



The

Valley Patriot



"Congress shall make no law..."



Free

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24 Pages

DNA Proves Carrero the Father Former School Man is Deadbeat Dad

Tom Duggan & Paula Porten

DNA paternity test results filed with the Essex Family and Probate Court this week show that "with 99.999% certainty" former Lawrence School Committeeman Ralph Carrero is the father of Lawrence City Councilor Gonzalez's daughter.

According to documents filed in Salem Probate and Family Court last September; Councilor Barbara Gonzalez, from District "C", accused Carrero of being the father of her daughter born in 2003. City Councilor Gonzales also alleged that Mr. Carrero refused to pay child support for their daughter, now two years old.

Former Lawrence School Committeeman Ralph Carrero has repeatedly denied being the father of Lawrence City Councilor Barbara Gonzalez' child.

Councilor Gonzalez asked the court to order suitable child support, retroactive child support from the date of birth of the child - September 24, 2003 - and order Carrero to provide health and dental insurance for his daughter.

"In the years I have been doing this, I have never seen a paternity test result come back with such a high degree of certainty as to the identity of a father in question," said Attorney Sandy Durland of Packenham, Schmidt and Federico, who represents Barbara Gonzalez.

"The paternity test has been completed and it is conclusive. The next step will be to determine whether we can agree on paternity before the court, given these findings. From this point the court must determine what would be an appropriate amount of child support and whether or not Mr. Carrero will

VALLEY PATRIOT EXCLUSIVE!

"In the years I have been doing this, I have never seen a paternity test result come back with such a high degree of certainty (99.999%) as to the identity of a father in question,"



Atty Sandy Durland of Packenham, Schmidt and Federico on Ralph Carerro. Durland represents Lawrence City Councilor Barbara Gonzalez.

ask for or be granted visitation with his child," Durland said.

"He certainly has that right," Attorney Durland continued. "He is the father and as the father he can petition for visitation as well as custody if he so chooses, but I would be very surprised if any court would grant any kind of custody after he denied being the father for so long."

As of this report, Carrero has shown no interest and made no formal request for court-ordered visitation with his daughter.

Carrero, who is married and until recently lived on Dartmouth Street in Lawrence, (two houses away from Councilor Gonzalez), is president of the board of trustees at the Lawrence Family Development Charter School on West Street in Lawrence. Carrero is also a coordinator of student services at a local high school.

Within days of the Valley Patriot breaking the exclusive story last September, Carrero sold his house and moved out of Lawrence

yet he remains on the board of the Family Development Charter School. Carrero served two (four year) terms on the Lawrence School Committee and was the first Latino ever elected to public office in the history of Lawrence.

He ran for mayor unsuccessfully in 2001 and has been a board member of both the Dominican American National Roundtable in Washington D.C. and the Casa Dominicana in Lawrence.

During his eight years on the Lawrence School Committee, and as a candidate for mayor in 2001, Carrero frequently lectured parents about not taking responsibility for their children and spoke often about the "importance of fathers taking responsibility for their own children."

"Parent involvement is critical to the successful development of every child," Carrero said during a political debate in 2001.

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Valley Patriot of the Month: Hero in Our Midst

Capt. John Doherty

Dr. Charles Ormsby

John Doherty had a lot of family history to uphold. His family had lived in Andover for over 150 years and the Doherty Elementary School is named after his uncle, Bill Doherty, after he served 39 years on the Andover School Committee. John's service to his town and country, which is still continuing, has upheld these traditions in a way that would make any family proud.

John has lived in Andover for all of his 64 years. All, that is, except for a couple of years in Southeast Asia in the late 1960s ... but more on that in a moment. He attended elementary and Junior High in the Andover public schools and then transferred to Phillips Academy. After graduating from Phillips, John attended Harvard where he studied Latin and Greek, and joined the ROTC. He would normally have begun his two-year service commitment immediately after he graduated cum laude in 1963, but the Army granted him a one-year extension

to attend the University of Pittsburgh. In 1964, after completing the requirements for his master's degree, John began active duty as an Army second lieutenant.

Upon commissioning, John headed straight for nine weeks of infantry training at Ft. Benning, Ga. Although the Vietnam War was in its early stages, the infantry-training program was still focused on thermonuclear or limited war scenarios with the Soviet Union. Halfway through training, the focus shifted to jungle warfare. Nobody had to ask why. John remembers this training to prepare young officers to be platoon leaders as being very intense, seven days and nights per week, and very hands-on. John loved it!

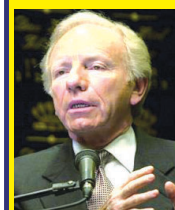
U.S. Army Intelligence School at Ft. Holabird, Md. was next. The technology was cutting edge and involved extracting intelligence data from overhead



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Valley Patriot

Editorial

It Used to be Called Treason



Camilo Mejia, deserter

Each month the Valley Patriot honors Veterans of the U.S. military who fought for this country at great personal risk and tremendous personal sacrifice.

Normally, we prefer to use the limited space within this newspaper to showcase the great bravery and selfless dedication our veterans have exhibited for the safety of our nation and the rest of the world. We call our monthly feature "Heroes in Our Midst."

And normally we wouldn't waste a drop of ink giving American traitors and terrorist appeasers the publicity that they so desperately seek. But, this month we break with our usual policy.

For the past two weeks, newly elected Lawrence School Committeeman Martina Cruz has been actively promoting a deserter named Camilo Mejia.

According to the fliers Ms. Cruz has been circulating, former staff Sergeant Camilo Mejia joined the U.S. Army to get the benefits of a free college education. Shortly after being assigned to fight terrorism in Iraq, however, Mejia deserted his post and refused to return to duty. He spent a year in prison and is now making the lecture circuit.

Mejia now gives aid and comfort to the terrorists by promoting the myth that our troops are in Iraq to torture civilians, abuse prisoners and engage in a war that he calls "illegal and immoral." He does not put the misdeeds of a few in context, but instead twists them to smear his country and undermine its efforts to defeat terrorism.

Wednesday Camilo spoke at the Lawrence library at an event sponsored by a terrorist appeasement group called "United for Justice with Peace" and "Merrimack Valley People for Peace." Two groups that see the United States as the source of evil in the world and not dictators and terrorists such as Saddam Hussein or Usama bin Laden.

We find it disturbing that Mejia has received a heroes welcome by anyone in the Merrimack Valley, especially on Spanish language radio by "Latino" immigrants who should be grateful that they are now living in a country where young Americans are willing to fight around the world so that all Americans can live here in comfort and freedom.

Mejia is no hero! His actions verge on treason, he has ignored his obligation to the U.S. Army and now he tours the nation spreading the terrorist's propaganda about our brave American troops (and their mission to defeat terrorists) - the same rhetoric used by the defenders of Usama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein.

Shame on Camilo Mejia and shame on Martina Cruz for promoting him as a hero when he should be condemned for his betrayal of our country and its ideals.



FINEGOLD SPEAKS AT HARVARD'S DARFUR FORUM



Representative Barry R. Finegold spoke at Harvard University on Saturday at the school's forum on the Darfur Genocide. The forum was a combination of efforts of students from surrounding colleges and universities, and included participants from universities as far away as Michigan and California. The student organizers had invited Representative Finegold to speak after one of its organizers, a Brandeis University sophomore, read an editorial authored by Representative Finegold in a local newspaper.

"Where were my grandparents when the Nazis were killing thousands of European Jews, where were my parents during the Cambodian Genocide, when 1.7 million Cambodians were slaughtered, and where was I in 1994 during the genocide in Rwanda," Representative Finegold rhetorically asked the 200 students and community members in attendance at Fong Theater on the Harvard campus.

"I did not want to sit back and do nothing this time, as every day hundreds of men, women, and children are massacred in the Darfur region of Sudan."

A civil war is brewing in Sudan in which attacks are carried out by the government and its allied Janjaweed militias. More than two and a half years into the crisis, the western Sudanese region of Darfur is acknowledged to be a humanitarian and human rights tragedy of the first order: as many as 5,000 people, overwhelmingly civilians, are dying every month. The situation continues to deteriorate as people are still dying in large numbers of malnutrition and disease, although humanitarian access has improved.

Darfur has only recently received attention from political leaders and major media, causing some to question the slow response and little outrage. Only recently has Massachusetts adopted legislation that calls to remove pension fund investments from all companies doing business with Sudan, a bill that Representative Finegold has co-signed.

"For those of you who think, it is too far away, they do not matter, I am too busy," commented Representative Finegold, "remember, you still go home every night without having to face the fears facing the Sudanese people."

Representative Finegold issued a call-to-action to the students in attendance and implored them to contact their local officials and ask them to sign onto and to support the legislation before the Massachusetts House of Representatives and similar legislation in other states.

"It is time for action," commented Representative Finegold.

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Our Troops Must Stay In Iraq

United States Senator Joseph Lieberman, (D) Conn.

I have just returned from my fourth trip to Iraq in the past 17 months and can report real progress there. More work needs to be done, of course, but the Iraqi people are in reach of a watershed transformation from the primitive, killing tyranny of Saddam to modern, self-governing, self-securing nationhood — unless the great American military that has given them and us this unexpected opportunity is prematurely withdrawn.

Progress is visible and practical. In the Kurdish North, there is continuing security and growing prosperity. The primarily Shiite South remains largely free of terrorism, receives much more electric power and other public services than it did under Saddam, and is experiencing greater economic activity. The Sunni triangle, geographically defined by Baghdad to the east, Tikrit to the north and Ramadi to the west, is where most of the terrorist enemy attacks occur. And yet here, too, there is progress.

There are many more cars on the streets, satellite television dishes on the roofs, and literally millions more cell phones in Iraqi hands than before. All of that says the Iraqi economy is growing. And Sunni candidates are actively campaigning for seats in the National Assembly. People are working their way toward a functioning society and economy in the midst of a very brutal, inhumane, sustained terrorist war against the civilian population and the Iraqi and American military there to protect it.

It is a war between 27 million and 10,000; 27 million Iraqis who want to live lives of freedom, opportunity and prosperity and roughly 10,000 terrorists who are either Saddam revanchists, Iraqi Islamic extremists or al Qaeda foreign fighters who know their wretched causes will be set back if Iraq becomes free and modern. The terrorists are intent on stopping this by instigating a civil war to produce the chaos that will allow Iraq to replace Afghanistan as the base for their fanatical war-making. We are fighting on the side of the 27 million because the outcome of this war is critically important to the security and freedom of America. If the terrorists win, they will be emboldened to strike us directly again and to further undermine the growing stability and progress in the Middle East, which has long been a major American national and economic security priority.

* * *

Before going to Iraq last week, I visited Israel and the Palestinian Authority. Israel has been the only genuine democracy in the region, but it is now getting some welcome company from the Iraqis and Palestinians who are in the midst of robust national legislative election campaigns, the Lebanese who have risen up in proud self-determination after the Hariri assassination to eject their Syrian occupiers (the Syrian- and Iranian-backed Hezbollah militias should be next), and the Kuwaitis, Egyptians and Saudis who have taken steps to open up their governments more broadly to their people. In my meeting with the thoughtful prime minister of Iraq, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, he declared with justifiable pride that his country now has the most open, democratic political system in the Arab world. He is right.

In the face of terrorist threats and escalating violence, eight million Iraqis voted for their interim national government in January, almost 10 million participated in the referendum on their new constitution in October, and even more than that are expected to vote in the elections for a full-term government on Dec. 15. Every time the 27 million Iraqis have been given the chance since Saddam was overthrown, they have voted for self-government and hope over the violence and hatred the 10,000 terrorists offer them. Most encouraging has been the behavior of the Sunni community, which, when disappointed by the proposed constitution, registered to vote and went to the polls instead of taking up arms and going to the streets. Last week, I was thrilled to see a vigorous political campaign, and a large number of independent television stations and newspapers covering it.

None of these remarkable changes would have happened without the coalition forces led by the U.S. And, I am convinced, almost all of the progress in Iraq and throughout the Middle East will be lost if those forces are withdrawn



"The terrorists are intent on stopping [us] by instigating a civil war to produce the chaos that will allow Iraq to replace Afghanistan as the base for their fanatical war-making. We are fighting on the side of the 27 million because the outcome of this war is critically important to the security and freedom of America. If the terrorists win, they will be emboldened to strike us directly again and to further undermine the growing stability and progress in the Middle East..."

**Senator Joe Lieberman (D)
of Connecticut**

faster than the Iraqi military is capable of securing the country.

The leaders of Iraq’s duly elected government understand this, and they asked me for reassurance about America’s commitment. The question is whether the American people and enough of their representatives in Congress from both parties understand this. I am disappointed by Democrats who are more focused on how President Bush took America into the war in Iraq almost three years ago, and by Republicans who are more worried about whether the war will bring them down in next November’s elections, than they are concerned about how we continue the progress in Iraq in the months and years ahead.

Here is an ironic finding I brought back from Iraq. While U.S. public opinion polls show serious declines in support for the war and increasing pessimism about how it will end, polls conducted by Iraqis for Iraqi universities show increasing optimism. Two-thirds say they are better off than they were under Saddam, and a resounding 82% are confident their lives in Iraq will be better a year from now than they are today. What a colossal mistake it would be for America’s bipartisan political leadership to choose this moment in history to lose its will and, in the famous phrase, to seize defeat from the jaws of the coming victory.

The leaders of America’s military and diplomatic forces in Iraq, Gen. George Casey and Ambassador Zal Khalilzad, have a clear and compelling vision of our mission there. It is to create the environment in which Iraqi democracy, security and prosperity can take hold and the Iraqis themselves can defend their political progress against those 10,000 terrorists who would take it from them.

* * *

Does America have a good plan for doing this, a strategy for victory in Iraq? Yes we do. And it is important to make it clear to the American people that the plan has not remained stubbornly still but has changed over the years. Mistakes, some of them big, were made after Saddam was removed, and no one who supports the war should hesitate to admit that; but we have learned from those mistakes and, in characteristic American fashion, from what has worked and not worked on the ground. The administration’s recent use of the banner “clear, hold and build” accurately describes the strategy as I saw it being implemented last week.

We are now embedding a core of coalition forces in every Iraqi fighting unit, which makes each unit more effective and acts as a multiplier of our forces. Progress in “clearing” and “holding” is being made. The Sixth Infantry Division of the Iraqi Security Forces now controls and polices more than one-third of Baghdad on its own. Coalition and Iraqi forces have together cleared the previously terrorist-controlled cities of Fallujah, Mosul and Tal Afar, and most

of the border with Syria. Those areas are now being “held” secure by the Iraqi military themselves. Iraqi and coalition forces are jointly carrying out a mission to clear Ramadi, now the most dangerous city in Al-Anbar province at the west end of the Sunni Triangle.

Nationwide, American military leaders estimate that about one-third of the approximately 100,000 members of the Iraqi military are able to “lead the fight” themselves with logistical support from the U.S., and that that number should double by next year. If that happens, American military forces could begin a drawdown in numbers proportional to the increasing self-sufficiency of the Iraqi forces in 2006. If all goes well, I believe we can have a much smaller American military presence there by the end of 2006 or in 2007, but it is also likely that our presence will need to be significant in Iraq or nearby for years to come.

The economic reconstruction of Iraq has gone slower than it should have, and too much money has been wasted or stolen. Ambassador Khalilzad is now implementing reform that has worked in Afghanistan — Provincial Reconstruction Teams, composed of American economic and political experts, working in partnership in each of Iraq’s 18 provinces with its elected leadership, civil service and the private sector. That is the “build” part of the “clear, hold and build” strategy, and so is the work American and international teams are doing to professionalize national and provincial governmental agencies in Iraq.

These are new ideas that are working and changing the reality on the ground, which is undoubtedly why the Iraqi people are optimistic about their future — and why the American people should be, too.

* * *

I cannot say enough about the U.S. Army and Marines who are carrying most of the fight for us in Iraq. They are courageous, smart, effective, innovative, very honorable and very proud. After a Thanksgiving meal with a great group of Marines at Camp Fallujah in western Iraq, I asked their commander whether the morale of his troops had been hurt by the growing public dissent in America over the war in Iraq. His answer was insightful, instructive and inspirational: “I would guess that if the opposition and division at home go on a lot longer and get a lot deeper it might have some effect, but, Senator, my Marines are motivated by their devotion to each other and the cause, not by political debates.”

Thank you, General. That is a powerful, needed message for the rest of America and its political leadership at this critical moment in our nation’s history. Semper Fi.

Mr. Lieberman is a United States Senator from Connecticut. and is a Democrat. Lieberman ran for the democratic nomination for president.

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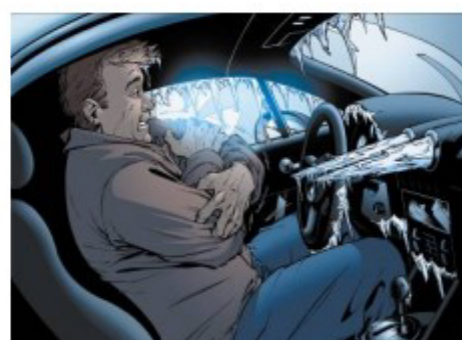
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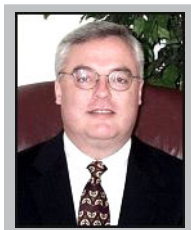
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Innovation Valley:

A New Era of Opportunity Rising for the Merrimack Valley Region of Massachusetts

John Michitson & Seth Itzkan



John Michitson

"—a silver cascade which falls all the way from the White Mountains to the sea, - and behold a city on each successive plateau, a busy colony of human beavers around every fall. Not to mention Newburyport and Haverhill, see Lawrence, and Lowell... When at length it has escaped from under the last of the factories it has a level and unmolested passage to the sea..."

- Henry David Thoreau, A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers, 1839

History: The Merrimack River - The Brawn of American Industry

In 1839 Thoreau described in his journal the brawn of America's industrial revolution – The Merrimack River. Starting from "above the clouds" in the White Mountains to its mouth at Plum Island on the Atlantic, the mighty Merrimack flows 117 miles through the core of industrial New England, and was, until fairly recently, the principal energy source for the entire region.

What the river gave this region, in addition to its obvious power, was an incentive for innovation and an identity as the birthplace of America's industrial revolution. The mills that blossomed on its shores were unprecedented in their mechanical sophistication and hydropower engineering. The Merrimack River Valley was the Silicon Valley of its era, the original Route 128. It was where material science, resource management, skilled labor, and profits all converged on a grand scale.

A New Era

Today, this legacy is reawakening. A new era of innovative, energy smart approaches to manufacturing and economic development is on the march – and helping, we believe, to recreate an industrial revolution in America.

Innovation Valley

To help move this process forward, we have started the Innovation Valley Initiative (<http://www.ivalley.org>). The Innovation Valley Initiative seeks to inspire a new era

of economic growth in the region that was the birthplace of America's industrial revolution. It seeks to do this through the application of innovative practices across all germane sectors, including:

housing, industry, transportation, and energy. The initiative envisions the entire Merrimack Valley of Massachusetts, from Lowell to Newburyport, as a single collaborative region, creating in the process corridors of innovation.

Eco-Industrial Networking

One innovation we are working on advancing, particularly germane to energy and the industrial base of the region, is known as Eco-Industrial Networking (EIN). Eco-Industrial Networking is an emerging voluntary practice in industry that is stimulating growth while reducing energy consumption and minimizing environmental impacts.

Specifically, Eco-Industrial Networking means the cost-effective coordination of resources and energy flows among diverse industries in close proximity. It creates mutually beneficial opportunities to manage neighboring industries like shared facilities, so that profits are maximized and risks mitigated. Because it depends on industries in close proximity, each implementation has a distinctly regional impact. In practice it has saved participating firms tens of millions of dollars and significant reductions in waste products and ground and surface water usage.

The Merrimack Valley Region is particularly well suited for an aggressive EIN campaign. Its concentration of tightly packed industrial complexes along the river is legendary. Specifically, as tabulated by the Merrimack Valley Planning Council (mvp.org), there are 19 managed industrial parks and 1,700 industrial parcels. These occupy 8,500 acres, or 5% of the total land mass of the region. An EIN campaign that helped regional industries maximize their by-

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Thinking Outside the Box!

Dr. Charles Ormsby

Wet My Beak

"This is my neighborhood. You and your friends should show me some respect. You should let me wet my beak a little." - The Godfather II

Yes, wet our beaks a little, to the tune of \$2.0 to \$2.5 million. That is the amount of respect the Town of North Andover wants to receive from Ozzy Properties for the privilege of making desired improvements to what had been the Lucent complex. That amount, and maybe some free office space, a parcel of land for another municipal building and a few other miscellaneous considerations. Basically, whatever the town can get. Since the amount of tribute is yet to be determined, I will subsequently refer to it as MM, which the reader can interpret as "Multi-Millions" or "Mucho Moolah."

What did North Andover do to deserve this respect? Well, nothing really. The MM is to convince selectmen that they should support Ozzy Properties' request to amend our zoning bylaws so that they can develop what they refer to as Osgood Landing. The proposed development has a number of wonderful features. Among these improvements are the addition of 650 residential units with enough "affordable housing" units to meet the town's quota under the state's Chapter 40B regulations, a potential train station, and a new retail complex. The net result is a substantial revitalization of the area, along with a major increase in tax revenues for North Andover.

So, why does Ozzy Properties need help from our board of selectmen? Technically, they don't. What they need is for town meeting to pass a requested zoning change to what is referred to as "Chapter 40R" (also known by government aficionados as a "Smart Growth Zoning Overlay District"). The MM is to convince selectmen that the zoning change is a good idea so that they will recommend approval to town meeting voters.

But wait a minute. The development is either a good idea or it isn't. How does MM factor into it? I suppose, if the balance of good vs. evil were slightly negative, MM could make up the difference. But no one is arguing that the development plan is bad.

This begs the question: Who should decide what is a good or a bad development plan? Who owns the property? Is it Ozzy Properties or is it the town? Did the selectmen invest their hard-earned money in this project? Who is the biggest loser if the development is an economic failure? Who has the greatest incentive to create a successful development project? Is this

private property or public property? What does it mean to own private property if you do not have the right to determine how it should be used?

Clearly, there is some justification for government concern and oversight. If the project has a direct impact on the local infrastructure (roads, sewer, etc.) or causes environmental impact to other property owners, then these issues need to be addressed.

There are no claimed environmental impacts with this development, so there are only two other possible reasons to demand MM. Either there are one-time infrastructure costs that the town will incur that have to be covered, OR there are recurring operating costs that must be paid for.

But MM is for neither of these. All known, one-time costs are being separately addressed (not part of the MM payment) and the town is negotiating for any required compensation. Recurring costs, such as added enrollment in our schools and/or additional public safety outlays, should be covered by future taxes to be paid annually by the property owners. In fact, current estimates of these tax revenues range between \$2 million and \$2.5 million each year, which is close to one million dollars per year more than the estimated increase in costs to the town. It should be noted that, while these estimates are from the developer, a positive cash flow is also projected in initial town estimates. In the unlikely event that a negative cash flow was to be predicted, it should be corrected via plan changes and not covered up by a one-time donation.

So why are the selectmen demanding MM? Because they can.

Because if the selectmen refuse to endorse the project – even if they know it is good for the town – town meeting may refuse to pass the zoning change and Ozzy Properties will not be able to proceed with their development.

In a recent public meeting where MM for Ozzy Properties was being discussed, the town's "negotiator" told officials how much he and other "negotiators" had wrested from other developers with similar developments in other towns. He then noted that, as our "negotiator" in the matter, he was a "junkyard dog." I've never owned or even met a junkyard dog, but they sound pretty ferocious to me. Maybe he can be a particularly ferocious junkyard dog because

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From the Desk of Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini



To the Wonderful People of Haverhill

Thank you for the confidence you have shown in my administration and me by your vote in the recent election. I am honored and humbled by the vote. I will work as hard as I can to keep your confidence over the next two years.

If there is ever a time you feel I could be serving you better, please do not hesitate to contact me personally.

Thank you again,

Sincerely, Jim Fiorentini

Haverhill's Bond Rating

Our bond Rating up AGAIN. This shows that Haverhill is on the right track, but we have a long way to go.

The bond rating determines how much a city will pay in interest when it borrows money and is the fiscal report card for a city.

Two years ago, our bond rating sunk to one notch above junk bond status. Now, Standard and Poor's has raised our bond rating again, this time from BBB- to BBB.

The improvement shows that we are on the right track in tackling our fiscal problems but we still have a long way to go towards fiscal stability. It saves us \$20,000 immediately and much more in the long run.

However, the rating of BBB is not where we want to be. We should be an A-rated city.

In raising the bond rating, here is what the credit rating agency said: "Haverhill's new management team, including its current mayor, who is entering his second term, and the finance director, has adopted numerous financial policies and budget practices in the wake of the budgetary stress caused by Hale Hospital's operating deficits and state aid cuts in fiscals 2003 and 2004.

Although new, Haverhill's management has indicated an eagerness to follow policies and procedures in place that offer an opportunity for long-term budgetary

structural balance." Many people deserve credit for the bond rating going up. These include the many fine employees of our city who have had to work longer and harder, pay more on their health insurance premiums and do without pay raises for the past two years.



Their hard work and sacrifice has helped put the city back on the path towards fiscal stability.

Crime Hot Spot Policy Seems To Bear Fruit

After a flurry of gang related violence this summer, the city reacted quickly. The city set up a Gang Task force, joined an area Federal and State gang task force, instituted neighborhood meetings, arrested numerous people involved in gang related activity, and instituted more police patrols in high crime neighborhoods. One of the things the task force brought out was the need for more cooperation between Lawrence and Haverhill detectives.

The policy seems to be bearing fruit. According to an article in a local newspaper, neighbors said the increased patrols definitely made a difference in their neighborhoods.

The name for this type of police policy is hot spot policing: concentrating police on areas where there are large numbers of crimes at certain times.

There has been a good deal of empirical research about alternative policing methods. The best summary I can locate is entitled Preventing Crime: What Works, What Doesn't, What's Promising by Professor Lawrence Sherman, for the National Institute of Justice. [See ncjrs.org/works/index.htm](http://ncjrs.org/works/index.htm). Here are some quotes from the study: "Hiring more police to provide rapid 911 responses, unfocused random patrol, and reactive arrests does not prevent serious crime. Community policing without a clear focus on crime risk factors generally shows no effect on crime. But directed patrols, proactive arrests and problem-solving at high-crime hot spots has shown substantial evidence of crime prevention...." [See ncjrs.org/works/chapter8.htm](http://ncjrs.org/works/chapter8.htm).

No one really knows what causes crime to go up and down but we are happy it is going down in Haverhill.

Heat Bills

When I travel around, people tell me that one of their prime concerns is the rising cost of heating fuel.

A new bill passed by the legislature allows tax breaks for homeowners with high heating bills. Taxpayers earning less than \$50,000 as single filers or \$75,000 if filing jointly will be able to deduct up to \$800 for oil or natural gas heating bills incurred between Nov. 1 and March 31, 2006.

The same law also provides one-time tax credits for homeowners who buy energy-efficient appliances.

Here are some web sites for more information: boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2005/11/22/romney_house_senate_leads_celebrate_new_energy_bills/

A good source of information and charts is mass.gov/dhcd/components/cs/Fuel/default.htm.

Tax Rate Going Down, Tax Bills Going Up

There is good news and bad news about our real estate tax bills. The good news is that the tax rate is going down, slightly, for

There is good news and bad news about our real estate tax bills. The good news is that the tax rate is going down, slightly, for both commercial and residential users. The bad news is that the tax bills, the only thing we care about, is going up.



Haverhill Mayor Jim Fiorentini hard at work in his office

both commercial and residential users. The bad news is that the tax bill, the only thing we care about, is going up.

The reason is that taxes are a multiple of the value of your home times the tax rate. If the value of your home goes up, then your taxes go up. In Haverhill, as in most of this portion of the country, the average

residential house value went up. Values went up around 6% in one year in Haverhill. Commercial and industrial values also went up, but by a lower rate. The result is that tax bills are up, on

average \$159.

However, averages can be deceiving. Your home value may not be the average and your increase may be much more, or much less, than the average.

You will get the new tax bill around the first of the year. You can pay your bill on line and get a good deal of information from our web site, ci.haverhill.ma.us. If you believe your tax bill is too high, you can you check out similar properties at haverhill.patriotproperties.com/default.asp or by a link from the assessor's web page at ci.haverhill.ma.us/departments/finance/assessor/index.htm. If you want to file for abatement, you can download the form at the same page.

Festival of Trees

Festival of Trees: The fourth annual Festival of Trees ran from November 25th through December 4th at the Haverhill Historical Society, 240 Water St. The event was a huge success again this year.

Christmas stroll: Join us this Friday from 5 to -9 PM downtown for the annual Christmas Stroll. Bring the kids to meet Santa, to sing along with all of us, and to generally have a good time. I always find the stroll a time to meet with my neighbors; It is how Christmas used to be when we all went downtown to shop—before the malls.

Happy Holidays

From my family to yours, our best wishes for a great holiday season. Please stop by the Mayors office on December 15^h from noon to 2 PM for the Mayor's annual holiday party to greet the public.

Feedback wanted

I am going to work harder on getting feedback from the public in my next term. I'll do this in several ways: by neighborhood meetings, by having focus groups that meet with me for a brown bag luncheon series on

various topics (I am having one on WIFI, on downtown cleanliness, and other topics) and by asking for feedback more in this newsletter. Take a moment to fill this out and tell us how we are doing as a city:

Taxes

Taxes are going up an average of \$159 per household. Is this:

About what you expected for an increase.

More than you expected for an increase.

Less than you expected for an increase.

If you had the money to improve service in one area and only one area, what area would you have us improve it:

Add one or two more school teachers

Add one or two more policemen

Add one or two more firemen

Add one or two more people to the highway department

Reduce taxes by the amount and give us a small break

Other:

No fair saying all of above.

Trivia

Now that I got the question right, many of you got the answer right! The answer is that Blue and White was the color of St. James High School. Among those who knew were newly elected city councilor Dave Swartz, (a graduate of St. James High School), my sainted mother, Lucy Fiorentini (who attended St. James grammar school); John J. Ryan III, JOEFEO, Ric Page, Bill Lappiere, my favorite aunt Helen Sullivan, and others.

Here is this month's question: We all know that Haverhill High School graduation is held at the Haverhill stadium, a stadium we hope can be renovated with the money we are getting from the State.

Where was graduation held before it was at the stadium?

Till next month, if I can be of service, or if you can think of ways to improve service in our city, do not hesitate to contact me or, please stop by for our office hours, Tuesday from 3 to 4 PM.

Have a great Christmas. Stop by the Mayor's office for our Christmas open house on December 15th at noon.

Jim Fiorentini is the mayor of Haverhill and was just elected to his second term. Mayor Fiorentini is a Democrat. No public money was used to produce or distribute his newsletter. You can E-mail Jim Fiorentini at: jimfior02@aol.com

HAVERHILL'S FUTURE!

Jim Rurak, Former Mayor of Haverhill

Santa Claus

For the last three years, city officials gave us one excuse for everything they didn't do, namely, the Hale debt. What they, and more specifically, what the mayor failed to tell us is how in fact they made the annual 7 million dollar Hale debt payment each of these last 3 years. The answer is "Santa Claus" also known as Rep. Brian Dempsey.



million of the twenty or so the city has owed against the Hale.

And you could also add here money from the federal government that reimbursed the city for some of the care the hospital gave for free to the poor. All this Brian got because he led the local delegation (and they also deserve credit) in the cheer that the city deserves help because it had once been nice and it took a risk to save its hospital, a hospital that remains an essential component in regional health-care services.

But the city was supposed to come with ways to fill in the gap over the last three years and in the years going forward. In fact, the city has been "naughty."

Thin ice is an image in keeping with the season and I'm going to run the risk of pushing seasonal imagery a little further by organizing this article in this way. Brian Dempsey succeeded in getting the city a bundle of money over the last three years because he could argue that the city got into financial difficulty because it had once been "nice." It sponsored a regional hospital that was a vital link in the health care chain for the commonwealth, and, was the essential health care provider for the region's poor. Hence, the state should give the city some financial assistance, some breathing room, to pull itself together financially after the municipal hospital went belly-up.

But, because the city has done little on its own in these last three years to develop recurring, not one-time, revenues, it has been "naughty." So it's not likely that the city will get, next Christmas, a gift like it did this year.

Here are the facts: of the seven million dollar annual Hale payment, almost six of it each year came from actions which Brian led through the legislature. Add these up:

An average of 2 million per year for fiscal years '04, '05, '06 in "hospital aid;" an annualized savings of about 2.7 million due to early retirements (legislation that Dempsey sponsored); over a quarter of a million average each year in additional lottery assistance; about one half million dollars each year from the energy grant (Brian helped pass the legislation that authorized this). This already totals 5.5 million annually for the last three years. Add to this, the taxes now being paid on the old Hale and Glynn, the sale of which Brian also helped, and you get to 6 million dollars annually for the last three years; that's 18

The ways that it filled the gap for the last three years it now cannot use for the years remaining on the debt. I'm talking about the sale of city lands. Over the last three years, the city sold about 8 million dollars worth of land and buildings. Unless city hall's for sale, there's not much left to sell. It took the quick and naughty route to pay its bills and it now doesn't have a plan for the future. This is what Councilor Hart meant when he said that the mayor was misrepresenting our financial prospects and, in fact, things would get worse before they got better. That's why it's going to be hard to ask Santa again. And, although Brian has been a Santa, he doesn't have Santa's unilateral power. He has to sell his story to his leadership and colleagues. I hope he can, but it won't be easy. It would have been easier if he could have said that the city had done a lot to meet its so-called structural deficit, that it used the 18 million in additional assistance to put together a long-range plan. Instead, however, it flittered it away. It was naughty not nice.

But this is also a season of hope. Maybe if things begin to really change next year, if we take steps to increase revenues without raising taxes, and if we find ways of being more efficient and cost conscious, then Brian can argue that the city deserves a bit more financial help. I hope so because as I see it we're REALLY going to need Santa next year. For all he's done so far, however, let's all thank Santa right now.

Jim Rurak is a professor at Boston College and is the former mayor of Haverhill. Email your comments or questions to Jim Rurak at JARandKAS@comcast.net



Random Thoughts

Haverhill (NECC) Professor
Mark Palermo

CUDDLE PARTIES

What a mess the world is. Here in the United States alone, 6 million children are on antidepressants. Ten million alcoholics. Probably as many drug addicts. Crime. Violence. Terrorism. What in the world is wrong with people? We seem to be on a collision course with hell itself. In 600 BC, the Chinese sage Lao-Tse taught that men and women must move in conscious interdependence and interaction with nature. Failure to do so results in disharmony and unrest.

Today I read where 600 pounds of plutonium may be "missing" from Los Alamos. Perhaps this time some nutcase will succeed in an act of destruction, and we will be forced to start over again: living in forests, cutting raw logs and growing pumpkins, cooking and heating by fire. Maybe then we will reintegrate the ancient, elemental values: the family circle, honesty, hard work, reverence for God and nature, harmony- and of course the human touch.

America is a great country, and we long ago established our place in the world as the purveyors of popular culture and values to the rest of the world. It's what we do best. We market products and services to quench every possible human need. And when people run out of needs to quench -or never had them in the first place, we stimulate and develop new "needs" for them.

I had a Russian woman as a student a few years back who told me about community centers in the old Soviet Union where mothers, if they were not well or not producing milk, could take babies and young children for breast feeding by public wet nurses. I asked how much the wet nurses charged for their services, and I was surprised to learn that they did it for free- as service to the community and duty to Mother Russia.

In a capitalist system, such services would be financially compensated, which caused

me to wonder. Has anybody ever marketed the human touch? I am not referring to the world's oldest profession, but rather the human touch differentiated from its sexual context. I came across a magazine article about a concept called "Cuddle Party." It works like this. You pay thirty bucks and you get to cuddle other people at a special cuddle party. It's not an orgy. In fact it's supervised by a facilitator who goes over ground rules, puts it on a high level, establishes a safe environment, and explains how to respect personal boundaries. The rules are listed on the website: Ask permission before cuddling. Mind your personal hygiene. Pajamas stay on the whole time. You are not obliged to cuddle anyone at any time. *And no sex.* Cuddle rules are enforced by "cuddle lifeguards." (bouncers?) Sexual feelings are OK if they arise, but "no dry humping." (cuddlepary.com)

Imagine you are a young, ambitious twenty something. You have recently left behind your apartment in Ma and Pa's basement and followed the yellow brick road to New York or L.A. You work hard at your career. At the end of the day, you go home to your apartment and have a nice meal. But then what? Another night of TV? Barhopping- trying to hook up with strangers? Occasionally your aspirations come to fruition and the desired full contact is achieved. Even then, however, given the anonymous and uncaring nature of today's passionless hookups, the insistent hunger for human touch may yet be unsatisfied, perhaps even exacerbated. But for thirty bucks, your need can be answered.

I asked my wife- who is from Latin America- her take on cuddle parties. The concept wouldn't work there she says. Latin Americans get touched and hugged all the

Continued on Page 24

Fiorentini Announces Crack Down On Noise And Trash

In a continuing effort to improve the city's quality of life, Mayor James J. Fiorentini announced last week a new set of procedures to deal with noise and trash complaints:

"Improving the quality of life for our citizens is a major goal of this administration. The stepped up enforcement we announced today will enable our police and code enforcement officers to more easily enforce noise and trash violations.

Tuesday, I will ask the City Council to adopt a new noise ordinance, which will make enforcement easier. In addition, the ordinance we adopted two weeks ago, established noise and trash as civil violations. This allows police officers and code enforcement officers to enforce noise and trash complaints and a streamlined means of enforcing procedures and avoiding long waits in criminal court."

The City has also purchased a new noise meter, which will be in use by the Police Department

"Our old noise ordinance was difficult to enforce and cases were difficult to win in court. This new ordinance sets definite

decibel readings that cannot be exceeded. The ordinance also sets a quiet time from 11:00PM until the morning and empowers police officers to issue non-criminal complaints for violation of the noise ordinances. Police officers armed with the new decibel reader and the new noise ordinance will now be able to better respond to noise complaints."

To enforce complaints about trash the City will now issue a new codebook to police officers and health and inspectional officials, which will allow for the civil disposition of trash complaints.

"The new set of procedures, new code and new ticket book will allow our officers and code enforcement officials to better respond complaints about trash and littering."

Fiorentini said that keeping the City quiet and cleaner will continue to be key administration goals:

"People in the inner city often commented to me that they would like it quieter at night. "These stepped up measures will help the residents of our city to be able to sleep at night." Fiorentini said.

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Paying Attention!

prestando attenzione!

with Tom Duggan

The ACLU Grinches Try to Steal Christmas

Warning: This column may offend anyone bothered by truth, goodness and holiday celebrations!

No longer just a children's fantasy story, "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" is alive and well in modern day America.

But, the real Grinch doesn't live at the top of Mount Crumpet. No, no, he resides in the cold, black hearts (and offices) of the ACLU and every person who tries to stop others from celebrating the season of giving, the season of charity and the season of happiness for children and their families.

And, just as the fictional Grinch came down off Mount Crumpet to steal Christmas from the "Whos down in Whoville," these real life Grinches come out from their caves every year to file lawsuits and steal Christmas from children everywhere they can.

What's so amazing about today's Grinches is that they are just as mean and just as irrational as the fictional one. To these people, God is to be shunned, goodness is "offensive" and the mere thought of another person celebrating a holiday rooted in religion...that's just plain loathsome.

Dr. Suess himself couldn't have possibly imagined that his creation would someday be a reality in the form of modern day religious bigotry. But here we are, a culture under attack by a very small minority who cringe at the site of a Santa Claus or a Christmas angel.

Now, the Christmas-hating Grinches are even filing lawsuits and complaining about people who put up Christmas displays on their own private property, using local zoning regulations to restrict the myrth and merriment of their fellow citizens. They've even found ways to use condo and neighborhood associations to adopt intolerant bylaws that discriminate against people of faith and even the faithless who enjoy the American holiday tradition.

WHY?

Well, they are offended of course. As if the sight of pine tree with colored lights is akin to using a racial slur or the sound of children singing Jingle Bells is equal to hearing Hitler Youth songs about exterminating Jews.

Wait, on second thought, the ACLU and the Christmas-haters have defended the "rights" of Nazi's and the Klan to offend, which I guess begs the question: How is a Christmas tree or a Christmas song more damaging to society and more offensive than racist Nazi symbols and songs?

How is it that "offensiveness" is the standard for stopping Christmas displays but not so much for the hateful demonstrations of racists and fear mongers? Doesn't free speech apply to everyone regardless of the type of speech? Or is speech only prohibited today when it's about goodness, religion, God, Christmas and other "objectionable" evils to these confused and empty souls?

The answer to that is simple. This has nothing to do with sensibilities or offensiveness. It has nothing to do with protecting the constitution or stopping a government established religion.



It's really about the narcissistic few who want to erase the words "...or the free exercise thereof" from our first amendment's freedom of religious expression. They hate God and they hate the fact that Christmas is rooted in

religious tradition. Even though to many, it is a secular American tradition practiced by people of many (and no) faiths at all.

Personally, I have had enough of the sanctimonious sound bite arguments, backward thinking and dishonest debate. I've had enough of people forcing the rest of us to sanitize society from words and symbols that only evil could possibly find "offensive."

All the while, the "offended" are lecturing the rest of us about being tolerant of weird sexual life-styles, compassion for criminals and "accepting" those who views things differently.

It's time to stop giving in to these people and say enough is enough.

We shouldn't be fearful of offending someone with the goodness of Christmas. We shouldn't be afraid to say to anyone "offended" by a pine tree with lights that they need serious psychological help.

People who so intolerantly demand that the majority bow down to their lack of beliefs (or their hatred for faith and goodness) and then force us to remove everything that offends them should be shunned year-round.

The fact is, Christmas is rooted in Christianity but it is also celebrated by atheists, agnostics, Jews, and others. It is, to some, a secular American holiday which has evolved and taken on a whole new meaning than just the birth of Jesus Christ. Allowing the free exercise of Christmas celebration on public property does not establish a government religion. Anyone who says otherwise is fooling themselves in order to fool the rest of us.

But we are not fooled.

It's not we who celebrate Christmas who are offending others. Goodness is not an offensive trait. In the real world we have to recognize that it is those who hate God and Christmas who are being offensive. It is they who should be more tolerant of symbols and songs, the values of which they certainly do not share. It is the Grinch who must tolerate the will of the majority not the majority who must be inconvenienced by a monster who takes great joy in depriving others of happiness.

Just imagineif the Whos down in Whoville, instead of celebrating Christmas over the objections of the "offended" Grinch, removed Christmas from their little town square so as not to offend him with their infernal "singing" and happiness heard all the way up on top of mount Crumpet?

Would Whoville be a better place? Is America?

This column was originally published in 2001

Tom Duggan is the president of Valley Patriot, Inc., and is a former member of the Lawrence School Committee. He hosts the Paying Attention Radio Program on 980AM every Saturday afternoon from noon-2pm. You can email comments or questions to him at Tdugjr@aol.com

Superintendent Wilfredo Laboy On Latino Superintendents

Carlos Ramos, Lawrence School Committee

I had the pleasure of interviewing Mr. Wilfredo T. Laboy at his office. He was extremely cooperative given his morning and afternoon schedule. Mr. Laboy responded to my questions proudly. He spoke of his recent election as the president of the Latinos Superintendents as an accomplishment.

As the Assistant Superintendent, Mary Lou Bergeron, knows Mr. Laboy and what his new duties will be. I spoke with her about this important appointment.

Wilfredo T. Laboy received his invitation to the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS) in 2005, when the past president of ALAS' term expired. Mr. Laboy resides in Massachusetts with his family. He came from the state of New York. As a Puerto Rican descendent, he is an honorable Superintendent at the Lawrence Public School and serves proudly. While he commands the administrators and staff, he attends many meetings and conferences to make Lawrence a healthier school system. Meeting with the key educators he has made a difference which many Latinos and non-Latinos have admired. One of his accomplishments is the new Lawrence High School at the South Lawrence area. Two of his most important accomplishments are that students are improving their MCAS scores and the absentee list has gone down. He is admirable because he doesn't take credit for most of his accomplishments. Mr. Wilfredo T. Laboy is a giver not a taker. He has demonstrated this during his years in the Lawrence School system.

Carlos R: The Latino Superintendents have many qualified administrators working in their school districts and systems. How did the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS) come to appoint you as their president?

Wilfredo T. Laboy: The past president's term expired and he took a job in the educational publishing industry. The Board of ALAS nominated and appointed me as their national president. Dr. Stan Paz, past president of ALAS, was the Superintendent of Schools in the City of Tucson Arizona. ALAS is a national

organization representing all of the Latino administrators and superintendents in the United States. It also works with non-Latino educational leaders that serve Latino students. These districts are called Hispanic serving School Districts (HSSDs). These are districts that have a population of 25% Latinos. There are currently about 2500 districts; the largest urban school systems are HSSDs.

In response to the same question:

Mary Lou Bergeron: Mr. Laboy had to run for president, write a biography, and put together his goals and directions. The members of ALAS elect the president.

Carlos R: A Superintendent's work in any educational profession needs to be updated. Do you think, in this new position, that you will help the community? How?

Wilfredo T. Laboy: As the new President of ALAS I will have the opportunity to meet, network, and work with many national groups and organizations. Working with many leaders, agencies, and organizations, both in the private and public domain, will allow me to develop professional and working relationships with a vast of network of people. These relationships and opportunities will afford me the opportunity to bring new ideas, strategies, and resources to Lawrence Public Schools and our City.

Mary Lou Bergeron: It is good to have national exposure. People outside Lawrence Public Schools ask themselves, "Why did the city appoint this Superintendent?"

Carlos R: In this country many of us are immigrants. Do you think that being Latino in this diverse country makes it harder for you?

Wilfredo T. Laboy: Latinos in this country are a "nation within a nation." We are the largest ethnic minority in this country with a population of over 44 million people. There are more Latinos in the United States than in the entire country of Spain. America is "browning." Our community is out growing and out numbering all other ethnic groups in the United States. Today there is a "Latino wave." Now we are being accepted for our contributions and

Continued on Page 21

YOU READ IT HERE FIRST!

ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2005, THE VALLEY PATRIOT PUBLISHED ITS 18TH MONTHLY EDITION. AS HAS HAPPENED IN PAST MONTHS, AREA NEWSPAPERS HAVE PICKED UP OUR STORIES AND REPORTED ON THEM.

**Valley Patriot Lead Story: September 1, 2005
"Carrero Accused of Being Deadbeat Dad"**

Story Picked up by:

The Eagle-Tribune - September 10, 2005

The Boston Herald - September 12, 2005

Siglo 21 - September 14, 2005

El Mundo - September 17, 2005

Capital News9 - September 18, 2005

A Warm Thank You to our Colleagues in the Media.

On the Agenda

Patrick Blanchette, Lawrence City Council President

As the election results settle, the time has come for the work to begin for the new Lawrence City Council. Surely upon the horizon will be many tough decisions, votes and important issues to tackle. Among the many pieces of advice I give to all my colleagues is to stay true to yourself and, most importantly, to the voters that elected you.

One of the top agenda items for the upcoming City Council will be a decision to bond for a new Lawrence Police Station. The current station is a building that would probably not gain an occupancy permit if the issue were ever pressed. The conditions that our men and women work are inhumane to say the least. The work over the years by Chief Romero and his team has shown the commitment that these officers make to the city of Lawrence each and every day. In the months ahead the city officials will hopefully make the same type of commitment by putting forth a spending plan for a state of the art operational facility. Though the debate may rage on about the amount to spend, the location to build, or the type of brick to use, the end result should prove to be a historic move for all of us.

A second agenda item certainly to top the minds of all councilors will be the ongoing budget issues facing our city. It will be a test for all of us involved to try and tighten the belt in city government. The city officials will need to look at possible downsizing, mergers, increased fees and creative ways to make up the deficit this year and in the future. The Mayor and his finance team will be charged with a daunting task as they recommend new ways to

balance the future budgets of our city. In the end, the encounter will be a tough one; however, I believe the city will become stronger and wiser financially.

A third agenda item will be the sale of vacant lots. In the past, properties lingered in land court for years with back taxes piling up. Currently our legal department is working diligently to secure these properties, making them city owned. With this comes the responsibility of disposing the land for future re-use. The city council, mayor, planning and zoning board, along with the various neighborhood groups need to work together to find a solution to these vacant lots throughout the city. Perhaps some lots will be sold to abutters for side-yard, others to developers for new homes and the remaining maybe will be used for off-street parking or community gardens. Whatever the plan, the city officials will need to act quickly and efficiently to provide the best possible use keeping the integrity of our neighborhoods in tact.

Without a doubt, the city council will have its hands full in the upcoming months; however, that is the very challenge that we will all swear to take during the inauguration ceremony on January 3, 2006. Until then we can converse, plan, and map out the future of our city. By working together the agenda will truly represent the people's wishes.

Happy Holidays to all!

Patrick Blanchette is president of the Lawrence City Council and was just elected to his fourth term representing District "A" (Prospect Hill). Blanchette is a Democrat and a member of the Lawrence Democrat City Committee. You can email him at pblanchette@glts.tec.ma.us



Mayor Michael J. Sullivan

Lawrence on the Move

The Next Four Years

I want to thank the people of Lawrence for their vote of confidence last month. We need to make this next four years even more productive than the last. My transition team is made up of a various cross section of experts that will serve the city well.

During the next four years the priorities of my administrations will be: Public safety: Our citizens need to feel safe in our city. Crime is down in every category in Lawrence but we need to continue the fight against lawlessness. Our battle against auto insurance fraud and street crimes is just bearing fruit now after several years. We need to continue the fight against underage drinking, noise disturbances and petty vandalism that drive people away from our city. I am committed along with Chief Romero to make this a safer place to work, live and to visit.

Education: Our children deserve a first class learning experience. The new Lawrence High School which will be opened next September will be the largest and most expensive high school (\$110 million) in state's history. Our children will have access to state of the art computer facilities, science labs and athletic facilities that will be the envy of every other municipality in our state. This school is coming in on time and on budget.

I want to make sure that when our children come through our school system that they are given every chance to succeed and to compete against those districts that have

more wealth. Lawrence does not need to take a back seat to anyone.

Jobs: During the last four years we have been able to reduce the unemployment rate by a significant amount. We need to keep the momentum going. Mill buildings that have long been vacant or underutilized are being renovated and put back on the tax roles. Our Latino businesses are growing each and every year in the downtown area. We need to make Lawrence the true economic hub of the region. The best most effective social program in America is not a government handout but a job.

City Services: We will continue to invest in our future. A new water filtration plant to improve our drinking water, unprecedented capital spending on schools, parks, and roads is our top priority. The people of Lawrence deserve the best and that is what I intend to give them.

Communicate with City Council: Lawrence is lucky to have such a dedicated new Council that really cares about our quality of life. I intend to work more efficiently with them than in my prior term. We may not agree all the time but I know that we can work together to tackle our biggest problems. I want to make Lawrence a place where we can all be proud to say we live. I am committed to making this the best place to live in this area

Mike Sullivan is the mayor of Lawrence and was just elected to a second term.

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The Nextel National Network reaches over 263 million people. Offers expire November 12, 2005 unless otherwise noted or while supplies last. Featured phone offers require two-year service agreement per phone, credit approval, new activation and data service subscription (\$10-\$20/month). Data service is free for one month, after which a monthly charge will apply unless canceled during trial period by calling customer service at 800-Sprint1. Free i205 Phone Offer: Free i205 is based on \$49.99 point-of-purchase price, plus \$50 instant or mail-in rebate where applicable. i275 Buy One, Get One Free Phone Offer: Buy two i275 phones for \$99.99 and get the price of one back as an instant or mail-in rebate where applicable. i530 Phone Offer: Savings on i530 is based on \$74.99 point-of-purchase price, plus \$25 instant or mail-in rebate (one rebate per phone purchase). Forms must be postmarked no later than November 18, 2005 and received no later than November 25, 2005 for the i205 free offer, the i530 savings and i275 Buy One, Get One Free offer. Allow 8-12 weeks after phone purchase, activation and mailing in of a complete and valid rebate form to receive rebate check. One rebate per phone purchase. May not be available in all markets. Full Terms and Conditions on rebate form or visit nextel.com/rebates. Free Incoming Plan: One-year contract required. Additional Fees: \$200 early termination fee after 14-day trial period (30 days in CA applies). \$36 activation fee per phone. Cellular: Free Incoming applies to calls received in the U.S. Nationwide long distance includes domestic long distance only. Overage (1.40/min). Partial minutes charged as full minutes. Nights (9:00pm to 7:00am). Weekends (Fri 9:00pm to Mon 7:00am). Other Terms: Nextel reserves the right to cancel/extend offers without notice. Offers may not be available in all markets. ©2005 Sprint Nextel. SPRINT, the "Going Forward" logo, the NEXTEL name and logo, the Focus On Driving logo and other marks are service marks and trademarks of Sprint Nextel. MOTOROLA and the Stylized M Logo are registered in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. All third-party product or service names are property of their respective owners. All rights reserved.



Carrero Passes Paternity Test

From Page 1

“Most importantly, fathers need to take responsibility for the children they father if these kids are ever going to have a fighting chance to succeed in life.”

Attorney Durland said that a case management conference is scheduled for January 3rd, 2006, “to lay out a timeline for the rest of the case.”

“A judge will look at everything at that point and we will have to see if Mr. Carrero will continue to contest or if an agreement can be reached on child support,” Attorney Durland said. “Different judges do different things,” he continued, “some judges will hear the facts of the case at a case management conference and some will not.

“Every judge is different. So we have no hard date as to when this can be resolved. I would only hope this doesn’t have to go any further in court and a settlement can be reached.”

Councilor Barbara Gonzalez was voted by the Lawrence City Council to fill the vacated seat of Nilka Alvarez last summer.

Since The Valley Patriot broke the exclusive story in our September edition, Spanish language newspapers and talk radio stations have vilified Councilor Gonzalez, making her the brunt of scathing personal attacks while defending Carrero as “a pillar

of the community,” saying Gonzalez’ allegations were “lies.”

A family member of Councilor Gonzalez who did not want to be identified for the story said that she was “disgusted by the public reaction in the Latino community.”

“They behave as though Ralph did nothing wrong and that Barbara is the only person responsible for what happened. It takes two to make a baby but, at least Barbara has taken responsibility for her mistakes. Instead of taking his share of the responsibility though, Ralph denied his involvement, denied being the baby’s father and refused to pay for his child.”

“This is a huge problem in the Latino community,” she continued. “The woman gets blamed, the man is given a free pass and then people wonder why so many Latino children are growing up without fathers.”

“This has been a tragic situation for everyone involved especially the child. I just hope that Ralph will be man enough to own up to his responsibilities now and not drag this out any further,” she said.

According to sources close to Carrero and Gonzalez, the two had a four year affair, whereby Gonzalez was separated from her husband while Carrero continued in his



Lawrence City Councilor Barbara Gonzalez had to file for child support and force Ralph Carrero to take a paternity test after a four year relationship that Carrero denied. The test shows with "99.999% certainty" that Carrero is the father.

marriage concealing his involvement with Gonzalez and their baby.

Sources say that Gonzalez had an apartment in Lowell where the two maintained their relationship, but when Gonzalez decided to reconcile with her husband and asked Carrero to help out by purchasing diapers for the baby, Carrero refused to provide any support.

“Certainly because of the nature of the relationship,” Attorney Durland said, “she (Gonzalez) had no choice but to file for child support and paternity in court. She had tried to work this out behind the scenes to avoid any kind of embarrassment but Mr. Carrero was not amenable to that,” she concluded.

Councilor Gonzalez refused to comment on the child support issue or the DNA test

proving Ralph Carrero is indeed the father of her child other than to direct us to her attorney. She asked that the Valley Patriot to “hold off” on the story so that a settlement could be reached privately.

Gonzalez was defeated in her quest for reelection last November by Lawrence School Committeeman Jorge Gonzalez (no relation). Barbara Gonzalez called for a recount but was not victorious.

Attempts to reach Ralph Carrero’s Attorney were unsuccessful while preparing for this story.

If you have any questions or comments about this story you can email us at ValleyPatriot@aol.com



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Ralph Carrero's Paternity Test



DNA
DIAGNOSTICS
CENTER

DNA Parentage
Test Report

Report Date 11/14/2005

Case 258536		CHILD	Alleged FATHER
Name		[REDACTED]	Ralph L. Carrero
Race			Hispanic
Date Collected		11-7-05	11-4-05
Test No.		258536-20	258536-30
Locus	PI	Allele Sizes	Allele Sizes
D8S1179	1.76	13 15	14 15
D21S11	27.24	31.2 32	29 32
D7S820	1.74	8 11	11
CSF1PO	1.98	10 12	10
D3S1358	3.20	16 17	17
TH01	1.89	7 9.3	7
D10C017	1.67	8 9	9 11
D16S539	0.92	9 11	11 12
D2S1338	1.41	17 26	17 23
D19S433	1.66	14	13 14
VWA	1.57	16 18	16
TPOX	2.03	8	8
D18S51	4.38	12 16	12
D5S818	1.68	12	12 13
FGA	1.84	21 23	21 25
Amelogenin		X	X Y

Interpretation Combined Paternity index 137,394 Probability of Paternity, 99.999%

The alleged father is not excluded as the biological father of the child names above. Based on the testing results obtained from analysis of the DNA loci listed, the probability is 99.999%. This probability of paternity is calculated by comparing to an untested, unrelated, random individual of the Hispanic population (assumes prior probability equals 0.50).

Subscribed and sworn before me on November 14, 2005

I the undersigned, verify that the interpretation of the results is correct as reported

Jennie A. Roberts
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires Dec. 29, 2009

Michael L. Baird, Ph.D.
Thomas M. Reid, Ph.D.
Mansur B. Ahmed, M.D.

Susannie C. Lee, Ph.D.
John W. Peterson, Ph.D.
Melissa D. Kalsar, Ph.D.



From the desk of Lawrence Superintendent of Schools Wilfredo Laboy



MCAS 2005: The Year of Hurricane *Karina*

Hurricane *Karina* took Massachusetts by storm when she blew away the competition. Karina Ovalles, a student at Lawrence High School, scored perfect 280's on both the 10th Grade English Language Arts and Math MCAS tests. *That's right, perfect scores on both tests!* No doubt she is a force to be reckoned with. In true Lawrencian style, not wanting her to feel lonely at the top, nine other Lawrence students decided to join her by each earning a perfect score on their MCAS exam. Van Le scored 280 on the 10th Grade Math MCAS.

Five 3rd grade students scored 40 out of 40 questions correct on the 3rd Grade Reading MCAS test. Three of these students, Daniel Calderin, Timothy Mooneyhan, and Edgar Santana, attended the South Lawrence East Elementary School, while the other two students, Luis Cruz and Carmen Darrach, were students of the Wetherbee School. Camilla Moreno, of the Parthum School, and Nicholas Massari, of the Leahy School, scored perfect scores of 280 on the 4th Grade ELA MCAS test and 4th Grade Math MCAS test, respectively. While nine is fine, ten is better. Nolan Dinero, of the Guilmette School, rounded out the pack when he earned his perfect score on the 5th Grade Science MCAS test.

All of these students and their parents were recently recognized for their accomplishments at the October 27, 2005 School Committee meeting where they were greeted with a standing ovation. In attendance at this meeting were Asst. Commissioner Julianne Dow, Supt. Eugene Thayer, Supt. Matt George, and Lynda Foisy of the *Massachusetts Department of Education Partnership Team*. The DOE team took turns presenting an award to each of the students. According to the Chairman of the School Committee, Mayor Michael J. Sullivan, "The DOE team was truly impressed by

the number of students that received perfect scores on MCAS. These students are a reflection of the good work that is being done throughout our district everyday. I am so proud of these students and excited about the wonderful futures they have before them. It is the hard work and determination of these children coupled with the support and encouragement of their parents that we are celebrating here."

In fact, the stories of Karina Ovalles and Van Le are even more outstanding when one digs a little deeper. These young ladies are both twins, Karina and Cristina Ovalles and Van and Tu Le, an amazing coincidence, right? Well, you may want to sit down now because it gets better, all four of these girls scored *Advanced* on the 10th Grade ELA and Math MCAS tests in 2005. These four young ladies are responsible for earning three perfect 280's, four extremely close-to-perfect 276's and a very respectable 264. Actually, the Le twins have scored in the *Advanced* category on **every** MCAS test they have taken, dating back to 2001 while attending the South Lawrence East School. Tu Le scored two perfect 280's on her 8th Grade Math and Science MCAS tests in 2003, Van scored 280 on the Science test too, of course. The Ovalles twins have also scored *Proficient* or *Advanced* on **every** MCAS test they have taken since 2001 while attending the Arlington School. The sky's the limit for these superstar twins!

If what Aristotle said is true, "*Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work,*" then it follows that Lawrence Public Schools employs many very happy teachers!



In general, more students in Lawrence Public Schools passed both the English Language Arts and the Math MCAS tests in 2005. In ELA, the district went from an average percent passing of 71.75% in 2004 to 72.25% in 2005. In math, the average went from 44.75% of students passing in 2004 to 48% passing in 2005. The greatest individual grade level gain was seen in 6th grade math where 44% of the students passed in 2005 as compared to 37% in 2004.

Emerging Trends in English Language Arts

* Grade 3 students are demonstrating a significant improvement (up 12%) in their ability to correctly answer open response type questions. In 2004, they answered

Continued on Page 20



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Sullivan: In Lawrence WE call it a Christmas Tree



Lawrence Mayor Michael Sullivan poses with some members of the Lawrence High School Choir. Pictured with Sullivan are Massiel Gomez, Christy Castillo, Staphanie Munoz, Jasiella Chaves, Sasha Marzaga and Lizbeth Perdomo.



Urban Legend Dispelled

Lawrence City Councilor Gil Frechette of Mount Vernon (District "E") greets Santa Claus at the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony at City Hall last week. Frechette was caught on camera (with Santa) by a Valley Patriot photographer for the first time ever. Putting to bed an urban legend once and for all, that Frechette really IS santa clause. At left, Santa Addresses the crowd from Mayor Sullivan's podium on Appleton Way.



Thank You for Your Service Once Again Our 2005 Valley Patriot Heroes



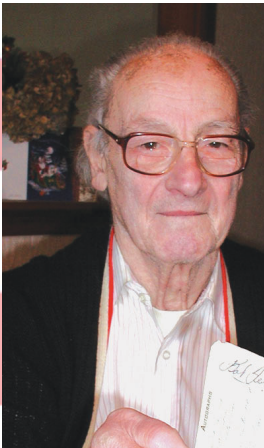
Tech.
Sergeant
Jeremiah
Sullivan
WW II



Sylvio
"SY"
Uliano
WW II



Corporal
Theodore
(Ted)
R.
Eaton
Korea



Michael
Buglione
WW II



Edward
"Ted"
Cole
WW II



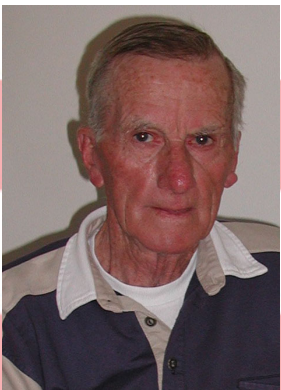
Charles & Edward
Boddy - WW II



Charles
Bruderer
Vietnam/
Iraq03



Jim
Mulligan
Vietnam



Alexander
"Alex"
Milne
WW II



Frank
Shimko
Vietnam



Harvey
Gibeau
WW II



John
Doherty
Vietnam

Principals for a Day



Community leaders volunteered to be principals for a day in the Lawrence Public Schools. The volunteers were honored at a reception hosted by Superintendent Wilfredo Laboy and Sal Lupoli of Sal's Pizza. From left to right, David Soleau from Flansburgh Associates (New Beginnings), Pastor Nelson Gonzalez from the Spanish Evangelical church (Frost), City Atty. Charles Boddy (S. Lawrence East Middle School), Judge Jose Sanchez (Guilmette School), Representative Willie Lantigua (Arlington Middle School), Ruth Tarbox (Arlington elementary School), Stephen Ives of the YMCA (S. Lawrence East Elementary), Randy Larson of the Boy Scouts of America (Bruce School) Markus Fischer of the Boys & Girls Club (Leonard School) Ms. Nimo, Pastor Dave Zagunis from the Spanish Evangelical Church (Wetherbe School), Mayor ike Sullivan (Superintendent for the day), and Lawrence Councilor Joe Parolisi (Parthum School). Not pictured are Lawrence Police Chief John Romero who spent the day at the Leahy School, Isabel Melendez, Atty Doreen Zankowski (Tarbox), and Representative Barry Finegold (Lawrence High).

The Time is Now!

Patrick Blanchette, *Poet Laureate* of the Lawrence City Council

*The walls are falling, the rugs are molding,
and the looks are telling
It's about time that the city
of Lawrence stops quelling
We all know that we need a state of the
art dwelling
So let's begin the telling*

*The people we look to help
are obviously those wearing the blue
For so many years the city has
had no interest nor showed
that they have a clue
As it's only been recommended
to be fixed by so many
and yet improvements are so few*

*For the time has come to be one in
support of Lawrence's blue
If only we can stick together like glue
The bond should be approved in a few*

*The state will not expend,
so let's show them we will spend so we
can build anew
The years have passed
and the time has come
for Lawrence to start being true*

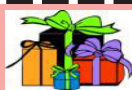
*It's been said that crime is down
Let's not put up a frown
For the time is now to build it
downtown!*



Veterans march in the North Andover Santa Parade last month



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Manzi Names Transition Team

Methuen Mayor Elect Looks to Group to guide Administration into the Future

Methuen Mayor Elect Bill Manzi last week announced the members of his mayoral transition team. The team, chaired by former Mayor Dennis DiZoglio, consists of a wide array of people, each bringing experience in government, the private sector, and community involvement.



The team will be charged with interviewing department heads, formulating a plan to ease the transition into a new administration and convey an overall methodology to the Mayor in an effort to streamline processes and make government work better for the people of Methuen.

In a recent letter to the department heads from the mayor regarding the transition Manzi said, "As I campaigned this past year for Mayor of the City of Methuen, my message was consistent - government can and must work together for everyone. Now that I have the privilege and honor to serve as the Mayor, my administration shall honor that pledge and make it an overriding principle throughout my administration."

The team will begin meeting with the department heads shortly and will formulate their findings in a report to the Mayor sometime in early January. Manzi added, "We are faced with the daunting task of transitioning from the previous administration to a new one but we can view the situation as more than a challenge. It can be an opportunity to open up the way government operates and make noticeable, marked improvements to the delivery of services to the citizens of Methuen. The lines of communication opened by this process will only make our ability to work together stronger and more effective."

Joining former Mayor Dizoglio on the team are, Bill Buckley, Corrine Lacharite, former Senator Jim Jajuga, Mary Ellen DiMarco, and Linda Soucy. Congressmen Marty Meehan, Senator Steven Baddour and Representative Arthur Broadhurst are also represented on the committee as ex-officio members.

Manzi Transition Team

Dennis A. DiZoglio is the MBTA Deputy General Manager. He started working for the MBTA as Director of Planning in January 2000 and was appointed Assistant General Manager for Planning and Real Estate in March 2002. From December 2002 to September 2005 Dennis served as Chair of the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization representing the Secretary of Transportation. His responsibilities at the MBTA were expanded in January of 2005 to include Environmental Affairs. In October of 2005 Dennis was appointed Deputy General Manager.

Prior to working for the MBTA, he served as the Mayor of Methuen for six (6) years, where he was the first Mayor of Methuen in 70 years.

He served three (3) terms before leaving due to term limits. Before being elected to Mayor of Methuen, Dennis was the Planning Director for the City of Peabody and prior to that for the City of Taunton. He holds a Master's Degree from Suffolk University and received his Bachelor's Degree from Merrimack College.

Linda Soucy has over 10 years of dedicated public service to the citizens of Methuen. She has held various positions in the city of Methuen, advocating for citizens of all age groups with issues related to the welfare of residents. In her present capacity

as Safe Haven Coordinator, students are able to receive assistance with class assignments at the After School Homework Center.

Ms. Soucy not only provides tutorial support, but offers a positive approach to problem solving the many challenges youth face in today's society. She has received numerous community awards for her untiring and determined efforts to improve the quality of life to the citizens of Methuen.

Among those many recognitions, Ms. Soucy was named "Woman of the Year" by the Eagle Tribune and "Crime Fighter of the Year" by former Governor William Weld and the Methuen Exchange Club. She is an active member of many community boards and advisory committees that address the needs of Methuen residents.

William J. Buckley is currently employed by Boston North Properties, LLC and oversees a variety of local real estate development and management projects. Prior to joining Boston North in 2002, Bill spent 11 years working in municipal government. From 1991 to 1999 Bill worked for the City of Lynn and led the transition team for Mayor-elect Patrick McManus in 1992.

He served as the mayor's Chief of Staff in Lynn and worked in the city's economic development and public works departments. In 1999 he became the Director of Economic & Community Development in the City of Methuen and guided the city through three plus years of rapid commercial and residential growth. Bill oversaw the successful completion of The Loop and helped to attract several economic development projects to the city. Bill received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Government from Wesleyan University in 1990 and resides in Methuen with his wife Kelly (Halloran) and daughter Kiley.

Corinne LaCharite is responsible for addressing the needs of over 8,000 elders presently residing in Methuen as Department Head and Executive Director of Methuen Elder Affairs, Ms. LaCharite works with the Methuen Council on Aging, a seven member city commission. She has been the Executive Director of the Methuen Senior Activity Center since 1989 where over 400 seniors participate daily in a wide variety of programs, services and activities. For the past ten (10) years, she has held the position of President of the Board of Directors for Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc., and is a member of several boards and advisory committees addressing the concerns of over 90,000 elders in the Merrimack Valley. As Department Head of Elder Affairs, this comprehensive position requires advocating to legislators concerning elder issues affecting the quality of life and working with area agencies to encourage and support elders living in their homes.

Jim Jajuga brings with him almost 40 years of public service. Beginning with a tour in the military, U.S. Marines, followed by 21 years in the Massachusetts State Police, then 10 years as a Massachusetts State Senator and recently as the Secretary of Public Safety for the State of Massachusetts, Sen. Jajuga has seen it all in the field of public safety.

The transition team will rely on not only his vast knowledge and experience in the public safety realm, but also his wealth of talents as a government official and elected representative of the people of Methuen.

A Christmas Tradition

Methuen's Festival of Trees

D.J. Beauregard



imagination unite.

This year's Festival of Trees started on November 19th, and ended on December 3 r d .

Approximately 207 trees were on display, and about 15,000 to 20,000 people w a l k e d through the Festival area located at the B r o o k s Properties office building on Branch Street. Festival worker Colleen Carney said that this year was "the best year yet."

A major part of the Festival each year is the tree created by Charles, the owner of Charles' Beauty Wellness in Methuen, and his mother Mary. This year's tree was titled, "The Spirit of Christmas Lies Within."

The winner of the tree does not win the actual tree, but wins the \$3,000 cash prize which is donated by Charles and Mary. Maureen Pollard, the President of the Festival of Trees organization, was excited about this years festival saying,: "You pay a cheap price to get the opportunity to win a tree that is worth thousands of dollars. It is truly a reasonable value."

Though thousands of Methuen residents attended the festival this year, the event doesn't attract only Methuen residents. People from all over the country visit Methuen each year just to see the Festival of Trees. According to Pollard, several people from as nearby as Maine, and even a visitor from California, visited the Festival this year. Jim Reynolds of Everett, Massachusetts was there for the first time with his son Connor. "The trees were very nice," Reynolds said. "Everyone who helped out did an excellent job."



The Festival of Trees is a great place to take your family during the holiday season. 9-year-old Mia Eliopoulous of Methuen was there with her family, and said that the Festival was "good," adding that she liked the tree decorated with dolls. Jim Winning of Methuen attended the festival to observe all the Christmas trees on display. Winning and his wife have been attending the Festival of Trees since it started in 1994 at the old Nevins Memorial Library. "The new location is more opening," Winning told The Valley Patriot.

The Festival was originally located at the library but was moved to the Red Tavern on Pleasant Street in 1996 because the popularity of the Festival had grown to a point where the library could n o t accommodate all the visitors.

The festival was moved again to the Branch Street location in 2003 following the sale of the Red Tavern. "There is room for m o r e imagination at our new venue (on Branch S t r e e t) . A n y t h i n g goes," Pollard said. She also noted that the surrounding businesses enthusiastically embrace the Festival each year. "Some donate their own trees," Pollard said.

This year, there is an expanded café, and a silent auction. The café serves everything from chicken salad and tuna fish sandwiches to Italian wedding soup and cheesecake with strawberries. The silent auction offers a variety of items which are donated by very creative individuals. There is also a lot of sports memorabilia as well, including a football signed by the New England Patriots' quarterback Tom Brady.

If you are looking for a place to spend time with your family, enjoy the holiday season, and enjoy a tasty lunch at the same time, then the Festival of Trees in Methuen is the place to be. For more information about the Festival, visit the organization's website: www.MethuenFestivalOfTrees.com.

D.J. Beauregard is The Valley Patriot's Methuen reporter. He was the campaign manager for Councilor Kathleen Corey Rahme's successful campaign for at-large city council. If you have a news tip in Methuen you can email him at methuendj@aol.com

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Methuen News

Kathleen Corey Rahme
Methuen City Council, Central District
Methuen Youth Corps Founder



Some (Post-Election) Random Thoughts

Who can forget the brouhaha of Election 2000 and the whole recount that followed? Although not as large, Methuen's At Large race recount of Election 2005 was no less important. The numbers were so remarkably close for the third place finish that a recount was requested. A mere five votes separated the second and third place. I finished on top with an eighty vote spread between me and Ken Willette. Steven Zanni came in third with only five votes separating him from Joyce Campagone who finished fourth in the race.

Victory was not in the vocabulary of Zanni for what must have seemed like an eternity. He could not relish the win with the recount looming over his head for over twenty days. We all received official letters from the City Clerk's office of the recount to be held on November 30 in the Great Hall of City Hall.

Interested parties could report to room 112 at 8:30 am to witness the movement of the ballots from the locked area. I watched as they loaded the plastic cases secured by orange ties onto a dolly and transported them upstairs with a police escort to the third floor. When we arrived in the Great Hall there were over 70 people present. Tables were set up and the people were anxiously milling about.

Tina Touma-Conway, the City Clerk, surrounded by her very capable team and the Board of Registrars of Voters, ran the entire event smoothly. The orchestration was something I will never forget. A gavel to order started the proceedings at 9:04 am. Everyone received a name tag for credentialing and workers were sworn in by the clerk. Touma-Conway delivered the ground rules in a no-nonsense fashion and to her credit she insisted that silence and order be maintained throughout the proceedings. As she put it, "the candidates deserve undivided attention and silence would be observed throughout the day and talkers would be removed." A police officer was present throughout the day. Also present were the City Auditor and the City Solicitor.

Anyone who was not credentialed was instructed to sit in the observation area. We no sooner got started when someone called out for a police officer. An observer had a bad spell in the hallway and was removed by gurney at 9:10 am. A very capable Lee Ann Condon who chaired the Board of Registrars gavelled a five minute recess. The recount resumed at 9:24 am.

The entire recount is governed by the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 54 section 135 (<http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/54-135.htm>). It is quite an interesting read and it clearly spells out the necessary steps to follow in order to have a recount.

Each such candidate or person may also be represented by agents, appointed by him or his counsel in writing, sufficient in number to provide one such agent for each officer counting or checking such ballots;

provided, that no such candidate or person may have more than one such agent, other than his counsel, witnessing the work of any one officer at any one time. Each such candidate, person, counsel and agent shall have the right to watch and inspect the ballots, tally sheets and all other papers used in the recount, and to watch every individual act performed in connection therewith (MGL 54.135).

Both Zanni and Campagone had two observers each for the tables with the two election workers. Campagone submitted the proper paperwork to have six precincts recounted by hand. The remaining five precincts were machine counted in

front of all observers. Ballots were counted out in lots of 50 and recounted. Tally sheets with candidates' names and fifty columns were given to the teams and a red pen and ruler aided in the recording of the votes on each ballot. Names were called out and recorded in intervals of mere seconds. Excitement filled the air. It was going to be a long day. If an objection was raised, the observer was to call out "objection" and raise their hand. Legal counsel, the candidate and the board of registrars along with the city clerk would then intervene. There were runners in the room to carry the questioned ballot to the board of registrars so arguments could be made.

Touma-Conway reminded the crowd that "intention" is what we are counting. If a ballot is clearly incorrect with four votes on the ballot for the three seat race, then it would not be valid. It would be counted as three blanks. You would be amazed how some of the ballots looked!

With all the rules in place, the chair gavelled to order at 9:52 am. Counsel for both candidates addressed the board and made statements and arguments about the proceedings. After all was said and done, it was determined the recount should go forward and it did at 10:09 am when the box for precinct #1 was opened. At 10:22 am the first group of 50 ballots each was distributed. They would fast and furiously until they finished the hand count at 1:18 pm. They broke for lunch and resumed at 2:00 pm for the five electronic voting machine reads. The whole process ended around 3:10 pm with Touma-Conway thanking all for their participation.

The end result gave Zanni an additional one vote lead over Campagone winning the At Large seat. The cost for the recount for the City of Methuen exceeded over \$5000. Both candidates incurred their own legal expenses. It really gives refreshed meaning to the notion that every vote counts. So the next time you think your vote won't matter, or you hear someone else say it, just remember what happened in Methuen during election 2005.

Kathleen Corey Rahme is the Central District Councilor in Methuen and founder of the Methuen Youth Corps. You can email her at kcoryrahme@comcast.net

Smart Growth in the Valley

Paula Porten



The Wood Mills in Lawrence was purchased by Bob Ansin of MassInnovation LLC. Ansin is converting the old mill building into housing, retail and commercial use.



Orit Goldstien, president of Ozzy Properties in North Andover (the former Lucent Technologies site on Rt. 125) discusses her plan for a 40R development project complete with residential, retail and commercial use.

Something BIG is Happening in Lawrence

While Orit Goldstein is awaiting approval of North Andover Town Meeting for the 40R zoning change to her smart growth project, (see story, right) Lawrence is well on the way of its having its own "smart growth" community all under one big roof.

Thanks to the efforts of Robert Ansin, Founder, CEO and President of MassInnovation, LLC, the Wood Mill at 250 Merrimack Street is undergoing a major overhaul, converting the once thriving textile mill into a mix of apartments, condominiums, office space, entertainment venues and shops.

Ansin's project is called "Monarch on the Merrimack," because, as Ansin says, "the project started as a caterpillar and is blossoming into a beautiful butterfly."

As with Orit Goldstein's Lucent project, Bob Ansin is also quite proud and enthusiastic about his smart growth project.

Ansin purchased the Wood Mill building two years ago and has been slowly converting the massive structure that once housed thousands of Lawrence textile workers into a compact community within a community.

Ansin says that he is giving tours of the site at "Monarch on the Merrimack" complete with rooftop penthouse-lofts that can be purchased at pre-construction rates.

Ansin is also seeking retailers and entertainment venues to move into the Wood Mill, such as restaurants, bookstores and other commercial development to bring a community feel to the building.

Ansin's plan calls for parking in the lower level garage that will be available for outright

purchase and penthouses on the top floor, overlooking the Merrimack River.

The building was scheduled for its grand opening to coordinate with the new Patricia McGovern Transportation Center grand opening on December 6, 2005. The transportation center is directly across the street from the Wood Mill Building.

William Wood built the textile mill in 1906 and today there is over 1.3 million square feet of space available.

The building is minutes from Routes 495 and 93, and stands across from the new MVRTA intermodel [??] transportation center. The building is located 45 minutes from Boston by commuter rail, with excellent access to mountains, the shore and new Hampshire.

The project is in phase 1 called: live, work, play. The design calls for retail stores located on floors 1 & 2, with office space on floors 3-6.

Residential space is split with condos separated on one side of the mill and rentals on the other. There will be 195 units, with 75 rental and 120 condominiums. Some units have mezzanines, private terraces and roof decks. Ansin says he has had a "tremendous response" in recent months including a jazz club, restaurants and even Café Paradiso from Lowell have signed on as tenants.

For further information, you can call 978.683.2901 or check out the website at www.massinnovation.com

If you have a questions or comments about this story you can email us at valleypatriot@aol.com

Mixed Zoning Plan a Win for N. Andover

Orit Goldstein, President of Ozzy Properties, has big plans and big ideas for the property she purchased at Lucent Technologies. Two years ago, Goldstein purchased the Lucent Plant and has been working with state and local officials and the community to develop the property at 1600 Osgood Street by building an all inclusive community. The "Smart Growth" community, which Goldstein is promoting includes residential, retail and industrial, all in one.

When The Valley Patriot sat down with Goldstein, she was very excited and enthusiastic about the project. She is looking to receive millions of dollars from the state by creating a new zone, 40R.

Under the Town Charter, she will have to get approval at Town Meeting for the zoning change. The zoning change article was originally on the Warrant at the December 5th Special Town meeting, but because of delays in obtaining traffic studies, the warrant article was removed by the Selectmen, with the approval of Goldstein.

Goldstein is hopeful and optimistic that there will be another Special Town Meeting in January or February for her warrant article.

Right now, she is just trying to speak to as many people and provide information about her plans for the site. Selectmen are also scheduled to hold several public meetings, giving Goldstein further opportunities to explain her project and the need of the zoning change to 40R.

The purpose of the Chapter 40R legislation is to "encourage smart growth and increased housing production in

Massachusetts. Smart Growth is a principle of land development that emphasizes mixing land uses; increases the availability of affordable housing by creating a range of housing opportunities in neighborhoods; takes advantage of compact design; fosters distinctive and attractive communities; preserves open space, farmland, natural beauty and critical environmental areas; strengthen existing communities; provides a variety of transportation choices; makes development decisions predictable, fair and cost effective; and encourages community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions."

She has handouts, which further explains about 40R and the benefits to North Andover, including much needed tax revenue.

At the '05 Annual Town Meeting, North Andover voters approved a TIF (tax increment financing plan) for the property to help promote and generate business. "The TIF only applies to the manufacturing portion of the site." Says Goldstein, in reference to some confusion that it may apply to the residential part of the project. The 40R portion of the property is the area on the right, which is to be both residential and retail.

The property includes a 300 seat auditorium, which is a free benefit to business at the property. Right now, the plant is operating at 30% occupancy, 25% to Lucent and 5% to other tenants, including NECCO's corporate training. North Andover's Community Development is also scheduled to move in.

"North Andover has been very good in providing extra support when showing potential tenants" says Goldstein.

Goldstein is a big supporter of "Smart Growth", which is her plan for the site. She says her plan will generate much needed tax revenue for the Town.

A fiscal impact study was done and is being peer-reviewed by North Andover. She believes that the study shows a net positive fiscal impact of \$300,000 after factoring in all services, including schools, DPW, police, etc. The study also shows about 84 new students from the plans of 3 and 4 bedroom condos.

Under the 40R proposal, North Andover reaches the 10% affordable housing requirement under Chapter 40B. Without the 40R plan, 307 units of affordable housing



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Continued on Page 20

Book Keepers Corner

MORE GUNS LESS CRIME!

Dr. Charles Ormsby

The relationship between gun laws and crime rates has long been presumed to be obvious. For many years it was considered an article of faith that laws banning firearms or making gun ownership less common would reduce crime rates. Even many supporters of Second Amendment rights thought gun control laws might diminish crime, but believed the right to bear arms took precedence.

The prevailing view on the value of gun control laws to secure our safety is now changing and that change is largely due to John Lott's research on such laws and their impact on crime rates. The results of Lott's study are summarized in his book, "More Guns, Less Crime."

John Lott did not approach this research as a partisan in the gun control wars. He previously was the chief economist at the U.S. Sentencing Commission and has published more than eighty articles in academic journals.

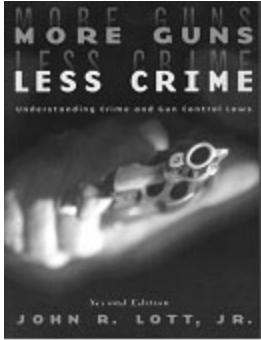
Lott's research represents the largest and most comprehensive study of crime statistics and their relationship to gun control laws ever conducted. He is an expert in statistical analysis and has provided his data to other researchers so that they may independently verify his results.

While the book discusses the statistical problems associated with interpreting crime data – for example, determining cause vs. effect, controlling for other variables, etc. – the casual reader can skim these more technical details while focusing on the study's results.

One of Lott's techniques is to take data from all of the counties where changes in laws related to obtaining handgun permits have been enacted, shift the data so that the date the law was changed is aligned, and then analyze the crime rates in the period leading up to the change and during the years that followed the change.

The nearby figure provides one of Lott's composite results — the overall violent crime rate per 100,000 population before and after passage of laws to permit the carrying of concealed handguns. The results may shock you: violent crime drops substantially after right-to-carry laws are passed – almost 30 percent within seven years. Similar results

are obtained for murder, rape, robbery and burglary.



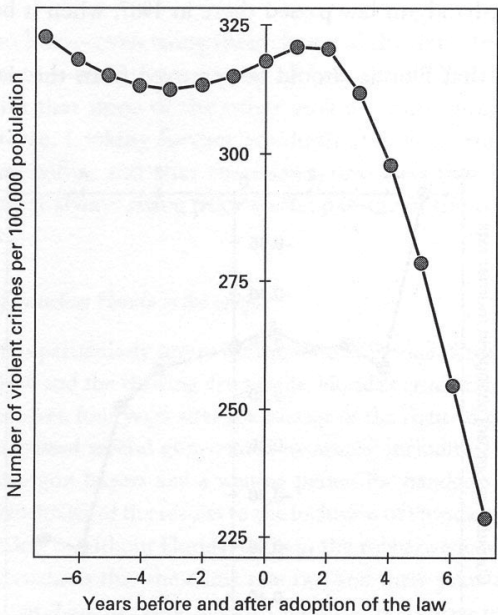
Beyond changing the law, the percentage of the population that subsequently chooses to obtain a permit to carry also impacts the degree that crime is reduced. In fact, Lott finds that a one percent increase in the number of residents having handgun permits results in a 7 percent reduction in violent crime, a 4 percent reduction in murder, a 7 percent reduction in rape, a 13.6 percent reduction in robbery, and a 10 percent reduction in burglary.

If you find these statistics difficult to accept, put yourself in the shoes of the criminal. Where would you rather ply your trade, in an area where 20 percent of adult citizens owned guns and had a permit to carry, or an area where the population was disarmed?

If you hesitate in your response, take it from Sammy "The Bull" Gravano, the mafia turncoat who, when asked about gun control, said, "Gun control?

It is the best thing you can do for crooks and gangsters. I want you to have nothing. If I'm a bad guy, I'm always gonna have a gun." When asked about laws requiring safety locks, he replied, "Safety locks? You will pull the trigger with a lock on, and I'll pull the trigger. We'll see who wins."

After "More Guns, Less Crime" was published, John Lott was, as you might expect, attacked by the gun control crowd.



The bias and distortions were so extreme that Lott wrote a follow-up entitled, "The Bias Against Guns, Why Almost Everything You've Heard About Gun Control Is Wrong."

While both books are very readable, the second book is somewhat less analytically oriented and may be more suitable

for the casual reader.

"More Guns, Less Crime," by John R. Lott, is published by the University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL. "The Bias Against Guns, Why Almost Everything You've Heard About Gun Control Is Wrong," by John R. Lott, is published by Regnery Publishing, Inc., Washington, D.C.

RAISE 'EM RIGHT™

Barbara Peary, M.Ed.

"HEY!"

My teenager is a great student, has friends and is generally courteous to adults. Really at this stage we have no complaints. But when she answers the phone or runs into people on the street it is always "hey" instead of "hi" or "hello." To me, this sounds extremely rude, especially answering the phone this way.



Now that my children are grown, I am considering applying for a position as an aid in a child care center. I enjoyed working with my own children, but what other qualities are needed?

She'll grow out of it. If this is your only complaint, live with it and say nothing.

I have heard my son, who is 10, taunting other children with his friends. I tell him it is not nice to tease, how would he feel, and on and on, but it doesn't seem to be getting through to him.

There is a movement in the schools and elsewhere to stop bullying which is technically harassment of individuals. One person spearheading the project is Peter Yarrow (of "Peter, Paul and Mary" folk singing fame). Information on the program called Operation Respect: "Don't Laugh at Me" can be found at www.dontlaugh.org. Materials are available to individuals, schools and other organizations free of charge. Written resources geared to children in grades two through five or grades six through eight can be ordered from the site along with a video. Obtain the materials and watch them with your child. You may also want to share this information with your child's school if you see this as a concern in your area. Teasing and bullying are nasty behaviors, but they are habits that can be changed.

Some questions you might ask yourself: Do you genuinely like all children? (not just your own), Would you be satisfied spending each day on the job interacting more with children than with adults? Do you have the energy level needed to keep up with an active group of children?, Can you see the humor in situations?, and Are you patient, flexible, and resourceful? If you answer these affirmatively, you would have some of the characteristics directors seek.

My home is safety proofed for my young children. Stair guards are in place, safety plugs are in the sockets, emergency numbers are posted for the sitter. Anything else I should be doing?

In addition to having the Poison Control Center predominantly on you list of numbers, go to a pharmacy and buy syrup of ipecac and charcoal in case of accidental poisoning. Remember that the best course of action if a child is poisoned is to call the Poison Control Center. At times antidotes given on the bottles of sprays, paints, and other toxic substances have been incorrect.

Please send questions to RAISE 'EM RIGHT™, P.O. Box 831, Carlisle, MA 01741 or e-mail to RAISEEMRIGHT@aol.com.

Help! My Child Lies

By Dr. Noel Swanson

Lying infuriates adults. The funny thing is, though, that it is the adults that often set the child up. It goes like this: Mother has just heard that Greg was throwing stones at someone: "Greg, what have you been up to this afternoon?" [What, you expect me to confess if you don't know?]

"What do you mean? Nothing," he says, with an innocent, puzzled, expression. "Did you throw stones at that new girl?" [Hmm, maybe I can get away with this.]

"No.," he answers, startled that you could think such a thing of him. "Well Mavis says you did."

"Well it wasn't me, it was some other kid." [Surely she will believe her son before a neighbour!] "She seems pretty sure it was you."

"Well, she's wrong, it wasn't me!" First Mum tempts him to lie to wriggle out of it, and she corners him with the lie. It is showdown time. What will Mum do? Is she confident that Mavis is totally reliable?

Or is there some shadow of doubt? Greg seems to be pretty insistent, what if it was some other kid? If she lets him off, she will have to apologise for doubting him. If she convicts him, it will be double punishments, one for lying and one for throwing stones.

Most children will lie to get out of trouble. Your job is to encourage them to tell the truth, not tempt them to lie more. That means that there must be some definite benefit for confessing, rather than trying to wriggle out of it.

First you need to lay some foundations of truth and honesty in your home. Make sure that you, yourself, don't lie. Get into the habit of noticing and rewarding honesty

and truthfulness. Talk about the value of honesty, and a good reputation.

Demonstrate that honesty is a Good Thing, and that it gets rewarded. Then, when you do suspect your children of some misdemeanor, stay calm. If you know what they have done, do not ask them, "Did you do it?"

Why tempt them? Tell them what you know, and dish out the consequences. On the other hand, you can invite them to tell you the truth. This is how it might be done:

"Greg, Mavis has told me about something she saw this afternoon. I would like to know what happened. But before you tell me, I want you to go away and think about it for 15 minutes. And remember, we value honesty in this household."

Greg now has time to calm down and decide whether to dig himself in deeper, or to cut his losses and come clean. If he confesses, praise his honesty. If, after this, he still lies, then it is double the punishment, once for lying and once for the "crime".

Either way, once things have calmed down, talk about the feelings of anger, envy, or insecurity that may have led to the behaviours.

Show that it is okay to have such feelings, but feelings don't excuse bad behaviour. Be patient, they won't talk until they know it is safe; that you won't "blow up" at what they say.

Dr. Noel Swanson is a consultant and child psychiatrist. You can purchase his good child guide at <http://www.good-child-guide.com>. You can email Dr. Swanson at thegoodchildguide@comcast.net

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John Doherty, Hero in our Midst - From page 1

photography taken over denied areas such as Cuba, Germany, Hungary and Vietnam.

During this period, John was itching to go to Vietnam and see action. His country was at war and, therefore, that was where he should be. The Army saw things differently. They saw John's language major from Harvard and his maximum score on the Army Language Aptitude Test and sent him to Verona, Italy. John repeatedly requested re-assignment to Vietnam and even offered to switch with other soldiers being shipped to Nam, but the Army always refused. In May of 1966, after 11 months in Italy, John got his wish and was assigned to the 55th Military Intelligence Detachment at Nha Trang, Vietnam.

At Nha Trang, a beautiful port on the coast of Vietnam just north of Cam Ranh, John was assigned prisoner interrogation duty but he continued his quest to be assigned to a combat unit. Eventually, he was told to "find a home." So he did.

John picked the 2nd Battalion of the 7th Cavalry (2/7th Cav) – famous because it was originally General Custer's unit. John felt at home in the 2/7th Cav. He was assigned to provide specialized intelligence for II Corps – one of Vietnam's four military regions.

Soon after being placed with the 2/7th Cav, Gen. Westmoreland assigned John's unit to a province that was nearly overrun with Viet Cong. The province had a very weak Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) presence and Westmoreland wanted it cleaned up. The 2/7th Cav was heavily armed and was just the unit to do it. John was assigned to plan raids and ambushes against the Viet Cong. Having previously faced the weaker ARVN forces, Charlie was unprepared for



the highly professional, cutting-edge 2/7th Cav forces that came at them with "an attitude." The local Viet Cong were destroyed.

John had access to high-level intelligence, radio intercepts and information from local agents. One of John's responsibilities was to determine the enemy's "order of battle" – i.e., the specific units deployed by the enemy and their past history, so that they could be effectively engaged. John interrogated numerous prisoners who felt fortunate to be captured by American forces and not by the South Vietnamese, since ARVN soldiers were known for their brutality.

John, promoted to captain at this point, recalled his use of a "lie detector" machine during interrogations. The unit had two large colored lights on top, one red and one green. The unit had a switch under the table to control the lights. The machine didn't reveal anything about the truth of a prisoner's answers, but it had a powerful psychological effect. As John sat behind the desk with his pistol on top, his bayonet stuck in the desktop, and a mean-looking ARVN soldier/interpreter by his side, he would ask questions and control the lights. He would turn on the green light when routine questions were asked and when the prisoner was likely telling the truth. When John asked a more sensitive question or suspected a prisoner might be lying, he would flip on the red light and the ARVN soldier, seeing the red light, would jump out of his chair and run towards the prisoner with a half-crazed look on his face. To the prisoner, it was all very believable ... heck, if the Americans could invent a way to see in the dark — night vision devices — they could probably invent a truth detector.

During this period, John took possession of a very valuable prisoner/defector. He had come into camp sick with malaria and dysentery and with one of the surrender leaflets that were scattered by US/ARVN troops.

He was faced with either dying or defecting and decided on the latter. This was not your usual prisoner! He was French/Vietnamese, 6 feet 1 inch (most Vietnamese were 5 feet tall) and was very well educated ... at the Sorbonne! He had graduated from the Soviet Airborne School at Ryazan and had a great deal of high-level intelligence to offer. When word got to Gen. Westmoreland in Saigon, John was ordered to "protect him with your life" and a helicopter was soon dispatched to bring the prisoner to Saigon.

When John's first tour of duty in Vietnam was over, he decided he really liked what he was doing and wanted a second tour. After completing a 30-day leave of absence — granted to all soldiers who signed up for a second tour — John reported back to Saigon expecting to be reassigned to the 2/7th Cav. However, that was not what the Army had in mind. Instead he was sent to the Ancient Imperial City of Hue in I Corps - the military region closest to North Vietnam. At first, John was very disappointed. While he initially didn't want to change units, he came to like his new assignment. He was now working with the ARVN 1st Infantry Division - the best unit in the South Vietnamese Army.

John now interrogated prisoners from the North Vietnamese Army – NVA – and, using intelligence gained from them and other sources, became the I Corps target coordinator. In this role, he planned radar-based air strikes, naval gunfire, and even B-52 strikes - including a series of secret B-52 missions known as "Arc Light."

John's second tour took a different twist when an Australian warrant officer attached to the 1st ARVN Reconnaissance Unit was wounded and John was assigned to take his place. Finally, John was in the field with ARVN forces ... a group of about 100 soldiers ... conducting very quiet, sneak-and-peek operations in one of the more dangerous places in Vietnam.

During this period John was living off C-rations and rice, sleeping in hammocks to avoid rats and snakes, and spending his days walking through rice paddies. John's ARVN liaison was 1st Lt. Tan, a 31-year old Vietnamese who had been fighting the communists since he was 15-years old. Sixteen years of wartime experience develops good instincts. John noted that Lt. Tan often picked trails that avoided potential ambushes and/or minefields.

On one occasion John had to overrule Lt. Tan and, sure enough, they entered a mined area. John stepped on something odd but it didn't explode ... at least not until John had



moved away. John pointed at the questionable object to warn others, but it was too late. A South Vietnamese soldier lost his foot when the mine exploded. John believes it was only the heavy mud surrounding the mine that kept it from "springing" apart and exploding when he took his foot off it.

John had a lot of respect for the enemy. Their soldiers were very resourceful and changed tactics quickly when needed. They were tough and fatalistic. NVA soldiers routinely had tattoos that said, "Born in the North - Died in the South." They were dedicated and ready to die. Many ARVN soldiers were equally brave. Some would dress up as NVA soldiers and infiltrate enemy positions to gain needed intelligence.

In December 1967 the previously wounded Australian returned and John was re-assigned to his former duties in Hue. He might have thought this would be less dangerous, but he would have been wrong.

On January 31, 1968 at 2:40 a.m., John was sleeping in his compound in Hue. He was just south of the "Perfume" river that divided Hue. Suddenly, all hell broke loose. Mortars, 122 mm rockets, and RPGs were exploding all around his compound. Hue was ground zero for the largest North Vietnamese attack of the war - the Tet Offensive.

John's first reaction was, "What the <expletive deleted>?" He could see the explosions and RPG trails. He pulled his boots on and grabbed his AK-47. The building was being plastered with enemy fire. He could see the green tracers from enemy rounds being fired in his direction. He and fellow soldiers returned fire, shooting at shadows and muzzle flashes throughout the night. A mortar struck near John's position and he was wounded in the right leg.

Specialist 1st Class Frank Doezeema probably saved John's life. Doezeema was manning a machine gun and faced the first

massive assault of NVA troops. He gunned down three NVA soldiers attempting to set demolition charges. When he was finally hit by an RPG, he still continued to fire at attacking units. Regrettably, the RPG had blown off Doezeema's leg and he died before he could be given the needed medical care. He was later awarded the Army's Distinguished Service Cross.

The day before the attack, John noted that he had traveled through Hue in the open on a routine assignment. At the time, NVA forces were already in Hue in force, but were still awaiting the order to attack. John, almost certainly, passed right through NVA positions and was an easy target but they held their fire.

The battle of Hue raged on for a month. During the first week of the battle, John went on numerous missions within the city to attack enemy positions and to free trapped friendly forces. On one occasion, John's patrol rescued two senior ARVN officers who were surrounded by NVA forces.

On February 7th, 1968, John went on an impromptu patrol near the local soccer stadium. As he and others were slowly moving from tree to tree, Gunnery Sergeant George P. Kendall, Jr. stepped in front of John and took an entire burst from a Soviet RPD machine gun - a burst that was probably meant for John. In the ensuing battle, an RPG struck near John and shrapnel hit John in his right knee. He was eventually able to hobble back to his compound a quarter mile away, at which point he was dressed down for engaging in "unauthorized combat."

After having his wound tended, John returned to the scene of the battle to retrieve Kendall's body and do a little payback. He returned with an M42 Duster – a tank chassis armed with several 20 mm cannons. After obliterating the enemy machinegun position and retrieving Kendall's body, his unit was on its way back to the compound when John was hit by friendly fire. One of the men in John's unit was not a trained infantry soldier, since even cooks and bottle washers were in the fight at this point. When he was told to point his 40 mm grenade launcher away from his fellow soldiers and toward the enemy, he mistakenly fired it into the ground. After the grenade bounced off the ground and a nearby wall, it exploded and wounded John in the same knee that just took shrapnel.

Unfortunately, the new wound required some real surgery and there was no more morphine. All that was available was Darvon, but the surgery to extract metal from John's knee went ahead anyway.

John wasn't evacuated from Hue until February 14th. It wasn't a routine evacuation. John was loaded into a Huey helicopter with a pilot and a door-gunner. After takeoff, they



flew 10 feet above the river at 85 knots and then right over thousands of NVA troops. The NVA were everywhere! John had 5 magazines of ammo and, despite being wounded, fired out the door continuously during his evacuation. The helicopter was hit numerous times, including rounds through the door and into the bulkhead that John was propped up against. Only 5 rounds were left when John ceased firing.



John made it to Saigon, but the city was also under attack during the Tet Offensive and John's combat wasn't over yet. A few days later, word was received that another attack was imminent. Sure enough, at midnight the attack came. A mortar round landed across the room — about 20 feet from John — and he again received shrapnel wounds, this time to his back, face, and head. His helmet was also dented and he couldn't hear anything or focus his eyes.

On the 14th of February 1968, two weeks after the Tet Offensive had begun, and 7 days after John had been scheduled to complete his tour and become a civilian, he was finally evacuated from Vietnam. This time he was glad to leave, but he refused to hand over his rifle until he was safely on the waiting Continental Airways 707. John didn't feel entirely safe until he was out over the Pacific, and for good reason; mortar explosions were still erupting on the airfield as they started their takeoff roll.

John officially left the Army on February 20th, 1968. After returning to Andover, John worked for Raytheon for a short period and then attended Boston College Law School. After graduation, John was a prosecutor for 14 years – the last 4½ at the federal level. He married his wife Denise in 1984 and has a 16-year-old daughter, Margaret. John switched to a private law practice in Andover in 1984 and continued his legal career until 1998 at which time he took his current position as the town's Veterans Service Officer.

Capt. John Doherty, thank you for your service.

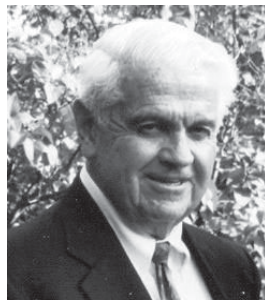
Capt. Doherty has been awarded the Bronze Star, three Purple Hearts, the Vietnamese Medal of Honor, two Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry, and two Vietnamese Wound Medals (earned while he was an advisor to ARVN Forces).

Each month the Valley Patriot honors American servicemen and women. To nominate a veteran to be honored as a Valley Patriot of the month, please email us at valleypatriot@aol.com.

Senior Moments

with Jim Cassidy

A Rose for Christmas



"It's never too late to be all you can possibly be." These profound words and the following inspirational story were told to me by a young friend of mine.

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi, handsome. My name is Rose. I'm 87 years old, can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" And she gave me a giant squeeze.

"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married and have a couple of kids..." "No, seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I am getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milk shake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me. Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up!

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her 3x5 cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed, she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order, so let me just tell you what I know."

As we laughed, she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day; you've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year, and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am 87 years old, and stay in bed for a

year and never do anything, I will turn 88. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The deal is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change.

Have no regrets. We elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets." She concluded her speech by singing the "Rose." She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives.

The Rose

Some say love, it is a river

That drowns the tender reed

Some say love, it is a razor

That leaves your soul to bleed

Some say love, it is a hunger

An endless aching need

I say love, it is a flower

And you it's only seed

It's the heart afraid of breaking

That never learns to dance

It's the dream afraid of waking

That never takes the chance

It's the one who won't be taken

Who cannot seem to give

And the soul afraid of dyin'

That never learns to live

When the night has been too lonely

And the road has been too long

And you think that love is only

For the lucky and the strong

Just remember in the winter

Far beneath the bitter snows

Lies the seed that with the sun's love

In the spring becomes the rose.

At the year's end, Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. Just before Christmas, Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over 2,000 college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be. Merry Christmas to Rose, to all my loved ones and to all my friends.

Jim is Vice-Commander of American Legion Post #219. He served as a combat infantryman in WWII, fighting in France and Germany with the 70th Infantry Division. You can email him with questions or comments at: Cassperry@aol.com

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Laboy: MCAS SCORES

From Page 11

37% of the *open response* questions correctly. In 2005, they answered 49% correctly.

* The percent of *Students with Disabilities* earning passing scores increased significantly in grades 4 and 7. The percent of *Students with Disabilities* that passed the Grade 4 ELA MCAS test increased from 37% in 2004 to 45% in 2005 and in grade 7 the percent increased from 51% in 2004 to 56% in 2005.

* The percent of *Regular Education* students that earned a *Proficient* or *Advanced* score increased from 46% in 2004 to 50% in 2005 in grade 7, and in grade 10 the percent increased from 28% in 2004 to 36% in 2005.

* In grade 7, the percent of *English Language Learners* earning a passing score on the ELA MCAS test increased from 40% in 2004 to 49% in 2005.

* Significant gains were made by grade 7 students in their ability to use *standard conventions* correctly in their writing compositions. The score went from 71% correct in 2004 to 78% correct in 2005.

Emerging Trends in Mathematics

* The percent of students earning *Proficient* or *Advanced* scores increased in grades 6, 8, and 10. Furthermore, Lawrence High School doubled their percent of students scoring in the *Advanced* range, doubling from 5% to 10%.

* The percent of *English Language Learners* earning passing scores increased significantly in grades 6 and 10. Grade 6 showed a rate of improvement of 50% from 2004 to 2005 and 29% for grade 10 from 2004 to 2005. Also, the percent of *English Language Learners* earning a *Proficient* or *Advanced* score on the Grade 10 ELA MCAS test increased from 2% in 2004 to 10% in 2005.

* The percent of *Students with Disabilities* earning passing scores increased in grades 8 and 10. The most significant gains were made in Grade 10 where 12% more of *Students with Disabilities* earned a passing score.

* The greatest gains were made in questions relating to *Patterns, Relations, and Algebra*. At the elementary and middle school levels, students increased from an average of 40% correct to 47% correct.

Emerging Trends in High School Competency Determination

* More students in the Class of 2007 earned MCAS competency determination by passing both ELA and Math on their first attempt (46%) than any previous year.

Wilfredo Laboy is the Superintendent of schools in Lawrence you can email him at wlaboy@lawrence.k12.ma.us

Cuddle Parties

From Page 7

time. Gestures of affection are so natural and spontaneous they don't even think about it. It's a bigger problem for them to find something to eat or acquire even a subsistence-level job.

At first I thought it was a touchy-feely, infantile idea. But then I read an article someplace by a social worker who said there are emotionally isolated people, many but not all of them elders, that go months or even years without ever touching another person or being touched. That is tragic. So it's time for bold action.

To be honest, cuddle parties are not for me. I have a fulfilling life, and I don't trust strangers that much. But if one is needy, is cuddling with strangers any worse than wasting time and money looking for fulfillment in nightclubs, roadhouses, wakes, and ham and bean suppers at the church?

Bold new ideas are still incubated in America. New "needs" are still nurtured. After you have identified what you really want, you can make it happen here. There'll be Cuddle Party franchises soon. Karl Marx would call it decadent late stage capitalism. This is going to be big.

Chart 1. Percent of students earning passing scores in English Language Arts.

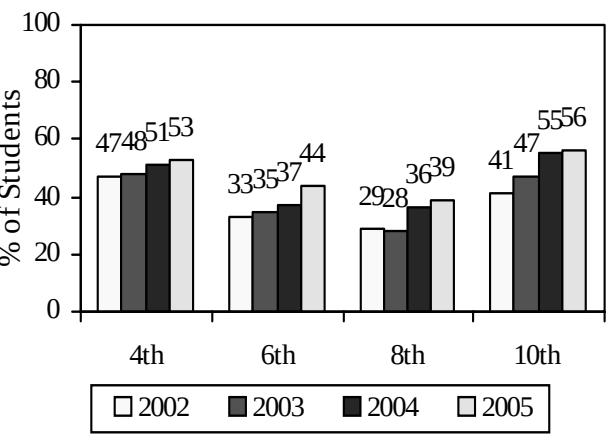
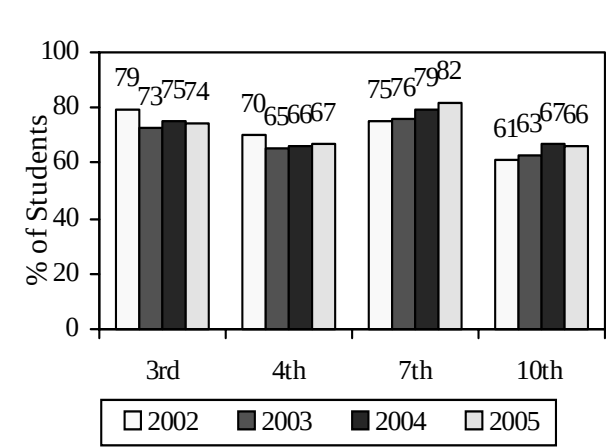


Chart 2. Percent of students earning passing scores in Mathematics



Wet My Beak: From Page 5

he has the backing of the police powers of the state.

So, Ozzy Properties, here is the deal: pay-up or risk losing your right to develop your property as you would like. Some say, "The ends justify the means." This is a silly thing to say. Of course, the ends should always justify the means, otherwise why do it? The question is: do they?

The "ends" in this case are all the wonderful things town government can do with the MM. The MM will probably be enough to put an extra police cruiser on the road, keep a second ambulance funded, and hire several additional teachers - all for several years. Or, because MM is "one-time" loot, it could be used to help fund some one-time projects: Maybe some MM could be used for an extra fire station, some for a new police station, and some towards a new elementary school. Wow, I'm sure many of our citizens would be excited to get these for Christmas!

But "the means", in this case, are to attack the rights of the property owners by threatening their right to use their property as they see fit. It is, at most, a slight exaggeration to call it extortion. The dictionary tells us that **extortion** is "the act of, or an instance of, wresting or wringing (money, information, etc.) from a person by violence, intimidation, or abuse of authority."

Extortion may seem like a harsh descriptor, but that is only because, when it comes to government, we have become accustomed to it. Have no doubt about it. What is going on in North Andover with regard to Ozzy Properties is common practice. North Andover's officials are doing nothing different than officials of any town or city would do under similar circumstances. Heck, in Methuen money was "extorted" from Brooks Pharmacy by the city and then part of it given by the mayor to a private charity. The uproar is not that the money was extorted, but that it went to the charity. The response was, "Hey, that's our loot! Why did you give it to them!" Of course, they didn't call it "loot" - even if that is what it was.

As a society, we are getting used to stealing. It is a way of life for government at all levels. Unfortunately, the attitude is contagious. When Katrina hit New Orleans and the police were nowhere to be found, looting became the norm. If you want it and you can get away with it, take it. Don't worry about property rights. You want it - you take it. Because you can.

Orit Goldstien: From Page 16

would be required for North Andover to achieve the 10%.

Under Goldstein's plan, there will be 225 rentals and 425 condos, with 25%, or about 85 units, being affordable housing. The 40R plan allows for all of the 225 rentals to count toward the 40B. Added to the 85 affordable housing units and the total is 310, over the 307 to achieve the 10%.

Some benefits to 40R include residential units being taxed and assessed at 100% valuation and economic development along Route 125. The biggest incentive though, is the 2.55 million from the State as an incentive for creating 40R zoning and housing. \$1000 per unit or \$600,000 upon approval of the Overlay zone and then \$3000 per unit upon issuance of building permit.

North Andover is presently first in line for funding. However, the project first needs the approval at Town Meeting. Goldstein hopes that she will not have to wait until May's regularly scheduled Town Meeting to obtain approval.

Basically, if the zoning is not approved, then North Andover remains approximately at 5.9% of affordable housing and subject to the 40B regulations where developers can usurp local zoning regulations for low income and affordable housing.

Goldstein was also optimistic about having a train station at the site as well, but that has been temporarily put on hold. A study being done by the State has recently halted because the study was to include North Andover as a idling stop. North Andover and Goldstein does not want an idling stop in town.

Goldstein is anticipating such retail stores as a supermarket, like Wild Oats.

For more information or to contact Orit Goldstein, please call 978 475-4569 or look for the public meeting notices in the January Valley Patriot.

Some may claim that the shareholders of Ozzy Properties don't really lose anything. They knew this would happen, it's planned for in their budgets, and they will build the cost into their rents and the selling prices of any units sold. But Ozzy Properties can't arbitrarily set its rents or selling prices. The market determines those values.

One might argue that, since this is common practice, it is already built into the market prices. The extent to which this is true is exactly the degree to which you and I pay for this practice every day in the form of higher housing prices and higher prices for consumer products. There is no free lunch. The resources for those extra goodies —fire stations, teachers, schools, etc.— must come from somewhere. Ultimately, we pay for them just the same as if we had to pay a new tax.

Normally, I would just observe this process, shake my head in disgust, and go on with life. But, because I am an elected official, I am closer to the action and feel more personally responsible. I would feel even more responsible if I were a selectman or a member of one of our boards that votes on development projects (e.g., the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Appeals). As a school committee member, I have little or no power in the matter.

Unfortunately, there may still be a perception of complicity, so let me be clear on this issue. I happen to like the proposed development (pending review of the recurring cost impact), but my approval is irrelevant. As long as there are no significant negative impacts on the town's infrastructure or environment, and as long as the recurring impact is at least covered by projected tax revenues, I think Ozzy Properties should be free to develop their property as they see fit. Barring some new revelation regarding the project's impact, I will vote for the zoning change without any need for Ozzy Properties to "pay up" for my vote or support.

Our first encounter with a new neighbor should not be extortion. All I have to say to Ozzy Properties is, "Welcome to North Andover. Be a good neighbor. I hope we will wet our beaks through our own efforts."

Dr. Ormsby is a member of the North Andover School Committee. He is a graduate of Cornell and has a doctorate from MIT. If you have any questions or comments, you can contact Dr. Ormsby via email: ccormsby@comcast.net

Laboy From Page 8

potential. Latinos have become a political, social, and economic force to contend with. To be Latino is to be in style. Public and private industries are taking notice.

Mary Lou Bergeron: Given Mr. Laboy's Ethnic background, the work will be easy for him. An Anglo leading this organization would be in trouble because of the language.

Carlos R: Superintendents have enough work that must be taken care of daily as I have read in the newspapers. It does not seem to end. What will your duties be?

Wilfredo T. Laboy: I will be representing the association in many national gatherings and events. I will be the official spokesperson for ALAS. I will speak and present at national conferences, work with public and private agencies, professional organizations and associations, and be involved in the industry of education, meeting with elected officials, and CEOs of major corporations. I will serve on national a taskforces in the "K through 16" educational industry. These duties are not all inclusive, but only some of the things that I will be expected to perform for ALAS.

Mary Lou Bergeron: The new Superintendent's duties will be difficult. First, he will expand membership and reach out to Latinos, Anglos, and youth. He will prepare next year's national conference. He is required to locate good quality speakers to come to the conference.

Carlos R: How long is your term?

Wilfredo T. Laboy: As the elected President I will serve on the Board of Governors and my term will expire in two years.

Mary Lou Bergeron: He should serve one to two years. Mr. Laboy, as the (ALAS) president, will help the community to work together. It will be the key for him to get to other districts to bring ideas that will help communities.

Carlos Ramos is a Member of the Lawrence School Committee

Capital Punishment Opponents Have Blood on Their Hands

Dennis Prager



Those of us who believe in the death penalty for some murders are told by opponents of the death penalty that if the state executes an innocent man, we have blood

on our hands.

They are right. I, for one, readily acknowledge that as a proponent of the death penalty, my advocacy could result in the killing of an innocent person.

I have never, however, encountered any opponents of the death penalty who acknowledge that they have the blood of innocent men and women on their hands.

Yet they certainly do. Whereas the shedding of innocent blood that proponents of capital punishment are responsible for is thus far, thankfully, only theoretical, the shedding of innocent blood for which opponents of capital punishment are responsible is not theoretical at all. Thanks to their opposition to the death penalty, innocent men and women have been murdered by killers who would otherwise have been put to death.

Opponents of capital punishment give us names of innocents who would have been killed by the state had their convictions stood and they been actually executed, and a few executed convicts whom they believe might have been innocent.

But proponents can name men and women who really were — not might have been — murdered by convicted murderers while in prison. The murdered include

prison guards, fellow inmates, and innocent men and women outside of prison.

In 1974, Clarence Ray Allen ordered a 17-year-old young woman, Mary Sue Kitts, murdered because she knew of Allen's involvement in a Fresno, Calif., store burglary.

After his 1977 trial and conviction, Allen was sentenced to life without parole.

According to San Francisco Chronicle columnist Debra Saunders, "In Folsom State Prison, Allen cooked up a scheme to kill the witnesses who testified against him so that he could appeal his conviction and then be freed because any witnesses were dead — or scared into silence." As a result, three more innocent people were murdered — Bryon Schletewitz, 27, Josephine Rocha, 17, and Douglas White, 18.

This time, a jury sentenced Allen to death, the only death sentence ever handed down by a Glenn County (California) jury. That was in 1982.

For 23 years, opponents of the death penalty have played with the legal system — not to mention played with the lives of the murdered individuals' loved ones — to keep Allen alive.

Had Clarence Allen been executed for the 1974 murder of Mary Sue Kitts, three innocent people under the age of 30 would not have been killed. But because moral clarity among anti-death penalty activists is as rare as their self-righteousness is ubiquitous, finding an abolitionist who will acknowledge moral responsibility for innocents murdered by convicted murderers is an exercise in futility.

Perhaps the most infamous case of a death penalty opponent directly causing the murder of an innocent is that of novelist Norman Mailer. In 1981, Mailer utilized his

influence to obtain parole for a bank robber and murderer named Jack Abbott on the grounds that Abbott was a talented writer. Six weeks after being paroled, Abbott murdered Richard Adan, a 22-year-old newlywed, aspiring actor and playwright who was waiting tables at his father's restaurant.

Mailer's reaction? "Culture is worth a little risk," he told the press. "I'm willing to gamble with a portion of society to save this man's talent."

That in a nutshell is the attitude of the abolitionists. They are "willing to gamble with a portion of society" — such as the lives of additional innocent victims — in order to save the life of every murderer.

Abolitionists are certain that they are morally superior to the rest of us. In their view, we who recoil at the thought that every murderer be allowed to keep his life are moral inferiors, barbarians essentially. But just as pacifists' views ensure that far more innocents will be killed, so do abolitionists' views ensure that more innocents will die.

There may be moral reasons to oppose taking the life of any murderer (though I cannot think of one), but saving the lives of innocents cannot be regarded as one of them.

Nevertheless, abolitionists will be happy to learn that Amnesty International has taken up the cause of ensuring that Clarence Ray Allen be spared execution. That is what the international community now regards as fighting for human rights.

Dennis Prager is a radio talk show host, author, and contributing columnist to the Valley Patriot. (c) 2006 www.creators.com

New Era of Opportunity, Innovation Valley From Page 5

product exchanges could be an overall boon for the region.

There are several models we are learning from. Below is a quick summary of two:

•England's National Industrial Symbiosis Program (NISP) (<http://www.nisp.org.uk/>): This is a national by-product exchange database and industry paring service. In their own words: "NISP is the first industrial symbiosis initiative in the world to be launched on a national scale...NISP is a business led initiative. It facilitates links between industries from different sectors to create sustainable commercial opportunities and improve resource efficiency." The NISP database currently has information on 1094 resource streams at 463 sites across their UK network. It is easy to see how this approach, with a similar database and paring service, could be applied to the Merrimack Valley.

Kalundborg Industrial Symbiosis (<http://www.symbiosis.dk/>): In June of 2004, Seth Itzkan had the pleasure of touring what is commonly believed to be the world's leading example of an industrial symbiosis ("eco-industrial network").

The location is Kalundborg Denmark, a city of 20,000 on the northwest cost of the Zealand province. Their symbiosis is a comprehensive resource flows network involving several major industries, including the country's largest oil refinery and its largest coal fueled power plant. There is nothing tentative or small scale

about it. They estimate that each year they are saving \$15 million in operating expenses and resource expenses, reducing their ground and surface water intake by 3 million cubic meters, and diminishing their oil demand by 20,000 tons.

Green Chemistry

Of course, Eco-Industrial Networking is not the only energy saving innovation that shows promise for the region.

The Merrimack Valley is also home to the world's only Ph.D. program in Green Chemistry, a field that is revolutionizing product design and manufacturing (<http://www.greenchemistry.uml.edu>).

This program is offered through the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and has promise to become a boon for job creation and industry interest. Green Chemistry is an emerging practice in chemistry that designs toxicity out of the manufacturing process. This, as it turns out, is done through low-energy techniques that produce similar or superior products without the toxic effects and with reduced energy production needs. According to the program director, John Warner, American industry spends almost as much on environmental compliance as it does on research and development. Clearly, if the toxic factors of the products and their production could simply be designed out of the manufacturing process, it would be a huge advantage. Indeed, this is just what is happening.

Applications for green chemistry principals are being applied to all manner of manufacturing: from microchips, to photography, to adhesives. If it can be made, it can be made safe. Warner believes that Green Chemistry manufacturing could help the Merrimack Valley Region to reinvent itself as a leader in industrial innovation, and it's easy to see why.

Hydropower – The Dammed and the Undammed

No stranger to hydropower, the flow of the Merrimack River today is used to generate electricity at sites up and down its route. From Bow, New Hampshire, near its source, on down to Amesbury, Massachusetts, near its mouth, there are long established and prototype power plants.

One particularly compelling innovation in this area is known as undammed hydropower. These are underwater turbines that spin like windmills. No damming is required. The Merrimack with its quick flow and wide basins is well suited for this type of technology. Currently the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust is supporting a prototype installation in collaboration with Verdant Power and GCK Technology.

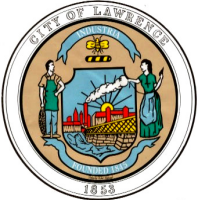
Conclusion – Industry Interest

In conclusion, we are happy to see the growing interest from the industrial and economic development sectors for energy saving and innovative approaches to business growth and retention. Particularly,

we are happy to see the involvement of the Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council, Inc. (<http://www.mvcouncil.com/>), and the creation, through their leadership, of the Eco-Industrial Networking / Green Chemistry Roundtable.

This roundtable, comprised of business, academic, and government interests, has the ambitious goal of moving forward with both Green Chemistry and Eco-Industrial Networking efforts in the Merrimack Valley. We salute their efforts, and look forward to seeing the fruits of this labor translated into a new era of economic growth and quality of life enhancements for the Merrimack Valley.

John Michitson is President of the Haverhill City Councilor and has been a councilor for 10 years. He is also a manager and electrical engineer at the MITRE Corporation in Bedford, MA. This is Michitson's last year in politics. You can email him at michitson@mitre.org. Seth Itzkan is president of Planet-TECH Associates, a consulting agency identifying innovations in economic development. Recently, Mr. Itzkan helped The Boston Foundation to conceptualize and implement their Hub of Innovations tool. You can email him at seth@planet-tech.com



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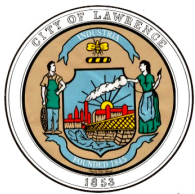
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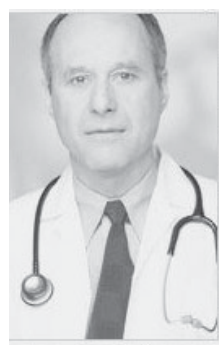
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Department of Public Works
NOTICE TO MOTORISTS

sec 19-72. Parking prohibited during certain months between 12:01am and 6:00 am on public streets, alternate sides on alternating days on certain streets. During this period from December 15, 2005 to March 15, 2005 annually, between the hours of 12:10am and 6:00 am vehicles shall, unless otherwise prohibited by law, be parked alternating on a daily basis, on one side of the street only. On the even numbered days of the calendar, vehicles shall be parked on the even numbered sides of the road and on the odd numbered dates of the calendar the vehicles shall be allowed on the odd numbered sides of the street.

The parking of vehicle, in accordance with this section, shall be allowed only on streets where the width of the roadway between the curbs and or elongated cure lines measure not less than thirty feet according to the records kept by the city engineer, and shall not be allowed in any area otherwise prohibited as aforesaid. Vehicles parked in violation of this section are subject to being towed under the direction of the authority in charge of snow removal: such vehicles shall also be subject to being towed upon the direction of the Chief of Police or such sergeants or other officers as the chief of police may from time to time designate.

Anyone who parks or stands vehicle on any part of any way under the control of the city such a matter as to impede in any way the removal of plowing of snow and ice, or in violation of any ordinance which prohibits the parking or standing of all vehicles on such ways or portions thereof at such time and which resulted that whoever violates such ordinances shall be liable to change for the removal and storage of the vehicles as well as subject to punishment by fine, shall be subject to such punishment. Charges for towing the motor vehicles removed for the violation of this section and subsequent storage fees shall be in accordance with DPW rates.

All vehicles left on city owned land which have been immobilized by accident or mechanical failure or which are unregistered, uninsured or uninspected shall be removed in accordance with the forgoing regulations. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the portions of the following streets which are designated as State Highways: Jackson St., North of Berkeley St. to the Methuen line- Rt. 110. Riverside Drive, west of Ames St. to the Methuen line. Winthrop Avenue section of Osgood Street; south by Waverly Rd., South Broadway from LaSalle Ave to Andover Town Line, South from South Union St. to South Broadway, South Union from the railroad tracks to the Andover Line. R.O.1954sec 18-74 4-2-56, sec 12-10-76, sec 1:1 1-12-76, sec 1: 10-1876, sec, 1: 12-8-76, sec 1: 2-14-78, sec 1: 3-19-78, sec. 1)

(Lawrence 12-82) 398.2



PUBLIC
NOTICE
City of Lawrence
Emergency
WINTER PARKING BAN

In the event of a snow storm prior to December 15, 2005, or after March 15, 2006, residents will be asked to adhere to the alternate side of the street parking ordinance where parking is allowed.

If you have any questions please call
(978) 794-5754

Frank McCann, Jr.
Director of Public Works

Pick Up Your Copy of The Valley Patriot at These Locations

Lawrence (South)
Beacon & Mt. Vernon St./Purple Box
*C1 Buffet/ Winthrop Ave
Carleens/CVS Plaza, S Broadway
Donovan's Liquor/ S. Broadway
Dunkin Donuts/Rt 114
Dunkin Donuts/Andover St.
Edna's Beauty Salon/ 61 Genesee St.
Evergreen/S. Union St.
HEE BIN Restaurant/S. Union St.
Hess Gas Station/S. Union St.
Jim's Subs/S. Broadway/Purple Box
*Julie & Wendy's/S. Broadway
Jilly's/South Union St.
Knights of Columbus /Market St
L.Lawrence Store/S. Union St.
Leo's Auto/South Broadway
Lightship Liquors/S. Union St.
Lydick Photography/Parker St.
*McCann's Liquor Store/So. Union& Andover
Mt. Vernon Variety/Beacon St.
Packard Pharmacy/Parker St.
Police Substation/Parker St.
Post Office/S. Union St.
Registry Motor Vehicles/Rt 114/Purple Box
Saint Patricks Parish Center/E. Kingston St.
Silva's Package Store/Winthrop Ave/Rt. 114
*Store 24/South Union St.
*Store 24/ South Broadway
Sunshine Laundry/Parker St.
The Cell Phone Store/523 S. Union St.
Tony's Convenience/Parker St.
Walgreens/South Broadway
Dr. Weinstein/Showcase Plaza

Lawrence (North)
Box at 255 Essex St
7/11 Convenience Store/Lowell St.
Alex's House of Pizza/East Haverhill St.
Arlington Liquors/Broadway
Balli's/ Essex St. /Essex
Broadway Liquors/Broadway
Brunswick House/Essex
Cafe Azteca/Common St.
*City Hall/200 Common St. /Purple Box
Chamber of Commerce/Essex St
Cmty. Partnership for Children/Essex St
Community Development/Haverhill St.
Dunkin Donuts/(500 Block) Essex St.
Elaines Pizza/Hampshire St.
Firefighters Credit Union/Methuen St.
Hanson's Liquors/Haverhill St.
Head Start/ Essex St.
*Italian Kitchen/Common St.
Hess/Broadway
Lawrence Post Office
Lawrence General Hospital/General Street
Lawrence Police Station/Lowell St.
Lawrenc Library/Lawrence St.
L&R Market/Howard St.
Mary Immaculate/Maple St.
M. V. Hair Design/East Haverhill St.
MVRTA Bus Stn./Common St./Purple Box
North End Deli/Common St.
*Northern Essex/Franklin St.
Perotta's Drug Store/Prospect St.
Pronto Pizza/ Broadway
School Department/Essex
*Senior Center/Haverhill St.
Sweeney's Liquors/Essex St.
Sons of Italy/Marston St.
Tarshi Law Office/Essex St.
Top Donuts/Lawrence St.
Tower Hill Variety/Ames St.
White Hen Pantry/Haverhill St.
Xaviers Night Club/Lawrence St.
*YMCA/ Lawrence St.
YWCA/Lawrence St.

North Andover
A Unique Miracle/Main St.
Bay State Chowda/Main St.
Brooks Pharmacy/Rt. 114
China Blossom/Rt. 125
CVS/Main St.
DeMoulas-Mkt Basket/Rt 114
Dunkin Donuts/Main St.
Eagle East Aviation/Sutton St.
Forgetta's Flowers/Rt. 125
*Harrison's Roast Beef/Rt. 125
Health South/Cross Roads Mall
J&M Pizza/Salem St.
J&M Subs/Main St.
Joe's Variety/Waverly & Middlesex St.
Knights of Columbus/Sutton St.
Lawrence Airport/Sutton St.
La Semana/Main St.
Mail Box Ect/Route 114
Main St. Barber Shop/Main St.
Main St. Hardware/Main St.
Main St. Liquors/Main St.
Natures Cleaners/Main St.
North Andover Library/Main St.
North Andover Town Hall/main St.
Perfecto's Café/Butcher Boy Plaza
Pizza Factory/Rt 125
Police Station/Osgood St.
Richdals's Convenience/Rt. 125 (near Haffners)
Richdals's Convenience/Sutton St.
Sal's Pizza/Rt. 125
Senior Center/Main St.
Silver Cleaners/Route 114 Jasmine Plaza
**Star Market /90 Main St
Star Pizza/First St.
Super Stop & Shop/Rt. 114
The Vineyard/Route 114
TJ Max Market Basket Plaza/Route 114
Val's Breakfast/Main St.
VFW/Rt. 125
Village Kitchens/200Sutton St.
Lowell
Box outside Council on Aging
WCAP Radio/Central St.

Haverhill
*110 Liquors/Rivers St. Rt. 110
7/11 River St./Rt. 110
*Abeers Train Store/Route 113 & 110
Academy Liquors/Academy Plaza-125
American Legion Post 4/Rt. 125
American Grocery Store/Main St.
Ari's Pizza/S. Main Rt. 125
Athens Pizza/Route 110 East
Azzi Bakery & Café/Main & White St
Belzer Real Estate/Riverside
Ben Consoli Realtors/297 S. Main St
Benny's Food & Spirits/Rt. 125
Biggies Pizza& Subs/Rt. 125
Bradford Liquors/Main St.
Broadway Convenience/B.Way Rt97
Century 21 Mc Lennan & Co./679 S. Main St
Chicks Roast Beef/Rt 125
Citco-Quick Mart/Rt. 125
Citizen Center/Welcome St.
*City Hall/Summer St.
Coldwell Banker/40 Davis Building Rte 110
Cosomos Family Rest/Route 125
CVS/River St.
Equity One/Blockbuster Plaza
Golden Comfort Laundry/River St. Rt. 110
Haverhill Post Office
Haverhill Beef/Washington St.
Havehill House of Pizza/Route 113 & 97
Haverhill Super Subs & Pizza/Main St
Heavenly Donuts/Rt 125/75 Main St
Hilldale Laundry/
Hilldale Pizza & Subs/Hilldale Ave
Joe's One Stop/Rt 110
Kenoza Variety/Kenoza Ave.
Laundro-Mat/Academy Plaza - Rt125
Library
Lil Peach/Dudley Plaza Main St
Lottery One Stop Market/Rt 97 Broadway
Main St Variety/421 Main St
Marias Family Rest/Essex St
Market Basket/Rt. 125/River St.
MeadowLawn Food Store/Hilldale
Mediterranean Pizza & Subs/Kenoza Ave
Mr Mike's Rest./Rt 125/ 1149 Main St
Old Town Realty/389 S. Main St
*Oriental Garden/Route 110 Kmart Plaza
Perk City/Rt. 125
Remax/Rte 125 S
Shell/Rt.125
Sunoco/River St.
Sal's Just Pizza/Lafayette Square
Townline Pizza/Main St.
Train Station/Washington St./Red Box
Vernon Martin Realty/Main St.
VFW/Kenoza Ave
Walgreens Pharmacy/Rt 125
Walgreens Pharmacy/River St./Rt 110
White Hen Pantry/Route 110
White Hen Pantry/Academy Plaza - Rt125

Methuen
American Legion/Broadway
Arlington Liquors/45 Broadway
Borelli's Deli/Merrimack St.
Brooks Pharmacy/The Loop
Brooks Pharmacy/Pleasant ValleySt.
Carolina's Convient/462 River St
*China Buffet/Rt. 28
*City Hall/Pleasant St.
COCO Early RE/Route 28
Conlin's Pharmacy/Lawrence St.
Cosmo's/Riverside Dr.
Country Kitchen Coffee Shop/Hampshire St.
Elizabeth's Grocery/71 Broadway
Galloway Store/70 Pelham St
Giordanno Gas and Food/Merrimack St.
George's Bakery/Spruce St.
Heavenly Donut/Merrimack St.
Holy Family/East St.
Howe St. Suprette/Howe St.
Jackson's Restaurant/Rt. 110
Kim Sing Chinese/Hampshire St.
Lobster Den/Merrimack St.
Market Basket/ The Loop
Market Basket/ Haverhill St.
*Methuen Family Rest/Route 28 Methuen Ctr
Methuen Package Store/Lowell St.
*Methuen Police Station/Hampshire St.
*Methuen Senior Center/Main St.
Methuen VFW/Merrimack St.
Methuen House of Pizza/Merrimcak St.
Methuen Liquors/Lawrence St.
Mister Wok/Merrimack St.
Patriot Laundry/Merrimack St.
*Piro's Bakery/Merrimack St.
Pleasant Valley Suppette/Merrimack St.
Post Office/272 Broadway/Purple Box
Priscilla's Restaurant/Rt. 110
Quick Stop Mkt./Haverhill St.
Quick Stop 2/Lowell St
Rostron's Liquor Store/Hampshire St.
Royal House Of Pizza/456 Lowell
*Shoppers Square/ Rt. 28
*Super Stop & Shop/The Loop
Thwaits Market/Railroad St.
Valley Liquors/Merrimack St.
Valley Laundry/Merrimack St.
Valley Pizza/Merrimack St.
WCCM/Merrimack St.
Whirlaway Sports/500 Merrimac Street
White Hen/Merrimack St.
Wash In Laundry Mat./Jackson St.

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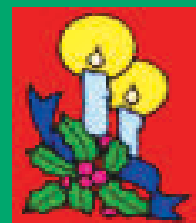
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