Nigrelli & Sara Sobieski, 6 Clark Road, \$410,500.00
 James & Sandra Protopapas, William & Kimberly McNamara, 221 Blue Ridge Road, \$795,000.00
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 Thomas & Karen Trowbridge, Kathleen Carr, 109 Blueberry Hill Lane, \$730,000.00

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The Battle of Unequitable Liberty in Massachusetts

As readers know by now, Yarmouth K-9 Police Officer Sean Gannon was murdered by a career criminal. A criminal, whose very nature was filled with a violent history of trying to infringe or the actual taking of other people's liberties. The man responsible, whose name is being intentionally withheld, was the result of not just a criminal justice system gone awry, but a political ideology years in the making in Massachusetts.

In an effort to give those convicted of crimes a fresh start, which is a noble cause, it has also led to those who refuse to assimilate into a peaceful society to remain free. In order for society to remain peaceful and free, the rule of law must be meted out equally, this clearly does not happen in Massachusetts. As history has shown here in Massachusetts, "justice" is delivered on a case-by-case basis, based on who you are, and too many times it has resulted in tragic consequences, including the current murder of Officer Gannon.

This is not a call to a police state, nor is it a call for the death penalty for the murder of police officers. This would once again create inequality and a type of caste system within our state, which once

again, depending on who you are, has already happened. No, this is a call to fight back against such one-way ideology and rule in this state, especially by those who were recently impacted the most: Police Officers. As well as those who believe and support in an equal rule of law.

There is one thing that most politicians in Massachusetts love more than being re-elected: Money. Whether it's to buy votes, throw campaign booze filled parties, or simply to silence others, money controls everything. Many State Legislators also hold very lucrative jobs outside of their Statehouse part-time employ, who of course in-turn get legislation passed to benefit their businesses or themselves, like their recent ballot measure proofed pay raises.

What can The People do when their vote is silenced, thanks in part to massive gerrymandering? Close your wallets to both the politicians and their businesses. The State Police Association of Mass. Pol Action Committee gave Beacon Hill politicians \$19,500 in 2017, while individual State Troopers donated \$12,2900 to Massachusetts pols. The real money though came from lobbying. The State

Police Association (SPA) paid \$146,250 and State Police Commissioned Officers Association of Massachusetts, Inc. paid \$13,200 in 2017. Those monies paid to lobbyists, run by former pols and insiders, filter up back towards Beacon Hill.

If you want irony, The New England Police Benevolent Association PAC donated \$46,633.51 to Beacon Hill pols, through their lobbying efforts, they paid \$44,500 in 2017. This is an organization that supports fallen police officers and their families, sending tens-of-thousands of dollars to politicians who clearly do not have their best interests at heart. Politicians like Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey may say they're sending "thoughts & prayers", but their political ideology and enforcement of the rule of law say otherwise as seen in this case. This ideology got one of their own killed.

If The People are tired of one-way political ideology in Massachusetts, in an environment where your vote is rigged by a legal political process (gerrymandering), then the only peaceful force we can use is with our wallets. Officer Gannon might be alive today were it not for the

money sent to fuel and fill the political coffers that promote this ideology, imbalance, and inequity in this state. Liberty cannot be for some, it has to be for all of us, including police officers. If our State Legislature, Governor, and Attorney General are going to continue to promote such unequal and anti-liberty ideology, in light of a recent weakening of our criminal justice laws, we have recourse – The question is whether The People, and all of our public safety members, will band together and use it.



Duncan Burns is a former police officer and corporate paralegal with nearly two decades of corporate forensic experience. Past experience includes a Boston based firm featured in The Panama Papers, specializing in off-shore tax havens, estate planning, and corporate affairs. Duncan now works in administrating customer relationship management, web marketing & promotion for a local start-up real estate company. He is originally from The North Shore, but now calls The Merrimack Valley his home.

COLLECTIVE: FROM PAGE 17

and Charlie's show trials is that these occur in the United States, albeit in progressive Massachusetts. Meaning, America still bleeds through. And the occasional target, unlike most, still remembers he is American and refuses to loyally confess that the state (party) is always correct.

This happened in the 2016 Schwartz

show trial. Charlie's employees fabricated as false a case as Slánský and tried for months to get the doctor to confess. When he would not, Charlie's illiterates had to fabricate a show trial.

And here is where America intervened. America allowed Dr. Sheldon Schwartz to prove that Charlie's show trial was

based on some policy that had no legal existence and may not be used to take away his livelihood. Charlie's policy originated from Dr. Lucian Leape, who worked for two decades to turn American medicine into a collectivist system, like in progressive regimes, and encouraged the state to demonize doctors who remained American in their approach. Progressives have always loved forcing the learned to become taxi drivers.

If you are not with the Collective, you are a Disruptive.

Because Dr. Schwartz insisted on bed-rock American principles, violating which harmed an entire class, Charlie's Stalinist show trial screeched to a halt without a verdict.

Chief Magistrate Ed McGrath, one more of Polito's hacks who abandoned his solo law practice with grateful alacrity, still has not released the verdict. Massachusetts law, ch. 7, § 4H, required him to release it within 90 days of the trial ending. We are 500 days past that. The Boston Globe

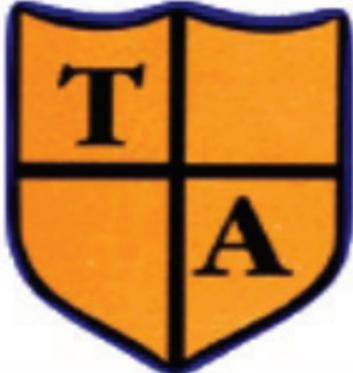
attended the Schwartz show trial and stays silent to help Charlie out.

Charlie's people haven't figured out how to resurrect his Stalinist show trial and overcome his fundamental problem: his state is still within the United States. His people can't bring themselves to publicly admit that theirs was a show trial all along. But because this still is America, and Dr. Schwartz is not dependent on the state for a job, an apartment or food, they just don't have enough of a hold on the target.

Impasse.

This is progressive Massachusetts under Charlie Baker, who owns the state board as much as the State Police: "Stuff that goes on during my watch belongs to me." Nothing better may be expected.

Bharani Padmanabhan MD PhD is a neurologist who specialized in multiple sclerosis in the Boston area till the state stole his medical license in July 2017. scleroplex@gmail.com



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OPIOIDS FROM PAGE 3

affected by a substance abuse problem and almost every hand would go up. If there's anything good about that is that people are finally acknowledging it and talking about it, instead of trying to sweep it under the rug.

When I got there [as sheriff] we took a look at [what was available] and as you know there's a detox program up there. It's highly successful. For those who may not know about it, we work very closely with the drug courts, particularly in Lynn and Lawrence, and I believe they are going to be putting one in Haverhill when they finish the current renovations up there.

I call them clients. The clients that go into the detox program have to be referred by the court. Referrals go the office of the sheriff to make the decision whether they are going to be in there or not. So, we have standards. We aren't taking someone convicted of a crime of violence. We are not taking the drug traffickers, the heavy dealers, people ripping off little old ladies' pocketbooks, we are taking the low risk, relatively minor crimes for those incarcerated.

We work closely with the judges and courts, with D.A. Jon Blodgett, defense attorneys are key, police officers and of course probation. That all happens in the court, and when the judge approves it they refer it to us. Then we bring the individual in during classification. Upon intake we go through all their records and their history and what their issues are and come up with a program so we can tailor their needs during their period of incarceration.

The detox unit is a self-contained unit within the house of correction in Middleton. They don't mingle with the general population. It's a separate building. To quote one of the judges, it gives the individual a taste of corrections. They live in dormitory style housing so they are not in an individual cell.

So, for people who may not know you are basically drying out for the first couple of days. We have corrections officers there who are obviously there for security. We contract out to private vendors to take care of their health care needs as well as the mental health and the treatment pieces of it. Once they go through the detox part of it, then they go through the programming. That goes days and evenings, they are always getting some kind of talk, give them information and try to instill good decision-making abilities. We are always thinking about when they leave us how do we get them to not come back. The goal is to release them to go back to the community and be productive members of society and stop committing crimes."

DUGGAN: "So what is your recidivism rate for those who detox?"

"This is a tough one but let me give you the success rate first. For the men to successfully complete the program is 87%, for women 80%.

Six months out, I don't have the exact figures but I'm going to give you a ballpark, six months out the recidivism rate is about 50%.

A year out it drops and the recidivism rate is in the low 70s. What that tells me is that we are not doing a good enough job as a society, that when those individuals leave us and they go back to the community, there's a gap there, a disconnect. There are no resources for the individuals coming out of detox.

Let's talk about what we are going to do to try and fix that.

I was in Boston a month or two ago for a panel discussion and Mike Botticelli the Drug Czar under Obama and he cited a study that showed somebody leaving the jail is 120 times more susceptible to overdose and probably die than someone who hasn't been incarcerated.

So, in general, I'm talking not only for the detox folks as well as the general population when they are getting out. People have to remember when someone is leaving the jail, they don't have a driver's license, they probably lost it years ago, they probably don't have any type of an ID, they have no health insurance, they have no home, and they have no food availability. So, they are basically going back to the streets, living in a shelter somewhere or going back to their old buddies who will let them crash on the couch and then they are back to their old environment with the same people.

So, we are trying to break that chain. Just a couple of months ago we started a new reentry transition unit at the Lawrence Farm. We are having a grand opening in a couple of weeks, so we will make sure we give you an invite but the whole piece of what we are trying to do here is strengthen the reentry effort so when the individual is leaving us they have some kind of resources or some idea where to go when they are in trouble.

We have been able to pick up a couple of recovery coaches through PARI or the Gloucester Angels program. A man and a woman will come into the jails, speak to some of the inmates prior to release. When they leave we make sure the inmates are leaving with their contact numbers, make sure the recovery coaches know where the inmates are going. Generally speaking we can't control where the inmates are going once they have wrapped up their sentences. I have brought on a guy who is a community liaison and we have reached out to a couple of colleges and universities like NECC and Merrimack College.

A DementiaLive™ Experience at Nichols Village Presented by Right at Home

GROVELAND - Recently our team facilitated the DementiaLive™ program to nurses, case managers and social workers at Nichols Village Independent Living Community in Groveland, MA. The program consisted of 20 health care professionals from across the Merrimack Valley. Celeste Begley, CCM, CDP, Community Relations Director, and Victoria Guskiewicz, CCM, MS, Community Relations Coordinator from our Right at Home Haverhill office facilitated the training to the group. The program consisted of a formal presentation, a Q&A session and hands on sensitivity training. DementiaLive™ is a sensitivity awareness training developed by the Age-u-Care Institute. Participants gain an in-depth understanding and awareness of what it is like to live with cognitive impairment, while also building awareness of the condition's symptoms and gaining an in-depth understanding of the disease. The training helps participants to improve communication and decrease misunderstanding with patients and their families. "The DementiaLive™ training enables individuals to experience what it might be like to have dementia," said Celeste Begley, Community Relations Director for Right at Home Boston and North and local Bradford resident. "We are delighted for the opportunity to bring this exciting experience to Nichols Village and to care professionals in the community."

About Right at Home Haverhill and Nichols Village, we are proud to provide coordinated home care services onsite with Home Health VNA to the residents



Celeste Begley, Community Relations Director for Right at Home Boston and North and Gina Velonis, Wellness Director for Nichols Village.

at Nichols Village. We provide supportive services such as meal preparation, bathing, dressing, medication reminders and companion care. We believe in supporting seniors in their goal of living a healthy, safe and independent lifestyle. How our partnership works: • Supports individuals living a healthy and rewarding lifestyle while maintaining independence. • Assures individuals can remain safe and comfortable in the privacy of their home at Nichols Village. • Assists in preventing unnecessary hospital stays. • Helps to prevent or postpone a move to a skilled care setting. • Assists with successfully aging in place.

To schedule a training or for more information, please contact Victoria Guskiewicz, Community Relations Coordinator at vguskiewicz@rightathomemass.com or call (781) 568-0623.

APRIL FROM PAGE 4

power lines. This was a rare occurrence. We can all hope May will be warmer than the weather we had in April. Time will tell if we can get the Bermuda High Pressure system to build north and push the jet stream to our north. In next month's article we will see if that occurs and recap May's weather. Also, we will talk about what to expect in June and the outlook for

this year's hurricane season which begins on June 1st. Lastly, if warm dry weather occurs with wind this month then the risk of fire danger(wildfires) increases! If this occurs check with your local fire department before you start burning yard debris.

Always monitor your burning while it is occurring! Enjoy spring and stay safe!!

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GUNS: FROM PAGE 6

able magazines. PERIOD.

There is no universal and comprehensive set of federally mandated laws coordinated with state laws that firmly shut loopholes that creates the condition for dangerous, mentally challenged or those motivated by money, fame or evil be stopped in their tracks.

And the original checks in the Federal Assault Weapon's Ban directed to gun manufacturers for guiding sound marketing and manufacturing principles that reduce the flow of these weapons to bad people are simply not in existence. The profit motive and unchecked growth of fire arms production and distribution and the void of comprehensive protections of the general public support environments that will continue to generate tragedies. These tragedies as we saw at Parkland will accelerate with

frequency exponentially.

Congress is debating increased resources for mental health treatment and turning schools into armed camps. They will spin every idea as primary remedies instead of the only idea that deserves the most compelling attention and will provide the greatest force of eliminating the current threat. I want to know why.

In the United States it should be near impossible for you to own, possess and use a dangerous weapon of mass destruction for sport. And it should be completely impossible if you are mentally unstable, have a criminal background and fail to qualify with strict purchase and ownership standards.

Period.

Joe D'Amore , writes from Groveland

METHUEN FROM PAGE 13

surrounding districts can brag about the latter. I would have supported an increase in the budget, but 13% was just too high. It is now up to the mayor and the city council to consider the School Committee's requested budget. It will likely be cut given this requested increase.

On another note, congratulations to Marsh Grammar School 4th grade teacher Tanya Witkum for being selected for the Teacher of the Year Award by the Rotary Club of Methuen. Kudos also to the other Teacher of the Year Award nominees: Jayson Romalho (CGS Physical Education Teacher), Marian Magnan (Tenney 6th Grade Teacher), Kathy Stacy (Timony 6th Grade Teacher) and Laura Enright (MHS Foreign Language Teacher).

At our April 9th School Committee Business Meeting, Phil Leahy , President of the Merrimack Valley Prevention and Substance Abuse Project (MVPASAP), addressed members about an upcoming talk being given by Dr. Ruth Potee on "The Adolescent Brain & The Physiol-

ogy of Addiction" at Greater Lawrence Technical High School on Thursday, May 17th from 6:30-8:00PM. Parents and other interested members of the community are invited to attend. Finally, Phil Leahy stressed that prevention, education, and awareness are the solution to the substance abuse crisis, not treatment. I could not agree more and we must all do a better job at getting information out to the public.

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

DEALER: FROM PAGE 4

ling; Albert Angelucci, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Boston Field Division; Kristina O'Connell, Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigation in Boston; Raymond Moss, Acting Inspector in Charge of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service; John Gibbons, U.S. Marshal for the District of Massachusetts; and Mickey D. Leadingham, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Boston Field Division, made the announcement today.

Valuable assistance was provided by the Massachusetts State Police and the Biddeford (Maine), Framingham, Haverhill, Lawrence, Manchester (N.H.), Methuen, Millis, Natick, Stoughton, and Waltham Police Departments. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Nadine Pellegrini and Craig Estes of Lelling's Office are prosecuting the cases.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The remaining defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.



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ME TOO: FROM PAGE 11

obsessed with only sexual abuse and not all criminally abusive behavior? Why the focus on this small segment within the large widespread and multipronged crime of capricious predatory conduct that kills the spirit and the body?

The Hollywood induced limelight on the so-called forward coming brave is so enticing that it has coaxed out all kinds of opportunists with their dog and pony shows. Even Monica Lewinsky popped up again with a new shtick, just to be able to jump on the bimbo bandwagon. Until this moment I had always held great sympathy for this young woman enamored with the dashing President. Always truthfully admitting consent in the affair, which may have even been authentic for Clinton, at least at the onset. After all, he gave her Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass, the same book of poetry he had gifted Hillary when they were dating. Now Lewinsky claimed doubt whether their affair had been consensual.

And that's what's wrong with this movement that Sean Penn called a "toddler's crusade" during a recent interview. I can't be that generous. The harm that psychopathic bosses routinely inflict on employees for no justifiable reason continues. Their victims shrink to remnants of their former selves. Their PTSD symptoms, loss of sleep, general fearfulness and increased lack of self-confidence invading every aspect of their lives as human beings, partners and parents. And yet claims of sexual abuse as colorful as the characters alleging them dominate the media for their salaciousness in our phony Puritan society, while real victims struggle to repair their ravaged lives.

Recently the New York Times twittered: "In the #MeToo moment woman have spoken. Men have fallen. Corporations have grown nervous. But are workplaces really changing?"

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has scores of complaints lodged against it regularly for race-, gender-, whistleblower-, sexual- and disability abuses, while being featured among "The" most desirable places to work by the Boston Globe. One complainant, a scientist at the Institute, was targeted for questioning the sham of having to set up her lab to appear as though medical research was in progress for a visit of wealthy donors. Nothing sexual, at least not overtly so. But the retaliation was monstrous and she left, a talented scientist, Dana-Farber and medical research, forever.

For my mother the precipitating event was simply refusal to avert her eyes from a capo who mercilessly beat a fellow victim in the Auschwitz Death Camp. The only thing my mother thought she could get away with to punish the perpetrator. To keep looking. But she had been wrong. You get punished for unflinching observation, as my mother found out when she herself was subsequently beaten for having stared. In fact, it was for staring that I was beaten at Dana-Farber, for refusing to look away. Nothing sexual, at least on the surface, but with plenty of deviant sadism.

Staring, in fact, is the most harshly punished offense in hostile workplaces. It means you have seen and you know. You are a witness and perceived threat.

I won't stop staring until Dana-Farber makes amends with all the victims it abused and starts treating people with dignity. And until The Boston Magazine takes Susan Paresky off its "25 Most Influential People in Boston List" unless it applies to predators, liars and thieves. Please let me know when that happens, - and most of all, when Streep has figured out what abuse is. Or has shut up.

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NOTEBOOK: FROM PAGE 9



The Lawrence Lions held a free eye screening at Fiesta De Salud in Lawrence last month. The Lions Club does periodic eye screening and provides free glasses for poor people who cannot afford it.

the organization's very first community garden. Gardeners participate in seasonal workshops to improve or enrich their skills and partake in community engagement activities, such as potlucks, seed swaps, art in the garden, and recipe exchanges, all for an annual fee of just \$20.

For more information about Mill City Grows' Community Garden Program, please click here or contact Laura Santiago at Laura@millcitygrows.org.

SINATRA TRIBUTE & DINNER SHOW - Teresa's Hillview Country Club will pay tribute to iconic Italian-American crooner Frank Sinatra with a special evening filled with delicious fare prepared by our talented chefs, full-on belly laughs courtesy of Comedian Johnny Pizzi, and of course, the unforgettable smooth sounds of one of the most influential musicians of all time provided by America's Got Talent contestant and North Shore native, Joey Chiarenza. The event is June 1st, Doors open at 6:30 pm. at 149 North St. North Reading. The cost is \$55 per person (beverages, tax and gratuity not included). For additional information or to purchase tickets, please call 978.664.1660 or visit: www.teresateatery.com

LAWRENCE NATIVE BYLLI CRAYONE SELECTED FOR VINYL RECORD RELEASE

Remember Vinyl Records? Of course you do. Even much of today's generation is now familiar with vinyl records. Over

the past several years they have made a huge comeback after fading away in the early 90s. Even Walmart and Target are now carrying vinyl records again. So, bringing you to local artist Bylli Crayone of Lawrence who has independently recorded and released 5 studio albums throughout the years. They have only been released on CD and Digitally through iTunes, Amazon, etc. Until now. Bylli Crayone's latest album 'GREEN' has been selected as a candidate for a vinyl record album release through an outlet in France. The album would feature 140 gram black vinyl, a New remix to the song 'Dance Control' and would become an instant collectible due to it being a limited import vinyl pressing. Let me explain why... The company that is working on this release does it through pre-orders. Meaning this album by Bylli Crayone has 60 days to reach a pre-order goal of 100 vinyl records. Otherwise, the vinyl will not be pressed. If he does not reach his goal, you will be refunded instantly and the vinyl will never be released. Crayone has decided to keep the vinyl at base price of \$22 (no mark up, meaning no profit for Crayone) and the shipping cost is \$7 worldwide, and \$4 for each additional if you decide to purchase more than one copy. If completing the goal and the campaign is a success, it would take about a month turnaround time for the vinyl to be pressed and shipped. They will be shipped

right to your door by Juno Records which is a record distributor in the UK. So manufactured in France but distributed from the UK. All this for our hometown artist Bylli Crayone. If you would like to support Bylli Crayone with his first ever full album vinyl release you can pre-order 'GREEN' online at BylliCrayone.com

LAWRENCE MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING PROJECT - The City of Lawrence is holding a public meeting on Wednesday, May 23rd at 6:30 P.M. at the Lawrence Public Library Auditorium at 51 Lawrence St.

The city is seeking Commonwealth designation as a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) community, has completed stakeholder workshops focused on community resilience building and planning for more effective response to the impacts of natural hazards and climate change. The meeting on Wednesday, May 23, 2018 is an opportunity for Lawrencians to review and comment on the action priority outcomes of the MVP planning initiative. All are invited and welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Frank O'Connor, Jr., Project Officer at Lawrence Office of Planning & Development FOConnor@CityofLawrence.com

NORTHEAST INDEPENDENT LIVING OPENS LOWELL OFFICE
On Thursday, June 21st, NILP, along with the Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce, will host a Ribbon Cutting and Open House from 3-5pm. at 35 John Street, 2nd Floor in Lowell to celebrate the opening of the Northeast Independent Living Program's second location. Mayor William Samaras and other local officials will be in attendance. The event is free and refreshments will be served. People with all disabilities and area business owners are welcome to attend. It promises to be a great networking event with the opportunity to learn more about the services NILP has to offer.

FEMALE WWII VETERAN HONORED WITH 50th HONOR FLIGHT TO

WWII MEMORIAL IN D.C.

Lawrence Mayor Daniel Rivera announced last month that WWII Veteran and Lawrence resident Theresa Skorupka was selected for the 50th New England Honor Flight. The New England Honor Flight program is a nonprofit organization that transports war heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials with no charge to the Veteran.

"Theresa is a fellow Veteran, Lawrencian and hero who dedicated her life to service in the Navy," said Mayor Daniel Rivera.

"After the war, she returned to Lawrence and served our community. I can think of no one more deserving to participate in Flight 50 of the New England Honor Flight."

Theresa Skorupka, now 96 years old, served in the Navy during World War II as a Storekeeper 3rd Class. She is a lifetime Lawrence resident.

Theresa worked in Lawrence at the Pacific Mill prior to WWII. Walking home from work one evening, Theresa walked by a storefront with an "Uncle Sam" poster on Essex Street and walked into the office, where she enlisted herself. At the time, her husband, the late Chester J. Skorupka was already serving in the war overseas. Theresa served for two and a half years during WWII, holding ratings of Apprentice Seaman, Seaman Second Class and Seaman First Class before returning to Lawrence and raising her family.

The 50th New England Honor Flight departed from Boston Logan Airport, Terminal on Saturday, April 21st. and returned to Boston Logan Airport at 10:25pm that evening.



Tom Duggan is publisher of The Valley Patriot, Heroes in Our Midst, a former Lawrence School Committeeman, and hosts the Paying Attention! Podcast which can be downloaded on iTunes, iHeartRadio, Spotify, and PodBean. You can email your comments to valleypatriot@aol.com.

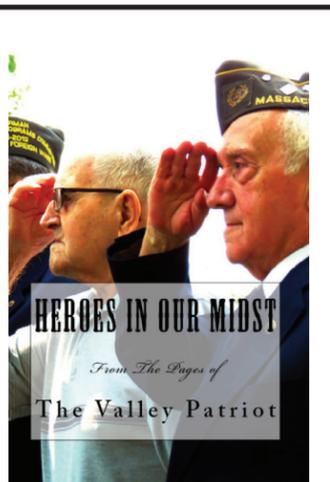
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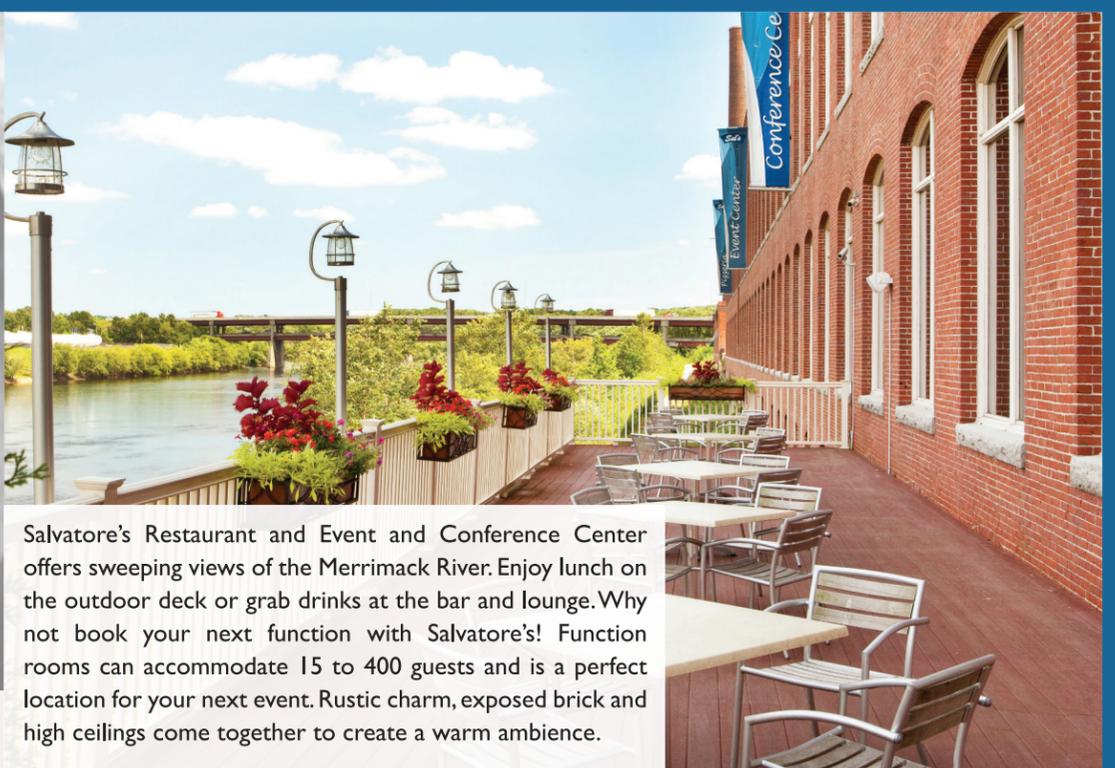


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