THIS MONTH at
MIDDLESEX

Premian a la Dra. Carole Cowan
Wilkinson Award to Dr. Carole Cowan

MCC trustees vote to name main city building for Cowan

New buildings, bright horizons
$27M Bedford project latest in MCC expansion

Community Garden at MCC donates to local food bank

Bedford Campus
591 SPRINGS ROAD
BEDFORD, MA 01730

Lowell Campus
33 KEARNEY SQUARE
LOWELL, MA 01852
MCC trustees vote to name main city building for Cowan

A Sun Staff Report

BEDFORD — Middlesex Community College trustees voted Thursday to name MCC's main Lowell campus after retiring President Carole Cowan. Royall Mack Sr., trustees Chairman, made the motion to the full board, and it was unanimously approved to recognize and laud the achievements of Cowan during her 38 years of service to the college, including the last 24 years as president. Mack’s recognition meets the college’s guidelines for naming honors for its properties. It also adheres to guidelines established by the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education. The MCC board of trustees’ motion will now be forwarded to DHE Commissioner Richard Free- land and the DHE board for consideration at its next meeting.

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MCC trustees vote to name main city building for Cowan

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"I was honored and proud on behalf of the Middlesex Community College board of trustees to bring forward a motion that will properly honor the accomplishments of President Carole Cowan," Mack said.

"She spent 14 years as an accomplished faculty member and department chairwoman for this college, but as its president for the past 24 years, she has elevated Middlesex to become the flagship of the Massachusetts community-college system.

"It will be a fitting tribute to name one of the college's properties in Dr. Cowan's honor, specifically one in which she has spent more than two decades as the president leading the institution and helping chart the paths of thousands of this college's students," Mack added.

"I'm overwhelmed by the honor the board of trustees has bestowed on me," Cowan said. "Middlesex Community College has been such a huge part of my life for nearly 40 years, and to have one of its landmark properties named in my honor, especially one in which I spent so much of my career, is a humbling opportunity for which my thanks can never feel ample enough."

The six-sided, brick-faced main Lowell campus building in Kearney Square downtown was constructed in the mid-1980s by Wang Laboratories to house its computer-training facilities.

It was acquired by MCC at the end of that decade, and the college opened as its primary Lowell campus property in 1991.

In addition to several floors of classrooms, a cafeteria and technology center, the building also houses the administration offices for MCC's Lowell campus. On June 17, Cowan announced she will retire as president of the college at the end of the calendar year. Cowan joined the college as a faculty member in 1976.

She later served as chairwoman of the Business Division and dean of administrative services. In 1990, she was named the third president of the college and the first woman to take on the role."
Premian a la Dra. Carole Cowan

Wilkinson Award to Dr. Carole Cowan

La Dra. Carole Cowan, presidente de Middlesex Community College recibiendo el premio Ralph B. Wilkinson de Buen Ciudadano de la Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Merrimack de manos de su Presidente/CEO Joseph B. Bevilacqua (izquierda) y Salvatore Lupoli Presidente de la Junta (derecha).

Dr. Carole Cowan, President, Middlesex Community College receiving the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Ralph B. Wilkinson Good Citizenship Award from the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Joseph B. Bevilacqua (left) and Salvatore Lupoli MVCC Chairman of the Board (right).
The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Dinner on October 1st, 2014 at Diburro’s Function Hall, located in Ward Hill, Haverhill, MA.

At the dinner, different people were awarded; amongst them was Dr. Carole Cowan, president of Middlesex Community College.

Recipients of the Community Spirit Award jointly were the YWCA of Greater Lawrence/Haverhill/Salem and the Merrimack Valley YMCA.

The Service Club Volunteer Recognition Award went jointly to Dennis McCarthy, of the Lawrence Exchange Club and Leanne Eastman, of the Haverhill Exchange Club.

Center, Dr. Carole Cowan, president of Middlesex Community College (center) Paula Pitcher at left and Lura Smith at right also from MCC.
THE BAY STATE

Community colleges change approaches to remedial courses

Kenneth J. Cooper 10/23/14, 6 a.m.

Every year, a new crop of adults apply to community colleges. But first they have to take tests of their English and math skills. Nationwide, 60 percent fail at least one of the tests.

Traditionally, those applicants have been required to take — and pay for — remedial or development courses to shore up their basic skills before they are allowed into college-level classes. Many never make it that far.

Such remedial education is a major contributor to lowering how many students stay enrolled. Less than 10 percent of remedial students graduate from a community college within three years, according to a 2012 report by Complete College America. It called traditional remedial education a “bridge to nowhere.”

“Frankly, the way we’ve been doing it isn’t very successful,” said J. Noah Brown, president and CEO of the Association of Community College Trustees. “Worst case, it actually discourages and creates barriers to students and can be, honestly, downright demoralizing.”

Many students arrive with higher expectations of themselves.

“Often students may not even be really aware of their own academic deficits,” Brown explained. “A lot of these students have high school diplomas, so as far as they’re concerned, they’re ready. But then they take these math and English assessments and they’re found wanting.”

With the national focus on increasing how many students complete academic programs in higher education, community colleges have been rethinking remedial education and trying new approaches.

“There are all kinds of new ways developmental education is being presented to students across the country,” said Evelyn Waiwaiola, director of the Center for Community College Student Engagement at the University of Texas Austin.

One approach scraps tradition by allowing students to enroll in a developmental math or English course at the same time they take a first-year college course in that subject. While they are catching up, those students build college credit.

Another innovation requires failing students to acquire only the particular math or English skills they lack in self-paced, modular or competency-based courses. Students can spend less than a full semester getting up to speed and skip lessons on skills they have already mastered.

A third approach abandons the insistence on algebra as the gateway math course for all community colleges. Some are allowed to take statistics, a course more closely related to an intended field of study in, for example, the social sciences.

“We’re getting some more insight into the (different) models,” Brown said. “Obviously, there’ll be a need to do a lot of follow-up study and validation, but at least anecdotally or preliminarily, there seems to be a lot of cause of hope.”

One of the best-known models is the Accelerated Learning Program, which the Community College of Baltimore County launched in 2007 after detecting only a third of remedial English students completed English 101 in four years.
The accelerated program has grown to include all entering students who place into the top developmental course, according to Donna McKusick, the program's director. They take that course and English 101 concurrently, with the same instructor. The developmental class has 10 students, the regular one 20, including 10 who placed into English 101.

McKusick said 81 percent of the program's developmental students earned college credits within a year, while 68 percent of other developmental students did. Moreover, 44 percent of the accelerated students enrolled in English 102 in 2012, compared with 13 percent of other developmental students.

The Education Commission of the States observed that the model requires, as do other new approaches to remedial courses, a community college to invest in training instructors to teach them.

At least 90 institutions of higher education have adapted the Baltimore County model, according to the commission.

In math, colleges around the country have tried a modular approach, some with computer technology from Pearson, the educational company.

Middlesex Community College, which has campuses in Lowell and Bedford, has used Pearson's MyMathLab program to increase student retention in the first year of enrollment. Sixty percent of students in the special developmental course in the fall were still enrolled in the spring, compared with 51 percent who took the traditional catch-up course.

Another approach to math, which allows some developmental students to skip algebra and instead take basic statistics, has generated debate among community college leaders, Brown acknowledged.

Throughout higher education, algebra has traditionally been a prerequisite. Critics have resisted abandoning that gateway.

Two trademarked programs developed by the Carnegie Endowment for the Advancement of Teaching on statistics and mathematical reasoning, Brown said, have been "catching fire" at community colleges.

"For a lot of students, who don't end up majoring in math or hard sciences, what they really need are these other kind of mathematical skills," Brown said.

Another debate about who teaches remedial courses — full-time or part-time faculty, also called adjuncts — is simmering and has big budget implications.

Asked which type of instructors tend to teach the courses, Waiwaiolo replied: "There's a tremendous amount of adjuncts, but there are full-time faculty as well."

Waiwaiolo said her center's report on part-time faculty disputed that full-time faculty, who spend more time on campus, are more engaged with students.

"We didn't find that to be true," Waiwaiolo said. "They're not there for the dollars. They're very engaged in their work."

For his part, Brown firmly argues community college trustees should insist full-time faculty teach remedial courses — even if they do not want to and costs go up.

"Students who need help in developmental math or English, we need to give them our best and brightest teaching professionals," Brown said. "I think it makes a huge difference."

The Community College of Baltimore County, whose Advanced Learning Program is a national model, has not resolved the debate. A mix of full-time and part-time faculty teach those remedial English courses, McKusick said.
“We have the technology to end world hunger,” said Michael Bertrand, owner of Edible Land Designs, which helps homeowners landscape with edible, sustainable ecosystems. “If everyone does their part, one garden at a time, we can make a huge difference.” See a video at lowellsun.com.

Fed by grit, his dream’s growing

MCC class planted seed for local man’s ‘edible landscape’ startup

By Kyle Clausn
kclauss@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — For many, epiphanies are poetic realizations, carrying enough poignancy to forever alter the trajectory of one’s life. For Michael Bertrand, it was a bloody Kleenex.

The Billerica Memorial High School alum was working for his father, operating machinery and dismantling the inside of a frozen-food warehouse in Chelmsford using blowtorches.

“Second day, I left with bloody boogers,” Bertrand said.

Horrified, he collected his paycheck and re-enrolled at Middlesex Community College, where he paid off his existing debt and promptly turned his 1.8 GPA into a sterling 3.7.

It was in a course at MCC titled “Be Your Own Boss,” where Bertrand hatched the idea for his startup, Edible Land Designs.

“Every town, every city, every village needs to have an agricultural base of food locally. Not a farm like you think.

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He grew. Now his business is too

BUSINESS/From Page 1

of,” said Bertrand, sipping a coconut-milk smoothie in the Life Alive cafe on Middle Street.

His company aims to help homeowners landscape with edible, sustainable ecosystems by placing an emphasis on permaculture — an agricultural philosophy that seeks to work with nature, not against it.

“What I can tell you about Michael is that he is a determined young man that has his core values well defined,” said Bertrand’s professor, Luciano Sappia, “but he is willing to always listen, learn and modify his approach as he goes along in this journey of entrepreneurship.”

“We have the technology to end world hunger. It’s just not going to generate enough money. That’s just what it comes down to,” Bertrand said. “If everyone does their part, one garden at a time, we can make a huge difference.”

He drew inspiration from companies like Home Harvest in Arlington and Family Farms in North Reading, as well as several in California. While participating in the 2014 EforAll Summer Accelerator, Bertrand met Jim Miller, founder of the popular hibachi chain Fire + Ice, who soon became one of his first customers.

“Right now, I’m putting together the edible-landscape proposals for him,” said Bertrand, who plans to populate Miller’s parcel in Newton with an array of food-bearing flora.

Bertrand had his share of hardships while participating in the accelerator. Two of his brothers died — one of leukemia, the other the result of a heroin addiction.

However, Bertrand remained in the program. For hisigrand detertmination, he was awarded the Christina Hamilton Award, a $500 prize named for a fellow MCC student who participated in a prior accelerator and founded a gourmet-fudge business in spite of her disabilities.

“He has since grown tremendously and has become a model for other students that come to MCC,” said Sappia.

Hamilton, whose Delightful Surprise Sweets was a Lowell Farmer’s Market mainstay, died on Feb. 19.

This winter — a year after he raised enough funds snowplowing to bring life to Edible Land Designs — Bertrand intends to hire his first employee. He plans to pay a “livable wage” of $20 an hour.

“I could cut it down, but I’m not going to, because I know I can’t live on $15 an hour,” said Bertrand. “So why pay someone like that?”

“And as I grow, I’m going to challenge other businesses to do the same, because the minimum wage is a joke,” he added.

He will continue offering his services to homes in the area, but will not rule out municipal projects either.

“The city of Lowell is not going to hire me to come do something crazy, or the town of Billerica may not have me do that,” said Bertrand. “But if I start with one house at a time, with one family, get recommendations, grow my company, build a reputation, then who’s to say I can’t start working for towns?”

In a world replete with negativity, Bertrand sees his small business as a vehicle for good. With every persimmon he plants — native to the New England climate, he makes sure to note — he strives to help that good energy proliferate.

“I didn’t really feel empowered for the longest time. But with the start of this company, it makes me feel more empowered. It makes me feel more important. It makes me feel like I can actually make a difference in the world.”

Anyone interested in Edible Land Designs can reach Bertrand at

Edible Land Designs owner Michael Bertrand, of Billerica, with one of the pumpkins grown in his organic garden. He developed his venture while participating in the 2014 EforAll Summer Accelerator, a local program for entrepreneurs.

978-987-8485. Follow Kyle Claus on Twitter (@KyleClaus), Tout (@kclaus) and Facebook (facebook.com/KyleClaussSun).
SATURDAY CHAT

‘Breakfast’ serves up plateful of good news

LOWELL — When an urban expert like Jeff Speck speaks with such reverence about Lowell, when Carol Cowan looks back on all she has accomplished in Lowell over the past 25 years at Middlesex Community College, when major developers like the Winn Companies move half their corporate office to Lowell and when you see what Marty Meehan has done in a little more than five years at UMass Lowell, you know you are having a good week.

All of this comes while much of Lowell has been focused on the problems of crime, violence and a lagging downtown.

These are certainly serious issues, but we shouldn’t neglect the fact there are a lot of good things going on all around us.

The recent Lowell Plan Breakfast created that opportunity with Speck, Cowan and Meehan on the agenda.

Speck handled his critics well, as he inserted a lot of humor in his presentation.

He got some digs in about people who ridicule bike lanes and those who advocate over-the-top historic-preservation proposals that impact economic development.

Speck, however, left little doubt he has a great passion for Lowell. He feels there are parts of Lowell that rival great European cities. He lauds the city’s historic preservation and its great potential to become a college town.

Jim Cook from the Lowell Plan made it clear at the opening that the breakfast was not designed to dwell on the negatives, but to build on the positives.

While the breakfast was not a false rah-rah session, it was an opportunity to review how far the city has come and how much more needs to be done.

In the next few years, Lowell could see more than a half billion dollars in new investment. The new courthouse is now in the $200 million dollar range, as some of the county facilities in Cambridge are going to be moved to Lowell.

The city will know this December or January where Lowell stands on the list for a high-school project, which could also be in the $200 million area, an out-of-town group is in the permitting stage for a new building near Lowell High, a project that could also see a new office tower in the Hamilton Canal District, and Chancellor Meehan is looking at a major expansion of the Tsongas Arena that would allow for Lowell to host major conventions and which would require a second hotel to be built somewhere near the facility.

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Middlesex Community College now has funding for a stunning arts center at the old Rialto Building site. The college is also looking to develop another downtown building in the $10 million range.

Lots of folks complain that neither the university or college pay property taxes, but the expansions are certainly going to lead to private investment as both institutions continue to expand.

We are already seeing a ripple effect coming down Merrimack Street, Salem Street, French Street.

We have already seen financial Institutions like Enterprise Bank and Jeanne D’Arc Credit Union grow their footprints in the city.

And more good news is expected.

I went to the City Council’s Education Subcommittee Tuesday night and was in awe of Chancellor Meehan’s outline of the economic impact of the school. What he hopes to do in the next few years is equally stunning.

He is particularly hopeful the M2D2 research program he is moving to the Hamilton Canal District will lead to start-up companies building in Lowell.

Most have no idea what has happened at the renovated Boott Mills, where Winn just moved in, or how many companies are already in located in the Wannalancit Mills complex.

The administration of City Manager Kevin Murphy is totally involved in all that is going on and working well with potential tenants and investors.

Gov. Deval Patrick is coming to Lowell later this month with a big check to advance improved access to Hamilton Canal and the city is speeding up the process of bringing in new utility lines into the redevelopment area that will expand the city’s downtown by one third.

I thought John Power, president of Farley White Interests, the firm that owns the Wannalancit, had a great promotion idea when he showed what Lowell would look like if a few more mill property owners would decorate their smokestacks with Christmas lights. It would be a major attraction for Lowell during the holiday season.
‘Building the Talent Pipeline’ Takes Place Oct. 31

“Building the Talent Pipeline: Education that Works in the Merrimack Valley” is being presented by the Merrimack Valley Partners for Progress (MVPP) from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 31, at the Andover Country Club, 60 Canterbury St., Andover. Admission is free and open to the business community.

The event’s keynote speaker will be Dr. James W. Wade, vice president of mission assurance for Raytheon Co., will share how Raytheon partners with community colleges to develop its talent pipeline.

Liz Brunner, former NewsCenter5 anchor.

Wade’s remarks will be followed by a panel of local employers moderated by Liz Brunner, former NewsCenter5 anchor and current CEO of Brunner Communications. The panel focuses on best practices for attracting new employees and developing the skills and talents of current employees, and will feature Sam Ambra, co-owner, sales and marketing director, Simply Elegant Catering, Groveland; Lynne C. Garone, associate vice president, analytical technology worldwide, E Ink Corporation, Billerica; Nathaniel C. Gravel, director, Information Security Practice, GraVoc Associates, Peabody; and Joseph (Jody) White, III, president, Lowell General Hospital.

Also speaking will be Middlesex Community College President Carole Cowan; Northern Essex Community College President Lane Glenn; Royall M. Mack, founder & CEO, Ciara Enterprises, LLC; and Len Wilson, retired vice president of Sovereign Bank.

Middlesex Community College and Northern Essex Community College Partners for Progress (MVPP) is an educational alliance focused on forging closer college and business relationships and dedicated to promoting economic development in the region. MVPP is the one to meet your needs for customized, cost-effective workforce training and education.

Breakfast will be served.

Those interested, can register at www.mvpp123.eventbrite.com.

To learn more about the event or MVPP, call 1-855-MVPP123 or visit www.mvpp123.org.
THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Teaching

October 9, 2014

Lumina Looks to Expand Use of Framework to Track Student Learning

By Max Lewontin

More than three years ago, the Lumina Foundation unveiled a framework for defining what a college degree means and what graduates should be expected to know and be able to do.

Now, as the foundation makes the case for wider adoption of its rubric, some educators have asked: How do you push for a national set of standards without seeming to impose it from the top down?

The framework, known as the Degree Qualifications Profile, or DQP, was introduced by Lumina as a way to define the range of skills and knowledge students should gain in earning associate, bachelor's, and master's degree across five key areas: “broad, integrative knowledge,” “specialized knowledge,” “intellectual skills,” “applied learning,” and “civic learning.”

The standards are intended to apply to every student, regardless of his or her major and field of study. Since 2011, Lumina has tested them at more 400 colleges and universities, in collaboration with faculty members and administrators.

At a meeting in Indianapolis on Wednesday to discuss the framework, a range of administrators, accreditors, and policy makers said that the DQP was already having an effect, leading several colleges that have tested the standards to focus more heavily on student-learning outcomes.

Lumina hopes to continue expanding the program into additional departments at the test institutions—a process it calls “tuning”—by working with individual faculty members to refine their courses based on the DQP standards.
"There's a big focus on institutions' taking ownership and making the process very localized," said Robert M. Shireman, a former Education Department official who is now executive director of California Competes, a nonprofit education-reform group, in a phone interview from his office in California, where he was following the meeting remotely. If the standards "become an imposed external force," he said, "I think there will be resistance."

'Not a Bible'
At Wednesday's meeting, some faculty members worried about exactly that. They questioned a panel of college administrators about whether the DQP could be applied indiscriminately as it expands.

In response, panelists sought to reassure faculty members that the program had been developed to incorporate their feedback, not simply to evaluate their progress in teaching students.

The DQP competencies are meant to be a "tool for faculty to react to, not a bible for them," said Elise Martin, associate dean for assessment at Middlesex Community College in Massachusetts.

For institutions considering using the standards, the timing also has to be right, said Jon M. Young, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at Fayetteville State University, in North Carolina.

At Fayetteville State five or six years ago, Mr. Young said, the institution would not have been ready to benefit from the DQP standards. But now, he said, faculty members and administrators increasingly think of their teaching not only in terms of individual courses but also by overall student-learning outcomes.

Mr. Shireman said questions lingered about what the DQP standards would actually look like once they were fully in place at an institution.

"I would like to see a more specific, detailed example of how a school is using DQP," he said. "So far, it's hopes and generalities rather than, 'How is this really working?'" But over all, he added, the DQP standards seem to deal with the larger issues the Lumina Foundation had hoped to tackle—how much are students learning and what is the value of a college education? "I think it's absolutely a work in progress," he said.
Deadline Tuesday to register for HR class

BEDFORD — Registration is open for Middlesex Community College’s Community Education & Training noncredit Society for Human Resources Management Human Resource Essentials course. Classes meet Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on the Bedford campus, and run Oct. 18 through Nov. 1. The 15-hour, noncredit introductory course offers a comprehensive overview of human-resource roles and responsibilities. It will provide participants with critical knowledge to help reduce potentially costly lawsuits and improve the ability to handle challenging HR issues. In cooperation with SHRM, 1.5 CEUs and a certificate will be awarded upon successful completion of all hours. Partial credit is not awarded. Cost is $595 and includes all SHRM study materials. Course is eligible for Massachusetts employee tuition waiver for tuition fee only. Deadline to register is Tuesday. Call Sheila Morin at 781-280-3608 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/career-training/shrmie.aspx.

Paralegal Studies Career Night is Oct. 14

BEDFORD — Middlesex Community College’s Academic Career & Transfer Center and Paralegal Studies programs will host a Paralegal Career and Networking Night on Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road. Free and open to the public, the information session will help participants explore career opportunities for paralegals in public and private legal sectors. Participants will meet and network with a panel of MCC Paralegal Studies alumni currently working in the legal environment. Participants can also meet with MCC Law Center staff, Paralegal Studies faculty, members of MCC’s Student Paralegal Club and MCC admissions representatives. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/paralegal. Contact Kaitlynn Arvidson at arvidsonk@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-656-3265.

Lifelong Education programs starts Oct. 15

BEDFORD — The opening session of the Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education for Seniors will feature a keynote address by B.A. Shapiro, author of the best-selling novel The Art Forger, on Wednesday, Oct. 15, at 2 p.m., in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road. MCC’s MILES program offers stimulating, interactive, daytime seminars and workshops with no term papers, tests or grades for active, older adults. Light refreshments will be served. The fall session of MILES runs from Oct. 20 through Nov. 20 on the Bedford campus. The two-hour study groups meet from 2 to 4 p.m., in one-, two- or five-week sessions, and are facilitated by individuals with expertise in their field, including MCC faculty and staff. Each MILES course costs $15, with a maximum fee of $95. Call 781-280-3370 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/miles.aspx. To register for MILES courses, call 800-918-3434.

MCC Fall Concert Series continues

BEDFORD — Middlesex Community College’s fall concert series, A World of Music, continues with “Two Oboes,” on Friday at 8 p.m., in the MCC Concert Hall (Building 6), 591 Springs Road. The concert is free and open to the public. Works for solo oboe, two oboes, oboe and piano, and two oboes and piano by various composers will be performed. John Ferrillo, principle oboe of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Amanda Hardy, principle oboe of the Portland Symphony Orchestra, and MCC faculty member Carmen Rodriguez-Peralta, piano, will perform. To learn more, call 781-280-3923.
D’Youville Foundation names four to board of directors

LOWELL — The following individuals were recently appointed to the board of directors of The D’Youville Foundation Inc., the fundraising arm of D’Youville Life and Wellness Community, a skilled nursing facility that features short-term rehabilitation, long-term nursing care and adult day health:

- Carol Bateson was elected chairwoman. She is the retired CEO and chairman of the board at Dec-Tam Corp., a North Reading-based firm that specializes in environmental services.

  She has served on the board since 2009.

- Patrick Canal, director of surgical services at Lowell General Hospital. Since 1983, he has been chief executive and chief operating officer at five medical and psychiatric hospitals across the country. He brings in-depth knowledge and experience of medical and psychiatric health-care administration in hospital and clinical settings.

- Brian P. Fitzsimons, president of Dec-Tam Corp., a North Reading-based firm specializing in environmental services. He holds an MBA from Boston College, and bachelor’s degrees in mechanical engineering and mathematics from Wentworth Institute of Technology.

- Mary-Jo Griffin, director of public affairs outreach and development and director of the Paul Sullivan Leadership Institute, Middlesex Community College. She brings public-relations and communications skills.

  She holds a master of arts degree in education from Rivier College and master of science in business administration from the University of Massachusetts Lowell.
MCC wins piece of federal grant

$525G share to boost STEM education

By Kyle Clausse
kclausse@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Fifteen Massachusetts community colleges, including Lowell's Middlesex Community College, have been awarded a $20 million federal grant for STEM training and education.

A proposal submitted collectively by the 15 schools has been selected by the U.S. Department of Labor for the final round of federal funding from the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant, or TAACCCT.

The project, led by Massasoit Community College and titled, “Guided Pathways to Success in STEM,” will help students obtain degrees and certificates in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields by reducing the time it takes to complete these programs.

“This Department of Labor grant is exciting for both the state community college system and Middlesex Community College,” MCC President Carole Cowan said in a press release. “We plan to use the funding to expand our work in developing education and training programs related to advanced manufacturing and other STEM fields.”

The three-year grant is the highest funded of the 66 awarded in the country by the Department of Labor. During those three years, 24 STEM degree options and 58 certificate programs will be created or significantly enhanced.

The grant will also help create a statewide collaborative in conjunction with MIT called Data Bus, aiming for greater use of data in community colleges and the state’s career centers.

A representative from the TAACCCT program office could not be reached for comment.

Follow Kyle Clausse on Twitter (@KyleClausse), Tout (@kclausse) and Facebook (facebook.com/KyleClausseSun).
Distinguished alumni, remarkable stories

Lowell High to induct five Nov. 6

By Alana Melanson
amelanson@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — A high-ranking attorney, a Secret Service agent, an economic development specialist, a military man and a police officer turned successful businessman will all join the ranks of Lowell High School’s Distinguished Alumni this year.

Honorees chosen by the LHS Distinguished Alumni Board of Directors for 2014 include:

• James F. Linnehan, Class of 1959. Linnehan served his country during World War II, and later served his state as an assistant attorney general.

• John J. Lardner, Class of 1949. A former Marine, Lardner joined the Secret Service in 1959, serving on presidential details from Dwight Eisenhower through Ronald Reagan, but had a special attachment to John F. Kennedy and wife Jacqueline.

• Marilyn Swartz-Lloyd, Class of 1962. Swartz-Lloyd has spent 40 years identifying Boston’s economic growth centers and working with stakeholders from all sectors to bring them success, and currently serves as president and CEO of the Medical Academic and Scientific Community Organization.

• Robert J. Kilmarin, Class of 1976. A lawyer and Marine, Kilmarin was ordered to Washington, D.C.

For tickets
Tickets are $25 per person and may be reserved by contacting Michelle Catanian by email at mazallah@lowellsun.com or by calling 978-937-8964. For more info, call the headmaster’s office at 978-937-8901.

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Distinguished LHS alumni to be honored

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in the days after 9/11 to mobilize in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

He also became a first responder in the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami when his ship, en route to Iraq, was redirected to Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

• Michael J. Kuenzler, Class of 1979. Kuenzler served as a Lowell police officer for many years and was a popular Drug Abuse Resistance Education officer before trying his hand at the business world, first founding All Sports Promotions in 1998 and then purchasing Four Oaks Country Club in Dracut in 2012.

“I think they represent the success stories of the past,” said LHS Headmaster Brian Martin.

“They are from different generations, and different career paths, but they all started at Lowell High School, and we’re very proud of them all.”

He said this year marks the 11th anniversary of Distinguished Alumni, an organization founded to celebrate the successes of graduates. It’s also the first time the induction ceremony will take place during the school day, Martin said, allowing students to attend.

“I’m kind of excited about it, because the students get to see these people, who sat in the same seats, came to the same school,” he said.

“We want them to inspire the students, and to share their stories first-hand.”

Last year, Martin said, honoree Arthur C. Anton, a local businessman, was sick the night of the ceremony, so he was invited back for his own ceremony a short time later.

“The students absolutely loved it,” he said.

“They were so impressed with Mr. Anton, so we decided to have all of the kids here this time.”

Linnehan and Lardner have both died, Martin said, so family representatives — including Linnehan’s son, Middlesex Community College Executive Vice President Jay Linnehan — will come in their place.

The induction ceremony will be Thursday, Nov. 6, in the Cyrus Irish Auditorium at LHS from 12:45 to 2:45 p.m.
Community Garden at MCC donates to local food bank

BEDFORD — This summer, Middlesex Community College students, staff and faculty volunteers, working in the Community Garden on the Bedford campus, have grown and donated more than 400 pounds of fresh, organic produce to the Merrimack Valley Food Bank.

A collaboration between MCC’s Student Sustainability Club, Sustainability Advisory Committee and the Center for Health & Wellness, the Community Garden was created in 2011. It provides individual and communal plots to members of the college community.

This summer, MCC’s Facilities Management Department encircled the 5,000-square-foot organic garden with a tall fence to keep out deer and other animals, and landscaped the surrounding area.

For more information about MCC’s Community Garden, contact Chris Fiori, director of student financial services, at fiori@middlesex.mass.edu.
Middlesex to Host Paralegal Career and Networking Night

Middlesex Community College’s Academic Career & Transfer Center and Paralegal Studies programs will host a Paralegal Career and Networking Night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, in Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road.

Free and open to the public, this information session will help participants explore career opportunities for paralegals in both public and private legal sectors. Participants will meet and network with a panel of MCC Paralegal Studies alumni currently working in the legal environment. Participants can also meet with MCC Law Center staff, Paralegal Studies faculty, members of MCC’s Student Paralegal Club, and MCC admissions representatives.

Panelists include Maura Mann, Senior Director of Recruiting for the Nagler Group, Bethinda Pierre-Louis, Student Liaison Director of the Massachusetts Paralegal Association, Amy Corsi, Administrative Coordinator at Bowditch & Dewey, LLP, and Jesse L. Reddener, who works at Headfirst Legal.

Approved by the American Bar Association, MCC’s Paralegal Studies programs offer two associate-degree programs, a career track and a transfer track, as well as a one-year post-graduate certificate program.

MCC’s Paralegal Studies Career degree program prepares graduates for employment assisting lawyers in gathering and analyzing factual data, researching legal questions and preparing legal documents.

MCC’s Paralegal Studies Transfer program is designed to prepare graduates to transfer to bachelor degree programs on a full- or part-time basis. This program qualifies for MassTransfer, which guarantees credit transfer to Massachusetts state colleges and universities.

MCC’s post-graduate Paralegal Studies Certificate program is appropriate for students who have already earned an associate or bachelor’s degree and are interested in changing careers.

For more information about MCC’s Paralegal Studies programs, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/paralegal/. For more information about Paralegal Career and Networking Night at Middlesex, contact Kaitlynn Avidson at avidsonk@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-656-3265.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic, and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 75 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.
MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A World of Music continues with ‘Two Oboes’

Middlesex Community College’s fall concert series, A World of Music, continues with “Two Oboes” at 8 p.m. Oct. 10 in the MCC Concert Hall (Building 6) on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road, Bedford. The concert is free and open to the public.

Works for solo oboe, two oboes, oboe and piano and two oboes and piano by various composers will be performed. John Ferrillo, principal oboe of the Boston Symphony Orchestra; Amanda Hardy, principle oboe of the Portland Symphony Orchestra; and MCC faculty member Carmen Rodriguez-Peralta, piano, will perform.

Ferrillo, who grew up in Bedford and attended Bedford schools, joined the Boston Symphony Orchestra as principal oboe in 2001. From 1986 to 2001, he was principal oboe of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in New York City and served on the faculty of The Juilliard School. Prior to his appointment at the Met, Ferrillo was second oboe of the San Francisco Symphony and a faculty member at Illinois State University and West Virginia State University. A former faculty member of the Mannes School of Music in New York City, he is currently on the faculty of the New England Conservatory of Music.

Hardy joined the Portland (Maine) Symphony Orchestra as principal oboe in November 2013; she occupies the Clinton Graffam Chair. As a recipient of the Gillet Scholarship and Tourjee Alumni Scholarship Award, Amanda studied with BSO principal oboist John Ferrillo at the New England Conservatory, where she is currently a faculty member. She also teaches at Northeastern University and has many years of private teaching experience on both oboe and piano.

Rodriguez-Peralta, chair of music at Middlesex and director of A World of Music Concert Series, has appeared as a solo pianist throughout the United States, Peru and Mexico. She has recorded “Music for Cello and Piano from South America,” “Mexico and the Caribbean” on CD with cellist Luis Leguia, formerly of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Other events in MCC’s free A World of Music fall concert series include: the Marc Rossi Group in concert at 8 p.m. Nov. 7; and Pianist Wanda Paik in concert at 3 p.m. Nov. 23. All concerts will be held in MCCs Concert Hall on the Bedford campus.

For information: 781-230-3923; peraltac@middlesex.mass.edu.
MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

‘Art Forger’ author to speak at MILES

By Tura Linderholm

In March 1990, two thieves disguised as Boston police officers entered the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, tied up the guards and escaped with 13 pieces of art, including works by Rembrandt, Vermeer, Degas and Manet. None of the art has ever been recovered and the investigation is ongoing, making this the largest unsolved art theft in history.

The famous heist is the inspiration for the best-selling novel, “The Art Forger,” by Boston author B.A. Shapiro. Shapiro will discuss the events of the famous theft and how they inspired her novel at the Middlesex Community College’s MILES Opening Session, to be held at 2 p.m. Oct. 15, in Bedford Campus Center’s Cafe East, 591 Springs Road, Bedford. Light refreshments will be served and copies of Shapiro’s book will be available for purchase, signing and inscription.

Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education for Seniors, offers stimulating, interactive daytime seminars and workshops for active, older adults with no term papers.

tests or grades. This informational and entertaining opening session provides community members an opportunity to learn more about MILES and the courses being offered, and is a good opportunity to meet instructors and peers. The fall session of MILES runs Oct. 20 through Nov. 20 on the Bedford campus. For the complete schedule of MILES courses, contact Caitlin Campopiano at 781-280-3570 or visit middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/miles.aspx. To register for MILES courses, call 1-800-818-3434.
They've all earned crowns

Salute to Women honors 25 leaders

LOWELL—In a temporary break from the small screen, NECN anchor Latoya Edwards returned to her "second home" Tuesday to share her Emmy Award and Miss Massachusetts crown with the city. As one of the 25 women honored at The Sun’s third annual Salute to Women luncheon Tuesday, also shared her Emmy Award with the packed room at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center.

At left, Laurie Myers, founder of Chelmsford based Community VOICES, with her dog, Wona, after taking her turn at the podium.

See a list of this year’s honorees on Page 6.

"The people of Lowell accept you and treat you like one of their own," she told the packed room at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center. "They will feed you." She recalled carrying around her own camera and tripod at City Council meetings during the time she worked for the MediaOne cable channel in Lowell. She said people treated her with respect.

NECN anchor Latoya Edwards had the crowd applauding as she put on her crown from her days as Miss Massachusetts in 2002. Edwards, one of 25 honorees at The Sun's third annual Salute to Women luncheon Tuesday, also shared her Emmy Award with the packed room at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center.

After she was crowned Miss Massachusetts in 2002, the local support continued. Edwards recalled the support from people like City Councilor Rita Mercier and Sun columnist Paul Salis- san, who helped in fundraising efforts that allowed her to compete in Miss USA.

Please see ‘SALUTE’ 6

"You answered my phone call for interviews and you taught me how to cover the big story," she current job at NECN, she said, and she took out her Emmy to share with the crowd. 
From educators to historians to advocates, they lead the way

"SALUTE" From Page 1

She didn’t come back with the crown, but it didn’t matter.

“I came back to Lowell and I held my head up high, because really I had already won,” she said.

She pulled out her Miss Massachusetts crown and wore it for the people of Lowell.

For the third year in a row, the event raised $20,000 for the Women Working Wonders Fund, which gives grants to nonprofit programs helping women and girls. This year, the money will go toward programs for Budget Buddies, Caring Ground and Family Services of the Merrimack Valley.

The 25 women, recognized for their work in the community, were nominated by the public and selected by a seven-member panel. They ranged from Lowell Parks Conservation and Trust head Jane Calvin to retired grandmother Linda Carson, of Chelmsford, who, among other charitable endeavors, organizes a major read-a-thon every July 4 in honor of her son, John, a standout runner at Chelmsford High whom she lost at 17 when he was struck by a train during a practice run.

Laurie Myers, founder of the Chelmsford-based Community VOICES organization that helps victims of violent crimes, was also among the honorees.

Myers brought up the group’s farmest member, a black dog named Wena, to the stage. She said her organization “was in the dog” in 2010 after she received an email from a mother of a 4-year-old child-abuse victim who was scared to testify in court.

Wena’s calmer presence, she said, makes a frightening situation a little better.

The question Myers hears the most is how she does what she does.

“The answer is always the same,” she said. “I am so lucky because I get to meet courageous people every single day.”

UMass Lowell medical professor Kathleen Doyle, a 2013 honoree, shared her history as a working mom and student.

When she was attending graduate school at Lowell Technological Institute, her husband offered to watch their 3-year-old daughter in between classes. In five years, she earned her master’s degree.

In one course, she had no one to watch her younger, baby daughter, she said. Her professor told her to bring the child to class.

“This was probably a first for Lowell Tech during that time period,” she said to some laughter. She earned her master’s degree in five years.

She later became a volunteer with a number of nonprofit groups in the area, including the Greater Community Lowell Foundation. It’s almost impossible to live or work in the area and not be called to some kind of service, she said.

“The needs are great and the people in need are many,” she said. “The very best thing about the Greater Lowell area is that everyone responds to these needs and helps out however best they can.”

Follow Amelia on Twitter and Trust & Vinelita-PakHarvey.
SATURDAY CHAT

Full house expected at ‘Salute’ luncheon

LOWELL — Any group would love to run an event in a ballroom that can accommodate up to 350 people for a luncheon and have to run an ad a week before the event that says “SOLD OUT.”

That’s actually the case for The Sun’s Salute to Women function that will be held Tuesday at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center, and it’s a shame we actually have to turn some people away because this has become a pretty special regional event where we recognize some remarkable women who have impacted the quality of life of our region.

The sell-out is a tribute to the 25 women being recognized, the small committee that has run the event for the past three years and the individuals and business people who support positive causes in the city.

All 25 honorees who will be recognized on Tuesday have wonderful stories to tell. This year’s group includes educators, writers, businesswomen, ecologists, philanthropists, historic figures, bankers, social workers, community leaders.

More than a dozen members of the Dunfey family are coming back to Lowell after many years to celebrate the selection of the late Catherine Dunfey, who started as a mill girl in Lowell and along with her husband and family took a little shop on Broadway in Lowell and a clam shack at Hampton Beach and turned it into an International hotel/restaurant complex that included the Parker House in Boston and hotels in Ireland.

Among the speakers will be Dr. Susan Braunhut of UMass Lowell, who has done major cancer research, Latoyia Edwards, the night news anchor at New England Cable News, who regards Lowell as her adopted home, and Laurie Myers of Chelmsford, a leader in the state for helping abused women and children.

Also coming are family members of the late Elizabeth Lew, a Lowell woman who in 1840 opened her Centralville home as part of the Underground Railroad system that assisted runaway slaves trying to get to Canada.

That’s just a sample of the women being recognized on Tuesday.

So thanks to a great committee of Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick, Nina Anton, Brian Martin, Lynn Marcelle, Linda Chemaly and Martha Mayo.

This is a great example of what a good community newspaper can do to tell a very positive story about people who live and work here.

Salute to Women is a two-tier project. First, we select the honorees and then the newspaper puts on the event. Please see CHAT/4

Kendall Wallace
Full house for ‘Salute’ luncheon

CHAT/From Page 3

together a special section to profile the honorees and then we follow up with the luncheon, all the proceeds of which are donated to the Women Working Wonders group.

I got quite a jolt this week when I got a friendly reminder that we all lost a great friend, Paul Sullivan, seven years ago this past Tuesday.

He was a very talented, funny guy who had great people skills that he used in a very effective way as a columnist for The Sun and a talk-show host for WBZ radio, where he had a huge audience.

His widow, Mary-Jo Griffin, has helped keep his spirit alive through the Paul Sullivan Institute at Middlesex Community College.

Each year a group of students from Middlesex participate in the program that will help create the next generation of people like Sullivan who will get involved in government, public service and helping people and groups in need.

To raise funds to support the institute, Mary-Jo is going to ride in the Greater Lowell Community Foundation’s 15-mile bike-a-thon and is looking for sponsors.

It's quite a thing to see these students when they first enter the program and what they are like when they finish. Paul would be proud and have a funny story for them.
New buildings, bright horizons

$27M Bedford project latest in MCC expansion

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

LOWELL — When Professor Mariluci Bladon began the biotechnology program at Middlesex Community College 14 years ago, she had no place of her own to teach her small class of 25 students. The college rented a place at the VA Hospital in Bedford, later moving to a campus in Burlington before ultimately ending up at its current spot in downtown Lowell.

But now, Bladon said, even the base in Lowell is

Please see MCC/7

Student Lindsay McGrail, of Framingham, uses a cellphone to show photos of cells she helped grow in Middlesex Community College’s biotech lab in the Talbot Building in downtown Lowell. With her is her professor, Mariluci T. Bladon, left, and fellow student Dalianette Martinez, 19, of Methuen. See a video at lowellsun.com.
$27M Bedford project continues MCC growth

MCC/From Page 1
too small for the program
that has grown to just over
200 students.
A new $27 million
STEM (science, technology,
engineering and mathemati-
cas) building in Bed-
ford should fix that.
The development is just
one of several expansions
that portray the college’s
significant growth since its
humble beginnings as a
small Bedford operation.
MCC President Carole
Cowan said the new Bed-
ford building will feature a
“clean” room, biotech lab-
atory and other science
laboratories.
“We’re really pushing to
get our students through
their science programs in
greater numbers,” she said.
Cowan, who will end
her 24-year term at MCC
next year, has overseen the
college’s growth over the
years. She said the latest
developments are good for
the college and community.
“We’re really preparing the
workforce for the future,
and that’s really what we’re
here to do,” she said. “This is
all very healthy for all
involved — both the city
and town, Bedford, and also
the state.”
Meanwhile, the old
Boston and Maine Rail-
road Depot building in
downtown Lowell awaits
its transformation into an
academic use to building.
The college is completing
the design phase of that
project, Cowan said, with
a goal of starting construc-
ton early next year. Keep-
ing its historic facade on
the exterior, the building
will feature a stage, concert
hall and dance studio.
The arts faculty is very
strong, Cowan said, and
the college will add a new
dance program.
“We’re excited about
having this permanent
home for some very strong
faculty and student pro-
grams,” she said.
The project received $11
million from the state’s
Higher Education Bond
Bill, which is also contrib-
uting $10 million to MCC’s
third project — another
academic building in Lowell.
“That’s really in our
master plan, but we
haven’t focused on it,”
Cowan said of the build-
ing. She said it will be some-
where in the college’s cur-
rent vicinity in Lowell.
MCC began its creep
into Lowell in 1987, integ-
rating itself into the city
with such purchases as the
Federal Building in Kurn-
ey Square and the Talbot
and Derby buildings on
Middle Street.
MCC’s first class of
1972 held only 230 gradu-
ates — in 1990, it awarded
690 associate degrees, a
number that jumped to
1,100 by this year.
Since 1999, MCC’s
Celebrity Forum series has
linked the college’s name to
an annual event worthy of
a red carpet — past vis-
itors include Jay Leno,
Rudy Giuliani and Bar-
bara Walters.
Royall Mack, head of
the college’s board of
trustees, credits MCC’s ex-
pansion to its visionary
president, strong provost
and good fiscal manager.
“I think over the years,
having those three ele-
ments in place has allowed
Middlesex to the fore-
court of educational institu-
tions in the country,” he said.
Mack saw first-hand the
impact that MCC has
had on the city when he
happened upon a citizen-
ship ceremony in
Lowell last week.
He talked to one
family from Nige-
ria, who said they
were proud to be
residents of Lowell.
They were also
looking forward to
their high-school-age
granddaughter coming to MCC.
“They associated their
happiness with Middlesex
Community College, and
the fact that they were liv-
ing in Lowell,” he said. “For
them, Lowell was Middle-
sex Community College.”
For students aiming for
their associate degree in
Blakely’s biotech/biologi-
try program, MCC is a step-
ping stone to ever higher
aspirations.
Fully prepared in a lab
and with glasses, Dalianette
Martinez, 19, recounted her
time working with human embryonic
cell lines.
She remembered a time
when a whole line of cells
were lost because one of
the media bottles became
contaminated.
“It’s very stressful,
everything is critical,” she
said. “But you learn a lot
from it. And at least for me,
I appreciate the cells a little bit
more.”
Second-year
student Carlos
Aquino said the
reason MCC is
one of the best is because
of the number of compa-
nies who come looking for
Blakely’s students.
Aquino predicted that:
the program would
produce more Ph.D. students
than any other.
“For you to fail in this
school, you would want to
fail,” he said. “Because the
help that each professor
gives you and the school
provides for you, you can’t
ask for anything else.”
Follow Amelia on Twit-
ter and Tout @Amelia-
PakHarvey.
Middlesex Community College Offers Excel Certificate Program

Become proficient with Microsoft Excel 2013, with Middlesex Community College's Community Education and Career Training noncredit MS Excel 2013 Certificate program. Courses begin Monday, Sept. 29.

Whether you have used MS Excel before and just want to learn more, or are completely new to the program, this course is designed to teach you the features of MS Excel from beginning to advanced functions.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to create and format a worksheet, create formulas, manipulate and calculate data with advanced formulas, create and modify tables, present data with charts, analyze data using PivotTables, customize data, work with multiple workbooks, and import and export data.

Students must be proficient in the MS Windows environment with keyboarding skills and should bring a flash drive to class. Classes meet Monday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.

For more information, or to register for this or other noncredit courses, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesexmass.edu/careertraining.

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Kudos for Cowan

Opening day at Middlesex Community College marked a special celebration for President Carole Cowan, who announced her retirement in June, as she presided over her last opening ceremonies — her 25th overall as president and 38th as a member of the MCC team. From left, are alumnus and MCC Foundation member David Basile, Cowan, student trustee Vennesa Van Wyk, and trustees Chairman Royall Mack.

PHOTO COURTESY HARKUS PHOTOGRAPHY
Lowell students create Cambodian-inspired mural

By Wendy Killeen
| GLOBE CORRESPONDENT JULY 03, 2014

Middlesex Community College ceramics instructor Yary Livan stands above "New Waves Replace Old Waves," the ceramic mural he helped K-8 students create as artist-in-residence at Lowell's Pyne Arts Magnet School.

MURAL WITH A MESSAGE: Pyne Arts Magnet School in Lowell recently unveiled a ceramic-tile mural titled "New Waves Replace Old Waves."
The mural was created by students at the K-8 school with artist-in-residence Yary Livan, a Lowell artist and adjunct ceramics professor at Middlesex Community College.

Designed by Livan, it consists of about 500, 3-by-3-inch tiles and hangs in the school’s main hallway.

During the past six months, every student in the school created a tile under Livan’s supervision, in collaboration with the school art teacher Jacqui Miller, who is also an adjunct professor of art at Middlesex.

The title of the mural is taken from an old Cambodian poem and symbolizes the cycle of life.

"The new waves — they are very strong and high — represent youth. The old waves are smaller and not very strong. They don’t have much energy left, and then they are gone," Livan said. "The old generation is constantly making way for the new."

A survivor of Cambodia’s Pol Pot-era genocide, Livan is one of only a few surviving masters of classical Cambodian ceramics.

Initiated by Miller, the Pyne Arts mural project is part of an ongoing college-community partnership focused on preserving the ancient Cambodian art form.

Livan is also at the center of a $40,000 grant Middlesex recently received from the National Endowment for the Arts. The two-year grant supports preservation, understanding, and appreciation of the endangered Cambodian ceramic tradition, and encourages a new generation of practicing Cambodian ceramists.

Under the direction of Margaret Rack, an art professor at Middlesex, the grant has enabled Livan to expand his teaching to Lowell public school students and teachers, and the community.

He also is creating a body of work for exhibit in spring 2015.

All the programming revolves around Middlesex’s smokeless, wood-fired Cambodian ceramics kiln, constructed on the grounds of Lowell National Historical Park.

Visit middlesex.mass.edu.
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2014 Honorees
Salute to Women of Our Region

The Women Working Wonders Fund (WWW) congratulates the 2014 Salute to Women of Our Region Honorees and recognizes each of them for their distinguished contributions to our community.

We sincerely thank Lowell Sun Charities for their generosity in donating all proceeds from the September 16th Recognition Luncheon to our Fund. We also appreciate the numerous event sponsors and attendees for their gracious support.

The Luncheon fundraiser proceeds, combined with our upcoming Power of the Purse fundraiser on Thursday, October 16th will enable us to award additional grants to local non-profits for programs that enhance the lives of disadvantaged women and girls. It is our hope that the support of these programs that empower women of this community serves as a fitting tribute to the Women of Our Region Honorees.

With great appreciation,
Women Working Wonders Fund Board of Trustees
Power of the Purse

Thursday, October 16, 2014
UMass Lowell Inn and Conference Center
50 Warren Street • Lowell, MA 01852

Please join us for a live and silent auction where handbags take the center stage. Hors d’oeuvres, cocktails and raffles will all be a part of this fun filled night.

You don’t want to miss this one-of-a-kind event!
To purchase tickets visit www.womenworkingwondersfund.com
For more details call Amy William at 978-441-6401 or email awmiller@lowellfive.com

Thank you to the 2014 Salute to Women Sponsors:

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