This Month at MIDDLESEX

Middlesex CC receive $100K Grant from Cummings Foundation

MCC presented 17 students scholarship awards during the recent Celebrity Forum

MCC duo won medals at DECA

School donated violin to Cambodia university

Bedford Day Parade - 2016

Bedford Campus
591 Springs Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Lowell Campus
33 Kearney Square
Lowell, MA 01852
MCC gift has strings attached

School donates violin to Cambodia university

LOWELL — As part of its Strings for Cambodia fundraising campaign, Middlesex Community College's Music Department has donated a carbon-fiber violin to Cambodia's Royal University of Fine Arts.

The state-of-the-art violin and bow were recently presented to Middlesex President James Mabry by Luis Leguia, founder of Luis & Clark Carbon Fiber Instruments and retired cellist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The presentation took place on the Lowell campus.

Also present was recently retired MCC Music Professor Johannah Segarich, founder of Strings for Cambodia. She started the campaign to support RUFA's goal of forming a Cambodian National Symphony Orchestra. "We are all thrilled with this beautiful violin and knowing it will be put to good use, both in an educational setting and also in the newly formed symphony orchestra," Segarich said. "One of my goals in teaching is to raise awareness and sensitivity toward other cultures and ways of thinking."

Segarich launched Strings for Cambodia after a 2010 U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad to Cambodia. While in Phnom Penh, she met with RUFA faculty, administrators and students who expressed a desire to acquire high-quality Western classical instruments — especially strings — for teaching music and to establish an orchestra.

Innovative carbon-fiber instruments are ideal in Cambodia, because they not only produce high-quality tone, but also will be more durable than wooden instruments in the hot and humid climate. The violin was delivered to RUFA this summer by Dona Cady, MCC dean of global education, who traveled to Cambodia on another Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad.

As part of its Strings for Cambodia fundraising campaign, MCC's Music Department donated a carbon-fiber violin to Cambodia's Royal University of Fine Arts. From left, Matthew Olson, dean of Humanities & Social Sciences; Carmen Rodriguez-Peralta, Music Department chairwoman; Dona Cady, dean of Global Education; Stephanie and Luis Leguia of Luis & Clark Carbon Fiber Instruments; Music Professor Johannah Segarich, founder of Strings for Cambodia; MCC President James Mabry; and Dennis Malvers, dean of College Advancement.
INCLUSIVE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT INITIATIVE

Middlesex College earns grant to support students with disabilities

Middlesex Community College was awarded a $105,000 Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative grant from the state executive office of education to support its Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program.

Serving public high school students with intellectual disabilities, MCC's ICE Program is a dual-enrollment opportunity for 18- to 22-year-olds living in Lexington, Arlington, Bedford, Burlington and Belmont, via the LABB Educational Collaborative.

Research shows that students with significant intellectual disabilities benefit academically and transition to young adulthood more readily when they have the opportunity to engage in all-college-related activities rather than staying at high school.

MCC's ICE students receive specialized enrollment, registration and academic advising, community-based employment and career support, plus educational coaches and peer mentors. ICE students have full access to Middlesex clubs, student activities and academic and support services.

"For two years, the Middlesex community, faculty and staff have welcomed students with significant intellectual disabilities to campus through the ICE Program," said Susan Woods, MCC associate dean of Student Support Services. "This grant allows us to continue these remarkable and highly inclusive practices for this cohort of students and also supports our strong partnership with the town of Bedford and the LABB Collaborative."

"We have seen our ICE students grow and succeed, not only academically but also personally and professionally," said Dawn Gross, coordinator of MCC's ICE Program.

Part of more than $1.1 million in funding announced recently by the Baker-Polito administration, MAICEI is aimed at developing ICE programs for students with intellectual disabilities at 12 Massachusetts public higher education campuses.

Funded by the Commonwealth since 2008, the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment program has grown to 18 public two- and four-year institutions supporting more than 1,200 students. During the 2015-16 academic year, a total of 269 students were enrolled in the program.


COURSE OFFERINGS

Middlesex College to offer HR certification prep courses

Middlesex Community College's Corporate and Community Education & Career Training Program offers the Society for Human Resources Management Learning System for those seeking to earn SHRM Certified Professional or SHRM Senior Certified Professional credentials.

Classes are held Tuesday evenings Sept. 20 through Dec. 6 on the Bedford campus.

MCC's SHRM-CP and SHRM-SCP certification exam preparation course is designed primarily for individuals seeking credentials that focus on identifying and testing the knowledge and practical real-life experiences human resources professionals around the world need to excel in their careers today.

This 35-hour, noncredit certification preparation program helps students prepare for the SHRM-CP or SHRM-SCP examinations. This course covers four knowledge areas, including people, organization, workplace and strategy. The program also covers eight behavioral competencies, including leadership and navigation, ethical practice, business acumen, relationship management, consultation, critical evaluation, global and cultural effectiveness and communication.

The cost is $1,280 and includes all course materials, but does not cover registration for the SHRM-CP or SHRM-SCP examinations.

EDUCATION

Middlesex College to offer art exploration seminars

This fall, Middlesex Community College’s Corporate and Community Education & Training Program will offer a series of art exploration seminars. Courses begin Sept. 17 on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.

Courses in the series include:

Edward Hopper: Ed Hopper was a prominent American realist painter and printmaker. This seminar will present an overview of his work. While he was most popularly known for his oil paintings, he was equally proficient as a watercolorist and printmaker. Both in his urban and rural scenes, his work reflects his personal vision of modern American life.

Artist Edgar Degas: Degas was a French artist famous for his paintings, sculptures, prints, and drawings. This seminar presents an overview of the artist’s life and work. He is especially identified with the subject of dance and is regarded as one of the founders of Impressionism.

Art Collector: Isabella Stewart Gardner: Gardner was a leading American art collector, philanthropist and patron of the arts. Founded the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. She was a friend of noted artists and writers of the day, including John Singer Sargent, James McNeill Whistler, Dennis Miller Bunker, Anders Zorn, Henry James, Oskar Kokoschka, and Francis Marion Crawford. This seminar will focus on the life of Gardner and her legacy.

To learn more or to register: visit 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining.

EDUCATION

Middlesex College for Kids to offer after school programs

College for Kids at Middlesex Community College will offer after school programs.

Programming includes a variety of programs for children ages 8 to 12, and etiquette courses for middle and high school students. Courses begin Sept. 19, on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.

All College for Kids programming is designed to provide children and teens with fun and challenging opportunities to gain new knowledge, develop new skills and boost confidence. Programs include:

- "Cartooning" for ages 10 to 15: Explore the fundamental skills involved in creating cartoons. Students will discuss illustration styles and tips and tricks used by professional artists in the industry. Facial expression, figure drawing, composition, perspective, and background will also be covered.
- "Sports and Recreation" for ages 10 to 15: A wide variety of fitness opportunities will be offered including basketball, soccer, volleyball, croquet, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, disc golf, table tennis, kickball, whiffle ball, 4-square, hiking, flag football and capture the flag. Introductory in nature. Activities will focus on recreation and fun rather than competition. All skill levels and abilities welcome. All equipment will be provided.
- "Techie" for ages 8 to 12: Join this exploration of multimedia, 3-D and technology. The first day, students will decide what technology interests them the most. Topics include Wii, Gamestar Mechanic, Go Animate, iPiccy and Pic monkey.
- "Improvisation" for ages 10 to 15: This program explores the fundamentals of improvisation by developing support, trust, risk-taking and confidence with each young actor. Everyone will participate in theater games, movement exercises and ensemble-building activities that culminate in a live improvised performance.

Other College for Kids courses include "Etiquette for Middle Schoolers" and "Etiquette for Young Adults." These courses cover age-appropriate topics, including basic manners, physical presence and poise, projecting confidence, leadership skills, improving communication with peers and adults, public speaking, building and maintaining friendships and dealing with bullies.

For information: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids.
THE BEDFORD CITIZEN
Bedford Day Parade ~ 2016
Images (c) Bob Bass
Talks on anger planned at MCC

LOWELL — The first of five talks about angry people will be given on from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, at Middlesex Community College, 33 Kearney Square. The talk will be given by David Favreau, director of the Anger Management Program in Lowell. The first talk will be “How to Talk to Angry People.” The talk is open to the public, but registration is required because seating is limited. To reserve a seat, register by email at angerman1998@gmail.com or call the Anger Management Program at 978-977-5811.
Middlesex Awarded $2.2 Million Grant to Foster Student Success

Posted by Elliot Silver on Sep 13, 2016 | Community Updates | ShareThis

Middlesex Community College has been awarded a $2,205,024 U.S. Department of Education grant to expand its work on student success. To be distributed over a five-year period, the grant is part of the Title III Strengthening Institutions Program. This program helps eligible institutions expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability.

Grant funds will be used to implement the "eMCC: Success From the Start" program to improve the student experience and better assess academic performance. Funds will be used to improve the technology infrastructure used by both students and the institution.

“Middlesex plans to use this grant support to employ smart data and focus on student retention and success programs that will help keep our students on campus through the successful completion of a degree and position them for an educated entry into the workforce,” said President James C. Mabry.

The program will be implemented in two parts. First, the Student Experience portion of the plan will include the development of a comprehensive self-service program for students that will help them with enrollment, planning, advising, and success.

Second, the Academic Progress portion of the plan will help shape student success by providing faculty and staff with an analytical 360-degree digital view of student progress. This data will allow faculty and staff to better assess academic progress and provide timely interventions or guidance to promote student success.

“This is thrilling news for Middlesex Community College and will have a direct and immediate impact on students who are seeking to further their education at our campuses in Lowell and Bedford,” said Mabry. “Once again, the support of our federal partners Congressmen Tsongas and Moulton is helping further the mission of higher education and provide pathways to success for our students.”

Let us know your thoughts!
MCC Happenings

Explore art in Bedford

BEDFORD — This fall, Middlesex Community College's Corporate and Community Education & Training Program is offering a series of art exploration seminars. Courses begin Saturday on the Bedford campus. Courses in the series include: Henri Matisse; Edward Hopper; Artist Edgar Degas; Art Collector; and Isabella Steward Gardner. For more information or to register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining, or call 800-818-3434.

Learn about craft beer, brewing

This fall, Middlesex Community College’s Corporate and Community Education & Training Program is offering a variety of noncredit courses to help people learn more about craft beer and home brewing. Classes begin Saturday at Merrimack Ales, 92 Bolt St., Lowell. Courses include: Home Brewing; and Introduction to Craft Brewing. To learn more or to register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining, or call 800-818-3434.

Financial-aid assistance available

Middlesex Community College is committed to assisting students and their families in meeting the cost of a college education.

The goal of MCC’s Financial Aid Office is to ensure that there are no financial barriers preventing students from earning a college degree or certificate. The Financial Aid Office provides information about student aid programs, and financial-aid advisers are available to assist eligible students in accessing these programs.

Financial aid awards are based on financial need, enrollment status in an eligible program, and availability of funding. MCC’s academic year for financial aid begins in the fall semester and concludes with the summer semester. Students who apply for financial aid must apply every academic year after Jan. 1.

MCC’s Financial Aid Offices are located on both the Bedford and Lowell campuses, and are open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact the Bedford Financial Aid Office at 781-280-3650 or the Lowell office at 978-656-3242, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid.

Refresher workshops offered

Middlesex Community College offers free Reading, Writing and Math Refresher Workshops for students who want to brush up their skills before taking the College Placement Test. Workshops are offered all summer on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. For more information or to register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/admissions/events.aspx, or call 800-818-3434.
MCC to aid students displaced by ITT Tech

Sun Staff Report

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College will hold a walk-in registration and consultation on its Lowell campus Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in an effort to help students displaced by the sudden closure of the ITT Technical Institute.

The institute's sudden closure of its 137 campuses nationwide, including one in Wilmington, left many students in the lurch, and MCC is working with state and federal officials to offer support.

The event will be held in the Cowan Center, 33 Kearney Square. It is open to the public and no appointment is necessary.

"The students of ITT have been placed in an unfortunate situation, but we at Middlesex, like the rest of the community colleges in the state, are prepared to step in to assist those displaced students with options to finding ways to continue their education," said MCC President James Mabry.

The event will include information on MCC's 70 degree and certificate programs, financial aid and other support services. There will also be placement testing from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.


For more information, call 800-818-3434, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu.
Middlesex Welcomes New Students with Opening Day Activities

2016 SEPTEMBER 7

Submitted by Middlesex Community College

*Opening Day on Middlesex Community College’s Bedford Campus – Courtesy image (c) 2016 all rights reserved*

Middlesex Community College welcomed hundreds of new students to campus during MCC’s Opening Day in Bedford and Lowell.

MCC’s Opening Day is a chance for new students to learn more about Middlesex, get acclimated to college, and make connections with peers, faculty and staff.

Click here to learn how MCC campus police and local departments in Lowell and Bedford are working together for a safe and smart back to school season.

Students participated in an “Intro to College” workshop where they learned critical information about college resources and student support services. Students then attended an Academic Info Session, where they met with faculty and staff teaching and supporting their academic programs of study. The day concluded with a BBQ and networking event on each campus.

For more information about MCC, contact the Center for Leadership & Engagement at studentengagement@middlesex.mass.edu or call 781-280-3633.

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!
College for Kids Offers After-School Programming
2016 SEPTEMBER 6
Submitted by Middlesex Community College

College for Kids at Middlesex Community College isn’t just for summer anymore. This fall, College for Kids is offering after-school programs. Programming includes a variety of programs for children ages 8 to 12, and etiquette courses for middle and high school students. Courses begin Monday, Sept. 19, on the Bedford campus.

All College for Kids programming is designed to provide children and teens with fun and challenging opportunities to gain new knowledge, develop new skills and boost confidence. Programs include:

“Cartooning” for ages 10 to 15 (YTH 647 30) – Explore the fundamental skills involved in creating cartoons. Students will discuss illustration styles and tips and tricks used by professionals in the industry. Facial expression, figure drawing, composition, perspective and background will also be covered.

“Sports and Recreation” for ages 10 to 15 (YTH 681 30) – Don’t miss a chance to experience and participate in a wide variety of fitness opportunities, including basketball, soccer, volleyball, croquet, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, Frisbee golf, ping pong, kickball, frisbee, 4-square, hiking, flag football, capture the flag and more. Introductory in nature activities will focus on recreation and fun rather than competition. All skill levels and abilities welcome. All equipment will be provided.

“Techie” for ages 8 to 12 (YTH 683 30) – Join us for this exploration of multi-media, 3-D and technology. The first day, students will decide what technology interests the class most. Topics include Wix, Gamestar Mechanic, Go Animate, iPics, Picmonkey and more.

“Improvisation” for ages 10 to 15 (YTH 697 30) – This program explores the fundamentals of improvisation by developing support, trust, risk taking and confidence with each young actor. Everyone will participate in many exciting and fun theater games, movement exercises and ensemble-building activities that culminate with a live improvised performance.

Other College for Kids course offerings running this semester include “Etiquette for Middle Schoolers” and “Etiquette for Young Adults.” These courses cover age-appropriate topics, including basic manners, physical presence and poise, projecting confidence, leadership skills, improving communication with peers and adults, public speaking, building and maintaining friendships, dealing with bullies, and more.

To learn more about MCC’s College for Kids programming, visit MCC’s College for Kids website or call 1-800-818-3434.

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!
This fall, Middlesex Community College's Corporate and Community Education & Training Program is offering a variety of noncredit courses to help you learn more about craft beer and home brewing. Classes begin Saturday, Sept. 17 at Merrimack Ales, 92 Bolt St. in Lowell.

Courses include:

"Home Brewing" (PER 777 33) – In this class students will team up to create a beer! Topics include brewing terminology, as well as brewing process with notes on the scale considerations between home brewing and commercial brewing. This class meets three times to learn to brew the beer, ferment the beer, and bottle the beer.

"Introduction to Craft Brewing" (PER 776 33) – This course is an introduction to craft brewing, as well as a "walking tour" of the brewing process -- from building a recipe to using raw materials, brewing, fermenting, and bottling. Students will be able to describe in detail the finished beers they taste during class.

To learn more or to register for these courses, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining or call 1-800-816-3434. Let us know your thoughts!
BEDFORD — MCC College for Kids is offering after-school programs. Programming includes a variety of programs for children ages 8-12, and etiquette courses for middle-school and high-school students. Courses begin Monday, Sept. 19, on the Bedford campus. Designed to provide children and teens with fun and challenging opportunities to gain new knowledge, develop new skills and boost confidence. Programs include: Cartooning (ages 10-15); Sports and Recreation (ages 10-15); Techie (ages 8-12); and Improvisation (ages 10-15); Etiquette for Middle-Schoolers; and Etiquette for Young Adults. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids or call 1-800-818-3434.

BEDFORD — Corporate and Community Education & Career Training Program offers the Society for Human Resources Management Learning System for those seeking to earn SHRM Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) or SHRM Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP) credentials. Classes are held Tuesday evenings Sept. 20 through Dec. 6, on the Bedford campus. The cost is $1,280 and includes all course materials, but does not cover registration for the SHRM-CP or SHRM-SCP examinations. Visit www.SHRMCertification.org. To register, call 781-280-3608, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/shrmls.aspx.

Links program is a tuition-free program designed specifically to help nontraditional students start college. Applications are currently being accepted for the fall semester, which begins Thursday. Eligible applicants must have a high-school credential (diploma, HiSET or GED) be a Massachusetts resident, and take MCC College Placement Tests and place into Links courses. Preference is given to students who studied in a DESE-funded Adult Basic Education Program. Contact Ruth Clark at clarkr@middlesex.mass.edu, or 781-280-3654; or Allison Norton at norton@middlesex.mass.edu, or 781-280-3662; or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/Links.
MCC opens doors to ITT ex-students

Event for those displaced by sudden closure of campuses

By Karl Tutt
ktutt@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Brenda De La Cruz got her associate’s degree from ITT Technical Institute’s Wilmington campus back in 2004. About a year and a half ago she went back to get her bachelor’s, only to find out this week all 130 campuses have closed.

“I was shocked at first, then I was getting to a point where I was just depressed because of all the time I put in,” said De La Cruz, of Haverhill. “It’s hard to handle.”

De La Cruz, 45, was studying information security systems and eager to work in the field, but now that is going to take longer to accomplish.

Like many former ITT students, De La Cruz is stuck in the predicament of trying to continue her education.

Please see ITT/7
MCC reaches out to displaced ITT students

Middlesex Community College hosted a free registration and consultation event Friday for ITT students at the Cowan Center in Lowell. About 30 students visited MCC or guidance between Thursday and Friday, including De La Cruz. Two students showed up at MCC’s Bedford campus.

“Merry about what to do next, when college semesters have already begun. De La Cruz was going to school under her husband’s GI Bill, which was transferred to her. The GI Bill provides educational assistance to veterans. That’s additional work she will have to do in an already difficult situation.

Middlesex Community College Dean of Students Pam Flaherty, left, helps Brenda De La Cruz of Haverhill, a former ITT student, during a free registration and consultation event Friday at MCC’s Lowell campus.

Some students who just began their higher-education studies took placement exams, to see which courses would be appropriate to take. Others, further along in their studies, got their transcripts reviewed.

Middlesex Community College Dean of Students Pam Flaherty, left, helps Brenda De La Cruz of Haverhill, a former ITT student, during a free registration and consultation event Friday at MCC’s Lowell campus.

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Middlesex Community College Dean of Students Pam Flaherty, left, helps Brenda De La Cruz of Haverhill, a former ITT student, during a free registration and consultation event Friday at MCC's Lowell campus.
UPCOMING AT MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The fall semester at Middlesex Community College begins Wednesday, Sept. 7. Here are some upcoming events and courses to keep in mind.

- The Middlesex Community College Adult Learning Center offers free college-preparation courses for adult learners (age 16 and older) who live and work in Massachusetts. Students are admitted throughout the year on a space-available basis. The next registration is Tuesday, Sept. 6. The Adult Learning Center is a free program supported by a grant from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/adultlearning, or call 781-280-3662.

- MCC offers 10 Associate Degree programs and 5 certificate programs that can be completed entirely online, as well as 12 degree programs that can be completed through hybrid course offerings, which combine online and face-to-face instruction. For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/flex, or call 800-618-3434.

- MCC’s Flexible Studies Department emphasizes student-centered learning while supporting student success initiatives. Students in MCC’s Flexible Studies courses can select from a variety of course meeting times that best fit their schedule, use self-pacing to extend or accelerate their coursework, and can work directly with their instructor in one-to-one sessions and in small groups with their classmates. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblestudies.

- Enrollment is open for MCC’s Technical Writing Certificate Program. The 120-hour, two-semester, postgraduate, noncredit certificate program provides students the skills necessary to write technical documents and effectively communicate about technical information. Classes are held Thursday evenings, Sept. 8 through Dec. 16, on the Bedford Campus. Email morins@middlesex.mass.edu, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/techwrite.aspx.
EDUCATION

Middlesex College's tuition-free program accepting applicants

Applications for Middlesex Community College's Links Program, a tuition-free program designed to help nontraditional students start college, are currently being accepted for the fall semester, which begins Sept. 8.

Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education in partnership with MCC, Links provides an opportunity for eligible students to earn college and institutional credits free over the course of one or two semesters. The program was designed to provide individual assessment of skills, assistance with career planning and academic guidance and support, as students begin their college education.

Eligible applicants must have a high school credential — diploma, HiSET or GED — be a Massachusetts resident and take MCC College placement tests and place into Links courses. Preference is given to students who studied in a DESE-funded Adult Basic Education Program, however, other students are encouraged to apply.

Links classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, on MCC's Bedford campus. Links students can use all Middlesex facilities and access all student services, including academic and career guidance, skills assessment and individual support services. Classes are small, usually 15 students and comprise other Links students.

For information: contact Ruth Clark at 781-280-365 or clarkr@middlesex.mass.edu; Allison Norton at 781-280-3662 or nortona@middlesex.mass.edu; or visit middlesex.mass.edu/Links.
PUBLIC NOTICE OF
UPCOMING
ACCREDITATION REVIEW
VISIT BY CODA

Middlesex Community
College wishes to
announce that it will host a
site review for continuing
accreditation of its dental
programs by the
Commission on Dental
Accreditation (CODA) on
November 29 - December
1, 2016. You are invited to
submit written and signed
comments pertaining to
Accreditation Standards of
the dental assisting, dental
hygiene and/or dental
laboratory technology
programs. Comments
may be submitted to:
Commission on Dental
Accreditation
211 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611
All written comments
should be received by
CODA no later than
September 29, 2016.
Please note: signatures are
required on all comments,
but will be removed prior
to submission to the
program. For more
information on CODA
accreditation standards
and/or CODA's policy on
third party comments,
please call
1-800-621-8099 x4653.

August 22, 2016
Minuteman High School is one of a dozen educational institutions and only five vocational schools selected by the state to study innovative programming to expand career and technical education in Massachusetts.

The school in Lexington this month was awarded a $10,000 competitive planning grant from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The Career and Technical Education Partnership Planning Grant is designed to help the schools expand existing programs -- or create new ones -- to increase student access to career and technical education in Massachusetts.

With the grant, Minuteman will explore several possible options. They include expanding its half-day "Minuteman in the Morning" program, which serves students from nonvocational high schools; offering an advanced-manufacturing program to retrain adults; launching an after-school career exploratory program to serve middle school students, including female students wishing to explore nontraditional by gender careers; and expanding career exploratory programs for middle school students during the February, April and summer vacations.

"We're very pleased to be one of a handful of vocational schools selected to take part," Dr. Edward A. Bouquillon, Minuteman's superintendent, said in a news release issued Monday, Aug. 22. "We look forward to working with our partner schools and businesses in our region to expand student access to high-quality career and technical education."

Bouquillon serves on the governing board of the Alliance for Vocational Technical Education, a new statewide organization whose primary goal is to expand access to high-quality career and technical education for more Massachusetts students.

Minuteman is expecting to work with a host of educational and business partners, including the Lexington Public Schools, Middlesex Community College, Haas, Prattville Machine & Tool, North Central Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board, Metro North Regional Employment Board and Partnerships for a Skilled Workforce.

Twenty-nine schools and school districts applied for planning grants, and 12 received them, with amounts ranging from $6,000 to $10,000.

The other 11 institutions receiving competitive grants include Bunker Hill Community College, Essex North Shore Technical High School, Greater Lawrence Technical High School, Greater Lowell Technical High School, Holyoke Community College, Lynn Public Schools, Massasoit Community College, Mohawk Trail Regional School District, Quincy Public Schools, Upper Cape Cod Technical School District and Worcester Public Schools.

Work done under the planning grant must be completed by Oct.31. Schools may then apply for grants of up to $150,000 to implement their ideas. Only the 12 educational institutions that received planning grants are eligible to apply for implementation grants.
MCC to share in grant

Middlesex Community College, in efforts led by Mount Wachusett Community College, and in partnership with Northern Essex and North Shore community colleges, recently received a four-year, $4 million federal TechHire grant to provide workforce training in advanced manufacturing in Worcester, Middlesex and Essex counties.

The Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing TechHire Consortium, or MassAMTC, is a strategic partnership of training providers, employers and the workforce investment system. As a partner in the TechHire Consortium, Middlesex will work with the Greater Lowell Workforce Investment Board and the Greater Lowell Technical High School Precision Manufacturing Training Center to offer advanced manufacturing training to 100 young adults, unemployed workers and under-employed individuals.

“We are thrilled to partner with three other outstanding community colleges, workforce-development boards, career centers and vocational schools to be able to advance the pipeline of manufacturing workers,” said Judy Burke, Dean of Corporate and Community Education and Training. “We have been working hard as a region on behalf of manufacturing employers, and this grant will allow us to help get skilled workers back into the workforce.”

Seventy-eight local residents will receive Quality Technician Training, 12 will participate in an Advanced Manufacturing Boot Camp and Machinist Training, and another dozen individuals will receive Electronics Technician training. Once they have successfully completed their programs, the advanced-manufacturing trainees will receive assistance with job placement.

Graduates of MCC’s Advanced Manufacturing Training Program completed more than 500 hours of training in basic machining or electronics, gaining hands-on experience to begin careers in the high-demand manufacturing industry, including working in aerospace, defense, medical devices, computers and electronics.

MCC walk-in admissions

Middlesex Community College plans two walk-in admissions sessions to be held on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. Classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 7. The Lowell Campus session is Tuesday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Cowan Center on the Lowell Campus, 33 Kearney Square. The Bedford Campus session is Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Bedford Campus Enrollment Center, 591 Springs Road. Call 800-818-3434, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu.

Boston Sunday Globe
Community News

August 21, 2016

Bedford

Grant to help veterans in college

Middlesex Community College, with campuses in Bedford and Lowell, recently received $10,000 from the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation to help veterans transition from military service to higher education. The Strengthening Families Grant funding will be used to train college faculty and staff to better understand the needs of active military, veterans, and their family members, and to help students identify and connect with resources both on and off campus. “This grant will make a significant difference in allowing Middlesex to expand its services to veterans and their families,” said Patricia Demaras, the school’s assistant dean of international and multicultural affairs.

Jennifer Penn Lefferts
MCC Offers Free Opportunity To Start College With Links Program

Middlesex Community College's Links Program is a tuition-free program designed specifically to help nontraditional students start college. Applications are currently being accepted for the fall semester, which begins Thursday, Sept. 8.

Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) in partnership with MCC, Links provides an opportunity for eligible students to earn college and institutional credits FREE over the course of one or two semesters. The program was designed to provide individual assessment of skills, assistance with career planning, and academic guidance and support, as students begin their college education.

Eligible applicants must have a high school credential (diploma, HiSET or GED) be a Massachusetts resident, and take MCC College Placement Tests and place into Links courses. Preference is given to students who studied in a DESE-funded Adult Basic Education Program, however, other students are encouraged to apply.

Links classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, on MCC's Bedford campus. Links students can use all Middlesex facilities and access all student services, including academic and career guidance, skills assessment, and individual support services. Classes are small, usually 15 students, and are comprised entirely of other Links students.

For more information about MCC's Links Program, contact Ruth Clark, Links Program Coordinator, at clarkr@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3654, or Allison Norton, Links Program Educational and Career Advisor, at norton@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3662 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/Links.

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!
Middlesex Community College Provides Services For Veterans

The Middlesex Community College Veterans Resource Center (VRC) is dedicated to helping veterans achieve their educational and career goals. Military service members who are beginning a college career or returning to complete an academic program can choose from a variety of academic programs offered during the day, evening, weekend and online. Fall semester classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 7, and it's not too late to register!

MCC’s Veterans Resource Center has been established to serve as a place where veterans can receive information about educational programs, assistance with accessing college resources, and answers regarding eligibility for government, state and community sponsored services.

Resource advocates are available to assist military service members and their families in finding answers to help aid in the transition from military service to higher education through support and guidance during the application, admissions and academic process. The VRC also provides a support system where veterans meet other veterans as they become members of the Middlesex college community.

Middlesex is currently ranked sixth on a list of military-friendly community colleges nationwide. Additionally, MCC has been designated a Military Friendly School by Victory Media every year since 2011. The list of Military Friendly Schools honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus. For more information, visit www.militaryfriendlyschools.com.

MCC’s Veterans Resource Centers are located in the Bedford Campus Center, Room 206, or in the Lowell City Building, Room 117. For more information about MCC’s Veterans Resource Center, contact Maryanne Mungovan, Director of Multicultural and Veterans Affairs, at mungovaam@middlesex.mass.edu or call 978-656-3267.

For registration information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.

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Middelsex College to offer free college prep courses

The Middlesex Community College Adult Learning Center offers free college preparation courses for adult learners, age 16 and older, who live and work in Massachusetts; the next registration will be Sep. 6.

Students are admitted throughout the year on a space-available basis.

“Our experienced and professional instructors help returning-adult students develop and improve their computer, study, and job skills,” said Kathy Innis, MCC’s Adult Learning Center director. “The program helps prepare students for success in college, at work and in the community.”

Adult Learning Center classes are small and range from adult basic education to High School Equivalency Test preparation. The program meets from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, September through June, on the Bedford campus.

The Adult Learning Center provides classroom instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies and basic computing/digital literacy skills. Students have access to computer labs with specialized software to supplement classroom learning.

Middlesex Community College’s Adult Learning Center is a free program supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. For information: 781-280-3662; middlesex.mass.edu/adultlearning.

Middlesex College receives $10K grant to help veterans

Middlesex Community College received a $10,000 Strengthening Families Grant from the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation to help veterans transition from military service to higher education.

Grant funding will be used to provide Green Zone training to a wide range of college faculty and staff. The Green Zone program will help MCC create a highly-visible network of college employees who better understand the unique needs of active military, veterans, and their family members, and who can help students identify and connect with resources both on and off campus.

“This grant will make a significant difference in allowing Middlesex to expand its services to veterans and their families,” said Patricia Demaraas, assistant dean of international and multicultural affairs. “It is essential to provide support to our veterans so they can succeed in earning educational credentials that will help them gain employment and reintegrate into their communities.”

Thanks to the already extensive services of the Veterans Resource Center, and other special veterans services the college provides, Middlesex is currently ranked sixth on a list of military-friendly community colleges nationwide. Additionally, MCC has been designated a military-friendly school by Victory Media every year since 2011.

For information: 978-666-3267; mungovanm@middlesex.mass.edu. For information about the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation: easternbank.com/foundation.
BEDFORD

Middlesex Community College receives grant to help veterans

By Jennifer Fenn Lefferts GLOBE CORRESPONDENT August 16, 2016

Middlesex Community College, with campuses in Bedford and Lowell, recently received $10,000 from the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation to help veterans transition from military service to higher education. The Strengthening Families Grant funding will be used to train college faculty and staff to better understand the needs of active military, veterans, and their family members, and to help students identify and connect with resources both on and off campus. “This grant will make a significant difference in allowing Middlesex to expand its services to veterans and their families,” said Patricia Demaras, the school’s assistant dean of international and multicultural affairs.

Jennifer Fenn Lefferts can be reached at jflefferts@yahoo.com.
Carolyn Fletcher read thousands of essays in her 35 years teaching English at Middlesex Community College. Through the writing, she was able to peek into the complicated lives of her students. Many were struggling financially. Others said they lacked a mentor. Some were the first in their family to attend college, and had difficulty navigating a new world.

"It’s a daunting and life-changing process" to go to college, said Fletcher, 69, from her Wellesley home. "There’s no support system for some of these people."

She wanted to help disadvantaged students in some way once she retired from teaching. So in 2011, she and her friend Susan Tofias founded Freshman Fifteen Boston, a nonprofit that donates dormitory supplies to incoming college freshmen.

This summer, the program is sending dorm-room essentials — 15 items in total,
Nonprofit tries to ease burden of hidden costs for freshmen

This young kids are our future, and they can’t afford this," said Tomas, 66. "We just feel that is the best way to start them off at school."

Kenny Delino, 18, received a Freshman Fifteen package for his first year studying at Boston College. While at Boston College High School, he would look for ways to save his family money: he would pack meals from home instead of buying from the school cafeteria, or look for class texts online instead of purchasing the printed textbook.

Delino moved into the Boston College dorms in June for an early start program. He said he uses the notebooks from his Freshman Fifteen package for his classes and the desk lamp for nighttime studies.

Receiving dorm materials "is a relief that a lot of people don't think about and don't know about," said Delino, who hopes to study in France while in college. "It's something that we didn't have to worry about anymore."

"I didn't expect to see that many boxes," said Adam, now a rising sophomore.

He is the vice president of Harvard's First Generation Student Union, helping students transition from high school to college. He wishes all the students who seek support could receive dorm materials like he did.

"Where we come from, we're not often given things like this. It seems as if we have to struggle for it," said Adam, who has seven siblings. "When you're given this kind of opportunity, it's relieving."

Not all the students attend in-state schools. Javier Gill, 18, graduated from New Mission High in June and will start classes at the University of San Francisco this month.

Students going to school far away have to worry about additional costs, including travel and out-of-state tuition. Freshman Fifteen spares his mother from having to buy dorm items and ship them across the country, he said.

"It's less money out of her pocket," Gill said. "Instead of spending all my money on school supplies, I can spend money on textbooks or stuff like that."

On a recent weekday morning, Tomas, Weinstien, and two volunteers gathered in Fitcher's garage in Wellesley to pack materials for the students. Dozens of boxes lay open across the garage floor, filled with a backpack, notebooks, and other school supplies.

One by one, the packages were examined, taped, and stacked against the right wall of the garage. The names of the recipients' college were written on each box: Temple, Salem State, University of Massachusetts Lowell. Tofas marked the shipping dates with a highlighter, it's important they go out on the right date, she said.

The final row of packages was a physical representation of the students who would soon start a new chapter in their education, it's college life in a box.

Miguel Otorola can be reached at miguel.otorola@globe.com.
Follow him on Twitter at @miguelotorola123.

Kenny Delino has furnished his Boston College dorm room with the help of donated items.

The cost of assembling and shipping each student package is $650, raised through mail-in and online donations. The bedding and bathroom items are gathered by Bed, Bath & Beyond, Fitcher, Tofas, and organization members Ruth Weinsten pick up the rest.

Students receiving the supplies have come from dozens of high schools in Massachusetts and go to colleges around the nation. Tofas said the organization, an offshoot of a program started in 2006 in New York, looks for graduates heavily involved in their high schools who come from low-income families.

This includes students who receive assistance from government programs. Most come from families that can contribute little to college tuition. Some students, Tofas said,
Reach Your Educational Goals With MCC’s Adult Learning Center

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Middlesex Community College’s Adult Learning Center is a free program supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. For more information visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/adultlearning or call 781-280-3662.

Middlesex Community College Offers Walk-In Admissions Sessions

Walk in and get started on your pathway to success at Middlesex Community College. Learn more about MCC’s fall semester programs and courses at two Walk-In Admissions Sessions to be held on our Bedford and Lowell campuses. Classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 7.

The Lowell Campus Walk-In Admissions Session will be held from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23, in the Cowan Center on the Lowell Campus, 33 Kearney Square.

The Bedford Campus Walk-In Admissions Session will be held from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, in the Bedford Campus Enrollment Center, 591 Springs Road.

During Walk-In Admissions Sessions, students can get more information about MCC’s more than 70 degree and certificate programs, and learn about financial aid and other student support services – including tutoring, career counseling and disability support.

Prospective students will be able to meet with admissions counselors and fill out an application. Qualified students can register for courses. Placement testing will be available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students can also learn about MCC’s many transfer agreements with four-year colleges and universities. Transfer counseling and transfer-credit evaluation will also be available. (Transfer students should bring their transcripts.)

At Middlesex you CAN fit education into your busy life. For more information about MCC’s Walk-In Admissions Sessions, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu.
Prospective students may learn more about Middlesex Community College’s fall semester programs and courses at two Walk-In Admissions Sessions to be held on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. Classes begin Sept. 7.

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Prospective students will be able to meet with admissions counselors and fill out an application; qualified students can register for courses. Placement testing will be available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days. Students can also learn about MCC’s many transfer agreements with four-year colleges and universities. Transfer counseling and transfer-credit evaluation will also be available.

For information: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu.
REACTION TO TEXAS LAW

College leaders: No to guns on campus

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

LOWELL — A highly contested law in Texas now allows concealed handguns on public college campuses, part of a string of campus-carry laws nationwide that has sparked a broader debate.

Yet in Massachusetts, a state with one of the most stringent gun laws in the nation, some college leaders are simply not interested in allowing students to bring their guns to school.

Beyond law enforcement, state law forbids firearms on college campuses and elementary or secondary schools unless gun owners receive written authorization from the school authority.

Violations can carry a fine of up to $1,000 and two years in prison.

But college leaders in the Lowell and Fitchburg areas haven’t authorized anyone to bring a gun on school grounds — and they don’t plan on doing so anytime soon.

“I think there’s no reason for it to be necessary,”

Please see GUNS/5
Mass. college leaders show no appetite for guns on campus

GUNS/From Page 1

Middlesex Community College President James Mahoney said, “We have no dangerous incidents on the campus, and having armed officers who are very highly trained, very highly skilled is really the best way to go about this.”

Mahoney said the school, which has campuses in Lowell and Bedford, hasn’t received requests from students to be able to carry guns on campus. In fact, it’s just the opposite — requests that no one be allowed to carry weapons, even armed officers.

UMass Lowell’s weapons advisory echoes those at the five other UMass campuses, forbidding firearms on school grounds even if a student is licensed to carry one.

Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner also bans weapons on campus, with the exception of law-enforcement officials who are authorized by the school's board of trustees and president.

“The safety of our students and college community is the highest priority at Mount Wachusett Community College,” spokeswoman Janice O’Connor said.

A similar sentiment rings true at Fitchburg State University.

“Fitchburg State University considers the safety of its campus community paramount, and, in accordance with state law, prohibits the possession of weapons on its grounds,” spokesman Matthew Bruin said in a statement.

“The university president has not authorized any personnel beyond law enforcement to carry weapons on campus, and we do not anticipate changing that practice.”

Other area colleges also claim to have very few incidents of finding guns illegally on campus.

“The climate is starkly different from the one in Texas, where licensed holders can bring concealed handguns to public college campuses.

Yet since taking effect this month, three University of Texas professors have sued to overturn the law, declaring it an unconstitutional mandate that forces colleges to impose “dangerously experimental gun policies.”

The campus-carry debate has been a busy one nationwide. In the 2015 legislative session, 14 states introduced legislation that would allow guns on campus and university campuses, according to a report from the Education Commission of the States and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

Texas is the only state this year to enact legislation allowing guns on campus, joining six other states that already permit guns on campus — Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Utah and Wisconsin.

“We’re noticing a substantial shift in the thinking of public policymakers about the presence of guns on campus,” said Andrew Morey, a co-author of the study and director for policy research and advocacy at the NASPA Research and Policy Institute.

“Whereas it used to be pretty widely understood that guns have no place in the campus environment, in recent years we’re seeing a noticeable shift in the position of that narrative to almost be more pro-gun, and that’s a concern.”

The study urges campus leaders to consider firearms training — or lack of — for those who carry.

But for gun-rights activists in Massachusetts, campus-carry is yet another Second Amendment battle to fight.

Jim Wallace, executive director of the Gun Owners’ Action League of Massachusetts, said addressing the issue will take a while.

“This actually includes a cultural change,” he said.

“The people here are going to have to realize that the person who’s ultimately responsible for your safety is yourself.”

Wallace emphasized that the use of firearms in a life-saving attempt is a “last ditch” effort, and argued that gun owners don’t simply engage in a wild shootout when there’s an active shooter on campus.

“If somebody’s standing over your best friend and is about to do harm to them, and there’s no other action you can take, I’m not sure what kind of training you need,” he said. “It’s just basic survival instinct.”

Follow Amelia on Twitter and email PakHarvey.

Information from the Washington Post and the AP was used in this report.
Middlesex Community College sets admissions events in Bedford, Lowell

By Jennifer Fenn Lefferts GLOBE CORRESPONDENT  AUGUST 10, 2016

Middlesex Community College will hold a walk-in admission session at its Bedford and Lowell campuses prior to the start of the fall semester. The Lowell session will be held Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Cowan Center on the Lowell Campus, 33 Kearney Square. The Bedford session will be held Aug. 25, also from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Bedford Campus Enrollment Center, 591 Springs Road. During both events, students can get more information about the college's 70 degree and certificate programs and learn about financial aid and other student support services, including tutoring, career counseling, and disability support. Prospective students will be able to meet with admissions counselors and fill out an application; qualified students can register for courses. Placement testing will be available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu. Jennifer Fenn Lefferts can be reached at jflefferts@yahoo.com.
MCC gets $100G Cummings grant

Middlesex Community College is one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of $100,000 each through Cummings Foundation’s “$100K for 100” program. Middlesex was chosen from 479 applicants, during a competitive review process.

Patricia Demaras, MCC’s assistant dean of international/multicultural student affairs, and Lisa Doucett, director of grant development, joined about 300 other guests at a recent reception at TradeCenter 128 in Woburn to celebrate the $10 million infusion into Greater Boston’s nonprofit sector. With the conclusion of this grant cycle, Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than $140 million to local nonprofits alone.

“This Cummings Foundation grant will help Middlesex sustain and expand programs that support our diverse student body and help all who come to our college succeed,” MCC President James Mabry said. “Students recruited and trained to be peer advocates and achievement coaches work on many levels to close achievement gaps and build persistence and success across the college. This grant will be critical in our ability to reach more students and help them to achieve their educational goals.”

The three-year grant will enable Middlesex to build capacity to enhance academic and career opportunities for students, using peer-support staff to improve engagement, leadership and job readiness.

The college will expand its successful student-outreach model of peer liaisons (now well established at the Lowell-campus Multicultural Center) to hire trained student achievement liaisons and a program coordinator to work out of the Bedford Multicultural Center.

Achievement liaisons will reach out to and support Bedford-campus students who are more likely to experience gaps in achievement, such as those who are first-generation to college, ethnic/racial minorities, and/or who are from nontraditional or low-income households.

The Cummings Foundation has also given $5,000 to MCC’s annual Celebrity Forum in past years. Proceeds from Celebrity Forum help raise funds for MCC Foundation student scholarships.

The “$100K for 100” program supports nonprofit agencies that are not only based in, but also primarily serve, Middlesex, Essex and Suffolk counties. This year, the program is benefiting 41 different cities and towns within Massachusetts.

![Image of Patricia Demaras, Joyce Cummings, and Lisa Doucett]

Middlesex Community College is one of 100 local nonprofit agencies to receive grants of $100,000 each through Cummings Foundation’s “$100K for 100” program. From left are Patricia Demaras, MCC assistant dean of international/multicultural student affairs; Cummings Foundation founder Joyce Cummings; and Lisa Doucett, director of grant development at Middlesex.

COURTESY PHOTO
Start A Career In Health Care At Middlesex Community College

Considering a career in health care? Consider Middlesex Community College. Learn more about MCC’s Health Career degree and certificate programs at a Health Programs Information Session.

A Lowell campus Health Programs Information Session will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10, in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square. To register, visit http://bit.ly/mcchealthinfo.

MCC offers degree programs in Dental Assisting, Dental Hygiene, Dental Lab Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Medical Assisting, Nursing, Medical Lab Technology, and Radiologic Technology. We also offer certificate programs in Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting and Medical Lab Technology.

MCC’s Associate Degree in Nursing is offered as a full-time day program, or a part-time evening/weekend program. Prospective nursing students must attend a mandatory Overview of the Nursing Program Information Session, to be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11, in the Lowell Federal Building Assembly Room. To register, visit http://bit.ly/mccnursinginfo.

The MCC Academy of Health Professions offers short-term training and college-credit courses that could lead to an entry-level position in a health care field. Explore career opportunities such as nursing assistant, medical receptionist, medical secretary, phlebotomists, clinical laboratory assistant or medical assistant. For more information, visit: http://bit.ly/mccacp

To learn more about MCC’s Health Career Programs, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/admissionrequirements/health.aspx or call 1-800-818-3434.

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Middlesex Offers Digital Forensics Certificate Program

New this fall, Middlesex Community College is offering a Digital Forensics Certificate Program. Classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 7, and it’s not too late to register!

MCC’s Digital Forensics Certificate Program is ideal for information technology and criminal justice students and professionals interested in exploring how computer technology can be applied to the investigation of computer-related crimes. The curriculum integrates computer technology and criminal justice elements.

Coursework includes learning about the principles, procedures, techniques, and hardware and software tools used to collect, investigate and analyze digital evidence related to criminal investigations.

Extensive hands-on training will be provided in MCC’s new, state-of-the-art computer forensics laboratory located on the Lowell campus. This practical learning lab offers students a unique opportunity to learn how computer forensics hardware and software systems operate to solve real-world crimes.

This program helps students prepare for such jobs as computer forensics analyst, examiner or specialist in both private industries, as well as local, state and federal agencies.

To be eligible for this program, students must have a bachelor’s degree in any field, or three years of professional experience in law enforcement, or a field related to information technology or computer science.

To learn more, or to apply, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/computerforensics/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Blaze hits Bedford

Unknown cause for brush fire near Middlesex Community College

By Joy Richard
jrichard@wickedlocal.com

Multiple fire departments worked to battle flames from a brush fire near Middlesex Community College July 28, as temperatures continued in the 90s.

Bedford Fire Department Chief David Grunes said crews worked for more than five hours to contain the blaze, which according to Grunes presented several challenges, including access to the area, which had land with a 10 to 12 foot drop. He said department members had to scale the incline and bring more than a 1,000 feet of hose into the woods. According to the department, fire officials were unable to determine a final cause.

"The depth of which the fire burned into the stuff," Grunes stated July 29, referring to the layer of leaves and brush immediately under the surface. "Due to the drought conditions, the fire burned deep into the root systems of the vegetation, requiring fire crews to use had tools such as shovels and hoes to expose the depth of the fire. The 93-degree temperature also wore on (responders), requiring frequent circulation of fresh crews."

According to the Bedford Fire Department and Bedford Police Department Sgt. Paul Saunders, emergency responders from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Bedford, Billerica, Lexington and Hanscom Air Force Base worked through the late afternoon to knock down the smoky blaze. Concord Fire Department also contributed to the effort, providing coverage to the Bedford fire station.

Grunes added that DCR members and the Bedford crew returned to the scene the next morning, "to assure that any potential hot spots have been extinguished. Hopefully we receive a soaking rain to minimize the risk of further fires."

"Facilities and security staff from Middlesex Community College were also instrumental in providing support including cold water and a shaded area with portable fans for rehabilitation of the crews," he stated.

According to Saunders, smoke was seen and reported to dispatch by numerous 911 calls in the area of Springs Street near the Middlesex Community College facilities building at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Tura Landerholm of Middlesex Community College said the campus had not been affected by the blaze.

Saunders said less than an acre was affected the fire, and no buildings, homes or residents were injured, or displaced.

"(The fire) was at distance into the woods," said Saunders, adding that the incident was the equivalent of a two-alarm fire.

Saunders said crews were affected by the intense heat and smoke, but none were transported to the hospital and were continually being rotated and kept hydrated. Armstrong Ambulance Service crews who were also on scene monitored firefighters' vital signs.
EDUCATION

Honing skills on the local level

Middlesex Community College benefits from four-year grant

By Amelia Johnson
ajohnson@wickedlocal.com

Middlesex Community College (MCC) will be able to provide its students with advanced manufacturing training, thanks to a four-year, $4 million federal TechHire grant it received in partnership with Mount Wachusett, Northern Essex and North Shore community colleges.

Judy Burke, dean of corporate and community education and training at MCC, said advanced manufacturing is an innovative form of production, which focuses on technology and high-end precision work. According to a statement from MCC, the TechHire grant will allow the college, located in

SEE SKILLS, A9

which was funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. Henshaw said Mount Wachusett has developed expertise in quality technician training, a subset of advanced manufacturing, which "provides fundamental knowledge of the practices and requirements that must be in place for organization to ensure they meet customer demand and regulatory requirements."

When the new grant opportunity from TechHire presented itself, Henshaw said it was an opportunity for Mount Wachusett to expand its advanced manufacturing program. The school then reached out to Middlesex, North Shore, and Northern Essex because they are members of the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium (NAMC). The consortium's website, namcnetwork.com, states, "The Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium is a collaboration among industry, academia and government that was created in 2012 to define and implement the commonwealth's advanced manufacturing strategy within the Northeast region of Massachusetts."

The three community colleges, 13 manufacturing companies, eight vocational schools, seven career centers and four workforce investment boards that are part of the consortium work together to train and employ local residents.

Henshaw said the TechHire grant will allow the schools to collaborate on learning practices, and expand upon current programs.

"This grant will allow our area community colleges, including Middlesex and North Shore community colleges, to better prepare students for tomorrow's economy through advanced education and training" stated Democratic U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton.

SKILLS

From Page A1

Bedford and Lowell, to train 100 young adults, unemployed workers and underemployed workers.

Seventy-eight students will receive quality technician training, while 12 will participate in advanced manufacturing "boot camp" and machinist training and another 12 will receive electronics technician training.

"Employers are starved for this kind of skill," said John Henshaw, dean of workforce development at Mount Wachusett Community College.

Burke said the program will act as a pipeline to companies in need. Upon completion of the required 500 training hours, students will also receive assistance in working to find employment.

All participating colleges will host one cohort of students. Burke said students will first learn foundation skills, such as math and computer science, then progress to hands-on training.

The colleges have partnered with regional vocational schools, which will provide students with the opportunity to learn on machines. MCC staff will partner with the Greater Lowell Technical High School Precision Manufacturing Training Center.

Mount Wachusett Community College led the efforts to acquire the grant. Henshaw said Mount Wachusett has been partnered with NyPro Corporation in Clinton for a long time, and students can take classes at Nypro University that count toward an associate degree in manufacturing technology-plastics from Mount Wachusett.

Mount Wachusett also offered a non-credit Industrial Readiness Training Program,
BEDFORD, MA — Chief Robert Bongiorno and Jacquelin Apsler are pleased to announce that the Bedford Police Department and the Domestic Violence Services Network (DVSN) hosted two successful realistic escape strategies and instinct-based self defense training (RESIST) courses.

Similar to a Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class, the goal of RESIST is for women to learn how to escape from an attacker by using instinct-based moves. The free program is separated into two, three-hour classes. In the first, participants talk about general and relationship safety before learning and then practicing physical self-defense moves like strikes and blocks. On the second day, instructors wear protective gear and “attack” participants, who then use moves learned in class to escape.

Every instructor is trained through RAD. Bedford’s Sgt. Richard Vitale, Officer Kristen Dineen, Officer Jeffrey French and Emergency Communications Officer Claudia Foy led the sessions with assistance from DVSN advocate Jena Salon.

“These classes are designed to provide women with instinct-based training to defend themselves using their voice and body in dangerous situations,” Apsler said. “RESIST has been extremely successful in Bedford and that is in part due to a strong collaboration between DVSN and the Police Department.”

Bedford Police and DVSN hosted two courses for women in town, one at Bedford High School on April 12 and 16, and one at Middlesex Community College on June 22 and 23. Participation was capped at 16 students.

In a survey following the sessions at MCC, participants praised the course. One woman stated RESIST inspired her to pursue additional self-defense classes, and another left feeling empowered, confident that she would be able to defend herself in an unsafe situation.
Learn a New Language at MCC

Middlesex Community College’s Flexible Studies Department now offers 14 world languages. Fall semester classes start Wednesday, Sept. 7, and it’s not too late to register.

Languages offered include Arabic, Chinese, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Khozer, Latin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and new this semester, Hebrew.

“Many employers are looking to hire people who can communicate in a variety of languages in addition to English,” said Marilyn Glazer-Weisner, Coordinator of Flexible Studies. “In addition, many four-year institutions, including UMass Lowell, require students to take a minimum of four semesters of a world language to graduate. Students can take those courses at Middlesex, save a lot of money and be better prepared for the workforce.”

Most language courses are offered in multiple semesters and cover beginning, intermediate and advanced levels, and all courses cover cultural traditions and social conventions.

The Flexible Studies format is adaptable to diverse learning styles, incorporating Web-based technologies, computer programs, audio-visual materials, and one-to-one and small-group instruction. Online materials are used in all courses to give students the added benefit of enhanced learning.

Students in MCC’s Flexible Studies courses can select from a variety of course meeting times that best fit their schedule, use self-pacing to extend or accelerate their coursework, and can work directly with their instructor in one-to-one sessions and in small groups with their classmates.

For more information about MCC’s Flexible Studies world language course options, or to register, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblesudies/.
Middlesex Community College Is A Leader In Online Education

For more than 15 years, Middlesex Community College has been a leader in online education. Fall semester begins Wednesday, Sept. 7, and it's not too late to register.

MCC currently offers 10 associate degree programs and 5 certificate programs that can be completed entirely online, as well as 12 degree programs that can be completed through hybrid course offerings, which combine online and face-to-face instruction.

"MCC's online courses are taught by highly trained faculty who are committed to ensuring that every student has an engaging and successfully experience," said Marilyn Galligan, Dean of Admissions.

Students who take courses online at Middlesex complete the same high-quality coursework as those who take courses on campus. And online students earn the same course credits—which are transferrable to bachelor's degree programs, said Galligan.

Some of MCC's popular online degree programs include Accounting, Criminal Justice, Business, Hospitality Management, and Liberal Arts.

With online courses at Middlesex, you can fit education into your busy life! For more information about Middlesex online, visit: http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/fit/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

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

Tuesday
Posted Jul 26, 2016 at 4:10 PM

Middlesex Community College released its 2016 spring semester dean’s list.

Full-time and part-time students who have earned a GPA of 3.2 or above are acknowledged by inclusion on the dean’s list.

According to Phillip J. Sisson, MCC provost and vice president of academic and student affairs, to be eligible for the dean’s list, full-time students must earn a GPA of 3.2 or above without “D,” “F,” “I” or “IP” grades. Part-time students receive similar consideration upon completion of each block of 15 credits. Dean’s lists are published in the fall and spring semesters.

To view MCC’s entire 2016 spring semester dean’s list, visit bit.ly/MCCDeansListSpring2016. For information: moynihnd@middlesex.mass.edu.
There’s Still Time To Make Your Summer Matter At Middlesex

There’s still time to enroll for one of Middlesex Community College’s Summer Sessions – or to send your kids to one of our unique College for Kids summer programs.

Day Summer Session II runs July 11 through Aug. 10. Classes meet four days a week on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

MCC’s expanded Online and Evening Summer Session IV runs June 20 through Aug. 16. Classes meet online, or two evenings a week.

MCC’s College for Kids programs are designed to provide children with fun and challenging opportunities to explore careers, gain new knowledge, develop new skills and boost self-confidence. Programs are offered for children ages 8 to 15, and run July 11 through Aug. 18, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

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

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Prepare For MCC’s Engineering Programs With Free Summer Bridge

This summer, the Middlesex Community College Health & STEM Pathways Center is offering a free six-week STEM Summer Math Academy to provide students the opportunity to develop the math skills needed to succeed in MCC’s STEM and Engineering programs. Classes are held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, July 11 through Aug. 18, on the Lowell campus.

“This free five-credit accelerated course focuses on trigonometry and pre-calculus to help students prepare and qualify for ‘Calculus I for Engineering & Science,’” said Audrey Freier, Director of the Health and STEM Pathways Center. “Course instruction is integrated with mobile technology to keep pace with current trends in engineering and science fields.”

Participating students are also provided extensive academic and career support. Students who successfully complete the five-credit course and register for “Calculus I for Engineering & Science” before Aug. 31, will be qualified to receive an award of $800 toward their student account.

To apply, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/pathwayscenter/mathsa.aspx.

For more information about MCC’s free STEM Summer Math Academy, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/pathways or call 978-656-3042.

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Learn How To Finance Your Education At Middlesex

Middlesex Community College is committed to assisting students and their families in meeting the cost of a college education. Fall classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 7, and it’s not too late to apply for financial aid.

The goal of MCC’s Financial Aid Office is to ensure there are no financial barriers preventing students from earning a college degree or certificate. The Financial Aid Office provides information about student aid programs, and financial aid advisors are available to assist eligible students in accessing these programs.

Almost half of all Middlesex students currently receive financial aid. MCC participates in most federal and state grant, scholarship and loan programs. A list of the major financial aid programs, as well as specific information regarding terms, conditions and eligibility for each program, is available online at www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid or from one of MCC’s Financial Aid Offices. Additional forms of financial aid, including student employment, federal Work Study programs, or scholarship opportunities may be available for those who qualify.

Financial aid awards are based on financial need, enrollment status in an eligible program, and availability of funding. MCC’s academic year for financial aid begins in the fall semester and concludes with the summer semester. Students who apply for financial aid must apply every academic year after Jan. 1.

MCC’s Financial Aid Offices are located on both the Bedford and Lowell campuses and are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information about MCC’s Financial Aid Office or financial aid opportunities, contact the Bedford campus Financial Aid Office at 781-280-3650 or the Lowell campus Financial Aid Office at 978-656-3242, or visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid/.

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Middlesex Offers Flexible Studies and Multiple Learning Options

Middlesex Community College’s Flexible Studies Department emphasizes student-centered learning while supporting student success initiatives. Fall semester courses begin Wednesday, Sept. 7.

Students in MCC’s Flexible Studies courses can select from a variety of course meeting times that best fit their schedule, use self-pacing to extend or accelerate their coursework, and can work directly with their instructor in one-to-one sessions and in small groups with their classmates.

“Instead of lecturing, we get our students actively engaged in learning by facilitating tasks, activities, and mini lessons,” said Marilyn Glazer-Weisner, Coordinator of Flexible Studies. “We focus on creating a learning environment focused on the learner, and try to adapt to each student’s preferred method of learning.”

The Flexible Studies format is adaptable to diverse learning styles, incorporating Web-based technologies, computer programs, audio-visual materials, and one-to-one and small-group instruction. Online materials are used in all courses to give students the added benefit of enhanced learning.

Flexible Studies offers more than 90 credit courses, in subjects such as college readiness, reading, writing, ELL (English Language Learner), English composition, and an introduction to literature and 14 world languages.

For more information about MCC’s Flexible Studies course options, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblesudies.

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Middlesex Announces Dean’s List For 2016 Spring Semester

Middlesex Community College has released its 2016 Spring Semester Dean’s List. Full-time and part-time students who have earned a 3.20 or higher grade point average (GPA) are acknowledged by inclusion on the Dean’s List.

According to Phillip J. Sisson, MCC Provost and Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs, to be eligible for the Dean’s List, full-time students must earn a 3.2 or higher GPA without “D,” “F,” “I” or “IP” grades. Part-time students receive similar consideration upon completion of each block of 15 credits. Dean’s Lists are published in the fall and spring semesters.


For further information or questions about the Middlesex Community College Dean’s List, contact MCC Registrar Daniel Moynihan at moynihan@daniel.middlesex.mass.edu

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More than meets the eye with income story

THE SUN, LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

Saturday
July 23, 2016

SATURDAY CHAT

KENDALL WALLACE

The city of Lowell has done better than most gateway communities, in some cases considerably better. But as the other side points out, it's not good enough and still lags considerably behind other communities in the state.

While I admit to being an eternal optimist, I am also a realist. I'm happy to see the city moving the median income to $50,000.

The wide difference between Lowell and other traditional gateway cities says to me Lowell is working harder at lifting everyone up than most like cities.

What a great world it would be if Lowell had kept up with the state and had a median income of $75,000.

But if Lowell had not united to fight for an urban national park, to build an arena, attract a professional baseball team, help CrossPoint survive after the demise of Wang, get Route 3 widened, help UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College grow, support the Hamilton Canal renewal, get state support for the new Judicial Center (groundbreaking scheduled in September) support quality public schools and now taking aggressive stands against absentee landlords who operate slums and tolerate drug operations, support quality live theater and the growth of the arts community, the city would be down with other cities, $15,000 lower.

So I want to enjoy the moment and thank all those who dream big and make good things happen.
ENROLLMENT

Middlesex College to offer tech writing certificate program

Enrollment is open for Middlesex Community College's Technical Writing Certificate Program.
This 120-hour, two-semester, post-graduate noncredit certificate program provides students the skills necessary to write technical documents and effectively communicate about technical information. Classes are held Thursday evenings, Sept. 8-Dec. 16, on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road.
Students will learn how to conduct audience and task-analysis; work with subject matter experts; understand product documents and the product-development cycle; write clear procedures; review and revise technical information; manage projects; and make content usable. Mark-up languages, such as HTML and XML, as well as tools for authoring information for electronic and print distribution, will also be covered. Through lecture, online learning and projects, students will create a portfolio featuring samples of their work.
This program is a career-enhancement opportunity for individuals with well-developed writing skills, a bachelor's degree and at least three years of work experience. The cost of MCC's Technical Writing Certificate Program is $1,499 plus textbook fees. Courses are not eligible for waivers.
For information: morins@middlesex.mass.edu; middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/techwrite.aspx.

EDUCATION

Middlesex College to offer flexibility, multiple learning options

Middlesex Community College's Flexible Studies Department emphasizes student-centered learning while supporting student success initiatives. Fall semester courses begin Sept. 7.

Students in MCC's Flexible Studies courses can select from a variety of course meeting times that best fit their schedule, use self-pacing to extend or accelerate their coursework and can work directly with their instructor in one-to-one sessions and in small groups with their classmates.

"Instead of lecturing, we get our students actively engaged in learning by facilitating tasks, activities, and mini lessons," said Marilyn Glazer-Weisner, coordinator of flexible studies. "We focus on creating a learning environment focused on the learner, and try to adapt to each student's preferred method of learning."

The flexible studies format is adaptable to diverse learning styles, incorporating web-based technologies, computer programs, audio-visual materials and small-group instruction. Online materials are used in all courses to give students the added benefit of enhanced learning.

Flexible studies offers more than 90 credit courses, in subjects such as college readiness, reading, writing, English language learning, English composition and an introduction to literature and 14 world languages.

For information: middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblestudies.
Northern Essex Shares $4 Million Federal Training Grant

July 20, 2016

Northern Essex Community College is among a consortium of four Massachusetts community colleges to share a $4 million federal TechHire grant to provide workforce training in advanced manufacturing beginning next January.

Led by Mount Wachusett Community College in collaboration with Northern Essex, Middlesex Community College and North Shore Community College, the Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing TechHire Consortium (MassAMTC) has the support of major regional industry association partners, including the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium, which represents 13 different advanced manufacturing employers.

With this four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, MassAMTC will provide training, work-based experiences, support services and job placement assistance in advanced manufacturing to 300 young people and 100 other unemployed, underemployed or dislocated workers.

“Advanced manufacturing is one of the cornerstones of the Merrimack Valley economy,” said George Moriarty, the college’s executive director of workforce development. “We’re excited about preparing more local residents for jobs in these fields.”

Under the Tech Hire grant and working in partnership with Whittier Regional Vocational School and Greater Lawrence Technical School, Northern Essex Community College will train 102 young adults, unemployed workers and under-employed individuals for good-paying jobs in three in-demand advanced manufacturing careers: quality technician, electronics technician and CNC machine technician. The programs are noncredit and will likely be offered in the evening. The first program, Quality Technician, will be approximately six-weeks long and the second two, Electronics Technician and CNC Machine Technician, will run approximately 25 weeks. Upon successful completion, trainees will receive job placement assistance from the ValleyWorks one-stop career center.

Other partners include North Central Workforce Investment Board (WIB), Greater Lowell WIB, Metro North Regional Employment Board, North Shore WIB and Merrimack Valley WIB, Lowell Technical High School, Lynn Vocational Technical High School, Essex Technical High School, Whittier Regional Technical High School and Greater Lawrence Technical High School.
"I congratulate Mount Wachusett, Middlesex, North Shore and Northern Essex community colleges on receiving a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to accelerate their advanced manufacturing training partnership program," said Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. "Boosting American manufacturing and increasing educational opportunities are two essential components to our nation’s future, and this funding will allow Massachusetts to continue to lead in both areas by providing top-tier training and credential programs that also bolster our local manufacturing companies and workforce."

More than $150 million in the H-1B TechHire grant program were awarded in July to 39 partnerships, providing training in 25 states across the country. More than 18,000 participants will receive services, with a focus on youth and young adults ages 17 to 29 with barriers to employment, as well as veterans and individuals with disabilities, limited English proficiency, criminal records, and long-term unemployment.
Dracut adopts aggressive strategy to build business

Northeastern's Dukakis Center Director Barry Bluestone: Most people don't know where town is and what its real assets are

By Todd Feathers, tfeathers@lowellsun.com

UPDATED: 07/22/2016 06:36:59 AM EDT

DRACUT — After years of agonizing about the town's small commercial tax base and grasping sporadically for prospective businesses, Dracut is now working with a research-driven economic-development strategy.

Its creators hope it help usher in a steady stream of new businesses, jobs and tax dollars.

Many of the familiar problems still exist. The town hasn't moved any closer to interstates 93 or 495, or been able to persuade Verizon to install fiber optic cables like the ones that provide high-speed internet to neighboring towns.

But the community has quite a bit going for it, both in terms of local characteristics and larger, economic factors, according to the 100-page economic-development strategy document released last week.

"Most people don't know where Dracut is and what its real assets are," said Barry Bluestone, director of Northeastern University's Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy.

"We believe that the housing costs and the congestion will make it possible and encourage firms to seek communities away from Boston," he said. "The housing and transportation makes communities like Dracut competitive, and maybe even more competitive, if they can make themselves known."

Using a self-assessment tool developed by Bluestone, Dracut officials worked with the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments to identify its strengths and weaknesses.

Chief among the town's advantages are its lack of traffic congestion, lower electricity costs, physical attractiveness, large available commercial properties, housing costs and proximity to schools like UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College, according to the report.

One of the likely tactics the town will pursue is attracting start-up businesses founded by current or former UMass students, said Board of Selectmen Chair Alison Hughes.

"To stay close to UMass Lowell is going to be important to some of these young companies," she said. "People are really getting tired of commuting. The millennials generation doesn't want to live far from where they work and Dracut can offer that mix of industry and a bedroom community."
Dracut is also in the process of creating a marketing brochure for the town and setting up a separate economic development page of its website to help current and interested businesses navigate the town’s permitting process.

"We’ve all heard of the bureaucratic red tape situations," Town Manager Jim Duggan said. "Some developers will get discouraged because of all the hurdles you have to go through and that stigma carries beyond the community ... so what we want to do as part of being receptive to commercial development is say 'Hey look, we streamlined the process.'"

That will include making sure that people like Community Development Director Betsy Ware have time to walk businesses through the steps.

Dracut’s last economic-development plan was finalized before 2000, said Jay Donovan, NMCOG’s assistant director, so it was due for an update. Since then, the town has grown in population, is getting older and slightly more diverse.

The economic-development strategy highlights some long-term goals, like encouraging creation of a more historical and aesthetically pleasing town center district around the intersection of Arlington and Bridge streets.

Duggan said he is also eyeing portions of Route 110 as a potential commercial-industrial hub.

Progress will not come overnight, and not every attempt to attract a major business will be successful. It took two years from the time Duggan began talks with the assisted-living company that is building a $20 million facility at the corner of Broadway and Loon Hill roads until they broke ground earlier this year.

The key, said Duggan, will be to be continually on the lookout for prospective businesses and then treat them like a desired partner, not a packet of paperwork.

"I'm still a firm believer that the best form of economic development is outreach," Duggan said.

Follow Todd Feathers on Twitter and Tout @ToddFeathers.

Report: Mass. at risk of seeing drop in population with college degrees

By Katie Lannan
State House News Service

BOSTON — Massachusetts boasts a higher rate of adults with college degrees than any other state, but could see that number decline instead of grow by 2022 unless more students enroll in and complete college, according to a new state report.

Titled “The Degree Gap,” the report released Wednesday by the Department of Higher Education says shifting demographics mean public colleges and universities will likely fall short of meeting the need for new associate and bachelor’s degrees by 55,000 to 65,000.

“With the majority of undergraduates in Massachusetts now attending our public higher education institutions, it is incumbent on all of us to ensure greater accessibility, more robust completion, and less variation in outcomes across the diversity of students we serve,” Higher Education Commissioner Carlos Santiago wrote in the report.

The report says 660,000 college-educated workers plan to retire over the next 10 years as Massachusetts residents age, while the state’s high school population continues to decline.

Currently, 51.5 percent of adults from ages 25 to 54 hold college degrees in Massachusetts, according to the Department of Higher Education.

To increase degree production from public colleges and universities and fend off a decline in the college-educated workforce, Santiago called for a focus on making college more accessible and affordable, closing achievement gaps, and improving completion rates.

A plan outlined in the report calls for the creation of “more affordable pathways to -- and through -- college,” citing the recently launched Commonwealth Commitment program as one example.

Announced in April, the Commonwealth Commitment program will offer rebates to qualifying students who transfer to a four-year public university from a community college, for an average savings of around $5,000 off the cost of a baccalaureate degree.
Mass. consortium receives $4M training grant

Monday
Posted Jul 18, 2016 at 4:51 PM Updated Jul 18, 2016 at 4:51 PM

A consortium of four Massachusetts community colleges and partnering vocational-technical high schools, local workforce investment boards, the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium and employers has received a $4 million federal TechHire grant to provide workforce training in advanced manufacturing in Worcester, Middlesex and Essex counties.

The Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing TechHire Consortium (MassAMTC) is a strategic partnership of training providers, employers and the workforce investment system. With this four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, MassAMTC will provide training, work-based experiences, support services and job placement assistance in advanced manufacturing to 300 young people and 100 other unemployed, underemployed, or dislocated workers.

Led by Mount Wachusett Community College in collaboration with Middlesex Community College, Northern Essex Community College, and North Shore Community College, MassAMTC has the support of major regional industry association partners, including the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium, which represents 13 different advanced manufacturing employers.

Additional partners include the North Central Workforce Investment Board (WIB), Greater Lowell WIB, Metro North Regional Employment Board, North Shore WIB and Merrimack Valley WIB, Lowell Technical High School, Lynn Vocational Technical High School, Essex Technical High School, Whittier Regional Technical High School and Greater Lawrence Technical High School.

“T congratulate North Shore, Mount Wachusett, Middlesex and Northern Essex community colleges on receiving a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to accelerate their advanced manufacturing training partnership program,” said Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. “Boosting American manufacturing and increasing educational opportunities are two essential components to our nation’s future, and this funding will allow Massachusetts to continue to lead in both areas by providing top-tier training and credential programs that also bolster our local manufacturing companies and workforce.”

“We are excited to begin this new partnership,” said NSCC President Patricia A. Gentile. “Best practices and curriculum from each institution will be shared and implemented, thereby benefiting employers and employees of the entire North Central and Northeast region.”
NSCC will work in partnership with Mount Wachusett on the Quality Technician Training Program, a program that complements NSCC's new Biotechnology Quality Assurance program. NSCC will train 52 people in four cycles of Quality Technician Training and 24 people in two cycles of Advanced Manufacturing Training Machining Track.

NSCC will also work in collaboration with the North Shore Workforce Investment Board, Lynn Technical High School and Essex Agricultural Technical High School to create a pipeline of primarily young and unemployed or underemployed workers to meet the workforce needs of companies across its region. The training will be noncredit with the hope that participants may transition to college to continue on a manufacturing career pathway.

More than $150 million in the H-1B TechHire grant program were awarded in July to 39 partnerships, providing training in 25 states across the country. More than 18,000 participants will receive services, with a focus on youth and young adults ages 17 to 29 with barriers to employment, as well as veterans and individuals with disabilities, limited English proficiency, criminal records, and long-term unemployment.
MCC duo win medals at DECA

Middlesex Community College students Kyla Caffrey of Carlisle and Nicholas Lindahl of Woburn won two awards at the Collegiate Division of DECA National Competition and International Career Development Conference, held recently in Washington, D.C.

Led by Vikram Sharma, Accounting professor and faculty adviser for the Finance and Accounting Club, the team of two competed against students from four-year universities and community colleges from the U.S. and Canada.

Caffrey and Lindahl each won two medals in the Advertising Campaign category. Students participated in a student leadership training event, in which Lindahl won an award for his overall performance.
MCC Joins Initiative To Improve Training Of Direct-Care Workers

As the state’s population ages, there is a growing need for Home Health Aides and Certified Nurse Assistants to care for the elderly, the disabled, and those with chronic illness confined to their homes. Middlesex Community College has joined a statewide consortium to improve training and education of these direct-care workers.

In conjunction with MassBay Community College, MCC will help create a Personal Home Care Aide State Training (PHCAST) program, and build a Direct Care Worker Educational Pathway Model.

Supported by the Affordable Care Act: PHCAST federal grant, this initiative will expand career opportunities for direct-care workers across the state. It will create clear pathways and educational ladders, with transferrable courses, that can lead to higher-level jobs. The initiative will also establish standardized competency training throughout Massachusetts.

"With many people now enjoying retirements that can last longer than their working careers, we have to be prepared for an aging population," said Denise Pratt, MCC’s Assistant Dean of Allied Health. "Middlesex and other community colleges offer certificate programs that address the needs of caring for this age group. Reviewing the various programs of study and moving toward a common career lattice for Nursing Assistants will give career options for workers in this field," she said.

MCC offers a Nursing Assistant Certificate Program as part of its Academy of Health Professions (AHP), which features short-term training and college-credit programs.

MCC also offers a 100-hour noncredit "Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide" course through Community Education & Career Training.

Students who complete these programs may find career opportunities in long-term care facilities, hospitals and clinics, or in individual residential/patient homes. They are also eligible to take the Massachusetts state certification examination and work as a Certified Nursing Assistant.

Enrollment in MCC’s AHP and CET programs is offered on a rolling basis, and courses run throughout the year. For more information, call 1-800-818-3434.

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Middlesex CC Offers First-Year Experience Summer Courses

New students can get a jump on their first year of college with the First-Year Experience (FYE) Program at Middlesex Community College.

FYE is designed to support first-year students as they transition to college life, and it’s not too late to register. MCC offers three two-day seminars, and begin Tuesday, Aug. 2 or Tuesday, Aug. 9.

"National research has shown what we have known all along – students are more successful in completing courses, in graduating, and in overall achievement when they are personally engaged with their college," said Jo Mucci, Director of First-Year Experience and Student Success. "The FYE Program at Middlesex makes students aware of academic and co-curricular opportunities, thus helping them become more involved and successful in their studies."

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

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

Also available is FYE's "Wellness Seminar." This participatory course provides a holistic approach to exploring and understanding the various components of personal wellness. Topics may include exercise, diet, attitude, balance, stress management, relationships, communication, spirituality and environment. This course highlights the connection between healthy decisions and lifestyle choices as it relates to overall personal wellness.

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

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

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STEP AHEAD

Middlesex College to host First Year Experience Program

New students can get a start on their first year of college with the First-Year Experience Program at Middlesex Community College.

FYE is designed to support first-year students as they transition to college life, and registration is now open. MCC offers three two-day seminars, and begins Aug. 2 or 9.

"National research has shown what we have known all along, students are more successful in completing courses, in graduating, and in overall achievement when they are personally engaged with their college," said Jo Mucci, director of First-Year Experience and Student Success. "The FYE Program at Middlesex makes students aware of academic and curricular opportunities, thus helping them become more involved and successful in their studies."

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

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

Also available is FYE's "Wellness Seminar." This participatory course provides a holistic approach to exploring and understanding the various components of personal wellness. Topics may include exercise, diet, attitude, balance, stress management, relationships, communication, spirituality and environment. This course highlights the connection between healthy decisions and lifestyle choices as it relates to overall personal wellness.

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

For information: 781-280-3724; mucci@middlesex.mass.edu
Middlesex College to improve training of direct-care workers

Middlesex Community College joined a statewide consortium to improve training and education of direct-care workers.

As the state’s population ages, a growing need is for home health aids and certified nurse assistants to care for the elderly, the disabled and those with chronic illness confined to their homes. In conjunction with MassBay Community College, MCC will help create a Personal Home Care Aide State Training program and build a Direct Care Worker Educational Pathway Model.

Supported by the Affordable Care Act: PHCAST federal grant, this initiative will expand career opportunities for direct-care workers across the state. It will create clear pathways and educational ladders, with transferable courses, that can lead to higher-level jobs. The initiative will also establish standardized competency training throughout Massachusetts.

“With many people now enjoying retirements that can last longer than their working careers, we have to be prepared for an aging population,” said Denise Pruitt, MCC’s assistant dean of Allied Health. “Middlesex and other community colleges offer certificate programs that address the needs of caring for this age group. Reviewing the various programs of study and moving toward a common career lattice for nursing assistants will give career options for workers in this field,” she said.

MCC offers a Nursing Assistant Certificate Program as part of its Academy of Health Professions, which features short-term training and college-credit programs.

MCC also offers a 100-hour noncredit “Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide” course through Community Education & Career Training.

Students who complete these programs may find career opportunities in long-term care facilities, hospitals and clinics or in individual residential/patient homes.

They are also eligible to take the Massachusetts state certification examination and work as a certified nursing assistant.

Enrollment in MCC’s AHP and CET programs is offered on a rolling basis, and courses run throughout the year. For information: 800-818-3434.

CURRICULUM

Middlesex College to offer Human Resources course

Registration is now open for Middlesex Community College’s Corporate and Community Education & Training noncredit Society for Human Resources Management Human Resource Essentials course.

Classes meet from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays, July 12 and 19, on the Bedford campus.

“The business world is changing every day, whether you are a manager or a regular employee, it’s critical to know the rules, regulations and rights of everyone in the workplace,” said Patricia Morrow, course instructor. “This certificate program gives you tools you can apply immediately to the workplace.”

This 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. This course is ideal for those who are just starting out in the human resource profession, small business owners or those who are looking for an effective way to improve their employee-management skills.

Topics covered include, human resources management, employment law, recruitment and selection, compensation and benefits, employee development and performance management.

In cooperation with SHRM, 1.5 CEUs and a certificate will be awarded upon successful completion of all hours. Partial credit is not awarded. The cost of this course is $525 and includes all SHRM study materials.

For details: 781-280-3663; middlesex.mass.edu/career-training/shrm. To register: 800-818-3434.
UMASS LOWELL

Middlesex College welcomes potential honors students

The Middlesex Community College Commonwealth Honors Program and the UMass Lowell Honors College held a joint admission and welcome event on MCC’s Lowell campus.

This special orientation session was designed for students admitted to UMass Lowell, but who were placed on a wait list. They were encouraged to keep their momentum going by enrolling at Middlesex as honors students. During the event, students and parents attended a luncheon and general information session, followed by student advising sessions, registration and a campus tour.

“The Commonwealth Honors Program is a great place for students who want to be fully engaged in their intellectual enterprise to learn as much as possible about the world around them and focus on the collegiate experience,” said MCC history professor David Kalivas, CHP director.

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

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

After receiving accreditation from the state board of higher education in 2010, MCC’s Commonwealth Honors Program became part of an integrated network of honors programs throughout the Massachusetts public college and
EDUCATION

Middlesex College to offer free summer STEM program

Incoming students to MCC’s health and science, technology, engineering and math programs can participate in Middlesex Community College’s free STEM Starter Academy Summer Bridge Program.

Offered through the Health & STEM Pathways Center, this free two-week summer session is open to new or continuing Middlesex students with fewer than 24 credits. Classes are held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday, Aug. 1-12. All courses take place on the Lowell campus, 33 Kearney Square.

“The Summer Bridge Program is an excellent way to introduce students to health and STEM resources at the college,” said Audrey Frater, director of MCC’s Pathways Center. “Many of our health and STEM students who have successfully transferred started in a Summer Bridge.”

Each day, students are introduced to new aspects of the health and STEM fields. Students explore careers in health and STEM fields, meet MCC faculty and staff, learn important study skills, get help developing a resume and learn about available research, internship and job opportunities. Students also gain hands-on experience and laboratory skills and can connect with a peer mentor.

Middlesex faculty, staff and guest lecturers lead the sessions, which vary from year to year but have recently included environmental science, biotechnology and clinical lab techniques.

“One of the most beneficial things this program offers is the opportunity for new students to connect with experienced students,” said Frater. “Summer Bridge students often start their health or STEM programs feeling more connected because they know they’re not alone. They know where to go if they need help and support.”

For information: 978-322-8411; middlesex.mass.edu/pathwayscenter.
A consortium of four Massachusetts community colleges, including Northern Essex Community College, and partnering vocational-technical high schools, local workforce investment boards, the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium and employers has received a $4 million federal TechHire grant to provide workforce training in advanced manufacturing in Worcester, Middlesex and Essex counties.

Led by Mount Wachusett Community College in collaboration with Middlesex Community College and North Shore Community College in addition to Northern Essex, The Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing TechHire Consortium (MassAMTC) has the support of major regional industry association partners, including the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium, which represents 13 different advanced manufacturing employers.

MassAMTC is a strategic partnership of training providers, employers and the workforce investment system. With this four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, MassAMTC will provide training, work-based experiences, support services and job placement assistance in advanced manufacturing to 300 young people and 100 other unemployed, underemployed, or dislocated workers.

Under the Tech Hire grant and working in partnership with Whittier Regional Vocational School and Greater Lawrence Technical School, Northern Essex Community College will train 102 young adults, unemployed workers, and under-employed individuals for good-paying jobs in three in-demand advanced manufacturing careers: quality technician, electronics technician, and CNC machine technician. The programs are noncredit and will likely be offered in the evening. The first program, Quality Technician, will be approximately six-weeks long and the second two, Electronics Technician and CNC Machine Technician, will run approximately 25 weeks. Upon successful completion of the programs, trainees will receive job placement assistance from the ValleyWorks one-stop career center. Training is scheduled to start in January of 2017.

“Advanced manufacturing is one of the cornerstones of the Merrimack Valley economy.” said George Moriarty, NECC’s executive director of workforce development. “We’re excited about preparing more local residents for jobs in these fields.”

Additional partners include the North Central Workforce Investment Board (WIB), Greater Lowell WIB, Metro North Regional Employment Board, North Shore WIB and Merrimack Valley WIB, Lowell Technical High School, Lynn Vocational Technical High School, Essex Technical High School, Whittier Regional Technical High School and Greater Lawrence Technical High School.

“I congratulate Mount Wachusett, Middlesex, North Shore and Northern Essex community colleges on receiving a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to accelerate their advanced manufacturing training partnership program,” said Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. “Boosting American manufacturing and increasing educational opportunities are two essential components to our nation’s future, and this funding will allow Massachusetts to continue to lead in both areas by providing top-tier training and credential programs that also bolster our local manufacturing companies and workforce.”
“We are excited to begin this new partnership,” said MWCC President Daniel M. Asquino. “Best practices and curriculum from each institution will be shared and implemented, thereby benefiting employers and employees of the entire North Central and Northeast region.”

More than $150 million in the H-1B TechHire grant program were awarded in July to 39 partnerships, providing training in 25 states across the country. More than 18,000 participants will receive services, with a focus on youth and young adults ages 17 to 29 with barriers to employment, as well as veterans and individuals with disabilities, limited English proficiency, criminal records, and long-term unemployment.
Senate approves college special education bill

Tuesday
Postec Jul 12, 2016 at 10:14 AM

TEWKSBURY — The Massachusetts Senate passed legislation July 7 to improve the lives of many individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities by enabling them to attend college with their same-aged peers in an inclusive setting.

The bill, originally sponsored by Sen. Barbara L’Italien, D-Andover, opens the doors of state colleges and universities to students who have been historically denied access to higher education and held back to complete additional years of high school because their disability prevented them from obtaining a high school diploma.

“Massachusetts has always been a leader in creating opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and this bill represents another step forward to enrich the lives of not only students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, but also entire college communities where students benefit from working with students different from them” said L’Italien, who, in different positions, has been working on this initiative for nearly 10 years.

“Postsecondary education is essential for success in today’s world, and by including individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities on our college campuses, we can ensure that all motivated students can come together to collaborate with each other and learn the skills necessary for work and life,” L’Italien said.

“Like all Massachusetts students, students with disabilities deserve access to the academic, social and workforce training benefits of higher education,” said Senate Committee on Ways and Means Chair Sen. Karen Spilka, D-Ashland. “This bill reinforces the legislature’s commitment to inclusion and opportunity for people of all ages and abilities, helping students develop skills, live independently and transition to adulthood.”

The bill also codifies the very successful Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative Grant program, which allows high school students aged 18-21 with intellectual and developmental disabilities to participate in an inclusive college course and the student life of college as part of their high school special education. Thirteen colleges and universities already partner with nearly 70 school districts statewide to offer the program, and now it will be available statewide for the rest of the residents of the commonwealth.
"Higher education provides important social and educational opportunities for our young people, and this bill will provide individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities the same opportunities as their peers," said Senate President Stan Rosenberg, D-Amherst, whose hometown partners with UMass Amherst to provide the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative program to some of its special education students. "This bill will enrich the lives of all of our higher education students across the commonwealth by expanding opportunities for inclusive learning environments."

"We are so grateful for the leadership of Senate President Rosenberg, Senate Ways and Means Chair Spilka, and Sen. L'Italien for their leadership on this important issue," said Ann Guay, an attorney from Bedford whose son, Brian Guay, has participated in the ICEI initiative at Middlesex Community College. "This bill will open doors and make college a reality for students with disabilities who, until now, watched their siblings and friends go on to college with no hope of being able to go on their own. Now it's their turn!"

The bill now moves to the House for consideration.
Rialto renovation revs into high gear

By Grant Welker
gwelker@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Construction had quietly been taking place at the former Rialto Theatre on Central Street downtown for the past year or so, as Middlesex Community College transforms the building into a new performance and classroom space.

All of a sudden, that transformation became a very visible one. Crews recently took down the 140-year-old building's back wall and roof, leaving in place little more than the Central Street and side facades and two towers at each end.

The Victorian Gothic structure has been home to a theater, a train depot, a bowling alley, a real-estate firm, a florist and more. It has been virtually empty for several decades.

Many still call the building the Rialto, remembering its time as a theater. The

Please see RIALTO/7
A rear view of the Rialto building in Lowell being torn down for renovations by Middlesex Community College.

**Rialto renovation revs up in Lowell**

**RIALTO/From Page 1**

College has referred to it as the Boston & Maine building to recall its original use as a train depot.

The $19 million project at 240 Central St. will create a new use for a building that has had many of them. The Academic Arts Building, as the structure will be known, will include a 177-seat theater, a smaller music hall, and classroom space.

Bringing the building back to life requires some surgery first. The back wall needs to be rebuilt to be able to support mechanical systems for the building, said Patrick Cook, Middlesex's executive director of public affairs. The roof had been damaged by a fire years ago.

The building's most distinctive features will remain.

The two towers were more recent additions. Steve Stowell, the city's Historic Board administrator, called the towers "faithful reproductions" of similar structures that were there long ago.

Custom brick and granite have also been added, he said, helping to bring the structure back to more of a Victorian look after various changes over the decades.

The towers, front cornice and central gable — architectural flourishes that gave the building a distinctive look typical of the 1800s — were removed in the 1940s, according to the city.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission signed off on the new Middlesex project, instead of the city's Historic Board, because the renovations are a state project.

The college took over the building in 2008 after it was saved from demolition, but then spent years working to assemble funding.

The building is expected to be complete in time for the fall 2017 semester.

Middlesex has experience reusing old buildings.

Within a few blocks, its Lowell campus includes the former Wang training center (now the Carole Cowan Center, named for the former college president), a former post office (the Morse Federal Building) and the former Pollard Exchange building on Middle Street. The college's Bedford campus is a former seminary.

Follow Grant Walker on Twitter and Tout @SunGrantWalker.
The Middlesex Community College Foundation recently awarded more than $47,000 in scholarships to 41 deserving Middlesex students for the 2015-2016 academic year. The 48 scholarships, ranging from $500 to $2,500, are funded by a variety of sources, including memorial donations, local businesses, private foundations and private donors.

One new scholarship was established this year: The Positive Psychology Scholarship has been established by two MCC alumni, Dawn Blackman (Class of 2011) and Taylor Mayo (Class of 2014), and is presented to a student in Bob Perk’s “Positive Psychology” course.

For more information about the Middlesex Community College Foundation Scholarships, contact Amy C. Lee, Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, at leea@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3879, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships.

Following are the 2015-2016 scholarship recipients:

Audrey A. Cogliano Memorial: Vivian Vilman.

Carl Dunlop: Jesse Godin.

Catherine A. Goodwin Memorial: Lynn Haydel.

Charles and Gita Halwani Memorial: Jenny Chou.

Collegiate TRIO Program: Alexandria White.

Emily Boudreau Memorial: Jennifer Pratt.

Geraldine B. Daragan: Jennifer Pratt.

John Michael Delechanty Memorial: Paige Tarney.

John M. Keough Memorial: Debra Keppel-Brown, Earl Williams.


Richard L. (Gleason) Farley: Piyi You Song.

Kim M. Forte Memorial: Hillary W. Reaney.

Lexington-Concord Chapter of APCA: Christopher Ingemi, John Karango, Diego Leonardo Garcia.

Lena Smith: Natalie Appiah, Eddie Rubino.

Markovitsz-Dudorff: Mina Sugam.

MCC Foundation for Full-Time Students: Shirley Archimandrit, Christopher Ingemi, Katherine Lucas, Brittany Maxwell, Rachael Rodman.


Mary O. Hurley Memorial: Tawana Brandon, Sarah Marotta, Michael Poladian.

New England Woodcarvers: Lynn Hayes, Trinh Tran-Nguyen.


Paul Sheedy Memorial: Vivian Vilman.

Positive Psychology: Byron Padron.

Ray Shea Memorial for International Studies: Sydney Park, Robert Catselik, Tessa Shibbo.

Robert Minue Memorial: Yoshele Velazquez Dicurus.

Securities Security: Karla Cabrera, Patricia Francis.

Shirley W. Timken Memorial: Kristen Dufie.

Support Staff: Joseph Dawson.

Thomas O'Mahony "Spirit of Excellence": Yoshele Velazquez Dicurus, Tom McKay Memorial: Jesse Godin.

Unktas: Diego Leonardo Garcia.
MCC Foundation awards scholarships to dozens

**The Lowell Sun**

**UPDATED: 07/10/2016 06:36:50 AM EDT**

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Collegiate TRIO Programs: Alexandria White.

Emily Boudrot Memorial: Jennifer Pratt.

Geraldine B. Deragon: Jennifer Pratt.

John Michael Delehanty Memorial: Paige Tierney.

John M. Keough Memorial: Devin Keppel-Brown, Earl Williams.

Keri-Lyn (Gleason) Farley: Phvey You Seng.

Kim M. Forte Memorial: Harley Viveney.

Lexington-Concord Chapter of AFCEA: Christopher Ingemi, John Karange, Diego Leonardo Garcia.

Lura Smith: Mataidja Appaih, Eddie Novinyo.

Markowicz-Dundorf: Mirna Sugden.

MCC Foundation for Full-Time Students: Shirley Archambault, Christopher Ingemi, Kathrine Lucas, Brittany Maxwell, Rachael Rodman.


Muriel G. Hervey Memorial: Tatiana Benavides, Sarah Marcotte, Michael Paladina.
New England Woodcarvers: Lynn Huynh, Trinh Tran-Nguyen.

Northeast Association of Realtors: Mai Nagabayashi.

Paul H. Sullivan: Kenny Pop.

Paul Sheehy Memorial: Vivian Villaman.

Positive Psychology: Bryan Padron.

Ray Shea Memorial for International Studies: Sydney Paré.

Robert Cataldo: Teena Shibu.

Robert Minue Memorial: Yosibel Valdez Dicuru.


Shirley W. Thidemann Memorial: Kristen Dutile.

Support Staff: Joseph Dawson.

Thomas O'Mahony "Spirit of Excellence": Yosibel Valdez Dicuru.

Tom McKay Memorial: Jesse Godin.

Unitas: Diego Leonardo Garcia.

The Middlesex Community College Foundation also recently awarded $36,500 in Mavis Leno Scholarships to 53 deserving students for the 2015-2016 academic year.

The Mavis Leno Scholarship was established by the JDM Foundation to provide financial assistance to deserving female students whose goals include working for the advancement of women's rights. Since 2008, more than 200 MCC students have received Mavis Leno Scholarships, totaling more than $250,000 in awards. This year's awards range from $500 to $1,500.

The recipients are: Matilda Appiah, Shirley Archambault, Maria Aybar, Liza Bathurst, Alexa Bostwick, Tatsyana Breton, Yohannen Brioso, Kaira Cabrera, Maiza Cavalcanti, Jenny Chou, Deanna Daley, Sara Diaz, Kaileigh Donovan, Natasha Downie, Zenia El Jenayrati, Silvana Favotto, Lisa Flavin, Michelle Greene, Anna Gunst, Malathi Gunaka, Edina Hirt, Marynissa Huggins, Brittaney Johnson, Marketa Lekesova, Sonya Leonard, Samey Lim, Lindsey Lizotte, Kathrine Lucas, Brandi Lynch, Genesis Martinez, Alyssa Minkle, Benita Nassali, Iryna Nebosenko, Camille Orlando, Kiara Ortiz, Megan Papetti, Lauren Perry, Nhung Phan, Mary Polce, Mirna Portillo, Jennifer Pratt, Caroline Rawski, Kate Selin, Phvey You Seng, Teena Shibu, Mirna Sugden, Shena Talbert, Brianna Tavares, Trinh Tran-Nguyen, Abigail Welch.

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TRANSPORTATION

Looking for a ride?

Bedford to start pilot program for on-demand shuttle

By Amelia Johnson
ajohnson@wickedlocal.com

Bedford's public transportation is on the road to improvement. On June 28, Bedford was awarded a $47,000 federal transportation grant through the Massachusetts Community Transit Program. The money will go to a two-year pilot program for a resident on-demand shuttle. The shuttle will begin after Labor Day and run daily from noon to 6 p.m.

Bedford Economic Development Coordinator Alyssa Sandoval said running the shuttle as a pilot program will allow the town to gauge demand for public transportation and learn the most popular places residents want to go. She said this data may be used to switch the shuttle to a fixed-route system in the future.

Sandoval said this shuttle is "great news for Bedford," and it "provides an important option for enhancing accessibility for Bedford citizens." She said she hopes the shuttle will increase town access for senior citizens, people with disabilities, school-age children and residents in general.

Adam Schwartz, president of the Bedford Chamber Commerce, said the shuttle service will make it easier for employees in Bedford's business districts to go out to lunch, shop

SEE RIDERS. A7
and run errands. To add incentive to shuttle use, Schwartz said the town is partnering with local businesses to give promotions to employees that use the new transportation.

"I think it's a great way for businesses to get additional coverage," Schwartz said.

Bedford Selectwoman Margot Fleischman also praised the development.

"At both ends of the age spectrum, and across abilities, this program represents greater access to a wider world for the people who really need it," stated Fleischman. "I've spoken with seniors who have or are about to give up driving and are concerned about the loss of mobility and independence, as well as parents who are struggling to make time in their work lives to get their kids to activities and appointments. I also know residents with physical disabilities who can't drive, and families with disabled adult children who rely on public transportation to get to work and programs."

Emily Rockwood, a resident at Carleton-Willard Village, is unable to drive due to age, and said the shuttle would make it easier for her to do more things she likes, such as shopping and going to the Council on Aging.

"It will add a lot of joy to my life," she said.

School Committee Vice Chairwoman Ann Guay said her son Brian will also be able to benefit from new shuttle. Brian is about to graduate from The LABBB Educational Collaborative, which helps students with special needs, and hopes to get a job in town within the next few months.

"It's a wonderful option for people looking for employment in town," Guay said. "To find and maintain employment is harder without transportation."

The shuttle will also benefit students at Middlesex Community College, according to college president James C. Maly.

"At Middlesex Community College, we believe expanding local transit in Bedford and the surrounding region will enable students to gain access to career training that can help them build productive careers in the thriving local economy," he stated.
Middlesex College to guide dual enrollment students

Middlesex Community College will host an orientation session 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. A Bedford Campus Dual Enrollment orientation session will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. July 20 in the Bedford Campus Center's Café East, 591 Springs Road.

As part of MCC's Dual Enrollment Academy, qualified students may enroll in college-level courses offered online, during the day, evening or weekend on MCC's Bedford or Lowell campuses.

Flexible options are available to focus on science and math, engineering and technology, health professions or business administration. Also welcome are students who just want to get a head start on completing the general-education courses required by most colleges and universities.

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

To maximize success, MCC offers academic counseling, tutoring, computer labs and library services and encourages students to participate in on-campus events and student clubs.

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: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu/dualenroll.
As town-gown ties improve, so will prospects for all

Murphy and UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney met recently to work on a master agreement that would lead to better communication and collaboration. It’s a good start toward revitalizing a solid city-UMass relationship.

In our view, it serves no good purpose to paint Lowell as a “victim” and UMass Lowell as a “villain” when it comes to financial matters regarding taxable property. The UML-Perkins Place deal was the tip of the iceberg on an issue that has been raging for years, and not just in Lowell. When taxable properties are sold to nonprofits, the properties become tax exempt. (The Sun reported Friday that UML was purchasing two more taxable properties off Middlesex Street.) Maybe it’s time to “reform” the law; state Rep. David Nangle is studying the question with colleagues on Beacon Hill.

But whether the law changes or not, leadership must rise to the top. Murphy and Moloney have an equal obligation, as does Middlesex Community College President James Mabry, to set the standard for fairness on future transactions of such import. The Perkins deal eliminated $321,000 from the city’s annual tax rolls and forced more than 200 residents to move. A good deal for UML, which needs dormitory space for students, wasn’t so good for the city and residents.

The city, UML and MCC all share mutual interests yet their basic priorities are different. The schools’ first priority is to students; the city’s is to taxpayers. Each side must respect the other’s commitments while still trying to strike a balance.

A great deal of the region’s future success rests with expanding the educational reach and power of both UML and MCC. On any given day in Lowell, approximately 24,000 high school and college students are learning in campus classrooms. (Add Lowell Public Schools and the total is 38,000.) When it comes to preparing students for the workforce, we should all be rooting for all the schools to come out on top.

Who is to say there won’t be 30,000 or 40,000 college students in Lowell at some point? Such growth requires campus expansion. It also requires sound planning and cooperation.

Last week, the Lowell Plan brought together Chancellor Moloney, President Mabry and Lowell Superintendent of Public Schools Salah Khefioui for a roundtable discussion on the positive state of public education. As they spoke, it became clear that Lowell is on its way toward becoming an “education and innovation mecca” for attracting top scholars, administrators, students and research businesses.

Of course, the schools can’t do it on their own. They need Lowell — the city — as a key partner.

For Murphy, Moloney, Mabry and others, it's time to hit the re-set button on stronger ties and greater prospects.
Middlesex To Host Bedford Dual Enrollment Orientation Session

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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.

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

Middlesex Community College offers FREE Reading, Writing and Math Refresher Workshops for students who want to brush up their skills before taking the College Placement Test. Workshops are offered all summer on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

"These workshops are a great opportunity for all students to be more successful throughout college," said Phyllis Gleason, MCC's Dean of Foundational Studies, First-Year Experience and General Education. "A short two-hour refresher course can help students score higher on the College Placement Test so they can begin classes at their appropriate learning level, preventing them from taking classes they don't really need - saving time and money."

MCC's Reading Refresher Workshop helps students improve their reading skills and testing strategies to improve their score on the Reading Accuplacer Test. Topics covered during this workshop include finding main ideas, locating details, identifying patterns of organization, and making inferences.

The Writing Refresher Workshop helps students improve their writing skills and covers topics such as formulating and supporting strong thesis statements, using appropriate grammar and sentence structure, and developing compelling introductions and conclusions.

MCC's Math Refresher Workshop reviews basic arithmetic skills, including standard operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals and percentages. A review of elementary algebra is also included.

For more information about MCC's free Reading, Writing, and Math Refresher Workshops or to register, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/admissions/events.aspx or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving edu-
Lowell education leaders discuss the future

HEADS/From Page 3

For Lowell schools, the biggest hurdle may be handling a bump in enrollment that has forced use of temporary classrooms.

"If we had a (new) middle school, we'd fill it up right now, in September," Khefaoui said.

Each institution is also focused on keeping buildings and campuses safe. UMass Lowell, for example, has 580 cameras and 190 blue emergency call boxes. With the press of a few buttons, campus buildings can be locked down, Moloney said.

Lowell schools use Lowell police officers in some schools, and Middlesex has a Lowell officer on its Lowell campus each day, and a Bedford officer on its Bedford campus.

The leaders were asked about areas of study as more jobs tend to move away from liberal arts and toward fields like science, technology and engineering.

But planning a career isn't always so simple, Mabry said.

"Hey, I'm a history major. I did OK," he said.

Moloney talked about entrepreneurship and how the university's innovation labs are benefiting the city.

"I think we're in a position to tip it over," she said of growing momentum in those fields.

Each leader asked those in attendance, including many business and agency leaders, city councilors and School Committee members, for their continued support. Khefaoui invited attendees to visit schools to see first-hand what they do.

The outlook for the city and the three schools go hand-in-hand, leaders said.

"When I look at our three educational institutions," Councilor Bill Samaras said, "you are our natural resource."

Follow Grant Welker on Twitter and Tout @SunGrantWelker.
Lowell education heads talk the future
City councilor calls schools 'our natural resource'

By Grant Welker
gwelker@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Last year, for the first time in recent history, all three educational institutions in the city — the heads of UMass Lowell, Middlesex Community College and Lowell public schools — saw turnover in their top position.

Together, Jacqueline Moloney, James Mabry and Salah Khelfaoui face challenges of educating students at a time when public funding is as stretched thin as ever, and competition in higher education is fierce.

The three educational leaders talked in a speakers series Thursday sponsored by the Lowell Plan, discussing their challenges, school security and how they can prepare students for careers.

Challenges vary by institution. Middlesex is facing declining enrollment as fewer people go back to school to change job fields, and fewer students graduate from many area high schools. UMass Lowell, like other public schools, gets less and less of its budget covered by the state each year.

Please see HEADS/4
Bedford to start pilot program for on-demand shuttle

Thursday
Posted Jun 30, 2016 at 1:08 PM Updated Jul 5, 2016 at 11:14 AM
Share

By Amelia Johnson ajohnson@wickedlocal.com

Bedford’s public transportation is on the road to improvement.

On June 28, Bedford was awarded a $47,000 federal transportation grant through the Massachusetts Community Transit Program. The money will go to a two-year pilot program for a resident on-demand shuttle. The shuttle will begin after Labor Day and run daily from noon to 6 p.m.

Bedford Economic Development Coordinator Alyssa Sandoval said running the shuttle as a pilot program will allow the town to gauge demand for public transportation and learn the most popular places residents want to go. She said this data may be used to switch the shuttle to a fixed-route system in the future.

Sandoval said this shuttle is “great news for Bedford,” and it “provides an important option for enhancing accessibility for Bedford citizens.” She said she hopes the shuttle will increase town access for senior citizens, people with disabilities, school-age children and residents in general.

Adam Schwartz, president of the Bedford Chamber Commerce, said the shuttle service will make it easier for employees in Bedford’s business districts to go out to lunch, shop and run errands. To add incentive to shuttle use, Schwartz said the town is partnering with local businesses to give promotions to employees that use the new transportation.

“Is a great way for businesses to get additional coverage,” Schwartz said.

Bedford Selectwoman Margot Fleischman also praised the development.
"At both ends of the age spectrum, and across abilities, this program represents greater access to wider world for the people who really need it," stated Fleischman. "I've spoken with seniors who have or are about to give up driving and are concerned about the loss of mobility and independence, as well as parents who are struggling to make time in their work lives to get their kids to activities and appointments. I also know residents with physical disabilities who can't drive, and families with disabled adult children who rely on public transportation to get to work and programs."

Emily Rockwood, a resident at Carleton-Willard Village, is unable to drive due to age, and said the shuttle would make it easier for her to do more things she likes, such as shopping and going to the Council on Aging.

"It will add a lot of joy to my life," she said.

School Committee Vice Chairwoman Ann Guay said her son Brian will also be able to benefit from new shuttle. Brian is about to graduate from The LABBB Educational Collaborative, which helps students with special needs, and hopes to get a job in town within the next few months.

"It's a wonderful option for people looking for employment in town," Ann said. "To find and maintain employment is harder without transportation."

The shuttle will also benefit students at Middlesex Community College, according to college president James C. Mabry.

"At Middlesex Community College, we believe expanding local transit in Bedford and the surrounding region will enable students to gain access to career training that can help them build productive careers in the thriving local economy," he stated.
EDUCATION

A sense of security

MCC official helps update campus safety protocol

By Amelia Johnson
aphillips@wickedlocal.com

The risk of active shooters and sexual assaults on college campuses has been widely discussed around the country, and local education officials are working on what steps to take prior to a new school year.

"People's uneasiness and fear push you to move faster and come up with solutions that are productive," said Alisa Chapman, director of compliance and Title IX coordinator at Middlesex Community College, which has campuses in Bedford and Lowell.

Title IX is a federal law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender in any federally funded education program or activity. Chapman works to enhance the safety of MCC and support students on campus if they face discrimination, harassment or sexual violence. She was also a member of the Task Force on Campus Safety and Violence Prevention, which helped create the Massachusetts campus safety report: "Securing Our Future: Best Practice Recommendations for Campus Safety and Violence Prevention."

Gov. Charlie Baker and Massachusetts Commissioner of Higher Education Carlos E. Santiago pushed for the creation of the 120-page report, which was prepared by TSG Solutions and accepted by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education earlier this month.

The report provides a series of recommendations for public colleges in Massachusetts to enhance campus safety.

A 2008 campus safety report was commissioned

SEE SECURITY, A7

SECURITY

From Page A1

in the wake of the Virginia Tech shooting, and focused primarily on active-shooter risks. Chapman said the 2016 report recommendations for active shooter risks are the same as those in the 2008 report, but needed to be expanded, clarified and updated.

The 2008 report stated, "Campus mental health services should be clearly available and easily accessible to students." Updates to the 2016 report read that schools should, "Provide access to appropriately trained counselors on campus and/or in the community" and "provide access to mental health professionals trained in identifying, assessing, treating and managing individuals at risk of perpetrating violence."

The 2016 report also addresses sexual violence. There are six recommendations listed, under three main guiding principles: prevention, reporting and responding. Chapman stated that the awareness and training recommendation is "critical for all of the latter recommendations to have a lasting effect on our handling of these issues."

The report calls for institutions to educate faculty and students on sexual violence and also provide training on the prevention of sexual violence.

"This training should, at a minimum, include components on respect for gender and cultural differences, consent, expectations for healthy sexual relationships and options for bystanders," the report states.

Chapman said the report ensures that colleges in Massachusetts have a formalized approach to these issues, and a consistent response that is strategic and research-based.

"While every campus is unique, our goal with this report is to offer a series of baseline recommendations that local campuses can use to address the evolving security changes they face, both now and in the future," stated Amanda Botelho Robbins, senior security consultant with TSG Solutions and the primary author of the report.

MCC does not have residence halls, Greek life or official sports teams, and drugs and alcohol are not permitted on campus, all of which Chapman said are primary factors most colleges deal with in relation to sexual assault. Chapman primarily works with students who are facing domestic violence at home, dating violence or stalking.

Chapman said, "The bottom line—you want everyone to be successful," adding that she helps students "deal with a problem outside of here, but also be able to finish the semester in a productive way."

Chapman offers support, and helps students get absences excused and deadlines extended. She also educates faculty on dealing with sensitive issues, crime prevention and sexual assault response.

Chapman said MCC "tries to be out on the forefront of these types of issues," which was a large reason why she wanted to be involved with the update of the report.
Middlesex college awards women's rights scholarships

Wednesday
Posted Jun 29, 2016 at 7:37 PM Updated Jun 29, 2016 at 7:37 PM

The Middlesex Community College Foundation recently awarded a total of $36,500 in Mavis Leno Scholarships to 53 deserving students for the 2015-2016 academic year.

The Mavis Leno Scholarship was established by the JDM Foundation for the purpose of providing financial assistance to a deserving female student whose goals include working for the advancement of women's rights.

Since 2008, more than 200 MCC students have received Mavis Leno Scholarships, totaling more than $250,000 in awards. This year's awards range from $500 to $1,500.

Recipients include:

Acton
— Shena Talbert
— Mirna Sugden
— Amy Wilson

Ayer
— Mirna Sugden

Arlington
— Anna Gunst

Ashland
— Maiza Cavalcanti

Bedford
— Sonya Leonard

Billerica
— Mary Polce

Chelmsford
— Kathrine Lucas

Dracut
— Benita Nassali
— Marynissa Huggins
— Lindsey Lizotte

Everett
— Michelle Greene
— Eliana Yassuda
— Kaileigh Donovan
— Tatsyana Breton
— Yohanny Brioso
— Genesis Martinez
— Kaira Cabrera
— Teena Shibu
— Zenia El Jenaynati
— Malathi Guntaka
— Edina Hirt
— Samey Lim
— Silvana Favotto
— Matilda Appiah
— Brittaney Johnson
— Shirley Archambault
— Maria Aybar
— Brandi Lynch
— Alexa Bostwick
— Jenny Chou
— Deanna Daley
— Trinh Tran-Nguyen
— Sopor Yean
— Kate Selin
— Nhung Phan
— Phvey You Seng
— Jennifer Pratt
— Sara Diaz
— Lauren Perry
— Kiara Ortiz
— Alyssa Minkle

Lynn
— Mirna Portillo
— Líza Bathurst
— Natasha Downie
— Tewksbury
— Iryna Nebosenko
— Lisa Flavin

Westford
— Abigail Welch
— Caroline Rawski

Wilmington
— Brianna Tavares
— Marketa Lekesova

Winchester
— Camille Orlando
— Megan Papetti
Free refresher courses at Middlesex Community College’s Bedford campus
Share via e-mail

By Jennifer Fenn Lefferts GLOBE CORRESPONDENT JUNE 28, 2016

Middlesex Community College is offering free reading, writing, and math refresher workshops for students who want to brush up their skills before taking the college placement test. The workshops are offered all summer on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. “A short two-hour refresher course,” said Phyllis Gleason, a dean at the community college, “can help students score higher on the College Placement Test so they can begin classes at their appropriate learning level, preventing them from taking classes they don’t really need — saving time and money.” For more information about the workshops, or to register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/admissions/events.aspx or call 1-800-818-3434.

Jennifer Fenn Lefferts can be reached at jflefferts@yahoo.com.
LOWELL — When the Lowell Plan launched its 2016 speaker’s series in early May with an informative talk by the state’s top transportation official, Stephanie Pollack, its members heard a lot more than Pollack’s take on planes, trains and automobiles.

Much to their dismay, Pollack also said that replacing the 33-year-old, two-lane Rourke temporary bridge is not on MassDOT’s radar.

Don’t expect a new bridge anytime soon, but Pollack’s admission did shed light on a problem that needs fixing.

The series continues Thursday, as three VIPs will share the stage and talk about education: Lowell School Superintendent Salah Khelfaoui; Middlesex Community College President James Mabry; and UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacquie Moloney.

Besides their distinguished careers in education, what the three educators share in common is they are all relatively new in their

Please see SPEAKER/4

SPEAKER/From Page 3

roles. City political and business leaders have speculated that if ever there is time to develop strong bonds between the city/regional educational entities, now is the time to do it.

“The role of higher education as a major driver of economic development in Lowell is well-established, and this role will increase as further changes in technology, globalization and demographics impact this area,” Lowell Plan Executive Director James Cook said in a statement. “To remain competitive in light of these changes, Lowell has adopted an innovative spirit offering a comprehensive educational system from Pre-K through graduate school.”

Thursday’s event is not open to the public, just Lowell Plan members. It’s being held at MCC’s Federal Building at 8 a.m.

Serving as moderator will be Lowell lawyer Michael Gallagher, who also served one term on the Lowell School Committee.

Follow Scott on Twitter @cscottlowellsun.
Middlesex 3 Coalition testing on-demand shuttle in Bedford

By Rick Sobey, rsobey@lowellsun.com

UPDATED: 09/28/2016 07:45:58 PM EDT

BEDFORD -- The Middlesex 3 Coalition until now has focused on shuttle and carpooling services to area companies and corporate parks.

But that's going to change soon as the Middlesex 3 Transportation Management Association (M3 TMA) looks toward resident-focused transportation.

Bedford, one of the Middlesex 3 communities, has partnered with M3 TMA to win a $47,000 federal transportation grant through the Massachusetts Community Transit Program. This grant will help fund a two-year pilot program to launch a resident on-demand shuttle in Bedford.

The idea is to start the program in Bedford, and eventually expand it out to other Middlesex 3 communities, such as Lowell, Billerica, Chelmsford, Tewksbury, Tyngsboro, Westford and Burlington.

Through the new resident on-demand shuttle service, Bedford officials hope to increase transit ridership and also attract new riders -- senior citizens, people with disabilities and students -- who may not have used public transit before.

"The need for transportation cuts across all age groups and walks of life, and our new community shuttle will be a great resource for everyone," said Bedford Selectman Margot Fleischman.

The selectman added that she hopes it will spearhead efforts to reduce car-dependency in the region.

The service will also include a dispatch call center that will allow riders to make reservations directly. Officials will be able to collect data and analyze trip requests, such as determining popular destinations.

Advertisement

"By allowing for data collection and analysis, we plan to design and make adjustments to the service as we go forward based on the data we are collecting," Bedford Economic Development Coordinator Alyssa Sandoval said in a statement.

The Middlesex 3 pilot program can serve as a role model for other groups throughout the state, according to Aniko Laszlo, statewide mobility manager at the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. He called it an innovative model that "demonstrates how to work collaboratively in solving regional transportation challenges."

The transit pilot program has also received support from some Bedford boards and committees, as well as educational institutions, such as Middlesex Community College.
"At Middlesex Community College, we believe expanding local transit in Bedford and the surrounding region will enable students to gain access to career training that can help them build productive careers in the thriving local economy," MCC President James Mabry said in a statement.

The goal is to expand such a pilot program to other Middlesex 3 communities if it's successful in Bedford.

Billerica Selectmen Chairman Andrew Deslaurier said the Senior Center already has transportation for those who need it, but there's still a market for a resident on-demand shuttle in town.

"There's always a need for something like that," Deslaurier said. "We have way more density than Bedford, so if they have a need, we would have as much a need, if not more."

Follow Rick Sobey on Twitter and Tout @rsobeyLSun.

Read more: http://www.lowellsun.com/breakingnews/ci_30067959/middlesex-3-coalition-testing-demand-shuttle-bedford#xzz4JUS9XIXU
MCC scholarship recipients include, from left, Naomi De la Cruz, Andrine Njeri, Rachael Rodman, Ann Gerry and Sophie Brill Weitz; second row, Naomi Correa, Aimee Levesque, Maria Aybar, and Pengtaingvouch Hok; third row, Sokkeo Hang and Scott Giorlando; and, back row, MCC staff member Charlie Twomey, recipients Fernando Campos, Mai Nagabayashi, and MCC staff member David Kalivas.

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College presented 17 students scholarship awards during its recent Celebrity Forum at Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

The awards included a new one this year, the James C. and Judith G. Mabry Completion Scholarship. Mabry, the new president of MCC, and his wife established the scholarship to help a student who faces financial challenges in finishing their program. This year, the award went to Maria Aybar of Lowell, who also received one of six Commonwealth Honors Program Scholarships.

Other winners of the Commonwealth Honors scholarships are Sophie Brill Weitz of Bedford, Mai Nagabayashi of Lowell, Benjamin Powell of Arlington, Rachael Rodman of Burlington and Samantha Shaw of Boxboro.

Carole Cowan, former president of MCC, presented the scholarship named in her honor to Ann Gerry of Tewksbury. Katherine Lucas of Chelmsford received the Debra Chemelli-Evans Scholarship. Celebrity Forum Scholarships went to Fernando Campos of Lawrence, Naomi Correa of Dracut, Naomi De la Cruz of Methuen, Scott Giorlando of Wilmington, Sokkeo Hang of Lowell, Pengtaingvouch Hok of Lowell, Aimee Levesque of Dracut, Andrine Njeri of Lowell and Jamie Pelletier of Acton.
IF THE SOCK FITS ...
Graduate offers online tips on tolerance and bullying

By Cindy Cantrell
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

This spring, Erica Bowel of Bolton shared her commencement address recounting lessons learned and an inspirational message of hope for the future.

Rather than delivering the speech at her own high school's graduation ceremony, however, the 18-year-old senior was the keynote speaker for a different community of peers: the virtual Misfit University.

Founded by Karen Kiefer of Wayland in 2011, Misfit University is a free online resource that encourages young people to celebrate what makes them different using misfit (mismatched) socks as a muse for creative exploration and a catalyst for conversation.

"I was so taken aback and happy to be asked," said Bowel, who started wearing mismatched socks even before she learned about Misfit University.

The program features a hands-on, anti-bullying curriculum that includes service projects and events promoting team-building, self-esteem, creativity, manners, and respect.

Kiefer, associate director of the Church in the 21st Century Center at Boston College, developed the curriculum as an offshoot of her book "The Misfit Sock." Self-published in 2010, the story tells how a sock that lost its match in the laundry cycle regained purpose through the magic of Christmas.

Ironically, Bowel began wearing mismatched socks when her mother, Candy, bought a pair from LittleMissMatched for her ninth birthday. As a result, she has long done what Kiefer's Million Misfit Sock March advocates every Make a Difference Day in October: wearing mismatched socks in solidarity against bullying. (Bowel's socks are usually hidden beneath pants.)

"I found that having mismatched socks, even though other people can't see them, gave me my own individuality and helped me find my voice to speak up against bullying," she said. "I can be me, which will make me happier than trying to mold to everyone else. It's also an extra boost of confidence, knowing that I'm never alone."

Candy Bowel said she is proud of her daughter for doing what she enjoys, rather than bowing to peer pressure in favor of more mainstream activities. Erica, who graduated in June from Minuteman High School, has been in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls since age 11 and earned her Gold Award in Girl Scouts.

Bowel plans to enter Middlesex Community College and study early childhood education to "better the lives of a lot of children."

Evelyn Francis of Alton, Ill., delivered the inaugural commencement address for Misfit University in 2015 after becoming the first featured blogger for Misfit University.

"That made a big difference in my life," Francis said. "The fact that people wanted to hear from me, and cared about what I had to say, was astonishing."

Francis, who had dropped out of school because of bullying, said the support she received from the online community was integral in earning her GED, applying to college, and now preparing to study to become a teacher.

Bowel says everyone can benefit by celebrating differences and practicing acts of kindness.

"You can't change the past," she said, "but you change your perspective and understand that everyone is different, and it's the differences who make you who you are. Then you can make the future better."

For more information about Misfit University, visit misfituniversity.com.

Cindy Cantrell can be reached at cindycantrell20@gmail.com.
MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Bedford student accepts merit award

The Middlesex Community College Foundation presented student Sarah Atalla, of Bedford, an MCC Foundation Merit Award for Part-Time Students for the 2015-16 academic year in a recent ceremony held on the Bedford campus.

The mother of a young son, Atalla aspires to become a registered nurse. While at MCC, she has been on the dean's list and has been inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges and the National Society of Leadership and Success.

MCC Foundation Merit Awards are funded by the Middlesex Community College Foundation, and are presented to students who demonstrate academic excellence and exceptional promise.

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

World language classes offered

Middlesex Community College's Flexible Studies Department offers 14 world languages. Fall semester classes start Sept. 7, and students may still register.

Languages offered include Arabic, Chinese, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Latin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and, new this semester, Hebrew.

"Many employers are looking to hire people who can communicate in a variety of languages in addition to English," said Marilyn Glazer-Weisner, coordinator of flexible studies. "In addition, many four-year institutions, including Umass Lowell, require students to take a minimum of four semesters of a world language to graduate. Students can take those courses at Middlesex, save a lot of money and be better prepared for the workforce."

Most language courses are offered in multiple semesters and cover beginning, intermediate and advanced levels, and all courses cover cultural traditions and social conventions.

The Flexible Studies format is adaptable to diverse learning styles, incorporating web-based technologies, computer programs, audio-visual materials, and one-to-one and small-group instruction. Online materials are used in all courses to give students the added benefit of enhanced learning.

Students in MCC's Flexible Studies courses can select from a variety of course meeting times that best fit their schedule, use self-pacing to extend or accelerate their coursework and can work directly with their instructor in one-to-one sessions and in small groups with their classmates.

For information: middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblestudies.
Starstruck over Kathie Lee and Hoda

LOWELL—Shoes, wine, laughter, humor, beauty, brains and, most importantly, authenticity, kindness and humility were evident from the tremendous team of Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb at the 18th annual Middlesex Community College Celebrity Forum, which benefits student scholarships, on Friday, June 3, at Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

The roar of laughter echoed throughout the LMA during the VIP cocktail and dinner reception as more than 529 giddy guests stood in an enormous line to get a glimpse, hug and photo with the Emmy-winning co-hosts of the fourth hour of NBC's "Today" show, taken by photographers Kevin Harkins and Tory German.

The LMA was stunningly decorated with ladies' shoes as centerpieces filled with flowers — pink, orange and purple — and complimentary linens. Two life-sized zebra chairs in the shape of shoes, furnished by Mario's Furniture, were set on each side of the stage for the celebrities. The LMA was tastefully designed by Elaine Grindall-Burt, design consultant for MCC, lifestyle planner/designer Mark Caputo and MCC graduate Molly Cullity.

The exciting evening unfolded with Dr. James C. Mabry, president of MCC, who welcomed 1,200 guests, presented 18 MCC Celebrity Forum scholarships totaling $37,000, and announced Gifford and Kotb. The dynamic divas waved and blew kisses to the cheering crowd, who gave them a standing ovation. With their trademark glasses of wine, they opened their show by taking a big gulp, making the audience scream with laughter.

MCC was founded in 1970 with a 200-acre campus in Bedford and a vibrant campus in the heart of downtown Lowell. MCC is focused on the future of education and is one of the largest and most comprehensive community colleges in Massachusetts. Proceeds from this event support MCC Foundation student scholarships. Since 2004, more than $200,000 in Celebrity Forum scholarships have been awarded to 86 Middlesex students. In addition to Celebrity Forum scholarships, the MCC Foundation annually awards more than $100,000 in student scholarships.

For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu.

Email comments to daceyzyza@gmail.com.
From left, Mary Lou Tourville and Tammy Leclerc of Dracut, Tricia Langeleh of Tewksbury, Sheila Robinson, Mary Ann O’Hearn and Pepper Leclerc, all of Dracut

Jenna and Michele Guilbeault of Lowell

MCC student speaker Diego Leonarco of Lowell, left, and Trustee Maranda Fahie of Millbury

Designers, from left, MCC graduate Molly Callery of Nashua, Mark Caputo of Lowell and MCC design consultant Elaine Crandall-Burt of Dunstable

MCC’s Karen Krups and Kathy Rich, both of Billerica

Phyllis Gleason of Chelmsford and MCC Gretchen Robinson of Amherst, N.H.

Geanne and Tom Fleming of Chelmsford

Courtney Cox of South Boston and Colleen Cox of Lowell
Learn About MCC’s Many Health Career Programs

Considering a career in health care? Consider Middlesex Community College. Learn more about MCC’s Health Career degree and certificate programs at a Health Programs Information Session.

A Lowell campus Health Programs Information Session will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, June 23, in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square. To register, visit http://bit.ly/mcchealthinfo

Middlesex offers degree programs in Dental Assisting, Dental Hygiene, Dental Lab Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Medical Assisting, Nursing, Medical Lab Technology, and Radiologic Technology. We also offer certificate programs in Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting and Medical Lab Technology.

MCC’s Associate Degree in Nursing is offered as a full-time day program, or a part-time evening/weekend program. Prospective nursing students must attend a mandatory Overview of the Nursing Program Information Session, to be held at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, in the Lowell Federal Building Assembly Room. To register, visit http://bit.ly/mccnursinginfo

The MCC Academy of Health Professions offers short-term training and college-credit courses that could lead to an entry-level position in a health care field. Explore career opportunities such as nursing assistant, medical receptionist, medical secretary, phlebotomists, clinical laboratory assistant or medical assistant. For more information, visit http://bit.ly/mccahp

To learn more about MCC’s Health Career Programs, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/admissionrequirements/health.aspx or call 1-800-818-3434.

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

Middlesex Community College will host 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.

A Lowell Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Session will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 15, in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 30 Kearney Square.

A Bedford Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Sessions will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 29, in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Spriggs Road.

As part of MCC’s Dual Enrollment Academy, qualified students may enroll in college-level courses offered online, during the day, evening or weekend on MCC’s Bedford or Lowell campuses. Flexible options are available to focus on science and math, engineering and technology, health professions or business administration. Also welcome are students who just want to get a head start on completing the 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 or guardian, and high school guidance counselor to design a program based on the student’s academic skill level and educational goals. To maximize success, MCC offers academic counseling, tutoring, computer labs and library services, and encourages students to participate in on-campus events and student clubs.

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 1-800-818-2434.

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

At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.
Middlesex CC Receives $100K Grant from Cummings Foundation

MCC is one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of $100k from the Cummings Foundation.

Bedford, MA

By MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE (Open Post) - June 13, 2016 1:37 pm ET

Middlesex Community College is one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of $100,000 each through Cummings Foundation’s “$100K for 100” program. Middlesex was chosen from a total of 479 applicants, during a competitive review process.

Patricia Demaras, MCC Assistant Dean of International/Multicultural Student Affairs, and Lisa Doucett, Director of Grand Development, joined approximately 300 other guests at a recent reception at TradeCenter 128 in Woburn to celebrate the $10 million infusion into Greater Boston’s nonprofit sector. With the conclusion of this grant cycle, Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than $140 million to local nonprofits alone.

“This Cummings Foundation grant will help Middlesex sustain and expand programs that support our diverse student body and help all who come to our college succeed,” said President James Mabry. “Students recruited and trained to be peer advocates and achievement coaches work on many levels to close achievement gaps, and build persistence and success across the college. This grant will be critical in our ability to reach more students and help them to achieve their educational goals.”

The three-year grant will enable Middlesex to build capacity to enhance academic and career opportunities for students, using peer-support staff to improve engagement, leadership and job readiness.

The college will expand its successful student-outreach model of peer liaisons (now well established at the Lowell-campus Multicultural Center), to hire trained student Achievement Liaisons (AL) and a program coordinator to work out of the Bedford Multicultural Center. ALs will reach out to and support Bedford-campus students who are more likely to experience gaps in achievement – such as those who are first-generation to college, ethnic/racial minorities, and/or who are from nontraditional or low-income households.

The Cummings Foundation has also given $5,000 to MCC’s annual Celebrity Forum in past years. Proceeds from Celebrity Forum help raise funds for MCC Foundation student scholarships.

The $100K for 100 program supports nonprofits that are not only based in, but also primarily serve, Middlesex, Essex and Suffolk counties. This year, the program is benefiting 41 different cities and towns within the commonwealth.

Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation aims to give back in the area where it owns commercial buildings, all of which are managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by its affiliate Cummings Properties. Founded in 1970 by Bill Cummings of Winchester, the Woburn-based commercial real estate firm leases and manages more than 10 million square feet of space, the majority of which exclusively benefits the Foundation.

“We admire and very much appreciate the important work that nonprofit organizations like Middlesex Community College are doing in the local communities where our colleagues and clients live and work,” said Joel Swets, Cummings Foundation’s executive director. “We are delighted to support their efforts.”

This year’s diverse group of grant recipients represents a wide variety of causes, including education, homelessness prevention, elder services, healthcare, and food insecurity. Most of the grants will be paid over two to five years.

The complete list of 100 grant winners is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org
About MCC
Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of noncredit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings of Winchester. With assets exceeding $1 billion, it is one of the largest foundations in New England. The Foundation directly operates its own charitable subsidiaries, including two New Horizons retirement communities in Marlborough and Woburn. Its largest single commitment to date was $50 million to Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Additional information is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

PHOTO CAPTION (MCC_CummingsGrant16.jpg): Middlesex Community College is one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of $100,000 each through Cummings Foundation’s “$100K for 100” program. Shown here (left to right): Patricia Demaras, MCC Assistant Dean of International/Multicultural Student Affairs; Cummings Foundation founder Joyce Cummings; and Lisa Doucett, Director of Grant Development at Middlesex.
Students Earn College Credit in Dual Enrollment Classes

The Lowell High School Dual Enrollment Program offers an innovative and engaging educational opportunity for students. This program allows high school students to earn college credit while still in high school, providing a unique pathway to both college and career readiness.

Dual enrollment courses are offered in a variety of subjects, including English, mathematics, science, and social sciences. These courses are designed to meet college-level standards and prepare students for success in higher education.

Students who participate in the dual enrollment program benefit from:
- Formal college-level instruction from experienced faculty members
- Access to college resources and support services
- Enhanced college readiness and skills
- Flexibility in scheduling and coursework

The program also allows students to:
- Earn college credit towards post-secondary education
- Advance their academic and career goals
- Participate in a supportive learning environment

Lowell High School partners with Middlesex Community College to offer these courses, ensuring that students receive college credits that are recognized by local colleges and universities.

This collaboration between Lowell High School and Middlesex Community College enables students to take advantage of the opportunity to pursue college-level coursework while still in high school, providing a seamless transition to higher education.

For more information about the dual enrollment program, interested students and parents are encouraged to contact the school's guidance office or visit the Lowell High School website.
AWARDS

Middlesex College students win scholarships

The Middlesex Community College Foundation awarded $37,000 in scholarships for outstanding academic achievement to 17 Middlesex students at MCC's annual Celebrity Forum.

Maria Aybar, of Lowell, was awarded the James C. and Judith G. Mabry Completion Scholarship. This award was established at the inauguration of MCC president James Mabry in 2015. The scholarship is awarded to assist a worthy student with the completion of an associate degree at Middlesex.

Ann Gerry, of Tewksbury, was awarded the Dr. Carole A. Cowan Scholarship. Established in honor of Cowan, former MCC President, this award provides financial assistance to a deserving Middlesex student who is a member of the Commonwealth Honors Program.

Kathrine Lucas, of Chelmsford, was awarded the Debra Chemelli-Evans Scholarship. The Chemelli-Evans Scholarship was established in memory of the daughter of William Chemelli, former chairman of the MCC board of trustees and member of the MCC Foundation Board. Lucas is also a member of the Commonwealth Honors Program.

Six students were awarded Commonwealth Honors Program Scholarships during Celebrity Forum:

- Maria Aybar (Lowell)
- Sophie Brill Weitz (Bedford)
- Mai Nagabayashi (Lowell)
- Benjamin Powell (Arlington)
- Rachael Rodman (Burlington)
- Samantha Shaw (Boxborough)

Nine additional students were also awarded MCC Foundation Celebrity Forum Scholarships:

- Fernando Campos (Lawrence)
- Naomi Correa (Dracut)
- Naomi De la Cruz (Methuen)
- Scott Giorlando (Wilmington)
- Sokkee Hang (Lowell)
- Pengtaingvouch Hok (Lowell)
- Aimee Levesque (Dracut)
- Andrine Njeri (Lowell)
- Jamie Pelletier (Acton)

To learn more: 781-280-3579; leea@middlesex.mass.edu.

COMMUNITY

Middlesex College to host health programs information session

Middlesex Community College will host a health programs information session for those interested in a career degree or certificate programs.

A Lowell campus Health Programs Information Session will be held at 4 p.m. June 23, in MCC's Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square. To register: bit.ly/mcchealthinfo.

Middlesex offers degree programs in dental assisting, dental hygiene, dental lab technology, diagnostic medical sonography, medical assisting, nursing, medical lab technology and radiologic technology. They also offer certificate programs in dental assisting, medical assisting and medical lab technology. MCC's associate degree in nursing is offered as a full-time day program or a part-time evening/weekend program. Prospective nursing students must attend a mandatory overview of the nursing program information session at 5:30 p.m. June 21 in the Lowell Federal Building Assembly Room. To register: bit.ly/mccnursinginfo.

The MCC Academy of Health Professions offers short-term training and college-credit courses. Career opportunities include nursing assistant, medical receptionist, medical secretary, phlebotomists, clinical laboratory assistant or medical assistant. For information: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu.
EDUCATION

Middlesex College to host Dual Enrollment Academy orientations

Middlesex Community College will host an orientation session 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.

The Bedford Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Sessions is set for 5-6:30 p.m. June 29 in the Bedford Campus Center's Café East, 591 Springs Road.

As part of MCC’s Dual Enrollment Academy, qualified students may enroll in college-level courses offered online, during the day, evening or weekend on MCC’s Bedford or Lowell campuses. Flexible options are available to focus on science and math, engineering and technology, health professions or business administration. Also welcome are students who wish to get a head start on completing the general-education courses required by most colleges and universities.

A Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy adviser will be assigned to work with each applicant, their parent/guardian and high school guidance counselor to design a program based on the student’s academic skill level and educational goals. To maximize success, MCC offers academic counseling, tutoring, computer labs and library services; and encourages students to participate in on-campus events and student clubs. 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 transferrable to an associate or bachelor’s degree program. For information: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu/dualenroll.

FUNDRAISER

Middlesex College donates violin to Cambodia’s Royal University of Fine Arts

As part of its Strings for Cambodia fundraising campaign, Middlesex Community College’s Music Department will donate a carbon-fiber violin to Cambodia’s Royal University of Fine Arts.

The state-of-the-art violin and bow were recently presented to Middlesex President James Mabry by Luis Leguia, founder of Luis and Clark Carbon Fiber Instruments and retired cellist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The presentation took place on the Lowell campus. Also present was recently retired MCC music professor Johannah Segarich, founder of Strings for Cambodia. She started the campaign to support RUFA’s goal of forming a Cambodian National Symphony Orchestra.

“We are all thrilled with this beautiful violin and knowing it will be put to good use, both in an educational setting and also in the newly formed symphony orchestra,” said Segarich. “One of my goals in teaching is to raise awareness and sensitivity toward other cultures and ways of thinking.”

Segarich launched Strings for Cambodia following a 2010 U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad to Cambodia. While in Phnom Penh, she met with RUFA faculty, administrators and students who expressed a desire to acquire high quality Western classical instruments — especially strings — for teaching and to establish an orchestra. Innovative carbon-fiber instruments are ideal Cambodia, because they not only produce high quality tone, but also will be more durable than wooden instruments in the hot, humid climate. The violin will be delivered to RUFA this summer by Dona Cady, MCC dean of Global Education, who is traveling to Cambodia on another Fulbright-Hays Group project abroad.
MCC online Criminal Justice class one of best in country

Middlesex Community College’s online Criminal Justice — Administration of Justice Associate in Science degree program was recently named the 14th-best online criminal-justice program in the nation, according to OnlineColleges.net.

“The online Criminal Justice program at Middlesex offers flexibility to students who are looking to complete a degree online or complete a degree with a combination of in-class and online courses,” said Lynda Pintrich, chair of MCC’s Criminal Justice program. “It is a rigorous program, taught predominantly by full-time criminal-justice faculty, who take a great deal of pride in their work, both online and in the classroom.”

With a focus on emerging trends and developments in online education, OnlineColleges.net has been informing prospective students on leading programs since 2009. MCC’s online Criminal Justice — Administration of Justice option degree program is designed for students interested in working in such areas as probation, parole, corrections, victim/witness advocacy and related occupations.

Students are able to develop a strong foundation in criminal justice and study such topics as victimology, juvenile justice and corrections. The curriculum emphasizes academic and practical approaches to three major areas of criminal justice — police, courts and corrections — while providing students with basic knowledge of legal issues facing practitioners in those fields.

Students can also learn important skills, including oral and written communication, interpersonal skill-building, and developing an understanding of multicultural issues necessary for working with diverse populations.

Students who take courses online at Middlesex complete the same high-quality coursework as those who take courses on campus. And online students earn the same course credits, which are transferrable to Bachelor’s degree programs.

Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/criminaljustice, or call 800-818-3434.
Middlesex C.C. duo spends spring studying in England

Two Middlesex Community College students received scholarships from the U.S. Department of State to study abroad at Bath Spa University in Bath, England, during the spring semester just ended. Izanomique Edouard of Lawrence and Jacqueline Jolicoeur of Woburn each received a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, which supports undergraduates who might not otherwise participate in study-abroad programs due to financial constraints.

Gilman Scholarship recipients are chosen by a competitive selection process, and must use the award to cover study-abroad costs, including tuition, room and board, books, local transportation, insurance, and international airfare.

To learn more about MCC's Study Abroad programs or about MCC's articulation agreement with Bath Spa University, contact Dona Cady, Dean of Global Education at cadyd@middlesex.mass.edu. To learn more about the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, visit http://www.iie.org/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program.

4 MCC students named to All-Mass. Academic Team

Four Middlesex Community College students have been recognized as outstanding two-year college students and members of Phi Theta Kappa's 2016 All-Massachusetts Academic Team. Jacqueline Crozy of Lowell, Paulina Llorente Gonzalez of Concord, Hans-Edward Hoene of Woburn and Betsy Villavicencio of Lawrence were honored during a recent ceremony at the Statehouse.

Every year, the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office hosts the event to showcase the best and brightest of the 15-college system. Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, the Coca-Cola Foundation, community-college presidents, and community-college state associations annually co-sponsor the All-State Academic Teams.
Kids Explore Their Artistic Side With MCC’s College For Kids

It’s not too late to register for Middlesex Community College’s College for Kids summer programs. Designed to provide kids, ages 8 to 15, with fun and challenging opportunities to explore careers, gain new knowledge, develop new skills and boost self-confidence, College for Kids runs July 11 through Aug. 18, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

Most College for Kids programs are offered Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – with some exceptions, including half-day programs. All programs are taught by public school teachers or by professionals who are experts in their field and have experience working with children.

Let your kids explore their artistic side with a number of arts-focused summer programs. MCC’s “Art Potpourri” program explores a variety of visual-arts materials, including drawing, printmaking, and painting with acrylic and watercolor paints.

Get ready for a week of laughs with “Improvisation” camp. This one-week program explores the fundamentals of improvisation by developing support, trust, risk-taking and confidence with young actors. Everyone participates in exciting and fun theater games, movement exercises, and ensemble-building activities. This camp culminates in a live improvised performance.

Explore the writing process with the “Experience Writing” program. This week-long program for children ages 8-12, will help participants gain a stronger grasp of grammar concepts, creative-writing techniques, and essay formats. Students will approach the writing process with daily adventurous road trips and experiences.

For the complete MCC College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

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The Regional Knowledge Bowl obviously got great coverage in The Sun.
It was, after all, our event.
It is also a very positive event for area public schools. It's an event that treats scholars the way we treat student athletes. It honors public-school teachers. It is a program that will grow.

It started with Lowell, Tewksbury, Tyngsboro and Dracut. This year Billerica sent a team and Chelmsford will hopefully have a team next year.

The Knowledge Bowl is a feel-good event.
If you see the talent in our area middle schools, you can be optimistic that our future is in good hands.

I was also impressed by the sportsmanship of these young people.

The Lowell team has never lost a regional, but when the Tyngsboro first place team was called to the stage to receive its medals, the Lowell students, from the Wang Middle School, gave them a standing ovation.

All the teams represented their communities well.

We have a lot of people to thank for making this work.

Certainly Carolyn Rocheleau of the Lowell School Department, who coordinates the event, the teachers and coaches from all the communities, Jim Neary who serves as moderator and this year's judges, including Reps. Marc Lombardo, of Billerica, Colleen Garry, of Dracut, Rady Mom, of Lowell, Sen. Eileen Donoghue, of Lowell, Middlesex Community College President James Mabry and Chancellor Moloney.

Thanks to the businesses that supported the event with sponsorships and ads in The Sun's Knowledge Bowl special section.

Their support allowed us to produce a 24-page section to profile all 50 students and tell the complete Knowledge Bowl story.

Special thanks to the major sponsors: Market Basket, Trinity EMS, Lowell Five.

The Lowell Five gave the 20 students on the first- and second-place teams bank accounts at the Lowell branch with initial deposits of $100 for first and $50 for second. Sal Lupoli, who was also a sponsor, gave vouchers to all 50 students for pizzas at Sal's.

It was a great night for Greater Lowell schools.

Thanks also to Sun Editor Jim Campanini who created the regional shift four years ago.
MCC Foundation awards scholarships to dozens

The Middlesex Community College Foundation recently awarded more than $47,000 in scholarships to 41 deserving Middlesex students for the 2015-2016 academic year. The 48 scholarships, ranging from $500 to $2,500, are funded by a variety of sources, including memorial donations, local businesses, private foundations and private donors.

One new scholarship was established this year: The Positive Psychology Scholarship has been established by two MCC alumnae, Dawn Stickney (Class of 2011) and Tayla Mayo (Class of 2014), and is presented to a student in Bob Fera’s “Positive Psychology” course.

For more information about the Middlesex Community College Foundation Scholarships, contact Amy C. Lee, Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, or leea@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-286-3579, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships.

Following are the 2015-2016 scholarship recipients.

Audrey A. Cogliano Memorial: Vivian Vilamani.
Carl Dundorf Scholarship: Jesse Godin.
Catherine L. Goodwin Memorial: Lynn Hytn.
Charles and Olga Malver Memorial: Jenny Chou.
Collegiate TRIO Programs: Alexandria White.
Emily Boudriot Memorial: Jennifer Pratt.
Geraldine B. Deragon Memorial: Jennifer Pratt.
John Michael Delehanty Memorial: Paige Tiernan.
John M. Keough Memorial: Devin Keppel Brown, East Williams.
Keri Lyn (Gleason) Farley: Phney You Seng.
Kim M. Forte Memorial: Harley Vivene.
Lexington-Coonard Chapter of AFCEA: Christopher Ingemi, John Karange, Diego Leonardo Garcia.
Lula Smith: Natalie Appaih, Eddie Novinga.
Markowicz-Dundorf: Mina Sugden.
MCC Foundation for Full-Time Students: Shirley Archambault, Christopher Ingemi, Katherine Lucas, Brittny Maxwell, Rachel Rodman.
Muriel G. Hervey Memorial: Tatiana Benavides, Sara Marotte, Michael Paladina.
New England Woodcarvers: Lynn Hynh, Trinh Tran Nguyen.
Northeast Association of Realtors: Mai Nagabayashi.
P.C. Sullivan: Kenny Pop.

Paul Sheehy Memorial: Vivian Vilamani.
Positive Psychology: Byanca Padron.
Ray Shea Memorial for International Studies: Sydney Peré.
Robert Cataldo: Tenna Shibui.
Robert Minos Memorial: Ysibell Valdez Dicuri.
Shirley W. Thiedemann Memorial: Kristen Dotile.
Support Staff: Joseph Dawson, Thomas O’Mahony "Spirit of Excellence": Ysibell Valdez Dicuri.
Tom McKay Memorial: Jesse Godin.
Unitas: Diego Leonardo Garcia.

The Middlesex Community College Foundation also recently awarded $36,500 in Mavis Leno Scholarships to 53 deserving students for the 2015-2016 academic year. The Mavis Leno Scholarship was established by the JDM Foundation to provide financial assistance to deserving female students whose goals include working for the advancement of women’s rights. Since 2008, more than 200 MCC students have received Mavis Leno Scholarships, totaling more than $250,000 in awards. This year’s awards range from $500 to $1,500. The recipients are: Matilda Appliah, Shirley Archambault, Maria Aybar, Liza Bathurst, Alexa Bostwick, Tatsuya Breton, Johanny Brioso, Kaira Cabrera, Maza Cavnancantu, Jenny Chou, Deanna Daley, Sara Diaz, Kaliegh Donovan, Natasha Downie, Zenia Eljenanati, Silvana Favato, Lisa Flavin, Michelle Greene, Anna Gunst, Malathi Gunatana, Edina Hirt, Marynissa Huggins, Brittaney Johnson, Martina Lekesova, Sonya Leonard, Samey Lim, Lindsey Lurette, Katherine Lucas, Brand Lynch, Genesis Martinez, Alyssa Minkle, Benita Nassali, Iryna Nebosko, Camile Orlando, Kiara Ortiz, Megan Papetti, Lauren Perry, Nhung Pahn, Mary Polce, Mina Portillo, Jennifer Pratt, Caroline Rawski, Kate Sein, Phney You Seng, Teena Shibu, Mina Sugden, Shena Talbert, Brianna Tavares, Trinh Tran Nguyen, Abigail Welch.
Bowled over by brainpower

The most competitive two nights yet of Greater Lowell middle-school mind games concluded on Tuesday.
And in the process, this high-stakes academic showdown crowned a suburban champion for the first time.
The fourth annual Kendall M. Wallace Regional Knowledge Bowl certainly lived up to its advanced billing. Named for the former publisher of The Sun, it brought together five schools and 50 of the area’s smartest students in grades 5 through 8.
Host Lowell entered this year’s competition, held at the Kathryn Stoklosa P. Middle School, as the three-time defending champion.
But this time Tyngsboro Middle School, a finalist last year, turned the tables on the home team by defeating the Wang Middle School and Dracut’s Richardson Middle School.
Teams from Billerica and Tewksbury also took part in the two-day brain games.
Certainly Tyngsboro’s victory will only redouble Lowell’s resolve to retake the championship trophy, but also will inspire the other middle-school teams to put in that extra effort.
But ultimately, the Knowledge Bowl aims to elevate academic achievement, and for that all five teams and their coaches should feel proud of their accomplishment.
We’re also encouraged to see members of the business community supporting this area academic event.
The Lowell Five Bank awarded $100 savings accounts to members of the winning team, and $50 savings accounts to the runner-ups, while Sal’s Pizza founder Sal Lupoli provided gift certificates to his restaurant chain for all participants.
Each student also received an academic medal in recognition of their classroom achievement and selection to participate in this regional tournament.
We also want to thank Moderator Jim Neary, and the celebrity judges — UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacquie Moloney, State Sen. Eileen Donoghue, Middlesex Community College President James Mabry, plus state Reps. Colleen Garry, Rady Mom and Marc Lombardo — for volunteering their time.
We believe this event will only grow in popularity, as more school districts take this opportunity to showcase their best and brightest. Chelmsford already has announced its intention to join the competition next year, and we expect more schools to follow suit.
And in the spirit of its regional theme, next year’s competition will likely be held outside of the city. Billerica and Tewksbury have already expressed interest.
And in the future, we encourage school officials, family and friends to come out and cheer on these highly motivated academic overachievers.
OPPORTUNITY

Middlesex College for Kids to offer summer programs

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For information: 800-818-3434; middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids.

BEDFORD STUDENTS GRADUATE MIDDLESEX COLLEGE

The following Bedford students graduated from Middlesex Community College:

- Olena Ageyeva, Certificate-Early Childhood Education, highest honors; Sara E. Baker, Certificate-Phlebotomy; Army Marie Barr; Associate in Science-Human Services, honors; Primerose Chatelain, Associate in Science-Nursing, high honors; Melinda Jean Coacy, Associate in Arts-Liberal Arts and Sciences, high honors; Benjamin Milton French, Associate in Science-Business Administration, honors; Robert Patrick Hldreth, Associate in Arts-Liberal Arts, World Languages, highest honors; Monica Tunde Kansiime, Associate in Science-Biotechnology Technician; Michael Roy Bowly Mahoney, Associate in Arts-Liberal Arts and Sciences; Ijeoma Comfort Nwodoh, Associate in Science-Biotechnology Technician; Robert Thomas Piccirillo, Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences-Communications Concentration, highest honors; Michelle Anne Reid, Associate in Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences Elementary Education; William Lee Smith Associate in Arts-Liberal Arts and Sciences, honors; Laurel A. Stalling, Certificate-Paralegal Studies; Jeffrey Javier Tantum, Certificate-Biotechnology Technician; Katherine Elizabeth Tikkanen, Certificate-Dental Assisting highest honors; Judie Cono Toll, Associate in Science Liberal Studies Performing Arts-Music Concentration; Alex Joseph Trantamell, Associate in Science-Engineering Science; and Kelley McKie Williams, Associate in Arts-Liberal Arts and Sciences honors.
Tyngsboro battles to Bowl glory

From left, Knowledge Bowl judges Jacque Moloney, UMass Lowell's chancellor, state Sen. Eileen Donoghue of Lowell, and James Mabry, president of Middlesex Community College, at the ready for the championship round.
An Evening With
Kathie Lee Gifford &
Hoda Kotb

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

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

Though probably best known for her 15 years on TV's "Regis and Kathie Lee," Gifford is also a successful actress, singer, songwriter, playwright, author and philanthropist. She made her Broadway debut in 2000 in Stephen Sondheim's "Putting It Together," and in 2005 her first musical, "Under The Bridge" (book/lyrics and contributing composer), opened off Broadway. In 2012, her musical "Scandalous" (book/lyrics) received a Tony Award nomination.

Gifford is the New York Times best-selling author of many books. In 2014, she self-published "Good Gifts, One Year in the Heart of a Home" with more than $1 million in sales going directly to the Salvation Army's Red Box Campaign. She is also a long-time supporter of the Association to Benefit Children's Cody House and Cassidy's Place, which provide a transitional home for infants and children who have severe disabilities and serious medical problems.

Kotb, a television news anchor, author and philanthropist, began hosting the 10 a.m. hour of "Today" when it debuted in 2007. She has also been a "Dateline NBC" correspondent since 1998. A New York Times best-selling author, Kotb just released her third book, "Where We Belong: Journeys That Show Us the Way."

Kotb has received numerous broadcast awards, including a Gracie Award for Individual Achievement, the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, a Peabody and an Edward R. Murrow Award. She is a seven-year breast-cancer survivor and has been part of several initiatives to raise awareness about the disease.

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 18 Celebrity Forum events is The TJX Companies, Inc.

Tickets to An Evening with Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda Kotb are $100, $65, $55 and $45. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Lowell Memorial Auditorium Box Office at 866-722-8881 or online at www.lowellauditorium.com or in person at the 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@uml.edu.

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

MCC’s English Learner Institute Offers Summer Courses

Middlesex Community College's English Learner Institute (ELI) provides credit courses focused on developing basic English and the skills that are essential to functioning in American society.

Enrollment is now open for MCC's two ELI summer sessions, running May 16 through July 22. Classes meet Monday through Thursday, for two hours a day, in the morning, on the Lowell campus. Admission is open to all and does not require an MCC admission application.

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

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

To learn more about MCC's English Learner Institute, course offerings and fees, contact Maryanne Mengovan at 978-656-3267.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, we educate more than 13,000 students annually on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs, plus hundreds of non-credit courses. At Middlesex, everyone teaches, everyone learns.
DHE Names MCC’s Paulina Llorente Gonzalez One of ‘29 Who Shine’

Middlesex Community College student Paulina Llorente Gonzalez, of Concord, has been named one of this year’s Massachusetts Department of Higher Education’s 29 Who Shine, an annual program recognizing outstanding students representing each of the state’s 29 public campuses. 15 community colleges, nine state universities and five University of Massachusetts campuses.

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

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

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

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

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

For more information about 29 Who Shine, visit the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education website: http://www.mass.edu/29whoshine/home.asp

For information about Paulina Llorente Gonzalez, contact Rebecca Newell, MCC Assistant Dean of Students, at newellr@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3763.

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112 AMT 1354A Business Ethics
112 AMT 1265A Management of Information Systems
112

Saturday Classes

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112 AMT 1304A Business Mathematics
112 AMT 1315A Electronic Business Applications
112 AMT 1354A Business Ethics
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Developed with funding from BATEC, this certificate program aligns with the framework for cybersecurity education established jointly by the NSA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. This program helps prepare students for entry-level employment in network administration positions.

Classes are held in MCC’s state-of-the-art cybersecurity lab.

Digital Forensics Certificate

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The Dracut Scholarship Foundation wishes to thank all those in our community who helped us raise a record setting amount of $132,000+ for scholarships for graduating Dracut High School seniors.

Telethon 2016 was dedicated to Helen Gibson. She served on the Board of Directors of the Dracut Scholarship Foundation from 1980-1988 and was President in 1985 and 1986. Helen was an instrumental figure in the success of the DSF Telethon during its early years. We would like to thank her family for the memories they shared throughout the broadcast of the Telethon and for the many donations we received in her memory.

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Please visit our website for a complete list of scholarship recipients and donors.

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Classes are held in MCC's new state-of-the-art cybersecurity lab.

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happenings | around the valley

Enterprise Bank's Celebration of Excellence Awards | May 3

Carole Cowen, retired president of MCC; Educator of the Year Award recipients Linnea Cordeau, president of Bishop Guertin High School, and Kathy Egmont, head of school at Lowell Community Charter Public School.

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Lowell National Historical Park 2016 Excellence Awards | May 12

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