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Life As a Methuen City Councilor

Before I took office in January of 2004, I had many dreams and aspirations about what I could do for the betterment of the city of Methuen. It should always be the goal of elected leaders to work for their city and to make an impact of some kind. Let me tell you; it is not all ribbon cutting! I have had good luck in my ability to help my constituents and the rewards have been great. It is very satisfying to know when people call you; they are able to feel they received service.

I planned to devise a way for our youth to get involved and be part of the fabric of our community. It is when you participate that you take ownership. It is that commitment that lends itself to making Methuen a better place and neighborhoods safer. There is a willingness to give back to the city in which you live.

I organized the Methuen Youth Corps so that the young people would be able to become active in their community and at the same time resume' build. This has become so important to all aspects of entry into private high school, scholarship and eventually college. These young people participate in a variety of activities both in the nonprofit arenas and for our city. They take on projects that benefit others and themselves. Oral testimony after many of these service projects reflect that the young people of Methuen actually gain more than they give from these projects.

Another goal that I had as a city councilor has been to motivate individuals to be part of the solution when they are faced with challenges to their neighborhoods. Whenever there has been a proposed zoning change or any development, I have worked with neighbors and neighborhoods to seek relief and try to work toward a mutually agreeable end. I have created neighborhood associations throughout the city and fostered and nurtured already existing ones. I am so proud to have worked with so many energetic people and families throughout the city. Let me give a shout out to some of them. I have worked



Methuen News

Kathleen Corey Rahme
Vice Chair, Methuen City Council,
Methuen Youth Corps Founder

with the Birchwood Estates, Ashland Avenue, Oakside Avenue, Myona Street, and Fenwick Circle, Morrison Court, Washington Apartments, Hampshire Road, Oakland Street and Linda Avenue neighborhoods to name a few.

I was successful in amending the existing zoning law by eliminating the 50 acre requirement. The zoning law stated that if a property was over 50 acres, then the abutters needed to be notified of zoning changes. If it was less than 50 acres, no notification was necessary. It was archaic because there are few pieces of land in Methuen that are that size. This change has given much needed relief to neighbors and abutters. They will always be formally notified whenever any parcel of land is proposed for a rezone.

I worked tirelessly with the Ashland Avenue/Gill Avenue neighborhood to make a difference in the Gill Avenue Park. I put forth legislation to amend the Massachusetts General Law that requires a 1000 foot drug free zone in schools and only a 100 foot zone around parks. I tried to change the park to 1000 feet. The city council passed it unanimously and a Home Rule petition was sent to the State House. We attended a hearing and testified before the Joint Judiciary Committee. Unfortunately, it was given the kiss of death and sent to study. Attached to the existing legislation is a minimum, mandatory sentence so I think the legislators who work as defense attorneys on the side didn't like the original legislation to begin with.

I put forth legislation this year to protect local access television and it was passed unanimously. As a participant

and a consumer of local access television, I see the importance of maintaining it at the local level. Competition has always existed. I testified against the proposed legislation to take it out of local control at the State House last month. I believe we were successful in having the State Legislature take a long look into the ramifications if the Bill were to pass.

One of the most fun things I have enjoyed participating in are all the parades in Methuen and Lawrence. I especially like being invited to events for children at schools and scouting. As a Scouter for 15 years myself, as both a leader and girl scout, I really like being invited.

I think it is interesting that some things have no easy fixes. The proposed natural gas pipeline in East Methuen was beyond local control and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is set up specifically to take it out of local control. There have been other things that don't have ready fixes but for the most part, calling your councilor or this councilor has yielded good results.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to have served at the pleasure of the citizens in Methuen; first elected as the Central District Councilor, 2004-2006, and now as the Councilor at Large and Vice Chair. I feel personally satisfied with my record and voting history. I have tried my best to serve my constituents. I have done all that I can do as a legislator at this time. I am ready for a challenge and I would be honored to continue my work in Methuen serving as your next Mayor.

Kathleen Corey Rahme is the former Central District Councilor in Methuen and was elected as a city councilor "at large" in 2005. She is also the vice chair of the city council and founder of the Methuen Youth Corps. Kathleen is a candidate for mayor of Methuen. She also hosts "Call to Serve." You can email her at kcoryerahme@comcast.net

SUBWAY Continues to Expand to Meet Methuen Demand

METHUEN - Methuen native and entrepreneur, Stephen Giordano of Circle G LLC, officially opens his second SUBWAY franchise in Methuen with a grand opening, ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, July 14, 2007. This second SUBWAY location responds to the rising demand for healthy, fresh food choices and premium ingredients for time-strapped families who need the familiar convenience of fast, quality food service in a casual, comfortable environment.

Upscale, casual dining location with more than 1200 square feet, this new location is double in size over the first SUBWAY, currently located inside Wal-Mart on Pleasant St. in Methuen. The Jackson Street location was designed to create an upscale casual dining environment that meets consumer demand for comfort, style, convenience, and food that has fresh ingredients and healthy options. The store features comfortable deep leather chairs as well as standard tables, a 50" plasma TV for

viewing sports and other entertainment, and is a WI-FI hot spot with a wireless network.

"We are excited to open our second SUBWAY location on Jackson Street in Methuen," stated Stephen Giordano, CEO of Circle G LLC. "We had outgrown the demand in our first location in Wal-Mart, and wanted to create an outside location that was designed with an upscale environment to appeal to more families and citizens on the go. The Jackson Street community has been very welcoming and we thank them for all their support. We anticipate our continued success with our second location. We are proud to be part of the Fresh & Fit Lifestyle movement by providing healthy food choices for families and their young children to help combat childhood obesity."

About SUBWAY Restaurants: Now in its 41st year, the SUBWAY restaurant chain is the world's largest submarine sandwich franchise, with more than 26,700 locations in 85 countries. The SUBWAY chain is the second largest

fast-food chain in the world, surpassing McDonalds' number of locations throughout the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Headquartered in Milford, Connecticut, and with regional offices in Amsterdam, Beirut, Brisbane, Miami, and Singapore, the SUBWAY restaurant chain was co-founded by Fred DeLuca and Dr. Peter Buck in 1965.

That partnership, which continues today, makes it possible for thousands of individuals to build and succeed in their own business.

The SUBWAY brand is ranked as the number one franchise opportunity in Entrepreneur magazine's 2006 "Annual Franchise 500" listing - the 14th time in 18 years that the chain has achieved this honor. For more information about the SUBWAY chain, visit www.SUBWAY.com. SUBWAY is a registered trademark of Doctor's Associates Inc. All other registered trademarks are owned by their respective companies.

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Swat Team Called to Tenny School

METHUEN - Students and teachers at the Tenney School were advised to "initiate lockdown procedures" last month by Associate Principal Michael Coltin. Neither the students nor the teachers knew whether this was a drill or a real situation unfolding in their school. Fortunately, this time it was a drill organized by Police Chief Joseph Solomon along with Superintendent Jeanne Whitten to test the readiness of the school and the police response if ever an emergency lockdown was needed.

For this drill scenario, a father with a gun was supposed to have come to the school to sign out his son. But, because the father did not have custody, he could not legally take his son off the property. When the father exposed his gun, a lockdown was ordered and 911 was called. A second man, who was supposed to be the uncle was also at the school with the other "suspect" and the police were charged with detaining and apprehending both men while the students and staff were evaluated for the way they reacted according to procedures.

After the drill was over, Chief Solomon, Superintendent Whitten and Mayor Manzi explained the drill to the students and advised them that they all did a great job.

Chief Solomon said he was also very pleased with how quick the drill was completed and effective the response time of his team.



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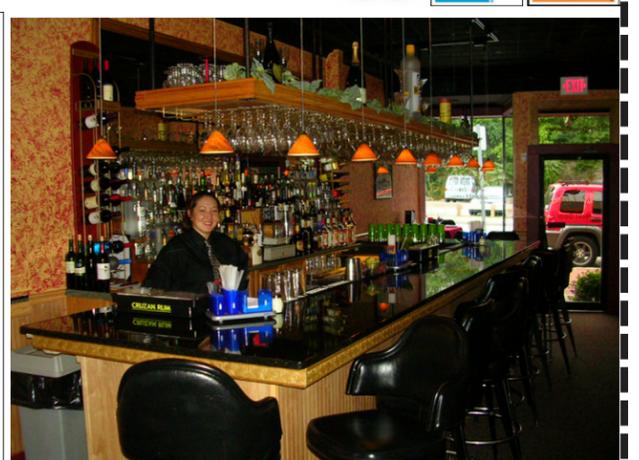


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From the Desk of
Methuen Mayor
Billy Manzi



Exclusive!

Making Government Work

First as a City Councilor, and now as a Mayor, I have always realized the importance of being able to build coalitions and forge compromise, even in the face of widely disparate viewpoints. My ability to work well with others is reflected in my record of having been elected President of the Methuen City Council on seven occasions, as well as the regional approach I have taken as Mayor, working in concert with my colleagues from the Merrimack Valley to form the Merrimack Valley Mayor's coalition. I firmly believe that the best way to avoid paralyzing political gridlock is to put aside ego and work for the best solution possible. In this City Council session we have managed to do just that, achieving success and relative political harmony. Now lets talk issues.

The Methuen City Council, in its budget deliberations, cut out the position of Human Resources Director. While I disagree with this cut, it now presents Methuen with an opportunity to achieve a management synergy that we had talked of during the last Mayoral campaign. At the July 9th City Council meeting I will propose a Joint Human Resources Office, creating one Director for the Methuen Public Schools as well as the City. Where we have had two Department heads we will now have one. Where we ran two separate departments we will now run one. Where we spent taxpayer money needlessly on redundant administrative functions we will create management efficiency. The cost for this new position will be split equally between City and School, with the Superintendent participating in the decision-making relative to the new director. The Superintendent and I have authorized the joint purchase of Human Resources software, eliminating the past practice of each side buying expensive and non-interchangeable software. We examined software that works for both sides, and the School side as well as the City side will benefit at half the cost. Superintendent Whitten and I will continue, using best management practices, to evaluate further administrative synergies between school and City. In this age of limited resources we must examine ways to reduce administrative duplication and find further ways to share items that can easily be used across artificial boundaries.

The Merrimack Valley Mayor's Coalition is an effort to find similar synergies, but across city borders. This effort joins Newburyport, Amesbury, Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell and Methuen. Our initial effort, managed by the Merrimack Valley Planning Agency Executive Director Dennis DiZoglio, is to find ways to share expensive DPW

equipment and it includes the possibility of joint purchase of some equipment by the coalition. We have just begun, but the promise is there, and I firmly believe that regionalizing some municipal efforts will bring savings to our taxpayers. While we have come out as a group in favor of the Municipal Partnership Act, I believe it is incumbent on us to look at the other side of the ledger as well, taking bold steps to reduce governmental duplication and administrative waste.

At the July 9th Methuen City Council meeting I will present a resolution of support for the concept of regional 911. Fire Chief Cliff Gallant has represented Methuen at the regional meetings that have made great progress in creating such a system. Methuen is one of the charter members of the Essex County group studying such a possibility, and I am committed to doing everything we can to achieve this goal. This is yet again another case of a potential reduction in operating costs to the taxpayers of Methuen without any reduction in service.

Finally I would like to talk about something that happened a few months ago, but is significant to this story. Methuen, Lawrence, Andover and North Andover were presented with the MMA Innovation in Government award for the Merrimack Valley Means Business program, sponsored by the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce. The MMA has said, "The business-assistance program, involving Methuen, Lawrence, Andover and North Andover, as well as the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, has three basic goals: to attract new businesses, to retain existing businesses, and to encourage those businesses to expand." We have worked together across this regional economy to protect the jobs of all Merrimack Valley residents, and have achieved success by economic cooperation which is unprecedented.

The prospect for municipal finance is bleak statewide, and we must, as managers, seek to find efficiency and synergies where we can. Building relationships, and achieving results with people that may have a different perspective, is a critical part of this job. I will continue to work in this direction in a second term.

Bill Manzi is the mayor of Methuen and is in his first two year term. He served previously as the city council president and is seeking reelection this November. You can email him at wmanzi@ci.methuen.ma.us.

Hanna's Book Drive to Help Methuen's Safe Haven After School Program

The Valley Patriot's Ace reporter, Hanna Porten, is organizing a book drive to donate books to Linda Soucy, Coordinator of the Safe Haven Program in Methuen.

The Safe Haven provides an after school homework center for Methuen students. On August 1st, a new Safe Haven Building will have its grand opening and will be in need of books to fill its new library.

Donation bins will be placed in Methuen City Hall and Lawrence City Hall. Donations can also be dropped off at 47 Brightwood Ave., North Andover. Please call 978- 557-5413 for more information and thank you for donating.

Genuine vs the Counterfeit From Page 16

believe that in order to receive respect, it must be earned! The genuine candidates are here to serve, not to be served! They are the ones who promote unity and community involvement in a positive manner. The genuine does not need to be told to show up, just where to show up! They also say what they mean and mean what they say.

Finally, the genuine candidates do not proclaim that they have all the answers, but are willing to roll up their sleeves, work hard and are not afraid to bring people together to help to get the answers.

The citizens of Lawrence must realize that, in order for the counterfeit candidates to be successful, they have to really look and sound genuine, and only those who have been paying attention will be able to separate the two.

So my dear fellow citizens of Lawrence, do not be fooled at election time. By September, if you look really close, you should be able to separate the genuine from the counterfeit candidates. All Lawrence can ask of its citizens is that they choose wisely!

Peter Larocque is a member of the Lawrence School Committee, 255 Essex St. Lawrence, MA 01842. He was elected by the Lawrence City Council to fill the unexpired term of Amy McGovern. You can email him at plarocque@lawrence.k12.ma.us

A Clean Campaign Based on the Facts

Methuen City Councilor Ken Willette



I have once again decided to run for reelection as your Methuen city councilor at large, with the campaign theme: "Proven Experience that Works for You!" I

have been honored to represent your interests on the Methuen City Council for the past four years, and previously with my four years of service on the Methuen School Committee. I have never hesitated to question how our city government spends your taxpayer dollars, and to make sure that all elected and appointed officials operate in an ethical and honest fashion. I have always maintained high ethical standards in all of my dealings, and I will continue to fight to ensure that all city officials are held accountable for their actions.

I soon plan on marrying the love of my life, Dawn, and raising a family in the community that I deeply cherish. I want to live in a community that I can be proud of, where we continue to provide an outstanding education, where we are responsive to taxpayer concerns and

customer service, and where we encourage sensible economic development and meaningful job growth.

We face many difficult challenges over the next two years. We will have to address the dire structural problems at Methuen High School, where the future accreditation of our flagship learning institution is at stake and will be dependent on our immediate actions to secure school building assistance from the state.

The recent accreditation team that reviewed the high school commended our administration and teachers for providing a strong learning environment, for instituting a clearly defined mission statement and for implementing the necessary tools to promote academic and vocational success. However, the major red flag of the accreditation report remains the obsolete and deficient infrastructure that desperately needs to be totally renovated and revamped.

By the same token, we will have to address deplorable conditions at many of our fire stations across the city. Even with the sizable residential, commercial, retail and industrial growth that we have

experienced in our community over the past ten years, our dedicated and highly trained firefighters have met the increased demand for emergency services, by rapidly and efficiently responding to all possible crisis scenarios. I applaud the current task force for studying feasible sites for a new fire station in the East End of Methuen, to replace the outdated and insufficient conditions now present at the East End fire station.

I have worked on many issues over the past two years. I am pleased to have worked with the Forest Street neighborhood in successfully defeating a large-scale, 40R development in that vicinity. In addition, I am proud of my efforts to question spending by Greater Lawrence Vocational School officials on publicly funded trips, which led to real reforms in their travel policy.

I recommended mandatory abutter notification when a neighborhood dog has been deemed potentially dangerous. As the co-chair of the "Appoint Mr. Nick" committee, I am proud to have mobilized the massive public lobbying effort to have Arthur Nicholson interviewed and considered as a finalist for superintendent of schools.

I have also questioned the administration on occasion to ensure that the Methuen City Council receives all information and documentation in order to make balanced and informed decisions.

During all of my years of public service, I have returned all constituent calls, resolved complicated cases, reached out to diverse groups and attended as many meetings and public hearings as possible. I have never personalized my official statements on the Methuen City Council, and I have always conducted clean and informative campaigns. You have my public vow that I will refuse to engage in negative or destructive attacks in my mailings, advertisements and during any upcoming debates.

I hope I've earned your confidence once again when you go to the polls in November. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me when you have a concern about government services in Methuen.

Ken Willette is an at-large city councilor in Methuen. He is seeking reelection in the fall. You can email him at kennethwillette@comcast.net

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Simple Wisdom

Gail Van Kleeck

Polishing Silver

Last winter as I cleaned the basement, I began collecting things for a yard sale in the spring. Sometimes I just need to lighten my load. I want to put my energy into living more fully, so I called a man who helps people sell their better things on e-bay.

When he came to my home, I showed him an antique reed organ, a china doll from Germany and the set of depression-glass goblets glasses that had been collecting dust for years. As I reached up to the top shelf to pull them down, I noticed the rack of tarnished silver spoons I keep on my kitchen wall. I couldn't remember the last time I'd used them. The man said I'd need to polish them before he could put them on e-bay. As I polished, the memories flooded back to me. There were four very thin spoons my mother had used for special occasions. I remembered how shortly before his death she had fed him my father blueberry ice cream with one of them. I remembered the love in her eyes.

I polished the long handled pickle fork and the little ladle she used for cranberry sauce. I also polished the bigger ladle, my father had used for scooping out the stuffing from those Thanksgiving turkeys so long ago. I remembered my mother's visits after she'd given me her spoons. I remembered how she'd always polished them. She never made me feel guilty for not caring for them the way that she had once done. She just liked to see them shine.

The last spoon I polished was damaged at the tip, as though it might have been used to pry open a jar. It was engraved with the name Vera. She had been my mother's friend. I put Vera's spoon, along with all the others back on the rack on my kitchen wall. They held too many tender memories. I wasn't ready to let them go. Memories

are comprised of fragile, yet powerful moments. They connect us to the past and help us to build bridges to the future. Our actions today become tomorrow's memories, both for ourselves and for those whose lives we've touched. We need to ask ourselves more often about the kinds of memories we wish to create.

The shining spoons look so lovely on their rack. It's the first time I can remember polishing them myself. I can almost see my mother smile. **WHAT WE FOCUS ON IS TRULY WHAT WE SEE**

Who is Gail Van Kleeck?

International inspirational author and motivational story teller.

Gail Van Kleeck spent seven years as a hospice volunteer. Her writing and speaking contain insights drawn from the families with whom she was privileged to work. She also draws from her childhood experiences, her journals and her life as a daughter, wife, mother and friend. In addition to her skills as a writer and speaker, Van Kleeck is an accomplished interior designer. Her business, Dover Interiors is based in Westwood, Ma. With an educational background in both psychology and design, she specializes in helping clients create surrounding support their lifestyles and nurture their spirits. Gail was born in Michigan and is a graduate of Michigan State University. The oldest of five children, she has two grown children, four grandchildren, numerous pets and a life partner who is a former jazz musician.



How to Sell High: Avoid These Three Mistakes When Selling Your Home

By Sal Polizzotti

Methuen – When you decide to sell your home, setting your asking price is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Depending on how a buyer is made aware of your home, Price is often the first thing he or she sees, and many homes are discarded by prospective buyers as not being in the appropriate price range before they're even given a chance of a showing.

Your Asking price is often you home's "first impression", and if you want to realize the most money you can for your home, it's imperative that you make a good first impression.

This is not as easy as it sounds, and pricing strategy should not be taken lightly. Pricing too high can be as costly to a home seller as pricing too low. Taking a look at what homes in your neighborhood have sold for is only a small part of

the process, and on it's own is not nearly enough to help you make the best decision.

A recent study, which compiles 10 years of industry research, has resulted in a new special report entitled "Home Sellers: How to Get the Price You Want (and Need)". This report will help you understand pricing strategy from three different angles. When taken together, this information will help you price your home to not only sell, but sell for the price you want.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your copy of this FREE report, call 800-611-8549 and enter ID# 3716. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call NOW to learn how to price your home to your maximum financial advantage. Or Visit: www.PositionPrice.com

This report is courtesy of Sal Polizzotti, RE/MAX Preferred. Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale.

Benefits: From Page 21

died while on active duty are entitled to counseling. This service includes all National Guard and Reserve members who were federally activated. To contact them, call: (202) 273-9116, or by e-mail at: vet.center@va.gov/.

PROSTHETIC and SENSORY AIDS: If a veteran is entitled to receive VA medical care, that veteran may also receive VA prosthetic devices/equipment and/or services. Some of the items/services included are: orthopedic necessities, wheelchairs, home respiratory therapy, etc. The VA may provide for hearing or vision loss if one is receiving a pension based on the need for regular aid and assistance, or based on the person being permanently housebound. They may also be eligible if they were a POW, or if they are receiving compensation for a service-connected disability.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS: The VA covers improvements to one's home if it is in keeping with the veteran's continued treatment, for access to one's home, or for sanitary necessities. Service-connected veterans may receive up to four thousand, one hundred dollars (\$4,100). Non-service-connected veterans may receive up to twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200).

SERVICES for BLIND VETERANS: The veteran may be eligible for services at a VA medical center or for admission to a VA blind rehab center. Those blind veterans enrolled in the VA health care system may also receive: aids and training for diminished vision, for help with guide dogs, for electronic and mechanical devices (computers, reading machines), for help to learn Braille, etc. There is also help as it relates to structures: home improvements, adaptive housing, automobile grants.

REHABILITATIVE and LONG TERM CARE: Domiciliary care is set up to help

care for veterans who do not require skilled nursing care. Set up for minimal care, it is equipped to deal with rehabilitation and long term care. There may be co-pays for long term domiciliary care. (Bedford is set up for long term care for certain conditions, though space is extremely limited.) Provisions are also set up to care for homeless veterans. The VA does provide for those whose annual income does not exceed the maximum annual VA pension rate.

NURSING HOME CARE: The federal manual lists three programs offered by the VA to handle this issue. However, nursing home care is extremely difficult to obtain. As listed, the programs are: 1) VA owned and operated nursing homes, 2) state veterans homes owned and operated by the state, and 3) community nursing home programs. To be considered for one of the VA nursing homes, the veteran must be at least seventy percent (70%) service-connected disabled, and the stay must be on a short term basis. I have been told that the wait for these services in this area is lengthy. If you think you may be in need of these services in the future, I would do some checking immediately. Also see if it is possible to put your name on a waiting list now.

As always, check with your local veterans agent, your veterans service organization, and the VA itself. The source for this article was taken from information contained in the Department of Veterans Affairs 2006 and 2007, Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents edition.

Susan Piazza is the first female commander of the DAV in 75 years, and its current CH2 commander. She has been involved with the DAV over twenty five years. She is also Past Commander of the American Legion Post 417, Methuen.



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4	7	2	9	3	6	5	1	8
9	6	1	7	8	5	3	4	2
8	5	3	2	4	1	6	7	9
7	4	6	5	2	3	8	9	1
5	2	8	1	9	7	4	6	3
3	1	9	4	6	8	7	2	5
1	3	4	6	5	9	2	8	7
2	8	7	3	1	4	9	5	6
6	9	5	8	7	2	1	3	4

Puzzle by websudoku.com

9	4	2	3	8	1	7	6	5
8	1	6	7	4	5	2	9	3
5	3	7	6	9	2	1	4	8
2	9	3	4	7	6	8	5	1
7	8	4	5	1	3	9	2	6
6	5	1	9	2	8	3	7	4
4	7	8	1	5	9	6	3	2
3	2	9	8	6	4	5	1	7
1	6	5	2	3	7	4	8	9

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8	3	2	1	4	5	7	6	9
1	4	6	9	8	7	3	2	5
7	9	5	2	3	6	4	8	1
4	6	1	7	2	3	9	5	8
2	8	7	5	9	4	6	1	3
9	5	3	6	1	8	2	4	7
3	1	8	4	6	9	5	7	2
5	2	4	3	7	1	8	9	6
6	7	9	8	5	2	1	3	4

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Help Wanted

The Valley Patriot is seeking a motivated individual to help us with sales and promotion of the newspaper. Work part time or full time as your schedule allows. Interested applicants must be friendly and enjoy talking to people. Perfect for mothers and college students. For more information email us at valleypatriot@aol.com

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Selling your stereo? Giving away old furniture? Trying to find a home for Fido's over-sized litter? Your line ad in The Valley Patriot will be seen by thousands of people in the Merrimack Valley from Lowell to Amesbury and everywhere in between for an entire month. At a mere 80 cents per word - this ad only costs us \$50.40

City of Haverhill -Summer Youth Employment Positions Available

The City of Haverhill is accepting applications for the following summer positions according to Mayor James J. Fiorentini. The Recreation Department is seeking Assistant Supervisors in the Day Camp (18 years of age) who have a history of working with children. Comfort Station Attendants are needed at Winnekenni and Riverside Parks. Laborers (16 years of age) are needed in Recreation and Water Departments. Summer Employment Applications are available in the Human Resources Department, Room #306, 4 Summer Street, Haverhill, MA. The positions pay \$7.50 an hour.

Sarah A. Stanton, Executive Assistant, Mayor James J. Fiorentini

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City of Lawrence Veterans' Services

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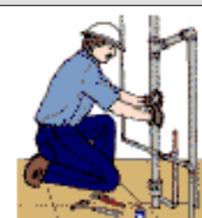
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CITY OF LAWRENCE
Water Department (2 pos.)
Sr. Accounts Clerk

Duties: Under general supervision of the Water Commissioner, perform a variety of water and sewer billing duties and other bookkeeping, clerical and customer service functions in support of office operations. Obtain water readings from meter readers and from meter cards received in mail, review readings and send Division personnel to residences to investigate causes for abnormal readings. Responsible for abatements due to incorrect meter readings. Enter readings to computer and input required codes and related data in support of billing operations. Prepare bills for mailing and utilize computer terminal to correct and update address and name changes, enter new accounts and related information. Prepare final and up-to-date bills as required and tabulate at month end. Prepare and type end of month commitment report, certificates of liens, and other reports and records as requested. Establish and maintain correspondence and other Division files and records. Set up appointments for meter readings, meter changes, new services, potential water leak investigations, water turn-offs and other appointments related to routine repair, installation and maintenance activities. Maintain related records. Responsible for water meter inventory to include logging invoices and related recordkeeping and control activities. Greet the public and respond to telephone and in-person inquiries, requests and complaints related to water billing and office operations within authority, referring unresolved issues to supervisor. Take and relay messages for Water Commissioner and perform typing and secretarial services. Assist in other office operations as required including logging on and off the computer and printer following detailed instructions. Perform related duties as assigned. **Qualifications:** Duties require knowledge equivalent to completion of four years of high school and knowledge of computer operations. Work requires one to two years related experience. **Skills:** Incumbent works in conformance with established Public Works procedures and policies, referring to Water Commissioner on issues involving clarification or exception to operating policies, unusual water billing matters and customer low water pressure complaints.

Closing Date: July 6, 2007

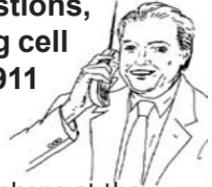
Applications Available in the Personnel Office
The City of Lawrence is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Full Job Description and Applications available in the Personnel Department

Old Cell Phones Wanted



Do you have old cell phones that you no longer use?
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CITY OF LAWRENCE
Water Department (3 pos.)
Water Treatment Operators
Pay Grade: \$43,506.06 (Yearly Salary)

Union: MVEA, Local 3 - **Duties:** Under direction supervision of the Water Treatment Supervisor (Primary Operator) operates and makes minor repairs to the equipment at a Water Treatment Plant including liquid chemical feed pumps, dry chemical feed machines, filter operating tables, SCADA monitoring and control, and related motors, pumps, valves, gates and recording instruments. Makes process control lab tests in accordance with prescribed procedures and adjusts chemical feeds as indicated. Washes filters, increases/decreases rate of flow as necessary. Reads, records, and replaces charts and plant information; keeps an inventory of chemicals and receives bulk shipments, and all related operations and maintenance duties involving a Water Treatment Plant as directed by the Water Treatment Supervisor (Primary Operator). Performs other related duties as assigned. **Qualifications:** High School diploma or equivalent. Must possess a valid Grade 4 License for Treatment Plant Operation, and good mechanical and problem solving skills. Qualified applicant must also be willing to change job hours every two weeks as directed. Must have good communication skills. This position is subject to State requirements.

Closing Date: Until Filled

Applications Available in the Personnel Office
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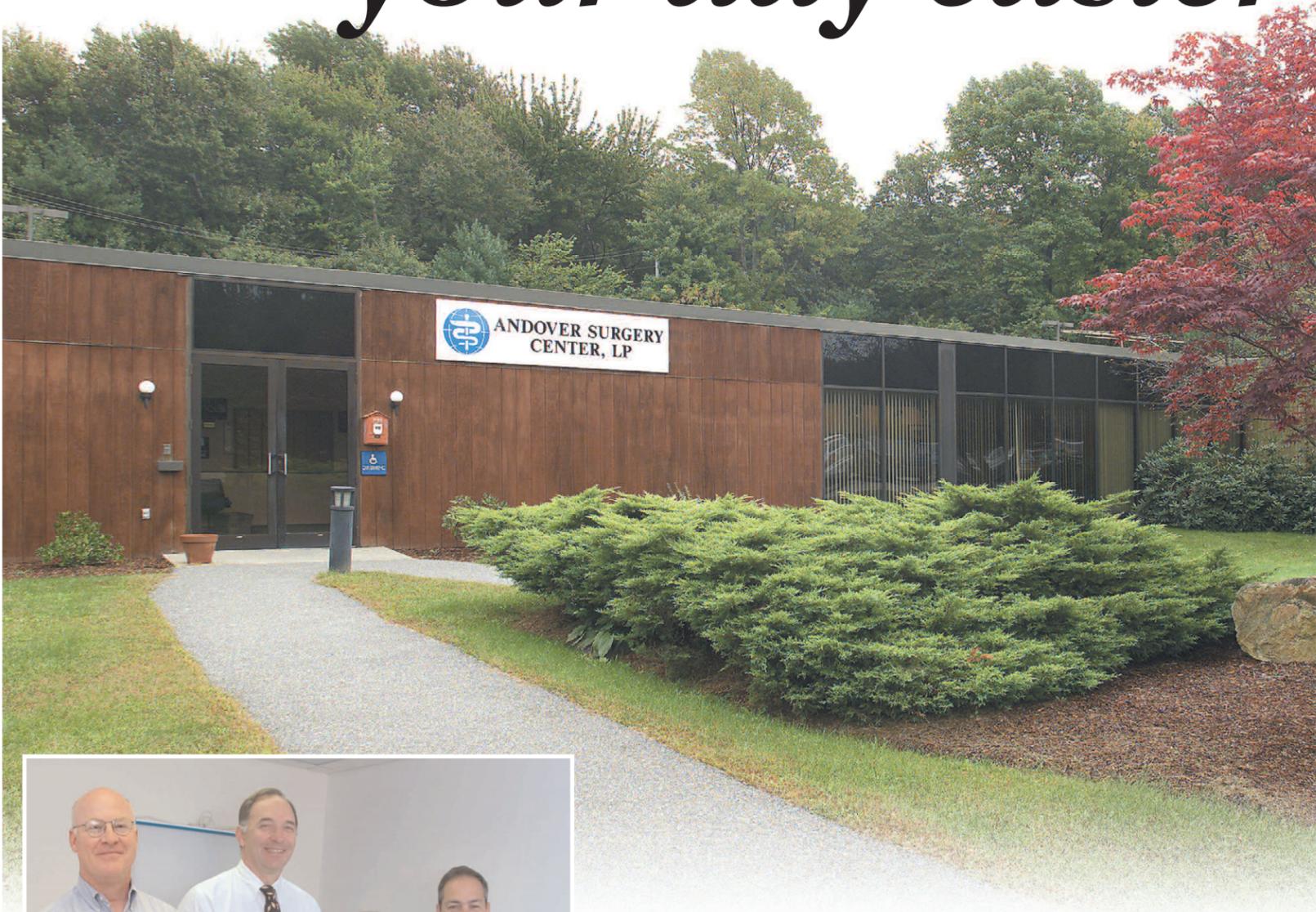


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