At MCC, a day to celebrate strength
Stories of strength, courage inspire MCC graduates

‘Today’ show tandem toast of the town at MCC forum

Graduating seniors from UML, MCC ‘shine’

They’re singing Cambodia’s song
MCC teaching Lowell teachers country’s classical music

Day of pride for first-generation MCC grads

Bedford Campus
591 Springs Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Lowell Campus
33 Kearney Square
Lowell, MA 01852
Today’ show tandem toast of the town

By Prudence Brighton
Sun Correspondent

LOWELL — Two stars of morning television lit the nighttime stage at Lowell Memorial Auditorium Friday.

Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb’s rapid repartee kept the audience of Middlesex Community College’s 18th annual Celebrity Forum laughing as they recalled how they met, how they’ve influenced each other and how they stick to their mantra, “Our joy is non-negotiable.”

The two interviewed each other during a fast-paced hour on stage, with Gifford mugging for the audience and Kotb flashing a brilliant smile.

Gifford and Kotb are co-hosts of the “Today” show 10 a.m. hour. Their biographies describe them both as authors and philanthropists. Gifford is best known for her 15 years on TV’s “Regis and Kathie Lee,” but she is also an actress.

Please see MCC/10

Hoda Kotb, left, and Kathie Lee Gifford, co-hosts of the 4th hour of the “Today” show, toast each other and their Lowell Memorial Auditorium audience Friday night at Middlesex Community College’s Celebrity Forum. Watch video at lowellson.com.
‘Today’ show tandem toast of the town at MCC forum

MCC/From Page 1

and singer. Kotb has been a television news anchor and “Dateline NBC” correspondent. She has received numerous broadcast journalism awards.

Gifford recalled her surprise in 2006 at finding herself as co-host with Kotb. After her 18 years with Regis Philbin, “I thought I was a postmenopausal has-been. I thought I was done with television.” It was supposed to be a one-time appearance, but for Kotb the “show came alive” with Gifford. Kotb had been working with two other co-hosts beginning in 2007, but “we were flatlining.”

Gifford initially resisted co-hosting the show, but over “the world’s greatest lunch” the two became great friends. “We could not have been more dissimilar or more alike,” Gifford said.

The two women clearly admired each other. “I was so buttoned up and she was freeform. She kept saying, ‘let it breathe’,” Kotb said.

“There are people who just change the way a show works. Kathie is one,” Kotb said.

Gifford began her “Today” show career by refusing to wear an earpiece. “Why should I listen to the control room?” she asked. Then Kotb stopped wearing her earpiece. With that change and the introduction of their now famous glasses of red and white wine, ratings for the show went through the roof, Kotb said. “Time magazine called us the ‘happy hour.’

Kotb recalled an early mentor of hers telling her “bring me moments” not stories. “Kathie creates the environments for moments.”

Gifford jumped in saying, “She does that now since she got rid of her earpiece.” She added, “The power of television is amazing. If you’re authentic and real, and give people something they can believe, they respond,” she said. “People are sick of being lied to.”

The women talked about their early dreams with Gifford recalling a letter she wrote to Walt Disney when she was young, telling him, “you really need to meet me.” She received an encouraging letter in return that she was convinced Disney wrote and signed. Later on when she was working for “Regis and Kathie Lee,” Disney was the production company. “See I followed my dream.”

Kotb always wanted to be broadcast journalist. She recalled getting her first job in the industry after a 10-day trek through Virginia, Tennessee and the Florida Panhandle being rejected in every town along the way until she arrived in Greenville,

Hoda Kotb plays to the Lowell Memorial Auditorium crowd Friday night.

Kathie Lee Gifford reacts to her on-stage partner.
Middlesex Charter grads 'overcame obstacles'

LOWELL — Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School’s Class of 2016 received diplomas in a ceremony on Thursday at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre.

Number of graduates: 19

Speaker highlights: "These memories we keep with us will definitely help us in the years to come. And no matter what, we're going to have this time — and this exciting and terrifying day — to remember it by."

— Kevin Brown, one of two students to receive the Mathew Boule Ethical Value Award

"We overcame obstacles in our lives, and this is what winning feels like. This is not the end, it's the beginning to the real world."

— Natalie Ortiz, student reminiscing on the memories at Lowell

Please see GRADS/4

Kevin Brown was one of two students who received the Mathew Boule Ethical Value Award at Lowell Middlesex Charter Academy graduation Thursday. Watch video at lowellsun.com.

GRADS/From Page 3

Middlesex Academy

"You courageously and quietly did what needed to be done, and have been quite successful at overcoming adversity."

— Anne Menoniosis, assistant director at the school.

She was speaking about Kevin Brown and Alexys Cote, who received the Mathew Boule Ethical Value Award.

"Without your (faculty and staff) hard work and dedication, they (students) wouldn't be here today.

We really appreciate all you (faculty and staff) do."

— Middlesex Community College President James Mabry, a member of the school's Board of Trustees.

"You are extremely creative, you have proven interests and passions for the arts, science and engineering, the health professions, and as a group you have pursued those interests.

"You have been painting, exploring, studying, building, experimenting all of those interests. That will be the legacy of the Class of 2016, and we're happy to be part of your life."

— Margaret McDevitt, executive director of the school.
Acre betterment plan boosted by $475G grant

By Grant Welker
gwelker@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — The city has won a $475,000 federal grant, to be matched by thousands more from Lowell agencies and businesses, to improve The Acre by helping residents find sustainable jobs and for students to be better-prepared for school.

The funding from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston was announced Wednesday.

Please see ACRE/4

Acre betterment plan boosted by $475G grant

Acre partners/4

City officials will work with a dozen businesses and agencies on the initiative, which Lowell's deputy director of planning and development said made the program unique and attractive for funding.

"That's the piece the Federal Reserve wanted to see," Kevin Coughlin said of the city's work.

Grant boosts Acre

ACRE/From Page 3

with groups such as Coalition for a Better Acre and Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union.

Leaders from City Hall, the school district, and agencies and businesses based in The Acre have been meeting for months to shape a plan for helping to remake one of the city's poorest areas.

The Acre neighborhood's poverty rate is four times higher than the state average, and about one-fourth of adults in The Acre do not have a high school diploma, according to data compiled by those leading the grant planning process.

Of the nearly 1,600 households in the neighborhood, more than 1,100 are subsidized. In addition, young children are often considered unprepared for entering kindergarten.

The three-year grant aims to solve those shortcomings by focusing on early-childhood school readiness, economic development, and language and cultural inclusion, such as how to work with various agencies. Residents will be "encouraged and recruited" to participate, according to the city's announcement of the funding.

A director will be hired to lead the program, which proponents hope can jump-start longer-term changes that will outlive the three-year grant. Such priorities include finding new ways to engage residents to access services.

Federal Reserve funding will be supplemented by $45,000 contributed by Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, and the Lowell Plan.

Lowell was one of five cities to win funding in the Fed's Working Cities program. The others are Haverhill, Pittsfield, Springfield, and Worcester. The program is meant to help cities use collaborations to improve neighborhoods.

City Manager Kevin Murphy, Mayor Ed Kennedy and others praised the grant's award.

"It was fantastic getting the money," said Yun-Ju Choi, the executive director of the Coalition for a Better Acre. "We all worked really hard on it as a group."

Connie Martin, the director of division of energy and community resources at Community Teamwork Inc., called the program an ambitious vision for the city.

The planning process itself was beneficial in bringing together different officials in such a way for the first time, she said.

"I know everyone on the team is thrilled that we were successful in this process," Martin said.

Follow Grant Welker on Twitter and Tout @LowellGrantWelker

Acre plan partners

- Acre Coalition to improve Our Neighborhood (ACTION)
- Célibicdien Mutual Assistance Association
- Career Center of Greater Lowell
- Coalition for a Better Acre
- Community Teamwork Inc.
- Greater Lowell Community Foundation
- Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union
- Lowell Community Health Center
- Lowell Housing Authority
- Middlesex Community College
- Northern Middlesex Council of Governments
- University of Massachusetts Lowell

Sun Grant Welker
They’re singing Cambodia’s song
MCC teaching Lowell teachers country’s classical music

LOWELL — Songs for Cambodia, a collaboration between Middlesex Community College and the Lowell Public Schools created to foster and preserve classical Cambodian music, is beginning to pay off.

Thanks to a grant from the Theodore Edson Parker Foundation, traditional instruments were purchased, and more than 15 LPS Music teachers have been learning to play classical Cambodian music. The goal is for the teachers to infuse Cambodian music into their regular classroom curriculum, according to MCC Music Professor Johannah Segarich, who has helped develop the program.

After almost two years of instruction with Master Instructor Song Heng and Lowell Music Instructor Rita McLaughlin, teachers at two schools will soon begin teaching Cambodian music to their own students.

“Next fall, we will begin a pilot program with two Lowell schools — Murtland School, in grades 2-4, and Stoklosa Middle School, in grades 5-8,” Segarich said.

“Eventually, we hope the program will expand to Lowell High School as well.”

Cambodian classical music was on the verge of being lost completely, according to Segarich, due to the brutal Khmer Rouge regime, which systematically targeted and killed Cambodian artists and musicians during the 1970s.

One of the few surviving classically trained Cambodian musicians in the world, Heng, who lives in Rhode Island, has also been instructing a group of professional Cambodian musicians from Lowell. They are accomplished in playing folk-style music, but not well versed in classical technique, Segarich said.

“Another Songs for Cambodia goal is to teach local musicians how to play classical Cambodian music, and to have them take on some of the more talented LPS student-musicians as private music students,” she said.

“We have had an amazing amount of community support,” Segarich added.

“One teacher said that when one of her students told her grandfather she was learning Cambodian music, he started crying. He was overwhelmed that somebody was teaching his granddaughter how to play Cambodian music.

“We’re doing our best to bring this musical tradition back, and to give the Cambodian community the sense that it matters, that their culture matters — and that they matter.”

For more information about Songs for Cambodia, visit the project’s blog site at https://songsfor cambodia.wordpress.com.
At MCC, a day to celebrate strength

Grads applaud stories of resilience, courage

By Rick Sobey
rsobey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Carla Rojo and her family were living in a friend’s attic, sleeping on the floor. She received for Christmas one year was a pair of underwear and shampoos. Rojo said.

She enrolled at Middlesex Community College, but school went to the back burner because she needed to work; she failed all her classes, except for Spanish. “I was so lost and confused,” Rojo

Graduates Robin Zupoffksia of Tyngsboro, center, and Erin Campbell of Lowell, right, applaud during Middlesex Community College’s commencement at Lowell Memorial Auditorium on Thursday morning. Video at lowellsun.com.

Please see MCC/5

Stories of strength, courage inspire MCC graduates

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recalled on Thursday.

But then she had a really check. She looked toward her parents, immigrants from Colombia who worked 12-hour days and had three jobs.

“They worked their butts off for me, and here I am not going to school to achieve the American dream,” Rojo said.

Now, four years

after graduating from MCC, she’s a successful on-air reporter at Univision Boston — the perfect candidate to show hundreds of graduates that hard work pays off.

“Don’t be ashamed of your past because it might inspire others,” Rojo told the MCC graduates. “Don’t be afraid, we all fail sometimes, and it’s important to get back up.”

It doesn’t matter where you’ve been; it matters where you’re going,” added Rojo, who also received the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award.

MCC made history Thursday, graduating its largest class ever during emotional commencement exercises at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

In all, MCC bid adieu to 1,456 graduates, seven more than last year.

Equally significant, nearly half those who graduated, 667 in all, were the first in their family to graduate college, earning the name first-generation graduates.

Graduates hailed from more than 50 countries, ranging from Haiti to Saudi Arabia.

“This is a wonderful diverse group of students who have achieved so much,” President James Malloy said in a packed Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

To everyone in this very special class, I give my best wishes,” he added. “It has been an honor to serve as your president.”

The Class of 2016 also included six graduates who were dual-enrollment students, simultaneously finishing high school. One of these was Alicia Gentile, who is graduating from Nauboh Tch in 10 days as the class valedictorian.

She told her fellow graduates that she has been a victim of emotional and sexual abuse, has been surrounded by addiction problems, and dealt with anxiety and depression.

“It takes an incredible amount of courage to fight for a goal, and it’s important to never view failure negatively,” Gentile, of Groton, said during her speech. “Rather, to understand they provide opportunities to try again, to find a different approach, or even try a little harder.”

“I’m absolutely sure there is no one here today who hasn’t faced something in their past that made them want to quit or just give up on their goal, simply because it was tough or not ideal at the time,” she added. “Yet, each and every one of you persevered to obtain your degree, and I commend you for it.”

Gentile will now head to the University of San Francisco to study nursing.

The first name called across the stage was Lateya Chikakayi, 21, who died in a December car accident in Zimbabwe. Her sister, Tatadzwa, received the posthumous degree for Lateya, who was on track to graduate on Thursday. She was planning on attending nursing school.

The auditorium erupted in applause when Tatadzwa collected the degree.

“She made a lot of friends, and her impact still lives on here,” her sister said.

In addition, the ceremony included a moment of silence for Auburn police Officer Ronald Tarentino Jr., who was slain on Sunday during a traffic stop. Tariteno, who grew up in Tewksbury, was a student in Middlesex Community College’s criminal justice program.

Follow Rick Sobey on Twitter @rsobeyLSun.

Terry Downes, executive director of MCC’s Program on Homeland Security, comforts family members of posthumous graduate Lateya Chikakayi, who suffered a fatal car accident in Zimbabwe. From left are her mother, Memori Tom; her aunt, Getta Chikakayi; her grandmother, Angela Tom; and her sister, Tatadzwa Chikakayi, who accepted the degree on her behalf. They are all of Lowell.
EDUCATION

Middlesex Community College to offer personal trainer certificate

Middlesex Community College will offer a new noncredit Personal Trainer National Certificate Program.

Classes meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 7 through Aug. 4, on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.

According to the latest fitness industry salary guide, personal trainers are earning an average of $34 an hour. Employers like 24-Hour Fitness, LA Fitness and Gold's Gym are just a few of the thousands of club employers that seek out graduates each semester.

This challenging nine-week course is a 62-hour program comprising 16 hours of lecture, 16 hours of hands-on practical training and a 30-hour internship. Topics include biomechanics, exercise physiology, fitness testing, equipment usage and health assessment. The cost of the course is $749, not including textbooks. National exams are held the ninth week of the course.

To learn about MCC’s Personal Trainer Certificate Program: 781-280-3812; Mary Wheeler at wheelerm@middlesex.mass.edu. To register, visit middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining.
Local schools ahead of transgender order

By Melissa Hanson
mhanson@lowellsun.com

Though school districts across the country are ramping up to create new policies that follow a directive from the Obama administration that allows transgender students at public schools to use the bathroom that matches their gender identity, some Greater Lowell administrators say their districts have been allotting such rights to students for years.

"From what I'm seeing and hearing, I think a lot of transgender people are using the restrooms for what they identify with, and we have no idea," said Alisa Chapman, director of compliance and Title IX coordinator at Middlesex Community College.

Gender-neutral bathrooms have been in Westford Academy, as well as the Stony Brook and Blanchard middle schools in Westford, for about two years, Superintendent of Schools

Transgender bill opponents rally at Statehouse/2

Everett Olsen said, Now that the directive has been issued, students can use other restrooms in addition to the gender-neutral ones.
Olsen said the new directive will be discussed at an upcoming staff meeting, but that the school may not need to implement a new plan to address the issue.

Please see GENDER/13
Schools adapt for trans students

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS PHRASES

Gender identity: An individual’s internal sense of gender. Gender identity may be different from or the same as the sex assigned at birth.

Sex assigned at birth: The sex designation recorded on an infant’s birth certificate.

Transgender: Individuals whose gender identity is different from the sex they were assigned at birth. A transgender male identifies as male but was assigned the sex of female at birth; a transgender female is someone who identifies as female but was assigned the sex of male at birth.

Gender transition: The process in which transgender individuals begin asserting the sex that corresponds to their gender identity.

SOURCE: U.S. Departments of Justice and Education

but follows the "Non-discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity" guidelines from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, which mirrors the guidelines in the Obama directive.

According to a letter sent to schools that receive federal funding from the federal Department of Justice and the federal Department of Education, schools must treat students consistently with their gender identity even if their education record indicates a different gender. Facilities and activities that are sex-segregated, like bathrooms and sports programs, transgender students must be allowed to access what is consistent with their gender identity.

The Department of Education released a 25-page document that gave examples of policies and practices to support transgender students.

The directive reaches beyond just elementary and secondary education. Any school that receives state funding is obligated to follow the directive, which includes state universities and community colleges.

At UMass Lowell, the campus’s 40 gender-neutral, single-person bathrooms do not have signs with terminology or symbols, just signs that indicate "restroom.

"Our official university policy, which has broad support from the campus community, is that individuals should choose a restroom that aligns with their gender identity," reads a statement the university issued to the Lowell City Council on Tuesday night.

The policy was enacted earlier this year, according to UML spokeswoman Christine Gillette.

Fitchburg State University follows the universal policy for Massachusetts state universities, according to spokesman Matthew Brun.

The nondiscrimination policy includes gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information.

"It is our belief that the latest correspondence from the U.S. Department of Education will not require amendments to any university policy," Brun said.

Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner already has a gender-neutral bathroom, in line with state guidelines, according to Executive Vice President Ann McDonald, but its purpose is to provide comfort to students who were questioning or transgender, and not to restrict those students from using traditional bathrooms of the sex with which they identify.

Now the school will focus on educating students and staff on the topic, and adding the new policies and procedures to its affirmative-action plan, McDonald said.

The same will happen at Middlesex Community College as all state community colleges follow an identical policy.

At MCC, which has campuses in Lowell and Bedford, students and faculty are permitted to use any gender-neutral or single-stall restroom on campus, according to Chapman.

"I don’t know that we have an enforcement plan," she said. "We deal with questions, concerns, complaints as they come up."

At Middlesex, students can currently use the bathroom that matches the gender on their college record, Chapman said. And if a student wants to change his or her data to indicate he or she has gone through a transition, that student can.

"I don’t think this is going away anytime soon," Chapman said. "Sometimes you have issues that come and go, but I think this is going to be on the front burner."

Superintendents from the Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Tewksbury, Tyngsboro, Wilmington, and Nashoba Valley Technical School districts did not respond to requests for comment by deadline.

Material from The Associated Press was used in this report.

Follow Melissa Hanson on Twitter and Tumb @Melissa Hanson.
Day of pride for first-generation MCC grads

By Rick Sobey
rsobey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Many graduates who move their tassels to the left this month have had a traditional upbringing: They enroll in their local school system for about a dozen years and then on to college they go.

But for some graduates at Middlesex Community College this week, they’ve had quite a different journey to commencement day.

Lowell’s Edina Hirt came to America from Brazil, while Methuen’s Yulispa Depena grew up in the Dominican Republic. When they walk across the stage during MCC’s commencement on Thursday, they’ll be the first members of their families to receive college diplomas.

“This means everything,” Hirt, 31, said on Monday. “This means I didn’t give up, and I’m

Edina Hirt, left, from Brazil, and Yulispa Depena, right, from the Dominican Republic, will be graduating from Middlesex Community College on Thursday, the first in their families to earn a college diploma. At center is Alicia Gentile, 18, of Groton, who will receive her college diploma through MCC’s dual-enrollment program even before her high-school diploma. See her story on Page 8. Watch video at lowellsun.com.
MCC student speaker graduating college before high school

By Rick Sebry
rsobe@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — How many high-schoolers can say they received a college degree before accepting the high-school one? How many spoke at two graduations in a 10-day period? Any who tutored college students several years older than them? It’s rare for a high-schooler to accomplish one of the above, but Nashoba Valley Technical High School’s Alicia Gentile hit them all. The valedictorian at Nashoba Tech’s graduation on June 4 will first receive her Middlesex Community College degree on Thursday. An MCC Dual Enrollment Academy student, Gentile is graduating from MCC with an associate degree in liberal arts and sciences. She’ll be one of the two student speakers at commencement this week.

“It was a tremendous amount of hard work, and now I’m probably more prepared for the next step than other 17- and 18-year-olds,” said Gentile, 18, who plans to attend the University of San Francisco and pursue a nursing degree.

Before attending MCC the last two years, Gentile excelled at Nashoba Tech with a 3.96 average. By the end of her sophomore year, she was “falling asleep in every class,” she said.

“I wasn’t being challenged anymore,” said Gentile, of Groton. “I came here, and the topics were much more difficult.” It was a tough transition during her first semester, but when Gentile received her first “A” grade, she knew she could succeed at a higher education level.

Gentile was then selected to be a supplemental instruction leader for anatomy and physiology classes at MCC — tutoring students who are older than her.

“It’s satisfying to help someone learn the material,” Gentile said.

“It’s rewarding to come up with lesson plans to help someone out.”

In her free time, she enjoys participating in track and field, and is also an accomplished dancer.

After the University of San Francisco, Gentile hopes to become a nurse practitioner or a pediatric oncologist.

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At right: Alicia Gentile, 18, of Groton, will be graduating from Middlesex Community College on Thursday and then from Nashoba Valley Technical High School on June 4, where she is the valedictorian. Watch video at lowellsun.com.

First-generation graduates take pride

MCC/From Page 1

“Accomplishing my dream,” said Depena, a 21-year-old from the Dominican Republic, who just graduated from MCC.

Hirt cleaned houses when she first came to the United States from Brazil 10 years ago, but she always dreamed of attending college. As a result, she enrolled in MCC’s Prep to Attend College (PACT) Program. She then enrolled in additional ELL courses, and later began studying human services.

Hirt is graduating this week with an associate in science degree in human services. She’s interested in helping individuals with intellectual disabilities with the goal of helping them live independent lives.

“While here (at MCC), I fell in love with helping people who have disabilities,” said Hirt, who plans to major in psychology at Umass Lowell.

In addition, Hirt has served as a TRIO Success Coach in partnership with the Service-Learning program. TRIO programs are designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. TRIO includes eight programs targeted to serve and assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities.

She also served as a program assistant for TRIO, and was a scribe through the Disability Support Services. She’s a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges, which requires a GPA of 3.7 or above.

“A lot of days I would cry because I was cleaning houses, but I never gave up,” Hirt said.

Like Hirt, Depena is the first in her family to attend college.

A native of the Dominican Republic, Depena immigrated to America at the turn of the century. She had always planned on attending college, but her studies in the Dominican Republic were cut short when she had to work and support her family.

After working in a laboratory for many years, Depena began studying at MCC through the TRIO program, a transition-to-college program for adults.

Upon completion, she enrolled in the TRIO Student Success Program and began pursuing her dream of becoming an engineer; she did this all while raising her 12-year-old daughter and working up to 70 hours per week at General Mills’ Medifast yogurt plant.

“It was a lot, it was really hard, but I made it,” said Depena, who is graduating through the TRIO program, a transition-to-college program for adults.

One of the biggest challenges along the way was the language barrier, she said. It took her about eight hours to write one page of her first essay, and when she brought it to the writing center for feedback, the instructor said she had to start over.

“They said, ‘It doesn’t make sense.’” Depena recalled. “It was very, very challenging for me, but I finally learned.”

Depena is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She has participated in MCC’s First Generation Summit, the Diversity Summit, and served as an orientation leader and a supplemental instruction leader.

Now, Depena plans to attend Umass Lowell and major in chemical engineering.

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Yulissa Depena from the Dominican Republic started her studies at Middlesex Community College through its LINKS program, which helps adults transition into college.

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MCC student speaker, Nashoba Tech's valedictorian, graduating college before high school

By Rick Sobey, rsobey@lowellsun.com

UPDATED 05/24/2016 06:40:12 AM EDT

At right: Alicia Gentile, 18, of Groton, will be graduating from Middlesex Community College on Thursday and then from Nashoba Valley Technical High School on June 4, where she is the valedictorian. Watch video at lowellsun.com. SUN/JOHN LOVE

Sun staff photos can be ordered by visiting our SmugMug site.

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In her free time, she enjoys participating in track and field, and is also an accomplished dancer.

After the University of San Francisco, Gentile hopes to become a nurse practitioner or a pediatric oncologist.

Follow Rick Sobey on Twitter and Tout @rsobeyLSun.

Read more: http://www.lowellsun.com/todaysheadlines/cl_29931731/mcc-student-speaker-nashoba-techs-valedictorian-graduating-college/#ixzz4AEzrCY2x
Start A Health Care Career With MCC’s Academy Of Health Professions

Interested in beginning a career in the health care field? The Middlesex Community College Academy of Health Professions (AHP) offers short-term training and college-credit courses to prepare students for a satisfying career in entry-level health care. The next AHP courses begin Tuesday, June 7. Certificate programs offered include Certified Nursing Assistant, Medical Receptionist, Medical Office Administration, Phlebotomy, and Medical Assisting. AHP offers three levels of study and a flexible schedule that includes day, evening and weekend courses. All classes are held on the Lowell campus. Financial aid is available for those who qualify.

AHP offers a variety of traditional and non-traditional courses, career counseling and support, as well as tutoring. Two state-of-the-art clinical laboratories provide students ample space and the lab equipment necessary for hands-on training. Small class sizes ensure students receive individualized attention and support throughout the program.

For more information about MCC’s Academy of Health Professions, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/ahp or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.

Middlesex Offers Personal Trainer National Certificate Program

Begin a successful career as a personal trainer with Middlesex Community College’s new noncredit Personal Trainer National Certificate Program. Classes meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 7 through Aug. 4, on the Bedford campus.

According to the latest fitness industry salary guide, personal trainers are earning an average of $34 an hour. Employers like 24 Hour Fitness, LA Fitness and Gold’s Gym are just a few of the thousands of club employers that seek out graduates each semester. This challenging nine-week course is a 62-hour program comprised of 16 hours of lecture, 16 hours of hands-on practical training, and a 30-hour internship. Topics include biomechanics, exercise physiology, fitness testing, equipment usage, and health assessment. The cost of the course is $749 (not including textbooks). National exams are held the ninth week of the course.

To learn more about MCC’s Personal Trainer Certificate Program, contact Mary Wheeler at wheelerm@middlesex.mass.edu or call 781-280-3812. To register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.
Middlesex Community College President James C. Mabry, GS '81, GSAS '98, emphasizes personal missions at GS Class Day

President of Middlesex Community College James C. Mabry, GS '81, GSAS '98, delivered the keynote address at the General Studies Class Day on Monday morning.

BY J. CLARA CHAN | SPECTATOR SENIOR STAFF WRITER | MAY 16, 2016, 7:14 PM

President of Middlesex Community College James C. Mabry, GS '81, GSAS '98, encouraged graduates to discover and pursue their passions at the General Studies Class Day on Monday morning.

“For a kid who was labeled a chronic underachiever in high school, who could not get into a state university in New York, to have earned degrees from Columbia and to be invited back to speak, this is quite a moment for me,” Mabry said at the beginning of his address.

Very much the unconventional student, Mabry came to GS after dropping out of Bowling Green State University. Mabry then traveled through Portugal, Morocco, Germany, France, and Holland on a motorcycle and joined a construction crew prior to enrolling at GS.

“The wonderful thing about GS students is the lives we lived before we got here,” Mabry said. “When I arrived here at 26, I had calloused hands, tan lines from my construction gear—it made it clear that I had not spent my summer on the beach.”

But after joining GS, Mabry said his learning didn’t stop within the confines of Columbia’s campus. On the weekends, Mabry drove a taxi around the city and learned how to interact with an array of people, particularly those whom he described as rude, arrogant, self-important, and condescending.

“I learned that those who provide service can do so with skill and dignity, and I treat everyone with the respect that they deserve,” Mabry said.

Mabry concluded his speech by emphasizing the importance of having educational institutions like GS support students who have not taken traditional or immediate paths to higher education.

“Just like me, just like you, we came from diverse backgrounds through non-traditional routes and probably never dreamed of an Ivy League diploma, but we found General Studies,” Mabry said. “This special college is keeping the door open for folks like us in giving us the chance to show just how special we are.”

“GS changed my life, and it will always have my unwavering loyalty,” he added.
Salutatorian Ryan Tavel Hudson, GS ’16, began his speech by describing Stanford psychologist Walter Mischel’s marshmallow experiment. Young children were given a marshmallow to eat with the stipulation that if they waited 15 minutes, they would receive an additional marshmallow. Children who were able to delay their gratification were later found to have earned higher SAT scores.

But Hudson said he rejected this notion.

“The moment the researcher left the room, I would have devoured the marshmallow,” Hudson said. “Then, bored, I would have somehow found a way to destroy the table and use the pieces to inflict considerable damage on the rest of the room. When the researcher returned and attempted to deny me the second marshmallow, whose existence he foolishly just confirmed just minutes earlier, I would have argued with him until he surrendered it or had me removed.”

Leaving home at the age of 18 to move to Los Angeles to be a musician, Hudson went against the advice of adults who said he wouldn’t be able to have a stable, successful life if he went down that path. But Hudson said those kinds of choices are hallmarks of a GS student.

“Rather than sit quietly in a room for 15 minutes until we were given a reward for idleness, we left the room looking for our own rewards,” Hudson said. “It doesn’t matter what we found because the profit was in the pursuit.”

“Most graduation speeches delivered this time of year echo the popular refrain, ‘Oh, the places we’ll go.’ But we, as graduates of GS, have the unique opportunity to not only join that refrain, but to also add a coda: ‘Oh, the places we’ve been,’” he said.

Valedictorian Christina Cheung, GS ’16, also discussed going against the grain.

“Although we may not all have the same experiences, we are able to connect with and understand each other because we know how difficult it was to make the decisions that have led us here today,” Cheung said. “At GS, we are unique not because we have always succeeded, but because we had the courage to push beyond our failures and achieve success our way.”

Following the ceremony, graduates expressed gratitude for their time spent at GS.

Outgoing General Studies Student Council President Elizabeth Heyman, GS ’16, said she felt incredibly lucky to be where she was and surrounded by such impressive students.

“I did it. I made it,” Heyman said. “I’m going to miss this place.”

Though Timothy Kirby, GS ’16, said his time at Columbia has been tough, it was all worth it to him.

“For all of the challenges I’ve gone through, I would not have traded it for anything else, because it definitely has made me a much better person,” Kirby said. “I hate to keep saying the same thing, but we’re so unique in that I don’t think I’ll be able to meet another group of people that come from so many diverse backgrounds ... in one moment, place, and time.”
MCC hosts Chinese vocation officials

Middlesex Community College recently hosted members of the Vocational Education Leadership Training Program on the Lowell campus.

The VELT group is a Chinese delegation of high-level academic administrators interested in learning how American community colleges bridge the talent gap by providing educational and workforce needs.

"Middlesex has a variety of robust corporate-training programs and community-education course offerings that ensure the region's employers have the well-trained, well-educated workers they need to thrive and grow," MCC President James Mahony said. "I'm pleased to be able to share our best practices with the VELT group educators and continue to build partnerships within the global community."

VELT is a professional-development program for presidents and vice presidents at Middlesex and technical institutions of higher education. The program is financed by the Chinese government and carried out by the China Education Association for International Exchange, American Association of Community Colleges, and AACC member institutions.

To learn more about the VELT delegation, visit http://en.cesie.edu.cn/velt_program?columnid=79.

Upcoming at Middlesex

- Corporate and Community Education & Training program is offering a PC Security Fundamentals course. Classes meet Tuesday evenings, May 31 through June 28, from 6 to 9 p.m., on the Bedford campus. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining, or call 800-318-3434.

- Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide Certification Training program prepares students for an entry-level career as a nurse assistant or a home health aide. The 100-hour, noncredit certificate program meets Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, May 31 through July 13, from 5 to 10 p.m., on the Lowell campus. Cost is $950; enrollment is limited to 10 students. Contact Caitlin Campopiano at 781-280-3570, or campopianoc@middlesex.mass.edu.

- Corporate and Community Education & Training program is offering a Pharmacy Technician course. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday, May 31, through Aug. 18, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., on the Lowell campus. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining, or call 800-318-3434.
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION in Lowell, and at Middlesex Community College and the Lowell National Historical Park, took center stage at this year's Preservation Massachusetts Awards.

Held earlier this month at Boston's Fairmont Copley Plaza, the annual awards recognize individuals and entities who help preserve historic buildings and landscapes as forces for economic development, tourism and the retention of community character.

The theme of this year's award was Women in Preservation, and one of the night's honorees was retired MCC President Carole Cowan, who received one of the Paul and Niki Tsongas Awards. U.S. Rep. Tsongas delivered the night's keynote remarks. The awards had previously been known as the Paul Tsongas Awards, but were expanded this year to include the congresswoman. Paul's sister, Thalia Schlesinger, was also in attendance.

Cowan, who retired last year, was acknowledged for the work she oversaw in preserving and restoring old properties. They included the Federal Building at 50 Kearney Square, the John Nesmith House on Andover Street, the Stoker Homestead in Billerica, and the Boston & Maine railroad depot (Rialto Building) on Central Street.

Tsongas credited the LNHP, the first urban national park of its kind, for leading the city's preservation charge.
Tough road to college diploma
Lawrence man becomes student leader at UMass Lowell

By Zoe Mathews zmatheus@eagletribune.com
May 14, 2016

LOWELL — Christopher Nunez came to Lawrence from the Dominican Republic when he was 15, and knew he was going to pursue higher education.

On Saturday, his dream and determination are coming true.
Nunez is joining 3,719 other students receiving college diplomas from UMass Lowell at the Tsongas Center. His mother came from the Dominican Republic to see him walk across the stage.

"I have this sense of pride and joy," he said, "knowing that my mom came here. In her mind, she's like 'my son is graduating.' She had a bigger purpose to be here."

When Nunez, now 21, first came to Lawrence, he felt that some of his peers were only living up to stereotypes — and not living up to their full potential.

"I remember being in classes in Lawrence, just seeing how they had no hope in their higher education," he said. "So coming here and seeing it's true what people say, that we don't go to school, we just work part time jobs and we just don't contribute to society ... I was like I have to make sure that this stops. I know there is so much more we can contribute. We can break the stereotypes."
It wasn’t easy for Nunez. At 16, he was living with friends of his family after his father moved out of state. He pushed himself to be fluent in English because he knew his education depended on it.

"Every song, every TV show I watched, it was English," he said.

After graduating from Lawrence High in 2012, he wanted to go to college in New York. He knew of community colleges there that had the classic college experience of on-campus living. But when things didn’t work out the way he planned, Nunez decided on Middlesex Community College and eventually transferred to UMass Lowell. He found that he loved the real-world feel of a commuter school.

"It allowed me a sense of independence," he said.

Nunez became involved in extracurricular activities like student government and the Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA) chapter on campus. He became his class president and the president of ALPFA as a junior. Nunez got involved in a campaign to make the Lowell campus tobacco and smoke free — an initiative that began in his first year on campus.

"My leadership roles outside of class were in a way what motivated me to continue with my education," he said. "Just being a student, just going to class, even if you're interested in the material, it can get discouraging, especially if you don't feel as if you belong. Coming here was a transition for me, and these organizations helped me with that. I saw I was able to be more than a student, and that pushed me to want to be my best in classes."

Nunez was named student leader of the year during the 2014-2015 academic year — his first year as president of ALPFA.

He did everything expected of him and more: He worked three jobs while going to class full time and got involved outside of class. He even took an internship during the summer. He said UMass Lowell helped him fully realize his leadership skills, and now he is ready for whatever comes next.

"I feel like all the things I did, I’m ready," he said. "I'm not nervous, not even for the speaking portion of it.

"These were things I was able to work on at UML, my insecurities, shyness," he said. "So UML did a great job preparing me to not be afraid of what's next. Everything is part of the process and I just have to be ready for it."

At Saturday's commencement, Nunez was to award the senior class gift to the school. Judy Woodruff of PBS NewsHour and Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart were to deliver the commencement addresses.
IDEA Camp money available

By Amelia Pak-Harvey

UPDated: 05/14/2016 08:20:15 AM EDT

LOWELL -- With the help of grant money from the Amelia Peabody Foundation, Lowell Public Schools and Middlesex Community College IDEA Camp are now offering more scholarships to interested students than ever.

The weeklong summer camp for rising fifth- through ninth-graders runs in three sessions from July 11 to 29, offering different hands-on workshops that vary from coding to video-game design.

Students can do blood testing at Middlesex Community College in the Crime Science workshop, or learn how to build an underwater robot in the Sea Perch workshop.

The camp stresses science and technology learning in a fun environment, and this year an all-girls workshop "You Code Girl" workshop will teach girls how to code for web design and app development.

"We try to make a career connection on all of these, so kids can kind of see where it might take them if their interest is there," said Martha Cohn, the district's coordinator of science and social studies.

The cost for Lowell students is $160, while the cost for out-of-district students is $240.

But this year, part of a $15,000 Peabody grant will help pay for 110 scholarships. Scholarship students pay a $40 registration fee.

Even if scholarships run out, Cohn said $160 is a reasonable rate -- the camp runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and includes lunch and snacks.

The grant will also fund UMass interns to assist with the camp.

Last year, 179 Lowell students attended the camp.

Organizers are hoping to double that number this year.

To learn more, parents can visit www.lowell.k12.ma.us and click on the "Parent" tab.

"We know so many students can really benefit from this," said LZ Nunn, director of the Project LEARN program that helps Lowell Public Schools apply for such grants.

Follow Amelia on Twitter and Tout @AmeliaPakHarvey.

Middlesex College to offer supply chain management course

Middlesex Community College’s Corporate and Community Education & Career Training will offer a supply chain and distribution management course. Classes are held from 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road, and run from May 31 through June 23. Co-sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the Association for Operations Management, this course will provide a foundation in supply-chain distribution and logistics management.

This course is led by an APICS-certified instructor with more than 30 years experience as a practitioner in the field. Topics covered include, purchasing and sourcing; inventory management; warehouse management; packaging and material handling; transportation operations and management; and master scheduling and distribution requirements planning.

Enrollment and payment for this course is through APICS. The cost of the course is $799, which includes all course materials. Enroll online at bostonapics.org/meetinginfo.php. To learn more about this course, contact mccprograms@bostonapics.org. To learn more about MCC Community Education & Career Training programs, visit middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining or call 800-818-3434.

http://bedford.wickedlocal.com/article/20160514/NEWS/160518287

Middlesex Community College to offer pharmacy technician course - Gate House

May 10. 2016 6:00AM

Middlesex Community College to offer pharmacy technician course

Middlesex Community College’s Corporate and Community Education and Training program will offer a pharmacy technician course from 6:30 to 9 p.m. May 31 through Aug. 18 on the Lowell campus, 33 Kearney Square.

This course consists of 60 hours of instructor-led classroom time, followed by an 80-hour externship in a pharmacy setting to prepare students to sit for the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam.

Topics covered in the classroom include pharmacy operations, pharmacy law, pharmaceutical calculations, routes of administration, medical abbreviations, medication dosage forms, interpreting drug orders, regulations and a review of the top 200 prescription medications.

The externship portion of the course is designed to give students real-world experience working in a pharmacy setting to reinforce the topics covered in the classroom. Students will also gain information about interviewing and what employers seek in candidates.

Students must have a high school diploma or GED and must complete a CORI/SORI check to qualify.

To learn about MCC’s pharmacy technician course: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining.

Middlesex Community College Offers RN Refresher Program

Registration is now open for Middlesex Community College's noncredit RN Refresher Program. This program is designed to prepare Massachusetts registered nurses who have been away from nursing practice for an extended period of time to re-enter the workforce by updating nursing concepts and skills. The next session begins Tuesday, May 31.

The goal of the program is to provide 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 hands-on practice in MCC's Nursing Skills Lab on the Lowell campus. There is no clinical component. A certificate and 7.2 CEUs are awarded upon successful completion (72 hours). Students must have a current, valid Massachusetts RN license in good standing to take this course.

Classes meet 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, May 31 through June 24, on the Lowell campus. The deadline to register is May 10. The course cost is $2,100.

For more information, visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/rnrefresher.aspx

To enroll in MCC's noncredit RN Refresher Program, contact Sheila Morin at 781-280-3608 or morins@middlesex.mass.edu.

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Recognized by state Dept. of Higher Ed. for excellence in their fields

By Annelle Pak-Harvey
apak-harvey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL—UMass Lowell senior Felipe Nascimento and his friends lamented the fact that their cellphone batteries would die when they went out on the town.

That’s how they came up with the idea of a charging station that allows users to secure their phone in a locker and leave it to charge.

“Before we entered the market, we saw that there was no secure charging solution,” Nascimento said. “There was just hanging cables, like at a bar. And you had to stand near your phone, so now you can’t even spend money or interact with other people.”

Not even out of college, Nascimento helped found the Velocity company that sells those machines—a feat that landed him among this year’s “29 Who Shine” honorees.

The state Department of Higher Education award is given to one student at each public higher-education campus that demonstrates leadership and interest in a career beneficial to Massachusetts.

With a staff of less than 10, Velocity has already sold its machines in Costa Rica, Australia, and Brazil.

Fellipe Nascimento is graduating from UMass Lowell Saturday with a degree in business. He helped found Velocity, a company that specializes in secure cellphone charging stations.

Paulina Llorente Gonzalez will be graduating from Middlesex Community College on May 26 with an associate’s degree in early-childhood education. She founded the inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program’s Peers club so other students could interact with special-education students.

At Middlesex Community College, Paulina Llorente Gonzalez landed among the “29 Who Shine” with a passion for special-education students that impressed faculty.

Gonzalez left Mexico for the United States at 19, when she came to Massachusetts to work as an au pair. But one coordinator of the program convinced her to stay here for college, and she went right to MCC. At a welcome block party on her first week there, she was standing in line to jump on a trampoline when she started talking to a student with disabilities.

That began her work with the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program, a dual-enrollment path for high school students with disabilities. But Gonzalez, of Concord, who will graduate with an associate’s degree in early-childhood education, wanted others to interact with ICE students too.

She was happy when she saw her friends hanging out with ICE students. "When I saw their relationship growing between them without me, that was the best part," she said. "I'm really glad that I don't have to be there to have them have friends. They were already friends without me."

Gonzalez founded the ICE Program Peers club, which pairs ICE students with MCC peer mentors.

Some of the MCC students spend time with them, do homework with them, and do activities in or going on the school," Susan Woods, associate dean of student support services, said. "ICE students and staff were at the block party when Gonzales simply offered to help. "She's just a very engaged young woman, and it was an area of interest for her," Woods said.

Gonzalez is hoping to receive scholarships to complete a bachelor's degree in special education. But even after she leaves MCC, Gonzales is hoping to keep the club alive.

"I think it's growing, and after graduation I want to keep it going. I'm looking for students to get the lend and keep going," she said. "I don't want it to end as a one-year thing."

Follow Amelia on Twitter and Tout @amelia-PakHarvey.
While the rain just barely held for the more than 140 runners and walkers who took part in the Bedford Rotary Run and Walk on Saturday, May 7, the trails and roadways were clear and ready for the first-time event. Approximately 28 virtual runners also participated in the day running/walking their own courses, some clocking in from as far away as Qatar and Afghanistan.

The morning race raised funds for the Rotary’s charitable endeavors and included celebrity guest Becca Pizzi of Belmont, the local woman who run seven marathons on seven continents in seven days.

Another familiar face on the five-mile course was Middlesex Community College President James Mabry. State Rep. Ken Gordon, D-Bedford, walked the two-mile course with family.

For more photos of the day, go to page B7.

Middlesex students to support Bedford veterans

Students at Middlesex Community College are encouraging civilians in the community to engage with soldiers and veterans at the neighboring Bedford Veterans Administration Hospital.

Heroes & Neighbors, a new student-run campus group, seeks to provide volunteer opportunities for students and faculty, and to raise funds for nonprofit groups which provide services to assist veterans.

Middlesex Community College is ranked the sixth most military-friendly college nationwide by MilitaryFriendlySchools.com, with military members and veterans making up 7 percent of the student body. The school’s Veterans Resource Center and student-organized Veterans Club provide advising and assist to student veterans; Heroes & Neighbors hopes to draw interest from civilians on campus to broaden the base of support.

Heroes & Neighbors is involved in a month-long fundraising effort to benefit Disabled American Veterans Charity and the Fisher House Foundation, nonprofit groups providing needed services to soldiers and veterans.

All proceeds from the sale of branded apparel and bumper stickers supports DAV, which assists with benefits claims, ride services, education and job opportunities. Heroes & Neighbors is a recognized “Proud Supporter” of the Fisher House Foundation, which provides housing for veterans receiving treatment. With the highly publicized issues plaguing the Veterans Administration, service members and veterans have a greater need for support services than ever.

Heroes & Neighbors seeks to solicit donations and volunteer efforts in support of legitimate, vetted nonprofit organizations which are active in the local community.
Middlesex Community College to offer pharmacy tech course

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Topics covered in the classroom include pharmacy operations, pharmacy law, pharmaceutical calculations, routes of administration, medical abbreviations, medication dosage forms, interpreting drug orders, regulations and a review of the top 200 prescription medications.

The externship portion of the course is designed to give students real-world experience working in a pharmacy setting to reinforce the topics covered in the classroom. Students will also gain information about interviewing and what employers seek in candidates.

Students must have a high school diploma or GED and must complete a CORI/SORI check to qualify.

To learn about MCC’s pharmacy technician course: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining.

REFRESHER PROGRAM

MCC to offer program for registered nurses

Registration is open for Middlesex Community College’s noncredit Registered Nurse Refresher Program; the next session starts May 31.

This program is designed to prepare Massachusetts registered nurses who have been away from nursing practice for an extended period of time to re-enter the workforce by updating nursing concepts and skills. The program goal is to provide 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 hands-on practice in MCC’s Nursing Skills Lab on the Lowell campus. There is no clinical component. A certificate and 72 CEUs are awarded upon successful completion of 72 hours. Students must have a current, valid Massachusetts RN license in good standing to take this course.

Classes meet 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, May 31 through June 24, on the Lowell campus. The deadline to register is May 10. The course cost is $2,100.

For information: middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/refresher.aspx.

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Student wins ‘29 Who Shine’ state honors

Middlesex Community College student Paulina Llorente Gonzalez, of Concord, 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: 15 community colleges, nine state universities and five University of Massachusetts campuses.

Chosen because of her academic achievements, record of student leadership and commitment to community service and civic engagement, Llorente Gonzalez, along with the other 28 honorees, was celebrated at the sixth annual 29 Who Shine Student Recognition Ceremony held May 9 at the Massachusetts Statehouse.

“I congratulate Paulina Llorente Gonzalez and all 29 of the 2016 award recipients and thank them for their substantial contributions to their campuses and local communities,” said Gov. Charlie Baker.

“Paulina is a shining example of a student who has made good on the taxpayer’s investment in her education,” said Carlos E. Santiago, commissioner of higher education.

Originally from Mexico, Llorente Gonzalez hopes to make a difference in the field of special education. At Middlesex, she has served as an advocate for students in the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program, a dual-enrollment opportunity for high school students with intellectual disabilities. She has served as an ICE peer mentor and is an active member of the program’s Partnership Leadership Team.

Llorente Gonzalez has testified at the Statehouse in support of inclusive higher education for all, and has created the ICE Program Peers Club at MCC. Off campus, she has served as a volunteer at the Integrated Preschool in Concord, working closely with children who require one-on-one attention. Llorente Gonzalez has also been accepted to participate in MCC’s 2016 International Education Fellowship to China. For information about 29 Who Shine: mass.edu/29whoshine/home.asp.
Keep assault rifles off college campuses

Many institutions of higher learning have turned to arming their police forces with semiautomatic weapons in the wake of mass shootings on campuses across the country.

According to data compiled by the Associated Press, at least 100 college police departments have begun equipping their officers with assault rifles.

In our area, Northeastern University in Boston indicated its police will avail themselves of these high-powered arms when it deems a serious incident or threat warrants their use.

But we agree with Boston police brass, who stated there's no need for such campus firepower, given the assets and quick-strike capability of the city's police department.

That's why we're encouraged to see that both UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College have decided not to join this campus arms race.

Their situation mirrors Boston's many colleges and universities. As UMass Lowell spokesperson Christine Gillette told The Sun, the university can call upon the manpower of the Lowell police, as well as the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC) — a group of 58 area police departments that share resources, including a SWAT team.

Middlesex Community College — which has only two armed police officers on each campus — can also call on both community police and NEMLEC for extreme circumstances.

MCC also has incorporated lessons learned from the Sandy Hook and Columbine tragedies, including strategies that help staff and students protect themselves in the face of an armed intruder.

We understand that as a result of the mass murders last October at Umpqua Community College in Oregon and at Virginia Tech in 2007 — which combined for 45 shooting deaths — universities in rural settings far from major metropolitan areas might feel the need to arm their campus police with semiautomatic weapons.

With no other immediate, specialized assistance available, administrators may feel it's their only option. And while high-powered firearms won't necessarily prevent a mass shooting, they could limit injury or loss of life with the enhanced force and rapidity of their response.

That's not the case in Greater Lowell, Greater Boston, or other urban areas in our state. That's why we support leaving this highly lethal weapons in the hands of those trained to use them.
May 10, 2016 11:30AM

Middlesex Community College student wins state honors

Middlesex Community College student Paulina Llorente Gonzalez, of Concord, 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: 15 community colleges, nine state universities and five University of Massachusetts campuses.

Chosen because of her academic achievements, record of student leadership and commitment to community service and civic engagement, Llorente Gonzalez, along with the other 28 honorees, was celebrated at the sixth annual 29 Who Shine Student Recognition Ceremony held May 9 at the Massachusetts Statehouse.

“I congratulate Paulina Llorente Gonzalez and all 29 of the 2016 award recipients and thank them for their substantial contributions to their campuses and local communities,” said Gov. Charlie Baker. “Each of the 29 Who Shine honorees represent our future citizenry and workforce, and have already made a positive impact on the Commonwealth.”

“Paulina is a shining example of a student who has made good on the taxpayer's investment in her education,” said Carlos E. Santiago, commissioner of higher education. “The outstanding students on this year’s list of 29 Who Shine honorees have come from many countries, overcome many obstacles. I am so proud of what they have achieved and look forward to seeing how they continue to put their talents to work on behalf of us all.”

Originally from Mexico, Llorente Gonzalez hopes to make a difference in the field of special education. At Middlesex, she has served as an advocate for students in the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program, a dual-enrollment opportunity for high school students with intellectual disabilities. She has served as an ICE peer mentor and is an active member of the program’s Partnership Leadership Team.

Llorente Gonzalez has testified at the Statehouse in support of inclusive higher education for all, and has created the ICE Program Peers Club at MCC. Off campus, she has served as a volunteer at the Integrated Preschool in Concord, working closely with children who require one-on-one attention. Llorente Gonzalez has also been accepted to participate in MCC’s 2016 International Education Fellowship to China.

For information about 29 Who Shine: mass.edu/29whoshine/home.asp.

http://concord.wickedlocal.com/article/20160510/NEWS/160519854

May 11, 2016 11:09AM

Middlesex College to offer math booster course

Students may register now for Middlesex Community College's Health and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Pathways Center Math Booster course.

Classes are held from 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday through Thursday, May 24 through June 30, on the Lowell campus.

MCC’s Math Booster is a free, accelerated, for-credit math course that provides students the opportunity to develop the math skills needed to succeed in STEM and Health programs. Participating students are provided with extensive academic support. To be eligible, students must receive a qualifying score on the college placement test.

Students who successfully complete the Math Booster course and register for a college-level math course for fall 2016 before July 31 will be eligible to receive an award of $600 toward their student account.

To apply: middlesex.mass.edu/mb2016. For information about MCC's Math Booster program: 978-322-8411; middlesex.mass.edu/pathways.

http://concord.wickedlocal.com/article/20160510/NEWS/160519854?template=printart
Woburn native wins at national college conference

WOBURN — Nicholas Lindahl, of Woburn, competed and won in the DECA National Competition and International Career Development Conference held recently in Washington, D.C. Lindahl represented Middlesex Community College as part of a two-person team. Students from universities and community colleges across the U.S. and Canada competed. The team won medals in a contest for advertising campaigns. Students also participated in a leadership training event, in which Lindahl won an award for his overall performance.

http://woburn.wickedlocal.com/article20160204/NWS/160307401

Middlesex students to support Bedford veterans

Students at Middlesex Community College are encouraging civilians in the community to engage with soldiers and veterans at the neighboring Bedford Veterans Administration Hospital. Heroes & Neighbors, a new student-run campus group, seeks to provide volunteer opportunities for students and faculty, and to raise funds for nonprofit groups which provide services to assist veterans. Middlesex Community College is ranked the sixth most military-friendly college nationwide by MilitaryFriendlySchools.com, with military members and veterans making up 7 percent of the student body. The school's Veterans Resource Center and student-organized Veterans Club provide advising and assist to student veterans; Heroes & Neighbors hopes to draw interest from civilians on campus to broaden the base of support.

Heroes & Neighbors is involved in a month-long fundraising effort to benefit Disabled American Veterans Charity and the Fisher House Foundation, nonprofit groups providing needed services to soldiers and veterans. All proceeds from the sale of branded apparel and bumper stickers supports DAV, which assists with benefits claims, ride services, education and job opportunities. Heroes & Neighbors is a recognized "Proud Supporter" of the Fisher House Foundation, which provides housing for veterans receiving treatment. With the highly publicized issues plaguing the Veterans Administration, service members and veterans have a greater need for support services than ever. Heroes & Neighbors seeks to solicit donations and volunteer efforts in support of legitimate, vetted nonprofit organizations which are active in the local community.

http://woburn.wickedlocal.com/article20160506/NWS/160307401?template=printart
Dual enrollment coming to TMHS: Program gives students jump on college credits

By BRENDAN FOLEY News Correspondent BrendanMFOley@Outlook.com | Posted: Monday, May 9, 2016 5:37 pm

TEWKSBURY - High School students interested in getting an early start on their college careers may have a new opportunity to do just that. Beginning in the fall of 2016, students will be able to enlist in dual enrollment courses, courses which will count not only towards their high school graduation, but also provide actual college credits to the students.

Established by the legislature in 2008, the Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Partnership (CDEP) allows high school students to earn college credits at a reduced rate, credits that will be transferable to many state colleges and universities. Tewksbury Memorial High School is partnering with Middlesex Community College, which is offering dual enrollment courses at a rate of $87 per credit, about half of what students in Middlesex’s main body will pay per course.

Dual enrollment has been an active concern for Assistant Superintendent Brenda Theriault-Regan and guidance director Karen Baker O’Brien for years now, with one abandoned version of the program potentially having Tewksbury students travel to Middlesex Community College to take courses.

Working with Principal Kristen Vogel, the group developed a version of the program which they believe will best benefit Tewksbury students.

“Our own teachers teaching our own courses, but using a college-level syllabus in the classroom,” Theriault-Regan said. “Many of the community colleges in the Commonwealth take advantage of this program.”

And many local communities are jumping onboard with the opportunity. Bedford, Billerica, Dracut, Lowell, and Littleton are just some of the area towns listed by Theriault-Regan as participating in this push.

Getting enrolled in the dual enrollment program will require a great deal of effort and focus from interested students. Students who complete the paper work and meet with guidance will then be asked to take the Accu-Placer test, which colleges use to determine if interested high school students
can stand up to the rigors of a college-level course.

Speaking to the Crier, Theriault-Regan assured parents and students that the Accu-Placer test will not be the sole determining factor in whether or not a student has the opportunity to take a dual-enrollment course.

"We all know a student can bomb one test on one day, so we also will look at the student’s history of learning," Theriault-Regan said.

The courses themselves will go through equal level of vetting. Currently, the three courses available for dual enrollment are Senior English, Junior U.S. History, and Biotech. Middlesex will vet the developed syllabuses, the teachers that will be handling the course, and work one-on-one with the teacher to develop the course.

"All students will take senior English, for the whole year," Theriault-Regan explained. "A student has the option, sitting in the same class as the student sitting next to them, of paying a very discounted rate to Middlesex Community College so they will be dually enrolled. They will be taking their required senior English class in high school, but also getting college credit in a college transcript when they complete the course with a C or better."

If students are concerned about the cost of dual enrollment courses, Theriault-Regan stated that some Pell Grants are becoming available to help defray such costs.

"This is a national drive," Theriault-Regan said. "If a student is ready, they are ready. High schools, in the past, have limited students from taking college courses at the high school level. There is a national push to move in that direction."
BOSTON (AP) — Massachusetts will offer tuition rebates to full-time, qualifying students who begin their studies at a community college and go on to earn a bachelor’s degree at a state university.

Republican Gov. Charlie Baker and state higher educational officials unveiled what they called a first-in-the-nation program at Middlesex Community College in Lowell, one of the state’s 15 community colleges. The initiative, dubbed Commonwealth Commitment, would be phased in over two academic years, starting in September.

Students from any community college who enroll in one of two dozen fields of study would receive a 10 percent rebate on tuition and fees upon successful completion of each semester, provided they maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

To continue in the program, students must earn an associate degree from the community college in 2 1/2 years or less, and complete their bachelor’s degree at a state university, including any University of Massachusetts campus, in no more than 4 1/2 years total.

“Even though public higher education in Massachusetts is already a great value, the Commonwealth Commitment will make it even easier for students to go to school full-time and to enter the workforce faster and with less debt,” Baker said in a statement.

Along with the rebates, tuition and fees for participating students would remain frozen at the level at which the students started participation in the program and remain at that level for the duration of their studies.

The average Commonwealth Commitment participant, who must be a Massachusetts resident, would be estimated to save more than $5,000 on the cost of a four-year degree. But because the state has no solid guess of how many students might sign up, there is no estimate of what the program might cost the state in lost tuition and fees.

Beyond saving students money, higher education officials say it is also intended to prod more young people into completing school faster and getting into the workforce sooner. Many Massachusetts employers, they say, are facing a shortage of qualified college graduates to choose from.

People who attend school part-time while working would not be eligible for Commonwealth Commitment because they would be unlikely to complete their degrees within the 4 1/2 year time frame. Officials say it would also be difficult—though not impossible—for students to switch majors and remain in the program because extra courses might be required.

The 24 available majors would not include engineering or nursing, because officials say they are in greater demand and more expensive for universities to run.

“It was not easy or simple to hammer out an agreement among 28 undergraduate institutions with different missions and programs, but I was extremely proud to see how presidents, provosts, faculty and staff worked together with a sense of common purpose to get this done,” said Carlos Santiago, the state’s commissioner of higher education. ▼
66 at MCC inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Sixty-six Middlesex Community College students, with grade-point averages of 3.7 or higher, were recently inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges.

Recognized during the PTK Induction Ceremony on the Bedford campus, the new society members were welcomed by Steven Rossi, PTK adviser and director of Leadership Development and Student Activities. Inductees include: 

Molina Abel, Inez Andrews, Adrianna Anistiss, Sarah Azzaoul, Shawna Bassett, Kenneth Berthiaume, Robert Brabant, Julissa Cabrera, Kyla Caffrey, Jeffrey Cambria, Maythana Campos, Amanda Cardillo, Dawn Caron, Leeda Chhuon, Robert Chiaravallotti, Alii Civitarese, Anthony Clark, Jessyca Coburn, Laurar Davidson, Gianpiero De Mari, Jessica Del Llano, Sara Diaz and Celina Erat. Also, Yacqueline Feeley, Samantha Ferguson, Joan Fiore, Jessica Galindo, Casey Giordano, Anna Gunst, Robert Hildreth, Jordan Hill, Mary Hosmer, Mindy Kosiavelon, Jennifer Leang, Paulina Llorente Gonzalez, Kathrine Lucas, Mollie Maturah, Brittanay Maxwell, Kyle Mcardle, Randy McKanob, Susanna McNall, Pamela Monteiro DeCastro, Angela Murphy, Mai Nagabayashi, Aisha Nakato, Turner Netherton and Stephanie Oak. Also, Michael Pearce, Mai Pham, Nhung Phan, Chunhak Phay, Ashley Pimentel, Joseph Rixe, Matthew Rondeau, Shelby Schaefer, Kate Selin, Selah Smart, Susan Smith, Nicholas Solomonides, Kely Stilson, Jessica Taipale, Shena Talbert, Betzy Villavicencio, Fernanda White, Fiaba Zakarian and Dingzhou Zhao.
Middlesex Offers Expanded Online Summer Courses

With Middlesex Community College's growing list of online degree and certificate programs—and an expanded offering of summer online courses—your classroom is as close as your computer!

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

MCC is offering expanded Online and Evening Summer Sessions that run June 6 to Aug. 2 and June 20 to Aug. 16. Classes meet online, or two evenings a week, Monday and Wednesday, or Tuesday and Thursday.

For more than 13 years, MCC has offered online courses, as well as hybrid courses, which combine online and face-to-face instruction. Students who take courses online complete the same high-quality coursework as those who take courses on campus—and online students earn the same course credits. MCC offers 11 online associate degree programs and six online certificate programs, as well as hundreds of online course offerings.

So, make your summer matter at Middlesex. For more information about MCC Summer Sessions, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.

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Middlesex Community College Offers Pharmacy Technician Course

Middlesex Community College's Corporate and Community Education & Training program is offering a Pharmacy Technician course. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 to 9 p.m., and run May 1 through Aug. 18 at the Lowell campus.

This course consists of 60 hours of instructor-led classroom time, followed by an 80-hour externship in a pharmacy setting to prepare students to sit for the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam.

Topics covered in the classroom include: pharmacy operations, pharmacy law, pharmaceutical calculations, routes of administration, medical abbreviations, medication dosage forms, interpreting drug orders, regulations, and a review of the top 200 prescription medications.

The externship portion of the course is designed to give students real-world experience working in a pharmacy setting to reinforce the topics covered in the classroom. Students will also gain information about interviewing and what employers seek in candidates.

Students must have a high school diploma or GED and must complete a CORI/SORI check to qualify.

To learn more about MCC’s Pharmacy Technician course, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.
Report: State investments in Lowell total $470M over five years

By Grant Welker, gwelker@lowellsun.com

UPDATED: 05/03/2016 09:06:33 PM EDT

State Sen. Eileen Donoghue’s office prepared a report for the Lowell City Council that found that the state has contributed $470 million in state grants and other investments to the city. SUN FILE PHOTO

Sun staff photos can be ordered by visiting our SmugMug site.

LOWELL -- State grants and investments in Lowell in the past five years have totaled more than $470 million, according to a report from state Sen. Eileen Donoghue’s office that was presented Tuesday.

Those contributions include giving to UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College and a large loan to Lowell General Hospital, but don’t include annual state-aid payments or contributions to schools known as Chapter 70 funding.

It also doesn’t include expected contributions to come, including about $200 million for a new courthouse complex just off the Lord Overpass for which construction is expected to begin later this year.

Among the notable contributions are a $208.6 million loan from MassDevelopment to Lowell General Hospital for expansions and upgrades; and $13.5 million in capital funds, with $25 million pledged in total, for the Pulichino Tong Business Building at UMass Lowell, which is slated to open for the fall 2017 semester.

Other contributions include:

* Lowell Police Department, $10.7 million for initiatives and staffing.

* UMass Lowell Emerging Technologies & Innovation Center, $10 million from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center.

* UMass Lowell Innovation Hub, an expansion of the M2D2 incubator at 110 Canal St., $5 million from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center.
* Middlesex Community College Center for the Arts, at the former Boston & Maine building on Central Street, $11 million in capital funds.

* Counting House Lofts on Jackson Street, a combined $7.

1 million in MassHousing and tax credits.

* Massachusetts Mills third phase, now underway, a combined $12.2 million in MassHousing, tax credits, and other sources.

* Lowell Community Health Center, $3.8 million in state tax credits for Jackson Street building.

* Concord River Greenway, $2.1 million in grants for expansion.

Donoghue was joined Tuesday by state Reps. Tom Golden, Dave Nangle and Rady Mom, who each represent part of the city. Donoghue's office also added up contributions in Chapter 70 aid for schools, which came to $627.7 million in the past five years. Unrestricted annual local aid totaled $106.6 million.

Councilors praised the delegation for its work.

"That far exceeded anything I hoped for," said Bill Samaras, who chairs the economic development subcommittee.

Others said Lowell's success in attracting funding and leveraging money for various projects has made it the envy of many other communities.

"It takes money to make things happen," Rita Mercier said before adding a message to the delegation.

"You're like Domino's," she said. "You deliver."

Follow Grant Welker on Twitter and Tout @SunGrantWelker.

Campuses stifle rifles
Local colleges not planning to follow trend of arming police with semiautomatic weapons

By Lisa Redmond
lredmond@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — While Northeastern University officials have pulled the trigger on a decision to arm their campus police officers with semiautomatic weapons, UMass Lowell and other colleges in the Merrimack Valley are not joining in Northeastern's firepower footsteps just yet.

In response to Northeastern's controversial decision, Boston police officials have stated it is unnecessary for campus police to have such weaponry with the rapid response of the Boston Police Department.

And last month, a group of students showed their opposition to the plan by staging a "die-in" protest during a hearing between campus and Boston police.

Please see RIFLES/5
Local colleges not planning arm campus police with rifles

NORTHEASTERN officials say it's all about safety — for students and staff. The new rifles would only be deployed during high-level threats on campus, NU officials said.

Federal data gathered by The Associated Press indicate that over the past decade, at least 100 campus police departments across the U.S. have begun arming their officers with assault weapons.

The idea of increasing firepower has been triggered, primarily, by mass shootings on college campuses, such as Umpqua Community College in Oregon last October, where 13 were killed, and the 2007 Virginia Tech massacre in which a student killed 32 people.

Seventy-five percent of campus police officers across the nation carry a firearm. Those in favor of the assault rifles argue that it offers police a longer range and greater accuracy than handguns, according to the Associated Press.

But colleges in the Merrimack Valley, especially UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College, with campuses in Lowell and Bedford, are not choosing to "militarize" their campus cops or security.

UMass Lowell spokesperson Christine Gillette said UMass Lowell has no plans to increase the firepower of its campus police.

"While the UMass Police Department's focus is on community policing, it is also well prepared for emergencies," Gillette said in a statement. "In the event a situation necessitates additional resources, UMass police can call upon local departments, such as Lowell, for mutual aid, as well as NEMLEC, which provides a range of specialized assistance in times of need," she said.

NEMLEC — the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council — is a consortium of 68 police departments that share resources, including a SWAT team. In the Lowell area, when more firepower is necessary, NEMLEC is often called.

MCC spokesman Patrick Cook said the college has a private security firm that provides unarmed personnel. And as part of a collaboration between the college and the Lowell and Bedford police departments, there are two armed police officers assigned to each campus. Their duties are modeled after a school-resource officer.

MCC has chosen to move away from security via weapons. Instead, Cook said, it has chosen to arm its staff and students with information and training.

MCC provides "active-shooter" training, or ALICE (which stands for alert, lock down, inform, counter and evacuate) to educate people about what they should do to protect their personal safety.

"We have drawn from what we have learned from Sandy Hook and Columbine," Cook said, among other horrific shootings. "Every one of those events have lessons learned."

Kade Crockford of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts said colleges and universities that arm their campus police with automatic weapons are jumping the gun.

"Campus police should only obtain machine guns or other powerful weapons after they have demonstrated to the school community, with empirical evidence, that those weapons will help keep them safe, after the campus engages community members on the question," Crockford told The Sun.

"I have seen no such evidence," she added.

Follow Lisa Redmond on Tout and Twitter@redmond13Lisa.
BEDFORD

COLLEGE TO DISCUSS DUAL ENROLLMENT

Middlesex Community College in Bedford is hosting an orientation for the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy, which allows qualified high school and home-schooled students to earn college credits while satisfying their high school graduation requirements. The session will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, in Bedford Campus Center's Café East, 591 Springs Road. For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/dualenroll.

JENNIFER FEHN LEFFERTS

BACKTALK

BackTalk is a way for readers to voice opinions on local, state and national issues. Personal attacks will not be published. Call 978-454-BACK or use the form on The Sun's website for quicker access.

MY COLLEGE COURSE: We put three kids through state college on less money. The panhandler's parents may have a reason for their inability to help her out, but don't ask us to feel bad for her. Middlesex Community College is a treasure.

That's where my parents sent me back in the '70s. I think I turned out OK.

Billerica
Hail to ‘the chief’, and people magnet

Ray McKeon remembered for storytelling, law-enforcement expertise

CHELMSFORD — Former Police Chief Raymond McKeon loved to be in the limelight and rub elbows with just about everyone he met.

Officers who worked with him said he struck the balance between old-school policing and forward-thinking changes that brought the Chelmsford Police Department to new levels of professionalism during his 13-year leadership from 1980 to 1993.

McKeon, 82, died at his Nashua home on Friday, April 22, surrounded by his loved ones after a short battle with cancer.

“Up until he passed, most people still called him chief,” said his son, Gary McKeon, of Woburn.

“He was just one of those people that caught your attention, no

Please see MCKEON/9
Hail to ‘the chief,’ and people magnet

MCKEON/From Page 1

matter who you were. People would gravitate toward him.”

McKeon was born in Lowell on Jan. 18, 1934. He graduated from Lowell High School in 1951, and served his country in the U.S. Army from 1964 to 1967 in Germany during the Korean War.

Just like his father—well-known professional pianist Raymond G. McKeon—couldn’t walk through Lowell without stopping to talk with everyone he encountered, Ray McKeon had a similar relationship with his community in Chelmsford.

Gary McKeon said. His storytelling abilities—even for events that he did not personally witness—would captivate people.

“I remember him saying, ‘The rivets popped out and it sounded like machine guns for miles away,’” said granddaughter Katie Mahoney, of Dracut, recalling his tale of the 1919 Great Molasses Flood in Boston. “The way he could tell a story made you feel like you were in history with him.”

Daughter Susan McKeon, of Green Bay, Wis., said her father worked extra hours on details as a patrolman so he could take his children and wife, Ellis, on trips to Disney World.

“He was an awesome dad,” said son Brian McKeon, of Pelham, N.H.

He also loved to take his grandchildren there and on trips to such places as Martha’s Vineyard, Polar Caves Park in New Hampshire and St. Maarten in the Caribbean.

When his children and grandchildren played sports, he was a frequent attender. No matter how they played, they were always stars in his eyes.

“I don’t think he missed one game,” said granddaughter Sarah Mahoney, of Frederickburg, Md. “My number one fan.”

McKeon’s grandchildren simply called him Ray. “because he thought he was too young to be called Grandpa,” said grandson Dan Mahoney of Lowell.

Ray McKeon was a life-long learner and educator. As a sergeant, he earned his bachelor degree in criminal justice with high honors from Northeastern University. He later earned his master of education from Cambridge College, and graduated from the FBI National Academy.

Throughout his illustrious law-enforcement career, Ray McKeon served as president of the FBI’s Law Enforcement Executive Association and the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, and was involved with numerous other county, state and national organizations.

He later taught public speaking and criminal justice courses at Middlesex and North Shore community colleges. His classes would fill quickly, Gary McKeon said, and he could never turn away the extra students who wanted to take them.

He continued to teach up until February, when he was diagnosed with lung cancer.

Katie Mahoney said her grandfather’s love of education inspired her to become a teacher. She teaches seventh- and eighth-grade English at Lowell’s Wang Middle School.

He also supported his officers when they wanted further their education and training, encouraging them to earn college degrees, said Frank Roark.

Roark, who would later retire as deputy chief, said he always knew McKeon would become chief.

He recalled one day when McKeon led officers on a detail for a high school football game. As the others walked behind the bleachers, McKeon went around the front, greeting everyone like he was the mayor, Roark said.

McKeon could also see the humor in everything, a valuable trait for police officers with the tragedy they see on a regular basis, said Ray McCusker.

McCusker’s first day on the job, McKeon paired him with a veteran officer who was “a little reckless.”

“He said to me afterward, ‘I know if you could make your first day, you’d make a career,’” said McCusker, who later became chief after McKeon’s successor, Armand Caron.

Businessman John Harrington, an officer under McKeon, said his leadership put Chelmsford on the law-enforcement map and enhanced the professionalism of the department.

“In my opinion, he was the seed that started that progression,” Harrington said.

Roark said McKeon fostered regional collaboration on drug and other investigations, and responded to his officers’ needs.

Current Police Chief James Spinnay said McKeon was somewhat of a pioneer in community policing. He instituted a Crime Prevention Unit that saw officers meeting with citizens to discuss problems and how to prevent them, rather than just responding to incidents after the fact, Spinnay said. McKeon also created a program that brought officers into elementary schools to speak with kids about safety.

In the early 1980s McKeon started the Chelmsford Police Foundation, which provides funding for items and initiatives that can’t be funded through the town budget.

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“Maybe one of the best things that ever happened,” Roark said.

It has paid for many things that may not have otherwise been available, from medical equipment for EMT officers to color guard uniforms.

That color guard saw McKeon to his final resting place at St. Mary Cemetery in Tewksbury Thursday.

Follow Alana Melanson on twitter.com (alana.louise or on Twitter and Facebook.com/alana.louise or on Twitter and Facebook.com/alana.louise.

Holding a picture of their father, former Chelmsford Police Chief Raymond McKeon, at his wake are Gary, Susan and Brian McKeon.
More good than bad in our city

LOWELL — I've been talking to a variety of people to seek opinions on their view of what makes a good city.

I can't say I've talked to enough people to draw any solid positions, but many of the usual things like good schools, good neighborhoods, public safety, arts, culture, entertainment, restaurants, parks, good roads, bus and train service, history, job opportunities, good health-care facilities and reasonable taxes.

Interestingly, some saw the population mix a major asset for a city to have vitality.

But they also felt it was important to keep a good balance of middle- and upper-income families living in the community.

I did find a lot of people who felt it was important to talk about things that hurt a city.

The panhandlers really take it on the chin here. People find it very uncomfortable to deal with them while they are in traffic. There was also a sense that late-night bars really hurt the image of a community.

Worse, people feel, there is little being done about the panhandlers or brawls at late-night bars.

I intend to keep chatting up the pros and cons of what makes a good city and what type of issues hurt a city.

On the positive side, I think education is one of the key issues that shape a city.

On that front, I think Lowell is pretty good shape.

Please see CHAT/4

CHAT/From Page 3

This is one of the few gateway cities where a child can get a good education from pre-school to a doctorate degree.

UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College are huge assets.

There is great pride and history in Lowell High School. Lowell has more level-one schools than most gateway cities and groups like Project Learn are partnering with the School Department to lift all public schools. There are three charter schools and a number of private and parochial school alternatives.
**Middlesex Community College opens fall 2016 registration**

Middlesex Community College has opened registration for the fall 2016 semester, and students are advised to sign up early.

Fall classes begin Sept. 7 on the Bedford and Lowell campuses and online. The college has many transfer options, and enrollment counselors are available to answer questions. MCC offers free academic, career and financial-aid counseling, as well as free tutoring and extensive support services.

Middlesex offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs. In addition to traditional courses, the college offers 17 degree and certificate programs that can be completed entirely online, as well as many other programs of study that are 80 percent online.

A complete listing of fall 2016 course offerings can be found in MCC's Spring Academic Advising Schedule, available online at https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/earlyreg.aspx.

**Middlesex to offer expanded online, evening summer courses**

Middlesex Community College will offer expanded online and evening summer courses.

Courses will run from June 6 to Aug. 2 and from June 20 to Aug. 16. Classes meet either online or two evenings a week on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For more than 15 years, MCC has offered online courses, as well as hybrid courses, which combine online and face-to-face instruction. Students who take courses online complete the same high-quality coursework as those who take courses on campus while earning the same course credits.

MCC offers 11 online associate degree programs and six online certificate programs, as well as hundreds of online course offerings.

For information: 800-818-3434; www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer.
State launches affordable college plan

Baker speaks about the cost of higher education at Middlesex Community College

By Gerry Tuoti
Wicked Local Newsbank Editor

The cost of a four-year degree could soon get much more affordable for certain students who transfer from a Massachusetts community college to a state university. "This is really all about giving kids and their families options that can make the cost of higher education dramatically less expensive," said Gov. Charlie Baker, who spoke April 21 at Middlesex Community College's Lowell campus.

Standing in front of a crowd of high school students and flanked by state education officials and college administrators, Baker said the new "Commonwealth Commitment" initiative could reduce the total cost of a bachelor's degree from a public university to as low as $24,000 for some students.

Under the initiative, full-time community college students who maintain a 3.0 grade point average and commit to transfer into a bachelor's degree program at a state university are eligible for a 10 percent rebate on tuition and mandatory fees at the end of each semester. Tuition and fee levels will be frozen for four years upon their entry into the program, and students will be eligible for an additional MassTransfer tuition credit when they enroll in a bachelor's program.

The Commonwealth Commitment initiative applies to students pursuing designated majors. There will be 14 eligible degree programs in 2016, with 10 more being added in 2017. To maintain eligibility, students must earn their associate's degree within 2 1/2 years, and their bachelor's degree within two more years.

Education officials estimate the average participating student will save roughly $5,090.

The initiative includes all 15 Massachusetts community colleges, nine state universities and five University of Massachusetts campuses. Education officials called it the only system-wide program of its kind in the country.

"Our thinking was if a student can move seamlessly in a region and attain a four-year college degree, why not across the entire system?" said state Higher Education Commissioner Carlos Santiago.

The 24 eligible fields of study cover a wide array, including biology, economics, education, communications, computer science and liberal arts.

"Part of this is to incentivize students so they go more rapidly through these pathways," Santiago said.

To make the Commonwealth Commitment initiative work, Santiago said the 29 public higher education institutions had to agree on a common system to transfer credits and align them to degree programs. That's why, for now, the initiative only applies to the 24 designated majors.

State Secretary of Education James Peyser said approximately 70 percent of students in the public higher education system are currently studying in those fields.

Education officials and Baker were reluctant to speculate the total statewide cost of the tuition freeze and rebate program, largely because they don't know how many students will enroll. Santiago said relatively few students currently meet the criteria, but he hopes to boost that number.

All the public campuses are on board with creating plans to offset the cost of offering the tuition breaks.

"The great thing about this is we now have a commitment from all of these campuses to factor that into the way they develop their budgets," Baker said.

University of Massachusetts president Marty Meehan anticipates more than 100 students across the five UMass campuses will participate, costing the system more than $200,000.

He described how he plans to offset that cost.

"The way the University of Massachusetts will do it is by providing scholarships," Meehan said. "We're going to raise some money privately, and we're going to increase the number of need-based scholarships available, and the money will come from that money we're able to raise privately.

Baker said more about the costs of the program will be known after the fall of 2016 and 2017.

"Obviously, at that point, we can then project what that means for kids coming out of the first two years on the community college side..." he said.

UMass-Amherst student Owen Wiggins, a Norwell High School alumnus and a student trustee of the state Board of Higher Education, expects many current high school students will examine the program.

"As long as it's advertised well and people know about it," he said.

Middlesex Community College president James Mabry said the program will produce multifaceted benefits for students, colleges and the state economy. "Affordable education is our goal, and the 15 community colleges are proud to be at the core of this innovative initiative," he said.
Lowell throws open its doors for First Thursdays

The second in this season's Downtown Lowell First Thursdays arrives on Thursday, May 5, from 5-8:30 p.m.

Included are a showcase of paintings and drawings by UMass Lowell Fine Arts students at Arts Research Collaborative, 82 Prescott St., and photography by Kojihiko Kurita and Machiko Shibata in The Natural Connection at Ayer Lofts, 172 Middle St.

HyperText Café, 107 Merrimack St., features Elizabeth Lorry playing edgy, intense acoustic rock, while Athenian Corner, 207 Market St., hosts music and dancing 8-11 p.m., and Luna Theater at Mill No. 5 features live jazz from 8:05-11 p.m.

Author and Lowell City Historian Mehmed Ali talks about his latest book, Yousuf Karsh & John Garo: The Search for a Master's Legacy, at 6:30 p.m. at the Whistler House Museum of Art, 243 Worthen St.

See book review/$6

The UnchArTed Gallery, 103 Market St., features artist JonHenn, and Arts League of Lowell, 307 Market St., showcases its new John Greenwald Retrospective show with music by Ed Newton. At the Brush Art Gallery, 246 Market St., ceramic artist Lolita Demers demonstrates pot throwing from 5-7 p.m., and LTC Gallery, 246 Market St., hosts an opening reception for works by Middlesex Community College's Studio Arts and Graphic Design students from 5-7 p.m.

Mandarin Bistro shows digital paintings by Western Avenue artist Garry D. Harley, and Lowell Gallery features the painted landscapes and seascapes of Janis Sanders.

There are also a variety of specials at Lowell's downtown restaurants and shops.

Pick up passports and get information at the Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center, 246 Market St. Visit www.cultureiscool.org/downtown-lowell-first-thursdays or www.facebook.com/LowellFirstThursdays for full line-up.

— NANCY TUTTLE
Obama pushes grants for higher ed

Pledges $100M for tuition-free training programs at all U.S. community colleges

By Danielle Douglas-Gabriel
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The White House is pledging $100 million to expand workforce training programs at community colleges, building on President Barack Obama's goal of making tuition at community colleges free.

Vice President Joseph Biden and his wife, Jill, announced the grant program Monday at the Community College of Philadelphia, a school that adopted the tuition-free model championed by the administration last year. Biden and his wife, a professor at Northern Virginia Community College, have advocated for the model, visiting schools and hosting round-table discussions with elected officials as well.

MCC's Mabry: "Cost is a big factor."

Please see TUITION-FREE/6
Obama pushes grants for higher ed

TUITION-FREE/From Page 1

as college and business leaders.

In the administration’s latest initiative, grants will be awarded through the Labor Department to partnerships between employers, training programs, and community and technical colleges aimed at readying students for skilled occupations.

Award recipients must extend tuition-free education to unemployed, underemployed and low-income workers to enter industries that require skilled labor. The employers with which they partner will help students attain apprenticeships or paid internship experience.

“These kinds of partnerships can help tens of thousands of students get the education and skills training they need to succeed in good-paying, middle-class jobs,” Biden said, in prepared remarks.

“I’ve traveled the country and seen firsthand that these kinds of programs are preparing students for jobs in industries like IT, health care, cybersecurity and energy. These are the kinds of investments that will allow us to outcompete the world.”

Vice President Joseph Biden

said he hears every day about difficulties students have paying for school. Middlesex, which has campuses in Bedford and Lowell, has been meeting with officials in Lowell to talk about the possibility of adopting a local version of the America’s Promise Grant program.

“Access is really at the core of what we do, and cost is a big factor,” Mabry said.

Gov. Charlie Baker, UMass President Marty Meehan and other officials were in Lowell last week to announce a new program called Commonwealth Commitment. The program freezes tuition for participating students and offers a 10 percent rebate on costs for students who meet grade-point-average and other standards.

A majority of the America’s College Promise programs require students to have graduated from high school, maintain at least a 2.5 grade-point average, and complete the federal financial-aid application to qualify for aid to cover all other college expenses.

The programs frequently feature incentives encouraging students to take a full load of courses, and are designed to ensure that credits are transferable to reduce the likelihood of remediation if students want to earn a bachelor’s degree. Those new programs represent more than $70 million in public and private investments to serve about 40,000 students at community colleges.

As a part of the Recovery Act, the administration set aside $2 billion to fund the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College Training Grant Program that largely reflects the goals of its latest grant competition. The trade program has supported partnerships with nearly 2,500 employers to provide training for jobs in information technology, health care, energy and advanced manufacturing. Nearly 300,000 participants have enrolled to date and earned 160,000 credentials.

The nation’s 1,100 community colleges educate more than 7 million students, who are often minorities, first-generation college students, and come from low-income families. Tuition and fees for full-time, in-state students at two-year schools cost less than $3,500 on average, according to the College Board. But housing, books, transportation and other living expenses drive up the cost to about $7,230 on average, after grants and scholarships.

“With these grants, students will be able to attend these programs tuition-free, so they can use their Pell Grants and other financial aid to pay for books, supplies, childcare, transportation and other living expenses instead of having to go into overwhelming debt,” Biden said.
An Evening With
Kathie Lee Gifford &
Hoda Kotb To Benefit
Student Scholarships

Tickets are on sale now for the 18th annual Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum featuring Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb, co-hosts of the Emmy Award-winning fourth hour of NBC's "Today" show, at 8 p.m., Friday, June 3, in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support Middlesex Community College Foundation student scholarships. Since 2004, more than $200,000 in Celebrity Forum Scholarships has been awarded to 86 Middlesex students. In addition to Celebrity Forum Scholarships, the MCC Foundation annually awards more than $100,000 in student scholarships.

Though probably best known for her 15 years on TV's "Regis and Kathie Lee," Gifford is also a successful actress, singer, songwriter, playwright, author and philanthropist.

She made her Broadway debut in 2000 in Stephen Sondheim's "Putting It Together," and in 2005 her first musical, "Under The Bridge" (book/lyrics and contributing composer), opened off Broadway. In 2012, her musi-

Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb are $100, $65, $55 and $45. Tickets can 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 IMA Box Office, 30 E. Merrimack St., Lowell.

For information about Celebrity Forum sponsorship opportunities, visit http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/CF16 or contact MCC Dean of College Advancement Dennis Malver at 781-280-3514.

Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb To Benefit Student Scholarships

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MCC’s Free Spring Concert Series Concludes With Student Recitals

Middlesex Community College’s spring concert series, A World of Music, concludes with two MCC Student Recitals. The concerts are free and open to the public.

Student singers and instrumentalists will perform at 12:30 p.m. Monday, May 9, in MCC’s Concert Hall (Building 6), on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.

Voice students of Professor Johanna Segarich will perform at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday, May 10, in the Federal Building Assembly Room on the Lowell campus, 50 Kearney Square.

To see previous A World of Music performances, visit http://www.youtube.com/user/MCCmusicOnline2#g/a.

For more information about A World of Music, contact Carmen Rodriguez-Peralta, director, at peraltae@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3923. For directions, visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu.
MCC To Host
Public Forum
On Immigration
Challenges In Lowell

Middlesex Community College will host a public forum, titled “Immigration and Community Challenges in Lowell,” from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, in the Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center, 246 Market St., Lowell.

Free and open to the public, the forum will address the issues of immigration, community advocacy, and the role of residents (citizens and non-citizens) in shaping urban development in Lowell.

This community discussion will be led by a panel of speakers, including:

Christoph Strobel, Associate Professor of History, UMass Lowell

Boiga Malone, Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, Enterprise Bank, member of MCC Board of Trustees;

Julia Gavin, Director of Programming for Lowell’s Coalition for a Better Acre

David Kalivas, MCC History Professor and Director of the Commonwealth Honors Program, will moderate.

The forum will be an opportunity to provide public space to examine the historical and contemporary context for immigration. Also explored will be the perceptions about immigrants and implications of racism in urban development, the role of community leaders, and related issues associated with misunderstandings about diversity and social stability in the city of Lowell.

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, in partnership with the Association of American Colleges & Universities, and the Democracy Commitment, the forum is co-sponsored by MCC, Lowell National Historical Park Coalition for a Better Acre, and the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association.

To learn more about “Immigration and Community Challenges in Lowell,” contact David Kalivas at honors@middlesex.mass.edu.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.
Middlesex Community College
To Host Forum On Juvenile Justice

Middlesex Community College will host a Forum on Juvenile Justice from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Monday, April 25, in the Federal Building Assembly Room, on the Lowell Campus 50 Kearney Square. This event is free and open to the public.

Join panelists Karter Reed, who served 20 years for a murder he committed in 1993 at age 16; Jean Trounstine, MCC professor, author and activist; and Michelle Bloomer, Assistant Dean of Education & Public Service, for a lively discussion about the problems and practices of sending juveniles to adult prisons.

Trounstine will give a reading from her new book, “Boy with a Knife: A Story of Murder, Remorse and a Prisoner’s Fight for Justice,” which focuses on the transformation of Reed, who is at the center of her searing critique of sending juveniles to adult prisons.

Bloomer will lead a facilitated discussion with the panel and the audience, tackling youth incarceration, justice, prison and the writing process.

To learn more about MCC’s Forum on Juvenile Justice, contact Mathew Olson, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, at 781-280-3715 or olsonm@middlesex.mass.edu.

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Middlesex Community College To Host Career Fair

Middlesex Community College’s Health & STEM Pathways Center will host a Career Fair from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, in the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center, 30 Warren St., adjacent to the Lowell campus. The event is free and open to the public.

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

Students can meet and interview with representatives from more than 40 area employers, including Massachusetts Life Science Center, Proctor & Gamble, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, LogixHealth, Charles River Labs, Randstad at Entegris, Ready Nurse Staffing, Aerotek, CareWell Urgent Care, Enterprise Bank, PlumChoice, and Lowell General Hospital.

To help students prepare for the Career Fair, MCC’s Health & STEM Pathways Center will hold a Career Fair Preparation Workshop from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, in the Lowell Campus Cafeteria.

The workshop will include a resume critique, tips on how to work a career fair, information about creating a 30-second introduction, and other resources to help students make the most of the career fair.

For more information about the Career Fair or MCC’s Health & STEM Pathways Center, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/pathways or contact pathwayscenter@middlesex.mass.edu.

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Celebrity Forum 2016

an evening with
Kathie Lee Gifford & Hoda Kotb
Co-hosts of the Emmy-winning 4th hour of NBC's 'TODAY'

Friday, June 3 at 8 p.m. • Lowell Memorial Auditorium

Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students.

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF16

Tickets on sale NOW!

$100 • $65 • $55 • $45

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For group sales of 15 or more, Jocelyn Presto at 978-934-5751 or email jocelyn_presto@uml.edu

All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.

For information on how to become a forum sponsor, call Dennis Murphy at 781-216-6114.

Special thanks to The TJC Corporation, Inc. Presenting Sponsor for all 8 years.
MIDDLESEX Community College

MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
MAY 31 - JUNE 30
JULY 11 - AUG. 10
Classes meet four days per week in Bedford & Lowell.

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
JUNE 6 - AUG. 2
JUNE 20 - AUG. 16
Classes meet online, or two evenings per week in Bedford & Lowell.

DUAL ENROLLMENT High school students who wish to enroll in summer courses should contact a dual enrollment advisor at 1-800-818-3434 to discuss admission requirements.

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

Get an early start on your college career.

Everyone teaches, everyone learns.
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College for Kids

Summer Programs for Kids Ages 8 to 15
July 11 - August 18
Now on BOTH our Bedford and Lowell campuses!

Fun, engaging Summer Programs include:
- Aviation
- Sports and Recreation
- Minecraft
- Coding for Kids
- Stop Action Movies
- Lego Mindstorms EV3
- Cake and Cupcake Decorating
- Veterinary Medicine
- Experience Writing
- And more!

Register Now. Space is Limited!

To learn more or to register, contact Marci Barnes at 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids

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Community College

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JUNE 6 – AUG. 2
JUNE 20 – AUG. 18
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Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students.

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF16
The Lowell Sun congratulates...

Join us in applauding the “29 Who Shine,” a group of outstanding public college and university graduates who will be honored at the State House today for their academic achievements, leadership potential and contributions to the civic life and prosperity of the Commonwealth.

Whether furthering their education or entering high-demand careers here in the state, these stellar students truly embody the vibrant future we all envision for Massachusetts.

Learn more about these students’ accomplishments at mass.edu/29whoshine
MIDDLESEX Community College

Everyone teaches, everyone learns.

Spring Open House

5:30 p.m. • Tuesday, April 26, 2016
591 Springs Road • Bedford, MA 01730

See what Middlesex can do for you!
• Learn about our academic programs
• Speak to a financial aid representative
• Take a campus tour
• Explore transfer opportunities to bachelor's degree programs

REGISTER NOW!

To learn more call 1-800-818-3434 or to RSVP visit:
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action unlimited

saturday, april 23, 2016

saturday, april 9, 2016
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591 Springs Road • Bedford, MA 01730

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Summer Course Offerings

AIP 101 Nursing Assistant Theory & Practice
AIP 102 Medical Office Procedures
AIP 104 Medical Office Administration
AIP 105 Health Insurance & Coding
AIP 106 Phlebotomy Theory & Lab
AIP 110 Introduction to Medical Billing
AIP 121 Cultural Anthropology
AIP 123 Art Appreciation
AIP 124 Asian Art
AIP 125 Drawing I
AIP 126 Drawing II
AIP 127 Digital Photography
AIP 130 Ceramics I
AIP 131 Ceramics II
AIP 141 Photography I
AIP 142 Photography II
AIP 144 Digital Photography
AIP 150 Basic Anatomy and Physiology
AIP 155 Nutrition
AIP 170 Infectious Disease
AIP 180 Introduction to Biotechnology
AIP 190 General Biology I
AIP 191 General Biology II
AIP 250 Advanced Topics in Biotechnology
BUS 105 Keyboarding
BUS 106 Introduction to Micro Business
BUS 116 Introduction to Business
BUS 140 Sales Principles
BUS 141 E-Commerce Marketing
BUS 172 Retail Management
BUS 216 Principles of Management
BUS 217 Human Resource Management
BUS 218 Business Communications
BUS 219 Business Internship
BUS 223 Financial Accounting
BUS 233 Managerial Accounting
BUS 244 Principles of Marketing
CAP 101 Computer Applications
CHE 121 Introduction to Chemistry
CHE 131 College Chemistry I
CHE 132 College Chemistry II
CHE 140 General Chemistry for Engineering and Science I
COM 101 Mass Communications
COM 103 Speech
COM 105 Film, Video and Society
CRI 131 Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRI 132 Criminal Law
CRI 131 Constitutional Law
CRI 151 Interpersonal Communications
CRI 152 Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRI 160 Society and Victims of Crime
CRI 161 Criminal Investigation
CSC 101 Introduction to Computer Science
CSC 102 Programming I
CSC 150 Operating Systems Basics and Security
ECD 140 Principles of Macroeconomics
ECD 150 Principles of Microeconomics
EDU 230 Supervised Field Placement and Seminar I
ELL 091 ELL Reading & Writing I
ELL 095 ELL Reading & Writing II
ELL 104 Grammar and Editing I
ELL 107 Grammar for ELL Advanced I
ENG 100 Preparation for College Reading III
ENG 101 Basic Writing
ENG 102 Reading, Writing, and Reasoning
ENG 103 English Composition I
ENG 103 English Composition II
ENG 123 Classics of Children's Literature
ENG 123 Writing from Behind Bars: The Literature of Prisoners
ENG 150 American Literature I
ENG 161 American Literature II
ENG 165 The Short Story
ENV 101 Renewable Energy
ENV 102 Introduction to Ocean and Marine Biology
ENV 115 Environmental Studies
ENV 122 Coral Reef Conservation Lab
ENV 123 Environmental Science with Lab
ETH 121 Ethics and Society
EPS 101 Fire Science Hydraulics
EPS 201 Fire Company Officership
GEO 120 World Geography
GEO 120 American Government
HST 121 United States History Before 1866
HST 122 United States History After 1865
HST 130 History of World Civ. Before 1500
HST 131 History of World Civ. After 1500
HUM 100 Introduction to the Humanities
HUM 102 Alcohol/Substance Abuse Treatment
HUM 103 Stress Management and Personal Development
HUM 153 Supervised Field Placement/Seminar I
HUM 154 Supervised Field Placement/Seminar II
HUM 160 Introduction to Counseling Skills
IDS 101 General Education Seminar: First-Year Experience
IDS 103 General Education Seminar: Leadership
IDS 105 General Education Seminar: Wellness
ITE 100 Introduction to Information Technology
LAN 101 Beginning French I
LAN 113 Beginning French II
LAN 110 Beginning German I
LAN 110 Beginning German II
LAN 122 Beginning German III
LAN 131 Beginning Japanese I
LAN 132 Beginning Japanese II
LAN 151 Beginning Spanish I
LAN 152 Beginning Spanish II
LAN 211 Intermediate French
LAN 211 Intermediate German I
LAN 251 Intermediate Spanish I
LAN 252 Intermediate Spanish II
LST 101 Introduction to Law
LST 102 Real Estate Law
MAD 120 Medical Care in Health and Disease
MAD 122 Advanced Clinical Assisting Procedures
MAT 001 Preparation for College Math
MAT 002 Preparation for College Math
MAT 003 Preparation for College Math
MAT 004 Preparation for College Math
MAT 101 Intermediate Algebra
MAT 102 Math Modeling for Liberal Arts
MAT 103 Elements of Mathematics I
MAT 107 Statistics
MAT 108 Precalculus for Business and Social Science
MAT 109 Precalculus for Engineering and Science
MAT 200 Calculus I for Engineering and Science
MAT 201 Calculus II for Engineering and Science
MAT 202 Calculus III for Engineering and Science
MCN 100 Immunology Practicum
MCU 101 Microbiology Practicum
MCU 103 Introduction to American Music
MCU 106 Introduction to the Music Business
MCU 100 Applied Piano for Beginners
HST 181 Networking I
MNR 011 Open Lab
MNR 000 LN/ARN Transition
MNR 155 Intermediate Nursing
MNR 156 Intermediate Nursing Practicum
PHM 10 - Introduction to Philosophy
PHY 101 Physics I
PHY 102 Physics II
PSY 120 Theories in Human Behavior
PSY 120 Introduction to Psychology
PSY 125 Human Development
PSY 126 Child Psychology
PSY 127 Child Development
PSY 133 Developmental Disabilities
PSY 132 Psychology of Development
PSY 140 Abnormal Psychology
RAD 100 Clinical Practicum II
SCI 108 Forensic Science
SCI 108 Introduction to Sociology
SCI 109 Sociology of the Family
SCI 150 Society and Victims of Crime
SOC 122 Clinical Practicum II
SOC 222 Clinical Practicum III

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