



# THE VALLEY PATRIOT

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2004

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2019

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## Hollywood Comes to Lawrence

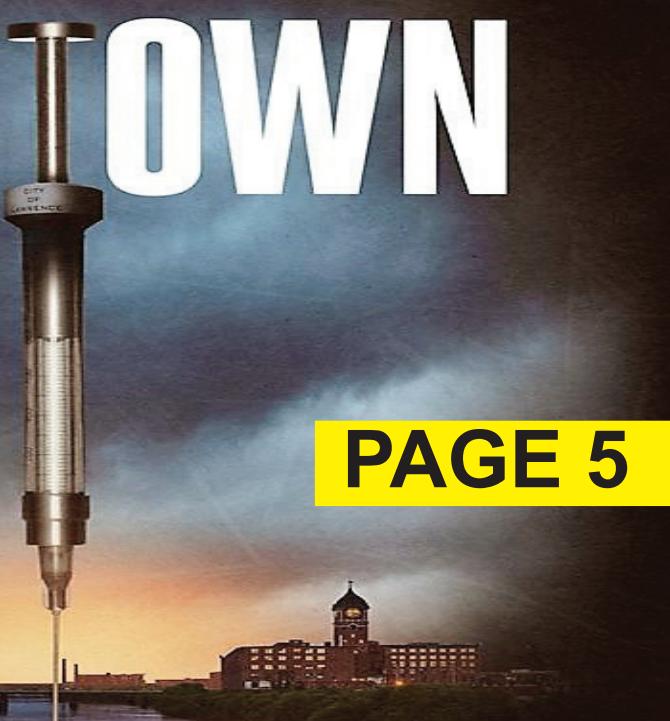
ONE TOWN'S PROBLEM IS A COUNTRY'S EPIDEMIC

# LAW TOWN

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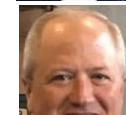
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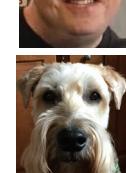
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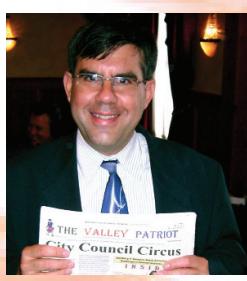
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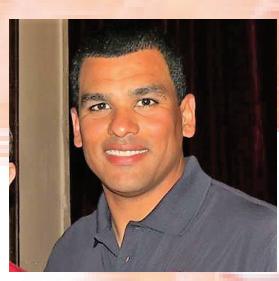
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# Rivera Takes a Page from Lantigua Playbook

When former Lawrence Mayor Willie Lantigua first took the corner office at Lawrence City Hall he fired a number of department heads whom he believed had campaigned against him.

He wasn't firing them for doing a bad job or committing a crime; it was all politics.

Lantigua did not want anyone in his administration "who was not 100% loyal" to him.

Period.

Each of the department heads fired by Lantigua (some had served the city for more than 30 years) appealed their firing to the city council.

One of those department heads was the Planning director.

Because the Lawrence city charter states that the city council must approve all hiring and firing of department heads, the city council held hearings on the firings and voted on each city worker's fate.

At the time (2010), the city council voted only to reinstate one employee, the planning director.

Lawrence City Councilor Dan Rivera was actually the deciding vote to keep him. The other department heads could not muster enough votes to maintain their jobs.

The next day, however, when the planning director tried to return to his office, Mayor Lantigua - in violation of the city charter - had a police officer waiting for him at his office door to have him escorted off city property.

Lantigua said at the time that he didn't care what the charter said. He was in charge of the police and he was going to use that power to stop the planning director from returning to his office.

Councilor Rivera was furious.

How can the mayor violate the charter and have a duly reinstated city department head thrown out of his job after the council legally voted to block that firing, Rivera asked.

He called it corrupt.

He called it an abuse of power.

Four years later when then-Councilor Dan Rivera ran for mayor against Lantigua, he promised not to engage in

the corrupt political practices Lantigua became famous for. He promised to treat city workers with the respect they deserved, and to abide by the powers set forth in the city charter.

It was the main reason Rivera defeated Lantigua.

Well ... That was then.

Last month, Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera decided to fire Assistant City Attorney Brian Corrigan.

No reason given, just "you're fired, get out."

Rivera did so despite the fact that city attorneys legally work for the city council, not the mayor. The city charter is very clear on that.

Not surprisingly, Attorney Corrigan appealed his firing to the city council, obtained the two-thirds majority of the council needed to be reinstated to his job, and said he planned to return to work the next day.

Surprise!

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera, taking a page from the Lantigua playbook, notified Corrigan that if he was to return

to his office in city hall he would be ... that's right ... escorted off city property by Lawrence police.

Rumors swirled that Corrigan was fired because he dared to apply for the job of retiring City Attorney Charles Boddy, and that Rivera had a campaign supporter in mind to fill that slot.

Regardless of Rivera's reasons for firing Attorney Corrigan, he has on multiple occasions shown that he is no better than former Mayor Willie Lantigua when it comes to being heavy handed and ruining the lives of city workers for refusing to be his little puppet.

Or as Lantigua would put it, for not being 100% loyal to him.

We find it disappointing that the man who ran and won for mayor of Lawrence - promising not to engage in the corrupt political practices of Willie Lantigua - has done exactly that.

For all of his faults, we have always believed that Mayor Dan Rivera was - at the very least - a man of his word.

Now we know for sure that he isn't. ♦

## Make America Sane Again

**Ken Willette, Jr.**

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Election Night-- 2016. For most political pundits and most polls, there is a very high expectation that Hillary Clinton will be elected as the first female president. Clinton was going to give her anticipated victory speech in an enclosed glass structure, thereby symbolizing a woman finally breaking through the glass ceiling of the most powerful office on the planet. But that dream was not meant to be that fateful night.

Some analysts will point to disgruntled Sanders voters jilted by a rigged DNC election process. Some will blame Comey. Others will grade Clinton as a very poor retail politician, who desperately needed to campaign during the last weekend before the election in traditionally solid Democratic strongholds such as Detroit and Philly. That was like repeatedly ignoring the red flags of the canary in the political coal mine. Too little, too late. Clinton even lost a majority of the white female vote. Unfortunately, many liberals have decided to replace the optimistic glass ceiling metaphor with an unapologetic glass house mentality. But we all know the old saying:-"Don't throw stones if you live in glass houses!" It might come back to haunt you. Oh boy, unless you were in a coma the last two months, we clearly have witnessed some rocks boomeranging back to the Left!

When the Covington students' confron-

tation with Nathan Phillips went viral, it soon became a watershed moment for the Left. Many had doubled down on Clinton's flawed deplorable strategy. To many leftists, any individuals wearing Make America Great Again (MAGA) hats were pure hate mongers. This was supposed to be the smoking gun that even young kids wearing the MAGA hats had no shame in harassing a Native American. There were even calls for an outright ban on the MAGA hats. "We cannot let this outrage go unpunished," proclaimed the war cry. But soon major retractions and apologies were issued across the nation. For the people who had to endure watching the relentless hate spewed by the Black Hebrew Israelites, they know the full story. As I carefully reviewed the nearly two hours of unimaginable verbal assaults directed toward hundreds of minors and peaceful marchers, many false statements from Phillips were totally disproven.

The students were allegedly surrounding Phillips and shouting, "Build the Wall." None of this was even remotely true according to the uncensored video. Phillips voluntarily walked up to the students, and banged his drum in the face of a minor. He outright lied about fearing for his own safety and not being able to escape this alleged unruly mob. He lied about trying to defuse the situation, because he never confronted the true purveyors of hatred and bigotry that day—the Phillips were totally disproven.

SANE: PAGE 27

## Church Abuse Scandal Continues Unabated

**Joe D'Amore**

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

"We may be surprised at the people we find in heaven. God has a soft spot for sinners. His standards are quite low" Desmond Tutu.

God's mercy is uniform, constant and unwaveringly applied to all who seek it. Justice, however, is a flawed mimicry of it because it is a human invention and therefore subject to discretion.

The fabric of the catholic church is torn and there's no repair in progress. Once again after a cacophony of recent news of abuse by high ranking clergy, at the conclusion of a summit of bishops in Rome to address the issue, the Pope disappoints.

In a faux response the church announced through the Associated Press that it would issue a "new law" creating a child protection policy that covers the internal bureaucracy at Vatican City. Perhaps, the Pope and the hierarchy missed the proverbial memo. Criminal sexual abuse of children has become institutionalized throughout the world for decades by the church as well as its coverup. There is neither nothing new about this condition, nor are the crimes localized within the walls of Vatican City. Certainly, the application of the law directed at "bureaucracy" provides a "line-in-the-sand" whereby high-ranking officials are now finally at risk of being held materially accountable. Certainly, this is a novel approach.

But criminal conviction remains still the exclusive purview of civil authorities. The church's internal authority is devoid of a genuine will to initiate comprehensive justice in its most basic forms : investigation, defrocking, conviction and referral to civil authority for disposition



of cases. Likely, the Vatican City -centric policy is a tepid response to the recent conviction of Cardinal George Pell, formerly in charge of the Vatican's treasury, who was convicted of molesting boys. Certainly, there are likely others like him who remain in the shadows cloaked in the church's secretive confines.

The Pope's post summit "8 point pledge of priorities" was bracketed by prayerful resolve and this for me as a devout catholic is not only central but also absolutely necessary. However, beyond this point the theme that a culture must be changed to no longer tolerate abuse and cover-up is muted solace. My witness is more powerful when I relate my Catholicism as part of my identity

and not just an affiliation. The continued failings of hierachal leadership to constructively coordinate policy to support civil authorities remains a glaring failure that will lead many to disassociate with the church. For me personally, this is a struggle too.

Many local priests have integrated statements in their homily's pointing to hope for the end of the scandal. The Boston Archdiocese affected the same in a widely circulated open letter to parishioners. But most are fearful of declaring outright condemnation of the church leadership. The hierachal nature of the church concentrates power in a small minority and for decades –suppression—remains the dominant strategy still firmly in place.

There remains no authentic response by the church. And the practice of silence, which is a form of complicity, points to many more years of disappointment. Joe D'Amore, Groveland, MA

You can email Joe at: damorecos@gmail.com ♦

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## “WEATHER 101” WITH AL!

**Al Kaprielian**

VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

Welcome to the month of March which will welcome the season of spring later in the month. The start of spring is known as the vernal equinox. The vernal equinox occurs on the first day of spring when the vertical rays of the sun are on the equator.

This results in an equal amount of day & night. When the vertical rays of the sun reach the Tropic of Cancer the furthest north they go this is known as the summer solstice which occurs in June marking the start of summer.

Recapping February we saw colder temperatures and more snowfall compared to December & January.

There was still a lack of a major intense ocean storms during the month of February. On the evening of February 12th into February 13th we did see a low-pressure system track south of New England which brought a general snowfall to the region. We did not see this southward track during December & January. During those months the storms tracked north & west of New England or over interior New England.

This caused the snow to change to sleet/freezing rain inland and to all rain along the coast. North of the low-pressure system which tracked to our south early on February 13th the cold air held which produced all snow. Snowfall from the storm ranged from 3 to 6 inches in southern New England into NH. Some higher amounts occurred in NH with Pinkham Notch getting 9.2 inches of snow. Stratham, NH got 6.5 inches, Plymouth, NH got 6.6 inches. One of the big weather events that occurred in February was the damaging wind event on Monday February 25th. On this day there was a very intense low-pressure system northeast of New England. Strong high pressure was located to the west of our region.

Winds are caused by differences in air pressure!! When a given location is situated between two different pressure systems (high and low pressure) there is a rush of air from the high pressure to the low pressure.

The atmosphere is not balanced in their situation due to the differences in air pressure. As a result we saw strong and



damaging wind gusts on February 25th. The winds were so strong that trees fell and in some areas they fell on power lines causing numerous power outages.

Power lines can also snap (break) due to the high winds also causing the number of power outages to be higher. Some wind gusts on Feb. 25th were Cambridge 69 MPH., Carson Beach 68 MPH., Hull 67 MPH., Worcester 67 MPH., Plum Island 63 MPH., Mansfield 71 MPH., Lawrence 56 MPH., Haverhill 55 MPH., Portsmouth NH 61 MPH., Portland Maine 58 MPH.

On top of Mount Washington the wind gusted to 171 MPH. After these strong winds subsided by Wednesday February 27th, we saw another snow event before February ended.

Another low pressure system not strong tracked south of New England on the evening of February 27th. This southward track produced an all snow event. Due to the air being cold enough the snow was of a fluffy light nature unlike a lot of the storms we had this winter which produced a heavy wet snow (containing more water).

The fluffy snow added up to 3 to 5 inches. During February the jet stream moved quite far to the south. As a result of this it even snowed in Las Vegas Nevada in February which is quite unusual for this area. Also, during February, we saw some big intense storms move into California off the Pacific Ocean. This brought heavy rain to California with heavy snow in the mountains. Now that March is here, we will start to see the days get longer, along with the sun getting higher in the sky as we go through the month.

This will cause the snow to start melting faster as we go through the month of March. We can still see big coastal (ocean) storms in March. Last year was an example. Big storms can occur in March as we start to get in the transition between winter and summer.

Time will tell how much phasing occurs this month between the northern & southern Jet streams. Keep your snow shovels ready this month!! March can still see cold temps. but with the higher sun angle and longer days the cold air is not as harsh as it is in December & January. Stay tuned next month as we recap March's weather and take a look at April. ♦

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## North Andover Merchant of the Year - Debbie Lamontagne

NORTH ANDOVER MERCHANT'S ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES NASD

Debbie Lamontagne of North Andover School of Dance has been sharing the joy of dance and gymnastics with the children of North Andover for over 43 years.

North Andover School of Dance first opened in 1975 at the Grange Hall in the Old Center. She moved to Main Street and then on the top floor of the old St. Michael's School on Main Street and has been a staple of downtown North Andover ever since.

Debbie expanded to a location on School Street before growing again into her current location on Belmont Street, where she has been teaching dance and gymnastics to all ages and abilities ever since.

From day one, Debbie's goal has been to teach her students the joy of dance and instill confidence and self-respect in each dancer who passes through her studio. Debbie's approach to teaching is to focus on warmth, compassion, and kindness and she demonstrates these values and serves as a role model to her students. Debbie has taught all levels of dance, preschool through advanced, special needs children and adults.

She has taught in many after school and child care programs, choreographed many school musicals, and brought her students to perform on Royal Caribbean cruise ships and at Walt Disney World. She has won numerous awards and trophies and is most proud of the Village Hero Award from the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC) for her contributions to children and their families of our community.



North Andover residents enjoy annual performances from NASD dancers at the Fall Festival and the Santa Parade and Debbie and her teachers participate in North Andover's National Night Out each summer. Debbie is committed to the school and its dancers giving back to the community in numerous ways.

Dancers perform for the residents of Brightview North Andover, as well as other senior living facilities in town. NASD also performs yearly at the Move for The Movement, a dance celebration and fundraiser to benefit the American Cancer Society.

Debbie also donates free weeks of dance classes to several different North Andover elementary school and youth program fundraisers.

Debbie is incredibly passionate about what she does and dedicated to her community. North Andover School of Dance serves as a place of support, encouragement, and acceptance for children and adults of all ages.

She has taught the joy of dance to hundreds of children from North Andover and the surrounding community and, after 43 seasons, many of her students these days are the children of former dancers who grew up with a love of dance from their days at NASD.

Whether it's a two-year old's first day of dance class or a high school senior's final performance before leaving for college, Debbie is always there to provide a safe, loving place where her students can experience the joy of dance. ♦

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# VALLEY PATRIOTS OF THE MONTH

HERO IN OUR MIDST: KASPER JOSEPH KFOURY, PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS US COAST GUARD

**John Cuddy**

VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

Lawrence's Kasper Kfoury was present at two of the most iconic events that took place during the twentieth century in the United States. He, his brother and some friends took a train to New York's Yankee Stadium on July 4, 1939, and they were sitting in the stands when New York

Yankee First baseman Lou Gehrig delivered his retirement speech to the fans, a speech that has been called by some as "baseball's Gettysburg Address" to a sold-out crowd at Yankee Stadium. The other famous event? He was in New York City's Time Square on August 14, 1945 for the VJ Day celebrations. The Second Class Petty Officer had just got off duty serving as Port Security on the Brooklyn Piers. He told me he was not the sailor in the famous Alfred Eisenstaedt photograph, the one of a sailor kissing a nurse in Times Square, but it was someone else instead.

Kasper and I talked about the ethnic makeup of the Lawrence of his youth. Truly a city of immigrants, Lawrence during the Great Depression had many ethnic enclaves, where life often centered on the ethnic church in their neighborhood. The French had Sacred Heart and Saint Anne's, the Irish attended St. Patrick, St. Mary's, Immaculate Conception, Saint Augustine, and St. Lawrence's, the Germans belonged to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Portuguese attended the smaller St. Peter and St. Paul's, the Italians lived and worshiped around

Holy Rosary, the Polish attended school and Mass at Holy Trinity, the Lithuanians, had a school and a church at St. Francis. The Kfourys were Arabic, specifically Lebanese. Lebanon was part of Syria, which was part of the Ottoman Empire that the Allies broke up after World War I. The Lebanese attended either St. George, an Antiochian Eastern Orthodox Church, St. Joseph Melkite Greek Catholic Church or St. Anthony Maronite Church. During the Depression and World War II, Lawrence also was home to many Protestant Churches and the Jewish families established several synagogues and a community center in the city, mainly on Tower Hill.

While the two of us where talking, I tried to get a feel for life in Lawrence during the Depression and World War II. Kasper's eyes lit up when he told me of attending fifteen movies in fourteen days watching them at the Palace, the Broadway, the Strand, and the Modern on Lawrence's famous theater row. He graduated from Lawrence High School in 1940, the school's largest class ever, and then we reminisced about crowds of 10,000 plus at Lawrence vs Lowell, and Lawrence vs Haverhill football games.

He also talked about working in a Sign Shop, and the now illegal "shape ups" that occurred in front of the gates of the Lawrence Textile mills each morning during the Great Depression in Lawrence. The mill owners and their supervisors would walk out the gate each morning, and select labor from the large crowd of men

and women that stood outside the gate of the mill looking for work. Low pay, no benefits, the immigrants and their families were glad to just get paying work to feed themselves.

He grew up in Lawrence during the Depression, with two brothers and a sister, living above a restaurant on the corner of White and Oak streets. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corp a month after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He and his friends were in an auto accident, and he was hospitalized with extensive injuries particularly to his face. Two US Marine military policeman visited him in the hospital and decided that he was too badly hurt to report for basic training. He recovered enough by October of 1942 to join the US Coast Guard. After completing basic training in Manhattan Beach in Brooklyn, NY, the men in his company were divided into two groups. One group was sent to LST Training, and most of those men participated in seven different invasions in the Pacific Campaign. Kfoury's group was sent to Port Security Training, and he spent the war guarding critical docks, piers and harbors around Brooklyn, New York.

We discussed the incident when the Amagansett Coast Guard Station's Ensign John Cullen's had an unarmed encounter with four German service members who landed on a Long Island beach shortly after midnight on June 13, 1942, on a submarine commanded by German Navy Captain Hans-Heinz Linder, the U-202. The unarmed officer had the presence



of mind to race back to the Coast Guard Station for help, and shortly after they landed, the four Germans were captured.

The group that was sent for LST Training in Norfolk, Virginia, may have included men such as Douglas Albert Munro, an immigrant from Canada, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for saving the lives of hundreds of US Marines during the Guadalcanal Campaign. To date, Signalman First Class Munro is the only member of the US Coast Guard to earn the Medal of Honor.

Most readers are probably not as familiar with US Coast Guard Ratings, so

**HERO: PAGE 21**

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*Every day when we walk out the door, there is always the possibility that it may be our "last" time. You wouldn't walk out the door without your wallet; if you fail to plan for your Family's future, that's exactly what you may be doing.*



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# MOVIE LAWTOWN FILMED IN LAWRENCE

## Hollywood Focuses on The Opioid Crisis and How it Affects All of Us

Official Statement from the Producers of Lawtown:

We set out to make a film that explored the rising opioid problem in New England, and in doing so we discovered the root of the problem. Lawrence, MA has been a gateway to an ever-growing opioid problem in the New England area, that has had no end in sight. Focusing our energy on the town of Lawrence is not meant to point the finger at this beautiful community of people, but instead our hope is to empower everyone to rise up for change. To rise up to fix this problem across our entire country. To rise up and to support one another. We hope our film inspires you to help fix the problem in your town.

The film is currently available to purchase for \$9.99 on VIMEO.COM.

Watch on iOS, Android, Apple TV, Roku, and Chromecast.

The Valley Patriot caught up to the producers of Lawtown for an interview just one day prior to the movie's release.

Q: Why did you decide on making a documentary about Lawrence?

This is tough because at first I don't think we knew what we were making.

There were ideas of a show, movie, short film, online video... One day, I received news that a close childhood friend had overdosed and passed away. This was obviously tough to hear and had really made me sick to my stomach. At the time, I really had no clue what was going on in New England and how much drug addiction had taken over.

It was probably 1-2 months after that I kept reading online of other people I had known, or friends of friends that were overdosing on heroin. Being a filmmaker I felt like this was something that needed to be documented. So, we set out and just started to shoot and ask important questions. At first the focus of this documentary was on the entire New England area. However, after countless interviews and conversations they almost all pointed to Lawrence, Massachusetts as the main focal point.

Q: What was it about Lawrence that stuck out with you?

Lawrence is an amazing town with some incredible, hardworking, and devoted people. During the shooting of

the film we had the opportunity to meet, interview, and chat with so many different faces. I think the one thing that stuck out to me is how much pride everyone had in their city.

Q: How did you find the characters in your film? Why did you focus on the people you focused on?

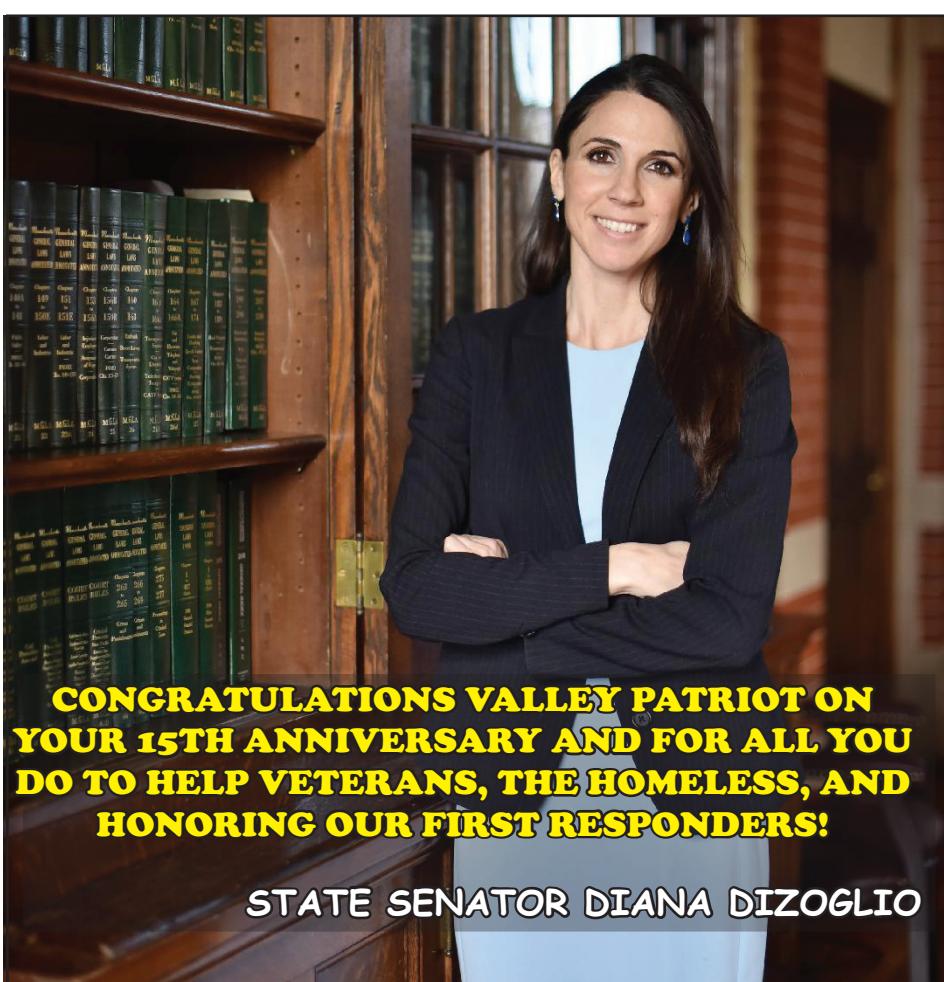
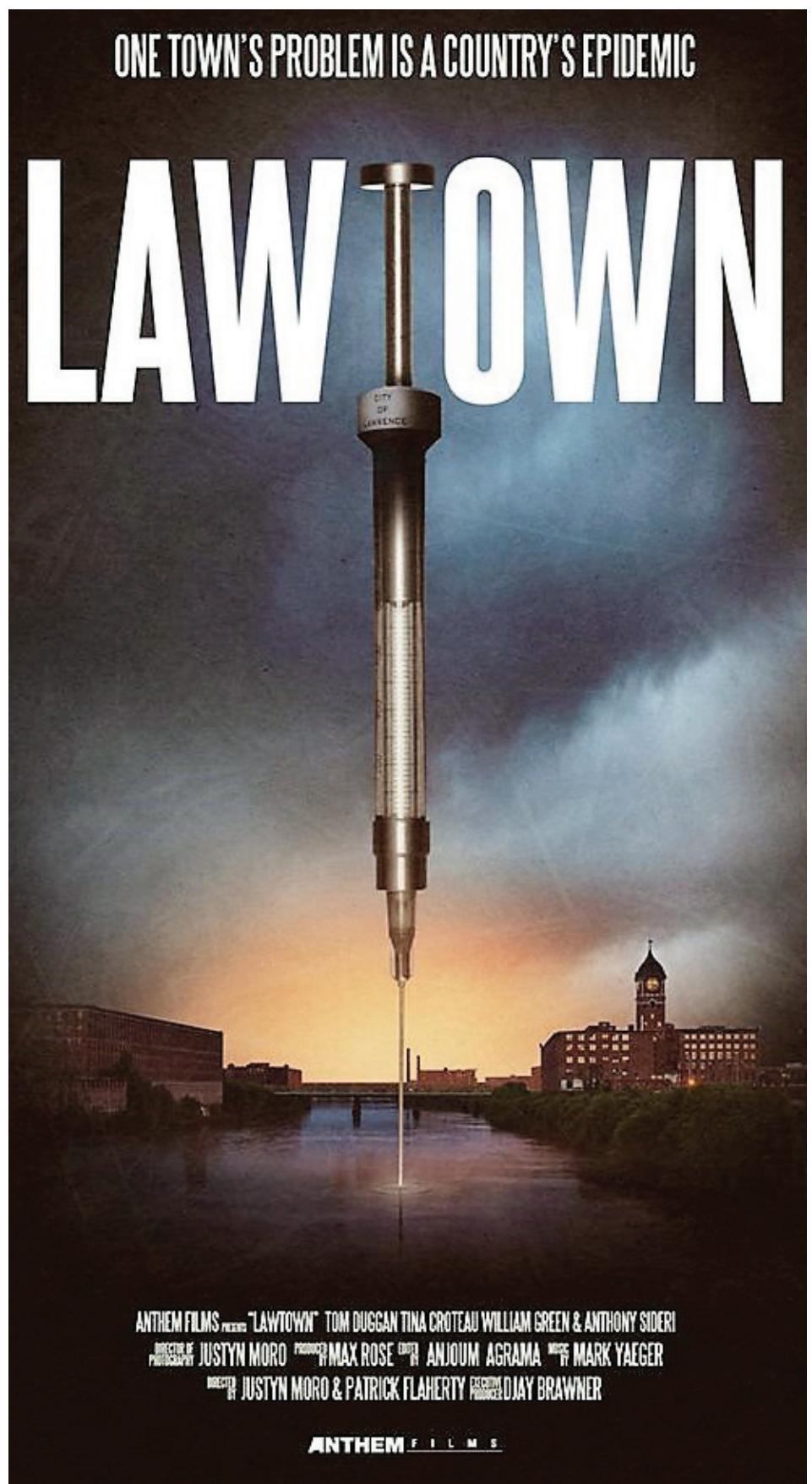
It was kind of crazy because I feel like we didn't really find these people. It felt like they came to us either through recommendation or personal connection. We focused on them because they are either knowledgeable or have inspiring stories. We felt that through these stories people could either relate or see what changes could be made.

Q: What was the process of filming this documentary like? How long did it take from start to finish?

Like any movie, it's not easy. Especially a documentary because it's not scripted, it's real life. There were a couple months of preparation trying to line up interviews and meetings. Then production finally began. We shot for over the course of a year or so, a couple weeks at a time. It was a tiny crew that all worked on this for labor of love. The cool part about this is we were able to edit as we went. We had an amazing editor that could log footage and really help us sculpt the story we wanted to tell.

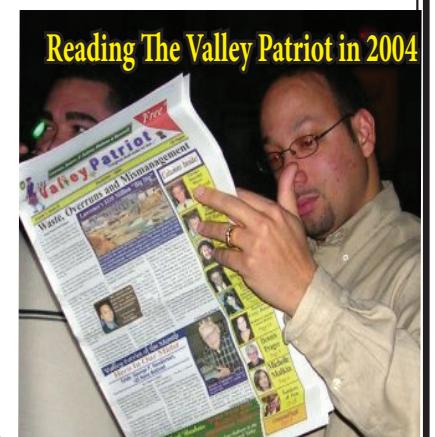
Q: What do you hope people take away from the film? What do you want them to learn? Understand and know?

I think for a film like this it is really easy to look at the negatives. However, as I mentioned before, there are so many beautiful people in New England and Lawrence especially. The intention for this film was to bring awareness and try to come up with a solution for this opioid problem. Too many people are dying and we need to do something. As one of the subjects of this film said a number of times during shooting, what's happening in Lawrence is happening everywhere. Lawrence is a microcosm for the rest of the country. What's happening in Lawrence is happening in every community in the United States. We know Lawrence isn't the problem, our hope is that we can use what is happening in Lawrence to start to find solutions. ♦



Long before I ever ran for office I was a loyal reader of The Valley Patriot. As Lawrence City Council President - and now a State Rep. I find it vital to keeping up with what's going on in my district.

Congratulations on hitting a **GREAT** milestone, your 15TH ANNIVERSARY! Here's hoping for many more!



**HAPPY 15TH ANNIVERSARY!**

**FRANK MORAN**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

## Encryption is Here to Stay

**Rich Russell**

VALLEY PATRIOT GUEST COLUMNIST

An update on the encryption of the Lawrence Police Radio system; encryption is here to stay; it will never leave!

With that said, I will give you some background on that thinking.

In early January, at the Mt. Vernon Neighborhood meeting, Chief Roy Vasque stated that no matter what anyone is saying about who is to blame for the encrypted radio system, it was he alone that made that decision. He mentioned that the death of 7 Law Enforcement Officers in the 1st 13 days of January reinforces his thoughts on officer safety.

A short time later, Councilor at Large Pavel Payano put an item on the City Council agenda about the LPD radio system. The Public Safety Committee held a meeting on January 31st where I got to question the rationale of an encrypted system regarding the number of other encrypted systems statewide. Chief Vasque reiterated the same concern and also said that the LPD have found that among other issues, people are using scanners to be tipped off to noise complaints; no noise when the LPD arrives but as soon as they leave, the noise starts again.

He concluded that encryption is the wave of the future for police communications. He said that in 4 to 5 years there will be a drastic increase in encrypted systems. That basically concluded the discussion about encryption. I told the Chief after the meeting that we will be back in 4 or 5 years to see if he is right about encryption as a wave of the future.

Some tips to help overcome the loss of

the LPD on your scanner:

1) Program in the Lawrence Fire Department frequency of 154.445 and program in the Lawrence General Hospital ambulance dispatch frequency of 155.265. Listen to these 2 frequencies as they will respond to accidents and other possible police incidents. Listening to these 2 frequencies is not going replace the loss of the LPD radio frequency but it will give you a heads up on what 'might' be happening in the city

As a note of caution, you will not hear any sensitive information such as a person's name or injury; you will hear addresses mentioned. I would caution you not to publicize addresses. The LGH dispatch will give the ambulance crew a heads up as to what awaits them on a call.

2) Program in these various police net frequencies: BAPERN 3 – 470.7875, BAPERN 4 – 470.5625, NEMLEC 2 – 482.6875, NEMLEC 3 – 482.6375, NEMLEC 4 – 482.3875, and NEMLEC 5 – 485.3875.

3) Program in these various Fire Net frequencies: Fire District 5/15 (Southern Essex County/Northern Essex County): 154.070 and 460.1375 (These frequencies are simulcast). These above frequencies are mutual aid frequencies.

The above frequencies will not replace the loss of the Lawrence Police Department primary frequency on the scanner, but they might help in figuring out what is happening in the City of Lawrence.

Next month, I will try to touch in a roundabout manner on some tips on listening to the MA State Police and various Federal agencies. Until then, try to keep listening! ♦



## Lawrence Police Partner with State and Feds to Arrest Violent Fugitive on Alder Street

Lawrence police responded to a call of shots fired and a disturbance all at approximately 11:30 am on Sunday morning (2/24), near the intersection of Hampshire and Alder Streets.

Sources say that the disturbance started as a domestic between two men fighting over the same woman when one man left, got a firearm and returned shooting.

Police arrived but before they could set up a perimeter the suspect fled out the back.

As part of the investigation a search warrant was obtained for the Alder Street residence.

Upon executing the search warrant, police seized two firearms along with ammunition, heroin and fentanyl, as well as equipment consistent with a drug dealing operation.

Police also received information during the search and an arrest warrant was issued for Edward Rosado-Cardona age 28 of Lawrence.

Early the next afternoon, Lawrence Police Detective Shaun McLellan, Massachusetts State Police Trooper D.J. Dolan of the Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section and Agent Matt Lawlor of the US Marshall Service located and arrested Rosado-Cardona on Bennington Street.

Rosado-Cardona was arraigned Tuesday (2/26) at Lawrence District Court on several firearms, and drug related charges, as well as several outstanding warrants.

Lawrence Police chief Roy Vasque says he is "grateful for the assistance of our State and Federal partners with bringing dangerous individuals such as this one to justice." ♦

## Don't Dare to Ask Questions in Dracut!

**Brian Genest**

DRACUT COLUMNIST

In Dracut, you don't question "the powers that be." If you do, prepare to be attacked. Just ask Conservation Commissioner Fred Spicer.

Fred Spicer broke the golden rule of Dracut politics: He dared to ask questions about a proposed town project, a path on a narrow strip of conservation land with protected wetlands that would connect the school complex on Lakeview Avenue to Beaver Brook Farm. To make matters worse, he pointed out no one appears to be properly managing the project. Then, he voted against it. You'd think he committed a capital crime based on the subsequent media coverage and social-media nonsense.

Nothing distracts the easily distracted like a distraction, so the focus was put on Fred Spicer's style, instead of the substance of his concerns, naturally. Politics, not the plan, were the topic of the post-meeting discussions. After all, not only did Fred Spicer speak up, he—gasp—called the way the project is being handled "loosey-goosey."

If there's one thing "the powers that be" don't like to hear, it's the truth!

The truth is that calling this plan loosey-goosey gives it way too much credit. There doesn't appear to be anyone managing the project as a whole. It's like one board and town employee doesn't know what the others involved are doing because this project is being handled in such a siloed way.

The truth is that the town appears to be making up the plan as it goes along. The project has substantially changed, after going in front of a bunch of town boards, including the Community Preservation Committee, the Beaver Brook Farm Committee and the Conservation Commission.

Originally, the plan called for a path that would be 5 to 6 feet wide with mulched wood chips as the surface. Now, the plan has been increased to a 12-foot wide path and they are going to excavate 8 inches of soil and put down gravel instead.

The truth is that Town Engineer Mark Hamel couldn't answer basic questions about the revised plan, including how far the expanded path would be from Beaver Brook or where the center line of the new path was on the plan.

The truth is that, as a former news reporter for the Dracut Dispatch who covered the conservation commission in town more than 20 years ago, I can't imagine a scenario where Jim Jendro, who was on the board way back then, would have passed a project like this if a private citizen or their engineer was so ill prepared and unable to answer questions about distances and details.

When I pulled clips of my coverage of the conservation commission, the first story I found was dated May 27, 1993. An

excerpt from that article with my byline said: "The final public hearing was scheduled to discuss a Notice of Intent. James McManus appeared before the Commission to present plans for construction of single-family homes on lots 21 through 27 on Brook Street. During the discussion, Jendro told McManus, 'You don't have what we consider to be complete plans. I don't think this plan shows us what we need to know.' Jendro said he had questions concerning the location of the wetlands near the site. [Conservation Commissioner James] Carr was also concerned, saying, 'I'd like you to come in with some type of plan to protect the wetland.' The Commission unanimously voted to continue the public hearing..."

The truth is that my wife was told only trees that were 3 inches in diameter or less would be removed and that the path wouldn't be any closer than 10 feet to the property lines of abutters in the residential neighborhood. Some of the existing markers already appear closer and you don't need a surveyor or a math degree to figure out that a double-wide path puts both those promises in the town manure pile.

The truth is that, with the new plan, more trees will be removed, more motorized equipment will be brought in to do the work, more overall area will be disturbed and more long-term impact from human use will result in less protection and preservation of conservation land and wetlands.

Last, but certainly not least, please forgive me for committing the triple sin of asking three questions. Why was Conservation Commissioner Steve Graham (who was also on the board way back then in 1993) allowed to vote on this project when his brother, who works for the school department, the applicant, appeared before the board to speak in favor of the matter that evening? Isn't just the appearance of a conflict of interest like that enough reason for him not to cast a vote? Didn't someone advise him to recuse himself before the meeting?

Here's the bottom line: When "the powers that be" in Dracut want it, they are going to get it. If you get in the way, you get it instead. Got it?

**Brian Genest** is chairman of the Dracut Republican Town Committee. A marketing and communications expert with 20 years of success driving growth, maximizing ROI and boosting profits for consumer and high-tech brands, he has developed and executed strategic initiatives for a range of disruptive technologies, including robots, mobile commerce solutions and SaaS products. Earlier in his career, Genest worked as a newspaper reporter and editor for the Dracut Dispatch, Derry News and Billerica Minuteman. ♦

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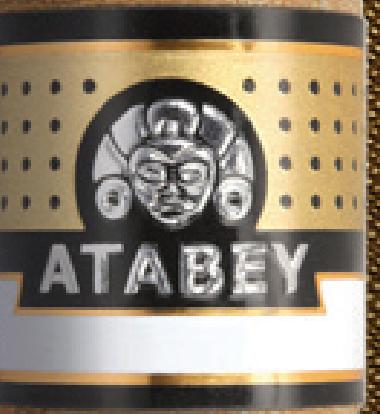
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**WALKING THE PATH WITH ALEX VISPOLI** - In March of 2004 the first edition of The Valley Patriot rolled off the presses at Graphic Development in Hanover, Massachusetts. (By the way, we highly recommend them for all your printing needs.) That same month, Andover resident Alex Vispoli was first elected to the Andover Board of Selectmen. Since then we have carefully followed Alex and all of his accomplishments in Andover. Alex was featured in the second edition of the Valley Patriot in April of 2004 and has been a staple of the Valley Patriot ever since. Alex has also been one of our biggest supporters (and his wife has been an even bigger supporter). This month Alex comes up for reelection again in Andover and we are all pulling for him!

#### SO FAR, LITTLE INTEREST IN METHUEN MAYOR/COUNCIL RACE

Those following the debacles in Methuen politics would think that there would be an overwhelming number of people interested in running for mayor, school committee, and city council this year. So far, however, the only person we know of running for mayor is Dan Shibilia. While we have heard rumors that a few others are thinking of running for mayor, nobody has declared or indicated that they are seriously considering a run. That goes for city council and school committee as well. School Committeeman Nick DiZoglio has announced his intentions to run for reelection but that's about it.

#### METHUEN'S KANNAN GETS A SUBPOENA ... MAYBE ... KIND OF ...

Early this month the local daily newspaper published a story that Methuen City Council president Jen Kannan MIGHT have received a subpoena from the FBI concerning a criminal investigation that MAY have to do with the Methuen police contract. Kannan didn't give any quotes or confirmation on the matter. Other councilors either couldn't be reached or said they did not get one. Almost immediately some Methuen residents took to Facebook asking if Kannan should resign and assumed that if Kannan got a subpoena she must be the target of the investigation (that nobody can confirm exists). Let's hold back a second here. If Kannan did indeed get a subpoena from the feds, that does not mean she is the target of an investigation, in fact most of the time the target of the investigation is the last to get a subpoena. Let's all wait and see what happens before jumping to conclusions and throwing Kannan under the bus.

**VALLY PATRIOT BASH!** - Put April 5th in your calendar now! The Valley Patriot will be holding our 15th Anniversary BASH scholarship and award night at the Firefighters Relief's In, 1 Market Street in Lawrence. This year the band Prospect Hill will be performing as well as comedian Johnny Joyce. Each year we honor police officers, firefighters, veterans, and give out college scholarships to local students trying to get to college. If you are interested in donating to our scholarship fund or would like to buy tickets give us a call at (978) 771-4091 or email us at [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com).

#### VETERAN TABLES

Each year at the annual BASH we give free admission to veterans and active duty military. If you would like to sponsor a veteran table at the BASH they are \$350. You can call me at (978) 771-4091 or email me at [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com)

#### BASH SCHOLARSHIPS

This year The Valley Patriot will be giving out scholarships in the following categories:

Lawrence High School JrROTC (\$1,200 so far donated by Army Vet. Eugene Smith)

Greater Lawrence Technical School (\$1,000 so far donated by Mike Gagliardi of Laborer's Union Local 175)

## TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK



Lawrence Exchange Club EMTs of the Year ..... EMT Chris Locapo and Kristen Harris of Lawrence General. Harris and Locapo were honored last month at the annual Police Officer, Firefighter, EMT of the Year Awards at the Double Tree Hotel in Andover.

Dan Cody Scholarship (North Andover) (\$500 so far, donated by our good friend Al Veilleux)

Whittier Regional Tech. Scholarship (\$500 donated so far by Al Veilleux)

We would love to be able to give each student at least \$2,000 this year so if you or someone you know, an individual or business would like to donate to our scholarships, please email me at [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com).

#### BASH AWARDS

This year we will be giving out awards for Hero Veterans, at least 2 police officers, one firefighter and two new awards for community service.

#### IT'S OUR 15th ANNIVERSARY!!

For the last 15 years the Valley Patriot has been publishing this little monthly newspaper. It's quite an accomplishment given that approx. 90% of startup businesses fail in the first year and 80% of those that make it to the second year, fail before they reach their third.

But, while others are congratulating me personally for hitting this milestone, I would be remiss if I didn't mention just a few of the people who made - and continue to make - The Valley Patriot possible.

First, Chuck Ormsby and Ralph Wilbur were with me from the beginning as was Paula Porten. Without Chuck, Paula, and Ralph this paper never would have been launched back in March of 2004. Bob Damon of Graphic Developments in Hanover has been our printer since day one, and when we hit financial hardship back in 2011, Bob and the crew of Graphic worked with us and helped us keep the paper going. They have been great partners who are as professional as they come, not to mention their unique standards and quality workmanship that gives the Valley Patriot a very unique look and feel that distinguishes us from other papers on the newsstands.

There was Andover Attorney Peter Caruso who represented us in at least two first amendment lawsuits. To date we have not lost a suit. People like Dan Selenius who has been delivering The Valley Patriot for almost as many years as we have been publishing. Then there's Christine Ryan, the Tomaselli sisters, and everyone who helped us edit the paper over the last 15 years. But, most of all I have to thank our loyal advertisers and columnists. A few come to mind among so many. Paul Murano has been writing for us for all 15 years of this newspaper's existence. WOW! Advertisers like Mike Gagliardi of Laborer's Union Local 175, Joe Zingales of Century 21, and Keith Wlodyka

(formerly of Tower Hill Variety, now the Daily Dose Café) have all been advertising with us since year ONE. Amazing! Then there's Sal Lupoli and Lupoli properties, Salvatore's Restaurant who never abandoned us no matter how controversial we became. It's also important to recognize those who have helped us make our annual charity BASH! a success every year. Last year we gave away more than \$20,000 in scholarships and that doesn't happen without dedicated people planning and organizing the event. Thank you to Maria Fiato, Brenda Rozzi, Penny Hale, Christine Morabito, DJ Rick Bellanti, Eric at Henry's Jewelry and awards, Bob Wescott at Copilabs, and Rich Russell as well as Puppygirl Kate Whitney. They were all invaluable over the years as we started our charity BASH, and though some of them have moved on to bigger and better things, I hope they all know what you know. I am eternally grateful.

Now that I started naming people, I'm positive that I have forgotten quite a few people and probably hurt someone's feelings, so just know that if I didn't name you here, I am well aware of every single person who has helped us along this fifteen-year journey. I am so grateful that so many people have contributed to making this newspaper the success it has been over the last 15 years. My only request going forward is that all of our readers, advertisers and partners stick with us as we weather yet another 1st amendment lawsuit. We are confident that with your help we will continue to survive as a business and a newspaper that is edgy, truth telling, and isn't afraid to piss off the sacred cows and the good old boys in the political arena. It has truly been an honor to bring you The Valley Patriot every month since 2004. I pray we will be able to keep this going for 15 more years in an industry that is dying and a political climate hell bent on silencing free speech. Whatever our fate is in the future, I am personally grateful to every single person who has contributed to the success of this newspaper.

#### 1ST ANNUAL NORTH ANDOVER JUNIOR MERCHANT'S EXPO!

The North Andover Merchant's Association, along with the Joseph N. Hermann Youth Center, are proud to host the 1st Annual North Andover Junior Merchant's Expo! This event will provide an opportunity for kids to sell their handmade crafts and artwork or promote their business services. The event is open to, but not limited to, musicians, lawn care service, computer experts, photography services,

and bakers. The Junior Merchants will be able to sell their products and promote their business by handing out business cards and showing photos or videos of the service they provide. You are invited to attend and support the exhibitors as well as promote the event to any interested young entrepreneurs so they can sign up.

Event Timing: April 6th, 9AM-NOON at the Joseph N. Hermann Youth Center

Contact: [finnimore@verizon.net](mailto:finnimore@verizon.net)

Rules and Requirements: Children in grades 4-12 who live in North Andover, artwork must be made by the artist, participants must provide their own table and chairs. All children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Online application link: <https://goo.gl/forms/ERIAmMq1oGl-BuAZo03>. Or request a printable application at [finnimore@verizon.net](mailto:finnimore@verizon.net).

#### HAVERHILL - DAMON LAUNCHES WHAV MORNING SHOW "WIN FOR BREAKFAST"

Win Damon, the dean of Merrimack Valley radio, now delivers a live morning show over Haverhill-based 97.9 WHAV FM. The 6-9 a.m., weekday, program provides listeners with everything they need to know to start their days—local news, weather, sports, traffic, prizes and more. Getting up early and informing Merrimack Valley listeners is nothing new for Damon. He's been doing it for nearly 30 years.

Damon, of Newburyport, and his father Henry bought Newburyport's WNBP in 1989. He continued to entertain and inform listeners even after the station changed hands several times. The stint ended, however, in August 2017 when Bloomberg bought the station to air national business news. The longtime personality joined WHAV last April, voicing announcements, filling in on the local news desk and joining the development staff. Prior to putting down roots in the Valley, Damon worked on-air and in sales in Manchester and Concord, N.H., Lowell and Rochester, N.Y. The WHAV call letters have been associated with local broadcasting since 1947. WHAV is today operated by Public Media of New England Inc., a nonprofit corporation. Since 2004, the call also served the Merrimack Valley's pioneer internet radio station at WHAV.net and a number of public access cable television stations in Andover and Methuen, Mass., and Atkinson, Plaistow and Sandown, N.H.

**TASTE OF METHUEN** - The Methuen Exchange Club is hosting its 17th Annual "Original Taste of Methuen". It will be held at the National Guard Readiness Center, 679 Lowell Street, Methuen, MA 01844 on Tuesday May 21, 2019 from 6PM - 9PM.

#### NORTH ANDOVER TEAMS UP WITH GLCAC TO OFFER NEW RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Town of North Andover, with assistance from The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc., is launching a new rental assistance program in that community to help low- and modest-income families and individuals who are struggling to afford housing. The North Andover Rental Assistance Program will be available to income-eligible residents who currently live or work in North Andover, or who have children in the town's school system. Under the program, GLCAC will pay first and last month's rent and the security deposit or pay a portion of the monthly rent for one year for eligible participants. GLCAC is administering the program, which is funded through a federal HOME Program grant to North Andover. The HOME Program provides grants to states and local governments to help increase affordable housing opportunities for low-income individuals. Pay-

CONTINUED UNDER FREDDIE

**FREDDIE SAYS**

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ment amounts are based on federal income guidelines and the size of the housing unit.

**BINGO FUNDRAISER**

Creative Living cordially invites you to the 1st Annual Music Bingo Fundraiser on Thursday, March 28th, from 6-10 pm at the Andover Town House, 20 Main Street, Andover, MA. Appetizers - cash bar - desserts - dancing. Creative Living's mission is to enrich the lives of developmentally disabled teens and adults by providing weekend getaways and life skills in order for these individuals to live more fulfilling lives within their community. Tickets are \$35 per person includes (1) Bingo Card. \$300 per table of (10) includes (10) Bingo Cards. Additional Bingo Cards will be available for purchase.

**MASTER PIANO CLASSES OFFERED AT NECC**

The music program at Northern Essex Community College will present two free piano master class workshops on the art of piano playing, led by NECC Music Professor Christina Dietrich, on Sunday, April 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Hartleb Building, on the Haverhill campus, 100 Elliott Street. Both master classes, which are open to pianists of all levels, are designed to provide students with a chance to perform and learn in a cooperative group setting. The sessions will explore piano performance and preparation techniques and cover a range of solo piano works as well as instrumental and vocal works with piano accompaniment. For more information about these master classes or about the music program at Northern Essex, contact Dr. David Garcia, music depart-

ment chair, at 978-556-3321 or Dietrich, at cdietrich@necc.mass.edu. Northern Essex offers an associate degree in general studies: music option and a certificate in music technology.

**HAVERHILL - ABBIE GARDNER PLAYS AT NEW MOON COFFEE HOUSE**

She's a fiery dobro player with an infectious smile and award winning songs; she's Abbie Gardner, and she plays at the New Moon Coffeehouse on Saturday March 16th at 8pm. Rupert Wates opens the evening. The coffeehouse is located in the Universalist Unitarian Church, 16 Ashland St, Haverhill MA. Admission to the show is \$20; \$10 for those ages 18 and under. Tickets for this show are available at the door starting around 6:30; doors open at 7:30. Tickets may be reserved prior to the show by visiting www.newmooncoffeehouse.org, or by calling 978-459-5134. The easiest way to get to the New Moon Coffeehouse is to take Rte. 495 to exit 51A (Route 125 South). Stay on Route 125 South for about 1.5 miles. At intersection of Routes 125 & 110, look left for a red brick church. Turn left onto Kenoza Ave (aka Rte. 110). Then first right by U-Haul trucks. And right onto Ashland St. There are 2 parking lots available behind the church, on both sides of Ashland St. The coffeehouse entrance is also there, at the back of the church. (978) 459-5134.

**LEGAL DEFENSE FUND** - It's no secret that Methuen Mayor Jim Jajuga is suing us, and he hired a multimillion-dollar law firm to try and bankrupt us by lawsuit. We have set up a GoFundMe page online for those who want to contribute so that we can pay our lawyers to fight yet another 1st amendment lawsuit. Your contribution can help us stay in business! Please donate at gofundme.com/valley-patriot-legal-defense-fund

**NAMA SCHOLARSHIP KNIGHT**

The North Andover Merchants Association will be awarding a \$2,000 scholarship to a NAMA member's graduating high school senior pursuing any degree/residing in any town. A business owner may designate a current employee to represent that business in submitting an application on behalf of the business. This is at the discretion of the business owner/member. One application per business please. Business must be a current 2019 NAMA member. You can send payment by check anytime to PO Box 62, North Andover, MA. \$100 or go to website: northandovermerchants.com to renew or begin a membership. Deadline is March 15th!

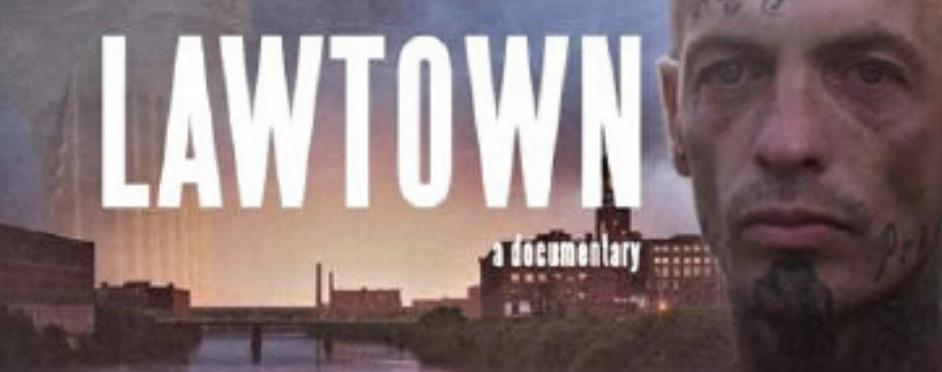
**BRIDGES BY EPOCH AT ANDOVER HOSTS FREE EVENTS FOR DIMENTIA CAREGIVERS**

Bridges® by EPOCH at Andover, a memory care assisted living community located at 254 Lowell Street, will host the following complimentary events in March. For more information or to RSVP for an event, call 978-775-1070.

**Balance & Mobility Clinic:** March 12th at 2 p.m. — Maintaining balance and mo-

**NOTEBOOK: PAGE 17**

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**Methuen Police Dept. Adopts Smart911**

Methuen Police Chief Joseph Solomon announces the new Smart911 mobile app to provide greater access to the lifesaving benefits of Smart911, plus targeted location-based alerts to all residents.

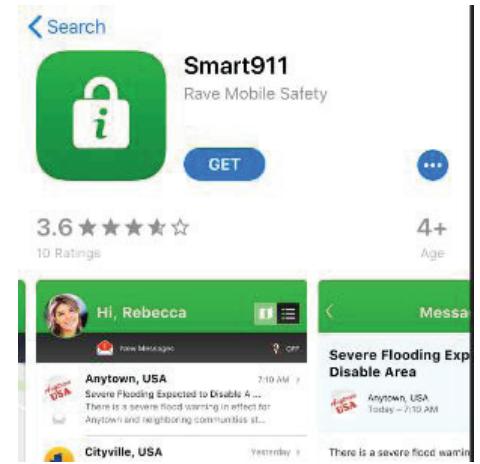
Methuen residents and visitors will now be able to download the Smart911 app to share and receive critical information in an emergency.

Smart911 enables community members to create a Safety Profile that displays when they call 911. Via the Smart911 mobile app, households can create a Safety Profile featuring any information about their household that they want 911 and response teams to have in the event of an emergency.

Then, when a community member makes an emergency call, their Safety Profile automatically displays to the 911 call taker, allowing them to provide a variety of essential, time-saving information to first responders en route.

In addition, the app provides enhanced functionality by sending targeted alerts based on the user's location. Smart911 app users will receive the highest priority National Weather Service alerts, including tornado warnings, flash flood warnings and severe thunderstorm warnings based on their real-time location.

"Smart911 has proven to be lifesaving, and the addition of the app means more residents can participate and be better prepared in an emergency," Chief Solomon said. "Every resident of Methuen should download the Smart911 app today. It could save your life."



Benefits of the Smart911 app include: Residents who do not have home internet access or a computer can register from their mobile phones. Current Smart911 users can access their Safety Profile via the app and easily update their information in real-time.

Residents can create a Smart911 Safety Profile via the app, which includes verified phone numbers, easily-to-update information for dispatchers, and uploaded photos. The Smart911 App automatically displays alerts from the National Weather Service on an interactive map for a more advanced warning.

The app and its features are available at no cost to Methuen residents. To add the app to your smartphone, search "Smart911" in your mobile app store or text "Smart911" to 67283 to receive the download link via text message. ◇

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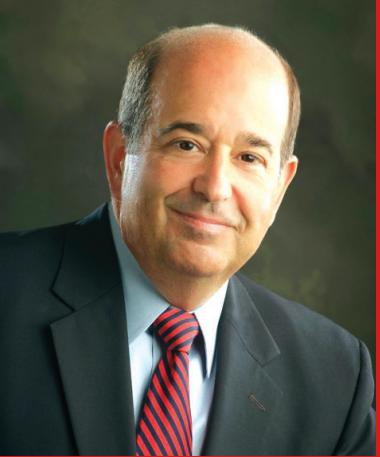
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**Happy 15th Anniversary Valley Patriot**

Best of Luck for many more!

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**Linda Dean Campbell**



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Chair of the Committee on Veterans/Federal Affairs

"Congratulations to the Valley Patriot and its team on 15 years of providing news to the residents of the Merrimack Valley and beyond!"



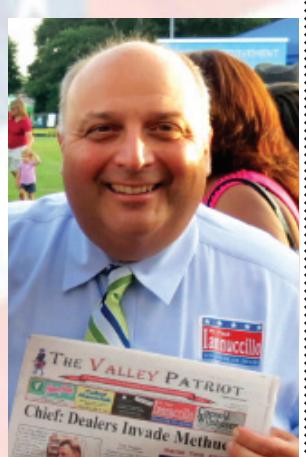
**Christina Minicucci**  
State Representative

**Happy 15th Anniversary!**

To EVERYONE AT THE VALLEY PATRIOT

FROM YOUR FRIEND

M. Paul lannuccillo  
Northern Essex Register of Deeds



15 years ago there was only one regional newspaper in The Valley.... and then something wonderful happened....

**The Birth of The Valley Patriot!**

**THANK YOU TO THE VALLEY PATRIOT FOR BRINGING REAL NEWS TO THE VALLEY!**

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"Speaker DeLeo, Lynn Veterans' Service Officer Mike Sweeney, and MVSOA President Jeffrey Chunglo present Rep. Campbell with the MVSOA Legislator of the Year Award."

## Campbell Appointed Chair of the Committee on Veterans/Federal Affairs

**Rep. Linda Dean Campbell**  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

State Representative Linda Dean Campbell of Methuen has been appointed Chairwoman of the Massachusetts House Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs.

Campbell is the first woman in the Commonwealth's history to be appointed House Chair of this committee, which focuses on legislation to support Veterans, active duty military, and their families in the Commonwealth. The committee is also involved in matters where state and federal policies overlap, such as the challenges surrounding the recent federal government shutdown.

The committee will conduct public hearings on all legislation pertaining to these matters. Campbell indicated that many of her colleagues have filed bills pertaining to the challenges faced by our Veterans.

"This committee is always a very active committee, receiving many bills to be considered, and I am looking forward to working with my legislative colleagues and the many agencies that support our Veterans here in the Commonwealth," stated Campbell. "To me, this is more than a chairmanship, it is an opportunity to work very closely with House and Senate Leadership, the Governor, and Secretary Urena to address the challenges faced by Veterans throughout the Commonwealth."

"I have worked with Secretary Urena for a number of years on Veterans issues

and very much look forward to bringing this collaboration to a higher level," noted Campbell. "This will also allow me to work closely on Veterans' issues with our newly elected Congresswoman, Lori Trahan, who has secured a spot on the Armed Services Committee in Congress."

Campbell, a former Army Intelligence Officer and paratrooper with eight years of active duty experience that includes six years in Germany and two years with the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force, is the only woman Veteran serving in the State Legislature.

Recently, Representative Campbell was selected as "Legislator of the Year" by the Massachusetts Veterans' Service Officers Association, an organization that represents all local Veterans Service Officers (VSOs) in Massachusetts, the only state in the country that has a VSO in every community to help Veterans.

Campbell highlighted that making immediate medical care available for Veterans battling addiction and other medical challenges must be a top priority. "Veterans with any pressing medical needs should not have to wait," Campbell said. "I am familiar with cases where death has occurred when medical care was critically needed but not made available in time. That is unacceptable – as is the suicide rate amongst Veterans. While Massachusetts leads the way in caring for our Veterans, we still need to better address the problems of homelessness, suicide, and more timely access to critical medical services." ♦

IN YOUR CORNER with SENATOR DIZOGLIO

## My Goal for Local Community Development & Business

Dear Valley Patriot Readers,

Think for a moment of the last local business you visited. Maybe you stopped by the corner store to pick up milk, went to your local pizzeria for dinner, or picked up a new snow shovel before the last snowstorm at the Mom & Pop hardware shop.

Whatever it was, your patronage positively impacted your local economy.

How we help these local businesses not

only survive but thrive - and in turn help our communities flourish - will continue to be a focus for me as I step into the role of Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Community Development and Small Business. In this role, I look forward

to working alongside residents and local business leaders to identify issues we can tackle together to strengthen economic opportunities and improve small business performance.

Often you hear folks say that small business owners are the "backbone of the community," but what exactly does that mean? Of course our small business owners are creating new jobs, providing a tax base, and bringing unique and essential goods and services to residents. But local business owners are also participating in community events, contributing to local nonprofits, and supporting local community groups. I recognize that these silent partnerships are the key to building strong neighborhoods, and should be not only supported but applauded. For that reason I will work with the Committee to highlight these efforts and encourage bipartisan support of these partnerships.

The Committee must also address the tax challenges for Merrimack Valley small businesses. Growing a small business is a challenge anywhere, but it's even tougher when the community borders a state without a sales tax. As Chair of the Committee, I will ensure that Merrimack Valley

small business owners' concerns are addressed, and I will be their voice in the statewide conversation on policy matters.

While we have yet to receive a slate of bills to be evaluated on the Committee, we are poised to examine proposals aimed at zoning reforms for housing and business construction, new ways to incentivize job creation, and making it easier for small business owners to cut through red tape.

Smaller cities, suburbs and rural towns outside Boston - communities fighting to attract new residents and businesses that can employ these residents and grow local tax bases - will benefit greatly from the work of the Committee.

Entrepreneurship fuels economic innovation and prosperity, and for many families

is the opportunity to move out of low-wage jobs and into the middle class. I am committed to leading this Committee in discussions of equitable access to capital, healthcare, retirement, and development of a young, talented, and trained workforce.

I am pleased that several other Merrimack Valley representatives will also be serving on the Committee. Together, we will advocate for policies and initiatives that inspire entrepreneurs and boost small business development, investment, and expansion in our local communities.

As I contemplate how best to empower entrepreneurs and build thriving and inclusive local economies, I ask for your input. The success of this Committee depends upon open and honest dialogue among government officials, small business owners, industry leaders, community groups, and residents. As we begin to structure opportunities for public hearings, I encourage you to contact me with your ideas to improve our community and help small business owners do business.

I can be reached anytime by email at Diana.Dizoglio@masenate.gov or phone (617) 722-1604. ♦



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# All those EVIL Outsiders Bad Mouthing Lawrence!

There is no question that the City of Lawrence is the hub of the opioid epidemic in New England. There is also no question that while violent crime is drastically down over the last year, Lawrence is still a crime riddled city and a destination for heroin and other drug traffickers, users, and violent fugitives.

When president Trump, NH Governor Sununu, and Maine Governor LePage, all called out Lawrence as the source of the opioid crisis in New England, Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera did what he always does. He shirked responsibility and made it about race.

He whined that outsiders were “kicking Lawrence while we are down.”

He denied Lawrence is where most of the opioids in New England come from. And he derided people from “outside the city” giving Lawrence a bad reputation.

As if Lawrence’s reputation is only bad because those evil outsiders say mean things.

Rivera’s position on the matter was red meat for some Lawrence residents who share his inferiority complex and want to take no responsibility for the condition Lawrence is in.

#### LAWTOWN

Last week, a Hollywood documentary called “Lawtown” was released (you can buy it on Vimeo.com). It highlights the opioid and homelessness problem in the City of Lawrence as a microcosm of the rest of the country. It clearly spells out that this isn’t just in Lawrence but all over the country.

It is harsh. It is real, and it focuses on the fact that good people are literally dying in the streets of a once proud city, all the while Lawrence politicians deny the problem.

So, it was no surprise when “Lawtown” was released on-line, that some Lawrence



## Paying Attention! WITH TOM DUGGAN

residents parroted Rivera’s excuses on social media.

They whined and complained that those “evil outsiders” were once again just “trying to make Lawrence look worse than it already does.”

#### SHOULD OUTSIDERS HAVE NO SAY?

Clearly Mayor Rivera and many in Lawrence are of the opinion that only people “from Lawrence” should have anything to say about what goes on IN Lawrence. That kind of thinking is adolescent and hypocritical. Here’s why.

#### OUTSIDERS ARE PAYING LAWRENCE’S BILLS

First, nearly 100% of Lawrence’s municipal budget comes from state and federal taxpayers. Lawrence’s city budget is nearly \$180M but only takes in about \$40M in property taxes. Add to that the millions in state and federal grants that are pumped into Lawrence for education, public safety, community development, etc., that are not even counted as part of Lawrence’s municipal budget. That means the evil outsiders are paying more than 100% of Lawrence’s expenses.

Surely, those paying the freight should have some kind of say over the lack of progress in Lawrence after pumping billions of state and federal dollars into the city over the last 30+ years.

#### WHAT HAPPENS IN LAWRENCE DOES NOT STAY IN LAWRENCE

Secondly, Outsiders should also have a say about what happens in Lawrence because surrounding communities are se-

verely affected by the crime in Lawrence. It spills over into Methuen, Dracut, North Andover, Andover and Salem, NH.

In fact, US Attorney Lelling recently stated in another newspaper:

“I don’t think it’s an exaggeration to say that most of the heroin and fentanyl being sold on the streets in Portland, Manchester, Concord and other locations in those states is coming from Lawrence.”

“We’ve known for years that a lot of drug trafficking happens in Lawrence, but it’s become a source for the rest of New England.”

Last year the DEA revealed after a major raid in Lawrence that a finger of heroin costs about \$400 in Lawrence. But, that same finger of heroin goes for about \$600-\$800 in central NH, and can fetch as much as \$1,000-\$1,200 in Maine and Vermont.

Anyone with a basic understanding of economics knows that the price of any product is cheapest where it is most plentiful. Heroin and fentanyl are obviously more plentiful in Lawrence because this is where they are manufactured, packaged and distributed to other New England locations.

No wonder why Lawrence is a tourist destination for drug dealers all over New England.

#### MORE OUTSIDERS TRYING TO MAKE LAWRENCE BETTER

Thirdly: On a regular basis, the brave law enforcement officers of the FBI, DEA, US Marshalls, State Police gang and drug units, as well as a plethora of other “outside” law enforcement agencies come into the city to make major arrests for drugs, guns, and violent fugitives. Outsiders,

who put their lives on the line to protect the good decent law-abiding citizens of Lawrence. Surely those “outsiders” should have a say.

#### AN IMMIGRANT CITY

Lastly: The real kicker here is that Lawrence residents boast of an “immigrant city” and brag about how so many people from so many different countries have come to plant roots in the once thriving mill town. By their own admission, a large number of people in Lawrence are not only “not from Lawrence” but are, in fact not even from this country.

Now, I’m not saying that’s a bad thing, it’s not.

What I AM saying is that an immigrant city which prides itself on the fact that outsiders have come to settle down here from all over the globe, should not be so hypocritical as to complain about outsiders who are trying to call attention to Lawrence’s problems and also trying to fix them - while local ‘leaders’ fail year after year to put a dent in the epidemic of drugs and violence.

There is no doubt that most of the people who live in Lawrence are good decent people who deserve to live in a community that is safe. They deserve leaders who care enough to tackle these issues head on, and call them out for what they are.

But they don’t. So, it’s up to those outside of Lawrence to try and fix the city and perhaps team up with those who live in Lawrence who actually care and want to make a real difference.

If you want to understand why the drug and crime problem in Lawrence has not gotten any better in the last few decades, it’s because Lawrence officials (and those who parrot their talking points) would rather exploit fears of racism, make excuses, and blame “the others” for pointing out the problem.

It’s not because of a documentary or “outsiders” saying mean things. ♦

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THOMAS J. DUGGAN SR.

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Valley Patriot publisher Tom Duggan with Gabriela Taveras, Miss Massachusetts at the Exchange Club Police Officer, Firefighter of the Year awards last month at the Double Tree Hotel, sponsored by Wheelabrator Technologies in North Andover.



Adam Fithian of the band Prospect Hill (middle) was on hand at the House of Blues in Boston to party with Tom Duggan and Donny Jarvis of The Valley Patriot (not pictured) at the Sevendust Concert last month. Prospect Hill will be performing at the Valley Patriot's 15th Anniversary BASH on April 5th at the Firefighters Relief in, 1 Market St. in Lawrence.



Methuen Police Community Engagement Specialist Colleen Welch recently became a Certified Addiction Recovery Coach. Welch is a Methuen native who serves as a community engagement specialist for the department's Community Addiction Resource Engagement Services (C.A.R.E.S) initiative. That program is designed to address the opioid addiction epidemic that has affected communities across America, including Methuen.



PHOTO: RICH RUSSELL

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce was on hand last month for an official ribbon cutting for Battleground Coffee at the Sal's Riverwalk Complex on Merrimack Street in Lawrence. Battleground Coffee is owned and operated by two hero veterans.



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**STEVE AND KHANKEO SPAULDING  
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PHOTO: RICH RUSSELL

When 97 year old - US Army, WWII Veteran - James McCue passed away last month, it was learned that he had no family to attend his funeral. The people of Lawrence and surrounding communities turned out by the hundreds to honor his service and sacrifice to our country at the Bellevue Cemetery - Veterans' Section.



Kancho Larry F. Giordano, Founder of Methuen Karate Association and the North American Kyokushin Karate Organization has been nominated by the U.S.A. Karate Federation Hall of Fame to receive the "Pioneer Award" which recognizes individuals who have been involved with early years of the Olympic Karate Movement. Giordano will be attending the U.S.A. Karate Federation Hall of Fame event on March 9th in Akron, Ohio along with other Karate leaders from all over the country.



Andover Firefighters John Gangi, Jeff Gaunt, Thomas Kennedy III, Jameson Lockhart and Ian Timmons were sworn in as lieutenants. The five qualified to become lieutenants after passing a rigorous state exam in late 2016. Lt. Gangi joined the department in 1995; Lt. Gaunt in 2001; Lt. Kennedy in 2010; Lt. Lockhart in 2011; and Lt. Timmons in 1999. Assistant Town Clerk Warren also swore in James Bancroft, Matthew Beirne, and Michael Uttley as new firefighters to the department on Tuesday. They completed their academy training program in 2017. The ceremony was delayed largely due to the Merrimack Valley Gas Disaster, the recovery from which has been a focal point for first responders in Andover since the first fires broke out on Sept. 13, 2018.

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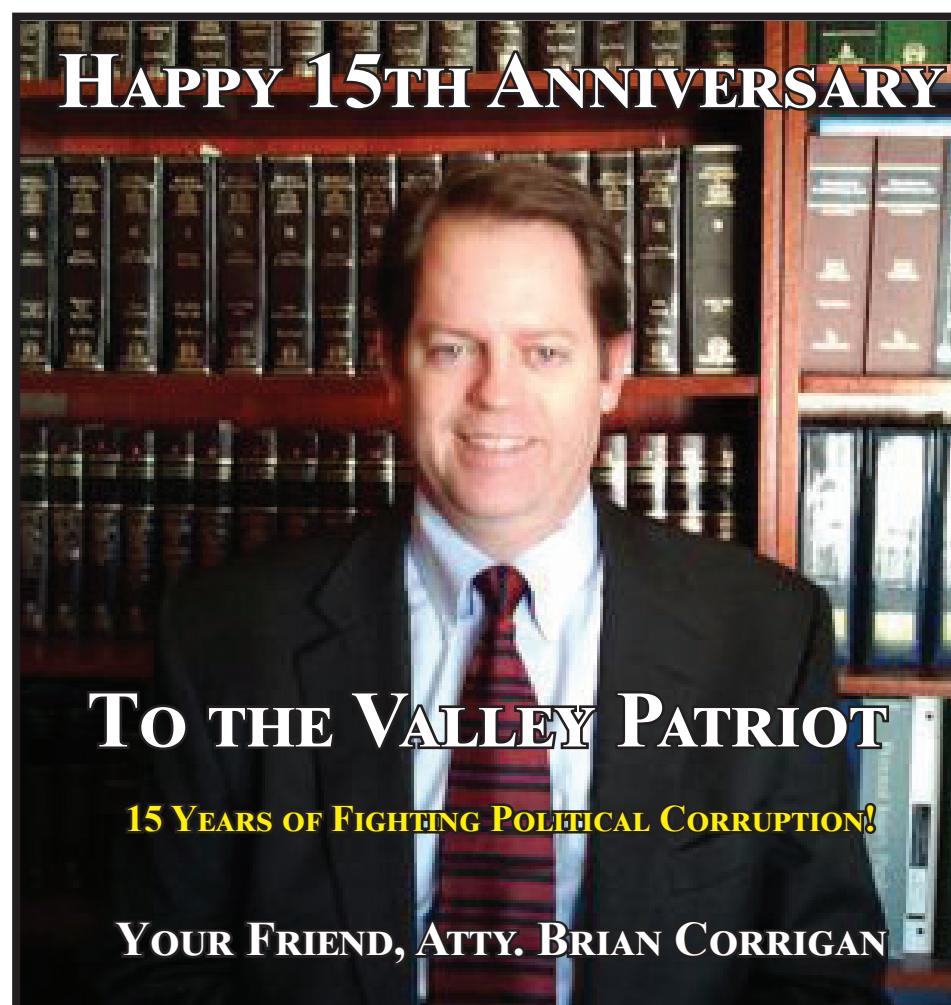
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For the 57th year, the Exchange Club of Lawrence recognized the outstanding service of our community's finest; Police Officers, Firefighters, and Emergency Medical Technicians from Andover, Lawrence, and North Andover - sponsored by Wheelabrator Technology, North Andover, Inc.

This year's honorees include: (top row) Lawrence Police Department, Officer Leo Silvera; North Andover Fire Department, Jeff Crosby. (Second row) Andover Fire Department: Deputy Chief Scott Gibson, Lt. Brian Wright, FF Michael Uttley, FF Ryan Beirne, FF Stephen Stabile, FF/EMT Brian Decourcy, FF/EMT Andrew Loonie, FF/EMT Jonathan Booth, Lt. Barry Thornton, FF Michael Oteri, FF James Bancroft, FF/EMT Kevin Farragher, FF/EMT Flanagan. (At right) Andover Police Department: Officer Glen Ota - (bottom row) Lawrence Fire Department: Captain James Driscoll and Lieutenant Joseph Murphy. North Andover Police Department: Officer William Gordon Lawrence General Hospital: EMT Chris Locapo & EMT Kristen Harris are pictured at the top of page 8. ♦



## I Remember how they Laughed.... 15 Years and 185 Editions Ago

### I REMEMBER SO WELL ...

I remember when the very first edition of The Valley Patriot was delivered to my office in Lawrence City Hall back in 2004. I had never seen anything like it. It was a breath of fresh air for free speech in the Lawrence area! Tom, you and your team have come a long way since those days, you ought to be proud!

I also remember taking my share of criticism in the pages of this newspaper, too, but it was always fair and never personal.

Mostly, I remember when you first unveiled your vision for standards in journalism, how you were laughed at and mocked by the political insiders and the newspaper industry.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
ON GETTING THE  
LAST LAUGH!  
Mike Sullivan**



## NOTEBOOK: FROM PAGE 9

bility is essential to seniors' independence. Identifying weaknesses in balance early on can help prevent a future fall or injury. Join us for a mobility clinic conducted by a physical therapist from Caretenders®, who will assess your or your loved one's fall risk and share strategies and recommendations to improve functional mobility and balance.

Family caregivers are welcome to bring their loved one with memory loss to enjoy a meal and activity with the Bridges® life enrichment team while they attend the event. (RSVPs are required: 978-775-1070.)

**Normal Aging vs. Memory Loss:** March 13 at 12 p.m. — Forgetting a time or place is often a sign of normal aging – but when is memory loss something more serious? Attendees will learn the signs that could indicate it's time for a memory screening. A complimentary lunch will be served.

This event will be presented by Alicia Seaver, Vice President of Memory Care Operations & Certified Memory Impairment Specialist. As a highly knowledgeable educator and trainer of dementia care, Alicia ensures our teams deliver the unique Bridges® culture and personalized approach to care throughout our communities every day.

Family caregivers are welcome to bring their loved one with memory loss to enjoy a meal and activity with the Bridges® life enrichment team while they attend the event. (RSVPs are required: 978-775-1070.)

**Signs & Stages of Dementia:** March 20 at 12 p.m. — Not everyone experiences

the same symptoms or progresses through dementia's seven stages at the same rate. Learn how to recognize the stages so you can respond appropriately to new or worsening symptoms. A complimentary lunch will be served.

Family caregivers are welcome to bring their loved one with memory loss to enjoy a meal and activity with the Bridges® life enrichment team while they attend the event. (RSVPs are required: 978-775-1070.)

**Effective Communication with Memory Loss:** March 27 at 12 p.m. — Learn to speak your loved one's new language with proven communication techniques for smoother, more productive and enjoyable interactions. A complimentary lunch will be served.

Family caregivers are welcome to bring their loved one with memory loss to enjoy a meal and activity with the Bridges® life enrichment team while they attend the event. (RSVPs are required: 978-775-1070.)

**Caregiver Support Group:** March 28 at 6 p.m. — Family caregivers are invited to socialize, share stories and get expert advice and information from a dementia care professional who understands their unique challenges and concerns. Bridges® by EPOCH at Andover's Caregiver Support Groups are facilitated by Kim O'Connell, MSW, LCSW.

A light dinner will be served. Caregivers may bring their loved ones with memory loss to dine with the Bridges® team during the meeting (RSVPs are required: 978-775-1070). ◇

## Methuen's Airman 1st Class Travis W. Hirst Completes Basic Training with the Air Force

Congratulations are in order for Airman First Class, Travis W. Hirst, of Methuen MA, for his successful completion and graduation of Basic Military Training with the United States Air Force, achieved on February 7th, 2019. A1C Hirst trained with Flight 157 of the 323rd Training Squadron, at JBSA Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX. Congratulations are also in order for the entire Mustang Flight 157 for achieving Academic Excellence, earned only by the highest ranking Flight for their academic achievements throughout Basic Training. Congratulations, A1C Travis W. Hirst, on your noble achievement. Good luck with your journey and career with the US Air Force. Thank you for your dedication and your selfless service. Continue to Aim High, Fly, Fight, and Win!

A1C Travis W. Hirst is a resident of Methuen, MA, along with his proud mother, Kelly M. Buco, his step-father Michael K. Buco, and his sister Isabella K. Buco. His father, Alexander P. Hirst, his step-mother Kell-ey, and two step-



sisters, Jillian, and Ell-ie who is a fellow Airman, reside in Sandown, NH. He is the grandson of Kathleen T. Coughlin, resident of Methuen, MA. As well as grandson to John P. Loeschen (Retired Army Veteran) and his wife Carole, of Pelham NH. His uncle, John W. Loeschen, aunt Tracy, and cousins Jennifer and Jillian, are also residents of Methuen, MA. His entire family would like to congratulate him, and express their feelings of absolute pride. ◇



Picture L to R: Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger, Captain Thomas Cote, Lt. John Pickles, Sgt. Jen Walsh. Director of Security David Earle. In front is K9 Lennin.

## ESSEX COUNTY K9s HONORED

Sheriff Kevin Coppinger, Director of Security David Earle, Captain Thomas Cote, Lieutenant John Pickles, and Sergeant Jen Walsh honored 4 department K9 dogs that have passed on by placing their names, dates of service and dates of death on a plaque which is adorned with the "K9 Prayer". This plaque will be hung for all to view in the Administration building. "This plaque recognizes how these K9s are an integral part of our security and help protect our employees, inmates and citizens within Essex County," said Sheriff Coppinger. ◇

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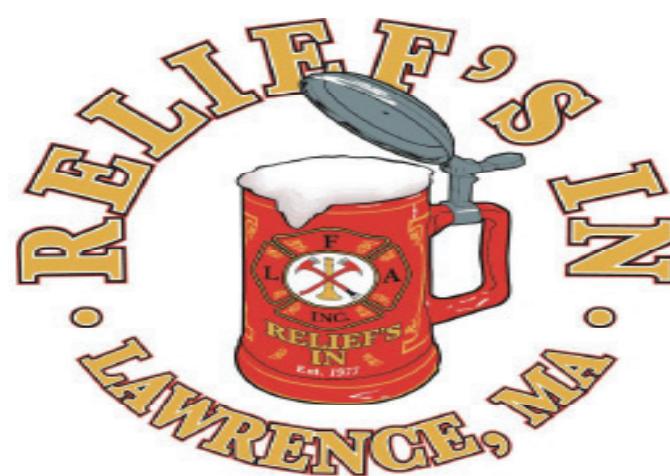
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# God's Style of Forgiveness!

Peter Larocque  
RELIGION COLUMNIST

What a God we have to love and serve, who else gives up their own son's life to save a people who have rejected every thought of His very existence! Scripture tells us in Romans 5:6-8, "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.[That's you and me]7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.8 But God commendeth his love toward us, [you and me] in that, while we were yet sinners, [you and me] Christ died for us." [you and me]

Trying to wrap your thoughts around this just blows the mind, why would God do this? Because of Love, God could not imagine Heaven, His home, without us!

Attempting to explain God with our teeny-weeny brains is futile. Scripture tells us in Isaiah 55: 8-9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." God makes it very clear to us that His thoughts and ways are Higher than our thoughts and ways! Therefore, God's style of doing things is much Higher than we could ever think or imagine! Especially when it comes to forgiveness!

God's style of forgiveness is always given freely without strings attached, far above our way of forgiving. If we look at the preceding verse of what we just read in Isaiah 55, verse 7 says, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." God's Thoughts and Ways are always Mercy, to Abundantly, Exceedingly, Greatly, Freely Forgive! God never punishes anyone on Parole!

Our style of forgiveness is always of judgment and fairness with conditions, with parole!

We judge others by their actions and judge ourselves by our intentions! We say of ourselves, "I really didn't mean that," and at the same time we judge others based upon their sin!

Why does God forgive so easily?

Simple answer, because it cost God his beloved son! The cross of Jesus Christ where sin was dealt with once and for all allows God to freely, abundantly forgive without one mention of your sin. God put everyone's lifetime of sins on Jesus at the Cross and they died with him. When Jesus said while on the cross, "It is Finished" meant that all of God's judgment was done! Sure, there will be a further judgment day coming for unbelievers, but for us who believe, we have eternal life!

I don't have the space in the one column to write all the examples in scripture to back up what I am saying, but if you want to read your Bible, start here, Matthew 18:21-22, Luke 7:41-43, Luke 7:47, Luke 15:4-6, Luke 15: 8-9, Luke 15:11-14, Luke 15:17-19, Luke 15:20-24.

Look at God's Style of Forgiveness! He Forgives Us Endless Times!

He is A God of Endless Chances! He Freely forgives you!

He looks until He finds you! He lays you on His shoulders! [a place of strength & comfort]. He seeks diligently until he finds you! When you are still a great way off, He sees you! He has compassion and runs to you! He kisses you Repeatedly! He gives you His robe of Righteousness! He gives you His ring of Recognition! He gives you His shoes of Sonship! He gives you a Celebration of a Lifetime!

All Without One Mention of your sin! Why? All Because of Jesus!

Romans 3:24, "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:"

God's style of forgiveness after the Cross of Jesus Christ is found in Hebrews 8:10-12, "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord;

I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."

If God does not remember your sins anymore, why then should you?

Love to all of you,  
Peter Larocque

## BENEATH THE SURFACE

# Kraft, Sex, and Cultural Confusion

Paul Murano  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

We Americans tend to bask in the humiliation of others. This is especially true if they're famous. Much of mainstream journalism has joined the tabloid industry in commonly breaking the eighth commandment by unnecessarily causing scandal and humiliation to individuals for the sake of ratings. Ratings means money, and when money is one's god everything else becomes secondary. It displays a dark place within human nature that seeks to be satisfied. Having said this, let us go beneath the surface on why the scandal surrounding Bob Kraft is all over the news, and why we care.

To those outside New England, Bob Kraft completes the trifecta of scandal that makes the Patriots the evil empire of the NFL: Brady had Deflategate, Belichick had Spygate, and now Kraft has... Massage-gate? (Where would we be verbally without the original Watergate scandal?) Putting aside who he is, his advanced age, and how many Superbowls his team has won (and all the positive and negative baggage that goes with that), we as a society must discern exactly why we believe what Bob Kraft allegedly did was wrong. There is a conglomeration of conflicting values that this case brings to light, which point to a confused culture with inconsistent ethical standards:

- a) The women may have been victims of human trafficking.
- Does this mean it would have been okay if they weren't?
- b) Prostituting is illegal.
- If it were legal would that make it okay?
- c) Kraft is a billionaire and a public person.
- If he was anonymous and poor would it be any less wrong?

Let's imagine that a man with moderate income and no public persona pays for unnatural sex acts from a consenting adult woman. Would there be 24-7 media coverage? Would it be ethically wrong?

The presumption of many today is that adult consent would render this and similar ethical quandaries non-issues. However, if there is no moral issue, why do those who engage in it do it in secret? Why would there be such humiliation in having their names publicized? In other words, if something is truly acceptable why is it so embarrassing? The old, tired response is that we still haven't overcome our puritan

background to be 'free' of outdated modes of thinking. But this is highly doubtful. For the past 50 years we have been inundated by a media that preaches the wonders and acceptability of 'free' consensual sex. Two generations have been formed in this distorted message. Why, then, do so many today still get the opposite message from their consciences? Perhaps it stems from the same reason men don't proudly shout their self-abuse with pornography and women don't proudly publicize their fornication with "boyfriends". Deep down we all know – even after five decades of societal conditioning to the contrary – that perversion of the natural order violates our nature, is an affront against marriage and the family, and contributes to psychological problems, spiritual corruption, and a culture of death.

Although it is a very important consideration, adult consent is not the only value to consider in the Kraft case. If the woman with whom Bob Kraft allegedly made a transaction was found to be not involved in any human trafficking, the scandal, disappointment, and humiliation would remain. Why? Many Americans have a problem figuring this out, due chiefly to a distorted view of freedom passed down by modern philosophy,

The only way to make sense of this is to listen to our internal response. We know when we violate natural law - the objective internal law of right and wrong planted in every human heart by God. Although sins of the flesh may not be the gravest evils (sins of malice are more serious than those of weakness), they are of the most dehumanizing. They have lasting temporal effects on one's ability to love oneself or another. Without divine intervention of grace, such deep wounds tend to perpetuate themselves from one generation to the next.

Society is not the arbiter of morality. Each person has a moral obligation to sacrifice impulse for the objective good. Respect for women must include concern for their good as persons, even if they see themselves as objects. And this concern must extend not only to Asian women at massage parlors, but also those involved in pornography, girlfriends, work mates, and acquaintances.

Yes, Patriots fans can be disappointed in Bob Kraft, if in fact he is guilty of engaging in these activities at a massage parlor in Jupiter FL. But do not be inconsistent.

KRAFT: PAGE 27

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**IN THE GROOVE with CNDYANNIS**

# Rolling Stones

**Cindy Annis**

HEALTH &amp; WELLNESS COLUMNIST

Now that you've met the Beatles, let's meet their badass evil twin, The Rolling Stones.

Like most of the bands that you grew up with, The Rolling Stones were just some friends in school. In 1950, Keith Richards and Mick Jagger became good friends. In the mid 50s, they moved away from each other. The move opened the door for Jagger to start a garage band with Dick Taylor. In 1961, Jagger and Richards met again and started playing music together with Alan Etherington and Bob Beckwith. They called themselves The Blues Boys.

In the summer of 1962, the complete lineup of the Stones was formed. The band members included Tony Chapman, Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Brian Jones, Ian Stewart, and Dick Taylor. The band was originally named after a song title on a Muddy Waters LP called Rollin Stones when Jones was talking to a journalist from Jazz News.

On July 12, 1962 The Rollin Stones played their first concert in London at the Marquee Club. After their first concert, the group's name was changed to The Rolling Stones. With the signing on of Andrew Long Oldham as their manager in 1963, the image of the Stones was created. Since Oldham worked with the Beatles,



it was easy to make the Stones the direct opposite of the Beatles. The Stones had an unclean appearance. Their attitude was unruly.

Decca records gave the Stones a recording contract to die for. The contract gave the band three times more in royalties as any other new group signed to Decca.

They could be as creative with their songs as they wished, and they owned all the master tapes. Lastly, they could record songs in other recording studios.

Their first album titled "The Rolling Stones" was recorded at Regent Sound Studios. This recording studio had reasonable rates, so the Stones

were able to book more time for rehearsal and recording purposes. The most important reason why Oldham loved the studio was the fact that everything was mono, and the use of egg boxes being suspended from the ceiling made a tremendous sound that complimented their image.

Like most groups, the Stones recorded songs made popular by other artists. Their first UK single was a Chuck Berry song called "Come On." The song reached #21 in the UK in June of 1963. Later that year while on tour, John Lennon and Paul McCartney met the Stones and gave them "I Wanna Be Your Man" to record. By 1964, band members Mick Jagger and Keith Richards wrote the songs for the group.

**STONES: PAGE 22**

## HERO: FROM PAGE 4

I consulted the US Coast Guard Enlisted Ratings guide published by Dana Lewis, Chief Warrant Officer, Boatswain, USCG-Retired. Kasper served as a Specialist Port Security. Petty Officer Kfouri was part of an elaborate Nationwide Port Security program; he was assigned to Brooklyn New York's Piers and Docks. His rank when Japan surrendered was Petty Officer Second Class, his rating was Port Security

U.S. Coast Guard Reserve Security

Ratings

1941 – 2009

Port Security Patrolman / Specialist Port Security: 1943 – 1982

Port Securityman: 1982 - 1999

Port Security Specialist: 1999 - 2010

Reserve Rating: Name changed to Port Security Specialist (PSS) in 1999

Specialty Mark of Shield w/PS until 1982. Rating to be dis-established in 2010 and Most assigned Coast Guardsmen will lateral change their rating to Maritime Enforcement Specialist.

Kasper's been married to his wife Joyce for sixty-six years, and they have five children and fourteen grandchildren. Sharp as a tack at ninety-five, I asked him if he knew the names of the hills of Lawrence, he rattled off Clover, Prospect, Tower and

Phillips. Something I have been trying to learn for years. We debated the best Lebanese food in the Merrimack Valley and while he enjoys the food at the Sandtrap Bar and Grille at the Merrimack Valley Golf Course, I prefer Sahtaine in Methuen resulting in a tie.

Talking with one of his sons, he told me Kasper recently toured Brooklyn, which he had not visited since his discharge in 1946, with two of his grandsons who live in New York and stunned them with the way he navigated New York City, especially Brooklyn at 95!



*John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (known as the Seabees) after retiring from the US Navy; he used his GI Bill and earned a BA in History and an MA in Economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. For the last twenty-two years, he has been employed in Logistics at FedEx. If you know a World War II*

*Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@yahoo.com*

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**TV TALK with BILL CUSHING**

## 'Russian Doll'

**Bill Cushing**

VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

'Russian Doll,' the new Netflix series starring Natasha Lyonne (*Orange Is The New Black*) is the perfect show for a weekend binge. The show is eight episodes and each episode is just under 30 minutes in length, with each episode covering a range of emotions from funny, to strange, to scary at times.

'Russian Doll' follows a woman named Nadia who keeps dying and then waking up in the same spot in the middle of her 36th birthday party only to relive the same day over and over again and trying to change the outcome. If it sounds familiar, the premise of 'Russian Doll' is similar to the 1993 film 'Groundhog Day' which starred Bill Murray reliving the same day over and over again.

But while 'Russian Doll' borrows a familiar premise, it does very well to avoid its standard clichés. Nadia doesn't use her new found eternal life to better herself. Instead she becomes a detective of sorts, determined to figure out what is causing the loop, while hilariously trying to avoid dying in certain usually violent and almost always comedic ways.

Nadia eventually discovers she's not alone in her experience. She meets Allen, who is going through the same live, die, repeat scenarios that Nadia is going through. Together they struggle to find a way to end the loop, only starting to realize that they need to first seek the emotional closure that will help them move on to the next step of their own personal recovery processes. They soon discover that they need each other to help them live through the night once the loops resets one final time.

After all, what is life but a series of repetitious loops and patterns that we go through every day? Things we do all the time that we've become comfortable with. Maybe 'Russian Doll' is telling us that in

order to really live, we need to step outside of our patterns and comfort zones.

I don't want to give away too much more about the story because the less you know going into it, the more you'll enjoy it. The second half of the series is a little deeper, and a little darker, and more surprising than the first half, and several key details are left up for interpretation by an ending that's satisfying but leaves some questions. As of now the series has yet to be renewed, but producers have said they have 3 seasons mapped out so more seasons are likely.

Lyonne, who plays a supporting role on 'Orange Is The New Black,' really gets to shine here, and she gives a terrific performance playing Nadia. Her strong physical presence on screen is part of what makes 'Russian Doll' work so well.

The series, created by Lyonne herself along with writer/director Leslye Headland, and producer Amy Poehler, is one of the first shows of 2019 that will be in contention to be on my 10-best list at the end of the year. In an era when the sheer amount of TV has caused shows to start to blend together, and new shows sometimes feel like rehashes of what we've already seen, 'Russian Doll' reminds us that there are still opportunities to mess with the formulaic ideas and clichés that are out there and come up with something interesting and fun.

'Russian Doll' is available to stream on Netflix.



*If you have any questions about TV you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.*

*Follow me on Twitter @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion. ♦*



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## Chicago Proves Superior To Essex County District Attorney Blodgett

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD  
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

Chicago just indicted and arrested Jussie Smollett, an actor, for the felony of filing a false police complaint. The false complaint aimed to support the fake narrative that intolerance has increased since President Trump was elected by millions of ordinary people to drain the swamp and that only Trump voters are racist and intolerant.

Because, you know, progressives who vote for Maura Healey have never been intolerant, Boston doesn't have the worst racial inequality in the United States, Boston is not repeatedly called the most racist city in the nation, Massachusetts (1838 - 1st in the nation!) did not require blacks to travel in the "refuse" or "Jim Crow" car on Eastern Rail Road trains to Salem 50 years before Mississippi (1888) segregated travel, and the local progressive swamp, which includes folks like Margaret Marshall, Ralph Gants and Maura Healey, is not responsible for Black Bostonians having a net worth of just \$8 total.

Kamala Harris claimed Smollett suffered "an attempted modern day lynching" and Maxine Waters claimed "It's coming from the President of the United States. He's dog-whistling every day. He's separating and dividing, and he is basically emboldening those folks who feel this way, maybe never said and never talked about it, never could act it out, but now they're on it." The very Progressive Rashida Tlaib said "The dangerous lies spewing from the right wing is killing & hurting our people."

Which makes Chicago's action laudatory and most pleasing to good governance advocates. Chicago charged a man for lying to the police about increasing intolerance in the age of Trump. Chicago charged a man for lying to the police even though he had the vocal support of Kamala Harris and the entire Democratic machine. Wow.

Essex County DA Jonathan Blodgett on the other hand is all Massachusetts. He refused to charge Loretta Cooke for lying to the police and knowingly filing a false complaint with the aim of having

a man either shot dead during arrest, as frequently happens, or locked away in a psychiatric ward.

In Massachusetts filing a false police complaint is a crime, even when progressives do it. Violation of Chapter 269 Section 13A carries a 1-year jail term.

And why did Jonathan choose to be derelict in his public duty and refuse to charge a felon who consciously committed a crime? Because Cooke is Maura Healey's pal, a card-carrying member of the local swamp who is so important that Maura herself broke a major state law (Ch. 258 Section 10(c)) to defend Cooke at public expense in her civil libel case.

Jonathan simply could not bring himself to confront the optics of prosecuting Maura's friend for filing a false police complaint while Maura at the same time defends that same friend in civil court in a private libel case stemming from that same false police complaint.

It is as progressive as it gets. Were Jonathan the State's Attorney in Chicago right now, it is assured that Jussie Smollett, loudly supported by Kamala Harris and Maxine Waters, would have walked. Progressives are always big on looking at the big picture, the long term, and not the trivial rights and concerns of the individual, including his right to liberty.

And there, gentle reader, lies the very real difference between the corrupt swamp loyalists who make up the Essex County District Attorney's Office in Massachusetts and the law enforcement professionals at the Cook County State's Attorney's Office in Illinois.

Given that Chicago is who concealed the Laquan McDonald tape to help Rahm Emmanuel get re-elected, it shows just how inferior the Essex County District Attorney is now. Wow. Folks in Essex County can only dream that their institutions will someday ascend to Cook County's level.

*Bharani Padmanabhan MD PhD is a neurologist who specialized in multiple sclerosis in the Boston area till July 12, 2017, when the medical board stole his license for reporting Medicaid fraud. scleroplex@gmail.com ♦*



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## Healthy Aging: The Clock Is Ticking

Rick Bellanti  
HEALTH & WELLNESS COLUMNIST

It sounds pretty simple: The key to healthy aging is living a healthier lifestyle.

Eating a healthy diet is very important while we are aging and including some physical activity in your daily routine can go a long way toward promoting healthy aging. Studies show that a good diet as you age reduces your risk of osteoporosis, high blood pressure, heart diseases and certain cancers. As you get older, you might need less energy, but you still need just as many of the nutrients daily in your food.

Supplying your body the right nutrients daily and maintaining a healthy weight can help you stay active and independent.

You'll also spend less time and money at the doctor and for prescription medicines. As we age, our metabolism slows way down, so we need fewer calories than before. Our body also needs more of certain nutrients. That means it's more important than ever to choose foods that give you the best nutritional value.

As we get older we want to choose the right foods to eat, so look for lean proteins, such as eggs, beans, seafood, lean meats. A variety of fruits and vegetables (the brighter in color the better). Whole grains such as brown rice and whole wheat pasta and low-fat dairy products. Choosing foods higher in fiber and low sodium / salt. Be careful of saturated fats and processed foods. Foods high in sugar or sugary drinks are not a good idea as they are also high in calories and empty calories. (calories with no nutritional value).

Vitamin D is very important mineral we need as we age, and it plays several important roles in our body. But meeting vitamin D needs isn't always easy especially as we age. Your kidneys play an important role in converting vitamin D to its active form but with aging, kidney function tends to decline, which results in decreased vitamin D production in our bodies. Aging also decreases vitamin D production in the skin, so being out in the sun is a great way to increase levels of vitamin D in the body, even just twenty minutes in the midday sun will go a long way. (many older adults, however, avoid the sun to stay cool).

Staying properly hydrated as we age, is very important when keeping our bodies functioning properly. But as we get older,

our thirst-response system diminishes and we may not feel thirsty even as dehydration sets in and not taking in enough fluids can lead to more health problems. Some people with heart, kidney or liver disease may be more likely to become over-hydrated because their kidneys can't excrete water normally. They may need to restrict the amount of fluids they drink and adjust their salt intake. The typical doctor will say drink six to 8 glasses of water a day. Try to remember you also get hydration from a variety of places including fruit or vegetables, nonfat milk, even coffee or tea. Many fruits and vegetables, such as watermelon, berries, grapes, peaches, tomatoes and lettuce, are almost 100 percent water. Water from foods typically accounts for twenty percent of the recommended total fluid intake.



You also can be physically active at any age and physical activity alone, even without weight loss, can improve your healthy aging. Walking, dancing and gardening counts as physical activity. You just need 30 minutes a day as you age. Start slowly and build from where you are, then mix it up. Remember, you don't have to do it all at once, start with as little as five minutes and then build up gradually to where you are comfortable.

Healthy aging requires about 7 to 8 hours of restful, healthful sleep each night. Unfortunately, as we age our sleep number (of hours) declines. Sleep is so important as we age. It is pretty common to not get enough sleep, and it can really affect a person's health and quality of life. But it's quite normal for someone to sleep a little less, and less deeply, as you age. To prevent daytime tiredness and fatigue, set a regular schedule for sleep each day, same time to bed and out each day. Getting enough good-quality sleep is essential to staying healthy and aging well.

So, eat healthy and make good food choices, get some sun (at least 20 minutes a day). Light exercise daily (walking is a great start 30 minutes a day). Stay hydrated, drink plenty of water and last, make sure you get a good night's sleep. Happy, healthy aging is for everyone!

*Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs, and has lost 160lbs since the start of 2015. If you have any questions or comments, please post them to his Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti Facebook page and once a month he will address a few of the topics here. ♦*

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## STONES: FROM PAGE 21

Songs that the group wrote together were credited to Nanker Phelge. It wasn't until "The Last Time" that the Stones started having successful songs in both the UK and the US charts.

In 1967, after previously being banned from being on the Ed Sullivan show, the Stones finally made their debut appearance on Ed's show in January of 1967. They performed their hit song "Let's Spend the Night Together," with the understanding that they needed to change the lyrics for the family show to let's spend some time together. Soon after their television debut, the Stones got busted for using drugs in February. Police were tipped off when a three-part editorial written by News of The World called "Pop Stars and Drugs: Facts That Will Shock You," stated that the boys had more than one enjoyable encounter with drugs. Jagger, Richards, and Fraser faced drug charges and jail time.

With a scar on the group, the Stones lost focus which resulted in their current producer, Oldham leaving during the recording of their next album titled "Their Satanic Majesties Request." The breakup resulted in the group producing the album themselves. The album had the single, "In Another Land," that was written by Bill Wyman who also sang lead on the track.

By the end of the 60s, a renewed energy came over the group. During the recording sessions of their newest album, "Beggars Banquet," "Jumpin Jack Flash" was released as a single. The albums controversial cover art made the release take six months. When "Beggars Banquet" was finally released, Brian Jones quit the band over a drug addiction. Two days after his July 3, 1969 death, the Stones played a free concert in London's Hyde Park presented by Blackhill Enterprises. This was a tribute concert for Brian Jones and their first performance with his replacement. Mick Taylor.

No longer tied to a recording contract, the Stones started to release albums on their own label Rolling Stones Records. Their first album 'Sticky Fingers' was released in 1971. Andy Warhol designed the cover which was a man in jeans from the waist down with a zipper that could be pulled up and down. "Sticky Fingers" also showed their new logo created by John Pasche. The famous logo shows big lips with the tongue sticking out.

To avoid seven years of unpaid taxes, the Stones left the UK. While the band was looking for a place to stay, music was still being recorded in their van which had a mini studio in the back seat. They eventually moved into a mansion located in the South of France.

By 1974, the album 'It's Only Rock 'n' Roll' was a #2 album in the UK and #1 in the US. The album which was recorded in Munich, Germany was produced by Jagger and Richards under the Glimmer Twins name. This was the last album Mick Taylor did with the Stones as he quit at the end of that year.

With the loss of their guitarist, the stones began holding auditions. They tried out many famous artists including Peter Frampton. After being asked a second time, Ronnie Wood joined the group just in time for their American tour in 1975. Later that year, a radio station in Toronto ran a contest to see April Wine at the El Mocambo. When the lucky winners showed up, surprise surprise, they were actually seeing the Rolling Stones.

Ok, everybody. The boss says that's long enough for this month. This part 1, has been a blast to write and produce for you. I hope you come back next month for the conclusion of The Rolling Stones. See you then!

*We're at 980 WCAP Radio every Sunday night at 10:00, Monday night at 11:00 and Wednesday night at 10:00, and remember folks, it's not how old it is, but how great it sounds! ♦*

## SUSAN'S BOOK CORNER

### "The Case of the Silent Partner"

#### SUSAN PIAZZA

VALLEY PATRIOT BOOK REVIEW

By, Erle Stanley Gardner  
Triangle Books a series of The Blakiston Company; Philadelphia, PA  
© 1940 by Erle Stanley Gardner (Perry Mason Series)

Hardcover 278 pages,  
4.75 Bookmarkers

Erle Stanley Gardner is the author of the Perry Mason series of books that form the basis for the television series and the, years later, made for TV movies.

The action is fast paced. I read it in several hours one night. I could not put the book down. I kept thinking, I'd stop at the end of the chapter, but then when that was reached the plot and characters propelled me to continue reading. A definite sign of a good book.

The plot has an immediacy and tension that propels it forward; this quality is sadly missing from its visual cousin, the television shows. The storyline is easy to follow. There are enough characters to make the plot interesting but not too many to overwhelm one with. Some nice twists and a resolution that slowly unravels take the reader on a carefully scripted pleasant ride.

There is the requisite murder, and a slew of people who wanted the deceased dead; some are wealthy society types, others were less respectable. There were the typical Perry Mason, Sam Spade detective sort, complete with the expected underworld style antagonist. Then there was the definitive detective action: Mr. Mason "... scraped a match on the sole of his shoe ..." Cliché now, but maybe when the book was written not so much so.

One can tell the time period by the wording. One of the women mentions that it would be difficult for her to get a job as she doesn't "know shorthand or typing". One of the men stated that he needed to "... step on the throttle ..."; he was speaking of the gas pedal in a car, not a control of an airplane.

There were some very nicely formed

sentences that made reading this book a joy. One in particular was: "The road up Lilac Canyon wound like a sinuous snake, twisting and turning. Side roads meandered ..."

Character interactions were revealing. The communication between Lt. Tragg and Mr. Mason explained a symbiosis that neither the television series nor the made for movies delved into. Their exchange added depth to the characters and their relationship. It was well worth reading the novel just for this backstory.

The connection between Della Street and Perry Mason was also given a much different interpretation. Watching the series, and then the later movies, I often wondered about the bond between the two. Erle Stanley Gardner's books placed both these people in a much more intimate relationship. "He kissed her tenderly, then hungrily..." certainly not the behavior between boss and secretary that we were used to seeing on the small screen.

Some may wonder why I have rated this book as high as I have considering there are some outdated issues with the book. But, the problems with the book have nothing to do with the writing. The wording and action were probably consistent for the time period that this book was written; it is just that, as an almost eighty-year-old book, some of the dialogue and action was not relevant to our current lives. This peculiarity may take some readers out of the story; it did for me. Again, this is not the fault of the author but of our having read this book decades after its significance had worn off.

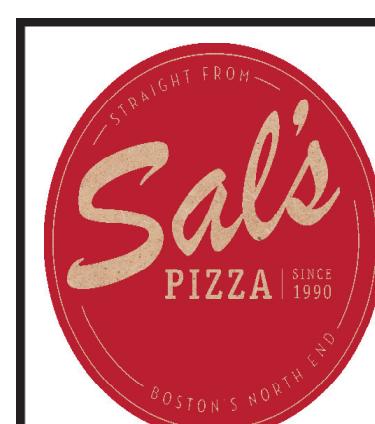
But, if you like a glimpse into a by-gone era and are up for some nostalgia, this story might be a good place to start. It is a light read that holds ones attention.

I would recommend this book.

*Susan Piazza is an author, columnist, and blogger. She can be found at susanpiazzauthor.com You can read the Prologue to her soon to be released book "A Bird Call That Isn't" under the blog of the same name. ♦*

Patrick J McLaughlin  
Licensed Private Investigator  
Massachusetts State Police #LP0833D

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LAWRENCE WW 1 PROJECT”

- MARC LAPLANTE (CREATOR)



Property Sales, Foreclosures for FEBRUARY 2019 in Andover, Lawrence, Methuen, North Andover. (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, price, address.)



# Northern Essex Registry of Deeds

## M. Paul Iannuccillo, Register

William Francis Galvin  
Secretary of the Commonwealth  
of Massachusetts

### ANDOVER

CA Investment Trust & Yvon Cormier Tr, Brad P & Jennifer Batchelder, \$1,170,000, 8 Crenshaw Ln Unit 16-4

Stephen R Levine & Stephanie Moore, Jaime L Ramirez Riberos & Christina Ramirez, \$817,500, 8 Cedar Rd

JEDS Realty Trust & Susan A Klein Tr, Frontline Realty Inc, \$225,000, 1 Colonial Dr Unit A1-8

John W Tighe, Xuan Zhang & Ling Wu, \$310,000, 500 Brookside Dr Unit 500M

Qingding Ai, Faisal Ahmed, \$242,000, 204 Andover St Unit 201

Maureen A Finneran Tr/Maureen Finneran Tr & Finneran Family Realty Trust & Robert E Finneran Tr & Thomas F Adams Tr & Thomas J Finneran 1994 Revocable Trust & 261 South Main Street Trust & Maureen Finneran & Thomas J Finneran Est & Thomas A Finneran & Sean P Finneran & Brendan R Finneran & Edward H Finneran & Neil J Finneran, Robert E Finneran/Robert Finneran & Lisa Finneran, \$1,034,000, 261 South Main St

Elizabeth M Anderson, Matthew Regan & Laura Barron, \$543,500, 25 Wild Rose Dr

William J Cox Revocable Trust & William J & Penelope P Cox Trs, Peter H & Cynthia Elias Trs & Mary Dutcher Fowler Trust & Mary Dutcher Fowler Tr, \$300,000, 22 Railroad St Unit 310

Karen L Lottatore, Tony Deangelis, \$190,000, 354 North Main St Unit 204

William E Melahn, Meredith Mondejar, \$515,000, 18 Ballardvale Rd

Michael John Ruggiero Sr, David E Gobbi & Kimberly Burack-Gobbi, \$410,000, 7 Gleason St

Nicholas B & Joan L Orrick, Kevin Schroeder & Laura Kelley, \$560,000, 8 Mercury Cir

Layne L Cargill, Brenda J Monette, \$354,500, 250 North Main St Unit 2

Yvon Cormier Tr & CA Investment Trust, James A Hackett & Sharon Atwood Hackett, \$1,350,000, 13 Crenshaw Ln Unit 8-1

Gregory G & Linda T Manning, Robert W & Sandra L Sorabella, \$849,900, 14 Carmel Rd

Robert W & Sandra L Sorabella, Stephenie B Nash & Ryan D Friel, \$605,000, 2 Carmel Rd

Andrea K Suranyi/Andrea K Schreck, Karen M Hoffman, \$420,000, 7 Burnham Rd

Phyllis E Howes Tr & Phyllis E Howes Trust, Steven T Howes, \$250,000, 11 Greenwood Rd

Taylor Cove Development LLC, Kathleen

E Moriarty, \$191,000, 17 Taylor Cove Dr Unit 29

### LAWRENCE

Dana J Nelson Tr & Dana J Nelson Irrevocable Trust, Nathan G Patrick & Yesenia M Torres, \$255,000, 52 Oakside Ave

Sheila Randolph & Henri Helen Randolph, Creg WP Cascadden Tr & C Dianne Cascadden Tr & 11 Lawrence Street 2013 Irrevocable Trust, \$99,900, 11 Lawrence St Unit 504

Michael P & Ruth S McGuire, Jose S Perez & Diana G Perez Sandoval, \$425,000, 72-74 Avon St

Mateo Family Irrevocable Trust & Ruth Heath Tr, Manmar Properties LLC, \$480,000, 31-35 Berkeley St

Julie R Brown, Luciano O Ortega & Princesa Lopez De Ortega & Carloina Garcia De Pena, \$545,000, 63-67 Bunkerhill St Diverse Real Estate LLC, Juan Carlos Martino, \$475,000, 459-461 Haverhill St

US Bank NA Tr, 109-111 Spruce St Realty Trust & Wysnar A Marte Tr, \$198,000, 29 Westchester Dr

Shaun P Mulrey, Nikki & Perry Lewis, \$295,000, 30 Greenfield St

Rafael C & Angela Mota, Janelly Acosta, \$286,500, 15 Hancock St

Lisa A Pascuzzi, RJJM LLC, \$110,000, 18 Campo Seco St

Brendaliz Ortega & Nestor D Batista, Rigo A Diaz, \$409,000, 449-451 Lowell St

Gulsen & Huseyin Sevincgil, Angel L Mercedes Morillo & Crystal A Mercedes, \$275,000, 20 Cypress Ave

Mercedes Moises, Bernabe R Lopez, \$210,000, 99 & 101 Spruce St

NSG Sargent Real Estate LLC, Luis Castillo, \$355,000, 10-12 Sargent St

Baystate on the Common Condominium Trust Trustees & Walter E Carter Jr, Chloe LLC, \$68,000, 11 Lawrence St Unit 801

Maroun D Bechara & Soline I Geha, Eridania M Musseb & Alexis R Medina, \$379,900, 130-132 Exeter St

Charlene Watson, Douglas E Pena, \$345,000, 9 Lafayette Ave

Gregorio A & Waira I Berroa, Lidia A Maldonado, \$340,000, 45-49 Broomfeld St

Karina R Blanco, Terry Tabosa Dossantos, \$255,000, 2 Champlain Ave Unit 2

Mildred & Cesar Barrera, Marcos Zacarias, \$240,000, 37 Washington St

Jorge Jaime, Nashalis Skerett Burgos & Johsbian Rodriguez, \$223,000, 145 Prospect St Unit 1

Belkis Perez/Belkis Maldonado & Juan Pablo Hernandez, Domingo A Cruz & Car-

men Zeneida Morillo Caraballo, \$130,000, 1 Hancock St Unit 1

Armeater Patterson & Mia Cameron, Matthew L Rasetta, \$115,500, 260 East Haverhill St Unit 20

Yuri J & Felix Ovalles, Judy Urena, \$215,000, 159 Andover St Unit D

Liset M Martinez, Isabel M Rivera, \$155,000, 15 Monmouth St

Sahily L Rodriguez, Yuliana Nunez-Detajada, \$233,000, 29 Stevens Ave Unit B

Capital Holdings LLC, Harold Delaney, \$220,000, 34 Portland St

Frances A Olawski Est & Mark A Gangi, Yosenny Diaz Fernandez & Indira Lantigua Burgos, \$435,000, 29 Vine St & 87 East Haverhill St

Omar A Loaiza, Samara M Flores & Justine O Santos-Flores, \$270,000, 4 Tyler St

Priscilla & Brent Hall, Roodney Lorena, \$255,000, 54 Phillips St

Bank of America, Josefa Kingsley, \$192,000, 21 Garfield St

Sandor Nagy, BCAD LLC, \$152,000, 116 East Haverhill St

BCAD LLC, Jose Luis Vargas, \$10,000, 34-38 Park St

Jatnna Acevedo/Jatnna A Marrero & Albercio Marrero, Cesar E Batista, \$487,500, 29-31 Hobson St

Jose Rodriguez, Easy Price Home Appliances Inc, \$264,900, 377-379 Essex St

Christina Herrera, Kellie A Rodriguez & John Pina, \$235,000, 46 Hudson Ave

Elsa A OConnor, Carlos M Chamba, \$179,000, 113 Beacon Ave Unit 113A

John Philip Cadoret & James Russell Cadoret & Judith-Ann Sirois & Joel Mark Cadoret & Jeffrey David Cadoret & Jill Marie Underwood, Emely & Janeth V Izquierdo, \$447,000, 18-20 Easton St

MTGLQ Investors LP, Yenny Guzman, \$350,000, 67-69 Avon St

Jose Rodriguez & Ivete Alves-Rodriguez, Codjo P Ahouandjinou & Carla Frejuste, \$320,000, 62 Beacon St

Patricia Sullivan, Hector A Almonte, \$171,000, 84A Marston St Unit 84A

KPRO Properties SP LLC, Daher Group Inc, \$100,000, 71-73, 77-79, 81 Spruce St

Pedro Y Morel, Alfa Zorilla Guzman, \$385,000, 33-35 Oregon Ave

Tomas Perez, Rudy A Tejada, \$155,000, 312 Water St Unit 1

Juan Gonzalez & Ysabel Jimenez, Elizabeth Martinez & Yesenia Elizabeth Cornelio, \$475,000, 59 Lexington St

Jose A & Jeannette Santos, Michelle Lemoniel & Alexander Sanchez Pujols, \$460,000, 1-3 Currier St

Nieves Gomez & Nelson J Lopez

Baldera, Katherine Perez, \$447,000, 71 Bigelow St

Luis B Leonor & Cecilia Leonor, Diverse Real Estate LLC, \$437,000, 395-407 Lowell St

Antoine J Loreus, Ambioris G Rodriguez, \$419,000, 25-27 Robinson Ct

Gustavo Suero, Chantall P Ontivero, \$385,000, 39-41 Swan St

Sandra A Riopelle, Gary D Then & Ramona H Ynoa, \$349,000, 42 Gilbert St

Manuel Colon Jr & Manuel Colon Sr & Karen J Alicea, Julio C Amparo & Dahiana A Martinez, \$305,000, 46 Florence Ave

Sandra Perillo & June C Lustenberger Est, RJP Construction & Development Inc, \$252,000, 103-105 Bowdoin St

Karen L Lawson & Donald L Lawson Jr Est, Ryan Rourke, \$176,000, 73 Butler St

Ines Perez, Henry E Mejia, \$125,000, 97 Beacon Ave Unit 7

JS2 Homes LLC, Matthew Rasetta, \$99,900, 11 Lawrence St Unit 607

### METHUEN

Homes at Great Oaks LLC, Parth & Ritaben Patel, \$549,900, 14 Sadie Ln

Richard J & Giovanna M Sierra, Omayra Figueroa, \$499,900, 5 Grandview Rd

Aicha Berrada & Adam Aakil, Patricia D Ferrara & Lisa Ferrara & Nicholas Mosca, \$465,000, 55 Frye Rd

Leslie E Kurkjian & Carol J Evans & Gayle L Burke, Maria Antonia Pena, \$255,000, 17 Sunset Ave

Domenic Mariano Est & David Mariano & Stephen Spinola, Santos Cristobal Quillay-Apuango, \$453,000, 109-111 Swan St

Toll MA IV LLC, Lawrence K & Gial B Wangerin, \$727,985, 43 Pine Tree Dr Unit 88

Dean J Gendron & Garrett W Simonsen, Moises A Gomera, \$357,000, 2 Elsmere Ave

Peter A Torromeo, Donna M & William R Davis, \$460,000, 38 Sycamore Rd

Toll MA IV LLC, Susan J Davis, \$660,484, 79 Pine Tree Dr Unit 70

Homes at Great Oaks LLC, Anthony & Ingrid Rodriguez, \$569,900, 10 Sadie Ln

Patrick J Brennan, Jenny G & Robenson Marcellin, \$340,000, 26 Campus Rd

Gail Reardon, Jennifer Reardon, \$193,150, 41 Constitution Wy Unit 41

MassInnovation Methuen LLC, Amerco Real Estate Co, \$9,500,000, 145 Milk St

MassInnovation Methuen LLC, Amerco Real Estate Co, \$2,500,000, 99 Pleasant Valley St

Frank Biancardi, Diverse Real Estate LLC, \$970,000, 91 Broadway

Michael R Pierce & Martin D Gulezian Est, JR Builders Inc, \$897,500, 65 Ayers Village Rd

Maureen Celata, Jessica Collier, \$366,000, 56 Tudor St

Christine M Diodati Tr & Christine M Diodati Family Trust, Sergio Rijo Jr, \$365,000, 44 Brook St

Shawn D & Brianna A Leite/Brianna A Stidsen, Robert Desharnais, \$365,000, 1 Yong Farm Rd

Diplomat Property Manager LLC, Rafael Caceres & Berenice Rosario Decaceres, \$290,000, 22 Perley St

Markellas Holdings LLC, Michael J Lavallee, \$288,000, 3 Danielian Wy

Richard D & Jennifer D Oleary/Jennifer D Boyce, Fabienne Dorneval & Micius Francois, \$385,000, 22 Jasper St

Jeslin Realty Trust & Kevin D Pellitier Tr, North Shore Real Estate Solutions LLC, \$137,500, Central St

Toll MA IV LLC, Cornelia S Cargile, \$782,694, 45 Pine Tree Dr Unit 87

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## REAL ESTATE FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Khalid Choukri, Firman Destin & Rachel Damus & Lamartine Destin, \$510,000, 78 Woodburn Dr

Hung Vi & Cindy Trinh, Van K Ton & Tai N Nguyen, \$385,000, 47 Maplewood Ave

Eileen V Baldwin Tr & Miriam Kochakan an Irrevocable Trust, Albert Villa, \$250,000, 99 Lawrence St

Fraynel & Ercilla Abreu, Melvin Jaquez & Adileisy Jimenez, \$475,000, 25-27 Burgess St

Joel J Edelstein Est & Charlotte J Lynch & Bernard M Edelstein Tr & Joel J Edelstein Trust & Anne Edelstein, Pasquale & Marie Coppola, \$425,500, 25 Hopkins Cir Unit 41

Toll MA IV LLC, Luis A & Idlebrandina C Taveres, \$581,296, 3 Sequoia Dr Unit 106

Katalex Properties LLC, Shawn M & Jennifer L Kirmes, \$405,000, 258 Lowell St

Laura K Bradbury, Barah Chbib, \$232,000, 22 Christopher Dr Unit 41

Jessica Bishop Est & Laura J Broe, Eden Alvarez, \$222,500, 37 Tower St

Julia A & Peter Edgerly, Steven J & Sarah D Rademacher, \$408,000, 6-8 Washington Ct

Daoud Ramy & David & George Realty & George Ramey, Lisandra Lugo & Juan J Mejia Feliz, \$400,000, 84-86 Brown St

Jennifer DeCunto/Jennifer Desfosses, Christine A Bane, \$345,000, 10 Emerson Ave

Bryan J & Kristina L Moore/Kristina L Dugas, Diana Parker, \$233,000, 19 Hampshire Rd Unit 109

Michael D Savary Est & F Peter Waystack, Stephen J Demeule, \$190,000, 55 Constitution Wy Unit 55

## NORTH ANDOVER

Felipe R Schwarz & Lisa M LaGrasse Schwarz/Lisa M LaGrasse, Daniel & Rene Thompson Sr, \$379,900, 125 Dale St

Susan Adams Real Estate LLC, Ke Lu & Cuimei Xie, \$158,000, 230 Chickering Rd Unit 1

231 Sutton Street Unit 2K LLC, Xiaoli Zhang & Li Zeng, \$181,000, 231 Sutton St Unit 2K

Brian M & Jill M Frobburg, Judith K & James C Martinoli Trs & Judith K Martinoli Living Trust, \$1,500, 157-159 Waverly Rd

Betsy Perez, Cynthia L Maes, \$169,900, 6 Walker Rd Unit 8

Lynne A Allen Revocable Trust Agreement of May 30 2018 & Lynne A Allen Tr, Darcie Volk & Jeffrey Parfenchuck, \$319,000, 1 Harvest Dr Unit 305

Charles C Ormsby, Kendra & Maximilian Laverty, \$545,000, 64 White Birch Ln

John M Xenakis Tr & J & M Realty Trust II, 701 Salem Street Realty Trust & Michael J Xenakis Tr & James M Xenakis Tr, \$2,600,000, 685 & 701 Salem St

Sumit Patial & Divya Thakur, Marathia Revocable Trust of 2019 & Joanne Y Fazell Tr, \$381,000, 610 Alder Wy Unit 610

Michael Gilman & Aditi Bhattacharyya-

## Rep. Nguyen Announces Sponsored Bills Filed Seeks Protection for Foster Animals

Gilman, Arthur M Lo, \$268,000, 4 Harvest Dr Unit 101

Darlene M & Michael D Hall, James E & Karen A Hanley, \$887,500, 317 Blue Ridge Rd

Kyle & Stephanie Worthley, Michael J & Kaitlin P Fritz, \$609,900, 2177 Salem St PAX-5 Trust & Donna Marie Deprizio Tr & Linda Ann Hibbs Tr, Gail C Tierney, \$311,000, 250 Greene St Unit 210

John W Hagerty Est & John P Hagerty, 1874 Turnpike Street LLC, \$560,000, 1874 Turnpike St

Herbert J Cunha Est/Herbert James Cunha Est & Stephen M Cunha, Jonathan N Coveney & Lauren A Vanaken, \$540,000, 1015 Forest St

U S Bank N A Tr, Carony LLC, \$490,000, 115 Windkist Farm Rd

Kathleen McElhinney & Maureen Norman & Kevin McElhinney & Brian McElhinney & Geraldine Dwyer/Geraldine M Dwyer, Nicole M DiLando, \$229,900, 148 Main St Unit F-543

Alcor Nominee Trust & Eugene P Willis Tr, Melahat & Peyman Samali, \$555,000, 23-25 Saunders St

John & Kellie M Reid, Kelly Yehbeun Jeong & Soojae Lee, \$480,000, 433 Waverly Rd

US Bank Trust N A Tr, My 2 Girls Realty LLC, \$250,000, 35-37 Massachusetts Ave

Edward H Galante Est & Paul V Galante, Christopher Salvo & Julia M Anzalone, \$295,900, 190 Chickering Rd Unit 107D

Wanda Realty Trust & Catherine Shippy Tr/Catherine Shippey Tr, Ralph E & Sharon M Zahn, \$240,000, 148 Main St Unit A-412

Leo J & Fabiola Harrington, Joseph G DiGirolamo, \$182,500, 9 Walker Rd Unit 9-2

740 Turnpike St LLC, Prebo Equity & Investments LLC, \$1,750,000, 740 Turnpike St

Melanie R Miller, Dana & Molly Tannatt, \$245,000, 148 Main St Unit B-333

U S Bank NA, VBL Investment I LLC, \$217,100, 65-67 Beverly St

James R Warner Jr & Donald J Warner & Valerie L Nettles, Fortunatus LLC, \$145,000, 2-4 Fernview Ave Unit 6

Shing Pun & Kwan Ying Cammy Ng, Katherine Frances & Michael Thomas Cooley, \$660,000, 171 French Farm Rd

Tiffany Aryn Tropp, Jonathan Robert & Brittni Ann Bragg, \$395,000, 26 Main St Unit 2

Pembroke M&A Realty Trust & Myles A & Joyce P Kelly Trs, Tristan Lush & Loren Munro Lush, \$458,025, 95 Pembroke Rd

US Bank NA Tr, Raymond Nickerson, \$460,000, 416 Abbott St

Fortunatus LLC, Thomas C Chase, \$217,500, 4 Fernview Ave Unit 2

Paula Grant, Marylou Salois & Kathleen Hearty & Jim Xia, \$189,900, 8 Walker Rd Unit 8-2

David R Towler & Kevin P Towler & Steven D Towler & Michael W Towler, Debra J Leno, \$164,900, 12 Walker Rd Unit 12-2 ◇

Andover Rep. Tram T. Nguyen has announced the filing of twenty-one new bills for the 191st General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

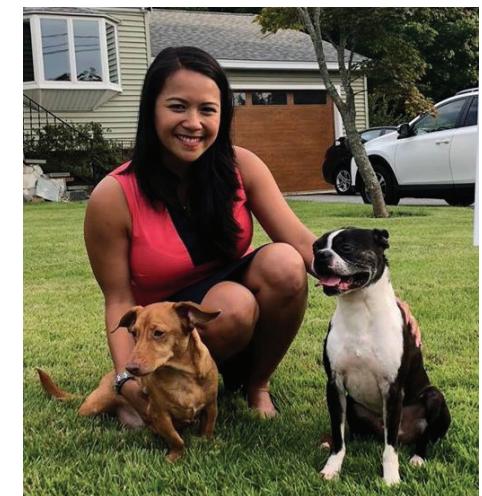
Among the new bills are HD.2945, An Act to promote safety for victims of violent crime and human trafficking, HD.2947, An Act to protect injured workers, and HD.1882, An Act to promote local energy resiliency. Some highlights include:

Advancing public safety.2945 would encourage victims of violent crimes and sex trafficking to assist in efforts made by law enforcement to ensure justice for all Massachusetts residents while also providing them with legal relief.

Promoting local communities.1882 ensures that municipalities, agencies of the Commonwealth, or private electric customers can procure local energy services, establish a microgrid, or use public rights of way to generate energy and promote resiliency without interference from a franchise or service provider.

Safeguarding animal welfare.1887 prohibits people convicted of animal neglect, abuse, or cruelty from adopting or fostering animals.

Defending workers' rights.2947 prevents employers from discriminating against workers who report or seek care for a work-related injury.



Protecting seniors & people with disabilities. HD2960 fixes the tracking of elder abuse complaints in Assisted Living Residences and prohibits any person found by the Department of Public Health to have abused an elder or person with disability from working as a caretaker for any vulnerable people.

My bills aim to protect our most vulnerable populations, advocate for working families, address environmental concerns, and ensure public utility companies are held accountable. Tram said, "I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve as your State Representative, and I'm incredibly humbled by your continued support." ◇

## SANE: FROM PAGE 2

Black Hebrew Israelites. That group freely mocked the nearby Native Americans attending their own rally. They lobbed incest jokes at the Catholic priests and students waiting for their buses. They hurled homophobic and racial slurs at will. They even belittled the brave women who actually approached this vile hate group. Phillips did nothing courageously that day to intervene. It was really a miracle that there were no physical fights.

When Phillips finally approached the kids, long after the Native American rally ended, the Covington students clapped, cheered and sang their school songs. In today's Alice in Wonderland environment, I am not entirely sure when high school kids clapping, cheering and singing school songs served as proof that they were mocking someone. The only crime some of these kids committed that day was wearing the MAGA hat.

Personally, I can understand why many liberals despise the MAGA hat, although I obviously disagree with their basic reasoning. The MAGA hat is a permanent reminder of 2016. But certainly many events have happened since the true facts of the Covington students saw the light of day. These events have shattered the myth that the MAGA hat is a symbol of racism. And that the other side has some serious housecleaning to do.

I am not picturing the Virginia Governor and Attorney General wearing the MAGA hats, both of whom were caught wearing blackface. Nor would I find many MAGA boosters at the Women's March, whose co-founder declared a fondness for Louis Farrakhan. This is the same leader of the Nation of Islam who called Jews termites. Congresswoman Omar used an old yet evil stereotype of associating Jews as money-makers. Did Joy Behar suddenly convert to Trump country, another celebrity hypocrite who darkened her face as a costume? What about Liz Warren falsely identifying as American Indian on a legal document, even though she is only 1/1024th Native American?

Where is the outrage from the Left? Where are the massive protests down in Virginia? When are the economic boycotts starting until the Governor and Attorney General resign? Has Rep. Omar been demoted from her committee assignment on Foreign Affairs yet?

That glass house mentality really needs to be called out by all Americans. While the current optics for the Left are terrible, maybe the sunlight of sanity, reason and respectful dissent can finally emerge from the ruins of this glass house mirage? In the very least, can we stop threatening kids for simply wearing a political hat? ◇

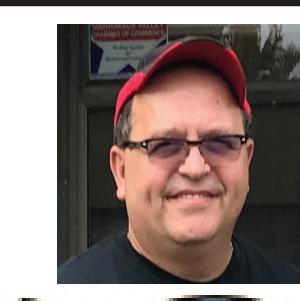
## KRAFT FROM PAGE 20

This moral standard projected onto him must be applied to us as well. Objectively, those who engage in sex outside of marriage, or who practice self-abuse from lust in objectifying women in pornography, are no less guilty than Bob Kraft.

Along with this lesson learned, we can hope that a silver lining will spring from all the media coverage invested in this story – that law enforcement and politicians will be motivated to get a better handle on how to combat the grave and inhumane crime of human trafficking.



*Paul Murano is a college instructor of philosophy and theology and talk host of Beneath the Surface radio show and podcast. Paul speaks on topics relating to where faith and reason meet, and is a solo musician that plays oldies and originals. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com, and check out his website at paulmurano.com*



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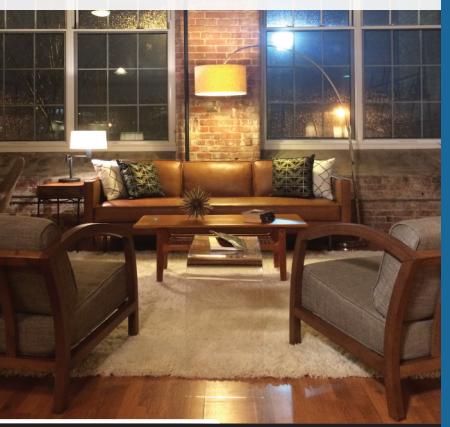
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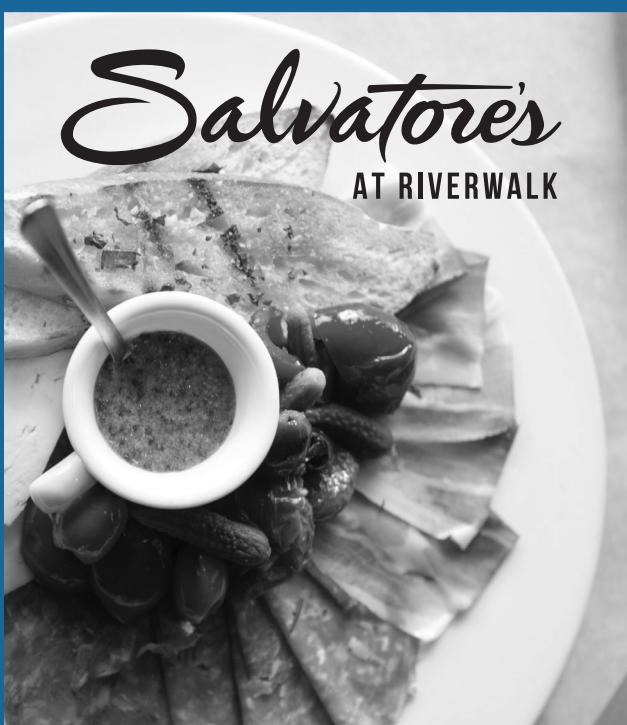
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