SHARING INSPIRATION: Veteran Stephen McDonald of Chelmsford, left, told his fellow graduates he found support at Middlesex after he was injured in Iraq. At right, actor Hill Harper, who has starred in the shows CSI: NY and Covert Affairs, urged graduates to be bold.
THE ROADS TAKEN

This year's graduating high school seniors are using their past successes to help guide their next step — whether it's military service, a two-year school, or a Division I collegiate sport.

WHAT THE CLASS OF 2013 DID STATEWIDE AFTER GRADUATION

- **28.6%** 4-year private college
- **30.3%** in 2008
- **29.3%** 4-year public college
- **27%** in 2008
- **22%** 2-year public college
- **20.7%** in 2008
- **7.3%** Work
- **9.3%** in 2008
- **2.4%** Military
- **1.6%** in 2008

**AREA SCHOOLS THAT LED EACH CATEGORY**

- **76%**
  - Weston High School
- **53.2%**
  - Medway High School
- **30.1%**
  - Joseph P. Keefe Regional Technical School, Framingham
- **34.6%**
  - Minuteman High School, Lexington
- **7.5%**

SOURCE: Mass. Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education

NOTE: Figures do not include all categories

---

Two-year schools an economical gateway to higher learning

**Schools with major jumps in graduates planning to attend public colleges**

**TWO YEAR COLLEGES**

- **50%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Hudson High School
- **40%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Minuteman High School
- **30%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Hingham Regional High School
- **20%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Holliston High School
- **10%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Wellesley High School

**FOUR YEAR COLLEGES**

- **50%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Concord-Carlisle High School
- **40%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Holliston High School
- **30%**
  - 07-08 12-13
  - Wellesley High School

SOURCE: Mass. Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education

---

**Two-year schools an economical gateway to higher learning**

*By Jennifer Ferrin Lefferts, Ellicot City, Md.*

For 19-year-old Concord resident Miranda Cashman, the thought of asking her parents to pay $50,000 a year for a private college education didn’t make sense when she had options in the state’s public higher education system. Cashman spent two years attending classes at Middlesex Community College in Bedford, including one year while she was still in high school, earning her associate’s degree. She will now transfer to the Commonwealth Honors College at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the fall, majoring in geology.

“I’m a practical person — I’m a scientist — so, yes, the money factors in for me,” Cashman said. “It’s silly to pay $50,000 or $60,000 a year for a university that isn’t necessarily better. I’m not at all disappointed about UMass Amherst. I’m really excited about it.”

Cashman is among a growing percentage of Massachusetts high school public schools.
Two-year colleges provide a cheaper option for students

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
Continued from Page 4

Graduates choosing public higher education over private.

It's a great pathway for financial reasons, and with the MassTransfer program, they are continuing to work to improve it so credits can transfer pretty seamlessly.

"At Massasoit Community College in Brockton, there has been a huge increase in the number of students looking to transfer to four-year schools, said Evan Desatnick, coordinator of transfer affairs and articulation at Massasoit.

Enrollment in transfer programs offered at Massasoit has doubled, from 1,734 in the fall of 2009 to 3,587 students last fall.

Desatnick said his position was created about a year ago to help coordinate the growing trend and to provide faculty and students the assistance they need to work through the system.

By working with students early on, they will have a better idea of what classes will be transferable, Desatnick said.

"At Massasoit, it's the fiscal piece. We're providing students an opportunity while they are still with us to earn college credits and remove a lot of the barriers."
“The Sundance Kid” Lands in Lowell

He captured the world’s attention playing a turn of the century outlaw as Butch Cassidy’s (Paul Newman) laconic dead-shot, the Sundance Kid. Then he went on to create the nonprofit Sundance Institute for advancing the work of independent storytellers in film and theater. Robert Redford’s legendary career spans 30 years and includes everything from acting and directing to championing environmental and human rights causes. Few actors have ever had a resume with the quantity and quality of work as Redford’s and on Friday, June 20 at 8pm, you can catch a glimpse of the American icon up close and personal as he takes over the Lowell Memorial Auditorium stage for Middlesex Community College’s Celebrity Forum. Redford’s appearance in Lowell follows two months after his friend and former co-star, Meryl Streep, visited the city for UMass Lowell’s second annual Chancellor’s Speaker Series. When asked by one young fan how she liked working with Redford in Out of Africa, a smiling Streep replied, “Way too much.” Standard seating $45, Premier seating $65.

lowellauditorium.com
Pelosi pushes women’s economic agenda in Lowell campaign swing

By Katie Lannan
klannan@lowell sun.com

LOWELL — U.S. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi’s bus tour promoting a women’s economic agenda started in Seneca Falls, N.Y., home of the first women’s rights convention. On Monday, it rolled into Lowell, hometown of the Mill Girls who Pelosi said she looked to for inspiration.

“We pride ourselves on being weavers, that we work at a loom, just as those women did in Lowell, Massachusetts so many years ago,” Pelosi said of the House Democratic caucus. “And we weave in all of the thinking to build the strongest possible consensus.”

Joined at Middlesex Community College by U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas of Lowell and congresswomen from across the country as part of the “When Women Succeed, America Succeeds” tour, Pelosi promised to fight for paid sick leave, affordable child care and fair pay, including both raising the minimum wage and closing the pay gap between men and women.

“Many women work for the first three months of the year for free, because they make 70 cents on the dollar for what men make,” Pelosi, the former House speaker, said after the rally. “And if that would be an African American woman, that’s more like 64 percent, and if that would be a Hispanic woman, it’s more like 55 percent. They could be working almost half the year for free because of the disparity in income.”

Appealing directly to women in a key strategy for Democrats in this year’s elections, according to a memo from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

The Democratic Party plans will include

Please see RALLY/10

Former U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, center behind banner, brought her women’s issues rally to Lowell Monday. Here the House Minority Leader poses outside Middlesex Community College with Lowell High students, and others, from left, Laurie Fonfier, 18, attorney Zolia Gomez of Lawrence, U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas, and students Rehama Rwakabuba, 17, Gelis Bio, 17, and Mabeta Rwakabuba, 19 (Rehama’s sister).
Pelosi pushes women’s economic agenda

RALLY/From Page 1


Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi waves as she exits the bus for Monday’s women’s rally in Lowell. Following her is U.S. Rep. Katherine Clark.

Angelo, a political science student and Lexington native, said after the event that she valued the chance to hear from strong women leaders.

“IT was so empowering,” Angelo said. “It made me feel good that these women have been so successful.”

Follow Katie Lannan on Twitter and Youtubetan-nan.

recruiting female candidates and turnout and engagement efforts targeting unmarried women, a group likely to not participate in midterm elections after voting in 2012.

Tsongas said having women in public office is a key component in giving a voice to the issues that affect women and their families.

“If women don’t have a seat at the table, then we’re not on the menu,” Tsongas said, drawing cheers. “And we don’t taste very good.”

Pelosi shared tales, which she said she’d heard on a listening tour, of how economic policy affects real-world women. She mentioned a school-bus driver in Connecticut who told of needing sick kids get on her bus each day because their mothers couldn’t afford the time off to care for them.

Other congresswomen on the tour were Massachusetts Fifth District Rep. Katherine Clark and Reps. Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut, Donna Edwards of Maryland, Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas, Doris Matsui and Jackie Speier of California, Joyce Beatty of Ohio, Jan Schakowsky of Illinois and Lois Frankel of Florida. All are Democrats.

Frankel called on the crowd to take action for women.

“Vote, donate, get your friends to vote, contact our colleagues, demand your rights,” she said. “Chain your-
On the first night of their five-day bus tour from New England to the Midwest, a group of more than a dozen Democratic congresswomen started laughing so hard they were gasping for air.

Rep. Lois Frankel (D-Fla.), speaking on a conference call with the tour’s staff and volunteers Sunday night, was trying to say that Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) had conceived of the idea for the bus tour and planned it. But she ended up saying, “Rosa gave birth to this bus,” and her colleagues lost it.

"The leader, she was egging me on," Frankel said on the bus the next morning, referring to House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). "I mean, the image of Rosa giving birth to a bus! The leader cracked up, so I cracked up. And then I was trying to say who was on the bus, and I couldn't get one of the names right, and every time I tried it got worse."

"I've been on a trip with the leader before," Rep. Doris Matsui (D-Calif.) chimed in. "and I knew that once she started laughing, I just had to look away."

The camaraderie among the congresswomen was evident as they barreled through Massachusetts on a bus with a giant slogan splashed on the side: "When Women Succeed, America Succeeds." At each stop of the tour, which started in Seneca Falls, N.Y., and ended in Chicago on Wednesday, the lawmakers would pile out of the bus and talk to a gathering of mostly women voters about what's at stake in the November midterm elections, including Democrat-sponsored proposals like equal pay legislation, paid family and medical leave, expanding affordable childcare for working parents and raising the minimum wage.
"We're 17 votes away from women getting whatever they want," Pelosi told the crowd at a Middlesex Community College in Lowell, Massachusetts, Monday morning. Seventeen is the number of seats Democrats need to gain in order to take control of the House.

It's unlikely to happen. But the idea of the tour was to energize a base of voters -- particularly working moms and unmarried women -- that leans heavily Democratic, but also tends to sit out non-presidential elections. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee predicts that 20 percent more unmarried women will stay home this cycle than they did in 2012.

Rep. John Tierney (D-Mass.), the only congressman on the bus, is particularly vulnerable this November and is one of the members who could benefit the most from women turning out to vote. He is being challenged by Republican Richard Tisei, who he very narrowly defeated in 2012. Though Tierney was outnumbered on the bus, he did his best to fit in. "Guess who was the first member [of Congress] to start a daycare at their college?" he asked DeLauro over sandwiches.

She shrugged.

"I did," he said. As student body president of Salem State University, Tierney said, he and two women set up a childcare facility for students who were working parents. "We got the faculty to pitch in, and we bought a house and fixed it up and got the whole thing started."

Both on and off the bus, the lawmakers talked about their commitment to making life easier for working moms. They also met with local women after the rallies and discussed their financial struggles.

Reps. Jan Schakowsky (D-Ill.) and Donna Edwards (D-Md.) huddled around Tiffany Payne, a mother of three young children who lives in a shelter in Lowell because she cannot afford childcare and housing with a part-time, minimum-wage job. "There are so many other women in the shelter that don't speak out like I can, because they're afraid to mention that they're homeless," she said.

"You have empowered your message, we have heard it," Edwards told Payne. "Now you're going to make us even more strident in fighting on the House floor. We're gonna raise your name up and say, 'This doesn't make any sense. We cannot function this way.'"

Carly Moskowitz McClain, a working mother who attends law school at night, told the members of Congress that she spends more on daycare for her children than she spends on food and housing. When her one-year-old son was enrolled in the cheapest local daycare program, he came home with welts on his behind from being spanked. "If you feel like your children aren't safe, you can't work," she said. "You can't even breathe."

Back on the bus, the lawmakers expressed their frustration at being the minority party in the House, powerless to pass legislation that they believe could lift these women out of poverty. "I'm getting angry," Frankel said. "It's wrong. The men are coming out to vote, they're having their say. But it's the women who aren't."

"They're balancing kids and working, and it's not a priority in their life," Matsui said. "Some of them are single mothers, and it's really sad, because they're the ones who are the most affected by the issues we're talking about, and if they came out we could really get these things done."

Republicans in Congress generally oppose the Democrats' economic agenda because they believe it's not the federal government's role to mandate higher wages, equal pay for women and paid sick leave, and they argue that such policies will cause employers to lay people off.

"Paid sick leave mandates sound like a good idea," Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.), the top Republican on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, said at a hearing last month. "But every time we impose new mandates, we sometimes destroy jobs."
Top 25 local athletes: Robyn King

The former North Middlesex Regional ace pitcher and Boston University Hall of Famer made it her mission to fan as many batters as possible every time she stepped into the circle.

"I loved to play and I loved pitching," said King, a 1997 North Middlesex grad who is still talked about as one of the most dominant pitchers ever in Central Mass. "My motivation was to strike people out. I loved it. I practiced a lot and I wanted to strike everyone out."

King led the Patriots to back-to-back Central Mass. Division 1 titles. She made the trip to the state final - a loss to Bishop Fenwick - as a junior in 1996 and then reached the state semifinals during her senior campaign.

"She was the best player on the planet at that time," said former North Middlesex softball coach Pat Murphy. "She was a pitcher's pitcher and a coach's dream. If you had one kid you could coach, she would be it."

King - a four-year varsity starter - was 15-1 as a junior and the Pats finished 21-2. During her junior season, she struck out 202 batters, allowed only 36 hits and carried a 0.68 ERA through 113 innings of work.

"She wanted to pitch and be the best pitcher she could be," Murphy said. "What set her apart is that she worked areas and different pitches to get people out. If she walked people, that bothered her, though. She could do anything she wanted to do."

King eventually took her game to the collegiate level at Boston University.

King, who says she struggled early as a college freshman, found her groove and dominated until graduating in 2001.

During King's college career (1998-2001), the power arm was a four-time All-America East First Team honoree, while also garnering conference Pitcher of the Year honors twice (2000, 2001).

She was All-New England Player of the Year in 2000.

"I didn't keep track of my stats, I just wanted to strike everyone out," said King, who got her drive from always trying to beat her older brother, Zak, while growing up.

King is also everywhere in Boston University's records books.

She's second in single-season earned-run average (0.56) and fifth for career ERA (1.44). King had 649 career strikeouts - third all-time - and is ninth in strikeouts for a season with 186.

Add in third in career shutouts (29), fifth in complete games (54), fifth in appearances (92) and third in wins (57), and it's no wonder why King was inducted into the BU Hall of Fame in 2010.

"I'm very proud of that," King said about her induction. "I didn't expect it because I didn't really know what I had done when they listed (my accomplishments)."

King also played for the elite Stratford Brakettes of the Women's Major League in 1999, and also helped lead the Stratford, Conn., team to a 2002 ASA national championship. The Brakettes went 78-1 that season.

She also played professionally in Italy in 2003.

King, 34, is married, with two children, and resides in Lowell. She is a math teacher at Middlesex Community College, coaches JV softball at Lowell High and gives pitching lessons in Lowell and Boxboro.
These Nashoba Tech graduates double-up on their achievement

By Samantha Allen
sallen@lowellsun.com

WESTFORD — This Saturday, four students at Nashoba Valley Technical High School will walk away from their graduation commencement not only with diplomas but also associate degrees in hand.

Seniors Josh Desrochers, Mina Henes, Alexis Tucker and Amanda Woods have all worked for the last two years to complete high school while also attending college. All the students attended Middlesex Community College with the exception of Woods, who attended Mount Wachusett Community College. Through the school’s dual enrollment program, the students will receive both pieces of paper, plus a technical certification from Nashoba Tech in their field of choice, like the rest of their fellow 160 graduates.

Woods, 18, of Townsend, is also the class valedictorian. She studied in the dental-assistant program and now plans to attend Regis College before going onto medical school. She’s on the fast track to receive both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in three years, thanks to her hard work at Wachusett.

“I said, ‘Wow, I can get two years done?’” Woods said, recalling when she first learned about the Nashoba Tech program. “I wanted to be challenged and get two years under my belt. It was a little cheaper to do it that way, too.”

Superintendent Judith Klimkiewicz and Principal Denise Pigeon met with students Wednesday before an awards ceremony to discuss their college experiences.

Tucker, 18, of Littleton, explained how each day of her senior year, she’d go to morning classes at Middlesex, and then drive to Nashoba for after-school activities including drama club. She studied in the school’s TV, media and theater program.

“There’s no senioritis for this group, that’s for sure,” Pigeon said.

Henes said he was looking for more of a challenge. He and Desrochers, both 18-year-olds from Chelmsford, studied in the engineering program at the school. Now with their associate degrees, Desrochers said he hopes to go into chemical or plastics engineering.

Please see TECH/4

launch back in 1998 and estimates there have been more than 30 students who graduated with an associate degree in that time. Another dozen or so are enrolled in these community colleges this year and will graduate with college credits. The 2014 program at Nashoba Tech also includes Fitchburg State University.

“They save money. That’s why most of them did it,” she said, “but I think you shouldn’t underestimate the preparedness of this because it’s very unfortunate that many of (students) go off to college for the first time their freshman year, after paying $50,000 in tuition, and realize, ‘What do you mean I have to be in class at 8 a.m.’?”

Tucker agreed she felt more prepared for college now having taken this opportunity.

“You’re responsible for everything,” she said. “Your teachers are not going to come chase you. It’s freedom, but it’s also scary and terrifying because you’re responsible for everything now.”

Pigeon said she is proud of these students for taking the initiative.

“They exemplify who were are here. We’re a school that offers many opportunities,” she said. “It’s wonderful to see students who have so many options, and students who take advantage of those options.”

Follow Samantha Allen on Twitter and Tout @SAllen_89.
Middlesex Offers
Free Summer MCAS Prep Classes

This summer, Middlesex Community College is offering FREE MCAS Preparation Classes to any high school student (from graduating classes 2003-2015) who has not passed the math or English portion of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exam.

Classes will be held from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday, July 7 through Aug. 8, on MCC's Lowell campus. Refreshments and bus tokens will be provided.

Middlesex MCAS Prep classes are supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. To register, please call Maria Cunha at 978-656-3105.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex - a great place to begin your future!
MCC students find career opportunities at STEM & Health Fair

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College students had an opportunity to network and interview with representatives from more than 25 local employers at the recent STEM & Health Career Fair, held at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center.

“Students are excited about opportunities to find work related to their field of study,” said Audrey Frater, academic coordinator for MCC’s Health & STEM pathways. “Every employer present at the fair had available openings for students, whether through internships, research positions or full- and part-time job opportunities.”

Some of the employers at the fair included Aerotec Scientific, Biogen Idec, ConforMIS, the Massachusetts Army National Guard, Plum Choice Inc., U.S. Geological Survey, and the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center.

Students were given a number of resources, including tips on how to work a career fair, information about creating a 30-second introduction, and a list of questions for students to keep in mind when speaking with employers. In addition to providing resources, MCC’s Health & STEM Pathways Center had previously held a number of résumé workshops to help students prepare for the fair.

“We want our students to be successful,” Frater said. “Providing them with the opportunity to meet employers at the Career Fair is important, but helping them to be prepared for the fair is important as well.”

For more information, email fratera@middlesex.mass.edu or call 978-639-5122.

MCC open houses for Dual Enrollment

Middlesex Community College will host three orientation sessions for the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy, which allows qualified high-school and homeschooled students to earn college credit while satisfying their high-school graduation requirements. Two Bedford Campus sessions will be held Thursday, from 5 to 6 p.m., and again Thursday, May 22, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., in Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road. A Lowell Campus session will be held Wednesday, May 14, from 5 to 6 p.m., in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square. Call 800-818-3434.
‘Three Amigos’ memorialized at Lowell Auditorium

By Grant Welker

gwelker@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — They were the “Three Amigos,” and hanging directly across the hall at Lowell Memorial Auditorium from a new plaque in honor of Leo Creegan, Terry McCarthy and Tom McKay were three sombreros in a line, just to keep the joke going.

The three men who for 18 years ran the auditorium could have been known by other nicknames, too, former state Sen. Steven Panagiotakos said Thursday, as the plaque was unveiled.

“They were all for one, one for all — they could have been the Three Musketeers,” Panagiotakos said. Or, with their tomfoolery, he added, they could have been the Three Stooges, if only they could figure out which character they’d be.

Creegan, McCarthy and McKay were honored Thursday by a crowd of family members, politicians and others who got to know them over the years. It came about four months after the death of McKay, who was 67.

McKay oversaw operations of the building starting in 1989. He was able to take a look at the plaque before he died and felt honored and humbled, said his wife, Lori McKay.

“It’s just wonderful,” she said of the event. “I knew I shared him with a lot of people but I never knew how many.”

Those who spoke cited the trio’s ability to transform the auditorium from “a dark, dank place,” as City Councilor Rita Mercier called it, into a lively facility that drew a wide variety of acts to the city. Perhaps most important was their charitable contributions, Mayor Rodney Elliott said, and their warm welcome no matter where someone would meet them.

“They put their money where their mouth was, and they made this building shine,” Elliott said.

Creegan, McCarthy and McKay ran the auditorium under the name Mill City Management from 1995 to 2013, when Mill City Management decided they wouldn’t seek a renewal of their contract. Lowell City Council signed a new management contract with Global Spectrum, which also runs the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell.

Their success couldn’t have been possible without sponsors like the Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank and the volunteers who kept the building running smoothly, Creegan said.

“If you don’t have the people behind you, it’s not going to work,” he said.

Panagiotakos read a poem he wrote the night he heard McKay died, noting the way McKay made everyone feel special, and how he’d call everyone “buddy boy” or “baby doll.”

Sen. Eileen Donoghue recalled the affectionate names, too.

“No one before or since has called us baby doll,” she said with a laugh. “His zest for life was just palpable.”

Follow Grant Welker on Twitter and Toui @Sun-GrantWelker.

A plaque was unveiled at Lowell Memorial Auditorium honoring the “Three Amigos,” Leo Creegan, Terry McCarthy and Tom McKay, whose Mill City Management ran the Auditorium for many years. From left, Terry McCarthy, Lori McKay, wife of the late Tom McKay, and Leo Creegan, admire the plaque after unveiling it.

As seen in Lowell Sun, Friday, June 6, 2014, page 12
MCC employees receive national excellence awards

Middlesex Community College has named its recipients of the annual National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development Excellence Awards.

The 2014 honorees are: Nancy Curl of Nashua, manager of E-Learning; Maryanne M. Mungovan of Dunstable, director of MCC's Multicultural & Veterans Affairs; Karen Oster of Nashua, professor and chairwoman of the Performing Arts Department; and Marie Ryder of Bedford, Nursing professor.

Affiliated with the University of Texas at Austin, NISOD’s Excellence Awards honor the contributions and achievements of community-college and technical-college faculty, administrators and staff members who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and contributions to their students and colleagues.

“The NISOD Excellence Awards give Middlesex the privilege of honoring faculty and staff for their dedication to teaching excellence and fine work in furtherance of student learning and success,” MCC Associate Provost Clea Andreadis said. “Recipients are recognized by the college community as exemplary educators who have demonstrated their leadership through significant accomplishments both in and out of the classroom.

“We are grateful for their efforts on behalf of our students, and are fortunate to have them as colleagues.”

Excellence Award recipients will be celebrated during NISOD’s annual International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, May 25-28, in Austin, Texas.
Pelosi, Fellow Democrats to Tour Lowell, Boston

BOSTON (AP) — U.S. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi is planning to join fellow Democrats to tour Massachusetts highlighting challenges facing women and families.

Pelosi will begin the bus tour Monday morning in Lowell with a stop at Middlesex Community College with U.S. Reps. Niki Tsongas and John Tierney, who is facing a tough re-election battle this year.

Pelosi then plans to stop at Roxbury Technology in Boston’s Hyde Park neighborhood shortly after noon where she will be joined by other members of
the state’s all-Democratic congressional delegation including Reps. Katherine Clark, Mike Capuano and Joe Kennedy.

Boston Mayor Martin Walsh is also planning to attend the Hyde Park event.

Democrats say they want to bring attention to issues like equal pay for equal work, raising the minimum wage, paid sick leave, and affordable child care.
LOWELL -- Sovanna Pouv, 33, was born in the Khao-I-Dang refugee camp in Thailand after his mother fled there to escape the brutal reign of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. He moved to Lowell at age 8, graduated from Lowell High School and Middlesex Community College, and now serves as a board member for the Angkor Dance Troupe, the Middlesex Community College business program, and as a design consultant for the United Teen Equality Center. On June 9, he will become the new executive director of the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Agency.

Q. How did you end up in Lowell?

A. I was born in Thailand, and my mother and I immigrated to Chicago when I was 1.

My mother and aunt had been separated in the refugee camps, but we found out from my aunt that there was a Cambodian community forming here in Lowell. My mom wanted to reconnect with the only other surviving member of her family, her sister, so she packed us up and moved here when I was 8.

Q. What were your first impressions of Lowell?

A. One positive thing I remember is my aunt and my cousins were all living in a big apartment building and I saw them waving to me when we arrived in Lowell. A negative thing was in the third or fourth grade, in the back of the bus to the Rogers School, when people were calling me (a racial slur). I remember that stuck with me since I was a young person. I didn't really learn what the slur meant until I was older, but I realized right away that it was a powerful word.

Q. What was the most challenging part of making a life here?

A. The most challenging thing was growing up with a single mom and then struggling with her not being in stable relationships. Not having all the resources I wanted to have, and not having a male figure to show me how to be a man.
Q. How did the CMAA help you when you lost your job shortly after becoming a father?

I was 20 and had my daughter. I had gotten evicted, so my mom, myself and my brother were living in a friend’s basement, getting diapers and hand-me-down clothes from friends to help me raise my daughter. A friend told me CMAA was offering a job-placement program. I met with (executive director) Gregg (Croteau) at UTEC and he liked who I was as a person so he hired me. The CMAA basically paid for my salary for almost a year and then Gregg kept me on for almost 12 years. The CMAA was really there for me and they gave me the chance to really succeed and give back to the community. If it wasn’t for the CMAA I don’t think I’d be where I am today.

Q. What’s your favorite thing about Lowell?

A. Honestly, I love that Lowell has the second-largest Cambodian population in the United States. But I also really think this city offers a chance for a person to grow. This community is great, and it will help you grow as an individual, professional and person. It’s a small city with a lot of different kinds of people who are focused on moving forward with a positive vision. I’m really happy to be a part of it.

Q. Has the CMAA’s mission changed since more Cambodian families have become established in the community?

A. I think a lot of issues have changed but some stay the same. Many families are still struggling to understand the system. The younger generation is breaking out and learning about the education system and other systems, but the older generation still doesn’t know about opening a bank account or buying a home for the first time, and I think there’s still a language barrier. There are wonderful programs in place, but they still need to be pushed to the community and I think CMAA is focused on doing that so that more people can use them. That’s not just for
Cambodians, but also other immigrant communities. Because Cambodians have been around and gone through this, we can help other groups build a community and help them start their life in Lowell.

Q. How will the CMAA evolve under your leadership?

A. I really think the CMAA can offer a lot of resources to more than Cambodians. It’s called the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Agency, but because this is a gateway city and since we were all refugees we can reach out to other communities through the International Institute.

Q. What’s the most important service provided by the CMAA?

A. I think one of the most important programs we offer is either the first-time homebuyer or financial-literacy programs. We have an amazing banking system here and amazing first-time homebuyer programs. We need more people to invest in the community and to really take this city as a home, so I think teaching and educating the community both financially and civilly is really important.

Q. What is the Cambodian community’s biggest challenge today?

A. One of the biggest challenges is to build more collaboration. I think the previous generation built a foundation for us. They came to this country and they had to pick up a different culture than they were used to and they worked really hard on what they created, but I think the next generation, like myself and other leaders in the community, we have to partner up and collaborate more. A goal of mine with this organization is to really do that and really bring people together and have them realize we can work together as a community and make our culture shine in the City of Lowell.

Q. What does the Cambodian community add to Lowell?

A. I think this is a bit cliche, but food is a big thing. Having popular restaurants in the city pulls in people from outside the city. Food, music and the arts. Cambodian arts are amazing, especially the Angkor Dance Troupe, which has been around for 26 years. I think a lot of people come here to see these things, which aren’t offered in other places nearby. A lot of us have businesses and homes and I think we bring a lot to the city.

Follow Robert Mills on Twitter and Tout @Robert_Mills.
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WHO WANTS TO BE AN ENTREPRENEUR?

If it's you, the Merrimack Valley Sandbox can show you how

By Dan O'Brien
dobrien@peabody.com

LOWELL — Entrepreneurship for all.

That's the rallying cry for the Merrimack Valley Sandbox, which in 3 1/2 years has provided various resources to more than 1,000 students and adult entrepreneurs in the region.

“Entrepreneurship can be lonely,” said David Parker, the nonprofit Sandbox's executive director. “It's important for people to come together, share ideas, meet each other and look for resources.”

Since its founding in late 2010, the Sandbox has helped accelerate more than 40 early-stage ventures, including local ideas, nonprofits and high-tech plans. For the entrepreneurs, it has built a mentor community of more than 120 successful business people and partnered with more than 40 entities, including private businesses, community-based programs, schools and government agencies.

Parker said the Sandbox gives entrepreneurs a greater chance of success through its workshops, pitch contests and accelerator programs.

Some entrepreneurs have become stars. One example is the Sandbox's first Accelerator grand-prize winner, Brenna Schneider of 99Degrees Custom, a Lawrence-based maker of custom apparel. She was recently named to Boston Magazine's “50 Most Powerful Thought Leaders.”

Another is Frankie Slater, who along with her partner, Lydia Sisson, created Mill City Grows, which aims to make Lowell known for an innovative approach to food production where residents are “engaged actors” in gaining access to land that is preserved for growing healthy, organic food.

Still another is Erin Freeborn, founder of Juvenile Court Restorative Justice Diversion, which won an Accelerator contest and earned a mention in a Huffington Post write-up as well. She was the featured entrepreneur during a recent Meet-Up event at the Sandbox's co-working space inside the

Marieke Slovin works as an interpretive park ranger at Lowell National Historic Park by day, but yearns to fulfill her dream as a full-time musician. She founded Story-to-Song, LLC, where she works with individuals to turn their spoken stories into song.

David Parker, executive director of Merrimack Valley Sandbox, brings ample experience in the startup world.

Wananelanet Mills.

But many others come in with an idea and little else.

“I didn't know anything about business — I'm a musician,” said Marieke Slovin, founder of Story-to-Song, LLC, which takes a spoken story and turns it into a song.

But, said Parker, "he was so full of eagerness and willing to learn."

The Sandbox was founded in December 2010 with a $5 million endowment from the Deshpande Foundation, a nonprofit started by serial entrepreneur Gururaj "Des" Deshpande (Cascade Communications, Synechron Network) and his wife, Jashree, to use entrepreneurship and innovation as a catalyst for change in the U.S., India and Canada.

Parker, a Harvard graduate,

Please see SANDBOX/B3
Sandbox offers support for budding businesses

Erin Freeborn, founder of Juvenile Court Restorative Justice Diversion, was the featured entrepreneur at a Merrimack Valley Sandbox Meet-Up earlier this month. Freeborn was the Sandbox’s first grand-prize Accelerator winner.

At the recent Meet-Up, Freeborn spoke to fellow entrepreneurs and guests about the progress of her business. For juveniles who are charged with certain lower-level crimes, Juvenile Court Restorative Justice Diversion aims to ‘level the playing field’ by providing accountability for support, according to Freeborn, so there will be fewer chances for recidivism.

“Just to come to a place where others understand what you’re going through,” said Karen Mahon, founder of Tyngsboro-based Bafire Labs Inc.

the possibility that a long-time act could deter a young adult from landing a job or housing.

Sometimes our imaginations get the worst of us,” said Freeborn. “Some of these kids are 12, 13, 14 years old, and these cases can affect the rest of their lives.”

Freeborn said training police officers to target potential prospects for the program was a key element to getting it started.

“When I first started in September, less than 10 percent of them on the juvenile justice system,” she said. Now there are 14,000 officers from throughout Middlesex County who are trained.

The Sandbox employs five people. Parkers, John Days, program manager for student projects; Lina Kishi, program manager for the Sandbox Entrepreneur Program; Emil Kvarvelia, senior marketing manager, and Lester Sydney, operations and finance manager.

Parker said a $150,000 state grant issued in February will allow for the hiring of two additional “managers of mentorship,” including a bilingual one who will support the Sandbox’s new program for Spanish-speaking entrepreneurs.

Fellow Don O’Brien on Twitter: @Don O’Brien, Danbury, Conn.
Kiwanis Club of Greater Lowell Honors Peter J. Aucella with The Thomas G. Kelakos Community Spirit Award.

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Lowell recently named Peter J. Aucella, assistant superintendent at Lowell National Historical Park, the 2014 recipient of the Thomas G. Kelakos Community Spirit Award. The award was created in memory of Kelakos, a man remembered for his wisdom, compassion and quiet generosity. Aucella was honored for his work at the National Park Service and his many contributions to the community, including the creation of the Lowell Summer Music Series. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child at a time. They share the common desire to serve others and make the community a better place.
Yary Livan
Cambodian Ceramics Master

In Lowell, a culturally diverse city with the second largest concentration of people of Cambodian origin in the United States (after Long Beach, Calif.), there is concern among some in this ethnic group that cultural traditions could become obscured as assimilation occurs.

Yary Livan, a master of traditional Cambodian ceramics and kiln building, came to the United States in 2001.

He was one of only three people trained in these folk skills at the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh who escaped the persecution of the genocidal Khmer Rouge. He survived by applying his craftsmanship toward the utilitarian purpose of producing clay roof tiles for the regime's benefit.

When he arrived in Lowell, Livan didn't know how to establish himself. With help from the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, he acquired the studio space he needed to begin working and producing prolifically. Public recognition and appreciation of his resultant output led to his eventual affiliations with Middlesex Community College and Harvard University's Office for the Arts, as well as with the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston (SMFA), where he taught.

During his tenure at the SMFA and involvement in youth programs, he began to see a disturbing trend among the younger, up-and-coming artists. Livan says he makes art to “simply share the love of creation with others, making people peaceful.” In the fledgling artists of today, Livan sees the pursuit of fame and riches as their major incentive.

“When gain is not the focus, there is no cheating.
just pure, honest expressiveness,” he says. “Artwork is no liar.”

Livan remembers that his chief inspiration as a child was the sense of awe inspired by the ornate detail of the carvings at the Angkor Wat temple, where the sculptors worked primarily for spiritual recompense. He was overwhelmed by the synergy of the many artists who must have worked together seamlessly on a project of that scale.

He’s currently paying tribute to that early influence by creating a facsimile relief of one of Angkor Wat’s lintel carvings, a project commissioned by Lowell National Historical Park.

Livan is afraid that in the narcissism of the modern age, the sheer wonder and


Examples of a traditional Khmer elephant pot motif, which represents wealth. Pieces are shown before and after being fired in Livan’s traditional Cambodian brick wood-fired kiln in his studio.

When gain is not the focus, there is no cheating, just pure, honest expressiveness ... Artwork is no liar.

Yury Livan

spiritual elatedness in his fundamental motivations could become extinct.

Maggie Holtzberg, who serves as the director of cultural programming at Lowell National Historical Park and is the folk arts & heritage manager at the Massachusetts Cultural Council, says that Livan’s unease caused by the “tension between tradition and innovation” could have its roots in his experiences from childhood. She explains that in traditional arts, “the focus is not on the individual, but on the tradition.”

As dissolution of the ego and absorption into “oneness” are elemental tenets of Buddhism, it makes sense that Livan’s worldview as formed in the temples is projected in his opinions and execution of art.

To help resuscitate an appreciation of the connection between heritage and
art, Livan brought fellow surviving master ceramist Kang Proeung to Lowell to help him build a traditional Cambodian brick, wood-fired kiln.

The kiln is housed at the National Historical Park’s maintenance facility on Aiken Street, and is a host site for frequent demonstrations. This is also where the lintel relief will be displayed upon completion.

“Tradition is the pinnacle of importance,” Livan says.

There was a time in Cambodia, Livan says, when temples were the sources of learning and art was one of their primary teaching tools. Therefore, Livan places extreme importance on education, reaching out to youths who are most lacking in custom and unsettled in their ways, still as malleable as the clay with which he works.

To better position himself to make a difference in the lives of young people, Livan partnered with SMFA’s Youth Art in Action, a program for youth leadership through the arts. The projects he spearheaded in Dorchester produced ceramic tiles for a community park in Fields Corner and provided assistance in the design and painting of a large stage mural in Roman Park. The collaboration was so successful that it received a “Coming Up Taller” award at the White House, via the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities and the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

The triumph of such endeavors led to Livan’s eventual involvement with the Lowell Community Charter Public School, where he teaches after-school programs in both contemporary and traditional Cambodian sculpture. He also instructs his mostly fifth-grade students in set design for the school’s stage.

In addition to focusing on young people, Livan believes a strong and confident sense of community is at the apex of retaining value in traditional arts and crafts. He sees such a paradigm in the Merrimack Valley arts scene.

“There is a sharing of ideas here that takes away the focus on competition. Everyone acknowledges the identity in what everyone else is doing, and there being more good artists overall attracts more visitors,” he says.

Livan’s concerns are by no means idiosyncratic. An October 2007 survey by the Pew Research Center’s Global Attitudes Project notes that “there are widely shared concerns about the free flow of people, ideas and resources that globalization entails. In nearly every country surveyed, people worry about losing their traditional culture and national identities, and they feel their way of life needs protection.”

Livan says that although naturalization has innumerable merits, propagation of the traditional arts is anthropologically paramount; he believes it is his vocation, through modeling and example.
The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center Announce $7 Million in Capital Grant Funding for UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College: UMass Lowell has been awarded $4 million to create the Big Company/Little Company Innovation Hub where medical device and bio-tech startup companies will benefit from the Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2) incubation services while receiving funding and mentoring from larger, established medical device companies. M2D2 is a joint initiative of UMass Lowell and UMass Worcester that serves as a lifeline for medical-device entrepreneurs, providing easy, affordable and coordinated access to world-class researchers and resources.

“This funding will allow M2D2 to expand the much-in-demand services it provides to startups in an industry that is not only important to the Commonwealth’s economy, but also to the health and well-being of its citizens,” said UMass Lowell Chancellor Marty Meehan. “We are grateful to Governor Patrick and the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center for recognizing how M2D2 helps entrepreneurs turn innovative ideas into real products.”

Middlesex Community College will receive $3 million for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new biotechnology facility to replace the college’s current, outdated facility.

“Working with Governor Patrick and our legislative delegation, Middlesex has tried to respond to the evolving needs of our workforce partners, particularly in the STEM industries,” Cowan said. “Specifically, biotech in Massachusetts is one of the economic engines, and we welcome opportunities to align our college graduate preparedness with the industry clusters of our region.”
LOWELL — House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi’s effort to galvanize the female vote in November’s midterm elections rolls into the city early Monday morning.

The “When Women Succeed, America Succeeds” bus tour will kick off on Sunday in Seneca Falls, N.Y. — site of the nation’s first women’s rights convention in 1848 — and ends four days later in Chicago.

U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas, D-Lowell, was planning a similar event. She said she heard about the tour and convinced Pelosi to swing further east and, later on Monday, to Boston.

“The events just dovetailed perfectly,” Tsongas said.

The event will begin about 8 a.m. at Middlesex Community College on East Merrimack Street. It is open to the public.

Joining Pelosi on the bus tour are six other female members of Congress; two from California and one each from Connecticut, Florida, Illinois and Maryland.

Also expected to speak is Carole Cowan, who has overseen MCC as its president for more than two decades.

The tour’s goal is to spread an economic plan prioritizing equal pay, job creation, affordable child care, raising the minimum wage and more. Tour backers said this will help women succeed and strengthen working families around the country.

— CHRISTOPHER SCOTT
MCC Hosts Dual Enrollment Orientation Sessions

Qualified high school and home-schooled students can earn college credit while satisfying their high school graduation requirements with the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy. Find out more information about MCC's Dual Enrollment Academy at two upcoming Orientation Sessions.

A Lowell Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Session will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. Thursday, June 5, in MCC's Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square.

A Bedford Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Session will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. Thursday, June 12, in Bedford Campus Center's Café East, 591 Springs Road.

As part of MCC's Dual Enrollment Academy, qualified students may enroll in college-level courses offered online, on campus during the day, evening or on weekends. Flexible options are available to focus on science and math, engineering and technology, health professions or business administration. For students who want to get a head start on completing the general-education courses required by most colleges and universities, take Dual Enrollment courses during one of four summer sessions including special evening and online sessions that run June 16 to August 12.

A Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy advisor will be assigned to work with each applicant, their parent/guardian, and high school guidance counselor to design a program based on the student's academic skill level and educational goals. To maximize success, MCC offers academic counseling, tutoring, computer labs and library serves and encourages students to participate in on-campus events and student clubs.

Dual Enrollment students pay reduced tuition costs and state funding is available to cover tuition and fees for a limited number of admitted Massachusetts residents enrolled in college-level courses that are transferable to an associate or bachelor's degree program.

For more information about the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/dualenroll/ or contact MCC's Academic, Career & Transfer Center at 1-800-818-3434.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex – a great place to begin your future!
Diplomas, and a challenge: Dare

Achievement requires being bold and taking risks, MCC grads told

By Katie Lannan
klannan@lowellsun.com

OWELL — Along with their degrees and certificates, more than 1,400 Middlesex Community College students got a message to remember Thursday morning: Don’t let fear hold you back.

Commencement speaker Hill Harper, an actor who has starred in the TV shows CSI: NY and Covert Affairs, told graduates at Lowell Memorial Auditorium that “fear” stands for “false evidence appearing real.”

“So many people try to project their agenda onto you,” Harper said. “Don’t allow their fear to take you off your path.”

SHARING INSPIRATION: Veteran Stephen McDonald of Chelmsford, left, told his fellow graduates he found support at Middlesex after he was injured in Iraq. At right, actor Hill Harper, who has starred in the shows CSI: NY and Covert Affairs, urged graduates to be bold.

Harper encouraged the graduates to take risks and look to the future with energy, critical thinking and courage.

“The future does not belong to people who are afraid of being bold, imaginative or creative.”

Lowell Mayor Rodney Elliott shared a similar message.

List of graduates

“Believe in yourself,” he told the graduates. “Set no boundaries, and don’t be afraid to take a risk, because in order to achieve any level of success, your thirst for success must be greater than your fear of failing.”

The 1,410-member Class of 2014 is the largest graduating class in Middlesex history, according to the school.

A total of 84 veterans graduated Thursday, making

Please see GRADUATES/7
MCC grads take diplomas and a message: Be bold

GENERATIONS CELEBRATE: Felicia Kim, 18, of Lowell, takes a photo of her sister-in-law, graduate Linda Kim Heng, 23, also of Lowell, and other family members after the Middlesex Community College Commencement at Lowell Memorial Auditorium on Thursday. With Heng, from left, are her husband, Hasty Kim; her parents, Kim Leng and Kheng Heng of Atleboro; her grandmother, Saroey Muy, right; and her children, from left, Dusan Kim, 5, Kyla Heng, 4, and Kaylah Kim, 1. At right, bagpipers lead the procession into Lowell Memorial Auditorium. (SUN PHOTOS / JOAN H. SWAN)

The other student speaker was Miranda Cashman of Concord. Today, she’s boarding a flight to China with eight other Middlesex students, part of the MCC Foundation’s International Education Fellowship program.

“My own story began in China when I was just a baby,” Cashman said in her address. “My mom flew around the world to China to adopt me, bring me to the United States and raise me while being a single parent.”

As a child, I didn’t feel like I had a place to fit in. I didn’t see myself as Chinese, nor did I understand why others thought it was weird that I didn’t look like my mom.”

Cashman said Middlesex became a community for her, too.

Students and faculty alike set up a chain reaction of truth, knowledge, ambition, creativity and passion, passing it on to another until we are all consumed with the desire to strive for our absolute best,” she said. “This energy is what makes MCC truly special.”

After degrees were conferred, graduate Linda Kim Heng of Lowell said she found the ceremony unforgettable and exciting.

“I’m going to cherish this moment forever,” she said.

Fellow Kate Lantam an on Twitter and Turi O’Brien lean.

TWO JOURNEYS: Miranda Cashman of Concord, who was born in China, speaks to her fellow graduates at Lowell Memorial Auditorium. Today, she’s boarding a flight to China with eight other Middlesex students, part of the MCC Foundation’s International Education Fellowship program. At right, Bedford police Sgt. Patrick Towle, center, who led the regional SWAT team in the wake of the Boston Marathon bombings, receives MCC’s Distinguished Alumni Award. With him are MCC Dean of Advancement Dennis Malwers, left, and Bedford Police Chief Robert Bongiorno.
Lowell teachers learn Cambodian craft

From January to May 2014, 16 Lowell public-school teachers participated in a Cambodian ceramics and culture class at a special kiln built on the grounds of the Lowell National Historical Park maintenance facility on Aiken Avenue. The workshop was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment For The Arts and Middlesex Community College. The workshop was taught by Cambodian ceramicist Yary Livan. Above, from left, are teachers Kathy Nardon, Lolita Demers, Michael Smith, Lynne Barker, Jacqui Miller, Livan and Leslie MacPhail. At left are Livan and MacPhail.
LOWELL — Registration is open for MCC’s next Weekend College Accelerated Session, which runs May 24 through July 26. Classes meet on Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., in 10-week sessions on the Lowell campus. For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/weekendcollege or call 800-818-3434.

New students can get a jump-start on their first year of college with the First-Year Experience Program. MCC offers two day summer sessions, beginning Tuesday, May 27, and Monday, July 7. For more information, contact Jo Mucci at 781-280-3724 or mucci.j@middlesex.mass.edu.

This summer, MCC’s Flexible Studies Program is offering accelerated courses in reading, writing, English Language Learner, World Languages and the humanities. Summer courses begin Tuesday, May 27. For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblestudies, or call 781-280-3736 in Bedford or 978-656-3360 in Lowell.

Middlesex Community College’s Academy of Health Professions offers short-term training and college-credit programs that could lead to a satisfying career in an entry-level health care field. The next AHP courses begin Monday. Call 1-800-818-3434.
Middlesex Names 2014 Student Commencement Speakers

Middlesex Community College students Miranda Cashman of Concord and Stephen McDonald of Chelmsford have been selected as 2014 Student Commencement Speakers. They will address the approximately 1,250 members of the Class of 2014 during commencement exercises, to be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 22, in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 E. Merrimack St.

An award-winning young writer, actor and playwright, Cashman also has a passion for math and science. She started at Middlesex as a home-schooled Dual Enrollment student at age 16, and will graduate with an associate in arts degree in Liberal Arts & Sciences with a Physical Science Concentration just days after she turns 19.

At Middlesex, Cashman served as a student Supplemental Instructor in trigonometry, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa (the international honor society for two-year colleges) and the Commonwealth Honors Program. She has been awarded three Middlesex Community College Foundation Scholarships over the past two years. And, in June, she will travel to China as part the MCC Foundation’s International Education Fellowship program.

Cashman has been named the Middlesex representative to the Department of Higher Education’s 29 Who Shine, an annual program recognizing outstanding students from each of the state’s 29 public campuses. She also was featured in the spring 2014 issue of MCC’s Profiles magazine (https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/Profiles/).

Cashman has been accepted into the Commonwealth Honors College at UMass Amherst, where she plans to major in geology.

McDonald is a disabled veteran injured during the War in Iraq. After Cpl. McDonald retired from the Army, he returned to college to finish his education and will graduate with an associate in science degree in Business Administration Transfer.

At Middlesex, McDonald helped found the APLUS Club for Tutoring Outreach, is a member of the Paul H. Sullivan Leadership Institute, and has worked as a peer tutor in mathematics and accounting. He plans to transfer to UMass Lowell to earn a B.S. in accounting, as well as a master’s degree, and eventually become a CPA.

Bill Harper, award-winning actor, bestselling author and youth advocate, will deliver the commencement address to the Middlesex Class of 2014.

For more information about MCC’s 2014 Student Commencement Speakers, contact Patricia Demaras, Assistant Dean of International & Multicultural Affairs, at 978-656-3256 or demaras@middlesex.mass.edu.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex — a great place to begin your future!

Middlesex Offers FREE Summer MCAS Prep Classes

This summer, Middlesex Community College is offering FREE MCAS Preparation Classes to any high school student (from graduating classes 2003-2015) who has not passed the math or English portion of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exam.

Classes will be held from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday, July 7 through Aug. 8, on MCC’s Lowell campus. Refreshments and bus tokens will be provided.

Middlesex MCAS Prep classes are supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. To register, please call Maria Cunha at 978-656-3105.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex — a great place to begin your future!
Sun, college to sponsor AG debate

Event is Monday at MCC at 1 p.m.

By Christopher Scott
cscott@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — The first major Democratic primary debate of state attorney-general candidates — Maura Healey and Warren Tolman — is coming to Lowell on Monday at 1 p.m.

The Sun and Middlesex Community College are co-sponsoring the event, which will be held in the Lower Cafeteria of MCC’s downtown Lowell campus at 33 Kearney Square.

The public is invited.

The one-hour debate will be moderated by MCC Community Affairs Director Mary-Jo Griffin. A three-member panel will direct questions to the candidates. The panelists are MCC student Karoline Menezes; MCC administrator Sheri Denk; and Christopher Scott, enterprise editor at The Sun.

“We are excited about this collaboration with Middlesex Community College and hope the public will take advantage of this opportunity to see the candidates and hear what they have to say on many important issues," said Jim Campanini, The Sun’s editor.

Tolman, now a lawyer in the Boston firm of Holland Knight, served in the state Legislature as a representative and senator from 1991 to 1999. He has been on the statewide ballot twice before: in 1998, when he was the Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor, and in 2002, when he ran for governor. Tolman, 54, lives in Watertown with his wife and children.

Healey, who lives in Charlestown with her partner, recently resigned from the Attorney General’s Office where she oversaw two divisions: Public Protection &
MCC's Murphy earns a Cooke Foundation grant

Middlesex Community College student Dennis Murphy of Wilmington has received a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship.

The Cooke Foundation scholarship honors excellence by supporting outstanding community-college students with financial need to transfer to, and complete, a bachelor's degree at a four-year college or university.

Murphy will receive $30,000 each year to cover a significant share of his education expenses, including tuition, living expenses, books and required fees for the final two to three years it takes to complete a bachelor's degree. This is the second consecutive year a Middlesex student has received the prestigious award.

"I always wanted to go as high as I could go in my education," Murphy said. "Until recently, that wasn't a reality. This award gives me the opportunity to achieve the education I want and achieve my dreams. It's opening doors."

Murphy is pursuing an Associate degree in Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Global Studies concentration. He holds a 4.0 grade-point average.

He is actively involved on campus as a member of the Student Union Government Association, an Honors Commonwealth Program ambassador, and a member of the Sustainability, Debate and Philosophy clubs. He is also a peer tutor in MCC's Writing Center, and is vice president of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges.

In addition to the Cooke Foundation scholarship, Murphy received a Middlesex Community College Foundation Merit Award from the Middlesex Community College Foundation for the 2013-14 academic year. MCC Foundation Merit Awards are funded by the Middlesex Community College Foundation, and are presented to students who demonstrate academic excellence and exceptional promise.

Murphy plans to continue his education at a four-year institution and is planning to continue his studies in International Relations and Foreign Affairs. He hopes to attain master's and doctorate degrees.

For more information on the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, visit http://www.jkcf.org.
D.A. Ryan speaks at Middlesex Academy Charter

Middlesex County District Attorney Marian Ryan, second from left, recently spoke at Middlesex Academy Charter School in Lowell on distracted driving. Third from right is school Superintendent Margaret McDevitt.

National honor for NECC’s Morrow

HAVERHILL — Four Northern Essex Community College faculty members, including Pat Morrow of Tewksbury, recently received Awards of Excellence from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development. The award is a national honor that recognizes outstanding teachers in the country’s community colleges.

Morrow, chairwoman of NECC’s Business Department, was nominated by Chuck Phair, assistant dean of Law, Education and Social Profession, who praised her for providing leadership to her colleagues and students. She is highly respected by her peers for her knowledge, hard work and service to NECC, including committee work in Writing Across the Curriculum, Teaching in Community, and the newly formed Entrepreneurship Student Club, of which she is the adviser.

Other NECC recipients are Paul Cavan, coordinator of the Criminal Justice program; Stephen Mathis, English Department chairman; and Marcy Yeager, professor of Natural Science and director of the International Studies Program.
In week of terror, he led MCC to honor Bedford officer for actions in Watertown

By Rick Sebey
rsobe@lowellsun.com

BEDFORD — It was the most tense week in Greater Boston's modern history, and Bedford's Sgt. Patrick Towle was right in the middle of it.

In the hours following the Boston Marathon bombing, Towle led the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council SWAT team into the city, providing extra security at major venues, including a Bruins game and the Financial District.

Then, after President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama came into Boston for a prayer service, Towle was ready to grab some sleep.

But rest had to wait that week. At 11:30 p.m., Towle headed to Watertown for the shootout, setting up the SWAT team and formulating tactical plans for the next 21 hours.

"We didn't know how tired we were until it was all over. We just knew we had

Please see HONOR/5
HONOR/From Page 1

to be there," said Towle, officer-in
charge of the SWAT team, which he's been part of for 18 years. "It's hard to believe that was just a year ago, and hopefully we never see a week like that again."

As a result of his heroic actions during that unforgettable week, and for more than two decades in the Bedford Police Department, Towle will be honored this month by his alma mater, Middlesex Community College. He'll be receiving the 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award at MCC's graduation on May 22.

"It's truly an honor to receive this award from the college. I think of the thousands of graduates to come through the college in the past 30-plus years, and for them to consider me, I'm truly honored," said Towle, 49, who graduated from MCC in 1985.

"When the MCC publication came out, I got lots of emails, phone calls, hearing from people I haven't talked to in a while," added Towle, a Bedford police officer since 1986.

"I'm really looking forward to it: later this month with my family there when I receive it." MCC's Distinguished Alumni Award is given annually to a graduate who demonstrates achievement in their career or other areas of life, exceptional service to the community, and commitment to Middlesex, as well as integrity and character.

Around the one-year anniversary of the Boston Marathon bombings, MCC's dean of college advancement said that selecting Towle for the award was a "no-brainer."

"He's on our list since that week in April (2013)," said Dean Dennis Malvers. "He really exemplifies what we are looking to recognize. We're so proud of Sgt. Towle."

"We're not glorifying the occasion, but instead highlighting his bravery and commitment to protect the public," Malvers added. "It was a very heroic thing he was involved in. He's one of our own, and we wanted to pay tribute to him."

Bedford Police Chief Robert Bongiorno called Towle a "consummate professional and outstanding leader." During the Boston Marathon response, Towle represented the 57 cities and towns of the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council with distinction, Bongiorno said.

"He exemplifies everything you would want in a leader," said Bongiorno, who also graduated from MCC. "He's professional, he treats the public with respect, dignity, courtesy, and he wears his uniform with pride."

"He's a humble leader who is quick to heap praise on others, and seldom accepts it," he added. "Sgt. Towle will rise to whatever occasion he's faced with."

Because of the court case against the bombing suspect, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, Towle told The Sun he's unable to expand on what happened during the 21 hours in Watertown. However, he did say he set up the tactical plans of the SWAT team, which went on building-to-building searches, looking for the suspect.

"None of us wanted to leave there knowing he wasn't captured," said Towle, an alum of Bedford High School, who has three kids and a wife, Joyco. "I think we had the same feeling as everyone else when we got him — just real happy we captured him and he wasn't on the streets anymore."

During the two-hour graduation on May 22, MCC President Carole Cowan will read Towle's accomplishments and then present him with a mirror, which has drawings of MCC's campuses in Lowell and Bedford. His name will be inscribed on the mirror with the date of the commencement.

"There's no question this will be inspiring to our students graduating," Malvers said. "For the students in the criminal justice program, to see someone who hails from their program and see what he's done with his career, it's an incredible example for them."

"Everyone knows what happened on the day of the marathon, and to know that he went through the same doors as these graduates, I can't imagine a better inspiration for our graduates," he added.

Past Distinguished Alumni Award winners include Katelyn Adams ('07), Katie Golenius ('01), Jim Zunino ('04), Steven Wright ('75), Tami Druvtillira ('83), Bruce Weeks ('66), Alna Mellor ('74), Jean Connor ('74) and William Chennelli ('75).

MCC's commencement will be at

MCC This Month June 2014 38
MCC Redford tickets near sell-out

San Staff Report

LOWELL — If you’re looking to snare tickets for the upcoming Mill City appearance of the Sundance Kid, you’d better get on your horse, because they’re heading for a sellout.

Hollywood giant Robert Redford will be coming to the Lowell Memorial Auditorium as the featured speaker of Middlesex Community College’s 16th annual Celebrity Forum speaker series on Friday, June 20 at 8 p.m. Premium seating availability is heading into its final numbers, with limited group seats still available, according to MCC and the LMA. Tickets prices at both $65 and $45 are still available by contacting the auditorium box office at 866-722-8881. Sponsorship packages that include meeting Redford are also available through the college. For more information about how to sponsor, contact MCC’s Dean of Advancement Dennis Malvers at 781-280-3514.

Redford has starred in dozens of Hollywood blockbusters over the last 40 years, most notably leading roles in iconic films such as Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid and The Sting alongside his friend, the late Paul Newman, All the President’s Men with Dustin Hoffman, The Candidate, The Natural, The Way We Were with Barbra Streisand, The Great Gatsby, Out of Africa with Meryl Streep, and most recently, All is Lost and Captain America: the Winter Soldier. He’s also just as famous behind the camera, as director of such films as Ordinary People, for which he won an Oscar, and producer on such films as Quiz Show.

Redford is also known internationally as a celebrity who stands for social responsibility and political involvement and as an artist and businessman who is a staunch supporter of uncompromised creative expression. His passion remains to make films of substance and social/cultural relevance, as well as to encourage others to express themselves through the arts.
Summer sessions offer opportunities for educational advancement

There's something for everyone this summer at Middlesex Community College: Enroll now for one of four Summer Sessions, a Saturday accelerated session, the Sprint Program for entering first-year students, or send your kids to one of MCC's unique College for Kids summer programs.

Summer Sessions are a great way for current students to keep their momentum going and complete their degrees sooner. Summer courses also provide high school students an opportunity to get an early start on their college career, and offer students who are home for the summer an affordable way to complete prerequisite courses or improve their GPA.

Day Summer Sessions run May 27 to June 26 and July 7 to Aug. 6. Day summer session classes meet four days a week on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

If traditional classes aren't your style, try Middlesex Community College's expanded online course offerings. MCC's expanded Online and Evening Summer Sessions run June 2 to July 29 and June 16 to Aug. 12. Classes meet online or two evenings a week. MCC offers 15 degree and certificate programs that can be completed entirely online as well as additional 12 programs of study that can be completed 80 percent online.

"Summer is always a good time to enroll at Middlesex, but this summer we are offering expanded sessions and online offerings to fit any schedule," said Marilyn Galligan, MCC's dean of admissions. "These special offerings provide a great opportunity to take a few more credits, and get a leg up on the fall semester."

With Middlesex Community College's Weekend College Accelerated Business Degree Program, students can earn an associate degree in Business Administration Transfer in just 17 months. Classes meet on Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., in 10-week sessions on the Lowell campus. The program includes a blend of face-to-face classroom time with online learning. MCC's next Weekend College Accelerated Session runs May 24 through July 26.

MCC's Sprint Program helps entering first-year college students improve their reading, writing or math skills before beginning college coursework. This intensive eight-week summer program runs four mornings a week, Monday through Thursday, June 9 to July 31, on the Lowell campus.

Finally, MCC's College for Kids program is designed to provide children with fun and challenging opportunities to explore careers, gain new knowledge, develop new skills and boost self-confidence. Formerly known as MCC Summer Camps, MCC's College for Kids programs are offered for children ages 8 to 15 and run July 14 through Aug. 21, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

So, make your summer matter at Middlesex! To register for MCC's Summer Sessions or Weekend College Accelerated Sessions, the Sprint Program or College for Kids, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online.
Middlesex CC Offers First-Year Experience Summer Courses

New students can get a jump start on their first year of college with the First-Year Experience (FYE) Program at Middlesex Community College. FYE is designed to support first-year students as they transition to college life and it’s not too late to register. MCC offers two day summer sessions, beginning Tuesday, May 27, and Monday, July 7.

"National research has shown what we have known all along - students are more successful in completing courses, in graduation rates, and in overall achievement when they are personally engaged with their college," said Jo Mucci, Director of First-Year Experience and Student Success.

"The FYE Program at Middlesex makes students aware of academic and co-curricular opportunities, thus helping them become more involved and successful in their studies."

At the core of MCC’s FYE Program is the “First-Year Experience Seminar,” a one-credit Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) course that is linked with a three-credit introductory college-level course to form an FYE Learning Community. Students learn essential success skills, behaviors and strategies that are necessary for the successful completion of their college classes.

Students may also take FYE’s “Leadership Seminar.” This one-credit IDS course is focused on social change and is designed to teach students how to be leaders in an evolving world with complex issues. Students will have the opportunity to learn about different leadership styles and skills, and gain hands-on experiences that will allow them to apply what they learn both in and outside of the classroom.

FYE courses foster a strong sense of community through the use of small classroom settings, group projects, presentations, and course offerings that are topical and accessible to all students. FYE students also work with advisors to create a unique academic and financial plan for their education and future.

For more information at the First-Year Experience at Middlesex, contact Jo Mucci, Director of First-Year Experience and Student Success, at 781-280-3724 or mucci@middlesex.mass.edu

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex - a great place to begin your future!
Ladies’ night in Dracut

Dristiliaris and Hughes top selectmen’s race; Cox ousted

By John Collins
jcollins@lowellsun.com

DRACUT — Mother’s Day arrived six days early in the town election Monday.
First-time winners Tami Dristiliaris and Alison Hughes, both full-time work-

Sheehan retains school-board seat;
Espinola pulls upset in GL Tech race/6

...ing moms, were elected to the Board of Selectmen, defeating three-term incumbent Bob Cox and three-time candidate Ted Koistavol.

By their victories, Dristili-
arias and Hughes, who led the four-candidate field with 1,724 and 1,495 votes, respectively, will join Chairwoman Cathy Richardson at their first.

Please see DRACUT/6

Dracut selectmen’s race ticket topper Tami Dristiliaris, left, is handed a set of keys to Town Hall by retiring Selectman John Zimini as state Rep. Colleen Garry, a major supporter, looks on at the Village Inn Monday night as election returns were celebrated. Watch Tout video at lowellsun.com.
Ladies’ night in Dracut election

selectmen’s meeting on May 13 in forging a new female majority on the five-member board.

“That’s pretty impressive,” said Dristiari, of the new female majority, at her post-election victory Monday night at the Village Inn. “It will be a positive. We can work together. We all get along. The men on the board are great, too. That’s one of my goals, to make sure that all five of us work well together.”

By all candidates’ accounts, Dristiari, an attorney and registered nurse, outworked her opponent in the race by sending out mailings, making hundreds of phone calls and knocking on doors of hundreds of voters.

“I worked as hard as I possibly could and if I didn’t make it this time, I didn’t think I could make it onto the board anytime,” Dristiari said.

Soon after the results were announced, Dristiari phoned Hughes at the Blue Angus where her victory celebration was being held, to congratulate her. Moments later, Richardson arrived at the Broadway restaurant to give Hughes a congratulatory hug.

“We had a really smart, grassroots campaign. I was very particular to make sure my message stayed on point,” said Hughes, a marketing professional, who received a key endorsement from former 24-year Selectman Warren Shaw early on. “I made sure to make my campaign about economic development, added revenue for the town for all services, not just education but police and fire.”

COX: “I am disappointed, but the voters spoke.”

Cox, who received 1,379 votes to finish in third place, spoke gravely in defeat.

“I am disappointed, but the voters spoke in their wisdom, as is their right,” Cox said at Town Hall moments after hearing the results read by Town Clerk Kathy Graham.

“They have Tami and Alison. I feel bad that there’s two brand-new selectmen on there to help with the new town manager, but it is what it is. Life goes on, it does.”

Ted Kosiavelon, who finished fourth with 1,362 votes, congratulated Dristiari and Hughes on their victories. Dristiari worked especially hard on the campaign and was “very deserving” of coming out on top in the selectmen’s race, according to Kosiavelon.

The selectmen’s race headlined the results of four tightly contested races in Dracut that saw Matt Sheehan returned to the School Committee, while two newcomers won election to the Dracut Housing Authority and Greater Lowell Technical School Committee.

According to Graham, Monday’s election turnout was 3,564, or 17.3 percent of 20,575 registered voters.

Considering the incentive that was provided to voters to come out for the town election by having 10 candidates vying for five seats with no clear front-runner heading into Monday, the 17 percent turnout was hugely disappointing, Kosiavelon said.

Most of the more than 6,000 voters who supported Kosiavelon’s “No $2.9 million override” position last September simply failed to show up on Monday, the candidate noted.

“I’m disappointed by the turnout,” Kosiavelon said. “I’m very disappointed by the people, who I stuck up for in town, that didn’t come out. I really am.”

Selectmen Chairwoman Cathy Richardson, left, embraces selectmen’s race second-place finisher Alison Hughes at the Blue Angus restaurant in Dracut Monday.

Caroline McIntosh and Ray Turgeon hold signs for their candidates outside the Parker Library in Dracut Monday.
Rally call - Downtown Lowell First Thursdays invites you to sample 'all the city has to offer'

By Nancy Tuttle, Sun Correspondent Lowell Sun
Updated 2014-05-29 07:04:58.849

Mary Hart, a Lowell resident, Gates Block Studios artist and Middlesex Community College professor, decided it would be fun to get her downtown neighbors out to sample the city’s galleries, museums, businesses and restaurants.

She discovered others felt similarly when she emailed arts, cultural and business leaders in early April, inviting them to a brainstorming meeting, and more than a dozen showed up.

They decided to launch a grassroots pilot program called Downtown Lowell First Thursdays.

The first takes place Thursday, June 5, from 5-9 p.m. and continues on Thursdays, July 3, Aug. 7 and Sept. 4.

"I’m new to the city, moving here from Winchester last year, and thought it would be nice to have a designated night to rally people to come out in a lively, artsy, family-friendly atmosphere to sample what Lowell has to offer," she said.

This isn’t Lowell’s first First Thursdays attempt. In 2005-2006, Destination World: Lowell’s Global Film Venture, took place the first Thursday of the month, celebrating different countries with films, performances, family activities, food and shopping specials. Funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, it lasted a year.

The latest venture is more grassroots, said Susan Halter, Lowell’s director of special events and the Cultural Organization of Lowell (COOL), which is promoting and publicizing First Thursdays on its website.

“We’re excited by the grassroots momentum to bring First Thursdays downtown,” said Halter. “Such programs can be a boost for businesses, as we’ve seen before here. With the support of the City, COOL and the National Park, we hope the summer pilot program will grow into a year-round event and generate an audience for businesses and our cultural community.”

Celeste Bernardo, superintendent of Lowell National Historical Park, is enthusiastic about Lowell’s latest First Thursdays venture. On board from the start, she shared expertise from her previous job as superintendent of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, which participated in that city’s successful Second Thursday art/culture event.

“It’s perfect for Lowell to undertake this,” said Bernardo. “We hope to create a mass of people coming downtown to partake of all the city has to offer. It’s a great way to showcase and market what’s here.”

The LNHP Visitors Center on Market Street will be open, with rangers available to answer questions. Free parking is available here.

Hart, a graphic artist, designed the First Thursday’s logo and banner that will identify participating venues.

Buskers will perform, restaurants and businesses will offer specials and downtown museums will stay open late. One is the Whistler House Museum of Art, whose acting executive director Sara Bogosian embraces the idea.

“It’s a wonderful way to promote downtown Lowell as a hub for art, food and festivities,” said Bogosian. “We’re pleased to be a part of it.”

Hart hopes the idea evolves into a year-round program.

“We live in a great old city with a vibrant downtown. We want to make it fun for people to look at art, visit a museum and enjoy an appetizer or dinner. It’s a great way to kick off the weekend,” said Hart.

Special events at galleries and museums participating at the first Downtown Lowell First Thursday, on June 5, from 5-9 p.m., include:

* Gates Block Studios, 307 Market St., chalk art, 7-8 p.m.
* ALL Arts Gallery, 307 Market St., Create a Creature Workshop (all ages), 5:30-8 p.m.
* American Textile History Museum, 491 Dutton St., free admission 5-8 p.m., first floor café open, tour of exhibits at 6 p.m.
* Brush Gallery & Artists Studios, 255 Market St., demonstration of making fabric Chinese fortune cookies, weaving, fused glass, copper etching and painting, Mediterranean goodies
* Loading Dock Gallery at National Historical Park Visitors Center, 246 Market St., slide show and jugglers from 6-8 p.m.
* Lowell National Historical Park Visitors Center, 246 Market St., general Lowell information and hosting Loading Dock Gallery
* Zeitgeist Gallery, 167 Market St., music and performances, 7-30-9 p.m.
* New England Quilt Museum, 18 Shattuck St., $2 for $1 admission, 4-8 p.m.
* Whistler House Museum of Art & Whistler Park, 243 Worthen St., music and refreshments in the park and house tours, 6-8 p.m.
* Ayer Loft Gallery, 172 Middle St., opening of “Witness: Art and Possibility” by Mohammed Ali Alkade and Ropy Joseph, Iraqi and Haitian food, 3-9 p.m.
* UnchARTed Gallery, 66 Merrimack St., mix of art from gallery members, 5-10 p.m. and music from Anubis Pop, 8 p.m.
* 119 Gallery, 119 Chelemsford St., evening of poetry and sound, 7-10-30 p.m.
* Mill No. 5, 250 Jackson St., 4th floor, in ARTsyftum’s Meet the Creator series, featuring artist, illustrator and author Murras, 5-8 p.m.

Participating businesses and restaurants include Fuse Bistro, Centro Restaurant, Persona, Brew’d Awakening, Market St. Market, The Back Room, Athenian Corner, AWOL, Eileen’s Pizza, Humanity, Little Delights Bakery, Sweet Lydia’s, Cobblestones.

Maps and info at all venues. Visit cultureiscool.org/downtown-lowell-first-thursdays for more info.

Nancy Tuttle’s email address is nancyed@verizon.net.
Area’s only college candlepin team looking for opponents

By Emily Sweeney
Globe Staff

MIDDLESEX THIS MONTH

June 2014

Every Sunday night at 7, students from Middlesex Community College go bowling at the Woburn Bowladrome.

Middlesex boasts the only college candlepin bowling club in the area, according to the club’s advisor, Marie Caruso.

A couple years ago she began looking for other college clubs to bowl with, and she came up empty.

“We were just so disappointed,” she said.

There are 200 intercollegiate bowling teams and 5,000 high schools that offer tenpin bowling in the United States, according to the US Bowling Congress, the national governing body for the sport of tenpin bowling.

But scholastic bowling teams — tenpin or candlepin — can be hard to find in Massachusetts. Bowling is not recognized as a varsity high school sport in Massachusetts, but 35 high schools in the western part of the state offer it as a club activity, according to Louis Orzio, commissioner of the Massachusetts High School Club Bowling Association.

Three schools all bowl tenpin, he said.

Stonehill College is one of the few colleges in the state that has a competitive candlepin bowling team. It has a club sport, and about a dozen students participate.

They practice twice a week at the tenpin lanes at Westgate Lanes in Brockton, and bowl in tournaments where they compete against teams from Bethany College, Rochester Institute of Technology, and other schools.

“Whenever we have competitions, we have to travel,” said 19-year-old Stonehill sophomore Peter Krahe, Stonehill’s team captain.

A resident of Newton, Caruso works at Middlesex, where she coordinates the tutoring center and teaches math.

“I love bowling,” she said.

Caruso founded the candlepin bowling club at Middlesex in 2005, when her daughter was a student at the school.

(Her daughter has since graduated from law school, and is now a practicing lawyer.)

She has been bowling since the 1960s, and she used to bring her own children candlepin bowling at Wal-Lex in Waltham until it closed, then started going to Woburn.

When she and her daughter started the Middlesex Community College candlepin bowling club, they had as many as 25 students.

Fewer show up now.

“On a good night, 12 to 15,” said Caruso. “It’s become more of a social club.”

Caruso does not really coach the students, but she is always willing to share her expertise if they ask for it.

“If you’re up there throwing gutter balls and you’re having a hard time throwing gutter balls,” she said, “I’ll bite my tongue.”

Caruso wants to issue a challenge to other area colleges and universities: Start a candlepin bowling club, and go bowling with Middlesex.

“It doesn’t take that many to start a club. I would love it,” she said. “We’re waiting.”

Emily Sweeney can be reached at esweeney@globe.com. Follow her on Twitter @emilysweeney.
Cashman ‘Shines’ at MCC

Middlesex Community College student Miranda Cashman, a Concord resident, has been named one of this year’s Massachusetts Department of Higher Education’s 29 Who Shine, an annual program recognizing outstanding students representing each of the state’s 29 public campuses.

Chosen because of her academic achievements, record of student leadership and community service, Cashman will be celebrated, along with the other 28 honorees, at the fourth annual 29 Who Shine Student Recognition Ceremony, to be held Thursday, at noon, at the Grand Staircase of the Massachusetts Statehouse.

A talented writer, actress and student scientist, Cashman began her studies at Middlesex as a dual-enrollment student. The 18-year-old has won numerous awards for poetry, essays, short stories, plays and creative nonfiction, including a National Silver Medal from Scholastic. Her essay, “The Asian Misrepresentation: How Stereotypes of Asians in the Media Harm America,” was published in Scholastic’s Art & Writing Award anthology, The Best Teen Writing of 2013.

Cashman currently holds a 4.0 grade-point average and serves as a Commonwealth Honors Program Student Ambassador and tutor. She has received two MCC Foundation Scholarships, and is a recipient of a 2014 International Education Fellowship to China, a trip she will take this summer.

After graduating this spring, she plans to transfer to UMass Amherst to pursue a Bachelor’s degree in Geology.
MCC’s English Learner Institute Offers Summer Courses

Middlesex Community College’s English Learner Institute (ELI) provides noncredit courses focused on developing basic English and skills essential to functioning in American society.

Enrollment is now open for MCC’s two ELI summer sessions, running May 12 through June 19, and June 23 through July 18. Classes meet Monday through Thursday, for two hours a day, in the mornings on the Lowell campus. Admission is open to all and does not require an MCC admission application.

ELI courses are designed to serve students, age 16 and up, who are newcomers to the United States or who need to develop basic English skills. Non-native speakers who have not met state MCAS requirements for high school graduation may also take this coursework.

MCC’s ELI program offers instruction at three different levels, from beginner to advanced for students who need to meet English proficiency standards for Middlesex degree and certificate programs. Topics such as technology, life skills and social conventions are also covered in each course. ELI courses are nonsequential. Students may enter the program in the fall, spring or summer semesters.

For more information about MCC’s English Learner Institute, course offerings and fees, call Maryanne Mungovan at 978-656-3267.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex — a great place to begin your future!

Middlesex Hosts STEM & Health Career Exploration Fair

Middlesex Community College students gathered to network with and listen to local professionals working in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and health careers at the STEM & Health Career Exploration Fair held recently on the Bedford campus.

"MCC’s Health & STEM Pathways Center has been providing a variety of educational and engaging events to introduce students to the variety of careers available in the health and STEM industry," said Audrey Frater, Academic Coordinator for MCC’s Health & STEM Pathways.

and MCC’s Dental Laboratory Technology Computer Aided Design programs.

For more information about the STEM & Health Career Exploration Fair or MCC’s Health & STEM Pathways Center, contact Audrey Frater at fratera@middlesex.mass.edu or call 978-322-8411.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex — a great place to begin your future!

Sponsored by MCC’s Health & STEM Pathways Center and the MCC STEM Starter Academy, the event featured a panel discussion by members of the American Society for Quality Boston Section (ASQ Boston), a nonprofit professional society dedicated to quality improvement and to bringing the benefits of quality to both industry and the community. Panelists discussed their career paths and current careers working in STEM and health fields, and their work with ASQ Boston.

The event also featured exhibitors such as iRobot and Conforms, as well as faculty, staff and students representing MCC programs, including the Academy of Health Professions,
MCC to hold ‘Years of Zero’ book signing

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College will host a book signing from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, with Seng Ty, author of *The Years of Zero, Coming of Age under the Khmer Rouge.*

Ty, a 46-year-old guidance counselor at Stoklosa Middle School in Lowell, was only 8 when the Khmer Rouge tortured his father, a physician, to death. His mother’s death from overwork was followed by the deaths of seven of his 10 brothers and sisters who were tortured, starved or fell ill. As an orphan, he ended up in the agricultural labor camp near the border with Thailand.

He was freed in 1979 when Vietnamese forces invaded Cambodia. After living on the streets of Phnom Penh and in a refugee camp in Thailand, Ty found his permanent home in Massachusetts in 1982 when Marlene Brown, a preschool teacher and the wife of a former diplomat from Amherst, decided to adopt the 14-year-old boy whom she saw in a photograph that appeared in *Time* magazine featuring the “Children of War” earlier that year.

*The Years of Zero, Coming of Age under the Khmer Rouge* will be available for purchase during the event, to be held at the Federal Building, 50 Kearney Square. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Light Project for Rural Cambodians.

For more information about “The Years of Zero,” visit www.sengty.com/theyear-zero/.

— HIROKO SATO
MCC to hold 'Years of Zero' book signing event

*The Lowell Sun*

POSTED 05/01/2011 01:21:42 PM EDT

Lowell Author, Seng Ty, shown with his self-published book, "The Years of Zero"; he is also a Lowell school teacher. (SUN/David H. Brow)

LOWELL -- Middlesex Community College will host a book signing on Wednesday, May 7, from 5 to 7 p.m., with Seng Ty, author of The Years of Zero, Coming of age under the Khmer Rouge.

Ty, a 46-year-old guidance counselor at Stoklosa Middle School in Lowell, was only 8 when the Khmer Rouge tortured his father, a physician, to death. His mother died from overwork, followed by the deaths of seven of his 10 brothers and sisters who were tortured, starved or fell ill. As an orphan, he ended up in the agricultural labor camp near a Thailand border. He was freed in 1979 when Vietnamese forces invaded Cambodia. After living on the streets of Phnom Penh and in a refugee camp in Thailand, Ty found his permanent home in Massachusetts in 1982 when Marlena Brown, a preschool teacher and the wife of a former diplomat from Amherst, decided to adopt the 14-year-old boy whom she saw in a photograph that appeared in Time magazine featuring the "Children of War" earlier that year.

The Years of Zero, Coming of age under the Khmer Rouge will be available for purchase during the event, to be held at the Federal Building, 50 Kearney Square. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Light Project for Rural Cambodians.


-- HIROKO SATO
Disappearance of honeybees could hurt food supply and prices

By Hiroko Sato
hsato@lowellsun.com

If the words “factory farming” only make you imagine pigs, cows and fowl crammed in small stalls waiting for food, Brian Pride wants you to think again.

The term also applies to honeybees — the little flying creatures that help food plants grow.

Just imagine an endless field in California with nothing but thousands of almond trees, said Pride, a beekeeper and owner of Bee Pride, a beekeeping-supply business in Lebanon, Maine, as he gave a recent talk on honeybees at Middlesex Community College in Bedford.

Professional pollinators would pack in countless bees to an open “holding area” in the field where bees would be kept in containers to wait for the right time to be released for pollination, he said. With no plants to feed on, bees would survive on high-fructose corn syrup that pollinators feed them, Pride said.

After working through a growing season, though, honeybees that helped grow all sorts of crops would slowly start to disappear. Some would be found with holes in their bodies after Varroa mites ate them alive. Others would succumb to illnesses caused by fungal spores. Some pollinators also argue that pesticides, particularly those applied to genetically modified crops, may also be killing bees.

The disappearance of honeybees reported across the U.S. and elsewhere has had farmers and pollinators scratching their heads over the last decade.

“That’s because it’s not one thing. It’s a combination of all the things,” Rick Reault, owner of New England Beekeeping Supplies Inc. of Tyngsboro, said of the so-called honeybee colony collapse disorder.

In the U.S., including New England, about 30 percent of bees don’t make it through winter, compared to just 15 percent in the 1940s, according to Pride. Reault said 30 percent is an optimistic number. In Massachusetts, at least half of honeybees die each year, partly due to...
Experts: Food supply, prices hang in bee balance

BEES/From Page 1

the cold climate, Reault said.

But whatever the statistics may be, Pride and Reault both said it's growing harder to replace dead ones. If it costs more to raise bees, it would also cost more for farmers to pollinate their crops. Eventually, that will lead to an increase in food prices, hitting everyday consumers in their pockets, experts said.

"Bees pollinate one-third of the food we eat," Pride said. "If you take bees away, food choices would be far different."

Reault, who also produces honey under the brand name Carlisle Honey, understands first-hand what it takes to pollinate food crops. He drives to Georgia three times a year to bring back 500 bee packages each time, which he sells to other local beekeepers and uses to provide pollination services to area farms growing apples and cranberries and some other food. Each of the attaché case-sized packages contains 10,000 bees. In other words, Reault brings back 5 million bees at a time. Bees don't like it too hot or too cold. So, he makes it a point to drive straight back home from where he picks up the bees.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, honeybees are transported over a longer distance than ever as demands for pollination services continue to grow while the number of managed colonies has declined from 5 million in the 1940s to 2.5 million today. Some colonies of bees would travel from Georgia to Pennsylvania to Maine to California in one growing season, Pride said.

In fact, as many as 1.5 million bee colonies are in California every January just for the pollination of almond trees, Reault said.

The emergence of new pathogens and pests during the 1980s and Varroa and tracheal mites in the 1990s stressed bee populations even more, according to the USDA website. Mite attacks are devastating to bees because they don't generate scar tissue to heal from open wounds, Pride said. In New England, freezing temperatures in

Tyngsboro beekeeper Rick Reault says a combination of factors are harming the honeybee population. 

Listen to his explanation on video at lowellsun.com.

winter have a lot to do with honeybee deaths, Reault said.

Experts say factory farming, a lack of diversity in available food sources for bees and lack of forage in general all affect honeybees. When bees find nectar sources, the plants may also come with pesticide. Pride said pesticides on such things as garden mulch may also have an impact. Reault said some pesticides used for mosquito control can kill bees, too.

Many beekeepers across the country are also concerned that genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, may be causing bees to take in more pesticides than they would from other types of crops because chemicals are applied to seeds. Unlike conventionally sprayed chemicals that can evaporate or wash away in the rain, pesticide in GMOs is systemic, concerned experts say.

With a lot of care, one can reduce the honeybee mortality rate, Reault said. He, for one, only loses about 15 percent of bees annually. But that involves not only dedication but also skill, he said.

Once bees realize there aren't enough many of them to maintain hives, they disappear, causing a colony "collapse." And the disappearance of bees makes it difficult to understand what happened to them, said Peggy Pride, co-owner of Bee Pride.

While experts speculate reasons for bee disappearance, they agree that more studies are needed to examine the insects that play a vital role in the food supply.

Bee facts

Female bees have a hard life
- All worker bees are female.
- Worker bees feed and take care of drones (male bees). Drones do nothing other than to wait in a "congregation area" for a virgin queen bee to fly by and mate.

Male bees have a hard life, too
- Drones can only mate once in lifetime. Once they mate, they die.
- They have to mate before winter, or worker bees would kick them out of their hives, causing drones to starve or freeze to death.

It's not in a honeybee's best interest to sting you. Honeybees sting only to protect themselves because they can sting only once. Once they sting, they die.

Source: Beekeeper Brian Pride

51
PAYING IT FORWARD

Bedford comes together to help orphanages and schools in Haiti

By Sam Perkins
sparkins@wickedlocal.com

"You don't pay love back; you pay it forward."
-Lily Hardy Hammond

Pay it forward. It is a simple idea: One good deed, no matter how small, done in kindness, with nothing asked for or expected in return, spawns another selfless.

For more photos from the Pay It Forward meal packing day, please turn to page B6 or visit us online at bedford.wickedlocal.com

SEE HAITI, A9
worked from 9 a.m. until after 5 p.m.

"Middlesex Community College was a fantastic host - they did just a lot of the on the ground logistics that can be very complicated," said Colgan.

"I think [Middlesex] was really into the idea of hosting because it allowed them to really connect with the surrounding town of Bedford," explained Colgan of the college, which sits on the outskirts of town and can often feel like a separate community. According to Colgan, the event's premier sponsor, BAE Systems, which has a location just across the town line in Lexington, not only provided a great deal of support, but also helped to spearhead the goodwill and festive spirit of the event.

"They [BAE Systems] made it an event that was a big part of their company - that the company took a lot of pride in - they brought employees. They made a big deal out of it, which is awesome," Colgan said.

"There were some kids who attended because they needed community service; there were some who were Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, there was a big contingent from St. Paul's Episcopal Church; there were four rotary clubs - Bedford, Dracut, Billerica and Westford," said Colgan.

The event was the brainchild of Colgan, a former president of the Bedford Rotary, who first heard of a similar event held four years ago in Kansas City.

"I first got the idea when I had seen some show on 'CBS News' where they had done something like this in Kansas City, and I said 'I want to do that here,'" said Colgan.

Last year, Bedford Rotary put Colgan's idea into action, raising enough funds and volunteers to pack 15,000 meals. The Rotary's hope was to build on last year's event, which was held in the John Glenn Middle School gym, by reaching out to the community and surrounding towns. This year, with the support of the community and many area businesses, the event grew nearly tenfold.

"Our Rotary Foundation funded it last year out of our own pocket, and this year we went out into the community and businesses, churches and individuals were very receptive in helping out," said Colgan. "We've done it two years in a row and this year it's gotten bigger. We just really liked to have local businesses and organizations feel like they get something out of it."

Moving forward, Colgan hopes that the event will continue to snowball down the hill and grow into something more.

"I think we've got some momentum, and our hope is that the community involvement will just continue to grow and grow, because it is such a wonderful event to help others, but it also really helps the community by bringing so many people together."

You can follow the Bedford Minuteman and Editor Sara Perkins on Twitter at @bedfordminuteman
Scenes from Saturday’s Pay It Forward packing

On Saturday, April 26, more than 400 volunteers descended upon Middlesex Community College to help pack more than 120,000 meals for orphanages and schools in Haiti, the culmination of the Pay it Forward campaign spearheaded by the Rotary Club of Bedford. Here’s a look at some scenes from Saturday.
Nathaniel Chao, a Burlington, and other volunteers work to package meals, which were purchased by the Rotary Club to be distributed by the Stop Hunger Now non-profit to the needy in Haiti, on Saturday morning at Middlesex Community College. WICKED LOCAL STAFF
PHOTO/DAVID GORDON

Victoria Hand, 14, of Bedford, and other volunteers work to package meals, which were purchased by the Rotary Club to be distributed by the Stop Hunger Now non-profit to the needy in Haiti, on Saturday morning at Middlesex Community College. WICKED LOCAL STAFF
PHOTO/DAVID GORDON

More than 400 volunteers helped pack 120,000 meals. COURTESY PHOTO

Kay Hamilton, of Bedford, and other volunteers work to package meals, which were purchased by the Rotary Club to be distributed by the Stop Hunger Now non-profit to the needy in Haiti, on Saturday morning at Middlesex Community College. WICKED LOCAL STAFF
PHOTO/DAVID GORDON

Farook Tafiq, middle, of Dracut, and other volunteers work to package meals, which were purchased by the Rotary Club to be distributed by the Stop Hunger Now non-profit to the needy in Haiti, on Saturday morning at Middlesex Community College. WICKED LOCAL STAFF
PHOTO/DAVID GORDON

Jan Garley, of Chelmsford, and other volunteers work to package meals, which were purchased by the Rotary Club to be distributed by the Stop Hunger Now non-profit to the needy in Haiti, on Saturday morning at Middlesex Community College. WICKED LOCAL STAFF PHOTO

Bedford's 2013 Citizen of the Year Ralph Hammond helps pack meals. COURTESY PHOTO
M3 COALITION.

New program to test drive shuttle service

Getting cars off the road in Burlington, Bedford, Billerica and Chelmsford

By Judy Wasserman
Burlington@wickedlocal.com

For some, not only does the traffic on Middlesex Turnpike move slowly, but plans to fix it also inch along at a snail’s pace.

That may be changing.

The M3 Coalition (the “M” stands for Middlesex Turnpike and the “3” stands for Route 3), a public/private partnership that includes Bedford, along with the communities of Burlington, Billerica, Chelmsford, and Lowell, is, in the words of Attorney Bob Buckley, “on the verge of doing good things.”

Buckley, senior partner at Burlington law firm Riemer & Braunstein, said that when the coalition was established four years ago, it sought to address and solve the common challenges of the communities.

State officials, including Gov. Deval Patrick and State Transportation Secretary Greg Bialecki, said Route 3 from Burlington to Lowell is prime for economic development, especially with the amount of high-tech talent here, and the state committed its support to the region, said Buckley.

SEE SHUTTLE, A9
With that in mind, M3 will be using a recently received state grant to develop a pilot program for a shuttle service among the partner communities.

According to Buckley, the various assets of the partner communities would be used to transport employees, shoppers and restaurant patrons to their destinations, helping to diminish the current high volume of traffic in the routes 3 and 128 region.

Those assets include Burlington’s local bus service, known as the B-Line, and Lowell’s Regional Transit Authority.

Benefits of the shuttle, said Buckley, include:
- Getting more cars off the road;
- Improving air quality;
- Helping employees, shoppers, and store patrons get to their destinations easily.

It is expected the shuttle will run every 15 minutes and will be free.

Participating companies would contribute expertise and funding for the shuttle service.

Buckley said to offset the cost to companies for the shuttle, M3 is researching and writing tax legislation that would provide a tax credit for those companies.

Regarding transportation problems, State Rep. Ken Gordon (who represents the 21st Middlesex District, which includes Bedford and Burlington), a coalition partner, said last week that, “We can work together toward a solution.”

“It is exciting to work with the five communities coming together to address their mutual interests,” Gordon said. “It started as a venture to attract business, but in attracting business, we also support home sales, culture, and a whole lot more.” It will bring more opportunities to the region, Gordon said.

The state’s Community Innovation Challenge Grant Program awarded $147,800 to M3 in February; it was one of 37 projects to receive funding.

Designed to support regional solutions, the grant provides “tools to effectively manage resources and provide services to ... residents,” said state Secretary of Administration and Finance, Glen Shor.

State officials believe the grant allows cities and towns to pursue innovative ways to deliver critical services, and to build public/private partnerships.

As a public/private partnership, M3 includes municipal officials, representatives from businesses and nonprofits, including Riemer & Braunstein, Gutierrez Co., Lahey Clinic, Lowell General Hospital, Middlesex Community College, and UMass Lowell.

Buckley said M3 members agreed at the outset that they “shouldn’t shoot for the stars,” but should focus specifically on transportation and workforce training. He said unlogging traffic and providing up-to-date training are high priorities in this region.

For example, Buckley said, employers report that the skills of job seekers don’t match what is needed, especially in the field of biotech.

Buckley said the coalition believes it’s important to get started on solving the communities’ similar challenges. “We can make at least some progress and solve some problems. Individual towns can’t do it on their own, but there are creative ways to make a difference.”
MCC Theater Department stages 'Godspell'

The Lowell Sun
Updated: 04/29/2014 03:16:48 PM EDT

The Middlesex Community College Theater Department will stage the rock opera Godspell this weekend. (Photo: Alyce O'Connell)

NORTH ANDOVER -- The Middlesex Community College Theater Department will stage the rock opera Godspell for six performances May 1-4 in Merrimack College’s Stevens Auditorium, 315 Turnpike St. Curtain times are Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 2 and 7 p.m.

Based on the Gospel According to Saint Matthew, Godspell features music and new lyrics by Stephen Schwartz (Wicked). The rock opera, which first opened on Broadway in 1971, boasts a string of well-loved songs, led by the international hit, "Day By Day."

Tickets are $15 (MCC students, staff and faculty $10) and can be purchased online at https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/performingarts or by calling the box office at 978-458-5429.
MCC increases STEM enrollment

Middlesex Community College has increased enrollment in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math — or STEM — programs of study by nearly 10 percent for the spring semester. And STEM enrollment has increased by 84 percent over the last five years.

"The increase in enrollment reflects what's happening in the workplace," said Kathleen Sweeney, dean of Health and STEM. "There are more jobs in STEM fields, and people are becoming more aware of that and more interested."

Middlesex is keeping up with the increase in interest and STEM enrollment by ramping up initiatives aimed at student success.

"Faculty-led efforts are making a big difference in student interest and student completion," Sweeney said. "Faculty members are helping students at a grass-roots level to keep them engaged with their programs of study and developing special initiatives to help them succeed."

Creating MCC's Health & STEM Pathways Center, Summer Bridge Program, and encouraging students to become actively involved in their education by joining the MCC STEM Club, have all helped keep students engaged in their education, Sweeney said.

Over the last five years, MCC's STEM programs have seen a 42 percent increase in student completion rates, she added.

MCC will be able to expand STEM enrollment with the help of a recent grant from Complete College America to aid statewide efforts to increase the number of college students who complete degree and certificate programs in STEM fields.

Administered through the state Board of Higher Education, the technical-assistance grant will allow nine Massachusetts public campuses to design academic innovations through CCA's Guided Pathways to Success in STEM Careers initiative, the goal of which is to help students persist in their studies and then graduate into promising STEM careers.

During the two-year period of the grant, CCA will provide technical expertise to the eight community colleges and one state university to help develop STEM completion goals, and analyze local labor-market conditions and workforce needs.

"Through the CCA grant, all of our Health & STEM programs of study are developing 'program maps' for student to help them navigate their way through the very challenging STEM coursework, earn a degree, and move on to successful careers," Sweeney said.

For more information about MCC's STEM programs, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/stem, or contact Sweeney at sweeneyk@middlesex.mass.edu.

Middlesex to observe Law Day this week

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College and the Center for Student Leadership & Engagement will observe Law Day 2014 with a special program, titled "American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters," Thursday, at noon, in MCC's Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square, on the Lowell campus.

Cameron Iannalfo, a senior at UMass Lowell majoring in Political Science and minoring in History and Legal Studies, will speak at the event.

Iannalfo currently serves in the Navy Seabees as an equipment operator, and ran in the 2012 election for the New Hampshire House of Representatives. During the presentation, he will discuss his service in the Navy, his work with the N.H. Democratic Party, and his experiences running for state office in 2006 and 2012.

For more information about Law Day 2014, contact Sheri Denk, special-events coordinator for MCC's Center for Leadership & Engagement, at denks@middlesex.mass.ed or call 978-656-3159.
Alumni of MCC Honors Program host a reunion

LOWELL — Alumni from Middlesex Community College’s Commonwealth Honors Program, as well as faculty, staff and college administrators gathered at MCC’s historic John Nesmith House in Lowell recently for the first Commonwealth Honors Program Alumni Dinner.

“It is a great time to bring our alumni together to reconnect and engage them in our program and with each other,” said David Kalivas, MCC History professor and director of the Commonwealth Honors Program. “It’s wonderful to share each others’ experiences and hear about all the wonderful things they are accomplishing.”

CHP at Middlesex offers a variety of honors course options, as well as opportunities for students to master research and presentation techniques. Honors students also engage in extra and co-curricular activities, including field trips and guest lectures.

During the dinner, Kalivas announced the intention to create a Commonwealth Honors Program Advisory Board and invited the alumni to participate.

“Our CHP students have such rich experiences at Middlesex and beyond,” he said. “We want input from them on how we can continue to improve and grow the program for future students, as well as create mentoring and networking opportunities for current students and alumni.”

In 2010, after receiving accreditation from the state Board of Higher Education, MCC’s long-standing honors program became part of the Commonwealth Honors Program, an integrated network of honors programs throughout the Massachusetts public college and university system.

To graduate with honors, Middlesex students are expected to complete a minimum of three honors courses, one of which must be an interdisciplinary, team-taught seminar. Students must also participate in the annual Honors Conference, a public opportunity for students to display and explain their research.

Students who complete their degrees through CHP are guaranteed transfer to other Commonwealth Honors Programs at any state college or university, or can enhance their applications for other four-year public or private institutions.

The inaugural alumni dinner was presented in collaboration with the MCC Advancement/Alumni Office, with support from the Middlesex Community College Foundation and the Division of Academic Affairs.

For more information about MCC’s Commonwealth Honors Program, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/honors/ or call 781-280-3553.
10 Questions With...
National Special Olympics golfer and soon-to-be Middlesex Community College grad Tyler Lagasse

Accomplishing a great degree of difficulty

By Dennis Whilton
dwhilton@wesbur.com

Tyler Lagasse of Tyngsboro is getting ready for the National Special Olympics golf competition in June in New Jersey, where he will be one of the favorites, having won a silver medal in the tournament in 2010 in Nebraska.

He has a "high-functioning" form of autism and has worked hard with his parents, Ron and Debbie, to overcome the social and medical difficulties associated with the disability. Next month he'll receive an associate's degree from Middlesex Community College and in the fall enroll at UMass Lowell.

The 26-year-old Lagasse has won several Mass. Special Olympics competitions and was inducted into that organization's Hall of Fame.

Q: You've done quite well in Special Olympics golf competitions. Can you tell us about your "disability," and how you have worked to overcome it?

A: My disability is Pervasive Developmental Disorder, a high-functioning form of autism. It's not a thing that you fully get over since there is no cure for it. The least or best I could do is have faith in my talents and abilities, find some sources of motivation and inspiration, focus on what I need to do to succeed, and try to forget the fact that I have autism.

Q: What are your current education plans?

A: I'm taking chemistry at Middlesex Community College, thankfully it is my last course before I graduate with an associate's degree in liberal arts. I've been accepted at UMass Lowell in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in environmental health.

Please see QUESTIONS/4

Silverbetalist Tyler Lagasse at National Special Olympics in Nebraska.
Questions:

Q: Do you have a future career in mind?
A: It’s hard to pinpoint which field I want to choose as a career. I hope in golf professionally, but in case that doesn’t work out, I may choose a career in green energy or environmental protection, because I see climate change as a real threat to our future.

Q: There must be a lot of people who have helped you along the way in your school work and athletics. Who are some of them?
A: The one person that played a big role in getting into golf was Jaret Foley. He was my babysitter when he was in high school and a family friend. We would spend some summer days golfing at Mt. Pleasant back in the 1990s and I started getting into golf because of him. One gentleman that played a significant role in my education was a custodian named Mr. Navaroli. I attended Cotting School in Lexington between 2001 and 2005 and almost every morning at the library he would come by and ask me “What do you say, Mr. La-Gna-Say?” I learned so much about character from this man. Strange but true.

Q: What’s your greatest accomplishment on the golf course?
A: On the golf course, I’ve made eagle on a par-4 twice, I have won a silver medal in the 2010 Special Olympics National Games in Nebraska, and in 2012 on the 18th hole at Congressional Country Club in Maryland. I made a birdie and beat the pro I played with at the ATP & National Pre-Ams. I was not the only one to make it to the hole-in-one. But my greatest accomplishment had to be the hole-in-one made with a nine-iron on the ninth hole at Tyngsboro Country Club in the middle of the first hole of the Stanley Cup playoff game in 2013. I was playing with my dad.

Q: What’s your greatest accomplishment in life?
A: In life, so far it is my induction to the Special Olympics Massachusetts Hall of Fame in 2010. On May 22, my greatest accomplishment in life will be my graduation from Middlesex Community College because I have been a part-time student there for eight years and I can tell you that college is no easy task. To me it is work.

Q: Golf has allowed you to travel quite extensively for various tournaments. What were some of your favorite places to go and your favorite golf courses?
A: My favorite place to golf was the PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Fl., where I took part in the 2008 Special Olympics National Invitational. It was as if I had died and went to golf heaven. Now it is Turner Hill in Ipswich because to me it is the most beautiful course I ever had a chance to play. My other favorite courses include Vesper, Congressional, TPC Boston, Nashawuuc, Four Oaks and Green Meadow.

Q: You were featured for a segment of “Golf in America” on the Golf Channel a few years back. Not bad for a kid from Tyngsboro. What was that experience like?
A: I remember it was the day after the Brussels’ epic collapse in 2010 and I was a little tense. I wore a wireless microphone as I was playing one-hole with Jim Acker on Stow Acres. I was a little camera-shy at first but I felt more comfortable as the day went on. They did another segment of me after I took the silver in Nebraska and this time Jim Acker visited my home. He said he loved my room.

Q: Golf isn’t your only sport. You take part in quite a few and follow all the local teams extensively. What are some of your accomplishments in these other sports?
A: I am no longer a fan of basketball but I was a good player as a teenager at Cotting School and Special Olympics and I even got to play at the Garden at halftime during a Celtics game 10 years ago. I also won Special Olympic medals in track and field and skiing at the local level. I like to watch hockey, football, soccer and golf and I have kept a record of every Stanley Cup playoff game since 2003.

Q: Last question: What’s wrong with the Red Sox?
A: They are the 2014 Red Sox, not the 2013 Red Sox. This year’s team is getting to know each other and they know they have a lot of work ahead of them if they are ever going to get out of last place. Let alone repeat what happened last year.
Workforce Training Fund Grant (04/21/2014)

Entegris Inc. was awarded a $126,000 grant from the Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund General Grant Program to train employees in the Billerica plant. The goal of the training is to help our workforce meet customer requirements, innovate, and respond quickly and effectively to the ever demanding industry. Entegris has partnered with Middlesex Community College to deliver the training. Middlesex Community College’s (MCC) Corporate Education and Training Department has worked with hundreds of employers in the region over the last 30 years to provide education and training for their incumbent workforce. More than 25 classes will take place over the next two years ranging from English as a Second Language and Microsoft Excel to Statistical Process Control (SPC) and technical writing.

"I believe this program is going well. The Entegris employees have expressed their appreciation for making the program available during their work hours. They see it as an investment Entegris is making into their future with the company", said Tim Gallagher, Billerica/Bedford Plant Manager Judy Burke, Dean of Corporate and Community Education and Training at MCC commented, "MCC is proud and grateful to be working with Entegris on this grant and ultimately contributing to the overall advancement of the Entegris workforce."

Scott Ingerowski | Human Resources Manager
MCC wins awards for marketing

Middlesex Community College has earned top honors in the Education Digital Marketing Awards, a national program recognizing the best college social-media, websites, and electronic and mobile communications.

MCC received eight Digital Marketing Awards — five gold and three silver. The awards are sponsored by the Higher Education Marketing Report.

"Middlesex has successfully integrated web, social media and mobile into the college’s marketing/communication strategy," said Jennifer Aradhya, director of marketing communications at MCC. "It is an honor to be recognized for our work in the emerging field of digital marketing."

Middlesex was presented the following 2013 Education Digital Marketing Awards:

- Social Media: Gold Award, "UR 1st 30 Days at MCC" Instagram Challenge.
- Electronic Advertising: Gold Award, "MCC: A great place to begin your future."
- Mobile Media: Gold Award, MCC Mobile.
- Digital Video: Gold Award, MCC Fall 2013 Cinemmercial.
- Other Blog Site: Gold Award, MCC Blog.
- Total Digital Marketing Program: Silver Award, MCC Commencement 2013.
- Online Publication: Silver Award, Profiles magazine.
- Institutional Website: Silver Award, Middlesex Community College Website.

The Higher Education Marketing Report is one of the most widely read educational marketing journals. Entries to its Education Digital Marketing Awards were judged by a national panel of industry specialists for creativity, marketing execution, message impact, technology application and innovation content.

For a complete list of winners, visit: http://educationdigitalmarketingawards.com/winners-list.
MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE HAPPENINGS

Bedford open house in April 29

BEDFORD — Middlesex Community College will host an open house on the Bedford campus Tuesday, April 29, at 5:30 p.m., in the Bedford Campus Center, 591 Springs Road.

Prospective students and their families, as well as adult learners interested in continuing their education, will have an opportunity to learn about MCC’s more than 75 degree and certificate programs, noncredit courses, and online and flexible-learning options.

The open house will feature a series of breakout sessions tailored to meet student needs and interests. Students can explore specific areas of academic interest and meet a panel of Middlesex graduates who returned to school to finish their degrees, and take a tour.

Advisers and administrators will be on hand to answer questions and provide information about how to be successful at Middlesex. Students can learn about MCC’s many support services, including academic and career counseling, tutoring, disability support and other special programs, as well as meet with financial-aid representatives.

For more information or to RSVP, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/OH or call 800-818-3434.

Secret life of bees Tuesday

Middlesex Community College’s Sustainability Advisory Committee will present a special program about bees, their important place in nature and the mystery behind their alarming disappearance, by master beekeeper Brian Pride, on Tuesday on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

Titled “Why Are the Bees Disappearing? The Mystery of Bee Colony Collapse & Its Impact On Our Future,” the Bedford campus program will be held from 9 to 10:15 a.m., in the Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road, and the Lowell campus program will be offered from noon to 1:15 p.m., in the City Building’s Lower Cafeteria, 33 Kearney Square.

For more information, email fioric@middlesex.mass.edu.
Middlesex Community College To Host Bedford Campus Open House

Middlesex Community College will host an Open House on the Bedford campus at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, in the Bedford Campus Center, 591 Springs Road.

Prospective students and their families, as well as adult learners interested in continuing their education, will have the opportunity to learn about MCC’s more than 75 degree and certificate programs, noncredit courses, and online and flexible-learning options.

Many of MCC’s academic programs allow students to earn an associate degree and then transfer to a four-year college or university through the statewide MassTransfer program articulation agreements with private colleges. Transfer agreements are designed to ease the transfer process, allowing a student to specifically plan a curriculum that will fit a chosen bachelor’s degree program.

The Bedford Campus Open House will feature a series of breakout sessions tailored to meet student needs and interests. Students can explore specific areas of academic interest and meet a panel of Middlesex graduates who returned to school to finish their degrees, and take a campus tour.

“This open-house format gives students an opportunity to learn about everything Middlesex has to offer,” said Marilynn Gallagan, MCC’s Dean of Admissions.

Advisors and administrators will be on hand to answer student questions and provide information about how to be successful at Middlesex. Students can learn about MCC’s many support services such as academic and career counseling, tutoring, disability support, and other special programs.

Attendees can also meet with financial aid representatives to get information about financing their education. Students can even turn in college applications and schedule appointments for placement testing.

For more information or to RSVP for MCC’s Bedford Campus Open House, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/OH or call 1-800-818-3434.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex—a great place to begin your future!
NEMLEC SWAT

BPD Sgt. Towle to be honored

Bedford police Sgt. and NEMLEC SWAT commander Patrick Towle will be presented the 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award by Middlesex Community College at the school's 2014 Commencement exercises.

Towle, a 1985 MCC graduate and lifelong Bedford resident, led the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC) SWAT team response in the days following the Boston Marathon bombing and played a first hand role in the capture of suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

"The NEMLEC SWAT unit was there from Monday through Friday of that historic week, working as one, and proudly representing the 57 cities and towns that comprise the NEMLEC region," said Bedford Police Chief Robert Bongiorno. "Their work in those five days is immeasurable, and I'm proud to say that (Sgt. Towle) represented Bedford well in that crisis."

Towle is a "consummate leader" Bongiorno added. "He is respected and followed, and exemplifies what you want from a leader. Sgt. Towle will rise to whatever occasion he is faced with, but he always does it in a manner that is professional and with the greater interest of public safety as his focus."

SEE TOWLE, A5

TOWLE
From Page A1

MCC's Distinguished Alumni Award is given annually to a graduate who demonstrates achievement in their career or other areas of life, exceptional service to the community, and commitment to Middlesex, as well as integrity and character. Towle will receive the award at MCC's 2014 Commencement exercises, to be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 22, in Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

For more information about MCC's Distinguished Alumni Award, contact Dennis Malvers, Dean of College Advancement, at malversd@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3514.

Bedford PD Sgt. Pat Towle. COURTESY PHOTO
Transition Program for Students with Learning Disabilities

Learn more about Middlesex Community College’s nationally recognized Transition Program, a two-year, noncredit certificate program for students with learning/cognitive disabilities. A public information session for Transition Program prospective students and their families will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Thursday, April 24, in MCC’s Bedford Campus Center, Café East, 591 Springs Road.

“MCC’s Transition program is designed for students with significant learning disabilities who would find traditional college-level academics too challenging, even with extensive support services,” said Susan Woods, MCC’s Associate Dean of Student Support Services.

Three days a week, Transition Program students attend classes designed to teach independent-living skills, computer and job-survival skills, and social skills. Small class size ensures that students receive individualized attention and a program tailored to meet their needs.

When students aren’t in class, they work as interns in competitive employment situations in office and business support environments. “The Transition Program helps students achieve their potential through coursework and hands-on experience in work settings,” said Woods.

Graduates of MCC’s Transition Program receive a Certificate of Completion in Office and Business Support Skills and typically obtain employment in office support, business support, or retail support.

Information session participants will receive an overview of the program, as well as in-depth information on the curriculum, application procedures, details of the required internship portion of the program, and prospective job opportunities. Transition students may participate in all Middlesex student activities and student support services.

Transition Program candidates should have a high school diploma or GED credential, interest in training for entry-level work in business and industry, fifth- to eighth-grade level reading and math skills, and the maturity and emotional stability to effectively participate in a program on a college campus.

For more information about MCC’s Transition Program, or to register for an information session, contact Susan Woods, Transition Program Director, at 781-280-3630 or visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transitionprogram/.

MCC is one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state. We offer more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, during the day, evening and weekend, on our Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. Middlesex – a great place to begin your future!
Celebrity Forum 2014

an evening with

Robert Redford

Actor, Director, Sundance Institute Founder and Environmentalist

Friday, June 20 at 8 p.m. • Lowell Memorial Auditorium

Tickets NOW on sale

Premier Seating - $65 • Standard Seating - $45

Any price includes a mandatory $2 restoration fee charged by the Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

Tickets may be purchased: By calling the Lowell Memorial Auditorium Box Office at 866-722-8881 or online at www.lowellauditorium.com or in person at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium Box Office located at 50 East Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA. For group sales of 15 or more, contact Joe Verrill at (978) 345-5791 or email verral@mi.edu. All tickets are final. No refunds, no exchanges.

For details, visit

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF14

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Dennis Malvers at 781-260-3514.

June 20

Lowell, Mass.

The Middlesex Community College

Celebrity Forum 2014 invites you to spend an evening with Robert Redford. It’s Friday, June 20 at 8 p.m. at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. For more information call the box office at (978) 454-2299 or visit LowellAuditorium.com.
MIDDLETOWN - This Month June 2014

MIDDLESEX Community College

A great place to begin your future

SUMMER 2014

MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
MAY 27 – JUNE 26 or
JULY 7 – AUG. 6
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
JUNE 2 – JULY 29 or
JUNE 16 – AUG. 12
Classes meet online or 2 evenings per week

To learn more visit 1-800-618-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MCC This Month June 2014

SUMMER 2014
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

- Get an early start on your college career.
- Finish your degree sooner by accelerating your present program of study.
- Improve your GPA by studying in a small class environment at a price you can afford.

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
MAY 27 – JUNE 26 or JULY 7 – AUG. 6
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
JUNE 2 – JULY 29 or JUNE 16 – AUG. 12
Classes meet online or 2 evenings per week

Expanded ONLINE offerings to meet your needs

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MIDDLESEX Community College
A great place to begin your future
SUMMER 2014
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

- Get an early start on your college career.
- Finish your degree sooner by accelerating your present program of study.
- Improve your GPA by studying in a small class environment at a price you can afford.

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
MAY 27 – JUNE 26 or JULY 7 – AUG. 6
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
JUNE 2 – JULY 29 or JUNE 16 – AUG. 12
Courses meet online or evenings per week

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Salutes Our
2014 DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES

Among MCC’s 2014 Graduates are students who have demonstrated achievement through civic or community engagement in and out of the classroom. These students have not only excelled academically, but exemplify leadership through their participation in student government, clubs, sports and service to the college or local communities.

CONGRATULATIONS to the CLASS OF 2014!

At Middlesex Community College,
Everyone teaches, everyone learns.

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu
MCC This Month June 2014

SUMMER 2014
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

- Get an **early start** on your college career.
- **Finish your degree sooner** by accelerating your present program of study.
- **Improve your GPA** by studying in a small class environment at a price you can afford.

**DAY SUMMER SESSIONS**
**MAY 27 – JUNE 26** or
**JULY 7 – AUG. 6**
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

**ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS**
**JUNE 2 – JULY 29** or
**JUNE 16 – AUG. 12**
Classes meet online or 2 evenings per week

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit **www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer**
MIDDLESEX Community College
A great place to begin your future

SUMMER 2014
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

• Get an early start on your college career.
• Finish your degree sooner by accelerating your present program of study.
• Improve your GPA by studying in a small class environment at a price you can afford.

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
MAY 27 – JUNE 26 or JULY 7 – AUG. 6
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
JUNE 2 – JULY 29 or JUNE 16 – AUG. 12
Classes meet 3 days or 2 evenings per week

For more info, call 1-800-318-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

- Get an **early start** on your college career.
- Finish your degree sooner by accelerating your present program of study.
- Improve your GPA by studying in a small class environment at a **price you can afford**.

**DAY SUMMER SESSIONS**
MAY 27 – JUNE 26 or JUNE 16 – AUG. 12
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

**ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS**
JUNE 2 – JULY 29 or JULY 7 – AUG. 6
Classes meet online or 2 evenings per week

Expanded ONLINE offerings to meet your needs

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MCC This Month June 2014
Open House — BEDFORD CAMPUS
Tuesday, April 29, 2014 • 5:30 p.m.
Campus Center, 591 Springs Road, Bedford, MA

Learn about Admissions, Financial Aid and other college services. Meet faculty members, take a campus tour and learn about transfer assistance.

- Affordability
- Small Class Sizes
- Accessible Faculty
- Flexible Schedules
- Honors Courses
- MassTransfer

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/OH
RN Refresher Program

This course is designed to prepare Massachusetts registered nurses who have been away from nursing practice for an extended period of time with an update of nursing concepts and skills needed to re-enter the nursing workforce in acute care, and/or long term care. The goal of our program is to provide students a supportive learning environment necessary to refine skills and develop a sound knowledge base needed to practice in today’s complex health care environment. This program consists of 72 hours of theory and of hands-on practice in MCC’s nursing skills lab. There is no clinical component. Partial credit is not awarded. A certificate and 7.2 CEUs awarded upon successful completion. (72 hours) $1,900 plus textbooks.

Enrollment deadline: May 9

For more information, call 1-800-818-3434.
MIDDLESEX
Community College
A great place to begin your future

SUMMER 2014
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

• Get an early start on your college career.
• Finish your degree sooner by accelerating your present program of study.
• Improve your GPA by studying in a small class environment at a price you can afford.

New England
GateHouse Media
Thursday, April 10, 2014

DAILY SUMMER SESSIONS
MAY 27 – JUNE 26 or JULY 7 – AUG. 6
Courses meet 5 days a week, is 10 ½ hrs a day

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
JUNE 2 – JULY 29 or JUNE 16 – AUG. 12
Classes meet online or 7 evenings per week

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MIDDLExSEX
Community College

A great place to begin your future

SUMMER 2014
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER AT MIDDLESEX

- Get an **early start** on your college career.
- **Finish your degree sooner** by accelerating your present program of study.
- **Improve your GPA** by studying in a small class environment at a price you can afford.

**DAY SUMMER SESSIONS**
MAY 27 – JUNE 26 or
JULY 7 – AUG. 6
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

**ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS**
JUNE 2 – JULY 29 or
JUNE 16 – AUG. 12
Classes meet online or 2 evenings per week

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
CONGRATULATIONS to MCC’s 2014 Boston Marathon Participants

This Month at Middlesex June 2014

MIDDLESEX Community College

Start: Continue or Finish Your Degree

A great place to begin your future

Find out how at our SPRING OPEN HOUSE

5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 29
Bedford Campus - 591 Spring Rd

Meet with faculty & academic advisors or take a campus tour
Learn about Admissions, Financial Aid and other college services
Learn how to transfer to a bachelors degree program with MCC Transfer
Have questions answered or receive transfer information

For more information or to RSVP, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/oh

MIDDLESEX Community College

Celebrity Forum 2014

Robert Redford
Actor, Director, Sundance Institute Founder and Environmentalist

Friday, June 27 at 7 p.m. - Lowell Memorial Auditorium

Tickets
Premier Seating $55 Standard Seating $35

NOW ON SALE

Tickets may be purchased online at www.middlesex.mass.edu/cp14 or in person at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium box office. For more information call 1-800-818-3434 or middlesex.mass.edu/cp14

MIDDLESEX Community College

It’s Our Business to Help Your Business

Workforce Development and Corporate Education

More than 25 Degree & Certificate Programs
Career Enhancement Programs
Hundreds of Credit & Noncredit Courses
Professional Development Programs
Customized Programs for Business & Industry
On-Site, On Campus and Online

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT www.middlesex.mass.edu/bus_ind

MIDDLESEX Community College

College for Kids 2014

Summer Programmes for Kids Ages 6 to 15
July 14 - August 21

For more information call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer

MIDDLESEX Community College

FROM INTIMATE ELEGANCE TO ELEGANT RECEPTIONS, MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S HISTORIC PROPERTIES PROVIDE THE PERFECT VENUE TO CELEBRATE YOUR SPECIAL OCCASION.

The event planner will work with you to make your event an enjoyable one. From start to finish, all aspects of your event are handled by a professional staff. Let us help you create a memorable experience.

From intimate ceremonies to elegant receptions, Middlesex Community College's historic properties provide the perfect venue to celebrate your special occasion.

Every detail of your event is custom designed for your special day. Experienced staff members are available to help you with all of your planning needs.

Expert Wedding & Event Coordination
Unparalleled Photo Opportunities
Full-Service Catering
Historic Venue

For more information, contact Heather Spinner, Director of Historic Events at 978-571-4022 or email spinner@middlesex.mass.edu.

Visit us at www.middlesex.mass.edu/historic

This Month at Middlesex June 2014