Susan Wornick interviews Jamie Lee Curtis at MCC’s 20th Celebrity Forum.

Sun Woo Kang, Socheata Mam and Cynthia Tim, at MCC’s Asian American Connections Center as covered in The New York Times.

Raonak Ezahan Shristy & Earl Williams, 2018 graduation speakers

President Mabry & Nancy Donahue MCC performing arts building to be named for Donahue & family.

Professor Raley Beggs, performed with students at Bedford High School as part of MCC’s Music Outreach Program.

Bedford Campus
591 Springs Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Lowell Campus
33 Kearney Square
Lowell, MA 01852
LOWELL, Mass. — After her first-ever class at Middlesex Community College last fall, Socheata Mam sank into a couch with her backpack in the main building’s lobby. The 19-year-old Cambodian immigrant was overwhelmed, realizing she had committed to a full load of five classes and her 30-hour-a-week job as a grocery cashier.

Her parents, with limited English language skills, could not guide her. They had never had a chance to go to college because the Khmer Rouge not only committed genocide of more than 1.7 million Cambodians from 1975-79, they also cut off educational opportunities for many of those who survived.

Ms. Mam, who immigrated to the United States at age 9, said she believed she had to rely on herself for everything at her college in Lowell, Mass., home to the nation’s second largest Cambodian population.
But Virak Uy, a Cambodian refugee who is the director of the college’s new Program for Asian American Student Advancement, had no intention of letting her flounder. He urged Ms. Mam to stop by the Asian American Connections Center, which opened in 2017 to help Southeast Asian students.

At the center, Ms. Mam could use the computers, eat lunch, use some of the sriracha hot sauce stocked in the minifridge and hang out with other Asian students. She could get tutoring, academic advising and financial aid tips and maybe eventually shed that feeling that she was on the outside looking in, the same experience Mr. Uy had a few decades ago as a freshman at Boston College.

During the spring semester, Ms. Mam went to the connections center every day after classes. Mr. Uy, whose desk faces the entrance, was usually the first person she saw, and just behind him covering most of the back wall was a 10-foot-wide by 5-foot high painting of Angkor Wat, a 12th-century Cambodian temple complex. Ms. Mam’s family has a smaller version of a similar painting in their living room.

“The center feels like another home. I go in there, do my homework, talk to them about my days,” Ms. Mam said. “It gives me a sense of comfort in a way, just because there are a lot of familiar faces here.”

**In Their Own Words**

*Virak Uy* Director of the Program for Asian American Student Advancement at Middlesex Community College In Lowell, Mass.: “If you look at the model minority myth, people think, oh, the Asians are fine. They’re college graduates, these doctors, lawyers. But if you disaggregate the data and look at the Cambodians, the Laotians, the Burmese and Vietnamese, the Southeast Asian group, they still have the highest poverty rate among Asians, the lowest educational attainment, a lot of high school dropouts.”

*Karonika Brown* A 34-year-old 2016 Middlesex College graduate who first started taking classes in 2005: “When they asked us what we needed for support, I said, ‘There’s a club for African-American students. There’s one for Hispanic students. There’s a multicultural center. It tends to get very full and crowded.’ We wanted a space specifically to help Asian students.”
Cynthia Tim A 20-year-old second-year student at Middlesex Community College who lives with foster parents: “Before the center opened, I really had trouble with time management. I ended up failing a class. Here, they push me a lot more to start working on it and to ask for help when I need it. I’m not the type of person to ask.”

Socheata Mam A 19-year-old first-year and first-generation college student at Middlesex Community College and Cambodian immigrant: “It can be a little difficult because your parents aren’t always there to help you, like with the financial aid stuff. They don’t really know how to do that stuff. I had to learn how to do it.”

Southeast Asians, researchers say, are the fastest-growing ethnic or racial group in community colleges and enter college with a number of issues — including poverty, limited English skills, and post-traumatic stress from fleeing the aftermath of wars in Vietnam and Laos and the genocide in Cambodia.

These students have as high a risk of dropping out of college as low-income Hispanic or African-American students, researchers say. Yet colleges and policymakers often don’t realize it because Southeast Asian students’ statistics are lumped in as part of overall Asian student performance. Their problems are hidden partly because of the model minority myth that all Asians are academic superstars and flourish in high school and college.

“That’s often what we hear about Asian-Americans. ‘They’re not our problematic students,’” said Robert Teranishi, co-director of the Institute for Immigration, Globalization and Education at U.C.L.A. “When we talk about students of color and programs to support students of color, a lot of times Asian-Americans haven’t historically been included.”

Middlesex, which has campuses in the Boston suburbs of Bedford and Lowell, received a $1.7 million, five-year grant awarded to 14 colleges in 2016 to improve the academic performance of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders.

The college has focused its efforts on its campus in Lowell, about 20 miles northwest of Boston, because of its large Southeast Asian presence. Middlesex has roughly 8,200 students, including 13.1 percent who are Asian, 17 percent Hispanic, 8 percent black, and 56 percent white. Asian students’ transfer rates — 39 percent — were consistently lower than the 42.3 percent average for all other groups at Middlesex, according to United States Education Department data.
But Middlesex officials were largely unaware that Asian students were struggling so much.

Asian-American students, interviewed in focus groups, told educators at the college how isolated and stressed they felt. Some ventured into a multicultural center at the school before the Asian student center opened, but rarely stayed because of the lack of Asians. They said they did not believe professors understood their culture and history, a problem Middlesex is hoping to resolve with faculty training.

Several students said it helped to hear Mr. Uy’s story. He, like Ms. Mam and many of the center’s other regulars, had to learn English as a second language. His first language is Khmer, which Cambodians pronounce kma to distinguish the word from the French-pronounced Khmer (kemre) as in the Khmer Rouge.

Middlesex also created an intensive English language institute, hoping to work with Cambodians of all ages struggling to learn English.

Mr. Uy, 44, said he immigrated to the United States around age 9 from a refugee camp in Thailand. He was only 3 or 4 when he and his family fled their home with only the clothes on their backs and went to work in labor camps.

At Middlesex, he brought students, their families, community members and faculty together in February to watch a screening of Angelina Jolie’s film, “First They Killed My Father,” the story of a young Cambodian girl’s experience during the genocide. He participated in a panel discussion, opening a dialogue that few students had ever had with their family members.

Karonika Brown, 34, who had graduated with an associate degree from Middlesex in 2016 then remained on campus working and taking classes, went to the film.

“I was bawling — it was awful because I could relate to so much of it,” said Ms. Brown, who first started taking classes at Middlesex in 2005 when she was 22 and the single mother of a toddler.

She was born in Cambodia in 1983 after the genocide, but both of her parents had been in internment camps. Her mother lost two babies to starvation. Her father died in a refugee camp in Thailand when Ms. Brown was 2. Her mother never recovered emotionally, and Ms. Brown, who is married now, takes care of her mother as well as her three children, ages 7, 11 and 13.
She has dropped in and out of college because of finances and stress. She was recently accepted to Simmons College but decided it was too costly. She plans to transfer to the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, in the fall of 2019, get a bachelor's degree in education and become a teacher.

Ms. Mam said she never knew what her parents and grandparents endured in Cambodia until I interviewed her, her mother and stepfather at their home in Chelmsford, which borders Lowell. Ms. Mam's two grandmothers and two of her three older stepsiblings also live there.

Ms. Mam's mother, Prumsour Sinn, said she was 3 or 4 when the Khmer Rouge came. She and her family stayed in the capital city of Phnom Penh, and what she remembers most is the fear. She was not allowed to go outside.

Mrs. Sinn, who never went beyond high school, divorced Ms. Mam's father when her daughter was 1, and in 2008 married Kosal Sinn, who already lived in America.

Mr. Sinn was still in high school when the Khmer Rouge came. “We walked in a line of people, barefoot. Sometime, people sit down, not eating, die,” he said, searching for the words he wanted to say in English to describe his family's forced march to a labor camp.
Ms. Mam said it was helpful for her to learn about her parents’ past — a past that might indirectly add to the pressure she felt to thrive in college. Her parents want her to finish community college, transfer to a four-year school and get a good job. But they both work full-time in factory jobs to support the family, and they cannot help with college bills.

Ms. Mam applied for financial aid in the fall but did not receive it, and she paid the $3,000 in tuition and fees herself. At Mr. Uy’s suggestion, she took four classes in the spring semester and worked fewer hours. She took out a $600 loan to help with college — she works full shifts Fridays through Sundays.

"Sometimes when I go to work, I go to school, I think it’s overwhelming," said Ms. Mam, who wants to pursue a career in criminal justice. "I get so stressed out when I think about how am I going to make it to the next step."

But if she runs into trouble, she knows she will make the center, and Mr. Uy, her first stop.

"He’s always there," she said.

Linda K. Wertheimer, a Boston-based journalist, is the author of "Faith Ed, Teaching About Religion in An Age of Intolerance."

A version of this article appears in print on June 6, 2018, on Page L12 of the New York edition with the headline: A Safe Place. Order Reprints | Today's Paper | Subscribe
Jamie Lee’s favorite role?
Reaching out to help others

Curtis talks of seizing dreams, beating demons at MCC forum

By Robert Mills rmills@lowellsun.com

LOWELL

Jamie Lee Curtis woke up in Boston Friday morning and had four cups of coffee before 9 a.m.

It was, in part, because she was preparing for the release of the trailer for the 40th anniversary remake of Halloween — the film that catapulted her to stardom when she was just 19.

But it was also, in part, because she was excited to be speaking at the Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum later in the night.

Curtis, 59, wasn’t daunted by the bright lights and big stage of the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, but said she spends most of her days excited and in disbelief of the life she has been able to live as a well-known movie star, activist.

Please see CURTIS/10

Former WCVB anchor Susan Wornick, left, applauds a remark by actress Jamie Lee Curtis at Lowell Memorial Auditorium Friday night. Curtis was the featured speaker for the 20th anniversary of Middlesex Community College’s Celebrity Forum. Watch video at lowellsun.com.
Seizing dreams, beating demons: Curtis inspires

Curtis is greeted by Middlesex Community College President James Mahoney on stage.

Actress Jamie Lee Curtis greets her during her appearance at Middlesex Community College's Celebrity Forum at Lowell Memorial Auditorium Friday night. Watch video at lowellmain.com.

"We're not here to be selfish losers," she said. "We're here to be a group of" people."

Curtis is the daughter of actress Janet Leigh, and told the story of a group her mother is part of called Share, an acronym for Share Happily And Drop Emotionally."

She said her mother and the wives of other famous actors have for decades raised money for the Exceptional Children's Fund in Los Angeles, and despite the self-centered reputation of Hollywood, showed how much fame could enable individuals to help others.

Curtis ended the forum, in which she was interviewed by former WCVB-TV news anchor Susan Varniwick, with a excerpt from a children's book she wrote after her son asked her, "deeply upset, if there is really a human race?"

The boy thought that life was a competition his mother hadn't told him about. In the book she wrote afterward, a boy whispers to his mother about the race."

"Sometimes it's easier to pick up a needle," she said, "and that's more important than losing the nest. Should you be looking back at the nest, you should judge your own race by the help that you lend.""

Praises from the annual Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students. Since 2006, 122 scholarships have been awarded totaling $303,450. On Friday night, 17 students received scholarships prior to Curtis's appearance.

Praise Robert Mills on Twitter @Robert Mills
From left, Middlesex Community College professor Suzanne McHale, Class of 2018 graduate Chansokroth Mao and professor Jen Nicoloro celebrate following Thursday’s graduation at Lowell Memorial Auditorium. See a list of graduates and more photos on Page 9. Watch video at lowellsun.com.

MCC grads urged: Be engaged

By Chris Lisinski
clisinski@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Although they all described different stories of personal development, the commencement speaker and two student speakers at Middlesex Community College’s graduation shared a common theme: becoming engaged.

As more than 1,200 graduates locked on Thursday morning, speakers encouraged them not just to look with optimism to the future but also to play an active role in shaping it, to stand up for what they believe in and to serve as their own advocates.

“My message to all of you today is: your voice is critical,” said Gail Tuzzolo, a national political consultant.

Raonak Ezahan Shrysty, one of the Class of 2018 student speakers at Middlesex Community College’s graduation, addresses her classmates.

Please see MCC/10
who served as the Class of 2018’s commencement speaker. “Your voice is critical to the community you live in and to this world. When you organize and join voices with others, you can accomplish so much.”

Students and families packed the Lowell Memorial Auditorium for the graduation ceremony. The procession featured flags from countries around the world, reflecting Lowell’s diversity and the community college’s mission to serve everyone, and a traditional bagpipe performance.

Tuzzolo is a Middlesex graduate herself. She enrolled in the 1970s while she was a stay-at-home mother, and after completing an associate’s degree, she went on to Salem State University.

Since then, she has spent four decades as a lobbyist and political consultant and today oversees Gail Tuzzolo & Associates and Community Strategies Inc. She worked on various campaigns through the years, including Jimmy Carter’s successful presidential bid.

Today, Tuzzolo is chair of Middlesex’s alumni association. She received the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award at Thursday’s graduation.

“During my time at Middlesex, I found my voice,” Tuzzolo said.

In her remarks Thursday, she touched upon various stories of civic engagement, from an inspiring Ukrainian woman who fought for her community to the historic Women’s March in Washington last year to students in Parkland, Florida, who protested to call for gun control. She wondered whether changes in society as record numbers of women seek office were “a wave or a sea change.”

Tuzzolo returned to that language in one of the final lines of her remarks. “We believe,” she said, “the Class of 2018 is a sea change.”

The two student speakers at Thursday’s graduation hit on similar themes. Raanak Ezahan Shristy, the first speaker, recounted growing up in Bangladesh in a culture where women frequently marry before they finish high school and are expected to remain home as caretakers.

Shristy wanted more, though. She moved to the United States with her husband after their arranged marriage and soon found herself bored with, as she put it, cleaning and watching Netflix. “Pretty soon, the movies on Netflix were not enough to make me happy,” Shristy said. “I realized I was going to have the same life my mother had and my mother had, and I could not seem peaceful with that life. I wanted to become self-reliant.”

So Shristy, too, got engaged. She enrolled at Middlesex in 2016, something her husband supported, and put in long hours first learning how to do schoolwork at the college level and then excelling at it. Beyond the classroom, she began tutoring other students, something that gave her inspiration.

And she succeeded: after receiving her associate’s degree Thursday, Shristy plans to enroll at UMass Lowell to study public health, all because she decided not to accept the status quo.

“We all have our own challenges,” she said. “But as we all stand here today, we are all sharing the same joy.”

 Earl Williams, the second student speaker, also shared a story of hardship and perseverance. Growing up, he faced abuse at home that he eventually forgave. Williams is legally blind, so school had been a challenge, and he struggled early in life to accept his sexual identity as a gay man.

He enrolled at Middlesex in his 40s, hoping to advance his career at the IRS to support his two sons as a single parent, but he found himself so fascinated by the psychology program that he now hopes to earn a Ph.D. in the topic and work in the foster-care system.

Like Tuzzolo and Shristy before him, Williams encouraged his classmates and their loved ones not to be passive. “Be your own best advocate,” he said. “Don’t doubt yourself. Look beyond the present to prepare for the future.”

Follow Chris on Twitter @ChrisLisinski
Middlesex Community College Class of 2018

The Lowell Sun Updated: 05/25/2018 08:59:20 AM EDT

Angeline Genao of Methuen poses with her diploma and balloons after graduating from Middlesex Community College on Thursday at Lowell Memorial Auditorium. SUN/CHRIS LISINSKI


Ayer: GailAnn Ennever Angus Dauphin, Lucia Diane Arrigo, Sierra West DeWalt, Jeffrey T. Dougherty, Amanda R. Shaughnessy, Lila P. Whalen


Boxboro: Jason Daniel Barr, Brendan M. Lyons


Carlisle: Dakota M. Barth, Sean E. Dwyer, John V. Golis, Henry Dexter Hedden, Andrew L. Hrasna, Natalie Mukankusi
The graduation cap of Middlesex Community College graduate David Gemisari, who was born in Brazil. SUN/CHRIS LISINSKI


Concord: Edye Benedict, Mirza Eliana Medina Delgado, Kandyce M. Nyholm, Elizabeth Madeline Paulsen, Benjamin W. Reed, David A. Santos, Aaron R. Sisneros, Fairchild Tang, Andrew George Vultaggio


Dunstable: Patrick Sean Allison, Hallie Olivia Blair, Mary Drury, Brad M. Flint, Philippe R. Jussaume, Roger L. Marchand, Georges Patard Mourant, Andrew Schwetz, Zachary Francis Tziolis, Danielle N. Wilson, Alexandra F. Wright

Groton: Taylor L. Anderson Rodrigues, Casandra Rosemary Gagnon, Owen F. Kneeland, Daniel J. Martin, Kathleen Esther Murphy, Mark A. Nojaim, Teena Shibu

Hanscom AFB: Andrew S. Ellison, Gareth Harrison May, Malayah Marnee Montgomery, Joilissa Tiana Charese Rhone
Littleton: Cendana T. Auger, Scott P. Matheson, Nicole M. Palmer, Jackson B. Weber, Ashley May Wrona,

Edward Allen Thap, Emily M. Thayer, Ailynn Taylor Tiernan, Natasha Tobon, Ashleigh Marie Torres, Efrain Jediel Torres, Joyce A. Torsu, Kenny N. Tran, Trinh Nguyen Tran, Antonio Trinidad Martinez, Ngoc B. Tu, Bryce Z. Tuth, Saranny Va, Lorry Vaillancourt, Nyam R. Valentin, Chandany Stephanie Vann, Chornay Vong, Leakieta Vong, Spencer G. Vrouhas, Jade Marie Songhua Westlake, Earl Williams, Antony Channan Yan, Tithya Yary, Sopor Yean, Julie H. You, Yesenia Zapata, Dominik Michal Zelazny


North Billerica: Jessica Sasha Baudanza, Paul Wasswa Bogere, Zachary S. Brown, Mackenzie Rae Burns, MiKayla Ann Cassidy, Alyssa Danielle Cowan, Karen Marie Downer, Kaela Susan Hanlon, Laura M. Heasley, Abhi N. Jhaveri, MD Golam Khibria, Kendrah K. Lawton, Kelsey M. Levesque, Mario A. Merino Rivas, Zachary M. Pippus, Denise N. Richard, Jason Daniel Scarborough, Kelsy Loryn Shanahan, Lyndsey Y. Vincent, Sydney Joy West

North Chelmsford: A. Ryan Christopher Cove, Melissa Eaton, Ian R. Hemenway, Flora Lambert, Megan Alice O’Neil, Rafael G. Ortiz, Andrea L. Patino Galindo, Lucy N. Paynter, Shannon M. Riccio, Matthew S. Rowe, Hulda Y. Suazo


Pepperell: Stefanie Elisabeth Blair, Abigail J. Chisholm, Michaela E. Coyle, Vickie Lee Crocker, Nicholas A Dunsmoor, Emelia Corinne Galvin, Kaylee S. Goodwin, Amie Lake, Napoleon Philip Lenker, Cynthia L. Long, Mackenzie Normand, William J. Ross,

Shirley: Mua’au Jacob Pa’u


Townsend: Megan R. Balcher, Anthony D. Clark, Kelly Elizabeth Cormier, Eric J. Davenport, Michael John Meacows, Stephanie L. Oak, Brett T. Talcott


West Townsend: Kathleen T. Beal, Casey Lynn Breen,
Westford: Mackenzie R. Bennett, Andrew M. Bowen, Caroline R. Burgess, Bailey Chaffin, James D. Clark, Karen A. Donahue, Taylor Ann Ferretti, Alexander Thomas Gounaris, Catherine M. Greenwood, Kathryn Emily Griffin, Kevin Haghighat, Sofia S. Haque, Joshua Adam Johnson, Evan R. Loosigian, Angela C. MacLure, Amy Marie Miller, Sara Katherine Morton, Benjamin G. Osgood, Emily J. Skotz, JoAnne Snow Niven, Megan M. Snyder, Michael D. Szamrej, Sugey C. Vazquez Rodriguez, Anant Verma, Robert Louis Williams

 Blind MCC student always kept his focus

By Chris Lisinski
W.Diffstow.com

LOWELL — When Earl Williams first enrolled at Middlesex Community College in his 40s, he planned to earn a degree that could help him advance in his job at the IRS, something he felt would help him better support his two sons.

Williams found something different, though: an interest in psychology and encouraged by the support MCC provided to accommodate his legal blindness, the 45-year-old Lowell resident decided he wanted to help people. He switched to a liberal-arts degree that would prepare him to work in the foster-care system.

As he prepares to serve as a student speaker at Thursday's graduation, Williams hopes that his journey can inspire his classmates and the student speakers at graduation, although he joined the iris interview for the position that he might not suffer stage fright in front of thousands of lookers because he would not be able to see the audience. But his speech Thursday presents an opportunity, with his kids and his friends watching to support him, for Williams to encourage others.

He plans to describe the challenges he faced — in addition to his vision, he sustained emotional and physical abuse in his childhood that he eventually forgave, struggled to accept his sexual orientation as a gay man, and has always been a single parent — and build toward a simple message: anything can be overcome.

"What I would like for them to take away is to be their own best advocate, don't doubt themselves and look to the present but prepare for the future," Williams said. "Anything you want to do can be done. It may take us a while, but we'll make it there."

Follow Chris on Twitter @chrilisnki

East Williams, 45, in front of Middlesex Community College in Lowell, will be a student speaker at Thursday’s graduation. Watch video at lowellsun.com.
Middlesex alum plans to start a women's network at UML

The Lowell Sun
Updated: 06/10/2018 06:36:00 AM EDT

Lisa Will, a recent graduate of Middlesex Community College, left her hometown of Limburg, Germany, in the spring of 2016 to earn her Associate Degree in Business Administration. Since enrolling at MCC, she joined the Women's Leadership Network, one of the school's student organizations. After being named president last September, she set out to re-energize the organization.

"I came up with new concepts and ideas to recruit members," she said, adding that she wanted to get more men involved in the club. "I want to get rid of the stigma that men cannot be feminists."

Will set three goals for club members: build confidence, become the best version of themselves, and succeed professionally and personally. To reach those goals, the network hosted public-speaking workshops and brought in successful women to speak at meetings. The group also created a film titled "What Does Feminism Mean to You?" and held a public screening in early May.

Will is excited that MCC selected a strong female role model for this year's Celebrity Forum, An Evening With Jamie Lee Curtis, this past Friday.

"I'm excited to see Jamie Lee speak because of her contribution to the #metoo movement and her support of women who have faced sexual harassment and discrimination," she said. "It's all about women expressing their true selves without facing criticism, especially from other women."

In the fall, she will attend UMass Lowell, where she plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing Management.

Advertisement
She believes the Women's Leadership Network helped prepare her for this next step.

"It taught me how to work as (part of) a team, listen to others, and let me practice being in a leadership role," she said.

Will is already searching for ways to give back to MCC. She plans to start a women's mentoring group at UML for MCC students.

"I want to pass the torch to the next upcoming leaders in feminism."

Recent MCC Grad Wins National Accounting Transfer Scholarship

Daniel Iknaian, of Waltham, has been awarded a $1,000 2018-19 Transfer Scholarship from Teachers of Accounting at Two Year Colleges (TACTYC) for the 2018-19 academic year.

Iknaian graduated this spring with an Associate in Science in Business Administration Transfer degree, with a 3.88 GPA. He plans to continue his education at UMass Lowell and earn a bachelor's degree in business administration (with a concentration in accounting and information systems), then pursue a master's degree and CPA certification.

Vikram Sharma, MCC Associate Professor of Business, nominated Iknaian for the TACTYC scholarship. "Daniel is an extremely hardworking and dedicated student," said Sharma. "He is passionate about accounting and performed brilliantly on his exams."

At Middlesex, Iknaian served as treasurer of the Business & Economics Club, and is an active member of DECA, the international organization that prepares emerging leaders in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. He recently won medals in regional and national DECA competitions.

"Daniel's accomplishments at MCC are a great inspiration to other students," added Sharma. "His key strength is his strong sense of perseverance. He goes the extra mile to excel in whatever he pursues."

For more information about MCC's Business Administration degree and certificate programs, please visit: [https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/bep/degree](https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/bep/degree)

To learn more about TACTYC and its scholarship programs, visit: [https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/bep/degree.aspx](https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/bep/degree.aspx)

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
For Lowell, a month filled with Pride

By Jordyn Haime, Sun Correspondent
Updated: 06/10/2018 08:30:46 AM EDT

Deb Fowler, left, co-founder of History UnErased, and Kerrie D'Entremont, executive director of the Greater Lowell Health Alliance, show off a Pride flag at last weekend's ceremony at Lowell City Hall. PHOTO BY JAMES OSTIS

LOWELL -- The gay rights movement hit a massive turning point in 1969, at New York City's Stonewall Inn. Violent riots broke out and hundreds fought back for several days against police that harassed the LGBTQ+ community that gathered there. One year later, hundreds gathered for the Christopher Street Gay Liberation Parade where the Stonewall Inn was located to commemorate the riots. Today, Pride celebrations of diversity continue every June in most major cities. Lowell has hosted Pride festivals in the past, but this year, the city celebrates its first month-long Pride celebration.

That history of why Pride is celebrated in June is important, says Deb Fowler, co-founder of the Lowell-based organization History UnErased. UnErased works to interweave LGBTQ+ academic content and history into K-12 education, and organized many of the month's programs. "We wanted to give the community opportunity to experience aspects of the LGBTQ community and infuse aspects of history into it," Fowler said, "the education piece is so important to us. It's important that all members of the community to have access to why we celebrate pride."

Though the issues are getting more exposure today than ever before, Fowler says the LGBTQ suicide rate is actually worsening. According to History UnErased, one in five LGBTQ youth of color attempt suicide, and 45 percent of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ. "This is where we see our work as imperative," Fowler says.

One location honoring LGBTQ history in their celebration is Warp & Weft: the restaurant will be hosting tea dances every Sunday for the rest of June, and every third Sunday after that to commemorate the Fire Island afternoon tea dances, where LGBTQ people could safely get together and dance without attracting attention.

An LGBTQ film series will be hosted at the Luna Theater, with a classic film every Sunday; and an LGBTQ History Mystery night hosted by History UnErased will be held at the Federal Building at Middlesex Community College on June 20.

Pride month kicked off with a Pride flag-raising at Lowell City Hall on June 1, followed by a parade and a festival. Kerri D'Entremont, executive director of the Greater Lowell Health Alliance, said around 300 rainbow-clad people marched. "It was really wonderful to see the flag go up, and it's hard to believe that this was the first time the flag was ever raised," D'Entremont said, "What was really striking was to see how emotional it was for people. I was really moved by that."

Sophar Pim, 17, is a member of the Gay-Straight Alliance at Lowell High School and identifies as pansexual. She was excited that she didn't have to travel far away to celebrate with her friends. "I think it's really great, the confidence, enthusiasm and support, it really shows that there can be a safe place for LGBTQ people," Pim says. "To me, pride is an expression of freedom. Freedom to love, freedom to be who I am, freedom to be happy."

Fowler says new events are being added to the Pride event calendar nearly every day. See History UnErased's website for a full schedule of events.
Funding roundup

The Everyday Entrepreneur Venture Fund awarded Middlesex Community College a $250,000 grant to help student entrepreneurs start or grow a small business. (Photo: MCC)

By Tabitha Whissemore April 26, 2018

Middlesex Community College (MCC) in Massachusetts has received a $250,000 grant from the Everyday Entrepreneur Venture Fund (EEVF) to help student entrepreneurs start or grow a small business. MCC is one of only four colleges in the U.S. to receive an EEVF grant, which includes a strong community-engagement component, from planning through post-launch, with mentors and matching funds coming from the local business community.

EEVF founders Chip and Stuart Weismiller established the million-dollar venture fund to provide seed grants to community college foundations for community-based new business start-ups.
Winchester resident receives scholarship

Our Picks

Posted Jun 4, 2018 at 5:14 PM Updated Jun 4, 2018 at 5:14 PM

Teamsters Local 25 of Boston awarded college scholarships worth $60,000 to 30 high school students at its May membership meeting at the Local 25 Union Hall. Teamsters Local 25 President Sean O’Brien was joined by Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker as he presented students with Teamsters Local 25 Memorial Scholarship Awards. Teamsters Local 25 provides scholarships each year to children of Teamster members and retirees as a way to help the next generation of leaders achieve their academic and career goals.

Among those awarded scholarships is Shauna Ehrrott, of Winchester. Ehrrott attended Winchester High School and will attend the Middlesex Community College in Bedford. Ehrrott is the daughter of David Ehrrott, of Winchester, a Teamsters Local 25 member who works at the Boston Globe.
Potent partnership for MCC, Bartlett

BEDFORD — Fifty fourth-graders at Lowell’s Bartlett Community Partnership School got a taste of college life recently when they visited Middlesex Community College’s Bedford Campus for a tour and a chance to conduct science experiments with MCC students in college laboratories.

“There was a lot of enthusiasm on both sides,” Science Professor John Edmonds said. “My Integrated Science students were really pleased they got to do some real teaching.”

Please see BARTLETT/23

MCC Service-Learning students, from left, Shauna Ubele and Sarah Pelletier, both of whom are enrolled in Science Professor John Edmonds’ “Integrated Science” course, conduct hands-on experiments on the Bedford campus with fourth-graders from Lowell’s Bartlett Community Partnership School.

MCC, Bartlett partner up

BARTLETT/From Page 22

“And the Bartlett kids were excited to meet new young adults and learn what college is really like.”

The visit was the most recent collaboration in an ongoing partnership between Bartlett School, which serves students from pre-K through eighth grade, and MCC’s Service-Learning Program.

At Middlesex, Service-Learning is a credit-bearing educational experience in which students participate in an organized activity that meets identified community needs.

Middlesex students in such programs as Dental Hygiene, Cyber Security, Chemistry and other STEM fields have been volunteering and working with Bartlett students for five years, onsite at the school and on campus, said Sheri Denk, director of Civic & Service-Learning.

The youngsters learned about physical and chemical changes by observing the processes a burning candle goes through as its matter changes form, Edmonds said.

Some of the MCC students enjoyed working with the Bartlett students so much that they signed up to volunteer more than once and have worked repeatedly with the same kids, Edmonds said.
**What's Happening**

**Live Music**


Chelmsford Center for the Arts — 1 North Road. Anthony Alexander, classical piano, Thur., May 31, 7:30 p.m.; $5 suggested. Joan Watson-Jones, jazz, Sat., June 2, 7:30 p.m.; $15.

Hampton Beach Casino — 160 Ocean Blvd., Hampton, N.H. The B-Sides, classic pop, Sat., June 2, 8 p.m.; $47.

**Nightspots**

Hearing Room — 119 Chelmsford St., Lowell. Reading Group, each Mon., 6:9 p.m.

Open Mike, each Tues., 7-10 p.m. Open Figure Drawing, each Wed., 7-10 p.m. Mostly Acoustic Jam, each Thur., 7-10 p.m. Bluegrass Jam, third Fri. (June 15), 7-10 p.m. Songwriter's Circle, second and fourth Sat. (June 23), 1-5 p.m. Community Sing & Jam, every other Sunday, 2:5 p.m.

Luna Theater — Mill No. 5, 250 Jackson St., Lowell. Luna Sessions, live jazz, every Tues., 8 p.m.; free.

**Recreation**

Boston Billiard Club & Casino — 55 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, N.H. High Hands Saturday Jackpot, every Sat., 2-10 p.m. Learn To Play Poker, every Fri, 6-7:30 p.m.; free.

Tuesday Trivia Night, every Tuesday, 7:30-10 p.m.

Dom Polski Hall — 10 Coburn St., Lowell. Beginner Line Dance Class, Thursdays, 6-7 p.m.; 877-92DANCE.

NARA Park — 25 Ledge Rock Way, Acton. NARA Summer Family Campout, Fri., June 1, 4 p.m.-9 a.m; www.actonrec.com.


The Wine Connexion — 117 Main St., North Andover. Spring Sips. Saturdays through June 30, 1-5 p.m.

**Schools**

Middlesex Community College — Celebrity Forum with Jamie Lee Curtis, Fri., June 8, 8 p.m.; $25-$49.


**Theater**

Lowell Memorial Auditorium — 50 East Merrimack St. Late Night Catechism, Sat., June 2, 8 p.m.
LHS names two Tsongas scholars

The Lowell Sun
Updated: 06/03/2018 06:37:07 AM EDT

LOWELL -- Two Lowell High School graduates in the Class of 2018 received the Paul Tsongas/University of Massachusetts Lowell Scholarship during the school's recent Awards and Scholarship Night.

Aneisha Adames-Hernandez, born in Puerto Rico, is the daughter of Alexis Adames and Katy Hernandez. Aneisha's family migrated to the United States due to high unemployment rates in Puerto Rico in search of work, better schooling and access to health care for her brother, Kelison Lopez, who has autism. Despite the challenges Aneisha and her family faced, she will be the first in her family to attend college. She hopes her sister, Alix Adames, a current LHS student, will follow in her footsteps. Aneisha learned English quickly and excelled in school. She took challenging courses at Lowell High, including Biology at Middlesex Community College through Dual Enrollment. Aneisha was also selected to participate in the rigorous Health Professions Recruitment and Exposure Program at Harvard Medical School.

Aneisha is a four-year Jr. ROTC cadet who was promoted to logistics officer. She completed numerous community-service projects, including cleanups at the Butler, Shaughnessy and Sullivan schools, beautification projects in the Centralville section of Lowell, and the annual Merrimack Valley Food Bank drive. Aneisha plans to attend UMass Lowell in the fall as a Biology student to become a veterinarian in the future.

Ronan Dunn, a Lowell native, is the son of Steven and Kerrieann Dunn. Ronan plans to attend UMass Lowell, where his brothers, Ryan and Shaymus, are students, and their younger sister, Shannon, also plans to attend UML.

Ronan took challenging courses at Lowell High, earning honor-roll status all four years in such courses as Advanced Placement Calculus and English at Middlesex Community College through Dual Enrollment. Ronan is a four-year LHS football and track athlete, serving as captain of the football and spring track teams. He was a member of the International Language Club and National Honor Society. Ronan has participated in community service since the sixth grade, most notably serving as an assistant coach for the Special Teams for Exceptional People. Growing up with Tourette syndrome gave Ronan a greater appreciation for people with disabilities and how sports can be used to help others gain confidence and improve their self-esteem. At UMass Lowell, Ronan plans to major in Computer Engineering major and then pursue a doctorate in Assistive Technology.
Dylan Jack – Jazz Drummer Searches for the Infinite Beat

Doug Sparks on June 2nd, 2018

As a student at Tewksbury Memorial High School, Dylan Jack submerged himself in the extreme music known as death metal. He spent his paychecks on CDs by bands such as Morbid Angel and Cannibal Corpse, and pored over magazines with names like Terrorizer while refining his chops as a hard rock musician. One day, his grandfather asked him if he had heard of Gene Krupa. Jack was unfamiliar with the thunderous, hard-swinging drummer, so his grandfather showed him footage of the man who was as heavy and intense as any in the world of metal. Seeing Krupa go to war on his drum kit changed Jack's life.

Years later, Jack was still cranking out rock music, and the guitarist in his band asked him why he wouldn't play songs the same way twice. "I don't want to!" he remembers thinking. "It just hit me. I'm more like a jazz drummer, improvising in everything that I'm playing. And then I thought, OK, that's what I want to do."

He went onto major in music at college. In his first year, a professor told him he didn't have what it took to be a professional musician. Jack walked away in anger. He dropped out and enrolled at Middlesex Community College, earning an associate degree in 2008 before continuing on to the McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul, Minnesota. Jack graduated in 2011 with a degree in percussion performance and returned home. In 2016, he earned a master's degree in modern American music from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Now, Dylan Jack is back in Tewksbury and makes a living behind the drum kit. He is an instructor at music schools in Medford and Waltham, and at Music Elements in Chelmsford. "I love to teach," says Jack, now 32. He also performs live, sometimes 80 or 90 times a year. Making it as a live jazz performer can be tough. Jack tells stories of playing in clubs where the crowd is drawn more by the booze than the beats. Fights break out. By the end of the night, his sneakers are sticky with stale beer. The long drive home after such gigs can feel long indeed.

"Diagrams" features liner notes by New York jazz critic David Adler and was put out on the Creative Nation label. The CD release party was held last year at the Chelmsford Center for the Arts, where the Dylan Jack Quartet will return on June 8 to perform new compositions.
The Dylan Jack Quartet released its first album, “Diagrams,” in 2017, and is currently working on the follow-up. The quartet includes Eric Hofbauer on guitar, Anthony Leva on bass, and Todd Brunel on clarinet and saxophone. Jack wants the next record to capture the raw and immediate aspects of a live performance. “I’ve always wanted drums to sing. I want to hear the bass slap against the wood. I want to hear that attack of the instrument.” It’s as though he’s seeking all the energy, improvisation and freedom of a live set, but without the distraction of whisky-fueled chatter.

He’s also pushing the length of the songs. There’s an extended piece called “The Twelve-Foot Man.” Jack imagines the mysterious figure who inspired the title as a combination of the vampire from F.W. Murnau’s silent classic “Nosferatu,” and Judge Doom from the 1988 film “Who Framed Roger Rabbit.” “It is also a really difficult piece of music,” Jack says of the song. “A tall man and a tall task.”

Another composition is called “Gauchais Reaction.” The title refers to an effect in psychology. “You take on another form of somebody. You take on their mannerisms. ... So I took a melody and moved everything up a half step following it. The notes chase each other.” In these twin melodies, Jack explains, “The notes are the same, but they’re sharpened, and they begin to meld into each other on both the guitar and bass clarinet.”

Another new song is based on an inscription found on an ancient Greek headstone — the epitaph of Seikilos, regarded as the oldest surviving piece of written music. Jack’s version, “The Epitaph,” brings imaginative closure to the record and to the story of the Twelve-Foot Man as he fades into silence.

Jack is drawn to many of the dark themes that stirred his younger imagination. He is open to returning to his own musical roots. “I’ve talked to my bass player about writing heavier music,” Jack says. “In fact, he brought it up yesterday and asked me, ‘Hey, have you ever written some of that heavier stuff?’ And you know, I’ve thought about it.” However, it would have to be on his terms. “I’m not big on using distortion for this music. I want it to be something with more of a feel of that genre. ... But I just love that heavier sound.” He notes, “I love dark feels and dark vibes. And I’m not a dark person.” These are, after all, contradictions to be resolved in rhythm. Against the tensions between heavy and light, past and future, the infinite beat goes on.

DylanJackMusic.com
MCC To Host FREE Info Session For Workforce Training Fund Grants

Middlesex Community College will host a FREE Information Session for businesses seeking Workforce Training Fund (WTF) grants from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 20, in MCC’s Federal Building Courtroom (Room 310), on the Lowell campus, 50 Kearney Square.

The Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund, which is administered by Commonwealth Corporation, provides resources to businesses to train current and newly hired employees. The goal is to help improve employee skills and maintain the economic strength of the commonwealth’s businesses.

At the info session, an WTF representative will present an overview of the grant options and answer questions in an informational setting.

WTF provides training grants to Massachusetts employers up to $250,000 per application. MCC’s Corporate and Community Education & Training Program has helped many businesses secure and implement these grants.

For more information on specific Workforce Training Fund programs, visit the Commonwealth Corporation website: www.commcorp.org/wtf

The registration deadline for this WTF Info Session is Monday, June 18. For more information, or to register, contact Timothy Scanlon at scanlon@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-656-3174.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
MCC NEWS

MCC to host dual enrollment orientation sessions

Middlesex Community College will host three upcoming orientation sessions for the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy, which allows qualified high school and home-schooled students to earn college credit while satisfying their high school graduation requirements.

Two Bedford Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Sessions will be held:

- 5 - 6:30 p.m. June 5 in the Bedford Campus Center's Café East, 591 Springs Road
- 3 - 4:30 p.m. July 12, in the Bedford Campus Library's Alcott Room, 591 Springs Road

A Lowell Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Session will be held:

- 5 - 6:30 p.m. June 12, in MCC's Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square

MCC's Dual Enrollment Academy enables qualified students to enroll in college-level courses offered online, during the day, evening or weekend on MCC's Bedford or Lowell campuses. Also welcome are students who want to get a head start on completing general-education courses required by most colleges and universities. A Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy advisor will be assigned to work with each applicant, their parent/guardian, and high school guidance counselor to design a program based on the student's academic skill level and educational goals.

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

For information: https://middlesex.mass.edu/dualenroll; 800-818-3434.
Community Garden
Space Available At MCC

Middlesex Community College (MCC) started a community college garden area several years ago. It started as a student initiative and now is mostly used by faculty and staff members, students being away for much of the growing season.

The garden areas have been rotated and the irrigation system is being installed.

MCC staff have estimated their needs for this year and estimate that they will have about 20 plots available. They have graciously offered these to Citizens of Bedford through the Community Garden Task Force. Several of these have now been spoken for but there are still plots available.

The plots are designed for intensive gardening and are 2’ x 6’ in size, ideal for the beginning gardener. Multiple plots are available in some cases. They are in a fully fenced-in area, plenty of sun, and on-site water. There is also a communal tool shed.

There is a $25 charge for the plots.

The plots are in their campus off Springs Road and are adjacent to an administrative building and a parking lot. If you have a MAPS App on your phone, you can easily bring them up and have a look. They are really neat looking.

It is anticipated that the plots will be available on a continuing basis into the coming years.

Interested potential gardeners should contact Judy Mabry at MSX (914-489-4056) or JudithMabry@gmail.com.

Plots will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

A portion of the area has been set aside for growing food for food banks. Gardeners are expected to contribute a small amount of time to this part of the activity.
Around Bedford

Our Picks

Posted May 31, 2018 at 12:28 PM

UPCOMING

Job Interview Etiquette Workshop -- What Every Job Applicant Needs To Know Before Sending Their Resume: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 5, Middlesex Community College, 591 Spring Road, Bedford. Cost: $75. For information: 617-608-3920; madora.curtin@theetiquetteacademy.org; www.theetiquetteacademy.org/adults.html#johntueinterview. How do you enter an office and greet your interviewer in order to project confidence, honesty, trustworthiness and reliability? Do you make the first impression during the interview, through your resume or over the phone? This workshop will answer questions that will help participants present themselves as a mature professional to their interviewer, manager and co-workers. The goal of the workshop is to cut the time spent on job searches and help participants feel more in-control during the first few months of employment. Through a series of exercises and real-life examples, participants will be introduced to the power and ways to navigate a conversation to their advantage.

Alice in Wonderland Jr. at First Parish in Bedford: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. June 8, First Parish Church, 75 Great Road, Bedford. For information: 781-275-7994, office@uubedford.org. Cost: $15 for adults and $10 for seniors, students and children age 6 and older; Children age 5 and under are free. The Youth Choirs of First Parish in Bedford will perform “Alice in Wonderland Jr.” This is a production for families of all ages, with performers ranging in age from preschool to high school. All proceeds to benefit First Parish in Bedford.
First-time homebuyer program gets major boost in Lowell (VIDEO)

By Alana Melanson, amelanson@lowellsun.com
Updated: 05/30/2018 07:23:45 AM EDT

Tooch Van, his wife Chorvy Sumsethi, with their sons Winston, 9, right, and Franklin, 6, of Lowell, inside their condo. SUN/Julia Malakie

LOWELL -- When Tooch Van and his wife, Chhorvivoinn "Chorvy" Sumsethi, were about to have their first child, they knew they didn't want to raise their son in a cramped apartment building that needed frequent pest-control treatments. Van and Sumsethi considered themselves well-educated, but they had a lot to learn about the value of saving, budgeting and assembling the right team to help them find an affordable home. They credit the first-time homebuyer course Van took with the Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership for preparing them to buy their first house in December 2008. "It gave both of us a solid knowledge about what that means to be a homeowner," Van said.

Tooch Van, his wife Chorvy Sumsethi, with their sons Winston, 9, right, and Franklin, 6, at their Lowell condo in Swede Village, which they bought several years ago after going through the Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership's first-time homebuyer course. SUN/Julia Malakie

Each year, the MVHP provides comprehensive homebuyer training in English, Spanish and Khmer to about 700 local families, about 250 of which also receive individual financial and credit counseling, according to Executive Director Jim Wilde. It also provides landlord training for those interested in buying multi-family properties, Wilde said. On average, 30 percent of homebuyer course graduates will buy homes within a year, and 40 percent will buy within two years, he said. An analysis showed that from 2000 through 2016, one of every 14 homes purchased in Lowell, in every neighborhood of the city, was purchased by an MVHP homebuyer course graduate, Wilde said. During the same period, the overall mortgage default rate in the city was 5.6 percent, he said. Among those who took the MVHP course, the rate was only 1.6 percent, showing that most graduates made wise choices and didn't get caught up with predatory lenders, Wilde said. These statistics were part of what helped MVHP secure a 10-year, $25,000-per-year Sustaining Grant from the Cummings Foundation earlier this month.

MVHP was awarded the grant through a competitive process open to organizations in the last year of their "$100K for 100," another grant program offered by the foundation. "It's a huge deal" for a small nonprofit like MVHP, which has an annual operating budget of about $360,000, Wilde said. That budget is supported by public funding sources, including a homebuyer counseling grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and a technical assistance contract with the city of Lowell, both about $40,000 each, as well as about $16,000 per year from state mortgage licensing fees, he said. The rest comes from class fees and donations from corporations, individuals and foundations, he said. "Knowing that $25,000 is coming in every year definitely takes a bit of the stress off," Wilde said.
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell also received a Sustaining Grant from the Cummings Foundation this year. Last year, Girls Inc. of Greater Lowell and UTEC were awarded 10-year Sustaining Grants for $50,000 for each year. Elizabeth Cannon, executive director of the Lowell Association for the Blind and president of the Non-Profit Alliance of Greater Lowell, said multi-year grants like those offered by the Cummings Foundation give nonprofit organizations “breathing space” to focus on their missions.

Being able to count on that money allows them to plan to replace equipment or systems or hire staff and consultants that might not normally be in the budget, Cannon said. "It's such a great opportunity to think about what the needs of the organization might be, even just five years ahead. To think about it for 10 years is amazing," she said. "It's definitely a gift for these organizations."

Van and Sumsethi moved into their Lundberg Street condo in January 2009, shortly before Winston, now 9, was born. MVHP also connected Van and Sumsethi to other resources, including a $5,000 interest-free down payment assistance loan through the Lowell Development & Financial Corp. They said it was a big help because they were living on one income, paycheck to paycheck at the time. Since then, both have found new employment and grew their family to include Franklin, now 6.

Van, who previously worked as senior community outreach counselor for Middlesex Community College, is now community outreach coordinator for the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association. Sumsethi works as human service coordinator for the state Department of Mental Health office in Lowell. They said having a home of their own has provided them with stability and opportunities to save for retirement and recreation activities with their boys. The Cambodian immigrants said it also made them finally feel at home in Lowell after many years. "This house changed our lives," Sumsethi said. "It's amazing."
There’s Still Time To Make Your Summer Matter At Middlesex

You can still make your summer matter at Middlesex Community College! Savvy college students home for the summer, recent high school graduates, and adults returning to finish a degree are all turning to MCC this summer.

Registration is now open for our Day and Online/Evening Summer Sessions.

Day Courses -- MCC’s Day Summer Sessions run May 29 through June 28; or July 9 through Aug. 8. Classes meet four days a week in Bedford and Lowell.

Online/Evening Courses -- With MCC’s growing list of online degree and certificate programs, your classroom is as close as your computer! Online/Evening Summer Sessions run June 4 through July 31; or June 18 through Aug. 14. Classes meet two evenings per week or online.

To register for any of MCC’s Summer Sessions, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer.

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Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
MCC transfer official earns Distinguished Service Award

LOWELL -- Jane Fain, Middlesex Community College's coordinator of transfer affairs, recently received the Sarah Elizabeth Crane Distinguished Service Award from the New England Transfer Association.

"It is an honor to be recognized for NETA service by my peers," Fain said. "It is also a privilege to win an award named for a dear friend. Sarah Crane and I worked together at Wentworth Institute of Technology. I encouraged her to join NETA, and we served together on the Governing Board."

Fain has been working at Middlesex since 2006, and is a member of the Academic, Career & Transfer Centers team. Along with providing transfer assistance to students, she works to ensure that advising staff, as well as faculty and professional staff, have up-to-date transfer information to assist their student advisees. Fain organizes two Transfer Fairs each semester (one on each campus), as well as four-year college and university visits to Middlesex.

An active participant on the Statewide MassTransfer Steering Committee, Fain has helped update the implementation guidelines for the Statewide MassTransfer Agreement.

She has also been a presenter at many NETA conferences, and National Academic Advising Association regional conferences.
Middlesex CC to Host Dual Enrollment Orientation Sessions

MCC's Dual Enrollment Academy allows HS & home-schooled students to earn college credit while satisfying their HS grad requirements

By Middlesex Community College Patch Contributor | May 22, 2018 1:40 pm ET

This post was contributed by a community member.

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A Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy advisor will be assigned to work with each applicant, their parent/guardian, and high school guidance counselor to design a program based on the student’s academic skill level and educational goals.

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

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

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Chelmsford schools create student support program

Our Picks
By Margaret Smith
msmith@wickedlocal.com

Posted May 21, 2018 at 3:42 PM Updated May 21, 2018 at 3:48 PM

Work is under way to create a program to give social and emotional support to elementary-level students who need it. The School Committee at its May 15 meeting unanimously approved recommendations for the program, following a presentation by Byam School Principal Jason Fredette, South Row School Principal Molly McMahon and Amy Reese, the district’s director of special student services. The goal of the program is to help students in need of developing social and emotional learning skills, a deficit which can impede their ability in academic subjects and other learning areas.

Provisions for the program were built into the fiscal 2019 school budget, approved at Town Meeting. Superintendent Jay Lang said the elementary-level program will allow for a continuum of related services that already are in place at the middle and high school level. The elementary school program is currently labelled, Strive.

Staff, space needs

Last fall, Lang said teams were assembled to explore needed components of the program. Fredette said the research included visiting with existing programs throughout the region, including Lowell, Billerica and Stoneham. The presenters said the program should be located at South Row, but emphasized that it will serve as a regional program. Also, it may require two classrooms, to group students appropriately, including by age and grade level.

The needed staff include two special education students, four paraprofessionals and a board-certified behavior analyst. There are currently two such professionals, also called BCBAs, in the district. The curriculum is to be based on the general curriculum in the schools, with content and materials suited to the students’ needs and abilities. The goal ultimately is to help students acquire the skills they need to return to their local schools. Quality staff is essential in this process, the presenters said.

School Committee Member Donna Newcomb asked about so-called “wrap-around services,” to ensure that the support students receive in school continues at home. The presenters said the right staff and the behavior analyst can help assure that continuity of support. Newcomb also noted that some of the components, including class size and staff, are regulated by the state and not the sole discretion of the school districts. Newcomb said this point might be important to emphasize in helping the community understand the program needs.

Dual enrollment

In other business, the School Committee heard an update on the dual enrollment program with Middlesex Community College, which allows eligible high school students to earn college credits during their high school tenure.
Agency: MCC excels

Middlesex Community College has been named one of just five members of the 2017 class of Excellence in Assessment designees, a national program aimed at recognizing colleges and universities that conduct a comprehensive assessment of student learning outcomes as a means to drive internal improvement and advance student success.

Sponsors of the EIA program are the Voluntary System of Accountability, a public-college and university transparency initiative led by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, in partnership with the Association of American Colleges & Universities, and the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment, or NILOA.

"We are very honored to be selected for this NILOA Excellence in Assessment designation," said Philip Sisson, provost. "This designation is clear confirmation of the exceptional assessment work of the faculty and staff under the leadership of recently retired dean of assessment, Elise Martin. Our collegewide commitment to the ongoing use of assessment findings to improve the student learning experience at Middlesex Community College continues to be a source of pride and national recognition."

The other schools are Bowling Green State University in Ohio, James Madison University in Virginia, Rio Salado College in Arizona, and Southern Connecticut State University.
Garden by garden, Mill City Grows enriches lives, neighborhoods

By Rick Soby, rsoby@lowellsun.com
Updated  05/20/2018 08:48:40 AM EDT

Kathy Frechette, a garden coordinator for Mill City Grows, checks out the planting boxes at the group's Eagle Park Community Garden Saturday. SUN/ RICK SOBEY

LOWELL -- Kathy Frechette's 14-year-old niece tapped her on the shoulder. "Will you do the community garden with me?" she asked Frechette six years ago. Frechette is forever thankful the youngster brought it up. Ever since, the 61-year-old Centralville resident has been very active volunteering with Mill City Grows' community gardens. She's a garden coordinator for Mill City Grows' Eagle Park Community Garden in Centralville.

"I love the people," Frechette said while at the garden on Saturday. "I never would have known these people had it not been for Mill City Grows." Later that morning, she ran a workshop on composting at the garden right across from the Eagle Park garden in Centralville -- the Hampshire Street Community Garden, which is Mill City Grows' newest site. These workshops help improve residents' technical garden skills. "I like talking to people, giving them information," Frechette said.

Garden coordinators oversee the garden beds and help out gardeners when they need help. "We make sure everything runs smoothly," Frechette said. Residents grow food in their own 40-square-foot plots. The gardeners also partake in community engagement activities, such as potlucks, seed swaps, art in the garden and recipe exchanges. The community gardens in Lowell include Eagle Park, North Common, West 3rd Street, Rotary Club Park, Smith Street and Hampshire Street. The grand opening and official ribbon cutting of the Hampshire Street garden is set for Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

"We're so thrilled to see the neighborhood rally around this new garden and contribute to its creation," Mill City Grows Co-Director Francie Slater said. "It truly symbolizes the spirit of our city and our community of growers." The garden broke ground in the fall, just a couple months after Mill City Grows raised more than $17,000 toward the garden expansion project. Around 80 individuals donated to the garden. Lowell artist Dan Rocha has created a commemorative mural at the garden site, which will include the names of all the project donors. Rocha will be on hand this Wednesday to unveil the finished art piece during the ribbon cutting.

The Hampshire Street Community Garden was built last month by neighborhood volunteers and gardeners, volunteers from The Mission Continues' Lowell-based Platoon, Middlesex Community College student volunteers, and Mill City Grows staff. Since 2011, Mill City Grows in Lowell has run the following programs: education in and out of schools, supporting community leadership through community gardens, increasing urban agriculture through urban farming, and more.
Paul Feely's City Hall: Whom will Mayor Craig pick for Manchester's new top cop?

By PAUL FEELY New Hampshire Union Leader
May 19, 2018 8:16PM

The process of selecting the city's next chief of police is officially underway, now that President Donald Trump's nomination of Police Chief Nick Willard as the next U.S. Marshal for New Hampshire has been sent to the U.S. Senate for confirmation. Willard has been chief for nearly three years, after then-mayor Ted Gatsas nominated him in May 2015. Willard's nomination was sent to the Senate on May 7. Lauren Smith, policy and outreach director for Mayor Joyce Craig, said the process to hire a new police chief began last week when the position was posted internally on May 14.

As dictated by city ordinance, the position is posted internally for five working days, a window that closed at 5 p.m. on Friday. Any internal applications received are now forwarded to Craig for her review. After reviewing the applications, the mayor will make a decision whether to hire from within the department or launch a wider, external search for candidates.

A source familiar with the police department said that Willard is urging Craig to nominate the assistant chief, Carlo Capano, for the job. Willard selected Capano to be his deputy in June 2015, even before Willard received confirmation for the top job. Capano accompanies Willard to most public events and has been active on social media, just like his chief. Prior to being named assistant chief, Capano served as a patrol officer, a bicycle officer, a detective, a supervisor, a SWAT team leader and a polygraph operator.

He has received several citations over his career:
- In 2000, the Manchester police Life Saving Medal for saving an 11-day-old infant who was choking to death.
- In 2007, the Chief's Achievement Medal for his investigation into the fatal shooting of police Officer Michael Briggs.
- In 2012, the Manchester police Honorable Service Medal for work that led to the arrest of three people for a string of violent armed robberies. The work also received the New Hampshire Congressional Medal.
- In 2014, the Chief's Achievement Medal for heading up the creation of a citywide effort to reduce burglaries.

Sources said others familiar with the police department and the nomination process have mentioned two other names for consideration: Capt. Maureen Tessier and Lt. Nicole Ledoux. If either were nominated and confirmed, she would become the first female police chief in Manchester (selected by the first woman elected mayor of the Queen City). Tessier was the first woman in the history of the department to be promoted to captain. She has a bachelor's degree from Villanova University and has a master's in administration from UNH. She joined the force 28 years ago and worked her way up the command chain after serving as a patrol and K-9 officer.

Tessier was awarded the department's Meritorious Service Medal in 2007, recognizing her actions as the supervisor in charge the night Officer Briggs was shot. He later died from his injuries. Tessier was community information officer for several years and headed the department's Legal and Professional Standards Division. She is in a select group of officers to graduate from the FBI Academy.

Ledoux is the third woman officer to make lieutenant and has been with the department for 19 years. She earned an associate's degree in criminal justice from Middlesex Community College and her B.S. in criminal justice from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Ledoux has been a patrol officer, community policing officer, school resource officer and a K-9 officer. She then became a detective with the Child Abuse and Sexual Exploitation Unit. Ledoux received the department's Meritorious Service Medal in connection with the Briggs investigation. In recognition of her efforts as a child abuse investigator, she was the recipient of the YWCA Heroes for Justice Award in 2010, and the Hillsborough County Child Advocacy Center Hands of Hope Award in 2012.

She also received a N.H. Congressional Law Enforcement Award in the "Above and Beyond" category, recognizing her dedication in working toward the passage and implementation of a N.H. Senate bill that established a standard for department confidentiality and effective peer-to-peer support.
MCC Hosts Info Session For Students With Learning Disabilities

Learn more about Middlesex Community College's nationally recognized Transition Program, a two-year, noncredit vocational certificate program for students with learning/cognitive disabilities.

A Transition Program Information Session will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 23, in MCC's Bedford Campus Center's Café East, 591 Springs Road.

"MCC's Transition program is designed for students with significant learning disabilities who would find traditional college-level academics too challenging, even with extensive support services," said Patricia Bruno, MCC's Associate Dean of Student Support Services.

"The Transition Program helps students achieve their potential through coursework and hands-on experience in work settings."

Three days a week, Transition Program students attend classes designed to teach independent-living skills, computer and job-skill survival skills, and social skills. Small class size ensures that students receive individualized attention and a program tailored to meet their needs. Two days a week, students work as interns in competitive employment situations in office and business support environments. Transition students may participate in all Middlesex student activities and student support services.

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

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

Information session participants will receive an overview of the program, as well as in-depth information on the curriculum, application procedures, details of the required internship portion of the program, and prospective job opportunities.

For more information about MCC's Transition Program, or to register for an information session, contact Nancy Stieger, Transition Program Coordinator at 781-280-3676 or stiegern@middlesex.mass.edu.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
MCC Awarded Grant To Help At-risk Immigrant/Refugee Youth

Middlesex Community College has been awarded a one-year, $10,000 grant from the John H. & H. Naomi Tomfohrde Foundation to help immigrant/refugee youth improve their English skills and academics through the college's English Language Institute (ELI) and Out of School Youth Development Center (OSYDC).

“This grant allows Middlesex to serve one of our most vulnerable populations: refugee and immigrant youth who are at-risk of not completing high school,” said MCC President James Mabry. “With assistance from the Tomfohrde Foundation, we will be able to help these young people improve their English, complete high school, and move on to college or join the workforce.”

The grant-funded project will recruit 60 Lowell-area students – ages 16 to 24 – to enroll in MCC’s ELI and OSYDC, explained Maria Cunha, OSYDC Program Director. Predominantly refugees from Syria, Iraq and the Democratic Republic of Congo, the targeted youth are either failing or not completing high school due to lack of English or other academic skills.

These students will receive a combination of special support services, including one-on-one assessment, tutoring, testing, and enrollment in academic and language remediation courses, continued Cunha. The goal is to prepare them to sit for the high school equivalency (GED) exam or placement exams for college enrollment.

“Most of these young people are referred to OSYDC through Lowell High School or the Career Center in Lowell because they are not able to complete high school academics or understand English well enough to fill out employment applications,” explained Cunha.

“While language may be their most obvious barrier, many have spent time in refugee camps or constantly traveling to flee conflict. They have not had a stable living environment where they could keep up with schooling,” The challenge, Cunha added, is to identify at-risk students and intervene quickly to prevent them from falling even further behind.

For further information about MCC’s English Learner Institute and Out of School Youth Development Center, contact Maria Cunha: cunham@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-656-3104.

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MCC’s Online Hospitality Management Program Ranked No. 3 In U.S.

Middlesex Community College’s online Hospitality Management Associate Degree Program has been ranked No. 3 in the United States by BestColleges.com.

“Hospitality is a growing and dynamic field, with a very strong job outlook for the coming years,” said Kimberly Morrissey, Hospitality & Culinary Arts Program Coordinator. “We work closely with our students to help them reach their educational and career goals, and provide support and assistance to find the right job.”

MCC’s Hospitality Management Program falls under the Business Administration Associate Degree. Students receive managerial instruction in a variety of hospitality topics, including food and beverage management, hospitality management, convention and event sales, and planning and tourism management.

“Our online courses are designed to help students learn in a manner that fits their busy schedules,” added Morrissey. “Students are able to connect and learn from each other in an online setting, explore a variety of hospitality topics, and stay on top of trends in the industry.”

The program’s “Business Internship” course enables students to gain real-world experience with hospitality employers, including Marriott, Aramark and Disney. “This course is really the highlight of the program for most students,” said Morrissey. “Students are able to apply their studies to their internships in the fast-paced world of hotels, restaurants, events and travel.”

Enrollment is now open for Summer- and Fall-Semester Hospitality Management courses. To learn more, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/hospitality/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

For more information about BestColleges.com, visit: https://www.bestcolleges.com/features/top-online-associate-in-hospitality-management-programs/

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MCC trustees vote unanimously to remove Dobelle's name from library

By Kori Tuitt, ktuitt@lowellsun.com
Updated 05/19/2018 09:01:29 AM EDT

Dobelle's picture, plus a statement, on a wall inside the library. (SUN PHOTO/ Rick Sobey)

LOWELL -- After months of discussion, the Middlesex Community College Board of Trustees voted unanimously Friday morning to remove the name of past president Evan Dobelle from the college library. Board Chairman James Campbell said the special meeting was called for Friday morning so the college could move past the issue. "I wish to put this matter behind us as quickly as possible, especially because this next week is graduation week and I didn't want this interfering with graduation," Campbell said.

A board subcommittee formed by Campbell to make a recommendation met Monday afternoon and voted unanimously to remove Dobelle's name. The subcommittee was comprised of trustees Laurie Elliott, of Lowell; Bopha Malone, of Bedford; and Cheryl E. Howard, of Reading. Trustee Annie O'Connor, of Lowell, initially suggested removing Dobelle's name.

Dobelle was found to have misused money while president at Westfield State University. His wasteful spending included using his university- and foundation-issued credit cards for more than $85,000 in personal purchases. The library is located inside the Bradford Morse Federal Building, across from the college's downtown Lowell campus. A sign above a door reads "Dobelle Library;" on an inside wall is his portrait, and a quotation in gold lettering.

Friday's meeting lasted about 15 minutes, Campbell said, with this topic the only agenda item. He said the trustees reviewed reams of information, including a report from state Inspector General Glenn Cunha, who also recommended the removal of Dobelle's name. Campbell said the trustees also interviewed people, including former officials of MCC. Campbell said he also was interviewed, because he was city manager at the time.

Elliott presented a summary of the findings, which recommended the name be removed. There was no discussion on the matter at Friday's meeting. Earlier this week, Dobelle sent a letter to Campbell requesting the library name be reverted to Middlesex Library. "Obviously with an issue like this, you want to be very thorough," Campbell said. "We also want to be as fair as possible."
Tom Weber, commissioner of the state Department of Early Education and Care, joins preschoolers, from left, Jaeda Kanda, McKenzie So, Josiah Whitson and Emory Cromwell, all 4, as UTEC preschool teacher Rula Jaber looks on Thursday at UTEC’s new early-childhood center. They celebrated the opening of the Nancy L. and Richard K. Donahue Hub for Social Innovation. See video and slide show at lowellma.com.

Celebrates opening of early-childhood center, community kitchen

By Chris Liamiski
cli@lowellma.com

LOWELL — Although Brenda Anderson was excited to get accepted into an employment training program at Massachusetts General Hospital, the news also created a challenge for her: with her limited network, what would she do with her three young children while she was there? Anderson, 25, no longer needs to fret, though. A new facility at UTEC, where she has worked for four years, offers free early-childhood education for its members’ children, a way of extending the Lowell organization’s mission to reach across multiple generations and support rebounding families more fully.

“I don’t have a lot of support outside of here,” Anderson said Thursday at the new facility. “For them to open up this early childhood center is really big for me.”

The facility, officially called the Nancy L. and Richard K. Donahue Hub for Social Innovation, hosted hundreds of people Thursday for a celebratory, energetic ribbon-cutting.

Please see UTEC/7

“Technical tour looks like”

Gov. Charlie Baker, as he began his remarks at UTEC’s ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Nancy and Richard Donahue Hub for Innovation.

“The community is ready to greet this new facility and for us to support their community’s mission,” Baker said. “They are ready to do good things.”

Once tours concluded Thursday, the several hundred attendees gathered in the new center’s third floor to hear remarks by local leaders, UTEC participants and members of Gov. Charlie Baker’s administration.

“The opportunities we think are going to come from the bricks of this building, they’re going to truly represent a collective mission to ensure the young people in this room are never seen as ‘those kids’ but instead as our kids,” said Gregg Croteau, UTEC’s executive director.

Eight children are already enrolled in the early-childhood education programs, UTEC officials said. The evidence was apparent during tours Thursday as preschoolers showed off their toy bug collection and finger-painting accomplishments to onlookers in business suits.

The kitchen in the bottom floor has space for several different simultaneous activities. One corner holds equipment for UTEC Cafe workers to make homemade nut butter, which will soon be available for sale. Other areas can be booked for use by startups, budding entrepreneurs, schools and nonprofits.

“The synergies are just wonderful,” said Chris Austin, UTEC’s director of food administration. “It’s really a true community space.”

During tours before Thursday’s grand opening, six different groups used the kitchen to discuss their work and hand out free samples: UTEC Cafe, Middlesex Community College’s naturally sourced empanadas business del Sur, workers from local food trucks Shack Truck and Spoke, and Hidden Bottles, an organization that works to assist veterans and first responders with PTSD.

“Chris Hurst, who does marketing and social media for Hidden Bottles, said the organization is able to offer two cooking therapy classes per month instead of one because of the new space at UTEC.”

“This is definitely a hidden gem,” he said. “This is huge.”

Once tours concluded Thursday, the several hundred attendees gathered in the new center’s third floor to hear remarks by local leaders, UTEC participants and members of Gov. Charlie Baker’s administration.

All spoke with high praise for UTEC and its work in the community.

Baker’s opening line alone — “This is what success looks like” — drew a roaring round of applause from the room.

“This is just one more step in what will be the future of this great organization that has proven time and time again that if you find a way to reach out and connect and you create opportunity and hope and possibility around that, together, you can do great things,” Baker said. “I have no doubt that your best days are ahead of you.”

Follow Chris on Twitter @ChrisLiamiski

Nancy Donahue, with sons Philip and Daniel Donahue of Lowell, at the ceremony. The new hub at UTEC was named for her and her late husband Richard. See video and a slide show on this story at lowellma.com

UTECS speaker Felicia Noey of Lowell with her daughter Jaeda Kanda, 4, and Gov. Charlie Baker at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Sun photos: Julia Maloney
Bedford Selectmen named the five residents who will be in charge of finding the next town manager as part of the Town Manager Search Committee. “This is a very difficult decision, we are in a very good position (with the potential candidates),” Selectman Caroline Fedele said.

The board interviewed a dozen candidates over the last two weeks, before settling on the final five named the board on Monday, May 7.

“I think we were blessed with an extremely powerful, capable group of people that volunteered. Anyone who was not chosen shouldn’t feel the least bit denigrated,” Selectman Bill Moonan said.

One of the candidates receiving a vote from all five Selectmen to serve on the committee was former Selectmen Betsey Anderson, who served on the board when current Town Manager Rick Reed was hired in 1988. Anderson mentioned last week in her interview that the position has changed a lot since Reed was first hired, and that it would be important to look for a candidate willing to handle the changing parameters of what it means to be a town manager in Bedford.

The other candidate receiving all five votes was James Mahany, president of Middlesex Community College.

“Over my career I’ve interviewed hundreds of people. It is a big part of my job,” Mahany said. “I like working on search committees, there is a real mystery because you are really not sure what you are going to find out of the pool. You have to come in with a real objectivity about how do you find the right person, and you have to maintain that all the way through that process.”

One of the lesser-known candidates, but arguably the most qualified was Maureen Valente. While Valente did not have the extensive history of serving on Bedford boards and committees that some of the other candidates had, she did have the kind of experience that was unmatched by the other candidates. From 2000 to 2015, Valente served as the town manager in Sudbury.

“I always think of that as a great endorsement of the town, that other town managers choose to live here,” Selectman Margot Fleischman said. “I appreciate your willingness to volunteer your skill set, which is unique and to this particular job search, very valuable.”

Selectman Ed Pierce asked Valente what kind of qualities that she would be looking for in a candidate for town manager, and Valente said the ability to communicate is key.

“The town manager tends to be a very powerful position in the community, not because of the charter, or who reports to them, but because they tend to know more about everything, from how government works, to finances, how decisions are made. Their willingness to share that, and convey that carefully is one of the key hallmarks you need in a position like this,” Valente said. “If someone feels put-off by the town manager and they don’t have a chance to be heard, it is hard to see anything good come out of that.”

Rounding out the group is former School Committee member Anne Bedsworth, and Emily Prince, who in her interview said she would like to be the voice for young families and children.

Fleischman and Moonan will also serve on the committee as the two selectmen representatives.

The search committee is set to have its first meeting later this week and will begin the search process right away. Current Town Manager Rick Reed announced his retirement in March, and the board has said that they would have a replacement for Reed in place and ready to go by the end of the summer.
National political consultant
Gail Tuzzolo to address class of 2018

Middlesex Community College's Commencement exercises for the approximately 1,400 members of the Class of 2018 will be held at 10 a.m. May 24, in Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 E. Merrimack St. The procession will begin at 9:30 a.m. in front of MCC's Lowell campus Cowan Center, located diagonally from the auditorium.

This year's commencement speaker will be alum Gail Tuzzolo class of 1975, a national political consultant based in Las Vegas and president of the MCC Alumni Association. She will also be presented the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award.

A graduate of Winchester High School, Tuzzolo enrolled at Middlesex in the 1970s when she was a stay-at-home mom raising her two small children. She went on to earn a degree in liberal arts and sciences at Middlesex and continued her education, majoring in psychology, at Salem State University.

"I was fortunate. If I hadn't been able to get that start with Middlesex, I don't know what my future would have held," Tuzzolo said.

For more than four decades, Tuzzolo has been working as a lobbyist and consultant for dozens of political candidates and organizations. She has worked on local and state campaigns, as well as national campaigns for President Jimmy Carter, U.S. Congressman Chet Atkins, on Sen. Alan Cranston's failed presidential bid in 1984 and on Michael Dukakis' run for president in 1988. In 1991, she helped a long-shot female candidate, Jan Laverty Jones, get elected mayor of Las Vegas. Jones went on to serve the city for eight years.

Since then, through Gail Tuzzolo and Associates, Tuzzolo has continued working for political candidates and union forces, including the AFL/CIO. She has since opened another company, Community Strategies Inc. and is now traveling the world.

For information: http://middlesex.mass.edu/graduation.
EDITORIAL: City can use a dose of downtown progress

The Lowell Sun
Updated: 05/16/2018 07:16:33 AM EDT

What's happening in the downtown? Better still, what's not happening in the downtown? The City of Lowell's is making progress with economic development projects -- both underway or in the planning stages -- but they're all on the fringes of the downtown. There's very little being done in the core business center, however.

On the bright side, Sal Lupoli's Thorndike Exchange project is moving along nicely. The Sun reported Monday on the successful installation of a 140-foot long pedestrian bridge connecting the mill building to the Gallagher Terminal. When fully completed with flooring and lighting, the $2 million walkway will allow people from the transportation center to enter the Thorndike Exchange to visit two restaurants, a cafe, and wine bar that will be housed there.

Lupoli said 65 residential units will be built in phase one of the $60 million residential/commercial project.

A stone's throw away, construction of the $260 million judicial center in the Hamilton Canal Innovation District continues on schedule toward its fall 2019 completion date.

The city also announced plans to complete infrastructure upgrades this summer to the 17-acre site. Building new streets and adding utilities will entice other potential private construction projects. Recently, developer John DeAngelis announced he is looking into building a boutique Hilton Hotel on a parcel located near the UMass Innovation Center at 100 Canal St.

Also on the docket are construction plans to rebuild eight bridges throughout the city and a major redesign of the Lord Overpass.

But, there's nothing going on in the downtown, except for construction of the former Rialto Building that is being transformed into Middlesex Community College's new performing arts center.

Maybe once the arts center is open it will generate an idea for a nearby restaurant. The entire corner block across the street is up for sale; we can visualize a "Theater Block" with an upscale restaurant that utilizes valet parking to the nearby Early Garage to attract diners. Hopefully, any visionary to come forward won't be discouraged from dealing with "historic board" restrictions that now exist on the properties. We'd just as soon tear everything down and start anew, like most progressive cities are prone to do.

Which leads us to the next major challenge for Lowell. What's going to happen to the buildings that house the district court on Hurd Street, Superior Court on Gorham Street, and the Juvenile Court on Appleton Street? They'll be shuttered once the new six-story courthouse opens.

Will they be left vacant to rot as the seasons change, becoming sights for sore eyes and home to vagrants? Or can the city act proactively now to create a plan(s) for the future?

While the state would have to declare the buildings surplus for the city to take control, it's never too early to begin discussing future uses as they pertain to Lowell's future.

Just a thought.

Read more: http://www.lowellsun.com/editorials/ci_31881295/city-can-use-dose-downtown-progress#ixzz5G8hhFpj4
MCC Celebrity Forum 2018
An Evening with Jamie Lee Curtis to Benefit Student Scholarships

The 20th annual Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum will feature actress, children’s book author and philanthropist Jamie Lee Curtis, at 8 p.m. Friday, June 8, in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. Tickets on sale NOW! Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for Middlesex students. Since 2004, 122 scholarships have been awarded totaling $304,500.

“This is the college’s signature scholarship-fundraising event and supporting this extraordinary evening will positively impact our talented students who seek to change their lives through education,” said MCC President James Mabry. “With the upcoming opening of MCC’s Academic Arts Center, we welcome Jamie Lee to the 20th Celebrity Forum as an individual who’s given so much to the arts and important charitable endeavors.

The daughter of legendary actors Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh, Curtis has starred in a variety of acclaimed films including “Freaky Friday,” “True Lies,” “Trading Places” and “A Fish Called Wanda.” In television, she co-starred opposite Richard Lewis in the sitcom “Anything But Love,” and appeared in the title role in TNT’s adaptation of Wendy Wasserstein’s “The Heidi Chronicles.” She earned an Emmy nomination for her role in the CBS telefilm “Nicholas’ Gift,” and recently starred in “Scream Queens” on Fox.

Curtis has a deep and active connection to many children’s charities, including serving on the Board of Trustees at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. She has received awards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the National Endowment of the Arts for her work. In addition to acting, Curtis is also an author of best-selling children’s books – many dealing with complex issues such as adoption. She has sold more than 5 million books under the banner “Books to Grow By.” Titles include “Today I Feel Silly,” “It’s Hard to Be Five” and “Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born.” Ms. Curtis’ latest Book Me, My Selfie & I will be out in September and in October Jamie Lee Curtis will be reprising her iconic role as Laurie Strode in the new Halloween film, which marks 40 years from the original release.

Curtis is committed to supporting Women in Recovery and Children affected by AIDS. She has served on the Board of Directors of CASA (The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University) as well as The R. Scott Hilt Foundation.

MCC’s Celebrity Forum is an annual event that presents well-known personalities for the educational and cultural enrichment of area residents. Presenting Sponsor of all 20 Celebrity Forum events is The TJX Companies, Inc. Past Celebrity Forum speakers include Walter Cronkite with Doris Kearns Goodwin, Colin Powell, former President George Bush with former First Lady Barbara Bush, Rudy Giuliani, David McCullough, Barbara Walters, Tim Russert, Geena Davis, Mike Wallace and Chris Wallace, Jay Leno, Sarah Ferguson, Ken Burns, Robin Roberts, Michael J. Fox, former First Lady Laura Bush with Jenna Bush Hager, Robert Redford, William Shatner, Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb, and David Ortiz.

Tickets to An Evening with Jamie Lee Curtis are $29, $39 and $49, and go on sale Friday, April 6. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Lowell Memorial Auditorium Box Office at 866-722-8881; online at www.lowellauditorium.com; or in person at the LMA Box Office, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell. For group sales of 15 or more, contact Jocelyn Prieto at 978-934-5751 or email: jocelyn_prieto@comcastspectator.com For information about Celebrity Forum sponsorship opportunities, visit http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/CF18 or contact Dean of College Advancement Dennis Malvers at 781-280-3514.
Chelmsford student to speak at
Middlesex Community College graduation

Posted May 15, 2018 at 10:41 AM Updated May 15, 2018 at 10:41 AM

Raonak Ezahan Shristy courtesy photo

Middlesex Community College students Raonak Ezahan Shristy, of Chelmsford, and Earl Williams, of Lowell, have been named 2018 student commencement speakers. They will address the about 1,400 members of the Class of 2018 during commencement exercises, to be held at 10 a.m. May 24, in Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 E. Merrimack St.

Originally from Bangladesh, Shristy is graduating with an Associate in Science degree in liberal studies, with an environmental health concentration. She has worked on campus as an orientation leader and a peer tutor, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges.

Shristy was the recipient of the Dr. James C. and Judith G. Mabry Completion Scholarship from the MCC Foundation. She also enjoyed introducing middle-school students to chemistry and other STEM programs as part of a Service-Learning project in her Chemistry for Engineering class. Shristy plans to continue her education at UMass Lowell and earn a bachelor’s degree in public health.
Chairman: Remove Dobelle’s name

Trustees chief says ex-MCC president’s misdeeds merit excising from school library

By Rick Soby rsoby@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Inspector General Glenn Cunha’s call to remove former Middlesex Community College President Evan Dobelle’s name from the school library has convinced the chairman of the board of trustees.

After reading Cunha’s letter, James Campbell announced Friday afternoon that he now feels the college should remove Dobelle’s name because it would be in the best interest of the college and its students.

A few years ago, the Inspector General’s Office issued a bombshell report into Dobelle’s wasteful spending and violations of the public’s trust at Westfield State University.

“I strongly believe that although former President Dobelle accomplished much while in Lowell, the Inspector General’s strong statements that ‘Mr. Dobelle’s conduct demonstrates that he is not worthy of this honor’ and ‘his subsequent pattern of violating the public trust, would not be in the best interest of the college,’ Campbell said in a statement.

Just last week, Campbell had been asked about removing Dobelle’s name. His answer: “I do not believe in this national effort of white-washing history. This issue was brought before the board and we will address it.”

The letter from Cunha, however, was powerful, according to Campbell. He pointed out that the Inspector General is appointed by the governor, attorney general and auditor to be the state’s watchdog to prevent misuse of public funds and property.

“His recommendation carries a lot of weight.”

Cunha told the Sun on Friday. “It’s a top official of the state.”

Cunha decided to write the letter after reading related stories published in The Sun late last month.

In the May 4 letter sent to MCC trustees, Cunha wrote: “My office found that throughout his tenure Mr. Dobelle abused his authority, misled the university’s board, misrepresented the university and Westfield State Foundation funds on personal expenses and violated the public trust. Mr. Dobelle wasted hundreds of thousands of dollars of public educational funds with little regard for its effect on the students whom he took an oath to serve.

“Public spaces should be named after individuals who have selflessly served public good. Mr. Dobelle’s conduct demonstrates that he is not worthy of this honor.”

Cunha concluded.

At Middlesex, Dobelle referred to himself as a “change agent” who built the college’s downtown and Bedford campuses. That didn’t go unnoticed by Cunha.

“Despite any contributions Mr. Dobelle may have made to MCC, his subsequent pattern of violating the public trust earned him a lifetime ban on any future involvement with Massachusetts higher educational system. I hope that the MCC Board of Trustees will approve the proposal to remove Mr. Dobelle’s name from the school’s library.”

Dobelle was employed at Middlesex from 1987-1996. Before arriving at Westfield, he also oversaw the University of Hawaii and served as president of the New England Board of Higher Education.

The library at the Bradford Morse Federal Building, in downtown Lowell, is named for Dobelle. His portrait hangs on the wall with a statement in gold lettering: "The knowledge gained at this outstanding learning institution will help you achieve your goals and become engaged global citizens."

Middlesex Trustee Annie O’Connor, a Lowell lawyer, filed the motion to remove all references to Dobelle.

Campbell formed a subcommittee to study the matter and make a final recommendation to the board. The subcommittee will meet for a second time Monday before bringing its recommendation to the Board of Trustees June 12.

The subcommittee is comprised of Chairman Laure Elliott, Bepha Malone and Cheryl Howard.

Elliott agrees with Cunha.

“How many kids could have gone to college if this money hadn’t been stolen,” Elliott said earlier this week. “Westfield is not a Harvard or Yale, there’s no big endowments there. Every dollar raised is hard earned.”

A few people who worked with Dobelle when he was at Middlesex had reached out to Campbell about the naming issue. They remembered Dobelle as Campbell had.

“I haven’t seen him in 30 years when he helped put MCC in Lowell on the map,” Campbell said.

“That was my memory of Evan Dobelle.”

Following Cunha’s report on Dobelle a few years back, then-state Attorney General Martha Coakley sued Dobelle under the False Claims Act. In a consent judgment that resolved the case, Dobelle was ordered to pay $85,000.

The judgment also barred Dobelle from accepting any position, whether paid or unpaid, as an employee, consultant or fiduciary, at any public institution of higher education within the state.

Follow Rick Soby on Twitter @rsoby@lowellsun
Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here.

MCC Offers Summer Programs For Various Ages & Stages Of Life

There’s something for everyone this summer at Middlesex Community College!

Enroll now for one of our Summer Sessions, check out our expanded online/evening course offerings, take advantage of MCC’s extensive noncredit programming, or sign your children up for one of our exciting College for Kids programs. Summer enrollment is now open and it’s not too late to register.

Savvy college students home for the summer, recent high school graduates, and adults returning to college to finish a degree can complete a course in just three weeks with our accelerated QuickStart Summer Session. It runs May 21 through June 8, with classes meeting five days per week in Bedford, Lowell and online.

Those hoping to get ahead this summer may also enroll in one of our Day Summer Sessions. Classes meet four days a week in Bedford and Lowell, and run May 29 through June 28; or July 9 through Aug. 8.

With MCC’s growing list of expanded online degree and certificate programs, your classroom is as close as your computer. Online/Evening Summer Sessions meet two evenings a week or online, and run June 4 through July 31; or June 18 through Aug. 14.

Take personal or professional enrichment courses with MCC’s Community Education and Career Training Programs. Our noncredit courses, offered online and on campus, are designed for individuals in various stages of life and career.

Keep your children engaged and learning this summer with MCC’s College for Kids. Programs are designed to provide children fun and challenging opportunities to explore careers, gain new skills and knowledge, and boost self-confidence. Camps are offered for children ages 8 to 15, and run July 9 through Aug. 16 in Bedford and Lowell.

To register for any of MCC’s summer programs, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Many Mass. college students going hungry

Study also reveals sizable problem with homelessness

By Michael Levenson

Nearly half of Massachusetts' community college students and a third in the state colleges and universities cannot afford consistent access to food and housing, according to a new study that found an alarming number of students unable to meet basic needs as they pursue their degrees.

In a state that prides itself on its world-renowned private universities, the survey showed that students in the public higher education system struggle to pay for food and housing in ways that go well beyond the stereotypical image of students scrounging by on ramen noodles in apartments crowded with roommates.

Among the state's community college students, 13 percent reported that they were homeless in the past year, with most of those saying they did not have enough money to buy more.

At the state's public four-year colleges and universities, 10 percent reported being homeless in the past year. Twenty percent said they had been hungry but didn't eat because they didn't have enough money. And 28 percent said the food they bought didn't last and they didn't have enough money to buy more.

The stresses could threaten the students' ability to graduate because students who reported not having adequate access to food and housing were more likely to miss class and get lower grades, according to the survey, and twice as likely to report moderate to severe depression than their classmates who were well-fed and securely housed.

"We're talking about people who are missing meals and losing weight and, in some cases, even going a day or two more than a day in the last month without eating anything," said Sara Goldrick-Rab, a professor of higher education policy and sociology at Temple University and founder of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab, which conducted the online survey of 6,000 students at 25 of the state's 28 public colleges. "It's not the standard. I'm just scrounging."

Despite Massachusetts' high costs, the rates of housing and food insecurity and homelessness were roughly equivalent to those in national surveys. The problem might be worse here, state education officials said, than comparable rates in similar states. Almost all of the state's colleges and universities, for example, black students were 20 percentage points more likely to struggle to afford food and 11 percentage points more likely to have trouble paying for housing.

Former foster children reported the highest levels of food and housing insecurity, with two-thirds having trouble regularly affording food, three-fifths struggling to pay housing bills, and nearly a quarter saying they had been homeless in the past year.

Goldrick-Rab said she is concerned the actual number of students struggling to pay for food and housing might be higher because those who are homeless or working multiple jobs are less likely to have the time or computer access to respond to an online survey.

"I'm worried this is an undercount," she said. "That's scary to me because these are already substantial numbers of students being affected."

Goldrick-Rab conducted the survey at the request of state higher education officials and college administrators. It makes Massachusetts the second state, after California, to comprehensively examine housing and food insecurity in its public higher education system, she said. The HOPE Lab is widely recognized as a leader in studying food and housing insecurity on college campuses.

Carlos E. Santiago, the state commissioner of higher education, said that while he was aware students struggle with housing and hunger, "the numbers are so stark... it really is sobering."

"It makes me pause on what to do next because it shows we have to do something," he said. "We have to be able to improve the lives of these students."

Santiago said the state is considering one plan that would subsidize dorm rooms at state colleges and universities for community college students, homeless students, and others who cannot afford housing.

Goldrick-Rab said states could also prevent hunger by subsidizing one meal a day for college students -- effectively expanding the national school lunch program to include the public higher education system.

Michael Levenson can be reached at mlevenson@globe.com.
**MCC News**

**MCC students named to All-Massachusetts Academic Team**

Four Middlesex Community College students were recently recognized as outstanding two-year college students and members of Phi Theta Kappa's 2018 All-Massachusetts Academic Team: Andrea Mills of Lexington, Amy Miller of Westford, Andrea Merrill of Lexington, and Anthony Watthuis of Tyngsboro were honored during a recent ceremony at the State House.

In addition to membership on the All-Massachusetts Academic Team, Andrea Merrill was named this year's New Century Workforce Scholar and will receive a $1,750 scholarship from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and the All-USA Academic Team.

Every year, the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office hosts the All-Massachusetts Academic Team event to showcase the best and brightest students in the 15 college systems and 2-year colleges, the Coca-Cola Foundation, community college presidents and community college state associations annually co-sponsor the All-State Academic Teams.

Andrea Mills is a recent MCC graduate and current UMass Lowell business student. Mills is originally from Venetia, while at Middlesex she was a PTK member, served as Vice Chair of Lowell for the Student Union Government Association and was a member of the Business & Economics Club.

Amy Miller is an Early Childhood Education Transfer student. Miller is a PTK member and is planning to transfer to UMass Lowell after graduation. She hopes to teach preschool students in the future.

Andrea Merrill is a Political Science Transfer student. Merrill is a member of PTK at MCC and the mother of five children. She is active in the New England leadership program as well as a variety of community events.

Anthony Watthuis is a Nursing student and PTK member. Watthuis is graduating in May, and he recently received a $2,500 Liberty Mutual Insurance LEAD@ Liberty Scholarship. Watthuis plans to move to Georgia and start his career.

For 99 years, Phi Theta Kappa has recognized and encouraged scholarship among community college students, while promoting the academic integrity of the associate degree program. Students with GPA of 3.5 or higher are eligible to join Phi Theta Kappa.

For Information: ctcinfo@mcc.mass.edu; 978-650-7380.

**MCC to host Workforce Training fund grants info session**

Middlesex Community College will host a free informational session for businesses seeking Workforce Training Fund grants from 8:30-10:30 a.m. May 9, in Trustees’ House, Building 4, on the Bedford campus, 591 Spring Road.

The Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund, administered by Commonwealth Corporation, provides resources to businesses to train current and newly hired employees. The goal is to help improve employee skills and maintain the economic strength of the Commonwealth's businesses.

At the info session, a WFTF representative will present an overview of the grant application and answer questions on a informal text setting.

WFTF provides training grants to Massachusetts employers up to $120,000 per application. MCC's Corporate and Community Education & Training Program has helped many businesses secure and implement these grants.

For Information: http://commoncorp.org/wftf

The registration deadline for this WFTF Info Session is May 7.

For Information: Tino@Acosta, academic@mcc.mass.edu; 978-650-3714.

**MCC student improves her English, becomes campus leader**

Genacia Martinez, who came to the United States from the Dominican Republic three years ago, knowing very little English and nothing about the U.S. system of higher education, is now fluent in English and is the student leader at Middlesex Community College.

"I have already learned a lot in my first year, but I still have a lot to learn," Martinez said. "I have already learned a lot in my first year, but I still have a lot to learn."

Martinez is currently enrolled in the English Language Institute and is planning to graduate in 2019 with a degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"I have already learned a lot in my first year, but I still have a lot to learn," Martinez said. "I have already learned a lot in my first year, but I still have a lot to learn."
Introducing The Bedford Citizen's New Corporate Sponsors

May 10, 2018 | A message from The Bedford Citizen | 0 Comments

By The Bedford Citizen

To sustain the growth of The Bedford Citizen we are reaching out, both with our current Spring Appeal and to Bedford’s business community for their support as sponsors. We are pleased to welcome four corporate sponsors. You’ll find logos that click through to their websites in the right-hand column of each page.

- Red Heat Tavern
- Middlesex Savings Bank
- Middlesex Community College
- Suzanne & Company, Keller Williams Realty

Corporate support of The Bedford Citizen contributes to our capacity to continue to be the best source of information about what is happening in Bedford. Help us to strengthen our corporate sponsorship program by thanking our sponsors for their support.
Chelmsford High School stages mock crash

By Margaret Smith
msmith@wickedlocal.com

Posted May 10, 2018 at 2:39 PM Updated May 11, 2018 at 12:05 PM

On an early Thursday morning, Chelmsford High School juniors and seniors got a reprieve from the classroom, heading to the high school's performing arts center for a presentation. While live music played, statistics flashed on a screen, outlining motor vehicle injuries and deaths related to impaired driving. There, they heard from Dean Joshua Blagg, a Chelmsford High School dean and alumnus, and member of the Class of 1991.

After graduation, three of his classmates -- Sean Caron, Greg Saunders and Mike Cronin -- died in a high-speed crash, when their vehicle hit a tree. His voice filled with emotion, Blagg said, “It’s a horrible way to die.” Blagg said of lives lost, and dreams destroyed, all in the moments of that crash.

After the presentation, the crowd streamed over the grounds from the performance arts center to the rolling landscape outside, clouds were parting, and despite the serious nature of the topic, chatter was light and cheerful. They jostled to find places to sit on the grass, in front of a strange scene -- school buses stationary, forming a triangle of concealment. Voices blared over speakers -- festive voices from a party, of revelers leaving a party, and getting into automobiles. But in those voices, levity turned to terror with a horrific sound of screeching wheels and clashing metal.

The school buses pulled away to reveal a crash scene, with emergency responders hurrying, but ending with one death, one person facing arrest, injuries and psychic scars to last a lifetime. The outcome is illustrated plainly by the arrival of a hearse and the unzipping of a body bag. By the end, there was only silence, broken only by bird song.

Message of safety The incident was, of course, staged, and an annual tradition -- a mock crash held May 10 at the high school, as prom and graduation season approach. Juniors and seniors both watch and participate in the mock crash. The mock crash is a cooperative effort of Chelmsford police and fire, Trinity Ambulance, the Health Department, high school administration and staff, and the school’s Health Department Live Smart group, as well as local businesses including Dolan Funeral Home. The event includes speakers and activities designed to show the consequences of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol, and a newer, growing danger -- driving while distracted by devices such as phones.

After witnessing the grim spectacle, the students returned to the performance arts center. On a covered table, they wrote notes of condolence to their classmate, Michael Untracht, a member of the baseball and hockey team, whose death was portrayed in the mock crash. Inside, they filed past an open casket, with Untracht’s framed photo and a mirror facing them. An easel held a board covered with photos of scenes from Untracht’s life.

Among those who attended the mock crash was Chelmsford High School junior Shea Ryan. “I thought it was pretty good,” Ryan said. “The kid who died -- he’s on my baseball team. It hit pretty close to home.” Ryan added, “I hope none of us do that. That was bad.”

Bedford High School junior Emma Ferrari, a student peer leader, was part of a visiting group that came to see the mock crash. “We might do something like this at our school,” Ferrari said. “It was powerful, the first time seeing it. It could make a difference.” Jenna Baker, a Chelmsford High School senior, recalled seeing the mock crash during her junior year. “It was definitely impactful,” said Baker. Although familiar with the event, Baker said, “I know I’m going to cry during the speakers’ talk.”

Lives changed forever Back in the performing arts center, two photos appeared, one after the other, on the screen. One was that of Peter Miller. In the mock crash, Miller is arrested for driving while intoxicated, resulting in the death of his friend, Untracht. In a voice-over, Miller said, “my decisions are what got us here today.” Miller, heading to a lengthy prison sentence, bid farewell to his parents, siblings and classmates, and most of all, to his friend Untracht. He expressed remorse and responsibility for his decisions and the tragedy they wrought. Then Untracht’s photo appeared, with Untracht in a voice-over speaking from the next plane, after his death. “I wish I could go back. I’d do anything to change what happened last night.” Untracht admonished everyone, “Please learn from this.”
Speaker Matt Clark took the gathering back in time, to 2007, when he was an exuberant senior at Arlington High School. Clark was a senior, and he and his classmates were looking forward to prom, graduation, college and dreams of the future. Those dreams ended during April vacation when Clark and his friend, Paul Leone, attended a party, with drinking. “At some point, I left that party,” Clark recalled. With him was Leone -- his best friend.

Clark doesn’t remember much after that, apart from waking up in a bed at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, with a broken neck and fractured skull, but alive. “My parents told me that Paul didn’t make it,” Clark said. The car had crashed into a house, and part of the house’s chimney toppled onto the passenger side where Leone was sitting. “The life I knew up to that point was over,” Clark said.

For Leone, life’s hopes ended with an early grave and grieving family and friends. For Clark, prom and commencement plans evaporated. Instead, he did a stint at the Middlesex House of Corrections, abbreviated through a deal brokered by his attorney. As part of the deal, Clark pled guilty to the charge of motor vehicle homicide. Clark eventually finished courses at Middlesex Community College and went on to the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Starting as part of the conditions of his community service requirements, Clark began speaking at area schools about his experience. “I’m not going to be at your prom, or college, so I’ll have no idea what happens,” Clark said.

He said he’s not in the habit of telling the students he speaks to what to do. He can only talk about the choices he made, and where they led him. The rest, Clark told the students, is up to them.
Middlesex Community College Guitarist Presents Music Outreach Concert at BHS

May 9, 2018 | Arts and Culture, Schools | 0 Comments

Submitted by Middlesex Community College

Middlesex Community College Guitar Professor Raley Beggs (center) recently performed for a group of students at Bedford High School as part of MCC’s Music Outreach Program – Courtesy image (c) 2018 all rights reserved – Click to view full-sized image

Guitarist Raley Beggs, who teaches guitar at Middlesex Community College, recently performed for a group of students at Bedford High School as part of MCC’s Music Outreach Program.

After the performance, Beggs chatted with students about the Middlesex Music degree and certificate programs.
Middlesex Community College to host class of 2018 commencement

Our Picks

Posted May 8, 2018 at 11:41 AM

Middlesex Community College’s commencement exercises for the approximately 1,400 members of the class of 2018 will be held at 10 a.m. May 24 in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 E. Merrimack St.

The procession will begin at 9:30 a.m. in front of MCC’s Lowell campus Cowan Center, located diagonally from the auditorium. This year’s speaker will be alum Gail Tuzzolo, class of 1975, a national political consultant based in Las Vegas and president of the MCC Alumni Association. She will also be presented the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award. A graduate of Winchester High School, Tuzzolo enrolled at Middlesex in the ‘70s when she was a stay at home mom raising her two children. She went on to earn a degree in liberal arts and sciences at Middlesex, and continued her education, majoring in psychology, at Salem State University.

“I was fortunate. If I hadn’t been able to get that start with Middlesex, I don’t know what my future would have held,” said Tuzzolo.

For more than four decades, Tuzzolo has been working as a lobbyist and consultant for dozens of political candidates and organizations. In 1991, she helped a long-shot female candidate, Jan Laverty Jones, get elected mayor of Las Vegas. Jones went on to serve the city for eight years. Since then, through Gail Tuzzolo & Associates, Tuzzolo has continued working for political candidates and union forces. She has since opened another company, Community Strategies Inc., and is now traveling the world.

For more information, visit https://middlesex.mass.edu/graduation/.
From left, Franky Descoteaux, MCC Entrepreneurship Program faculty; Phil Slisson, MCC Provost and VP of academic and student affairs; EEVF’s Chip Weismiller; MCC President James Mabry; EEVF’s Stuart Weismiller; Stacie Hargis, MCC Entrepreneurship Program coordinator; James Henderson, MCC Foundation Chairman; and Judith Hogan, MCC Dean of Business, legal studies and public service.

COURTESY PHOTO

MCC earns entrepreneur grant

The Everyday Entrepreneur Venture Fund has awarded Middlesex Community College a $250,000 grant to help student entrepreneurs start or grow a small business. EEVF founders Chip Weismiller and Stuart Weismiller attended a recent meeting of the MCC Foundation’s board of directors to announce the award.

The Weismillers established the million-dollar venture fund to provide seed grants to community-college foundations for community-based new business startups. MCC is one of only four colleges in the country to receive an EEVF grant. The award is the first venture-fund grant in Massachusetts to be used exclusively to launch small community-based entrepreneurs. It will be administered through the MCC Foundation.

The EEVF grant was based on MCC’s work with community-based entrepreneurs, and serves as a testament to the quality and growth of the college’s Entrepreneurship Program and faculty. Grant funds are limited to current students and qualified alumni.

The grant will include a strong community-engagement component, from planning through well after business launch, with mentors and matching funds coming from the local business community.

For more information about MCC’s EEVF grant, contact Judith Hogan, dean of business, Legal studies and public service, at hoganj@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3816; or Stacie Hargis, Entrepreneurship Program coordinator, at hargiss@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3854.
Can congressional hopefuls stand out?

By Alisa Melanson
almscn@lowellsun.com

LOWELL—It’s time there
be a little to differentiate the
12 Democrats hoping to succeed U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas in Con-
gress. It’s not been easy for
them to capture your attention.

The event will provide simple
opportunities for candidates to
show voters what they’re made
of and outline their plans, and
for voters to take a full measure
of each candidate compared
to their opponents. Today’s
question is: How do you watch congressional
debates? Do you watch them to be
informed? For entertainment?

Meet the candidates

Jeff Baillie

Age: 55

Wilson, Andover
Occupations: Former state re-
searcher

Education: Fairfield College Preparatory School (1978), University of Central Florida (1982)
Business: Elected to the House of Representatives in 2004

Alexandra Chandler

Age: 40

North Andover, Andover
Occupations: Former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst

Education: Brandeis University (B.A. 1996), Boston College Law School (J.D. 2002)
Business: Elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 2011

Bee Das

Age: 44

Concord
Occupations: President/Owner, Canoe Hotels

Education: Holyoke Community College (A.A., 1995), University of Massachusetts (B.A., 2001)
Business: Founded and owns Canoe Hotels

RuthS Gifford

Age: 43

Concord
Occupations: Former U.S. ambassador to Senegal

Education: Harvard University (B.A., 1990), Harvard Kennedy School (M.P.P., 1992)
Business: Founded and owns Gifford International

Leonard Golden

Age: 57

Maynard
Occupations: Attorney

Education: Clark University (B.A., 1972), New England Law School (J.D. 1980)
Business: Founded and owns Golden Law Group

Dan Koh

Age: 31

Andover
Occupations: Founder/Chief of Staff, Mayor Marty Walsh

Business: Founder/Chief of Staff, Massachusetts senator

Barbara Litin

Age: 51

Andover
Occupations: State senator

Education: East Orange Community College (A.A., 2003), Springfield College (M.S., 2007)
Business: Former state senator

Patrick Littlefield

Age: 63

Concord
Occupations: Former Walmart executive, founder and CEO

Education: University of California, Berkeley (B.A.), Harvard School of Business (M.B.A.)
Business: Former executive, founder and CEO of Walmart

Bethe Malone

Age: 57

Andover
Occupations: Former Enterprise Bank vice president

Education: Lasell University (B.A.), University of Massachusetts Amherst (M.A.)
Business: Founded and owns Malone & Associates

Juana Mathis

Age: 32

Woburn
Occupations: Lawyer

Education: University of Massachusetts Boston (J.D., 2007)
Business: Founded and owns Mathis Law Group

Keith St John

Age: 67

Fitchburg
Occupations: Former U.S. ambassador to Spain

Business: Former U.S. ambassador to Spain

Lori Trahan

Age: 44

Lowell
Occupations: Former postmaster general

Education: University of Massachusetts Amherst (B.A., 1993), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.S., 1994)
Business: Founded and owns Trahan's General Store
Former Town Manager, MCC President, round out Town Manager Search Committee

By Jesse Collings
Posted May 8, 2018 at 3:10 PM Updated May 11, 2018 at 10:41 AM

Bedford Selectmen named the five residents who will be in charge of finding the next town manager as part of the Town Manager Search Committee. "This is a very difficult decision, we are in a very good position (with the potential candidates)," Selectman Caroline Fedele said. The board interviewed a dozen candidates over the last two weeks, before settling on the final five named to the board on Monday, May 7. "I think we were blessed with an extremely powerful, capable group of people that volunteered. Anyone who was not chosen shouldn’t feel the least bit denigrated," Selectman Bill Moonan said.

One of the candidates receiving a vote from all five Selectmen to serve on the committee was former Selectmen Betsey Anderson, who served on the board when current Town Manager Rick Reed was hired in 1988. Anderson mentioned last week in her interview that the position has changed a lot since Reed was first hired, and that it would be important to look for a candidate willing to handle the changing parameters of what it means to be a town manager in Bedford.

The other candidate receiving all five votes was James Mabry, president of Middlesex Community College. "Over my career I’ve interviewed hundreds of people, it is a big part of my job," Mabry said. "I like working on search committees, there is a real mystery because you are really not sure what you are going to find out of a pool. You have to come in with a real objectivity about how do you find the right person, and you have to maintain that all the way through that process."

One of the lesser-known candidates, but arguably the most qualified was Maureen Valente. While Valente did not have the extensive history of serving on Bedford boards and committees that some of the other candidates had, she did have the kind of experience that was unmatched by the other candidates. From 2000 to 2015, Valente served as the town manager in Sudbury. "I always think of that as a great endorsement of the town, that other town managers choose to live here," Selectmen Margot Fleischman said. "I appreciate your willingness to volunteer your skill set, which is unique and to this particular job search, very valuable." Selectman Ed Pierce asked Valente what kind of qualities that she would be looking for in a candidate for town manager, and Valente said the ability to communicate is key.

"The town manager tends to be a very powerful position in the community, not because of the charter, or who reports to them, but because they tend to know more about everything, from how government works, to finances, how decisions are made. Their willingness to share that, and convey that carefully is one of the key hallmarks you need in a position like this," Valente said. "If someone feels put-off by the town manager and they don’t have a chance to be heard, it is hard to see anything good come after that."

Rounding out the group is former School Committee member Anne Beckwith, and Emily Prince, who in her interview said she would like to be the voice for young families and children. Fleischman and Moonan will also serve on the committee as the two selectmen representatives.

The search committee is set to have its first meeting later this week and will begin the search process right away. Current Town Manager Rick Reed announced his retirement in March, and the board has said that they would have a replacement for Reed in place and ready to go by the end of the summer.
Middlesex Community College Launches Media Preferences Survey

May 7, 2018 | Submitted by Middlesex Community College

Middlesex Community College is conducting an online survey to help improve the college’s marketing efforts. To complete the survey, visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/survey

Middlesex Community College is conducting an online survey to help improve the college’s marketing efforts.

As the community’s college, MCC is always seeking ways to improve our communication efforts. Whether you or someone you know is coming to Middlesex directly from high school, enrolling to enhance on-the-job skills, or returning to school after many years, we want to know how to serve you better.

Please take this short, 10- to 15-minute online survey and tell us how you use the media and spend your time. To complete the survey, visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/survey

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
MCC hosts session on training fund

BEDFORD — Middlesex Community College will host a free Information Session for businesses seeking Workforce Training Fund grants Wednesday, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., in Trustees’ House (Building 4) on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.

The Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund, administered by Commonwealth Corporation, provides resources to businesses to train current and newly hired employees. The goal is to help improve employee skills and maintain the economic strength of the commonwealth’s businesses. WFTF provides training grants to Massachusetts employers up to $250,000 per application.

MCC’s Corporate and Community Education & Training Program has helped many businesses secure and implement these grants.

Registration deadline for the information session is Monday. For information or to register, email scanlont@middlesex.mass.edu or call 978-666-3174.
Middlesex CC To Host Workforce Training Fund Grants Info Session

Middlesex Community College will host a FREE Information Session for businesses seeking Workforce Training Fund (WFTF) grants from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 9, in Trustees' House (Building 4) on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.

The Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund, administered by Commonwealth Corporation, provides resources to businesses to train current and newly hired employees. The goal is to help improve employee skills and maintain the economic strength of the Commonwealth's businesses.

At the info session, a WFTF representative will present an overview of the grant options and answer questions in an informational setting.

WFTF provides training grants to Massachusetts employers up to $250,000 per application. MCC's Corporate and Community Education & Training Program has helped many businesses secure and implement these grants.

For more information on specific Workforce Training Fund programs, visit the Commonwealth Corporation website: www.commcorp.org/wftp

The registration deadline for this WFTF Info Session is Monday, May 7. For more information, or to register, contact Timothy Scanlon at scanlont@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-656-3174.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Donahue Family Donation Supports
New MCC Academic Arts Center

Renovation of the new Middlesex Community College Academic Arts Center in the former Boston and Maine Railroad Depot on Central Street is nearly completed and just as the building is being turned over to MCC, a well-known local philanthropist has provided a very generous donation to support arts education at the college.

For months, MCC President James Mabry and members of the college’s Advancement Team have been working with philanthropist and longtime supporter of the arts Nancy Donahue and the Donahue family of Lowell, who provided a generous gift to the MCC Foundation, and for whose family the new arts center will be named.

“I am thrilled to be able to help move this project forward and excited that MCC has been able to rebuild this wonderful historic structure,” said Nancy Donahue.

James Henderson, Chairman of the MCC Foundation Board, said the donation from longtime college supporter Donahue reflects an unprecedented investment in the future of arts education at MCC. The donation, coupled with Donahue’s longtime support of the college’s Celebrity Forum speaker series and several other funds, will result in the branding of the new facility with the Donahue name. Donahue herself has also agreed to be the honorary chair of a long-planned capital campaign to raise even more money for the center, with multiple other fundraising naming opportunities throughout the building.

“The Donahue family has long been a staunch supporter of so many of our initiatives to help our student population, but this philanthropic investment, in conjunction with the opening of our new center for the arts, a cause so near and dear to Nancy Donahue’s heart, will help enrich the lives of so many of our students,” Henderson said.

Middlesex Community College Academic Arts Center

Middlesex Community College President James C. Mabry and Nancy Donahue, of Lowell, at the 2015 Academic Arts Center renovation groundbreaking.

MCC Trustees Chairman James Campbell said the support from this well-known Lowell family spotlights the continued support the college receives from its community partners, and the financial support of the Donahue family will help push the naming campaign forward, particularly with her at the honorary helm of the giving campaign.

Campbell also lauded the support of local, state and federal legislators who have supported different facets of the academic arts center’s development throughout its evolution. “As is always the case when it comes to successful economic development in Lowell, there’s a tremendous amount of teamwork that helps these projects cross the goal line. Middlesex Community College has been fortunate to have an expansive team of legislative support throughout this process since it first embarked on the acquisition of this historic property more than a decade ago,” Campbell said.

Middlesex President James Mabry said the expansion of MCC’s footprint in downtown Lowell allows the college to offer premiere performance learning space for its theater, music and dance students. “Our students will have the opportunity to be taught by our talented faculty in a showcase space that will allow them to thrive in an environment conducive to learning,” said Mabry.

Built in 1876, MCC’s Academic Arts Center has stood as a multi-purpose facility in the heart of Lowell for nearly 150 years. The structure was saved from demolition in 1989 by the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission. The exterior of the building was renovated by Lowell National Historical Park, which transferred ownership to Middlesex Community College in 2008.

To learn more about the building’s history, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/academicartscenter/history.aspx

For more information about numerous other giving and sponsorship opportunities associated with the new Academic Arts Center, please visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/AcademicArtsCenter.
Worlds of Experience
Middlesex Community College Prepares for 20th Annual Celebrity Forum

Few people can say they have met Colin Powell, George H.W. and Barbara Bush, Jay Leno and Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York.

But Carole Cowan has met them and many more. All of these noted individuals have taken the stage at the Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum series, an event that has been held each spring since 1999. The series has featured a range of individuals from the worlds of politics, sports, Hollywood and television news. While all have achieved fame, the series highlights work of theirs that sometimes goes unnoticed.

Cowan started the series when she was president of the college as a fundraiser that was also designed to raise its community profile. For a model, she looked to her alma mater, Salem State University, which began sponsoring a similar series in 1982.

The first guest at the Middlesex forum was Walter Cronkite, who was interviewed during the program by historian Doris Kearns Goodwin. The evening was a huge success.

"We chose [Cronkite] because of his reputation as the 'most trusted man in America,' " Cowan says. "He was someone with a world of experience who could talk about topics from the vantage point of a news anchor."

Another notable celebrity speaker was retired U.S. Army Gen. Colin Powell, who later served as secretary of state for President George W. Bush. Powell's message at the forum in 2000 focused largely on his work as the founding chairman of America's Promise Alliance, a nonprofit that promotes childhood education.

Since then, the college has hosted a mix of individuals, including William Shatner, Tim Russert, Robert Redford, Ken Burns, Mike and Chris Wallace, and Laura Bush and her daughter Jenna Bush Hager.

"They are all so different," Cowan says. "All of them were so interesting. I was really delighted to meet them all. Every one of them has left us with warm comments about the college and the community. It was a rewarding experience for them, too."

Planning for each forum takes at least a year. Proceeds from the evening support scholarships for students who are struggling financially to complete their studies at Middlesex or to help them continue toward a bachelor's degree at UMass Lowell. Since 2004, 122 scholarships have been awarded totaling $304,500.

Having the opportunity to meet and engage with a celebrity is fun for the audience, says MCC President James Mabry. Mabry met many notable historians before his arrival at MCC. While he was working his way through college and working as a New York City cab driver, he once gave Cronkite a lift. But the forum has given Mabry access to people he likely wouldn't have met otherwise, including Red Sox legend David Ortiz. The former slugger was last year's featured speaker, and Mabry remembers wondering if the retired baseball star would display the same personality that fans have seen on TV.

"He gave me a hug. He was very friendly," Mabry says.

That evening was even more special for Mabry because it gave him the chance to invite longtime friends and their teenage son, all of whom are huge fans of the Red Sox and Ortiz.

"It really meant a lot to them," Mabry says.

Actress, photographer, children's book author and philanthropist Jamie Lee Curtis will be the speaker this year. Curtis is best known for her work in movies such as "A Fish Called Wanda," "True Lies," and John Carpenter's "Halloween" series. Her philanthropic work includes advocating for children's hospitals.

The forum will take place on Friday, June 8, at 8 p.m. at Lowell Memorial Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium box office, by phone at (866) 722-8881 or online at LowellAuditorium.com.
Celebrity Forum
Past Speakers

For 20 years, Middlesex has been bringing well-known personalities to the Merrimack Valley to promote educational and cultural enrichment among residents.

Additionally, proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students. Since 2004, over $300,000 in scholarships have been awarded, totaling over $300,000.

Celebrity FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation

an evening with
Jamie Lee Curtis
actress, children's book author
and philanthropist

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18

Tickets on sale NOW!

Tickets: $29 $39 $49

Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Dennis Malvès at 978-659-3027.

TJX
Special thanks to The TJX Companies, Inc., Presenting Sponsor for all 20 years!
Musical presented by students at Middlesex

The Lowell Sun
Updated: 04/30/2018 06:57:31 AM EDT

The Middlesex Community College Theater Department stages the musical "Spring Awakening" for five performances, May 3-6, at Burgoyne Theater, 75 John St., Lowell. COURTESY PHOTO

LOWELL -- The Middlesex Community College Theater Department will stage the ground-breaking musical "Spring Awakening" for five performances next weekend at the Burgoyne Theater, 75 John St.

Curtain times for "Spring Awakening" are Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, May 6, at 2 p.m.

General-admission tickets are $15, $10 for MCC students, staff and faculty, and $8 for senior citizens. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting www.middlesex.mass.edu/performing arts, or by calling 978-458-5429.

"Spring Awakening" is a rock musical with music by Duncan Sheik, and book and lyrics by Steven Sater. Based on the play by Frank Wedekind, the original Broadway production won eight Tony Awards. "Spring Awakening" may not be appropriate for all ages due to adult language and mature themes, including sexual content.
Conquering challenges

While college may cause headaches for some, student is thankful for MCC's help in recovery

Adriana Guy's firsthand experience with doctors and nurses in high school helped her select a career path. The Middlesex Community College student expects to graduate in May with a degree in Medical Assisting.

During her freshman year of high school, the 21-year-old Lowell resident was diagnosed with vestibular migraines, a nervous-system disorder that causes severe headaches and dizziness.

"I felt like I was on the fastest spinning ride, non-stop," Guy said. "I also had pseudo-seizures and developed severe anxiety."

The illness left her unable to attend high school. At first, Guy was home-tutored, but she was failing her courses. Then, during her junior year, she enrolled in an online high school and things began to turn around.

She improved her grades and graduated sooner than her high-school peers. This spring, after graduating from MCC, she plans to work as a medical assistant before continuing her education to become a pediatric nurse.

"During the time of my illness, I was in and out of various doctors' offices and hospitals," said Guy, who now manages her illness through medication. "I remember the staff, the medical assistants and nurses who made me feel better, and I want to be able to help someone that way, too."

Her path to MCC was well-thought out, also. "I chose Middlesex because I wanted to start classes slowly while dealing with my illness," Guy said. "Also, since I had been enrolled in an online high school, I didn't want to jump right into a four-year school. MCC seemed to have the right path for me to become comfortable with college."

But Guy got more than comfortable. She jumped right into extracurricular activities, joining clubs and looking for leadership opportunities.

"I love the community here at MCC, the resources available for students, the clubs and activities, and the overall support the college offers," she said. "Middlesex changed my life in many ways. I didn't think I would be successful in college, but MCC helped prove me wrong." Guy is currently president of the Medical Assisting Club and is a past member of the Middlesex Activities Crew, and the Multicultural Achievement Peer Program.

The highlight of her college experience so far was attending the annual Diversity Summit, a multiday, off-campus experience held in Maine.

"I felt like I learned a lot more about myself and others at the summit," she said. "When I came back, I felt like a new person, more open to be myself."

Over the past few years, Guy has faced obstacles that might have broken many other young people. Instead, she's proud to have persevered — even when she wanted to give up — and has used those obstacles to push harder toward her goals.

"I learned that no matter what challenges you face, there is always a chance to conquer them," she said.

For more information about MCC's Medical Assisting Program, contact Claudia Guillen at GUILLENO@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-656-3024.
Middlesex CC To Host Middlesex D.A. Marian Ryan For Law Day

Middlesex Community College will celebrate the 60th anniversary of Law Day with a special appearance by Middlesex County District Attorney Marian Ryan speaking on the topic: “Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom - Constitutional Protections of Liberty & Justice.”

Ryan represents the commonwealth’s largest county with 54 towns and cities, and 26 colleges in urban, suburban, and rural areas.

Attorney Marian T. Ryan at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3, in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square, Lowell.

Middlesex County comprises more than one-quarter of the population of Massachusetts.
Lowell's Bester Terrero had no formal education as a child. Now she's the state's adult student of the year

By Amaris Castillo, acastillo@lowellsun.com Updated: 04/27/2018 10:10:28 AM EDT

Bester Terrero of Lowell, originally from the Dominican Republic, was named Outstanding Student of the Year at the Massachusetts Coalition of Adult Education conference. (SUN/Julia Malakie)

LOWELL -- Bester Terrero watches as her teacher highlighted part of a math exercise in hot pink. "Rewrite the equation to set the quadratic expression equal to 0," step 1 reads. From a second-floor classroom in the Frederick Assad Abisi Adult Education Center, Terrero, 30, nods along as lead HiSET/GED teacher Christina Cronin reviews the lesson with her class. There are eight students in total -- adults at various stages of their education. Terrero takes careful notes and, at times, whispers the answers to herself.

When it came time for Cronin and Maura McCabe, another lead HiSET/GED teacher at the center, to nominate a HiSET/GED student for the Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education's Outstanding Student Award, Terrero surfaced in their minds. The award is given annually to a student who has, in part, met significant challenges and demonstrated leadership within the teaching/learning environment. "The two of us immediately just thought of Bester," Cronin says after class ended at noon Wednesday. "We've had her now for two years. We've really gotten to know her and she's a hard, hard worker." In their nomination letter, the teachers described the mother of five as a role model for everyone she meets. She sets personal goals, one of which she accomplished last year when she became a U.S. citizen. Cronin said Terrero comes to her often with her daughter's homework assignments, asking if Cronin plans on teaching the class the same material.

"What Bester learns here with us, she brings home and teaches her own kids," the nomination letter reads. Terrero was recognized earlier this month with the Outstanding Student Award at the statewide Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education Conference. "When they gave me this award, I felt very, very special," Terrero says. "After everything that has happened, that they considered me...my hard work, everything I've done. It's really surprising. Emotional, at the same time."

Bester Terrero of Lowell, originally from the Dominican Republic, in math class. (SUN/Julia Malakie)
Born in the Dominican Republic, Terrero says she had limited schooling, because her parents hopped around different islands in the Caribbean for their jobs as cooks. When she moved to Antigua at age 5, Terrero remembers being in school for about four months. When her family later moved to the U.S. Virgin Islands, Terrero says her parents decided to stay and tried but failed to put her in school because she had a visitor visa. In 2012, Terrero and her husband and children moved to Taunton and the family later fell into homelessness. Two years ago, they moved to Lowell. Terrero found the Abisi Adult Education Center through a Google search. She enrolled immediately.

Terrero has passed her HiSET math test and still has a bit to go in the curriculum. She says she plans to enroll at Middlesex Community College, where she'd like to pursue a degree in business administration. McCabe says she and Cronin think the world of Bester. "She's just progressed so nicely," McCabe says. "She started in a lower level class and has just worked her way up from one to the next." The teacher glances over at Bester who has a grin on her face. "She always is smiling, regardless of the weather, regardless of the subject," McCabe says. "She's just determined and she's persevered, and she's doing great."

Elizabeth McKiernan, director of the Abisi Adult Education Center, says it's been a number of years since the center has had a student nominated for the Outstanding Student Award. "To have Bester nominated and chosen, it just thrills all of us," she said. "We're thrilled for her, for the honor that came to her."

A few hours after her class ends, Terrero stands in her kitchen with her eldest child, 14-year-old Aneiry Charles. Aneiry, a freshman at Lowell High School, sometimes helps her mother with homework and vice versa. Together they work on fractions, division, algebra. Aneiry looks up at her mom and says she is very happy to see her back in school. "She's just one good mom. She's the best," Aneiry says. "Hard-working. Outstanding. Awesome."
MCC fees will jump 9% in fall

By Rick Sobey
rsobey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College students and their families could suffer from sticker shock when they open the bill for next semester’s classes.

A full-time student taking 15 credits will pay about $250 more per semester as the result of college fees rising 9 percent. The Board of Trustees approved the tuition-and-fee increase on Thursday.

Each credit will now cost $215, resulting in a total semester bill of $3,225 for full-time, in-state students.

Officials are pointing to enrollment challenges and declining public fund-

ing. College President James Mabry said the college’s enrollment decline is expected to continue through 2020. He added that state support for public higher education is unlikely to change significantly in the near future.

Please see MCC/B

MCC/From Page 1

The vote taken Thursday by the Board of Trustees was necessary to “support the long-term fiscal stability of our college, to support student success, and to provide our exceptionally dedicated faculty and staff with the tools and facilities they need to do their best work,” Mabry said in a statement.

“I know that for many students and their families, these fee increases are not welcome news,” he added. “But they are essential for the college to fulfill our mission of academic excellence.”

In this current semester, each credit cost $198 — that breaks down to $24 per credit for tuition, and $174 per credit for fees. The fees per credit had gone up $3 from the previous year, resulting in a 2 percent increase.

Moving forward, each credit will cost $215 — breaking down to $24 per credit for tuition and $191 per credit for fees. The fees per credit are going up $17, resulting in a 9 percent increase.

Annie O’Connor was the lone board member to vote against the increase on Thursday.

“It’s too much to put on the students,” O’Connor, of Lowell, told The Sun. “There are so many kids going here because they can’t afford some place else.”

The additional revenue will help the college maintain and improve programs, services and facilities, Mabry said. It will also help the college upgrade teaching and learning spaces, implement a new student portal, and upgrade areas where students are served, according to the president.

“In order to prepare our students to be competitive in the modern economy, we must provide them with the tools and skills that employers demand,” he said.

Even with these fee increases, MCC’s fees will remain below the levels of many of the other 14 Massachusetts community colleges, Mabry said.

Middlesex has been competitively priced at the midpoint of the state’s community colleges.

At the same time, the college has committed $1.1 million to its Student Success Fund to help students financially. It also is anticipating additional MassGrant need-based scholarship money from the state.

Last year, Middlesex Community College cut staff, and officials pinned it on dwindling student enrollment. In addition to staff reductions, the college cut costs by reducing energy costs, putting restrictions on travel and overtime, not filling a number of vacancies and more.

The unemployment rate has gone down, leading to fewer students heading to college. In addition, fewer high school students graduate each year because birth rates have plummeted, resulting in a smaller pot of community college students.

This trend has hit 14 of the 15 community colleges across the state, including MCC, where enrollment has declined since 2012.

Follow Rick Sobey on Twitter @rsobeyLSun.
Governor's Council questions, lauds Sheehy ahead of confirmation vote

The Lowell Sun
Updated: 04/25/2018 03:24:55 PM EDT

Sheehy at Wednesday's Governor's Council meeting. (SUN PHOTO/Samantha Gross)

By Samantha J. Gross, Boston University Statehouse Program

BOSTON -- Elizabeth Sheehy, a Lowell native and assistant clerk magistrate for the Middlesex County Juvenile Court, was lauded for her leadership and values at a Governor's Council hearing Wednesday on her nomination for clerk magistrate. The attorney, who was nominated by Gov. Charlie Baker, has spent the last 17 years in her current role. The councilors questioned -- and praised -- Sheehy for over an hour in preparation for their vote next week.

A clerk magistrates' main duty is to manage court business by hiring staff, establishing administrative procedures and delegating duties to employees of the court. They also create court dockets and occasionally take up the power to issue warrants, set bail and handle arraignments in certain cases. The position opened in November, after Paul Hartnett retired after 52 years of service. The current acting clerk magistrate is James Panas.

All nominations to the court are subject to consent of the Governor's Council. All applications are first reviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission before being recommended to Baker. The 21-member commission was established by Baker in 2015. The council will vote on Sheehy's nomination next Wednesday. The attorney was questioned by councilors on various topics, including the new criminal justice reform bill recently signed into law, and her opinion on the age requirement to be considered a minor.

Sheehy said the new reform is going to have "big impact," and that she was impressed with the changes, especially the Good Samaritan provision which provides legal protection for minors to help people who are injured, ill or otherwise incapacitated. "I believe children deserve a second chance to turn their life around," she said. "I don't want them to come back before the court."

Sheehy said that she became interested in working with youth after serving as a substitute teacher at Lowell High School while she was in law school. She often worked with teenagers who had developmental problems or challenging behavior, and said she felt it unfair that they didn't have the support to "reach their greatest potential."

Sheehy's parents, her late father, Paul, a former senator and city manager, and mother Molly, Sheehy, a former Middlesex Community College dean, helped her find her current path, she told the council. "My parents helped me realize that I could combine my two passions -- a love of the law and a love of working with children -- to achieve great things," she said. "Every child should have the support, resources and assistance to achieve their goals. At the juvenile court, I am blessed to have a position where I can help make that happen."

As an assistant clerk magistrate, Sheehy earned $109,450 last year. She would earn nearly $150,000 in this new role. Before Sheehy became assistant clerk magistrate, she was the founder of the Lowell Juvenile Court Internship Program, served as an attorney at her late father's law firm and was a mediation program coordinator for the Middlesex Mediation Program. She told the council that her training as a mediator often helps her more in her job that her law school degree.

Sheehy is a graduate of UMass Lowell and Suffolk University Law School. She serves on the boards of the Ned Sheehy Memorial Foundation, Middlesex Community College Paralegal Advisory, Salvation Army and Catholic Charities Food Pantry. "Attorney Sheehy has demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the Middlesex County Juvenile Court and the young people of that area of our Commonwealth throughout career," said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, who chairs the council.
Baker echoed Polito's sentiments in his nomination. "Attorney Sheehy has been a respected contributor in the Middlesex Juvenile Court Clerk's Office for over 17 years, and has the experience and qualifications to serve as Clerk Magistrate of the Juvenile Court in Middlesex County," he wrote. "If confirmed by the Governor's Council, I am confident that she will continue to provide outstanding service to the Juvenile Court."

Councilor Eileen Duff concluded the meeting, citing Sheehy's reputation and family history as a reason for her success. "How lucky are we to have someone like you apply for this job," Duff said. "You are beloved and appreciated. You father was beloved and appreciated. You come from a family that understands what public service is."
Open house today in Bedford

BEDFORD — Prospective students and their families, as well as adult learners interested in continuing their education, can learn about Middlesex Community College’s more than 70 degree and certificate programs at an open house Tuesday, April 24, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., in the Bedford Campus Center, 591 Springs Road. For more information or to RSVP, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/OH or call 800-818-5434.

Students to put on musical

LOWELL — The Middlesex Community College Theater Department will stage the ground-breaking musical “Spring Awakening” for five performances in May at the Burgoyne Theater, 78 John St.

Curtain times for “Spring Awakening” are Thursday, May 3, and Friday, May 4, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, May 5, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, May 6, at 2 p.m.

General-admission tickets are $15, $10 for MCC students, staff and faculty, and $8 for senior citizens. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting www.middlesex.mass.edu/performingarts, or by calling 978-458-5429.

“Spring Awakening” is a rock musical with music by Duncan Sheik, and book and lyrics by Steven Sater. Based on the play by Frank Wedekind, the original Broadway production won eight Tony Awards. “Spring Awakening” may not be appropriate for all ages due to adult language and mature themes, including sexual content.

DA Ryan to speak on Law Day

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College will celebrate the 60th anniversary of Law Day with a special appearance by Middlesex County District Attorney Marian T. Ryan on Thursday, May 3, at 12:30 p.m., in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square. Free and open to the public, Law Day 2018 will feature Ryan speaking on the topic “Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom — Constitutional Protections of Liberty & Justice.” For more information about Law Day, contact Sheri Denk at denks@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-666-3159.

Register now for fall courses

Registration is open for fall-semester courses at Middlesex Community College. Classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 4, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online. For a complete listing of course offerings, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration.
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Read more: http://www.lowellsun.com/news/ci_31827905/middlesex-community-college-briefs#ixzz5DmEwQENV
EEVF founders present $250K grant to MCC foundation

Posted Apr 24, 2018 at 5:15 PM Updated Apr 24, 2018 at 5:15 PM

The Everyday Entrepreneur Venture Fund recently awarded Middlesex Community College a $250,000 grant to help student entrepreneurs start or grow a small business. EEVF founders Chip Weismiller and Stuart Weismiller attended a meeting of the MCC Foundation Board of Directors to formally announce the award.

The Weismillers established the million-dollar venture fund to provide seed grants to community-college foundations for community-based new business start-ups. MCC is one of four colleges in the U.S. to receive an EEVF grant. The award is the first venture-fund grant in Massachusetts to be used exclusively to launch small community-based entrepreneurs. It will be administered through the MCC Foundation.

The EEVF grant was based on MCC’s work with community-based entrepreneurs and serves as a testament to the quality and growth of the college’s Entrepreneurship Program and faculty. Grant funds are limited to current students and qualified alumni.

For information, contact Judith Hogan at hoganj@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3816, or Stacie Hargis at hargiss@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3854.
Regional Legislative Breakfast

Updated: 04/24/2018 02:52:03 PM EDT

(COURTESY PHOTO)

LifeLinks, along with the local Northeast Regional Citizens Advisory Boards, recently hosted a Regional Legislative Breakfast at Middlesex Community College in Bedford. Local legislators, advocates and members of the local Citizens Advisory Boards, spoke about continuing funding need for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Front row, from left, Valerie Less and Nora McShane, Central Middlesex CAB advocates; Joanne Stark, Metro North CAB; Marianne Smith, North Shore CAB; and Jean Phelps, CEO of LifeLinks. Back row, from left, Mary Petricone and Richard Faucher, Lowell CAB; state Reps. Paul Tucker and Paul Brodeur; and Leo Sarkissian, executive director of Arc of Massachusetts.

Read more: http://www.lowellsun.com/mysun/ci_31827326/regional-legislative-breakfast#ixzz5Dmh34VLE
Law Day at MCC features DA

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MCC plans open house

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Forum set on Nashua River stewardship plan

The Lowell Sun
Updated: 04/23/2018 06:35:52 AM EDT

LANCASTER -- A public information forum on the Stewardship Plan to support the designation of the Nashua River as a National Wild and Scenic River will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 25 at 7 p.m. in the Dexter Room, Thayer Memorial Library in Lancaster.

A warrant on the Lancaster Town Meeting agenda seeks town acceptance of the Voluntary Stewardship Plan, which will support the request that the Nashua, Nissitissit and Squanacook Rivers receive NWSR designation.

Members of the Wild and Scenic Nashua Rivers Study Committee will present an overview of the partnership program and respond to questions.

-- SUN STAFF

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Westford candidates' night

WESTFORD -- Voters will have a chance to learn more about candidates seeking office ahead of the May 1 town elections.

The League of Women Voters of Westford will host a candidates' night, an annual tradition where those running share their views on local issues, on Thursday, April 26 at 7 p.m.

Advertisement

The event is open to the public and will be held in the J.V. Fletcher Library's meeting room.

Only one race in this year's town elections will be contested. Four candidates are competing for three positions on the School Committee that carry three-year terms, although a one-year seat will open with no candidates.

-- CHRIS LISINSKI

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Safety training aimed to protect houses of worship

Associated Press  Monday, April 23, 2018

BEDFORD, Mass. — A Massachusetts prosecutor is holding a safety training program designed to help faith leaders and staff members protect their houses of worship from potential threats.

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan is encouraging clergy, lay leaders, ushers and others to attend the safety training, which will include discussions about active shooter and improvised explosive device threats as well as emergency operations planning.

Ryan and the Middlesex Community College Program on Homeland Security are hosting the program at the school's Bedford campus on Monday.

There will also be a panel discussion with the executive director of the Anti-Defamation League's Boston office and the chancellor of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.
Tickets Now On Sale For An Evening With Jamie Lee Curtis

Tickets are on sale now for the 20th annual Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum featuring actress, children's book author and philanthropist Jamie Lee Curtis, interviewed by Susan Wornick, Emmy Award-winning former WCVB-TV news anchor, at 8 p.m. Friday, June 8, in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for Middlesex students. Since 2004, 122 scholarships have been awarded totaling $304,500.

The daughter of legendary actors Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh, Curtis has starred in a variety of acclaimed films including "Freaky Friday," "True Lies," "Trading Places" and "A Fish Called Wanda." This October, Curtis will reprise her iconic role as Laurie Strode in the new "Halloween" film, which marks 40 years from the series' original release.

Curtis has a deep and active connection to many children's charities, including serving on the Board of Trustees at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. She has received awards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the National Endowment of the Arts for her work.

In addition to acting, Curtis is also an author of best-selling children's books — many dealing with complex issues such as adoption. She has sold more than 5 million books under the banner "Books to Grow By." Titles include "Today I Feel Silly," "It's Hard to Be Five" and "Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born." Her new children's book, "Me, My Selfie & and I" is due for release on Sept. 4.

For more than two decades, Wornick anchored Boston's top-rated noon news broadcast at WCVB Channel 5, while also serving as NewsCenter 5's consumer reporter. Since stepping down from the anchor desk in 2014, Wornick has volunteered her time for many New England charities, including Rosie's Place, the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, and the Be Like Brit Foundation.

MCC's Celebrity Forum is an annual event that presents well-known personalities for the educational and cultural enrichment of area residents. Presenting Sponsor of all 20 Celebrity Forum events is The TJX Companies, Inc.

Tickets to An Evening with Jamie Lee Curtis are $29, $39 and $49. For information about Celebrity Forum tickets, group sales and sponsorship opportunities, visit http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/CF18

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online.

Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Register Now For Fall Courses At Middlesex Community College

Registration is now open for fall-semester courses at Middlesex Community College. Classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 4, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses, and online.

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To learn more about Middlesex, or to register for fall-semester courses, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration or call 1-800-818-3434.

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From CUInsight

Sarah Tavares joins Align Credit Union’s Mortgage Team

LOWELL, MA (April 20, 2018) — Align Credit Union is pleased to announce that Sarah Tavares has joined the Mortgage Team as Mortgage Originator. She is based out of the Lowell office at 87 Hale Street and serves Align’s Members in the Greater Lowell area. Sarah is focused on expediting mortgage preapprovals and processing purchase and refinance mortgage applications.

Sarah joined Align as a Call Center Representative and was previously a Teller Manager at Citizens Bank.

Sarah is a Certified Mortgage Originator and licensed by NMLS (#1725141). A graduate of Lowell High School, Sarah attended Middlesex Community College. She lives in Lowell, Massachusetts with her husband and two children.

“I really enjoyed my time as an Align Call Center Representative because I helped people get the answers that they needed, quickly,” said Sarah. “In my new position as a Mortgage Originator, I help people get into the home of their dreams. I love making that happen.”

“Sarah has a deep commitment to helping our Members and has been a great asset to Align,” said Align President Ken Del Rossi. “We’re excited about the expertise and enthusiasm that she will bring to our Mortgage Team.”

Sarah Tavares
Rotary Sponsors “Meals for Kids” Project on Saturday, April 21

Apr 19, 2018 | Community News, Organizations | 0 Comments

By Jeffrey Epstein

Each year, some 270 volunteers, both adults and children, come to the Bedford Rotary’s Meals for Kids event, packaging meals that will help feed hungry children in poor developing countries. But for all the years he has been coordinating the event, the Rotary Club’s Bob Cassidy says he gets the biggest kick from watching the kids. “It’s a blast!” he says. “I enjoy watching the reaction of the kids” who appreciate that their efforts are assisting other children elsewhere.

The more than 60,000 meal packages expected to be created Saturday, April 21 at the Bedford campus of Middlesex Community College will wind up in various countries, distributed by the organization Rise Against Hunger. “They focus on schools that already have lunch programs,” Cassidy says, in the hope that children who are fed will learn better. The packages will be assembled in two sessions, 9 to 11 am, and 12 to 2 pm, with different groups of volunteers in each session. Program leaders train volunteers at the start of the session and show them how to perform their packaging duties, Cassidy explained. Hairnets and gloves are provided, and the package elements are laid out on tables, ready for assembly.

To cover the cost of the materials, the Rotary needs to raise $17,000. However, Cassidy explained with a smile, the event has already met the goal with funds of $18,500. Funds were raised in various ways, including events hosted by Ken’s Deli and Flatbread Pizza. Bedford companies BAE and Anika Therapeutics each contributed $5,000, he said, as they have in past years. Volunteers at the event will themselves enjoy contributed food, from Dunkin’ Donuts, Red Heat, and other local merchants. This will be the sixth time the Rotary has put on the Meals for Kids event, and both adults and children have fun for the good cause, says Cassidy. “We are bringing the community of Bedford together.” See event details at www.bedfordMAractory.org/MealsForKids.cfm
Six ways to promote pathways to student success

By Jennifer Aradhya April 19, 2018

It's a well-known fact that most college enrollments are shrinking all around the country. Due in part to a decade-long stagnation in the number of high school graduates, more and more colleges and universities are focusing on retaining their current students through graduation.

Today, many in-house marketing departments are being asked to not only recruit new students, but also create campaigns that boost student persistence and retention, increase program completion, as well as improve graduation rates.

This is no small task, but certainly an important one. Promoting prompt completion and graduation initiatives can not only keep students on track to finish their degree, but also reduce the amount of money they may need to borrow to finance their education.

It makes sense to utilize your marketing/public relations offices in this endeavor. These professionals are often already in charge of many key communication tools needed to reach current students, including internal advertising channels, social media, mobile app notifications, print materials and the web. Your creative marketing teams are adept at synthesizing often-convoluted processes and academic jargon. Turning this "inside baseball" lingo into more palatable sound bites and key bullet points, can drive student traffic to your website for a deeper dive.

Six key lessons

At Middlesex Community College in Massachusetts, student success is our top priority. And harnessing the talents of our office of marketing communications – an in-house creative team consisting of five full-time and three part-time staff – is an important piece in supporting this strategic priority. Here are six key lessons learned along the way to promoting pathways to student success:

A table tent used at Middlesex Community College to encourage students to complete math requirements in their first semester.

Understand your institution's unique retention and completion situation. Every college has its own challenges. Our college found there were many students who were putting off taking their required math classes. Our solution was to create a "Do the Math" campaign, an internal promotion encouraging students to complete math requirements in their first semester of college. By increasing the number of students who get their required math classes out of the way early, we are putting more of them on track – and keeping them on track – to graduate on time.
Be collaborative. A few years ago, Middlesex formed an enrollment working group that comprises departments across the college including: admissions, advising, the registrar’s office, academic deans, student affairs and marketing communications. Working in cross-functional teams has allowed us to better understand college-wide challenges and to work together toward creative solutions. Marketing communications presents promotional campaigns and concepts to this group to ensure “buy in” across campus. This group has been instrumental in identifying barriers to student success.

Make it easy. Middlesex students are very busy, with most juggling home, work and school. So we focused on presenting our students with stream-lined, easy-to-follow “academic maps” designed to efficiently lead students to their desired degree — and career.

The academic maps present clear, semester-by-semester breakdown of the curriculum required to complete a major program of study. Designed by our office, the maps identify course sequencing and milestone courses that must be completed by a certain semester in order to progress through the program and graduate on time. Marketing also developed “student prompt icons,” a series of icons that help students keep track of their program priorities, enrollment options and progress toward completion/graduation. Academic maps for all programs of study were developed and posted on the academic advising webpage.

Help solve a common problem. What if a student is unsure of what to study? Nearly 10 percent of MCC’s college population was “undeclared” when they first enrolled. Statistics show these students are most at-risk for dropping out. We created “pathway maps” to address this common problem.

The pathway maps were designed for first-year students who may still be exploring academic and career options. By dividing the college’s 70-plus major programs of study into seven general “pathways” — arts and humanities, business, education, health, public service, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), and social science — our academic advisors can help undecided students focus on a general area of interest. And instead of wasting time (and money) enrolling in random courses while they make up their minds, students can follow their pathway map and enroll in specified general-education courses that fulfill graduation requirements in all the programs of study included in their pathway.

Check your work (and get your ducks in a row). Creating campus-wide campaigns like our academic maps and pathway maps can give you the opportunity to make sure all college communications are accurate. These two maps were created by gathering information from a variety of sources across campus, and allowed us to do an audit of existing information — including college-application content, academic program webpages, admissions procedures and website content. Having front-line staff — our academic advisors — review these maps was a key step. Marketing, literally, helped get everybody on the same page.

Keep it fresh. Like many colleges, Middlesex is continually adding new enrollment opportunities, like accelerated eight-week “mini-mesters,” and three-week “quick-start” sessions. And we’re frequently encouraging students to register early for these sessions. All this messaging can be confusing. In order to avoid having students from having information overload, it’s essential to keep your creative fresh.

Like many campuses, our public areas were plastered with competing fliers and posters. In an effort to reduce the risk of our enrollment news becoming “background noise,” we have implemented some new ways to get our message out on campus. We have created tri-panel table tent cards (similar to ones found in food courts) that we print in-house. These are placed around campus where students hang out, like on cafeteria tables, student lounges and in the library.

One of our simple, but very effective, creative solutions, were “I registered” lapel stickers. Based on the popular “I voted” election stickers, these were given out by our advising centers after a student registered for the next semester. This highly successful initiative was rolled out with a coordinated, cross-promotional social media campaign.

Regardless of the specific message you want to convey, the skills and talents of your marketing/public relations team can be key to promoting student success on your campus. These professional communicators know how to reach your students, and if they’re like MCC’s marketing communications team, they like nothing better than a new creative challenge.

This article is part of a monthly series provided by the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations, an affiliated council of the American Association of Community Colleges. It originally appeared in an issue of NCMPR’s magazine Counsel.
MCC performing arts building to be named for Donahue

By Rick Sobey
rsobey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — The new Middlesex Community College Academic Arts Center on Central Street will carry the name of a philanthropic family that has donated to causes across the region.

The college's Board of Trustees voted unanimously Thursday to name its new arts center after Nancy Donahue and the Donahue family.

Nancy Donahue recently gave a "generous donation" to support arts education at Middlesex Community College, according to trustees Chairman James Campbell. It's the single largest gift in the college's history, he added. The amount has been kept private, a request from the donor.

She will also be the honorary chair of a $1.5 million naming campaign for the center.

The Donahue family has been a "steadfast supporter" of Middlesex Community College for several years, Campbell said.

"This family has been outstanding over the last 30 years in promoting education in the community," Campbell said. "I cannot think of a community arts and educational organization not supported by the family."

The $1.5 million naming campaign will help support the building's completion and programs.

For months, MCC President James Mabry and members of the college's advancement team have been working with Donahue on the naming.

"I am thrilled to be able to help move this project forward and excited that MCC has been able to rebuild this wonderful historic structure," Donahue said in a statement. She did not attend the meeting.

Renovation of the new arts center in the former Boston and Maine Railroad Depot on Central Street is nearly complete.

Built in 1876, MCC's new Academic Arts Center has stood as a multipurpose facility in the heart of Lowell for nearly 150 years. The structure was saved from demolition in 1989 by the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission.

The exterior of the building was renovated by Lowell National Historical Park, which transferred ownership to MCC in 2008.

As a state representative in 2008, Kevin Murphy chaired the Higher Education Committee, and helped acquire more than $11 million for the center.

Mabry said the expansion of MCC's footprint downtown allows the college to offer a premier performance learning space for its theater, music and dance students.

"There is plenty of enthusiasm around this," Mabry said.

When Donahue called the college to donate money for arts education, the advancement team was thrilled, said Judy Burke, dean of corporate and community education and training.

The Donahue name has always been at the top of their list, she said.

"We're very excited about having Nancy on board," Burke said.

The new arts center will open this fall.

Follow Rick Sobey on Twitter @rsobeyLSun.
MCC NEWS

MCC to host Middlesex D.A. Marian Ryan for Law Day

Middlesex Community College will celebrate the 60th anniversary of Law Day with a special appearance by Middlesex County District Attorney Marian T. Ryan at 12:30 p.m. May 3 in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square, Lowell.


Ryan represents the commonwealth’s largest county with 54 towns and cities and 26 colleges in urban, suburban and rural areas. Middlesex County comprises more than one-quarter of the population of Massachusetts.

As district attorney, Ryan is responsible for the prosecution of approximately 40,000 cases a year. She has significant courtroom experience and has prosecuted many of the county’s most complex and challenging cases and has briefed and argued more than 40 cases in the Massachusetts Appeals Court and Supreme Judicial Court.

From her experience, Ryan has learned that as important as prosecution is, prevention is equally important. She is a recognized expert on developing innovative solutions to stop crime before it happens.

Ryan has received a number of awards and peer recognition for her trial skills and community involvement. She is a recipient of the Middlesex County Bar Association Lifetime Achievement Award and Boston College Law School’s David Nelson Public Service Award.

A member of the faculty of Lasell College in Newton, Ryan teaches courses in constitutional law and the American legal system. She has served as an instructor at Harvard Law School’s Trial Advocacy Workshop and has mentored younger lawyers and law students through her volunteer work at the Women’s Bar Foundation. She grew up in Somerville and graduated summa cum laude from Emmanuel College and cum laude from Boston College Law School.

For information: Sheri Denk, denks@middlesex.mass.edu; 978-656-3159.
The Lowell Sun congratulates...

Join us in applauding the "29 Who Shine," a group of outstanding 2018 public college and university graduates who will be honored at the State House today for their academic achievements, leadership potential and contributions to the culture and prosperity of the Commonwealth.

Whether forging 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
Littleton honors excellent educators

By John Lance
Posted May 4, 2018 at 3:01 AM

The School Committee took time to honor two of Littleton’s finest teachers with Excellence in Teaching Awards at their April 26 meeting. High School English teacher Katherine McCook and Middle School art teacher Nicole Winters received the awards. Superintendent Kelly Clenchy said the Excellence in Teaching awards were created four years ago to recognize teachers who embody the district’s core values, such as a deep mastery of the material they teach, setting high expectations for students, accommodating different learning styles, and continuing to improve practices.

“Every year our principals agonize about who they should choose to receive the Excellence in Teaching award. Why? Because we have so many great teachers,” Clenchy said. Each school’s principal selects a winner who receives a plaque and $500 for classroom supplies. High School Principal John Harrington called McCook an outstanding teacher and role model who develops her students’ critical thinking skills and uses humor and patience to establish a warm rapport with her students.

“Kate brings a vibrant enthusiasm to the classroom that makes students want to be there every day,” Harrington said Middle School Principal Cheryl Temple said Winters captured all the characteristics she looks for in great teachers. Temple said she was particularly struck by how Winters encourages thought and introspection in her students.

Facing History
The school committee heard from high school students Nicole Biagioni, Olivia Rosenblum, and Noah Muller, who attended the Lemkin Summit in Washington, D.C. as part of their Facing History class. The summit is focused on ending genocide and mass atrocities. Over four days, the students visited the Holocaust museum, attended seminars on current conflicts and conflict-free minerals, and lobbied senators and representatives.

The students sought support for the Eli Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act, advocated for continued sanctions on Sudan, and sought legislation to pressure President Joseph Kabila of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where millions have been killed or displaced since the 1990s, to step down. Biagioni said the students plan to educate the community on conflict minerals. Conflict minerals, such as diamonds and palm oil, are materials sold to finance armed conflicts. Biagioni said she wants to teach people how to identify products that use conflict minerals and find alternatives.

School choice openings
Clenchey proposed opening 10 new School Choice seats to non-resident students for the 2018/2019 school year. He recommended five openings for kindergarten and five for the ninth grade. School Committee member Jennifer Wilson asked about accommodating Littleton students and balancing school choice opportunities, particularly in kindergarten. Clenchey indicated the number of school choice seats would be dependent on the overall enrollment and, if there were more Littleton students than expected, then he would reduce the number of school choice seats.

Clenchey noted the district depends on the money it receives for non-residential students attending Littleton schools. Every year some students graduate and new seats are made available. Clenchey said that 11 school choice students are expected to graduate in 2020.

State of the curriculum
The committee received an update on the State of the Curriculum for Mathematics, English Language Arts, World Languages, and Health and Physical Education. High School Math teacher Elizabeth Rego listed numerous accomplishments for the math department including students participating in the New England Math League, ongoing review of MCAS results by teachers, the use of Khan academy classes by Middle School students, and the introduction of new Statistics and Financial Literacy classes at the High School.

High School English teacher David Pascussi talked about hosting a production of Othello at the High School. He said the entire faculty, not just the English Department, worked to ensure that each student had some connection to the play before or after the production, whether by reading the play, or excerpts, or through some other activity.
Other accomplishments Pascussi mentioned were the College Essay Conference where High School students can get assistance on their college application essays, visits from author David Yoo, and an ongoing emphasis on assisting students to improve their ability to answer MCAS open response questions.

Speaking on behalf of the World Language team, Director of Curriculum Geri Lyn Ajemian covered activities such as implementing the new Seal of Biliteracy for graduating seniors and the ongoing partnership with Middlesex Community College that allows students taking Spanish 4 Honors and Latin 3 Honors to receive college credit in addition to high school credit.

PE and Wellness teacher Meredith Perry said her team continues programs such as Signs of Suicide, which helps identify students who may be in need of assistance, as well as the Safe program, which enables 10th and 12th graders to get certified in CPR. Perry also thanked donors who have provided yoga balls and yoga mats which the students have been taking advantage of.

School Committee Chairman Mike Fontanella said the State of the Curriculum presentations were a useful way for the committee and the community to understand the breadth and scope of the districts' offerings. Fontanella said it was important that the community understand, "We're not a traditional classroom where students only sit at their desks and and listen to a teacher lecture."
EEVF founders present $250K grant to MCC foundation

The Everyday Entrepreneur Venture Fund recently awarded Middlesex Community College a $250,000 grant to help student entrepreneurs start or grow a small business. EEVF founders Chip Weismiller and Stuart Weismiller attended a meeting of the MCC Foundation Board of Directors to formally announce the award.

The Weismillers established the million-dollar venture fund to provide seed grants to community-college foundations for community-based new business start-ups. MCC is one of four colleges in the U.S. to receive an EEVF grant. The award is the first venture-fund grant in Massachusetts to be used exclusively to launch small community-based entrepreneurs. It will be administered through the MCC Foundation.

The EEVF grant was based on MCC’s work with community-based entrepreneurs and serves as a testament to the quality and growth of the college’s Entrepreneurship Program and faculty. Grant funds are limited to current students and qualified alumni.

For information, contact Judith Hogan at hoganj@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3816, or Stacie Hargis at hargiss@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3854.
Top College and University Websites and Digital Marketing Campaigns

By Heidi King, Apr 23, 2018

Ever wonder what other colleges and universities are doing to attract prospective students and keep faculty, staff, and existing students informed? The 5th Annual Education Digital Marketing Awards, sponsored by Higher Education Marketing Report, recognized higher education institutions’ websites, digital marketing, and ad campaigns for their creativity, marketing execution, message impact, technology application, and innovative content. Out of 1,000 entries, 147 were singled out as the best of the best.

Because quite a few OmniUpdate customers received awards, we wanted to share what’s working for them so that you can implement some of their award-winning techniques on your site:

- Alfred State — Day of Giving campaign
- Arkansas Tech University — Adventure Is Calling email and social media ad
- Augusta University — Athletic website and Snoop Dogg in August video
- Central Methodist University — enterprise website
- Delta College — website redesign and Think Big campaign
- Harper College — 50th Anniversary 50 Facts campaign
- Middlesex Community College — 10 Reasons to Choose MCC
- Mills College — website redesign
- Mount Mary University — Fast Forward video
- Saint Xavier University — website, 2015-16 Annual Report, and student blog
- Tarrant County College — REACH digital magazine
- The College of Wooster — APEX Edge Whiteboard Video
- University of South Carolina — Facebook ads
- University of West Georgia — Web Revolution website redesign
- Utah State University — Live Well Utah blog and Extension video
- Wilkes University — brand video

Congrats to all the award winners!
- Middlesex District Attorney, Middlesex C.C.

House of Worship Safety Training planned

BEDFORD - Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan, in partnership with the Middlesex Community College Program on Homeland Security, will host a House of Worship Safety Training on Wednesday, June 20, 2018, for faith leaders, volunteers and staff members of religious institutions to protect their places of worship.

Topics will include violence screening, active shooter and improvised explosive device (IED) threats, and emergency operations planning.

The program will also include a panel discussion with local faith leaders.

The panel is composed of Robert Stepanek, Esq., executive director, Archdiocesan Common Council; Rev. Dr. Irvin Chukwu, associate director, Middlesex Community College; and Joseph F. O'Brien, executive director, Office of Risk Management of the Archdiocese of Boston.

Participants include:
- Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan
- Terrence Doumas, Esq., executive director, Middlesex Community College

Program will take place at the Middlesex Community College, Bedford campus, Campus Center Building - Cafe East, 33 Springs Road, Bedford.

The event will be held on Monday, April 23 at 8 a.m. and the program will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Program:

(Continued on Page 2)

- Program

Program on Homeland Security:
- Glen Mills, Director, Burlington Police Department
- Jeffrey Wawruck, Chief, Lowell Fire Department
- Major Scott R. Reck, commandant, Massachusetts State Police
- Timothy McDermott, sergeant, Burlington Police Department
- The event will be held at the Middlesex Community College, Bedford Campus, Campus Center Building - Cafe East, 33 Springs Road, Bedford.

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MCC NEWS

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For information: http://mass.edu/masstransfer; https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration; 800-818-3434.

MCC theater department to stage ‘Spring Awakening’

The Middlesex Community College Theater Department will stage the musical “Spring Awakening” for five performances, May 3-6, in Burgoyne Theater, 75 John St., in Lowell.

Curtain times for “Spring Awakening” are 7 p.m. May 3-4; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. May 5; and 2 p.m. May 6.

General admission tickets cost $15; $10 for MCC students, staff and faculty; and $8 for senior citizens. Based on the play by Frank Wedekind, “Spring Awakening” is a rock musical with music by Duncan Sheik, and book and lyrics by Steven Sater. “Spring Awakening” may not be appropriate for all ages due to adult language and mature themes, including sexual content.

For information: 978-458-5420; http://middlesex.mass.edu/performingarts.
Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum presents An Evening with Jamie Lee Curtis

Tickets are on sale now for the 20th annual Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum featuring actress, children's book author, and philanthropist Jamie Lee Curtis, interviewed by Susan Wornick, Emmy Award-winning former WCVB-TV news anchor, at 8 p.m. Friday, June 8, in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

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The daughter of legendary actors Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh, Curtis has starred in a variety of acclaimed films including "Freaky Friday," "True Lies," "Trading Places," and "A Fish Called Wanda." This October, Curtis will reprise her iconic role as Laurie Strode in the new "Halloween" film, which marks 40 years from the series' original release.

In television, she co-starred opposite Richard Lewis in the sitcom "Anything But Love," and appeared in the title role in TNT's adaptation of Wendy Wasserstein's "The Heidi Chronicles." She earned an Emmy nomination for her role in the CBS telefilm "Nicholas' Gift," and recently starred in "Scream Queens" on Fox.

Curtis has a deep and active connection to many children's charities, including serving on the Board of Trustees at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. She has received a diversity of awards from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the National Endowment of the Arts for her work.

In addition to acting, Curtis is also an author of bestselling children's books — many dealing with complex issues such as adoption. She has sold more than 5 million books under the banner "Books to Grow By." Titles include "Today I Feel Silly," "It's Hard to Be Five" and "Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born." Her new children's book, "Me, My Selfie & I" is due for release on Sept. 4.

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Jamie Lee Curtis - Continued from previous page

Place, the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, and the Be Like Brit Foundation.

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Past Celebrity Forum speakers include Walter Cronkite with Doris Kearns Goodwin, Colin Powell, former President George Bush with former First Lady Barbara Bush, Rudy Giuliani, David McCulloch, Barbara Walters, Tim Russert, Geena Davis, Mike Wallace and Chris Wallace, Jay Leno, Sarah Ferguson, Ken Burns, Robin Roberts, Michael J. Fox, former First Lady Laura Bush with Jenna Bush Hager, Robert Redford, William Shatner, Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb, and David Ortiz.

Tickets to An Evening with Jamie Lee Curtis are $29, $39 and $49. For information about Celebrity Forum tickets, group sales and sponsorship opportunities, visit http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/CF18

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses, on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Celebrity FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation

an evening with
Jamie Lee Curtis
interviewed by former WCVB-TV news anchor Susan Wornick

Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!
Tickets: $29 $39 $49

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Dennis Malves at 781-782-3551.

TJX® Special thanks to The TJX Companies, Inc., Presenting Sponsor for all 20 years!
Thursday
May 24, 2018

Make Your SUMMER Matter!

May 21 - June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week,
in Bedford & Lowell and online.

GET A QUICK Start ON YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

- Quick Start programs
- College credit
- Online

Other Summer Schedule Options

WEEKLY SESSIONS • May 29 - June 28 • July 19 - August 8
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell.

ONLINE EVENING SESSIONS • June 4 - July 31 • June 18 - Aug. 13
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, online.

Questions: 1-800-819-3404 • Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
**Middlesex Community College**

**Make Your SUMMER Matter!**

**QUICK start session**

**May 21 - June 8**

Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.

No class meeting on Monday, May 28th.

**GET A QUICK Start on your education this summer at Middlesex Community College!**

- Keep your momentum going:
  - College students: Take transferable college courses while you’re home
  - Adult learners: Get closer to that academic credential

**Other Summer Schedule Options**

**Day Summer Sessions**

- May 29 - June 29
- July 8 - August 8

Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

**Online/Evening Summer Sessions**

- June 8 - July 31
- June 18 - Aug. 14

Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

In case of need, call 1-800-518-3934 USA. www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Celebrity FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation
an evening with
Jamie Lee Curtis
actress, children’s-book author and philanthropist
Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
Tickets on sale NOW!
Tickets: $29 $39 $49
WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18
Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students
Special thanks to The TJX Companies, Inc., Presenting Sponsor for all 40 years!
For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Donna Riske at 978-665-3271.
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

QUICK Start session

May 21-June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.
No class meeting on Monday, May 14th.

GET A QUICK Start ON YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

Other Summer Schedule Options

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
May 29 - June 28 & July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 5 days per week in Bedford & Lowell.

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
June 4 - July 31 & June 18 - Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online.

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MIDDLESEX Community College
Student Success Starts Here

Make Your SUMMER Matter!

Quick start session
May 21 - June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.

GET A QUICK Start ON YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

Other Summer Schedule Options

Day Summer Sessions
May 29 - June 28 & July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

Online/Evening Summer Sessions
June 4 - July 31 & June 18 - Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

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

Celebrity FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation

Jamie Lee Curtis
Interviewed by former WCVB-TV news anchor, Susan Warnick
Actress, children’s book author and philanthropist

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!

Tickets: $29 $39 $49

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18
Proceeds from Celebrity Forums support scholarships for MCC students

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Dennis Mahony at 781-444-3077.

MIDDLESEX
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

ONLINE LEARNING

You CAN fit education into your busy life!

Classes START September 5

10 Associate Degree Programs
5 Certificate Programs
Hundreds of courses

To learn more, call 1-800-618-2374 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/online

College for Kids 2018
Summer Programs in April 8 to 15
July 9 - August 16

Fun, engaging Summer Programs include:
- Aviation
- Sports and Recreation
- Minecraft
- Coding for Kids
- Art
- Theatre
- Lego Mindstorms EV3
- Veterinary Medicine
- Experience Writing
- Cake Decorating

https://www.facebook.com/MCCcollegeforkids www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids

www.middlesex.mass.edu #myMCC
MIDDLESEX Community College
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

QUICK start session

May 21-June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.
No class meeting on Monday, May 28th.

GET A QUICK Start on YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING:
- College students — Take transferable college courses while you’re home
- Adult learners — Get closer to that academic credential

Other Summer Schedule Options

DAILY SUMMER SESSIONS ★ May 29 - June 29 – July 9 – August 8
Classes meet 3 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS ★ June 4 - July 31 – June 18 – Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, online

For more information, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Celebrity FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation

an evening with
Jamie Lee Curtis
interviewed by former WCVB-TV news anchor Susan Morrow

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!
Tickets: $29 $39 $49

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18

Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Denise Malters at 781-283-3514.

Special thanks to
The TJX Companies, Inc.,
Presenting Sponsor for all 20 years!
MIDDLESEX Community College
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

QUICK start
session

May 21 - June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.

GET A QUICK Start ON
YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

PERFECT MOMENT TO GO!
- College students - Take up to 15 credits while you have
- Adult learners - Get closer to your academic credential!

Other Summer Schedule Options

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
May 21 - June 29 / July 9 - August 9
Classes meet 4 days per week in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
June 4 - July 31 / June 18 - Aug. 16
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, online

For more, call 1-800-878-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Middlesex Community College

Keep Your Momentum Going!

MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER

Summer Schedule Options:

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
May 29 - June 28 - July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 4 days a week, in 6 credit hour

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
June 4 - July 31 - June 18 - August 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

Check out our Summer College
for Kids offerings!

www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
1-800-818-3434
Celebrity Forum 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation
an evening with
Jamie Lee Curtis
actress, children's-book author and philanthropist

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!

Tickets: $29 $39 $49

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18
Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students

Special thanks to The TJX Companies, Inc., Presenting Sponsor for all 20 years!

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Denise Mahon at 978-499-3027.
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

May 21-June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.

GET A QUICK Start ON YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

Other Summer Schedule Options

D AY SUMMER SESSIONS
May 29 - June 28 OR July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

O NLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
June 4 - July 31 OR June 18 - Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

May 21 - June 8
Classes meet 6 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.

No credit meeting on Monday, May 20.

GET A QUICK Start ON YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
May 29 - June 28, July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 3 hours per week, in Bedford & Lowell.

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
June 4 - July 31, June 18 - Aug 14
Class meets 2 evenings per week, online.

In Learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

May 21 - June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.
No class meeting on Monday, May 28th.

GET A QUICKStart ON YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING:
- College students — take transferable college courses while you’re home
- Adult learners — get closer to that academic credential

Other Summer Schedule Options

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS: May 29 - June 23 * July 9 - August 6
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS: June 4 - July 31 * June 18 - August 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Celebrity Forum 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation
an evening with
Jamie Lee Curtis
actress, children’s-book author and philanthropist
Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
Tickets on sale NOW!
Tickets: $29 $39 $49
WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18
Proceeds from Celebrity Forum
support scholarships for MCC students

Special thanks to The TJK Companies, Inc.,
Presenting Sponsor for all 40 years

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Donna Nerve at 978-456-3327.
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

QUICK start session

May 21-June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.
No days meeting on Monday, May 28th

GET A QUICK Start on YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING:
• College students — take transferable college courses while you remain
• Adult learners — get closer to that academic credential

Other Summer Schedule Options:

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS  May 29 - June 28 & July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 4 days per week in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS  June 4 - July 31 & June 13 - Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, online

For more info call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Celebrity
FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation

an evening with

Jamie Lee Curtis
actress, children’s-book author
and philanthropist

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!

Tickets: $29  $39  $49

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18
Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students

Special thanks to
The TJX Companies, Inc.,
Presenting Sponsor for all 20 years!

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor,
call Dennis Malvers at 978-656-3027.
Celebrity FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation
an evening with
Jamie Lee Curtis
actress, children's book author and philanthropist

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!
Tickets: $29 $39 $49

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MA.SS.EDU/CF18
Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students

Special thanks to The T.T.C. Companies, Inc.
Presenting Sponsor for all 20 years.

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Denaile Melhorn at 978-855-3027.
BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE

Globe North

APRIL 29, 2018

MIDDLESEX
Community College

Make Your SUMMER Matter!

QUICK start

May 21–June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.
No class meeting on Monday, May 28th.

GET A QUICK Start on YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING:
- College students: Takeumblesome college courses while you're home
- Adult learners: Get closer to that academic goal!

Other Summer Schedule Options

DAILY SUMMER SESSIONS  May 29 - June 29, July 3 - August 9
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS  June 4 - July 31, June 18 - Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

Please call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
Make Your **SUMMER** Matter!

**QUICKstart session**

May 21 - June 8

Classes meet 6 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.

No class meeting on Monday, May 28th.

**GET A QUICKStart on Your Education This Summer at** MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

**DAY SUMMER SESSIONS**

May 29 - June 28 & July 9 - August 8

Classes meet 6 days per week in Bedford & Lowell

**ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS**

June 4 - July 31 & June 18 - Aug. 14

Classes meet 6 days per week online

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer)
Celebrity Forum 2018

Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support scholarships for MCC students

an evening with

Jamie Lee Curtis
interviewed by former WCVB-TV news anchor Susan Wornick

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!
Tickets: $29 $39 $49

WWW.MIDDLESEX.MASS.EDU/CF18

For information on how to become a Forum sponsor, call Dennis Malvars at 781-280-354.

Special thanks to The TJX Companies, Inc., Presenting Sponsor for all 20 years!
Make Your SUMMER Matter!

May 21 - June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week.
in Bedford & Lowell and online.
No class meeting on Mon., May 28

GET A QUICK Start ON
YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT
MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

KEEP YOUR MINDS THINKING!

College courses - take transferable college courses
while you’re home

Advance - get closer to that academic credential

Other Summer Schedule Options

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS
May 29 - June 29 + July 9 - August 9
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS
June 4 - July 31 + June 18 - Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

For more info, call 1-800-513-3454 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MIDDLESEX
Community College

Make Your
SUMMER Matter!

QUICK
start
session

May 21 - June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week,
in Bedford & Lowell and online.

GET A QUICKStart ON
YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT
MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING:
- College students - Take additional college courses
  while you're home
- Adult learners - Get closer to that academic
career goal!

Other Summer Schedule Options:

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS ☀
May 21 - June 29, July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS ⚡
June 4 - July 31, June 18 - Aug. 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

t: 978-639-2434 o visit www.midd Essex.mass.edu/summer
MAKE YOUR SUMMER MATTER

Summer Schedule Options

**DAY SUMMER SESSIONS**
May 29 - June 28 & July 9 - August 8
Classes meet 4 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell

**ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS**
June 4 - July 31 & June 18 - August 14
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, or online

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer
MIDDLESEX
Community College
Student Success Starts Here

- Learn more about our Academic Programs and Career Outlooks
- Take a Campus Tour
- Speak to a Financial Aid Representative
- Explore Transfer Opportunities to Bachelor's Degree programs

OPEN HOUSE
BEDFORD CAMPUS
April 24 • 5:30 p.m.

For more information call 1-800-819-3431 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu #myMCC

70+ degree and certificate programs and hundreds of noncredit courses. Earn a degree, start a bachelor's or upgrade your skills.
Learn more about academic programs and career outlooks.
Take a Campus Tour
Speak to a Financial Aid Representative
Explore Transfer Opportunities to Bachelor's Degree programs

OPEN HOUSE

70+ degree and certificate programs and hundreds of noncredit courses. Earning a degree, start a bachelor's or upgrade your skills.

BEDFORD CAMPUS
April 24 - 5:30 p.m.

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

#myMCC
MIDDLESEX Community College

Make Your SUMMER Matter!

QUICK start session

May 21-June 8
Classes meet 5 days per week, in Bedford & Lowell and online.
No class meeting on Monday, May 28th.

GET A QUICKStart on YOUR EDUCATION THIS SUMMER AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE!

KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING:
• College students — earn transferable college courses while you’re home
• Adult learners — Get close to that academic credential

Other Summer Schedule Options

DAY SUMMER SESSIONS (May 29 - June 28 - July 9 - August 2)
Classes meet 5 days per week, in person & online.

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSIONS (June 4 - July 31 - June 18 - Aug 14)
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, online.

For more info, call 1-800-216-3764 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer

THE GATEPOST

FRAMEINGHAM STATE UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1932 | FSUGATEPOST.COM
OPEN HOUSE

- Learn more about our Academic Programs and Career Outlooks
- Take a Campus Tour
- Speak to a Financial Aid Representative
- Explore Transfer Opportunities to Bachelor’s Degree programs

Bedford Campus
April 24 - 5:30 p.m.

70+ degree and certificate programs and hundreds of noncredit courses. Earn a degree, start a bachelor's or upgrade your skills.

For more information, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit
www.middlesex.mass.edu
#myMCC
College for Kids 2018

Summer Programs for Ages 8 to 18

July 9 - August 16

Fun, engaging Summer Programs include:

- Aviation
- Sports and Recreation
- Minecraft
- Coding for Kids
- Art
- Theatre
- Lego Mindstorms EV3
- Veterinary Medicine
- Experience Writing
- Cake Decorating

To learn more, visit
www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids

Check out MCC's College for Kids FACEBOOK PAGE for more information and photos from last year's programs:
https://www.facebook.com/MCCcollegeforkids
Learn more about our Academic Programs and Campus Outdoors.
Take a Campus Tour.
Schedules for Finance & Aid Representatives.
Explore Transfer Opportunities into Bachelor's Degree Programs.

OPEN HOUSE

The open house features programs and resources that meet the needs of students who want to pursue their education at the Bedford campus.

BEDFORD CAMPUS
April 24 - 5:30 p.m.

For more information, call 1-800-445-3016 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu

Celebrity FORUM 2018
Presented by the MCC Foundation

an evening with

Jamie Lee Curtis

actress, children's-book author and philanthropist

Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m.
LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Tickets on sale NOW!

Tickets: $29 $39 $49