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# THE VALLEY PATRIOT

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## SHERIFF COUSINS' SECRETS



When violent felon James Walsh escaped from the custody of Sheriff Frank Cousins, he was illegally being held at the minimum security facility on Marston St. in Lawrence. In violation of the law, Cousins NEVER notified the public of this escape or several previous escapes.

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## VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

### Hero in Our Midst: Staff Sgt. John Katsaros

Helen Mooradkian  
VALLEY PATRIOT VETERAN COLUMNIST

Out of the darkness, engines roaring, hundreds of American B-17 Flying Fortresses took off March 20, 1944, in

World War II, from Deenethorpe, England. Destination: Frankfurt. Mission: destroy production of dreaded Luftwaffe FW-190 fighter planes.

At 30,000 feet, under heavily overcast skies and turbulent winds, two B-17s col-

lided over the base.

Formation flying over Germany was impossible. Miraculously avoiding a B-17 that plunged out of control, the pilot dived thousands of feet. On regaining altitude, he lost formation. The bombers were recalled to another target but due to radio silence all turned back except one.

He kept going to Frankfurt. Alone.

Staff Sergeant John Katsaros, 20 years old, Haverhill, Mass., was on that doomed aircraft, as aerial engineer, gunner and photographer with the 612th Bomb Squadron, 401st Heavy Bomb Group, 8th Air Force. This was his 11th mission on the B-17 "Man O' War" Flying Fortress.

While successfully bombing their target, the B-17 was hit by 88mm anti-aircraft fire, losing two of four engines. Five ME-109s strafed the bomber, chasing it to France—but the crew shot down three of them. Outside Reims, their plane exploded in flames—seconds after the crew bailed out!

**In the darkness—a beacon of hope**

Yet what appeared to be "a mission to hell" turned into a drama of divine intervention and miraculous escapes.

Although France had surrendered to Germany in 1940, the darkness could not quench the spirit of freedom.

Out of the darkness of despair, the French Resistance arose like a beacon of hope—one of the greatest mass movements of freedom-fighting patriots. For downed American and Allied airmen, it meant the difference between life—and death.

Because of their sacrifices, John Katsaros is alive today.

**KATSAROS: PAGE 40**



Staff Sgt. John Katsaros, USAAF, ret., rescued by French Resistance in WWII, received France's highest award on Sept. 6th: "Chevalier" in the French Legion of Honor. His medals include: Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with Cluster, French Resistance and WWII Victory Medals, POW Medal, Bronze Star, British Flying Boot. He will speak Nov. 16, 7 pm, MV Tea Party, VFW, North Andover.

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# EDITORIAL

Ten years ago Muslims executed an attack on the United States in an attempt to disrupt our economy, our government, cause chaos and kill as many Americans as they could in the name of their "God".

They hate us because we are free. They hate us because we do not follow Islam, but most of all they hate us because they want to exterminate the Jews and we are the only thing standing in their way.

In honor of our departed friend Jane Orth of Haverhill who died on Flight 11, and all those who lost their lives on 9/11, we share this poem by one of our readers, Vincent Spada.

## Our Sad September Snow

Morning broke once more, with pure and simple trust  
We believed the door was closed, and the lock free of rust  
But sadly, we were wrong. We were out there in the gale  
Our ship did toss in a sea of tears, with torn and tattered sail

The planes, they came in low, streaking fast across the sky  
They whistled past the structures, caught in the public's eye  
First one, and then the next, but a few minutes apart,  
and in those tragic moments, they broke our country's heart

The explosion seemed like fiction. The fire and the smoke  
We all drew in the toxins, and gave a sickly choke  
The buildings soon fell down. That scene we all remember,  
when ashes hit the air, and it snowed in our September

Steel dropped like meteors. Glass like hot rain  
We heard our brother's screams, and felt our sister's pain  
Dear God, why did it happen? Dear God, what made it so?  
Dear God, what brought our September this cruel and vicious snow?

Lord help us in our task. Lord help us in our prayer  
Lord guide us to our friends who need our gentle care  
Lord take us by the hand, and tell us where to go  
Lord lead us through the blizzard of our sad September snow

Our family members are gone. With grief we hang our head  
We place our hand to our heart, and mourn our country's dead  
But we owe them our pledge. They must see that we still thrive  
We must show them and this world that justice is alive

This country is not lost. Our flag is still up high  
Those things we love so dearly in truth can never die  
Let wisdom be our compass, and someday we will know  
how and why we suffered this gray and dismal snow

Time will not diminish it. The memory long will last  
The image will still be there in years yet to be passed  
And children in the future will read about this day,  
when it snowed in our September, and the world lost its way

9/11/01: We will never forget

Vincent Spada

### News tips

Phone in news tips to (978) 771-4091, or you may email tips to us at [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com). We respect the anonymity of our sources if requested.

**Letters to the editor, columns and op/eds** can be submitted to [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com). The Valley Patriot is not responsible for the opinions expressed in submitted letters or columns. It is the policy of The Valley Patriot not to edit or exclude submitted material based on content.

**Corrections;** Please contact the editors at [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com)

The Valley Patriot is not responsible for, nor do we necessarily share the opinions of columnists and contributors that are published in the paper. Columns, by definition, are opinion pieces.

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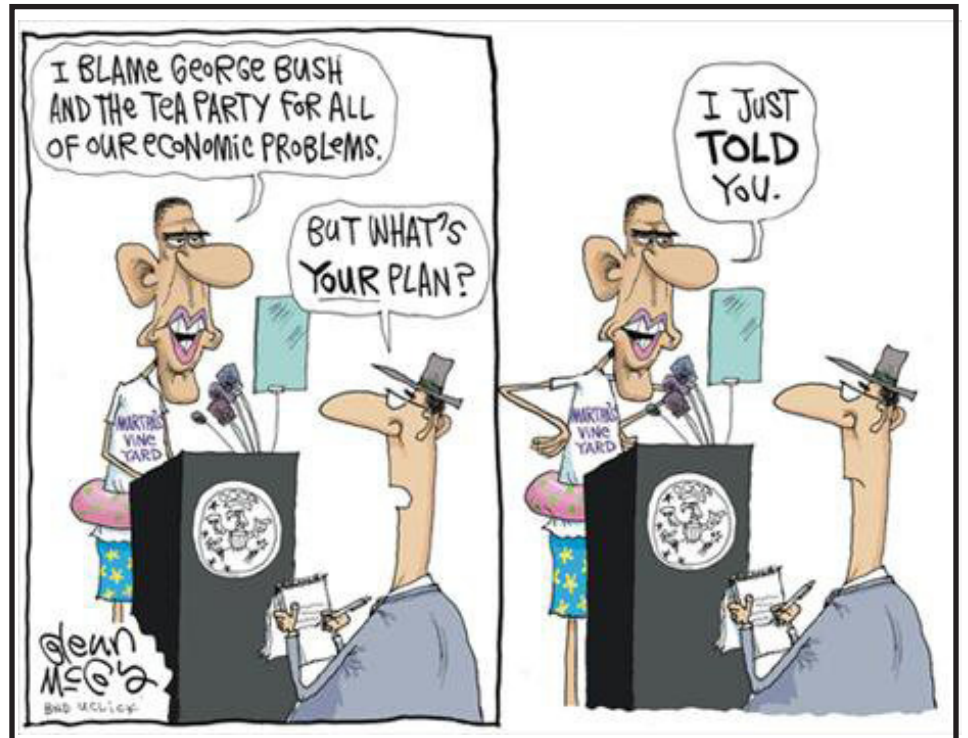
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### Editorial Board:

**President/Editor:** Tom Duggan, Jr.  
**VP/Director:** Ralph Wilbur  
**Editor:** Charles Ormsby  
**Copy Editor:** Linda Lemerise



Dear Mr. Duggan,

As a candidate for the Lawrence city council in District D, and as a concerned resident, a mother, and a Latina, I'd like to go on record as objecting to the type of behavior exhibited by the patrons of Malaya's Saturday night that resulted in a "near riot" of an estimated 800 people. I'd also like to ask what type of action is being taken by the city council and the administration to address this type of issue, as well as the increase in crime that resulted in a murder on Monday afternoon in South Lawrence. I find it [especially] beyond reason that we have not heard from the current councilor from District D, Oneida Aquino who, as a nightclub owner, has faced some serious "disturbance issues" at her own establishments and should be leading the charge and publicly denouncing this behavior from OUR community.

Last Saturday's incident was very personal to me. My 19-year-old son works in

Boston on weekends and passes by Essex and Newbury Streets when walking home from the train station. He called to tell me he was too tired to walk and asked me to pick him up. I can only imagine what could have happened, had he been caught up in the melee and gotten hurt, been seen as part of the mob, or worse.

I may be new to politics but I'm running because I would not let something like this go unaddressed. This kind of conspicuous silence, under-representation, and inaction is just not acceptable to me. We shouldn't have to avoid any part of our city (especially our main streets) for fear of anything. And, if so, someone in City Hall should explain why.

After all, isn't this why we pay them?

Sincerely,  
Alina Costa de Varona  
Candidate for Lawrence City Council,  
District D  
[alinadevarona@gmail.com](mailto:alinadevarona@gmail.com)

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# Illegal Alien Invader Kills American

Jeff Katz

RADIO TALK SHOW HOST/TALK 1200AM

I wish I could tell you that we had not heard this story before, but of course I can't. Illegal alien gets liquored up and kills an innocent American. Sure, we change the names and the locations, but the story remains the same. So what exactly do we do about this? Well, that depends entirely on who you are.

If you are a proud American who values the many contribution made by legal immigrants, then you say clearly that we must deport those who do not belong here and actually enforce the laws we have on the books.

If you are a big business owner who values profits and nothing else, you probably say we should just avert our eyes and pretend that there is no problem.

If you are a small business person, you state that we must enforce the laws so that you won't be undercut by contractors with illegal alien staffed crews.

If you are a union boss, you turn your back on the best interests of your members who have seen their wages fall due

to the presence of illegal aliens and issue a call for illegal aliens to join the declining ranks of your membership. After all, they'll pay union dues which you can spend to support your cronies in the Democrat Party and really, that is what it is all about.

If you are a career Democrat Party operative, then you condemn anyone who calls for laws to be enforced. You ignore the thousands of Americans slaughtered at the hands of the invaders and instead demand that the illegals be rewarded. You demand that they be provided with subsidized in-state college tuition and driver's licenses and welfare benefits. You demand that hard working people who have crossed every "t" and dotted every "i" in their quest



VALLEY PATRIOT EXCLUSIVE

Jeff Katz, a former police officer, is heard daily from 5AM to 10AM on WXKS-AM TALK-1200 in Boston.



to become citizens the lawful way get the hell out of the way and make room for those who have provided a one finger salute to decent society. After all, the illegal alien invaders of today are the Democrat Party voters of tomorrow.

Matthew Denice was a fine young man, only twenty three years old when he was killed by an illegal alien in Milford. The invader in question has an extensive criminal record including violence committed on public safety officials. You'd think he'd be deported, but you forget that he lives in Deval Patrick's Massachusetts. Our part-time governor has never met a criminal he did not like and he seems to love illegal aliens almost as much as he digs cop killers.

The illegal in Milford was blind drunk when he plowed into Matthew and then dragged him along the street. All the while Matthew was screaming for help. The illegal alien only stopped his pick up truck when he hit a curb with Matthew, still alive and crying out for help, stuck in his wheel well. Then the illegal reversed over Matthew's prone body which is what actually killed him according to the police. For good measure, the invader had his own child in the truck too. When he was advised in court that he had killed Matthew he simply shrugged. Vile, disgusting, unrepentant conduct from someone who never should have had the chance to kill anyone.

Now I know that the illegal aliens are only committing the crimes that Americans won't commit anymore, but we must take action. You simply cannot have a nation if you don't have clearly defined and vigorously defended borders. If we need tips on how to effectively protect our borders and enforce our immigration laws, we should ask for some

ILLEGALS: PAGE 8

## PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY

Do you have any of these symptoms?

- Pins and needles feeling
- Numbness in the hands or feet
- Tingling or burning sensations
- Weakness in the legs and toes
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Protecting Mass Children

North Andover Community Meetings

Tom Duggan

VALLEY PATRIOT REPORTER

Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester) was recently recognized by Protect Mass Children for his years of advocacy in support of passing stronger state laws to protect children from sexual predators.

“Senator Tarr has worked to protect the community throughout his entire career; it is an honor to be able to recognize Senator Tarr for his sincere and longstanding commitment to protecting our children,” Joseph DiPietro, President of Protect Mass Children, stated. “In 2008, Senator Tarr was a strong voice and advocate for Massachusetts’ version of Jessica’s Law, and was instrumental in helping to pass minimum mandatory sentences for certain sex crimes against children. While there is still a good amount of work ahead to protect our children from such heinous acts, Senator Tarr has been a strong advocate for children and continues to be today.”

Senator Tarr recently filed legislation in a bipartisan effort calling for strong mandatory sentences for child predators and life sentences for repeat sex offenders. Commonly referred to as “three strikes you’re in,” Senate Bill 884 would:

- require individuals convicted of child rape to serve a minimum of 15 years in prison;



- require individuals convicted of child rape by use of force or during the commission of another crime to serve a minimum of 30 years; and
- require those convicted three or more times for sex offenses against children to be imprisoned for life, without any possibility of parole.

“Our organization is thrilled to stand behind a leader like Senator Tarr,” DiPietro said. “We are confident his bill will pass and make a significant difference for the safety of thousands of children. The public wants stronger laws to protect children, and Senate Bill 884 is a great tool for the Commonwealth to do just that.”

“I am truly honored to be recognized by Protect Mass Children,” said Senator Tarr. “Under Joseph DiPietro’s leadership, the organization’s dedicated staff has been working tirelessly to protect some of our most vulnerable residents from being sexually abused and exploited. Working together, I am confident we will be able to make significant changes to Massachusetts’ child predator and sex offender laws that will protect our children from these horrific crimes.”

Protect Mass Children is a nonprofit organization committed to protecting the children of Massachusetts from sexual predators through education and legislation. More information can be found at [www.protectmasschildren.org](http://www.protectmasschildren.org).

**Sept 12th**, (Monday), Board of Selectmen, 7:30 PM at Town Hall Meeting Room, 120 Main St., North Andover, MA 01845

**Sept. 13th**, (Tuesday) School Committee Sub Committee for Secretary Negotiations. 9AM in the Superintendent’s Office, 1600 Osgood Street

**Sept. 14th**, (Wednesday ) Finance Committee meeting, at 6:30 PM. Town Hall 1st. Floor Conference Room

**Sept. 14th**, (Wednesday ) Conservation Commission Meeting at 7PM at Town Hall - 120 Main St. - 2nd Floor Conference Room

**Sept. 14th**, (Wednesday,) at 7:30 PM Cable TV Advisory Committee Meeting & Public Hearing. North Andover Senior Center, 120R Main St., North Andover, MA 01845

**Sept. 15th**, (Thursday) Commission on Disability issues 6:30PM at Town Hall, Conference Room 1, 120 Main St.

**Sept. 15th**, at 7PM (Thursday) School Committee, Town Hall Meeting Room, 120 Main St.

**Sept 19th**, (Monday) Historial Commission 9AM (No Location listed)

**Sept 20th** (Tuesday) 7PM, Planning board Planning Board Meeting at Town Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Room

**Sept 21st**, Housing Partnership Committee, 8:30 AM at Town Hall, 1st Floor Conference Room, 120 Main St

**Sept 22nd**, (Thursday) Noon, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) 43 Lafayette Rd Salisbury, MA

**Sept. 22nd**, (Thursday) Board Of Health, 7PM, 120 Main St 2nd Floor Meeting Room.

**Sept 26th**, (Monday) Board of Selectman Meeting, 7:30PM at Town Hall Meeting Room, 120 Main St.,

**Sept 27th** (Tuesday) Finance Committee Meeting 6:30PM Town Hall 1st Floor Conference Room.

**Sept 28th** (Wednesday) Conservation Commission, 7PM, at Town Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Room.

**Sept 29th**, (Thursday) Machine Shop Village Machine 9AM at Town Hall - Conference Room 1.

**Oct. 4th**, (Tuesday) Planning Board, 7PM at Town Hall ,2nd Floor Meeting Room

**Oct. 6th** (Thursday) School Committee 7pm at Town Hall Meeting Room

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A group of researchers from Boston University, Partner Healthcare and the MGH Institution of Health Professionals is currently conducting a research study to find out if an exercise program that people can do in their home can help them to improve their function after a hip fracture and completion of their formal physical therapy. If you chose to volunteer for this study, you will receive the exercise program. Some volunteers will receive the program right after they are enrolled, while others will first receive a cardiovascular nutritional educational program to promote healthy eating, and then they will receive the exercises. No travel outside the home is required, and all the therapy visits, equipment and materials are provided free of charge. Research assistants will visit people in their homes three times to assess their progress. The study is funded through a grant from the National Institute of Health. If you or someone you know would like to learn more about this study, you can contact Siphannay Nhean by calling her at 1-617- 638-1988.

If you are interested in receiving a Farmers Market Coupon, stop by the Methuen Senior Center with the following verification of eligibility. You must be Low-Income verified by a letter of qualification from food stamps, section 8 housing, or Fuel Assistance.

**DON'T BE LEFT OUT! NEW**

OPEN ENROLLMENT DATES (Oct. 15 – Dec. 7th) for Medicare Advantage and Drug Plans. Open enrollment is much earlier this year and early preparation is key. What should you do first? Review your **PRESCRIPTION DRUG** and

HEALTH INSURANCE NEEDS. By September 15th, see your physician and review your medications! Check for: contraindications, possible use of generics, and whether you can eliminate unneeded medications. Is your health insurance

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the right plan? Do you have additional costs or restrictions that are problematic? PREVENTION is the best medicine! While at the doctor’s, review preventive services under Medicare and sign up for the Annual (FREE) Wellness Visit to UNDERSTAND the plan changes. By October 1st, you should receive the 2012 “Medicare and You” handbook. Review the changes at the back of the guide or go to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)! You may expect a lot of marketing material soon, but please know that help is available if you find it confusing.

**OBTAIN INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE.** If you would like to learn about your options, wish to save money or need assistance to change your plan, attend one of the regional SHINE presentations advertised in your local newspaper, call your regional SHINE Program at 1-800-AGE-INFO or the North Andover Senior Center for an appointment 978-688-9560. **DON'T BE LEFT OUT!** Choose your prescription drug and health insurance plan by December 7, 2011, for January 1, 2012.

**NEW Beginners Bridge:** Starting Wednesday, September 14, 1-3 pm, 8-week session for \$80.00 and payment is due at sign up. No drop-ins for this course.

**NEW PROGRAM-STRENGTH TRAINING:** Tuesdays from 1 – 2 pm. This is a six week program of strength training geared to your individual ability. Builds strength, balance and increases bone density. Six weeks for \$24. or drop-ins \$6 instructor Patty Ferrullo. Starting Thursday, September 8th, this class will run twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursday. Sign up for 2 days a week is \$48 or \$6 a class.

# Our Economic Decrepitude: What Would The Doctor Do?

## How to Achieve a 4% to 5% Unemployment Rate Within 12 Months

**Doctor Chuck Ormsby**  
VALLEY PATRIOT EDITOR/COLUMNIST

Pretend you were a doctor and you just received a call from an ex-patient who had dropped you for another doctor 23 years ago. At the time he left your care, the patient was very healthy and was getting stronger every day. Because of his vitality, his family was prospering and his neighbors were benefitting from his productivity. During the eight years he was your patient you had saved him from a major disease and removed several substantial health risks that had been sapping his strength.

But now the voice on the other end of the line was very weak and you could tell that the patient was in pain, had little energy, and seemed to lack hope. He just whispered, "Please help. I really need you."

You said, "I'll be right there."

Ten minutes later you pull up in front of his house, grab your medical bag and run to the front door. After ringing the bell, no one answers. Listening carefully, you hear your friend's muffled voice calling, "I can't get to the door. Just come in."

You rush upstairs to the bedroom and cannot believe what you see. Your once strong, self-confident friend has been reduced to a weak, dependent individual with a desire to thrive but with little confidence that he can. He is wearing a tattered T-shirt that says "The US Economy" with a subtitle "Free-Strong-Unafraid," but his condition belies these words in every respect.

Looking closely you see numerous strange devices, constraints, and bottles of

pills attached to or surrounding the patient. None of them make any sense, so your first question is, "What the heck are these?"

Pointing to the tubes inserted into the veins of both arms and legs, the patient mumbles, "Well, these were inserted by the Czar Phlebotomist assigned to me by the Commander in Chief who directs my medical team."

"What!" you say, "How are they supposed to improve your health?"

"I was told that I was producing more blood than I absolutely needed and so the doctor that replaced you said I had to put in the first tube to help the poor. I knew it wasn't a good idea, but I wanted to show compassion."

"What about the other three?"

"The second one was put in to sustain the administrators that were in charge of collecting and distributing my blood; I was told they needed sustenance also. The third and fourth were inserted by my current doctor, a real smooth talker. He said something about stimulating something, but I was too confused to really understand what he was saying. I think he told me to HOPE that something might CHANGE. Oh, and there is another tube you can't see. All I remember is someone saying to shut up and bend over. All in all, it has been a very taxing experience!"

"But that isn't all," he continued. "I used to run every day to improve my cardiovascular health, but the Commander in Chief directed my EPA (Expiratory Protection Analyst) to investigate my exhalations and he determined that I was emitting too much carbon dioxide. The next day he sent in the Breathing Czar to put on this choke collar and the Blood Flow Czar to

administer countless regulatory drugs that constricted my blood flow and slowed my metabolism. Along with the constant blood drain, these have really sapped my strength."

"It looks like we've found some things we need to fix right away," you tell him, but first you ask, "Why are your hands tied behind your back and those cinder blocks chained to your ankles?"

"I told my DOE (Doctor of Endocrine, in charge of my metabolism) that I needed to roll up my sleeves and find some affordable fuel for energy if I was going to prosper, not to mention keeping warm in the winter. My DOE said that was forbidden, and he tied my hands. He explained that getting fuel might disturb the wildlife and, in any case, he thinks I can get all the energy I need if I lay in the sun or if I send more blood to the Middle East or South America. Now, if only I had enough energy to get outside or some extra blood to trade for fuel."

"Yes, but the cinder blocks and chains?"

"Oh, I forgot. They are so I won't leave the plantation. Something about producing blood according to my ability and supplying them according to their need."

"OK, one last question before we restore you to good health. What is this contraption next to the bed?"

"That is the Model QE123-NURD Defibrillator. Pretty fancy title, huh?"

"It sure is. I assume it is meant to restart your heart if all the other treatments they have given you make it stop beating."

"Well, sort of. After that 'shut up and bend over' tube was inserted to get the resources to fund low-cost housing loans, my heart rate did become unstable. If they had pulled the tubes out I would have been fine, but they used the old model, the QE1, to hit me with a trillion volts and that really knocked me back on my ass. I haven't gotten up since. I did think about getting up once, but then they used the up-graded QE12 model to whack me with another trillion volts. Wow, that was a doozy!"

"Have they used the QE123 on you yet?"

"No, but they are talking about it -- and that is why I called you. You see this one has those four letters, "NURD," appended to the model number. They told me it was just a mis-spelling of NERD, the guy who designed it, but I know they are lying."

"What do think QE123-NURD stands for?"

"I know what it means. It stands for Quantitative Easing 1, 2, 3, Now UR Dead."

"OK, here is the good news. If you ELECT me as your new doctor, I can get you on your feet quickly. With your life-blood no longer being drained, your

breathing restored, the countless drugs no longer regulating and restricting your blood flow, your hands untied, the cinder blocks removed from your ankles, and the threat of being zapped removed, I think you can return to good health within months and be down right chipper in a year."

"Does that mean that in a year I can look forward to more than 95% of my working parts being back and productive again?"

"That's right. You should have no more than 5% of your parts idle at a time, and most of them merely transitioning from one productive capacity to another."

"That's GREAT! When can we start?"

"Here's the bad news. I'm sorry, but we can't begin to make you well unless we use one of these defibrillators on your current Commander in Chief and if doing so induces him to radically change his ways."

"That doesn't seem likely. What if it doesn't work?"

"Then we have to wait until November 2012 to designate a new Commander in Chief. Oh, one other thing."

"What is that?"

"There are numerous legal constraints that prevent us from removing all these things that are killing you. We have the Sixteenth Amendment, the 13,458 page tax code, an uncountable number of legally entwined regulatory agencies all cemented in place by legislation, three million federal employees controlling you and in charge of distributing your blood, and tens of millions of people who enjoy sucking your blood."

"But I want to live. And if I am allowed to be free, we can all prosper and enjoy an ever increasing standard of living. I've done it in the past and I can do it again. I just need to be free!"

"So, doc, what is the prognosis?"

"I'm optimistic. Clearly their 'medicine' is what is killing you. The cure is obvious. The only question is whether or not there are enough people with courage to bring in a new Commander in Chief, one who will effect the cure. The next year will determine if you, I mean we, recover and go on to future greatness OR if our freedoms continue to wither on life support and eventually perish."

"What should I do now?"

"Keep the doors locked and your head down. Conserve as much blood as you can. I'll be back in a year to tell you if your condition is terminal."



*Dr. Ormsby is an ex-member of the N.A. School Committee. He is a graduate of Cornell and has a doctorate from MIT. He is currently a Professor of Mathematics at UMASS, Lowell.*

*You can email him at: cormsby@comcast.net*

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PAYING ATTENTION! WITH TOM DUGGAN

# What Sheriff Frank Cousins Doesn't Want You to Know!

## Meet James Walsh.

According to documents obtained by the Valley Patriot, Walsh is a career criminal, with 43 priors and was out on parole when he was arrested again last month on drug and assault charges.

He has a restraining order against him. He also has been arrested for forgery, counterfeiting, and uttering. He has used and sold heroin and cocaine, driven without a license, forged registry documents, and when he appeared in court to answer for his most recent crimes, Walsh was considered dangerous and a flight risk and held without bail.

That's when Walsh was transferred to the custody of Essex County Sheriff Frank Cousins.

Cousins, in violation of state law, decided to place Walsh at the Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center (known as "the farm") on Marston St. where he simply ... walked away. This happened nearly a month ago and yet I am willing to bet that you are reading about it right here for the first time.

## But How Can that be?

When we asked Paul Fleming last month, (Sheriff Cousins' spokesperson) how many pre-trial detainees were being held at "the farm" (state law says prisoners awaiting trial cannot be held with convicted criminals), Fleming told us "we don't have any". When we pressed Fleming on the issue he insisted that "no pre-trial detainees are being held on Marston St."

So, how is it that just a few short weeks later, James Walsh, a violent felon (and a pre-trial detainee who was too dangerous to be given bail for his latest crimes), could escape from a minimum security facility that Frank Cousins says houses "no pretrial detainees"?

And why is it that when Walsh escaped the custody of the Essex County Sheriff, Frank Cousins, the public was never notified? *State Law says that whenever an inmate escapes, the public has to be told.*

## Not the First Time

Two months ago, The Valley Patriot wrote an editorial criticizing the Sheriff for not notifying the public when inmate Jason Brown escaped from "the Farm". Because of the efforts of the brave men and women of the Sheriff's Department (and local law enforcement) he was captured a few days later.

Yet, only those who read the Valley Patriot knew of the escape because Sheriff Cousins simply didn't do his job and tell

the public. The Valley Patriot learned about the escape from local cops who told us that they were looking for the guy.

Cousins' response, (through his spokesman, Paul Fleming) was laughable at best. He sent us a letter to the editor saying "I am writing to correct false assertions, inaccuracies and distortions made in the June editorial of your monthly publication regarding events that occurred at the Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center (CAC) on Monday, May 30, 2011"

Fleming's excuses continued, "It is the standing policy of this office to inform members of local law enforcement and the public through the daily paper of record whenever someone walks away from the CAC. That has always been done in the past and was done in this case as well."

What he didn't say in his letter is that the daily paper of record is Fleming's former employer, and that the Eagle Tribune has been a cheerleader for Cousins since the day he was elected.

*Despite the fact that the Tribune has failed to alert the public of prior escapes, the Essex County Sheriff continued to notify ONLY that news outlet when another escape occurs, a news outlet with a history of not reporting on escapes.*

It certainly raises the question; is there a conscious attempt by Sheriff Frank Cousins to conceal from the public how many inmates escape and the serious risk this poses to the public? Is it an effort to avoid the public embarrassment that would befall his office if people knew what was really going on?

## Public Servant?

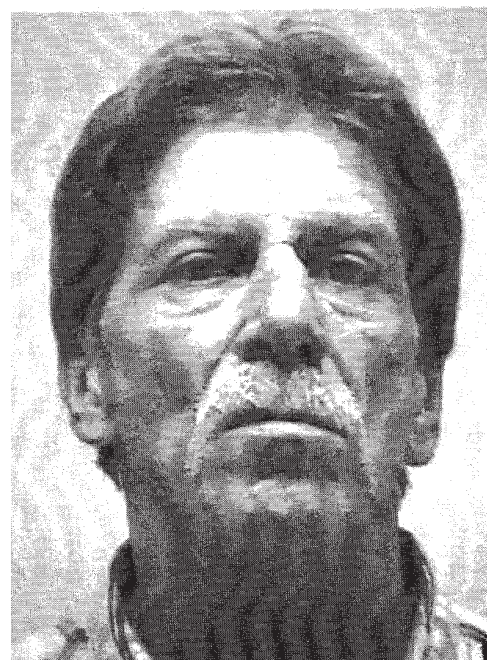
Surely the people who live in the Prospect Hill area near "the Farm" would want to know that a man like James Walsh might be walking around their neighborhood, posing a danger to their children, looking for a place to hide or commit another felony.

Lawrence City Councilor Sandy Almonte certainly thinks so. She told the Valley Patriot that she is "very concerned" about the risks these escapes pose to her Prospect Hill district.

"The public should be notified right away when someone escapes that facility," Almonte said. "More than that, I am a district councilor and I want to know when someone dangerous walks away over there. We want to be on the lookout for dangerous people walking around our neighborhoods potentially harming our families. This is a community, and we need to communicate. A myriad of

## JAMES WALSH STILL AT LARGE

**RAP SHEET** - Assault and battery, armed robbery, operating a motor vehicle after revocation, conspiracy to violate drug laws, counterfeiting, multiple charges for driving after license suspension, insurance violations, forging registry documents, possession of a hypodermic needle, shoplifting, possession of a class "A" substance, distribution of class "A" substances, forgery, larceny, knowingly receiving stolen property, possession of a class "B" substance, failure to pay child support, using invalid license plates, several property violations, and operating a motor vehicle to endanger the lives of others.



James Walsh was also arrested in Rhode Island for shoplifting, receiving stolen goods, and other charges. He was on probation when he committed his latest crimes and ordered held without bail.

Yet Essex County Sheriff Frank Cousin assigned Walsh to the pre-release, minimum security facility on Marston Street in Lawrence, where he simply walked away last month. He was scheduled to appear in court on September 21st of this year.

Sheriff Cousins never notified the public of Walsh's escape.

things could happen when someone like this escapes. The charges on his (Walsh's) record are very concerning and there is a real chance for him committing crimes in my district. We deserve to know, I'm very surprised to hear that people are not being notified and I'm even more concerned that people who are not supposed to be over there are in my district. I am putting this on the city council agenda. I think this issue needs to be addressed in public."

## A Free Pass No More

There have been several escapes from "the farm" that we know of, where the public was never informed of the dangers possibly trolling thought their neighborhoods.

Essex County Sheriff may be a nice man, and he may be thought of as the shining star in the Republican Party of Massachusetts because he is a black Republican. He may be loved by Democrats across the state and he may enjoy strong support of the local Tea Parties. He may be known as a man who donates a ton of money to local charities and helps conservative candidates running for office.

It's obvious that Cousins is a darling of the local media and political insiders in The Valley who bend over backwards to make him look good, and sweep under the rug anything that makes him look bad.

But the fact is, because of this fawning en-mass over Sheriff Frank Cousins by both political parties, the media and the Tea Party he thinks he is above criticism

and can do whatever he wants without criticism. He believes he is operating in an environment where there is no accountability when he cuts corners or routinely violates the law or his own Sheriff's Department policies.

No elected official should be operating in an environment without scrutiny, oversight or criticism. No elected official should be able to flaunt the law, lie to the public (through a spokesman or not) and put people's lives at risk to avoid embarrassment or bad press.

It's time for those in the media and both political parties (as well as the Tea Party) to stop giving Essex County Sheriff Frank Cousins a free pass. It's time that a light is brightly shown on the Sheriff's Department and the public must become more aware of how his job affects the daily lives of the people who live in The Valley.

Rest assured, if the Tribune, the Republicans, the Democrats, the Tea Party, the Boston media, etc, refuses to do a little work to inform the public on the job Frank Cousins is actually doing, The Valley Patriot will be happy to do the work for them.



*Tom Duggan is the president of Valley Patriot, Inc., the former Political Director for Mass Citizens Alliance, a 1990 police survivor, a former Lawrence School Committeeman, and hosted the Paying Attention! Radio Program from 2000-2010. You can email your comments to valleypatriot@aol.com.*

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# McCann Files Lawsuit Against Former Mayor

Sullivan says same suit filed twice before, expects dismissal again

## VALLEY PATRIOT STAFF

LAWRENCE - On February 9, 2007 (then) Public Works Director Frank McCann was suspended by (then) Mayor Michael Sullivan for a myriad of reasons. At issue was a \$400,000 cost overrun on the paving project of High Street, where McCann's friend and ally (City Council President Patrick Blanchette) lived at the time with his family.

Also at issue was a \$900,000 bill that showed up in city hall by a fiber optic company that was stringing computer cable in the water treatment plant without a contract. Sullivan also cited McCann's "inappropriate relationship" with a subordinate in his department and, among other reasons Sullivan said at the time that he suspended McCann for hiring people to work in the city's parking garages without the authority to do so and without conducting a CORI check on their backgrounds.

McCann sued the city for millions of dollars claiming a conspiracy had taken place to damage his good name, but on two separate occasions, (once in district court and once in superior court), the lawsuit was dismissed before there was even a hearing on the case. The judge at the time said that the disciplining of a depart-

ment head was well within the discretion of the mayor of the city.

Now McCann has filed the same lawsuit a third time only this time he has filed against former Mayor Mike Sullivan personally (instead of the City of Lawrence) as well as Sullivan's brother former Mayor Kevin Sullivan.

"They tried this twice before," Mike Sullivan told the Valley Patriot of McCann and his lawyer Scott Gleason. "Twice they tried to get a free payday out of the city and twice they were knocked down. Both times the judge basically said there was no case. I had the authority as mayor to suspend him for his conduct and I did. He didn't lose his



job, he stayed through the beginning of the Lantigua administration so he didn't really lose anything but a few weeks pay, though I would argue" Sullivan continued, "that he should have lost a lot more. I'm not sure what they are trying to prove here but I am putting the City of Lawrence on notice that they are footing the bill for this lawsuit. They are suing me

for something I did as mayor and I am indemnified for that. It's a lawsuit that is totally frivolous and when it's over we are going to have to counter sue Mr. McCann for filing a frivolous suit."

The Lawsuit against the Sullivan brothers alleges the same facts as previous

suits, the main thrust of which is the claim that Mayor Sullivan's brother, Kevin initiated a call to McCann through a third party to pressure him into resigning before criminal charges would be filed against him.

At the time, Mayor Sullivan turned over documents and filed a complaint with the Inspector General's office. Nothing ever came of that complaint.

McCann again is claiming that he suffered "severe emotional distress, has suffered a loss of earnings and earning capacity, and has incurred and will incur in the future expenses for medical care and has suffered severe and irreparable harm to his reputation."

In previous cases the judge cited the fact that McCann, as a city worker and a public figure had no right to that claim.

"The real shame here is that the city, once again, has to shell out money for a lawsuit that has no merit," Sullivan said. It seems like Mr. McCann just can't let this go. I suspended him in 2007, here it is 2011 and he is still hanging on to this. I would hope the city would take action against Mr. McCann on this but that's up to the new mayor," Sullivan said.

*McCann's Lawyer did not return our calls.*

## ILLEGALS: FROM PAGE 3

advice from countries which do so quite efficiently, like Mexico.

When the current occupant of the Corner Office finally commented on the killing of Matthew Denice, he said "illegal immigration did not kill that person." Well Deval, that person had a name. That person had a bright life ahead of him. That person had a loving family who will ache every day for him.

Deval Patrick has rolled out the red carpet for illegal aliens to come to Massachusetts. Deval Patrick's support for the illegal alien invasion enables illegal alien invaders to live, work and kill in the United States. Make no mistake the blood of Matthew Denice is dripping off of Deval Patrick's hands. The only question left is whether the Governor will wear gloves or mittens to try and cover it up.



Jeff Katz, a former police officer, is heard daily from 5AM to 10AM on WXKS-AMTALK-1200 in Boston. You can email him at: radiokatz@aol.com

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Now Here's Something We Can Do!

**Peter Larocque**  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

In my August Valley Patriot column I wrote about having an event where we the Citizens of Lawrence who believe in the power of prayer could come together in unity to pray for ourselves and family and our homes and for the City of Lawrence and its officials. With all that is going on in and with our city, I think prayer is just what is needed. Well I took the time to go through the process of acquiring a permit for this very purpose. The following is the official invitation for the Season of Prayer for the City of Lawrence. This is something I believe we can do in a positive and peaceful manner that will have a profound effect on the City and its Citizens.

A Season of Prayer for the City of Lawrence. This is an invitation to all Lawrence Citizens who believe in prayer and the power of prayer to join together on Monday September 26, 2011 from 7:00PM. - 8:00PM, at

the Campagnone Common Park, around the Robert Frost Fountain, for a time of prayer for yourself and your family and your neighbors and the City of Lawrence. This is a non-political event, asking God for his help to unify us as Citizens of the great City of Lawrence praying for our Quality of Life Issues. Prayers will be made for the Safety of our Families and Homes and Property, as well for our Police Officers and Firefighters, for less crime and fewer fires in the city. Prayers will also be made for our Teachers and for those serving in the Military and elected and non-elected City Officials and more.....

You may be asking why we should have a special time of prayer singling out the City of Lawrence. Besides the fact that Lawrence could use it, probably the most important reason out of them all, to have a special time of prayer for Lawrence is found in Philipians 4:6(AMP), "Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and

petition (definite, [exact, precise, clear], request) with thanksgiving continue to make your wants known to God." This is exactly what we are going to do. We are making a clear and precise and exact request of God for ourselves as Lawrence Citizens and for the City. We are asking for God's protection over ourselves and families and our City.

I chose Monday September 26, 2011 because it is well past the 10th Anniversary of September 11, 2001. That event should stand alone! Also the 26th of September is after the city's primary election which takes place on Tuesday the 20th of September. I do not want the Season of Prayer for Lawrence having any appearance of politics being involved.

The Bible also instructs us to pray for all those who are in authority and gives us the reason why in 1Timothy 2: 1-3,

"I exhort therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings,

and for all that are in authority; that (the purpose being) we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;"

Can you imagine living a quiet and peaceable life in Lawrence? God says it's available and that it is GOOD in His sight!

In addition to praying for ourselves, God wants us to pray for those who are in authority, those in a leadership position, making decisions that affect our quality of life. This is an opportunity for us to pray for them instead of finding fault or criticizing them. What a refreshing thought, don't you think?

Together we can be a part of something good, Monday September 26, 2011.

*Peter Larocque is a former member of the Lawrence School Committee. . You can call him at 978-682-0900, email him at [peterlarocque@hotmail.com](mailto:peterlarocque@hotmail.com)*



More Trouble in the Lawrence Voter Lists

**Jamison Tomasek**  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Last month's article detailed irregularities in the list of Lawrence registered voters. On the official voter list hundreds of voters were registered two or three times, with the repeating names typically spelling errors or maiden names. In any circumstance this would be troubling, as one of the primary responsibilities of the City Clerk's Office is to maintain a good list. More problems with the lists and the Clerk's office itself have come to light in the last month.

The Clerk did not increase the confidence level in his office with the fiasco of the unsigned Recall petitions (the Clerk should have signed each one before the names were filled in, and the

whole effort would probably have been ruled invalid by a court because of this). More recently challenges to some city candidates' already certified nominating petitions showed the Clerk's office certified signatures of unregistered voters and even one dead person. They also allowed many other invalid signatures. The Clerk showed an unawareness of the law concerning whether a person could sign multiple petitions. In Massachusetts a City Clerk has a great deal of authority over election operations in a city.

Subsequent to the last article, several poll workers came forward and offered no reassurance about the state of the voter lists. Typically after each election poll workers detail corrections to the lists, but then they notice in the next election that no changes have been made. One worker

provided a list of 500 people highlighting 30 people who had moved and six had died, all of which were on the voter list. Using a little math, there could be hundreds of dead people in Lawrence on the city list and thousands of people not living at their voting address. It is unclear what happens to the returned census questionnaires, which also should be picking up these issues.

One question posed in the last article was whether any duplicate registered voters actually voted twice. Answering this required utilizing a database of voter records that draws on feeds from election records. Voters that had two active voter names on the Lawrence list were compared to the database. Some of the duplication was not seen, because the database software had scrubbed them. After

a detailed analysis it was noted that at least three people show strong indications of voting twice. While this seems like not a big deal, it should be zero. This number could be too low for a number of reasons, as only duplicates that had both listed as active were examined. The record keeping of Lawrence is so suspect that inactive voters might be actually active voters. Without another layer of research (going to the Clerk's office and getting the raw lists for a number of elections), this would be difficult to determine. Note that while it was shown that duplicate voters are not a factor, there still are considerable questions about what could be going on with all the moved or dead voters who could be voting. The database indicates that a lot of

VOTER LIST: PAGE 16

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Jack Cronin



Ken Willette



Steve Zanni

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Michael Condon  
Joyce Campagnone\*  
Dorothy Kalil

### West Dist. Councilor (Elect 2)

James Hajjar\*  
Sean Fountain  
Jeanne Pappalardo\*

### East Dist. Councilor (Elect 2)

Ron Marsan  
Patricia Uliano\*  
Tom Ciulla

### Central Dist. Councilor (Elect 2)

David Lavalee  
Fadi Chahine  
Lisa Yarid Ferry  
Jamie Atkinson

### School Committee (Elect 6)

Robert Vogler\*  
Barbara Grondine\*  
Lynn Hajjar Kumm  
Mary Jean Fawcett  
Jeri-An Batal  
Evan Chaisson\*  
Deborah Quinn  
Mark Graziano

### Tech Sch. Committee (Elect 2)

Dennis DJ Deeb  
Thomas Grondine\*  
Kenneth Henrick  
Housing Auth. (Elect 2)  
Robert Sheehan\*  
Joseph Leone  
Nevins Library Trustees  
(Elect 2)  
Arthur Nicholson\*  
Josephine Napolitano\*

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## Final Thoughts for Voters Before the Methuen Primary Election

**Kenneth Willette**  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

I have been very blessed by the outstanding support I have received from many voters across Methuen. We have already exhausted 2,500 handouts traveling door-to-door. I will continue with a second wave of handouts right up until the election on September 20th. I am proud of my campaign on three fronts: highlighting my fiscally conservative record, restoring integrity in city government and promoting public safety. I want to briefly highlight some points for the voters to consider as they travel to the polls on September 20th:

For the record, I am against an increase in the meals tax. Now is not the time to impose an additional tax on consumers and restaurants and eateries.

For the record, in the event that the Methuen City Council votes an increase in the Mayor's salary for 2012, I will refuse any increase if elected to serve as the next Mayor of Methuen during every year of my public service.

For the record, I will not accept any donations from individuals found guilty of ethical violations. I will not accept any union endorsements, donations from lobbyists and special interests. I will hire the most qualified individuals, who are hopefully Methuen residents with veteran's status, as police officers and firefighters.

There should be a firewall between the Mayor's office and union endorsements. Many recent lawsuits and settlements in Methuen have a direct linkage and a common theme: pressure for endorsements, outright favoritism, donations and meddling politics. This mindset has to end now!

For the record, Governor Patrick must declare a state of emergency in Lawrence and have the Commonwealth take over the administrative functions of Lawrence immediately.

After the widespread and heinous criminal actions and near riot that occurred a couple of weeks ago, I called upon the Governor to issue an immediate state of emergency in the City of Lawrence and use

all of his authority, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Legislature, to commence the process of having the state government take over the daily administrative municipal functions of that community before the lives of public safety personnel are once again endangered by an unruly and dangerous mob, and potentially a deadly outcome occurs.

A clear and present danger currently exists in the City of Lawrence that absolutely necessitates an immediate and long-term takeover of the administrative operations by the state government.

The City of Lawrence must be placed into direct receivership before more blood is spilled, before a full-blown and uncontrollable riot occurs and so that state police personnel can add overwhelming force to quell any future mass mob activities. The ABCC must launch immediate investigations of each night club that may have been directly involved in fueling alcohol to this lawless mob. Swift closures, revocations of licenses and stiff fines must be issued.

Neighboring communities, including

Methuen, are directly contributing their law enforcement personnel to disperse the hostile crowds, make arrests and render mutual aid; therefore, the neighboring communities have a direct stake in ensuring that their law enforcement and fire-fighting personnel are protected at all costs.

The void of leadership in the corner office at Lawrence City Hall must be replaced by the full authority and resources of the state government, including state police, and all state resources must be brought to bear. The lax mentality of the local licensing board must be replaced by the full investigative authority of the ABCC.

The continued absence of local oversight and moral leadership will undoubtedly cause a greater escalation of violence, mayhem and alcohol-fueled rage. This is an unmistakable warning shot that the state government must intervene now to protect civilians, properly equip and bolster law enforcement personnel and oversee all administrative functions for the foreseeable future.... Please remember to vote!!!!

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-Mike Gagliardi,

Local 175 Laborers' Union of North America

## RONNIE'S RANTS

## Random Thoughts

**Ronnie Ford**  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

The financial situation is no better this month than last. The big boys and girls refuse to let the people get ahead. I guess we will have to wait until the elections. It is too bad. Anybody have any ideas as to who our next Mayor of Methuen will be? If so, just e-mail and I will print it. The monies being spent just locally is enough to make your stomach upset. I estimate in the Mayors race alone over \$50,000.00. And that is so far! How many needy people could use that money? Which leads me to the trillions that are stored tax free off in some Islands and Countries. I wonder if the Almighty is going to take that stealing and hiding into account when everyone's time comes. I guess we will eventually find out.

The Feast of the Three Saints was as beautiful as it is every year. We are lucky to have so many ethnic parties and celebrations in our area. We certainly have a great diversified group of people. And as far as we know, no trouble!

Another family spat involving three dead people. This time in the Beacon Street section of town. Between the domestic violence and the random shootings, and the melees, and the carving up of a girl's face, when the local bars and joints close in Lawrence, it is a regular war zone. I would not want to be a Policeman, Fireman, or an EMT in Lawrence. They need adequate police and fire personal. Find the money to do so before the National Guard is called upon.

New Hampshire has long been noted for its excellent highways. Not so with their cities and towns lately. Some of us, to avoid the heavy traffic on route 28, travel up Lawrence Road in Salem. It is a disaster. A friend of mine has ruined two tires and rims from the potholes and ruts along this stretch. Being a Salem resident, he petitioned the Town Manager for reimbursement and was turned down. Now he is out \$600.00. That is how they do it in NH. Salem has had almost every corner of the town dug up with roads being paved and that is a good thing. But could you space it out so that it doesn't take us thirty minutes to go for a five minute drive, at almost every intersection? Lawrence Road is one of the major roadways could the powers to be find funds to repair it? You seem to have money for less important things. And Peter's Farm should be reimbursed for the monies lost during their only time of business. Also Harry the Barber lost revenue. It was like trying to cross a boarder to another country to get there. Please put some thought in planning the next time.

May the good Lord take a liking to you, do something nice for someone today. And, we wish you enough.



*Ronnie Ford is a Methuen resident, former host of the "Hot Line" program, a former Methuen police officer, former member of the Methuen school*

*committee and city council. you can email Ronnie at Radiotalk@comcast.net*

## The Merrimack Valley Irish Connection

## Riverstown Forge Pt. II

**Jack Doyle, County Sligo**

VALLEY PATRIOT IRISH COLUMNIST

\*Tom who wore a leather apron, would blow the smoke out of his way at intervals as the smoke from the hoof reached his face. The smoke left a very distinctive smell in the forge and the surrounding area, which I as a boy thought was the most natural smell in the world. When the impression was burned on the roof the shoe was taken to the water trough and cooled. The shoe was then nailed in place and the protruding nails end were removed from the hoof. The hoof was then placed on a tripod and filed with the rasp until it was even with the new shoe.

Some farmers only requested the hoof pairing for the donkeys, others got existing shoes refitted but most requested a complete refit. In the days when milk was brought to creamery by horse and cart and donkey and cart it was an offence not to have your animal properly shod. The Gardai (police) ensured that this was adhered to.

Tom Crann made most of his donkey shoes himself. Most horseshoes were ready made horseshoes and wooden boxes of horse nails were sold in the hardware stores run by Paddy Dwyer and Tom Flanagan in the village at that time. Tom also made and repaired tongs and iron gates.

He repaired ploughs and fitted socks etc before the ploughing season began. This was a busy time for him and the plough had to be ready on time for ploughing. In the summer time the iron tires on carts became loose and had to be readjusted. Tom would cut out a piece of the tire and then heat and rejoin it. The wheels and tires were then rolled down the village, to a place by the river at McCann's Bridge, besides the Methodist Church, where the fitting of the tires was done. Many of the wheels would have decayed old felloes replaced before this operation took place. There was a special cement circle with a hole in the center, which was rounded down to fit on it.

This is where the shoeing of the wheel took place. Nearby there was a circular turf fire with the adjusted iron tier in the center of it. When the tire was red hot, Tom and "The Mayor" Jinks would lift the tire out of the fire with special with special tongs. They

carried it over and placed it round the wheel to he shod on the cement circle. As the tire had expanded when it got red hot in the fire it could fit over the felloes on the wheel. Tom and his assistant would bring buckets of water from the river and pour the water over the tires. You could hear the wheel cracking as the iron cooled and burned its way into the felloes. It continued to crack for a while afterwards. For the job several wheels would have been accumulated and all done together. At our vintage day years later this was all re-enacted again in the park by, Denis Peel, the late Joe McGann and others.

Young boys in the village and surrounding areas had endless fun at the forge. Farmers would lend a donkey for a spin out the Park Road while they were waiting. I can recall Noel Byrne from Ardagh taking Russell Hunter's horse for a gallop out the Park Road with all the youth of the village running after him. He was so small and the horse so big it made one wonder how he could stay up there with such small legs.

I often watched Tom Crann creating new things out of scraps of iron. On a quiet day he would heat and weld pieces of scrap together and beat all into one piece.

I remember Tom coming into Riverstown in a black Morris Minor, whose registration letters were RZA/. When Tom retired the late Thomas Kiernan ran the forge for a few years. He also ran a forge in Ballinafad. \*Hugh Kelly, The Riverstown Story, pgs 190/191, 2004.

It was such a delight for me to "run into" such documentation about a relative that I or anyone of my family had never met. I thank Hugh Kelly for the story and the creators of The Book about Riverstown, County Sligo.

It wasn't long after reading "Riverstown" that I had a personal encounter in relation to Tom Crann and the happenings of his home and money that was found after his death, but that's another story.



*Jack Doyle is an author and has published two books: Echoes of My Past, and Medjugorje, Heaven on Earth. To sponsor Jack's Irish Craic in The Valley Patriot contact: Jack5772@comcast.net*

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# Youth Engagement in Local Government

## Something's Got to Give

**Diana DiZoglio**  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

METHUEN - Has anyone spoken to our local high school students lately about the upcoming local elections? I have, and am writing to express my deepest concern about the apparent lack of knowledge and understanding about local government amongst the future leaders of our communities.

In a recent event that I had the privilege of organizing, I quizzed about 40 local high school honor students with—what I assumed to be—basic questions about state and local government. The first question earned about a 50% hand raise. I asked, “Can anyone name 3 branches of state government?” Collectively they responded correctly. When I asked them, however, to name their state legislators and to describe their functions at the state house—no one could fully answer correctly. While these juniors and seniors knew the basic outline

of state government, they seemed to have had no real comprehension of its purpose and function.

At the local level, I have personally spoken with dozens of local high school honors students who cannot accurately describe the roles of school committee members, city councilors and mayors. Some were able to regurgitate generalized statements such as, “The mayor is in charge of the city”, and, “The school committee makes all the decisions for the schools.” Unfortunately, however, even those students had no future plans to vote for local candidates and had no idea who was currently running.

When our students feel empowered to vote for the president, but fail to hit

the ballot box for state and local elections, there is serious cause for concern.

When the U.S. adopted the idea of mass education, the reasoning was that everyone entitled to an education should be obligated to acquire one. Mass education was basically founded on the belief that democracy and education don't function without each other.

Thomas Jefferson was big on the idea of democracy and education being interlinked. Regarding mass education, he stated that the goal was to “create a system of schooling for social control.” The education system was supposed to be that which empowered citizens to comprehend the key issues of their communities so as to be able to better contribute to their safekeeping and development.

According to Methuen School Committee member Evan Chaisson, “Our early leaders were brought up with civics as the backbone of their education. We should continue this tradition no matter what the cost. Every child regardless of race, color and gender should have a deep sense of community activism and public service.



This starts at the local level. Municipalities and, more importantly, states should pick up this cost. This issue needs to be addressed and changes need to be thoughtfully considered. No cost is too high when it comes to educating our youth on civic duty.”

“Without a doubt, schools need to play a key role in educating our children on these matters”, said Methuen City Council candidate Sean Fountain. “Furthermore, I believe that a youth center could accommodate programs that contribute to a further comprehension of local and state government. A youth center could provide hands-on opportunities for public service and would physically give our kids a seat at the table. It all comes down to funding and people's willingness to fight for it. I believe in offering youth every available resource to educate them on how to give back to their communities.”

The problem is not with the obviously smart and talented students who have earned high MCAS scores, landed college scholarships and received academic awards. Also, since they could answer questions based on what they had learned in class, I doubt it has to do with the teachers. When mandated curriculum leaves little time and space for teachers to emphasize the importance of local and state government, something's got to give.

## Caylee's Law: Report Missing Children

**Senator Steve Baddour**  
MASSACHUSETTS STATE SENATOR

For nearly a year, it was difficult to escape the media coverage surrounding the disappearance and death of two year old Caylee Anthony. Tens of thousands followed the ensuing trial which, as we all know, resulted in a not-guilty verdict for her mother, Casey Anthony. Regardless whether you believe she was guilty or not, the case highlighted a glaring loophole in our state laws.

It turns out that Massachusetts, like nearly every other state, does not have a requirement that parents or guardians report a missing child to the police or other authorities. This is unacceptable and needs to be changed.

Although Massachusetts regularly ranks as a state with the most progressive child safety laws, there is always room for improvement. During my tenure as a State Senator, I have devoted considerable attention to advancing the health and safety of our children. In the past few years, I have been the author or main co-sponsor of nearly every piece of legislation aimed at improving child welfare, including: the new booster seat requirement; the Junior Operator law governing drivers licenses of operators under age 18; a law prohibiting junior operators from using cell phones while driving; and a student athlete safety bill that requires students, parents and coaches to be trained in identifying the

signs of concussion and requires medical clearance for those athletes suspected of having a concussion. I am also proud of my work on Jessica's Law, Melanie's Law and Megan's law to help protect children from sexual predators and drunk drivers and most recently, my involvement in legislation to stop the hideous crime of human trafficking. However, it's clear we still need to do more.

I strongly support creating new penalties for failing to report a missing child to police in a timely manner and increasing penalties for intentionally misleading or lying to law enforcement during a search for a missing child. I intend to work closely with my colleagues in the Senate and House of Representatives, as well as law enforcement agencies across the Commonwealth, to ensure that policies concerning reporting missing children are up-to-date and as strong as possible.

It is our responsibility to ensure that every missing child is returned to safety as quickly as possible, and that law enforcement has the proper tools available to punish those who are responsible for impeding the investigation of a missing child, whether it be by failing to report a missing child or misleading police during their investigation. I will work hard to ensure that these laws are updated and include harsh penalties for those who refuse to assist in locating a missing child. Our children deserve no less.

## Apple CEO, Jobs Resigns. Will Things Change Apple?

**Nate Richards**

VALLEY PATRIOT HIGH SCHOOL COLUMNIST

Apple's executive, Steve Jobs who almost single handedly changed the way people consumed music, internet, and T.V, announced his resignation.

Jobs, who has been suffering from Pancreatic Cancer for a little over three years now, sent a letter to the company's board late Wednesday night announcing his resignation. “I have always said if there ever came a day when I could no longer meet my duties and expectations as Apple's CEO, I would be the first to let you know. Unfortunately, that day has come. I hereby resign as CEO of Apple. I would like to serve, if the Board sees fit, as Chairman of the Board, director and Apple employee. As far as my succes-



sor goes, I strongly recommend that we execute our succession plan and name Tim Cook as CEO of Apple.”

Who in the world is Tim Cook? According to Apple's website, Tim Cook has been Steve Job's second hand man for the past five years and was responsible for the business side of the company. What this means is that Cook's responsibilities have been the financial side of the Apple Company. What I personally think of this whole ordeal is that Apple has been through its ups and downs through the years, and the man who has

always been there to pick Apple up from the ground was Tim Cook. I don't think this will affect Apple at all. What do you think? Please share your opinions with me by emailing me at ztns13@aol.com.

## NORTH ANDOVER SENIORS: FROM PAGE 6

**MYSTERY LUNCH RIDE:** Depart at 9 am, Thursday, September 8, sign up August 25.

**BRUCE TARR ICE CREAM SOCIAL AFTER NEWS AND VIEWS:** September 14 at 12:30 pm.

**TRAINED SHINE VOLUNTEERS** offer free, confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to North Andover residents on Medicare. Call the North Andover Senior Center and ask for a SHINE appointment, (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders). Call for information on the Summer Schedule.

**THE FIX – IT SHOP:** (New Hours) The first and third Monday of the month from 12-3. We repair almost as good as new. Lamps, with cords and sockets, replace watch batteries, small tables and chairs. Anything not listed; we will give it a shot! Your cost is \$2 - \$4 depending on

work needed, plus parts. Proceeds benefit the Senior Center. If there is a Monday Holiday please call the Center for the date change.

**BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS:** Thursday mornings by individual 45 minute appointments. \$7 and sign up is required. You will learn how to set up email and search the internet and more.

**4-WEEK INTERMEDIATE COMPUTER COURSE:** Starting Thursday, September 15 from 1 – 2:30 pm. This is a four session workshop to learn basic skills and look at sites that are fun and helpful for day to day use. \$25 per person due at sign up.

**WORD PROCESSING COURSE:** Level 2 - Starting September 13, Tuesdays, 9 – 10:30 am. \$25 per person due at sign up.

**ZUMBA, ZUMBA , ZUMBA WITH**

**TALLIE:** Monday and Wednesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 and Thursdays, 4:30 – 5:30. Punch cards are \$40 for 10 classes.

**YOGA:** Yoga Class Monday mornings at 9 with Cheryl Cronin. Please call to register, drops- ins welcomed.

**\*New schedule for TAI CHI:** Tuesday mornings, Intermediate class 9 -10. Beginner Class 10:10– 11:10. Please call to register or sign up on Tuesday morning.

**Wii Sport Bowling:** Stop by the Senior Center on any Thursday morning between 9 and 10 to try your luck at Bowling with the Wii System. It's fun, good exercise.

**WALKING GROUP:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 9. Meet at the Youth Center and walk for an hour at your own pace. As the weather warms up we will be walking the Old Town Common.

**MAHJONG:** Come in and play Mah-

jong, Mondays 12:30 – 2:30 and will run every Monday as long as there is interest.

**POOL TABLE AT THE SENIOR CENTER:** The North Andover Youth Center has donated a pool table to the North Andover Senior Center. The pool table is set up in the Nutrition Side and will be available when there are no activities that will interfere. Mostly morning times will be available.

**Scrabble:** Mondays, 12:30 – 2:30, come on in and play.

**SUPPORT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS**

**STRESS RELIEF:** Wednesdays from 2-4 pm, 20 minute sessions with Miriam Smith, Pranica Healer. \$5 donation to the Senior Center.

# Tsongas Pens Letter to President Obama

Dear President Obama,

As you know, nationwide unemployment remains unacceptably high. The job numbers released earlier this month show that the private sector added only 154,000 jobs. While this number was higher than expected and marked the 15th straight month of private sector growth, it also demonstrated that our economy is simply not creating enough jobs to meet the needs of jobseekers. This is particularly true in some of the hardest hit areas in our country, such as my hometown of Lowell, Massachusetts, where unemployment is at 10.3% and neighboring Lawrence, where it is 16.8%.

Despite the bleak jobs picture nationwide, the House of Representatives has not considered a single bill to spur job creation during 2011. In fact, no bills passed would lead to dramatic lay-offs. Much of the focus on Capitol Hill this year has instead been placed on deficit control and avoiding a possible default on paying our nation's bills. This debate has been necessary since we must find ways to reduce the deficit and find savings for the prosperity of our nation. I voted for the recently enacted deal to address the debt ceiling to ensure that we will not default on our obligation and to make significant down payment on the debt. But with this deal in place, I welcome your decision to turn the national conversation toward initiatives that grow our economy and create jobs.

The cities of Lowell and Lawrence and many other communities throughout my district are struggling. I regularly hear from constituents who have lost jobs, some who have been looking for more than three years. In one example of many, I heard from a software engineer who, after months and months of looking and numerous interviews, finally found a new job only to be let go again when a new round of layoffs hit. His all too common story illustrates the need to break the cycle of long-term unemployment.

While the Recovery Act we enacted together two years ago stopped our economic freefall and did much to save jobs and prevent a deeper recession, it did not do enough to create new jobs in historically hard-hit communities like Lowell and Lawrence, two mid-sized post-industrial cities I represent. Almost two years ago,

I wrote to you calling for a short-term direct hires program modeled after the work programs so successfully utilized by President Roosevelt during the Great Depression. Since then, the length and depth of the recession have only reinforced the need for such a program, which need not compete with private sector jobs but could help advance desperately-needed projects focused on public improvements and preservation efforts in our communities.

Furthermore, recalcitrance in Congress has proven that your leadership on job creation is needed now more than ever. As you evaluate legislative ideas to promote job creation, I ask that you consider the far-reaching impact of direct public service employment, particularly for jobs in infrastructure and in restoration and preservation of local and regional civic landmarks.

As you know, our nation's roads, bridges, waterways, and other transportation arteries are critical to our economic strength, yet many are in very serious need of attention and repair. Employing our citizens in the work of maintaining, improving and building critical infrastructure projects would both address our immediate economic needs and ensure our future competitiveness. Likewise, just as New Deal programs wisely promoted the arts, public service jobs today could focus on revitalizing and restoring publicly owned buildings that are historically, culturally or architecturally significant such as libraries, municipal buildings, city halls, auditoriums and theaters. Instead of allowing our civic treasures to further decline during this downturn, we can capitalize on this moment to create jobs, give our citizens an opportunity to contribute to their communities, and revitalize our cities while saving our civic, cultural and architectural heritage.

You face many tough choices as you weigh job creation strategies. Given the urgency of the crisis and the opportunity to make a lasting impact on our communities, I urge you to consider the benefits of direct employment.

Sincerely,

Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress

*Transcribed by Dawn Brantmuller*

## School Year in Dracut Begins with Changes

Cathy Richardson

DRACUT SELECTMAN

The back to school shopping, reviewing of school supplies lists and bus schedules, and creating new lunch ideas has begun. Sports programs are already underway. In Dracut there are changes

worth noting that should benefit the children in the public schools. The first change is the fact that all kindergarten is now full day. This does away with the lottery system and will provide relief to working parents who struggle with day care issues. The kindergarteners were moved from Parker Avenue to Brookside Elementary.

This necessitated a new classroom at Brookside with one new teacher and one new paraprofessional. I spoke with Superintendent Dr. Stacy Scott today about his vision for the new school year, and we also talked about the cost of the new full day kindergarten. He said the district will receive \$400,000 of new revenue due to the increased number of kindergarten students, so there will ultimately be no "cost" associated specifically with the full day classes.

Dr. Scott stated his goals include increased student performance first and foremost and secondly to provide quality service to students and parents. "We want to give students and their parents the sense that they are the focus of the district. We are very excited about the upcoming year. We are well positioned to have a great year and are ready to go."

There are also some personnel changes. Dawn Smith joins us as the new principal of the Brookside Elementary School. She was the principal of the Middle School in Manchester, NH for 5 years and the special education/504 Coordinator for the district for several years. Richard Manley comes on board as the new principal for the Dracut High School.

He is excited about the new projects which will be underway soon at DHS. He managed construction projects at Windham High School in Windham, NH where he was principal. He was also a principal at North Middlesex Regional High School prior that. He is currently

pursuing his doctorate degree. Dr. Robert Fitzgerald begins as the new principal of the Dracut Junior High School. He obtained his Doctorate of Education at Boston College and was assistant headmaster of Curriculum and Instruction at Odyssey High School in South Boston and prior to that vice principal of



Salemwood School in Malden, Ma. Tamara Hutchins-Powell will act as "teaching Principal" at the Parker Elementary School where there remains 118 children. Tamara has experience as a third grade teacher at the Parker Avenue, and will be teaching with an intern, Anita Katseronis, as well as managing her new administrative duties.

As part of the Class of '78 in Dracut I was fortunate enough to have had great teachers and the advantage of attentive administrators in Mr. Bruce Hutchins and Mr. Dan Smith. Students felt supported and welcomed by the faculty and staff. The feeling then of community at the school is still present today, exhibited during the recent debate about the town affording a renovation project for the high school. I still am a firm believer that children will get a great deal out of a school system when they apply themselves and work hard, no matter the district they are in, and that the best schools with all the luxuries do not make great students on their own. The children of Dracut have a vast array of resources to take advantage of and I hope they earnestly do.

Dr. Scott has put together a good team to tackle the challenges ahead. My hope for the children of Dracut is that when they graduate, they can name two or three teachers that stand out because they listened when that student was having a hard time, believed in them, and they felt supported in their efforts. Dracut has a lot to offer. Welcome to the new staff at our schools. Have a great year!

Cathy Richardson is a Selectman in Dracut, and is a member of the Education Subcommittee.

## LAWRENCE VOTING LIST: FROM PAGE 9

voters are "newly registered" but the city list shows these are only updated records. This code in the database seems to work everywhere else, so it is unclear what Lawrence is putting into the record that causes this discrepancy. In general, the records clearly show that much is amiss in the City Clerk's Office.

While neighboring Town Clerks do not deal with the size and complexity of Lawrence (Example: Andover 22,000 voters, Lawrence 37,000), the Town Clerks report scrubbing their list every year, and estimate that there is probably only 25-50 problem names. Database research could not find ANY errors in Andover. So in a city where there is suspicion of voter fraud and general distrust of city government, we have a City Clerk's office that: fails to view an accurate list as one of their responsibilities, fails to act on corrections, produces a document for poll watchers that makes detection of fraud more difficult, raises more ques-

tions about what other problems exist in the list, and produces results that might result in different decisions for things like redistricting. There are always calls for "the people of Lawrence to work together to solve its problems." One group that should be in the front of the efforts to improve confidence in the system is the City Clerk's office, but apparently that is not in some people's interests. While a full-scale inquiry by the Secretary of State's office (unlikely) might come up with a list of recommendations and then follow up might produce results (in about three years, maybe). Why not restore confidence in city elections in a way that people would be easy to implement? Support Voter ID.



*Jamison Tomasek is one of the founders of the Merrimack Valley Tea Party and is a former candidate for State Senate. You can email him at tomasek2010@gmail.com*

## National Day of Remembrance Ceremony to be held in Lowell

City of Lowell, Merrimack Valley Chapter of Parents of Murdered Children to Publicly Recognize Impact of Homicides on Greater Lowell Community

On September 25, 2011 our nation will pause to remember those senselessly lost to homicide. POMC chapters nationwide will be hosting local events in remembrance of their loved ones who have died by violence.

The City of Lowell and the Merrimack Valley Chapter of Parents of Murdered Children will co-host Lowell's third annual Day of Remembrance ceremony on Monday, September 26th. The observance, which publicly recognizes the impact of homicide on surviving family members and friends, will begin at 6:30PM at City Hall.

"The Merrimack Valley Chapter of POMC believes that for survivors of homicide victims, having their loved ones remembered is vital and that's why we're hosting this ceremony," said Arnie Muscovitz, Chapter Leader of the Merrimack Valley Chapter of POMC.

The event will include a reading of the names of homicide victims in Middlesex County since January 2009, in addition to the names of chapter members' loved ones.

There is a homicide every 32 minutes in our country- this ceremony hopes to raise community awareness around this issue. It doesn't just affect the victim; it affects family, friends and the community. We hope that by raising awareness of the impact that homicides have, we can help stop these horrible crimes.

Guest speakers will include Mayor James Milinazzo, State Representative Kevin Murphy, Middlesex County Sheriff Peter Koutoujian and Survivor, Peggy Hassett. Additionally, survivors will have an opportunity to share stories and memories of their loved ones in an "open-mike" setting. The ceremony will be concluded the song "We are the Survivors", as well as a release of balloons.

# Green or Shovel Ready - Government Fails to Create Jobs

**Jon Golnik**  
VALLEY PATRIOT GUEST COLUMNIST

In mid August, Representative Tsongas was in Lawrence to present a \$300,000 grant to the Workforce Investment Board, federal monies from the EPA, for ‘green’ jobs training. A few days later Evergreen Solar, Inc. declared bankruptcy with nearly half a billion dollars in debt. This is the same Evergreen Solar that received state ‘green’ stimulus funds only to move its facilities from Devens to China back in March causing the loss of 800 “green” jobs. And just last week, Solyndra, a California company, that President Obama touted as a success story from the government’s \$787 billion economic stimulus package filed for bankruptcy after receiving \$475 million from the Federal government.

I was struck by the contrast. On one hand, we see Federal monies being spent to train people for ‘green’ jobs to work in the ‘green’ economy, and on the other, we see a state and federally subsidized ‘green’ companies file for bankruptcy resulting in the loss of ‘green’ jobs. Continuing education and training are important; however I asked myself, in light of the Evergreen and Solyndra chapter 11s, what good is ‘green’ job training, if there are no ‘green’ jobs for people to be ultimately placed?

Much has been made about the ‘green’ economy and the ‘green’ jobs it would create. In fact, President Obama set a goal to create 5 million ‘green’ jobs in 10 years. Don’t get me wrong, I believe in any new technologies, be they ‘green’ or otherwise’. I believe that ‘green’ technology has something for everyone; investment opportunities, preserving our environment, job creation and in my opinion, most important, helping to wean our country off of foreign sources of energy (which is a national security issue). However, forcing people to use technology before it is market ready and efficient and giving subsidies to national champions (companies state and federal bureaucrats believe will succeed) is not the proper route to take. Stand back, let the market decide. As a country we have always been on the cutting edge of technology, and ‘green’ technology should be no different. I would gladly trade in my gas powered Ford Explorer for one that runs on electricity if the electric version had the same capabilities as my fossil

fuel version. On August 18, the New York Times weighed in on the ‘green’ jobs debate. Here is what they said, “...the ‘green’ economy is not proving to be the job-creation engine that many politicians envisioned....Federal and state efforts to stimulate creation of ‘green’ jobs have largely failed, ...” And a non partisan Brookings Institute study found that rather than adding jobs, the ‘green’ sector lost positions. As for ‘green’ subsidies, California paints a bleak picture. The \$59 million that was used for ‘green’ job training has only led to 719 job placements or \$89,000 subsidy per job. And because the largest component of the ‘green’ economy is “green” construction, the sector has been weighed upon even more than most.

California serves as a good example of what happens when the government is charged with creating jobs, be it ‘green’ or otherwise. While the California example of \$89,000 subsidy per job seems expensive, it is nothing when compared to the Federal Government’s other larger experiment at job creation, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 a.k.a The Stimulus cost. The price tag of this stimulus package was \$787 billion. The Whitehouse contends that the package either ‘saved’(whatever that means) or created 3.5 million jobs. The math is straight forward and the cost per job created and/or ‘saved’ is \$225,000. Again, I have yet to have a ‘saved job’ defined to me but it is no wonder it is included in the calculation otherwise the price tag per job would be that much higher.

Just as the government has failed to produce ‘green’ jobs so too has it failed to create ‘shovel ready’ jobs. At best, the government’s attempt at job creation has been inefficient (from a cost perspective) and unsuccessful. Despite the government’s best efforts and high price tag, last quarter’s economic growth was 0.3% and unemployment stands at 9.1%.

Yet despite these stark numbers, Representative Tsongas believes we need yet another government jobs program; a ‘21st Century New Deal’. Where was she more than 12 months ago? When all that time and money was wasted on a healthcare reform bill that increases the cost of doing business for companies (as best illustrated by the more than 2000 companies that have ‘opted out’ of implementation) and a plan

whose constitutionality is under judicial review. No, Representative Tsongas supported that legislation and has voted for every piece of job killing legislation to come out of Washington DC in the past three years; starting with the stimulus package soon to be followed by the healthcare bill. Now, she believes we need jobs legislation and what does she propose? Another big government direct hire public works initiative. What these workers be paid? How will the public unions feel about these new government employees? Representative Tsongas ‘doesn’t know’. But the biggest question remains unanswered - Where will the money come from? From us, by either ‘raising revenue’--the latest Washington code word for increasing our taxes--or printing money and putting us further in debt. Does she still believe despite the failed \$797 billion government stimulus plan that the government does a better at creating jobs than the private sector? Obviously she does.

Historically, the most sustainable jobs are created in the private sector. With the economy stagnating, ‘green’ companies are struggling with credit and balance sheet problems just like their gray peers. But their biggest challenge is uncertainly. The private sector is not creating jobs because of the uncertain environment created by the politicians and bureaucrats in Washington, DC. We need certainty. We need an environment where business can feel comfortable about making long term hiring decisions.

It may have been summer recess but shouldn’t Congress have been called back into session to begin the process of fixing what they have broken? They could have started by extending the Bush tax cuts through 2012 for everyone. Next, the payroll tax holiday for employees should be extended through 2012 and include the employers as well. Then they should allow companies to write off 100% of their capital expenditures annual through 2012 instead of depreciating them over 5 years. They should lower the punitive corporate tax rate which at 35% is now the highest in the world! (Imagine the world’s leading industrial and economic power having a higher corporate tax rate than France. You don’t need to imagine it because it is reality!) Finally, close the tax loopholes that allow large corporations to escape without

paying a portion of their taxes. This sounds like a lot of work, but we send our elected officials to DC to lead not to follow. Critics will argue that the Bush tax cuts should not be extended or at the very least not for the very rich. Unfortunately, the ‘rich’ get a very small amount of their annual incomes from salaries, in fact, most it comes from investment income. The expected tax revenue windfall would not materialize. Critics will also argue that our taxes are already historically too low and need to be raised. I agree. They are too low for our bloated federal government. However, instead of raising taxes to pay for an oversized ever expanding activist government I say keep taxes low and cut the size of government. Lastly, the naysayers will further argue that such tax cuts will cause the deficit to increase. Maybe, for the very short term, but it will be balanced by increased tax revenue from a growing economy and the newly hired.

These job creation prescriptions are not ideas you will hear from Representative Tsongas. She still believes in the power of a large and growing activist government, not the power of the individual. Her faith is in a government that she believes knows better than we do what is best for us. She believes her constituents are the Federal government’s ATMs who can be accessed to pay whenever another expanding government program is proposed.

Our Representatives were not elected to raise taxes and take more money out of the pockets of hardworking families and business people. We cannot let Washington, DC or Representative Tsongas fool us again. We have tried it her way and all it has gotten us is 0.3% economic growth, 9.1% unemployment (over 8.8% for more that 28 months) and deficit and debt levels that will burden our children and grandchildren.

Whether they are jobs that are ‘shovel ready’ or ‘green’, the government effort to create sustainable employment has been pathetic and expensive. It is time for a comprehensive jobs program but not one that is driven by the government; one that is empowers the private sector. Let’s end the uncertainty so our economy can once again begin to grow. This way, as a country, we can begin managing a growing pie rather than fighting for the scraps of a shrinking one.

Email Jon at: jonathan@redrivertradingco.com

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All proceeds benefit the 9/11 Memorial Fund



Saturday, September 10, 2011



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1 Market Street - Lawrence, Massachusetts

STARTING TIMES:

5K Road Race  
11:00 AM

5K Health Walk  
10:45 AM

1K Youth Run  
10:30 AM

Water at start, finish and on the course - Maps of course available

Number pick-up and registration the morning of the race 9:30 am - 10:30 am

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DJ - RAFFLES - FOOD

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Race website and registration online at [www.coolrunning.com](http://www.coolrunning.com)

REGISTRATION FORM

Please check appropriate category: 5K Race (\$20) 5K Walk (\$20) 1K Youth Run (\$5)

Make check payable to 9/11 Memorial Road Race - P.O. Box 563 - Lawrence, MA 01842

Name

Address

City State Zip Age Male Female

Please check if your are: Police Officer Firefighter Veteran

T-Shirts to the first 500 entrants

Please circle T-Shirt size Small Medium Large X-Large

In consideration of acceptance of this form, I hereby for myself, my heirs and assigns, waive and release any and all claims for damages I have or may arise against the City of Lawrence, the Relief's In, and its co-sponsors. All applications must be signed. If participant is under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must sign.

Signature

Date



## GEORGETOWN TODAY!

# Top 40 - Taxpayer Supported Earners

Lawrence "Lonnie" Brennan  
VALLEY PATRIOT GEORGETOWN COLUMNIST

As we head into an important fiscal year, with the first of what has been promised to be several tax-overrides recently approved, we note that we're a bit behind in posting taxpayer expenditures. Specifically, the top 40 taxpayer supported earners of 2010. (The Valley Patriot had previously posted the top 40 school Dept. wage earners this past spring.)

Please note, the amounts listed below come straight from the Georgetown finance Dept.'s offices at town hall. These numbers include wages and basic benefits earned by each employee. (Yes, I got screamed at this spring when I posted only the school Dept. earnings, by one teacher who complained that "I just filed my taxes, that's not what I earned". I calmly explained to her that she has specific benefits paid by the taxpayer which are taken pre-tax into a special fund for her future use. She is not presently taxed on these funds. I directed her to consult our town treasurer and accountant. "Oh, that money" she said. But it's clear, she still didn't 'get it'.)

As in the past few years, Georgetown's ever-smiling and very friendly School Superintendent Carol Jacobs once again eclipsed all others, with \$174,326.80 in reported earnings. Ms. Jacobs recently received an additional \$1,000 per month bonus to be deposited into a special annuity for her, courtesy of her new contract with the town. She rates one of the highest paid superintendent's in our fine state, with one of the smallest school districts comprised of just three schools and less than 1,700 total students. (For point of disclosure, I really like Mrs. Jacobs. Not her salary, nor her desire to increase taxes and salaries and apparently demolish the Penn Brook School and pass multiple overrides to build an entirely new school, but I like her as a person and admire her enthusiasm.)

Keep in mind, in addition to the 'modest' salaries listed below (which, thanks to overrides, will continue to rise), each earner can expect to receive 40 to 60% of their salaries upon retirement (you'll notice we tend to be a revolving door for elementary school principles for this reason: they reach retirement, they go sailing, and keep collecting...)

- 1) Carol Jacobs \$174,326.80, School Admin.
- 2) Wayne Snow \$123,005.98, Light Dept.;
- 3) Peter Lucia \$113,732.85 School Administration;
- 4) James Mulligan \$106,376.15 Police Dept.;
- 5) Kristan Rodriguez \$106,129.08 School Dept. Curriculum Director;
- 6) Dana Nunan \$97,442.82 Light Dept.;
- 7) Donna Tanner \$97,081.58 School Administration;
- 8) Donald Cudmore \$97,013.47 Police Dept.;
- 9) Terry Wiggin \$96,899.08 School Administration;
- 10) Guy Prescott \$96,611.62 Middle/High School Teacher;
- 11) David Thomson \$96,056.12 Police Dept.;
- 12) Scott Hatch \$95,606.20 Police Dept.;
- 13) Kevin Defeo \$94,102.82 Police Dept.;
- 14) Michael Farrell \$90,953.32 Town Administrator;
- 15) Kyle Morse \$87,722.04 Light Dept.;
- 16) Stephen Umbro \$86,402.06 Middle/high School Teacher;
- 17) Peter Durkee \$86,333.18 Highway Dept.;
- 18) David Armstrong \$85,563.06 Police Dept.;
- 19) Julie Lamoly \$80,980.07 Middle/High School Teacher;
- 20) Glenn Smith \$80,563.60 Water Dept.;
- 21) Dennis Sullivan \$80,437.95 Police Dept.;
- 22) Derek Jones \$80,328.02 Police Dept.;
- 23) Henry Venuti \$80,316.93 Middle/High School Teacher;
- 24) James Young \$80,126.12 Light Dept.;
- 25) Elizabeth Carroll \$78,021.42 Penbrook School Teacher;
- 26) Heidi Begin \$77,152.59 Perley School Teacher;
- 27) Michael Goddu \$77,082.35 Police Dept.;
- 28) Chad Cunningham \$76,482.63 Light Dept.;
- 29) Robert Dash \$76,440.40 Water Dept.;
- 30) Joseph Pittella \$75,581.53 Middle/high School Teacher;
- 31) Richard Hastings \$74,825.48 Middle/

GEORGETOWN, PAGE 40

## Mayor Leads the Way with Technology to Auction off Parcels of Land

Mayor James J. Fiorentini announced that he is using Municibid.com to auction off 32 parcels of land in the City of Haverhill as well as 2 RFP's (requests for proposals), one for land on Washington Street and one apartment building at 16 Hillside Street.

Both properties can be downloaded from the City of Haverhill's website at [www.ci.haverhill.ma.us](http://www.ci.haverhill.ma.us).

Haverhill has been one of the first municipalities to participate in online auctions, it is one of many innovative ideas that the Mayor has implemented without cutting services, saves money on implementation and gives everyone in the world an opportunity to bid on the parcels. Municibid is an online government auction website designed specifically for the sale of surplus, forfeited and seized goods.

To view and bid on the properties, please go to [www.municibid.com](http://www.municibid.com) and put Haverhill in the search box and all of the parcels will be displayed and it is also on the City website at [www.ci.haverhill.ma.us](http://www.ci.haverhill.ma.us).

Bidding is open to the public, the auction will start on September 2, 2011 at 10AM and close on September 27, 2011 between 10AM and 11AM.

The following parcels are online:

Lot 7 on Temple Street  
Lot 11 on Crystal Lake Road  
Lot 8A on Ford Street  
Lot 153 on McKay Street  
Lot 54 on Alden Street  
Lot 109A on Montclair Road  
Lot 191 on Atlanta Street  
Lot 99 on Prince Street  
Lot 29 on Avon Place  
Lot 32A on Quimby Street  
Lot 16A on Bartlett Avenue  
Lot 40A on River Street  
Lot 32B on Broadway  
Lot 177 on Riverview Avenue- South  
Lot 9A on Brookline Avenue  
Lot 17 on Washington Street  
Lot 11B on Brookline Avenue  
Lot 18 on Washington Street  
Lot 1A on Carriage Hill Road  
Lot 31A on Coral- RR Street  
Lot 107B on Edgemere Avenue  
Lot 2A on East Broadway  
Lot 110 on Edgemere Avenue  
Lot 11B on South Cross Road  
Lot 2B on Eudora Street  
Lot 6 on West Myrtle Street  
Lot 7A on Gile Street  
Lot 7 on West Myrtle Street  
Lot 8A & 9A on Gile Street  
Lot 19A on Primrose Street  
Lot 4 on Harrison Street  
Lot 14A on Hilldale Avenue  
Lot 15 on South Pearson Street  
Lot 12A on Lancaster Street

## Rotary awards \$10K scholarship

Molly A. Gibbs of Haverhill has been awarded a \$10,000 Service Above Self scholarship from Rotary District 7930.

Gibbs, a member of Rotary's Interact Club at Haverhill High School, received the scholarship as "an outstanding high school senior who has demonstrated his/her commitment to Service Above Self in their community, a town or city within Rotary District 7930," according to the Rotary district which includes Haverhill.

"On behalf of the Rotary Club of Haverhill, I congratulate Molly. She has distinguished herself as a caring advocate who places community needs above all else," said E. Philip Brown, a history instructor at Haverhill High School and faculty advisor to the Interact Club.

Gibbs, daughter of Jeffrey L. and Nancy J. Gibbs of the Bradford section of Haverhill, plans to study nursing at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. While she is attending classes, Gibbs is expected to be involved in local Rotary activities, including talks before Rotary

Club meetings and participation in at least one service project annually.

She joined the Interact Club during her freshman year — being only the second person to do so. While a member, Gibbs served as treasurer and later the club's service coordinator. Interact helps with city cleanups, purchasing animals for families and farms in third world countries and other Rotary-based projects. During her high school years, Gibbs also participated in after-school tutoring, including teaching language learning in the middle schools. She also served as secretary of the class of 2011, captain of her senior year swim team and a member of the student council, superintendent's forum National Honor Society.

Gibbs has also been awarded two citizenship awards and a citation from the city of Haverhill for "outstanding service."

To learn more about Rotary, please visit the website at [www.haverhillrotary.com](http://www.haverhillrotary.com).

## ESSEX PHYSICAL THERAPY & CHIROPRACTIC OF ANDOVER

Dr. Michael Provenzano is pleased to announce the opening of Essex Physical Therapy and Chiropractic of Andover located at 16 Haverhill Street in Andover.

Dr. Provenzano, the areas only doctor of chiropractic and physical therapy has been providing care to the residents of the Merrimack Valley for over 10 years. His unique clinical and academic experience affords him the ability to treat all your musculoskeletal needs including neck and back pain, as well as shoulder, hip, knee and ankle conditions.



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## TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK

**THAT'S LOYALTY FOR YOU!** Andover Republican State Rep. Paul Adams may hold himself up in public to be a moral and religious person, but there was nothing moral or religious about the way he treated his former aide Dianna Dizoglio of Methuen. Last spring the media quite literally invented a story about Diana being caught in a compromising position with a State Representative. Nobody in the press would publicly use her name because they couldn't get anyone to confirm it on the record. There was speculation and innuendo made, but it wasn't until Paul Adams himself released her name to the Eagle Tribune (and to a Methuen reporter, no less) that Diana's name was ever published. What's worse, is that when it was all over Dizoglio was exonerated by the speaker and an investigation found that nothing had happened. At that point, Dizoglio only asked for an apology from Adams for publicly linking her name to a made up sex scandal. But, not only did Adams outright refuse to apologize, he isolated her from her office duties, told other politicians that she was immoral and had brought the scandal on herself, and to top it all off he then fired her. But that's not the worst part. The worst part is this "moral" and "religious" State Representative from Andover fired her via text message. He wasn't even man enough to fire her face to face after he betrayed her. And this, after agreeing to let her find other employment so she could leave on her own terms. I don't mind someone who is religious holding other people to a higher moral standard when they walk the walk themselves. I have a REAL problem with people who judge the morality of other people and punish them for not living up to it, while thinking nothing of treating others like dirt. Shame on Rep. Paul Adams. Maybe Sal Tabit would have been the better choice. Well, there's always 2012.

**COP KILLER UP FOR PAROLE?** Cop killer Cleo Roy has been in prison since he murdered Manchester, NH Police Officer Ralph Miller, 35 years ago. While in prison, this animal (a white supremacist) then murdered another prisoner. So, how is it that Cleo Roy is even eligible for parole this year after snuffing out two lives? Answer: New Hampshire never executed him after he committed his first murder. I know the tired old argument against the death penalty is that it is not a deterrent. But, if Cleo Roy had been executed for the cold blooded killing of Officer Miller 35 years ago, he surely would have been deterred from killing his second victim. The fact is, putting a killer in prison does not mean they are no longer a threat to their fellow man. Cleo Roy is still very much a threat to his fellow man and his second murder proves it. And now he is up for parole. This means someday, like Dominic Cinelli (the man who murdered Woburn Police Officer Jack Maguire) Cleo Roy will be a threat to even more people when he is eventually set free by some bleeding heart, out

## ROYAL House of ROAST BEEF



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464 Lowell St - Methuen

of touch parole board. New Hampshire legislators better get their act together and start executing cop killers and those who commit heinous crimes. Otherwise, New Hampshire will continue to look more and more like Massachusetts, and all that that means. Shame on the people of New Hampshire for allowing their criminal justice system to even offer parole for a two-time killer. I expect that from the out of touch liberals in Massachusetts, but I expected more from our neighbor to the north.

**WILL HE OR WON'T HE?** Lawrence School Committeeman Mark Gray was knocked off the ballot last month when he failed to get enough certified signatures on his nomination papers. Each candidate must get the signature of 50 registered voters in their district to have their name appear on the primary ballot. Gray's papers were initially certified with 54 valid signatures. But, when those signatures were challenged by candidate Jen Cooper, at least five of Grays signatures were disqualified as they all seemed to be signed by



the same person. Gray argued that the person who signed them had permission from the other people listed. But the City's Board of Registrars ruled against him. This leaves Committeeman Gray with two choices: run a sticker/write in campaign in the primary with the hopes of beating one of the other two candidates already on the ballot, or bow out gracefully. While he has yet to make an official announcement, Gray purchased an ad on page 38 of this edition of the Valley Patriot stating

*"In my term as the school committee rep I have had business owners thank me for representing their tax dollars. People from every district have thanked me for caring about their children and giving them a voice. People have pledged support and have trusted me with confidential issues. Now it's my turn to express my thanks to all of you. I have always been impressed with the good character of those in my district, greater than my own, who open their homes and hearts to discuss all kinds of issues. With all the headaches and issues this city places on a person, I can say that the one greatest offset was the people I have had the opportunity to meet and those that I now dare call friends. Thank you."*

This certainly leads people to believe that Gray is bowing out gracefully. But hold that thought a minute. While his ad does express his gratitude to the voters of his district and seems to convey he isn't

running to retain his seat, the one thing's Gray doesn't implicitly say in his ad is that he is out of the race.

**METHUEN MAYOR'S RACE** – With incumbent Mayor Bill Manzi unable to run for reelection, there are four people running to replace him. Two will make it past the September 20th primary election (and by the way, PLEASE VOTE!). The four candidates are: City Councilor Steve Zanni, City Councilor Jack Cronin, School Committeeman Ken Willette and businessman Al DiNuccio. Insiders of all stripes say that they think this is too close to call because of each candidate has a strong base of support. But elections are about money and the mechanics of campaigning and nothing else. Here's a basic rundown. City Councilor Steve Zanni has the mechanics of campaigning down to a tea. He has the support of two very important political networks: the Sharon Pollard clique and the Bill Manzi machine. He also has the most money of anyone in the race (at least as of the day we went to print). Zanni is said to be saving all his campaign money for direct mail in the final week, the absolute best strategy any campaign can have. Having city wide name recognition Zanni definitely has the edge on all the other candidates.

Enter Al Dinuccio. Al is considered the "outsiders choice". He is framing the public discussion of the campaign around Zanni's ties to Pollard and Manzi and taking advantage of the anti-incumbent sentiment in Methuen. But he still has to get his message out. DiNuccio made major ad buys in The Valley Patriot and other publications and is raising a substantial amount of money himself. DiNuccio also has an advantage nobody else has in this race. He is the only candidate not currently holding elected office. Of the four candidates running, Al Dinuccio is the real outsider in a year that the voters are in a very anti-incumbent mood.

School Committeeman Ken Willette has a strong base of support among elderly and independent minded voters, but hasn't

been able to raise enough money to rival Zanni and Dinuccio. He says he doesn't need the money to win and will be the surprise candidate on September 20th. And he could turn out to be right. But 90% of the time candidates that run grassroots campaign saying they don't need money to win... don't win.

Then there's City Councilor Jack Cronin. He is well liked, very knowledgeable, understands the players and could do the job of mayor if elected, but he has the same problem Willette has: the inability raise money and the lack of understanding on how to most effectively spend what little money he raises. He does have a network and he probably won't be embarrassed by the vote he gets but, scoring this race solely on election strategy (money, ability to raise, knowing how to spend, public image), it looks like Zanni and DiNuccio have the edge.

## NORTH ANDOVER - BRILLIANT!

A police Ap for your iphone or android! The North Andover Police Department has developed an application for your phone so that citizens of the town can check for police alerts from the town's Neighborhood Watch Program, submit tips on crime in your neighborhood, make suggestions on how the police department can better serve you, and email photographs, audio or video of crimes in progress

from your phone directly to the police station. The application is the initiative of the new police Chief Paul Gallagher who was sworn in earlier this year to replace Chief Stanley. You can email the North Andover Police at [crimewatch@napd.us](mailto:crimewatch@napd.us). Chief Gallagher was interviewed by The Valley Patriot in the August, 2011 edition. You can read the interview by downloading the August edition at [www.valleypatriot.com](http://www.valleypatriot.com).

## LOCAL AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

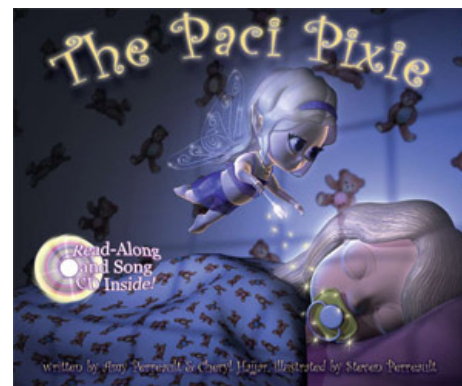
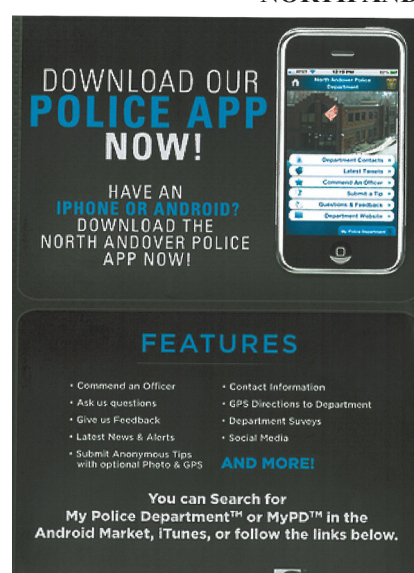
– Authors, Cheryl Hajjar and Amy Perreault will be autographing copies of their award winning children's book, The Paci Pixie which has taken the literary world of children's books by storm. Come visit and see their state of the art display with all of the other characters in the series.

The book signing is on Saturday, September 24th from 11am - 5pm at the North Andover Knights of Columbus on Sutton Street

## HAVERHILL

- The Trustees of Tattersall Farm and the Haverhill Rotary Club are hosting our fifth annual "Tatter-

sall Farm Day" on Sunday, September 18, 2011, from noon to 5:00 p.m. The farm is located at 542 North Broadway. Rain date will be Sunday, September 25. "Tattersall Farm Day" is a New England-style cultural and educational event for people of all ages. Activities will include nature walks, beekeeping, wine making, animal and farming demonstrations, storytelling,



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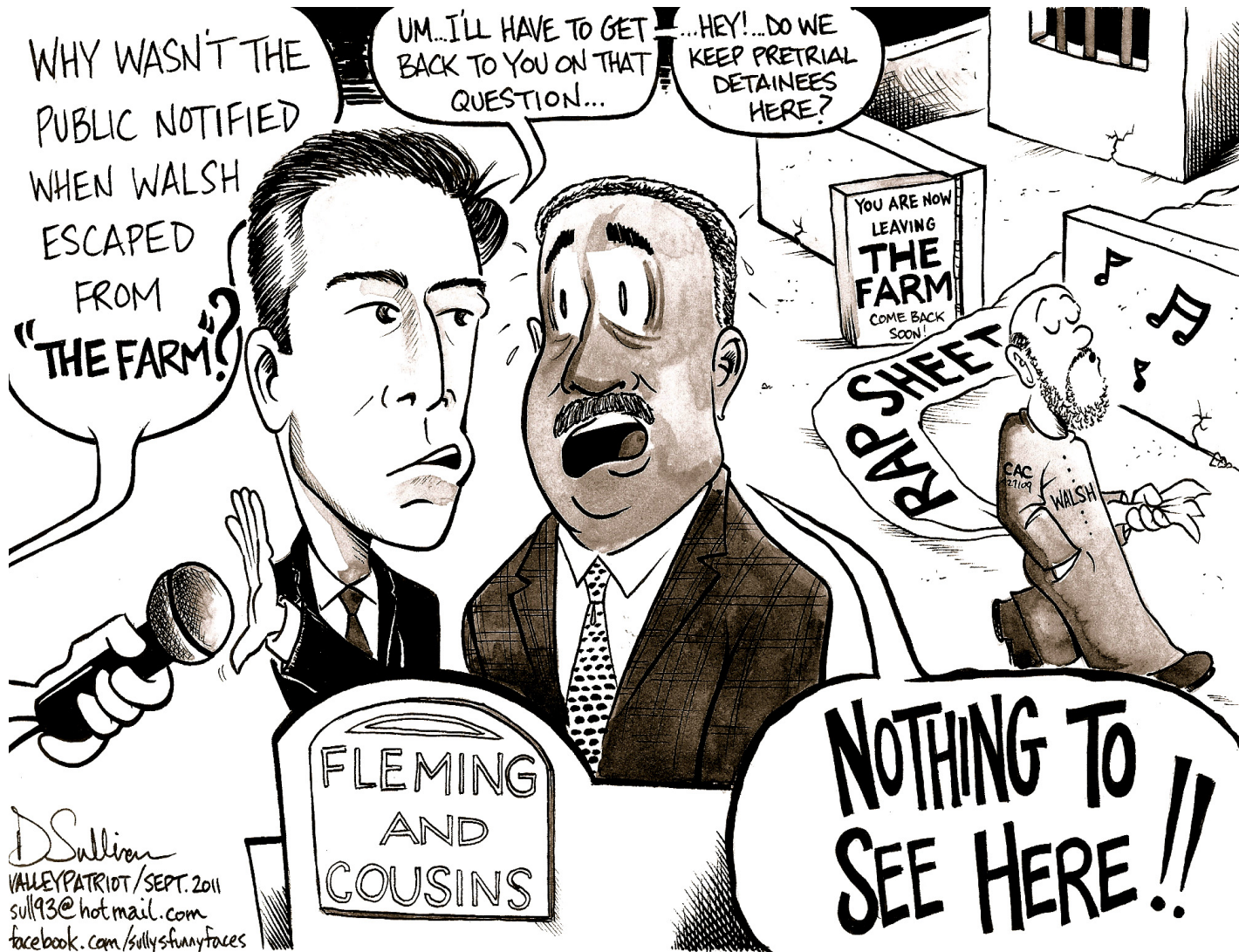
crafts, art work, pony rides, hay rides, hot air balloon, antique tractors and much more! Live entertainment will be provided by White Street Band. Food and beverages will be available. Haverhill's own NECN meteorologist, Matt Noyes, will be in attendance, to meet and greet and answer weather-related questions. Admission to this event is \$5.00 per adult, children 16 and under are free. Additional charges for hot air balloon, pony rides, and hay rides. This event provides a rare opportunity to learn about New England farm life and its cultural and historical influence on the City of Haverhill. Proceeds from Tattersall Farm Day will assist in the rebuilding of the barn. For additional information contact Kathy Bresnahan at 978-374-2390 x11 or kbresnahan@cityofhaverhill.org or tattersallfarm.org.

**METHUEN VILLAGE ACTIVITIES:** Guitarist Paul Wayne at Methuen Village: Methuen Village at Riverwalk Park, a senior community offering assisted living and state-of-the-art Alzheimer's care, invites the public to a performance by guitarist Paul Wayne on Monday, September 12 at 2:00 p.m. Advance RSVP encouraged. This event is part of our celebration of National Assisted Living Week! Methuen Village is located in the heart of downtown Methuen at 4 Gleason Street. For more information, call 978-685-2220 or visit [www.MethuenVillage.com](http://www.MethuenVillage.com).

Pianist John D'Ambrosio at Methuen Village: Methuen Village at Riverwalk Park, a senior community offering assisted living and state-of-the-art Alzheimer's care, invites the public to a performance by pianist John D'Ambrosio on Tuesday, September 13 at 2:00 p.m. Advance RSVP encouraged. This event is part of our celebration of National Assisted Living Week! Methuen Village is located in the heart of downtown Methuen at 4 Gleason Street. For more information, call 978-685-2220 or visit [www.MethuenVillage.com](http://www.MethuenVillage.com).

Comedy Masque Review at Methuen Village: Methuen Village at Riverwalk Park, a senior community offering assisted living and state-of-the-art Alzheimer's care, invites the public to a performance of the Comedy Masque Review on Thursday, September 15 at 2:00 p.m. Advance RSVP encouraged. This event is part of our celebration of National Assisted Living Week! Methuen Village is located in the heart of downtown Methuen at 4 Gleason Street. For more information, call 978-685-2220 or visit [www.MethuenVillage.com](http://www.MethuenVillage.com).

Family Night at Methuen Village:



**NEWS ITEM:** Pretrial detainee James Walsh escapes from Marston Street facility in Lawrence known as "the Farm" a short month after Sheriff Cousins's spokesman Paul Fleming told The Valley Patriot that no pre-trial detainees were being held there. Cousins also failed to notify the public of the escape. (Page 7)

Methuen Village at Riverwalk Park, a senior community offering assisted living and state-of-the-art Alzheimer's care, invites the public to its Family Night on Wednesday, September 14 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Social Program Director Kathleen Corey Rahme and her assistant Pat Deeb will demystify the art of Lebanese cuisine! Join us for a cooking demonstration and tasting. Advance RSVP encouraged. Methuen Village is located in the heart of downtown Methuen at 4 Gleason Street. For more information, call 978-685-2220 or visit [www.MethuenVillage.com](http://www.MethuenVillage.com).

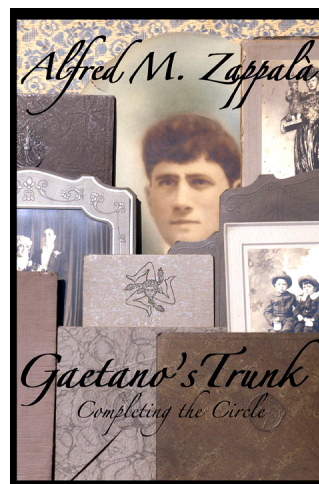
**SMALL BUSINESS FORUM - A FREE** event for organizations that serve small businesses. Join representatives from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Small Business Administration, City of Lawrence - Business Development Office, Accion, Salem State Enterprise Center, Boston College Legal Assistance

Bureau, MA Taxpayer Advocate, IRS Taxpayer Advocate. Hear briefings on new and existing small business initiatives that will have a direct impact on the operations of your members. Make contacts with agency representatives who can help you and your members navigate through the "maze" of government agencies. Wednesday, September 21, 2011, 9am to 12:00 pm at the Lawrence Public Library • 51 Lawrence Street • Lawrence, MA. To register or to obtain additional information please contact either Frank O'Connor, Jr. (foconnor@CityOfLawrence.com), or Araceli Rios, CPA & IRS Senior Liaison: araceli.rios@irs.gov

**LAWRENCE, TOWER HILL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING** - The Executive Board has decided to hold a special meeting on Wednesday September 14, 2011 at 6:30pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel Schools Judson Hall, (our regular meeting location) 526 Lowell Street, (corner of Ames & Lowell Street). This meeting will be an opportunity to discuss quality of life issues and concerns with our public safety officials and we will be allowing political candidates an opportunity to speak (District C & D candidates and At-Large City Council). This will not be a debate. For additional information or for any candidate with questions or who would like to confirm attendance, please contact Keith or Dan: Keith Wlodyka, THNA President - 603-548-9929 (cell), towerhillman@hotmail.com. Dan Clark, THNA Vice President - 978-902-0595 (cell), mrappicker@verizon.net

**LOCAL AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING:** Circle Tuesday September 13th on your calendar because that's the date for Al Zappala's Book Launch Party at Borrelli's Deli in Methuen. MA and you are invited! The address for Borrelli's Deli is 322 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844. Zappala will be there from 6PM to 7:30PM chatting with friends and generally having a good time. Copies of his

book will available for you too! PLUS: his pal Don Smiriglio the owner of Borelli's will keep a cash register open so you can pick up some of his famous home made sausage, cheese, cold cuts, and everything else that he has! Please email Al at [alfredzappala@yahoo.com](mailto:alfredzappala@yahoo.com) if you can



attend as Don will have a little something for you to eat and Al need to let him know roughly how many people will swing by. AL will have plenty of copies on hand by then and will sign one just for you! If you can't make it, you can purchase both of Al's books at his website (FREE SHIPPING) [www.alfredzappala.com](http://www.alfredzappala.com) or as a download from Kindle.

Gaetano's Trunk: [www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss?url=search-alias%3Ddigital-text&field-keywords=gaetano%27s+trunk+alfred+zappala&x=3&y=14](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Ddigital-text&field-keywords=gaetano%27s+trunk+alfred+zappala&x=3&y=14)

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**MASSACHUSETTS SBA ANNOUNCES LUPOLI COMPANIES/SAL'S PIZZA IS PART OF 'SBA 100'** SBA 100 highlights businesses that are growing, creating jobs with SBA assistance Massachusetts SBA Announces Lupoli Companies/Sal's Pizza is Part of 'SBA 100' - Lupoli Companies, parent company of Sal's Pizza located in Lawrence, MA has been named as one of the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 100 companies. The SBA 100 features one hundred businesses that have created at least 100 jobs since receiving SBA assistance. Sal's Pizza began with an 800 square foot storefront, two employees, Sal Lupoli and his brother Nick, and its first SBA loan in 1992. With the assistance of SBA financing throughout the years, Sal's continued to grow and expand its operations. Today with over 35 locations and over 350 employees, Sal's has become a large retail, wholesale and franchise operation serving all of New England, with additional locations in California, Florida and Virginia. "I am extremely honored to have been selected as part of the SBA 100.

**NOTEBOOK, page 38**

## Three Dogz Diner Receives Award

The Office of Mayor William Lantigua is pleased to announce the winner of the prestigious Storefront of the Month award in Lawrence for July 2011 is Three Dogz Diner at 13 So. Broadway on the South Canal near the Great Stone Dam.

The owners, Sheila and George Bonfiglio, and their staff have made great efforts to keep the sidewalks clean of litter and trash near one of the busiest and most heavily traveled streets in the city. Everyday, the Bonfiglios clear any trash from the gutter and sidewalks in front of the store. They have also made considerable investments to accommodate outdoor



dining. "A clean entrance is great for business," said Ms. Sheila Bonfiglio. For their persistent effort to keep Lawrence clean, the Bonfiglios hard work to eliminate trash and upkeep of the area has earned Three Dogz Diner this coveted recognition for July 2011.

Nominations for Storefront of the Month & Yard of the Month may be submitted by eMail or U.S. Postal Service to: Frank O'Connor, Jr. Community Development Dept. Office of Economic Development 225 Essex St. 3rd floor Lawrence, MA 01840 FOConnor@CityOfLawrence.com

## A collage of 18 photographs showing various people at a community event, likely a political campaign or fundraiser. The photos depict individuals in formal and semi-formal attire, some speaking at a podium, others posing for group photos, and some seated at tables. Several people are wearing "Fountain" campaign buttons. The background of the photos shows an indoor setting with tables, chairs, and decorations.

## Three Dogz Diner... Overlooking the Waterfalls in Lawrence (The Old Sam's Steak-Out)



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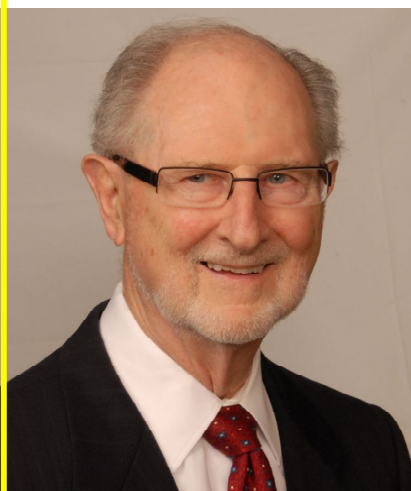


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## RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

## An Interview with Presidential Candidate Thaddeus McCotter

Christine Morabito  
& Tom Duggan

DECISION 2012

Valley Patriot President Tom Duggan and Tea Party Columnist (and activist) Christine Morabito sat down with Congressman Thaddeus McCotter (R) Michigan, in Concord, NH last month for a one on one interview about his campaign for president.

**Tom:** What is it like running for president?

**McCotter:** It's great. But it's a little frustrating because the main stream media and the pundits like to tell you who your choices ought to be. But, as you know there's social media now so we can transcend the boundaries of the district and get our message out without them.

**Tom:** Well, they let Ron Paul in the debate. If he was in the debate you should have been in the debate.

**McCotter:** I just would have been happy if they told us what they will and will not accept. We got the 1% we needed in Iowa and then they tell us, "no, it's national polling criteria" where they poll people. Well, if a candidate has low name recognition nationwide, how are they going to get name recognition if they can't take part in the debates? Pundits and the main stream media like to tell the voters "These are your credible choices." Then the bundlers come in and they gang up with the money people and say here's who can win, here's who can't win. I mean, I wouldn't want to see Ron Paul excluded from the debates. Let everyone participate. The public clearly says they want to hear new voices, so all I can do is grass roots campaigning. New Hampshire is ideal for that, Iowa is ideal for that and they are very attuned to the election, and they listen.

**Tom:** Why you, instead of other candidates? If someone is considering Perry or Romney why should they choose you over them?

**McCotter:** Well, I'm talking about restructuring the government in line with the consumer based economy we have now. They [other candidates] aren't talking about taking the welfare state and restructuring it for the 21st century. They aren't talking about the failed Wall Street bailouts and how to actually fix the banks, because the credit contraction we are going through is the key problem. The economy is in deflation, which means their balance sheets are messed up. You've got huge debt overhang, they are taking their leisurely time recapitalizing, at your expense, due to quantitative easing and the credit doesn't get down. You have to force them to restructure, recapitalize,



Valley Patriot Tea Party Columnist Christine Morabito, Valley Patriot President Tom Duggan and Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, Republican candidate for president.

break up the insolvent banks, wall off their assets and put in leverage limits so they can't collapse on you again. If you don't do those things, eventually we will look like Japan in the 90's. We've already started with stagnation. People like Bernanke (the Fed Chairman) say "I can't figure out what the problem is".

The problem is the strategy to fix the banks failed. They are having the same trouble in Europe. And now the sovereign debt increases when they try to pay off the bond holders and the shareholders with your money, they are doing the same thing in the EU and now it leads to higher debt there. But Bernanke's not helping. The toxic assets are still on the books.

**Tom:** So what's the solution?

**McCotter:** You have to force debt equity swaps. The bondholders should be forced to trade debt for equity into the company to recapitalize then the ones that aren't solvent, wall off their assets. What I would do is a zero cap gain for anyone who wants to buy those toxic assets over the life of the asset because it's a risky purchase. Then you are injecting more capital into the system. And you have to set the limits so they can never come in and get too debt heavy and collapse on top of everybody. Right now they have no incentive to loan. The other candidates aren't talking about this. A lot of them supported the Wall Street bailouts, they don't know how to fix it. So, they are all running around saying the same things we heard from 1988 on, but they don't recognize that the problem is different.

That's the economic part of it. The other thing they aren't talking about is communist China. We have to deal with them as a whole, the security problem, the economic problem, unfair trade practices, etc. These are the things nobody is talking about. I mean, immigration isn't really being talked about, either. We need

a comprehensive approach. It's not just border security; we have to relieve the pressure on the borders. The way to do that is to dis-incentivize. The very logical decision for many of them [illegals] is to come to the United States. If you think about it, most of them are being enticed and exploited here. When the government doesn't enforce border security, business offers jobs and doesn't care if you're legal or you're not. When sanctuary cities allow taxpayers money to be utilized for these individuals, when you talk about amnesty down the road... I never blame the illegal immigrants, when you have government, labor and a business enticing them to come here it's a very rational calculation for them to come. When you are living under an oppressive government that wants to kill you and your family, like what happened to my father in law, those should be the first people we let into the country. Then assimilation is the key and English should be the official language. That helps the immigrant to the country.

**Tom:** How about building a wall?

**McCotter:** You have to punish the employers who hire them. If you do the things I talked about and dis-incentivize... and you also diplomatically engage these countries so they have certain developing free market, democratic institutions, we need to put pressure on them to make their countries better. You can never build enough walls, you can't build enough anything if they still have an incentive to come here. Because of the human calculation nothing is going to change their way of life where they are and people are going to want to continue to come here illegally. We also have to get serious with other countries that are encouraging their people to sneak over the border.

**Tom:** So you don't support a wall?

**McCotter:** Well I supported the wall, I supported the fence, yeah. We need something to slow it down but the wall isn't the complete answer. Building a wall is part of an overall package.

The National Guard clearly has to be deployed by the states, I don't want the federal government doing that, we have a clear problem with the drug cartels. The other problem [is that] the federal government is punishing states like Arizona who want to enforce the federal laws, and at the same time they are rewarding sanctuary cities who are violating federal law. That's crazy!

**Christine:** We are dealing a lot with "Secure Communities" in our area. Our governor refuses to sign on to it. (Secure communities is a program where local police can share their arrest information with the federal government and immigration). Some of the public hearings we went to were such an eye opener. We actually had a city administrator from Chelsea Massa-

chusetts get up and say that she was proud to make that city a sanctuary city.

**McCotter:** That's crazy! It's crazy because I don't think they understand what the underlying philosophy is. The ability of a municipality or a state to nullify a federal law is called nullification. It was the brainchild of John C. Calhoun. It's the theory that lead us to the civil war, and whether or not federal law was supreme, or a state can nullify. The philosophy behind Sanctuary Cities is that they think they can take federal law and nullify it and do whatever they want. Well, that's anarchy. It's the height of arrogance of the leftists. It's ridiculous. And again, it's the combination of big government and big labor who want to get their hands on these [illegal] immigrants, to depress wages, get more low skilled employees, and it's not fair to those people who came here legally! The wages should rise with the free market, but if you can depress it by breaking the law and bringing in people illegally and employing them, and having the taxpayers pick up the tab for all their services, that's just crazy.

**Christine:** Another thing that that candidates aren't talking about is China.

**McCotter:** Communist China!

**Christine:** You have talked about how China is manipulating the currency and stealing our innovations. [Radio host] John Bachelor was talking about how large sums of money have disappeared from the Chinese treasury, nobody knows where it's going, and I also heard recently that the Chinese are buying up huge portions of real estate in New York and other cities. What do you think is their ultimate goal and why should Americans be concerned about them?

**McCotter:** They're clear about what they want. They want the 21st century to be the century of communist China. They want to be the hegemon, which means superpower behemoth. They believe that the 21st century will be theirs, they have our manufacturing, they have our capacities, they continue to drive us to a consumptive economy where we have to borrow money to pay for the welfare state to make up for all the lost, stagnant wages and everything else. So, we've got this vicious cycle. Then what they are doing with a lot of the reserves that they hold of our dollars is that they come here and buy up our real estate, which helped fuel the housing bubble. They have to park that money somewhere, because it's not a free market over there. The government decides where that money is going to go. So to me, it's clear. This isn't my supposition. It's what they say themselves. I'm not speaking out of school, here. So when you see how they are operating, when you see the tactics they use, it's a very stealth, very indirect

**MCCOTTER, page 27**

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# Obamacare: Lies and the Lying Liars Who Told Them (Part 2)

Christine Morabito

MERRIMACK VALLEY TEA PARTY

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is the greatest swindle ever imposed on the American people. The very mandate that President Obama vigorously campaigned against when Hilary Clinton proposed it, became his prized piece of legislation, made possible, in part, by following lies:

## LIE: THE UK AND CANADA HAVE SUPERIOR HEALTH CARE.

By design, Canada's single-payer system has 4.1 million people lacking a family doctor, meaning they are insured in name only. In the early 90s the geniuses in the Canadian government decided to lower medical costs by reducing the number of doctors. They got their wish when about 10,000 doctors fled the country. When Canadians are fortunate enough to book an appointment or to obtain approval from a board of bureaucrats to receive cancer treatment, the care is "free." All this freedom is paid for with their 45 percent income tax and 12 percent (average) sales tax.

Dr. Anne Doig, president of the Canadian Medical Association admitted Canada's system is "imploding" and in serious need of reform. Even the Canadian Supreme Court acknowledged that socialized medicine forces patients to wait for care and violates their human rights.

In a half-witted attempt to reduce emergency room wait times, the UK mandated that patients be seen within four hours. Since the clock does not start until they walk through the door, the patients now wait outside in parked ambulances. Problem solved.

Although Americans spend more on health care, we are 65 percent more likely to survive cancer 5 years after diagnosis compared to 46 percent in England and 42 percent in Canada. The U.S. has roughly 71 MRI scanners per million people com-

pared to only 18 in Canada.

Like many foreign politicians, former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi opted out of his country's free health care and had his heart surgery in the country responsible for 50 percent of all medical innovations. Berlusconi had his procedure in Cleveland, Ohio.

Switzerland, praised by the left for having superb health care, charges citizens about 32 percent in out of pocket costs while Americans pay only 15 percent.

Analysts have determined that Greece requires 5,000 primary care physicians to care for its citizens. Too bad they only have about 600. Things have gotten so bad that people are bribing doctors to get appointments. Isn't socialized medicine fantastic?

## LIE: 46.3 MILLION AMERICANS ARE UNINSURED.

Most Americans just accepted that number. Why would the government lie? Because it's not about providing affordable health care, it's about control. Why else would they harass Dr. John Muney, a physician who began offering unlimited doctor visits for only \$79 a month? The state of New York would have none of it. When they failed to discourage him, they forced him to charge more and cover less.

A breakdown of the uninsured figure reveals some gross exaggerations. Of this 46 million, approximately 18 million make between \$50,000 and \$75,000 a year. Clearly, these people can afford to be insured but choose not to.

I once worked for a woman who claimed she could not afford insurance. She earned three times my salary, drove a sporty new car, went tanning several times a week and had perfectly manicured nails. In Glenn Beck's book "Arguing with Idiots" he illustrates the idiocy of universal health care: "When you give 'free' insurance to someone who can afford it, but who instead chooses to spend their money



on other things you are in effect paying for those other things."

14 million Americans qualify for free health care; they just never applied for it. Another 10 million uninsured are illegal aliens.

It is important to note that more than 50 percent of the total uninsured are not chronically so, meaning they are merely between jobs or only uninsured for part of the year.

Five days before Obamacare was made law, the Congressional Budget Office sent a letter to Nancy Pelosi estimating that despite the new legislation, 23 million Americans would still be uninsured by 2019. So, let's review: Obamacare promised to insure 34 million previously uninsured; knowing full well that nine years after demolishing our vastly superior health care delivery system, 2/3 of the uninsured will remain uninsured. Only the Obama

administration could consider that success.

## LIE: RATIONING? WHAT RATIONING?

The left is telling outright lies about Republicans wanting to gut Medicare, never mentioning that Obamacare cuts \$575 billion from the program over the next decade. Medicare's chief actuary admits that 50 percent of seniors will lose their Medicare Advantage benefit when the plan is implemented. It also forces cuts to hospital and home health services and restricts when seniors can have MRIs and CT scans.

Bypassing Senate approval, Obama appointed the radical Donald Berwick to head Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and implement "cost effectiveness studies." Berwick admitted "The decision is not whether or not we will ration care. The decision is whether we will ration with our eyes open." He is an admirer of the European system which withholds potentially life-saving drugs from people because they are deemed

TEA PARTY, page 30

## Why Tea?

Christen Varley

TEA PARTY ORGANIZER/ACTIVIST

I joined the TEA Party Movement in early 2009. I got involved because the election of Barack Obama to the Presidency of the United States alarmed me. As a common sense, constitutional, conservative, I saw in the Obama administration a determination to increase the size and scope of Federal government, which would result in immeasurable deficits, deep political divisions and passage of far reaching policy objectives.

As a blogger during the 2008 election cycle, I researched now President Obama and his circle of advisors and recognized what we were in for as tax payers, as employers and employees, as parents, as children and as citizens of a constitutional Democratic Republic. We were in for a rude awakening.

So, I leaped into the fray. I found other like-minded people on the Internet who agreed that, as increasing numbers of "TEA Party" protests began cropping up across the nation, Boston was obligated by history to host one of its own. We clambered onto the Boston Common with a bullhorn and some hand made signs on April 15, 2009 expecting maybe 250-300 people to show up to hear from conservative policy advocates, anti-tax crusaders and elected officials. We got 2,000 attendees and national news coverage. And they liked what they heard. I was hooked.

From there, we created a non-profit, all volunteer grassroots organization run by a Steering Committee motley crew

you'd never find congregating in the halls of Congress – a stay home mom, two IT specialists, a retired wealth manager, a psychiatric nurse, a chemical and biological defense researcher and a property manager. Not your typical community organizers. We spent hours discussing what our overall mission was and I am very proud of our final product –

The Greater Boston Tea Party is a group of citizens who are concerned with the increasingly burdensome reach of government. Our mission is to educate and advocate for the restoration and defense of public policy that promotes limited government, free markets, free speech, individual liberty and personal responsibility, all tenets of the Constitution of the United States of America and the Bill of Rights.

We advocate citizen engagement through civil discourse, community involvement and online activities that promote peaceful and productive social change.

We believe humans, when given opportunity, accurate information and appropriate tools, will make good decisions that will benefit themselves while, at the very least, are neutral to the whole. Our Constitution recognizes the nature of humans and provides for us to excel at what we love while simultaneously allowing for a limited level of governance. The trick is keeping liberty and governance in balance. It is a document deserving of adherence and worth preserving and protecting.

We see our role as instructive – in how



to engage in politics and also in how to advocate for policy that empowers the individual and against policy that undermines our freedoms. We invite policy advocates, community leaders, elected officials and candidates to come and discuss proposals or present ideas for citizen initiatives, legislative remedies and reforms at meetings. We share opinions. We share hopes and fears. And we act. We write letters, we demonstrate, we counter-demonstrate, we call, we march.

We are learning how we lost control of our government and how we can take it back. We've learned that we are all to blame for where we are today. More people everyday are joining us as they realize that it is not the economy or a lack of opportunity or poor education or limited resources that are standing in the way of success, it is government. We need to scale it back dramatically and immediately. We do this by changing those in power and by changing the hearts and minds of those that elect those in power.

I am more motivated today than I was that first Tax Day on the Boston Common to keep educating people as

to their role in our form of government – to show them how crucial their participation is. As a transplant from Ohio, I never believed I would find in Massachusetts support for returning to our constitutional principles of limited government and individual liberty. Yet I cannot imagine a better state than the Commonwealth to fight this battle – and it is a battle. It just happens to be playing out in town halls, on Beacon Hill and on Capitol Hill instead of the fields of Lexington and Concord.

I have met intelligent, thoughtful, patriotic and hopeful people in this movement and I admire every one of them. Our species is remarkable in its resilience and perseverance. We just want to go home at the end of our day to those we love and live our lives in peace, having done a good day's work at something we enjoy and for which we will receive some reward. While everyone's definition of fulfillment is different, we all need to feel fulfilled. Having government, the entity created to protect our unalienable rights, stand in the way is the greatest of injustices. Our nation was founded as a way to end those injustices, in full recognition of the potential of every one of us. This is why I do what I do and why I invite you to join me.

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## MCCOTTER FROM 24

means, but the goal remains the same.

The trouble is that a lot of Americans are awake to what their leadership is doing. There's a whole lot of money to be made on that regime by sending our jobs over there. I would argue that one of the reasons we have problems with tax reform, regulatory reform or energy policies in the United States is that there are so many of these business people who shift their jobs overseas and they don't worry about the economic climate in the United States. That's the reason you don't see a lot of businesses trying to produce taxation regulations and tort reform as much as you see the left trying to impose it. Because the left can't go overseas. But business can just pick up and ship everything over there. It's very frustrating. What's the first thing the communist Chinese government told us we had to cut because of out debt? It was our military, while they put out their new aircraft carrier at the same time. We cannot lose the strategic technological superiority we have.

**Christine:** What happened to the patent reform bill, where does that stand?

**McCotter:** That's over in the senate. I voted against it.

**Tom:** Why?

**McCotter:** To me it was a bill that was against the little guy. It allowed the big corporations to gain advantage over the little entrepreneurs. They passed it anyways. I hope I'm wrong on that.

**Tom:** When Ron Paul was asked: If Iran dropped a nuclear bomb on Israel would he defend Israel? He said: "No! Why should I?" Your thoughts?

**McCotter:** The problem with Ron is that if you seek to be liked rather than respected you will be neither. What Ron misses is that our very existence as a free people makes us a target. You have to realize that the tyrants and the terrorists who are oppressing their own people know that the more successful we are here with liberty and self-government; they will have to do something about it there. Because otherwise their own people will start demanding it. You saw the Soviet Union go into the trash can of history not too long ago. Now, you are seeing the Jasmine revolution in China, the Green revolution in Iran. So, in the age of globalization where you can talk to anyone in the world with a blackberry or a laptop, there's no fortress America anymore. The people who will kill your allies will eventually kill you! We've already seen this.

What Iran will do with a nuclear weapon is continue to export terror by using that nuclear deterrent against anyone trying to stop them. That would make for a hellacious world. This will not only impair American security but cost American lives. It will also impair our prosperity because without security there is no free market, our ability to trade with other partners. We will be under a greater threat from these regimes. You can't just say you don't care what happens in other countries. The world is getting smaller whether we like it or not. So, to me, you have to defend your allies or you will have no allies. As the United States, we cannot abandon our allies over there or [we're] next.

**Tom:** So how would you defend Israel?

**McCotter:** Number one is we have to make clear that the United States' strategic partnership with Israel is solid and strong, and they know that if they are threatened we will have their back. Let's face it, they are the only real democracy in the Middle East. We have to support with economic and peaceful means, the revolutions in Iran and Syria where they want to get rid of the Assad regime, and the Tehran regime just like Reagan did with the Soviet Union. The way to avoid war and debilitate terrorism is to have free people

collapse these rogue regimes that support terror, and govern their own lives with free markets and democracy. Which is an opportunity we blew in Egypt with this administration not being concerned about the Muslim Brotherhood and Imam's coming in with the precipitous removal of Mubarak.

Lincoln said that by expanding liberties for others we ensure our own democracy. I'm not talking about military action in Iran or Syria, we didn't use that against the Soviet Union.

**Tom:** If it came to it, would you be willing to use the military to go into Iran as we did in Iraq to depose the Muslim Mullahs?

**McCotter:** I don't like to play hypotheticals because it assumes your policies have failed.

**Tom:** But, if you win you will be taking over for a president whose policies are failing.

**McCotter:** Yes, they are failing. But I am talking about the policy I laid out of supporting those freedom movements like in Iran and China and Syria and reversing the direction they are going in because their influence is expanding. If you don't do that you end up in a very lonely and much more dangerous world. You can't just turn a blind eye to what is happening in the rest of the world. It won't work now any more than it did in the 1930's when people were saying "just let Europe go under, it can't be saved and why should we care?" Think about all the trade and liberty and advancement of freedom because eventually the United States did that. But there was so much more we could have done earlier, like kick Hitler out of the Rhineland when he was vulnerable. If we had called his bluff, think of all the lives that would have been saved. Now, in the age of globalization you can't just sit back and say "this won't affect us," of course it will. Remember the first country the Nazi's invaded was their own.

September, 2001 was a wakeup call, it was this generations Pearl Harbor. We were hit at home by people who wanted to kill themselves, willing to kill their children and use any means to kill you and your family. They did it here. It's not as if they are going to go away if we just bring all our troops home and abandon our allies. You can't walk away from something that's going to follow you home. I mean, I like Ron Paul we just have a difference of opinion.

**Tom:** Is there room for Ron Paul in a McCotter administration?

**McCotter:** Yeah, I think Federal Reserve oversight would be a great place for Ron. A lot of the things he has said about the Federal Reserve and how it's unaccountable is right on target. And I'd put him in a position to do something about it.

**Christine:** You've been friendly with the Tea Party. How do you feel about our Senator John Kerry saying the media should censor the Tea Party, as well as others on the left saying we were acting like terrorists?

**McCotter:** Well, I am a Generation X guy, I'm not a baby boomer. (Laughing) The irony is that Senator Kerry, who was very active in the Vietnam protests, now that we have another popular movement at



the grass roots level today, protesting and calling for accountability in their government, he thinks they should be muzzled. It's absolutely absurd. He has no sense of the irony of this. I mean, his entire generation prides themselves on the left that they took to the streets during the Vietnam War, they were peaceful, they did all kinds of protests and demonstrations and sit-ins, so how is it wrong when it's the Tea Party now? You know, despite what the media portrays the Tea Party to be, they are just looking for more responsible government. So, for him to not see the parallels shows you that the left is just upset because their narrative is; only they go out and engage in peaceful and popular protests. And

*"That's crazy! It's crazy because I don't think they understand what the underlying philosophy is. The ability of a municipality or a state to nullify a federal law is called nullification. It was the brainchild of John C. Calhoun. It's the theory that lead us to the civil war, and whether or not federal law was supreme, or a state can nullify. The philosophy behind Sanctuary Cities is that they think they can take federal law and nullify it and do whatever they want. Well, that's anarchy."*

~ Congressman Thaddeus McCotter on Sanctuary Cities

now that people on the right are doing that they don't know how to respond, so all they can do is spread hate. Which is sad because I thought

his generation was all about love?

The problem the Tea Party has to face, and I said this during the debt ceiling debate, is that the Tea Party was getting set up! There was a real effort to use this debate to split the Tea Party by having some in the party pushing to keep the debate going and default. And what would have happened is that the liberals would have blamed the Tea Party for our default and you would have a fractioned movement. That's the quickest way to kill any movement. So, the Tea Party, being a real organic, community based operation at the grassroots level, it's not one monolithic club, but you want to make sure that because of that you don't end up with splintered off groups that weakens the message and the goals of a more responsive and responsible government. You see, the passion of the people who are in the Tea Party is what gives it strength but it also makes it very vulnerable to people who want to tar and feather it and run it out of town like Senator Kerry. The Tea Party has to move forward together because otherwise we get dragged down and the movement ceases.

**Tom:** In the debt ceiling discussion that took place recently, there was not one word discussed about all the money we are spending on illegal aliens and to me it seems like you can't even have that debate without discussing how much money we are spending on citizens of other countries who aren't supposed to be here. Sam

Meas, a guy who ran for congress last year, said that he thinks we should bill the countries these people are coming from. And if they don't want to pay the bill, take it out of the billions in aid that we send to those countries. What do you think about that?

**McCotter:** Well the first thing that needs to be done, except for emergency medical services, is to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for their services. I would also sic the Justice Department on sanctuary cities. That would be administrative and within the power of the president without needing congress' approval. Then I would restrict the funding at the federal level to make sure it's not going to illegals. I would argue that if there are American businesses enticing them to come here I would not punish the home country but those countries who are abetting them in coming here, then yes, we should punish those countries. But the key to illegal immigration is stopping them from coming in the first place.

**Christine:** I'm reading your book (Seize Freedom!: American Truths and Renewal in a Chaotic Age (Culture of Enterprise) and it's fascinating. I absolutely love it. You have such a way with words. To what do you attribute your mastery of the English Language?

**McCotter:** Well I think it's a low bar these days. My parents were teachers and I was ugly growing up, I still am so I spent a lot of time reading.

**Christine:** Did you take a lot of writing courses? This is so well written.

**McCotter:** No, when I took English in Detroit as an undergrad, English 150, I had an old professor named Cyrus Gross, who taught us how to write an entire paper with only one period, just colons and semi-colons and all that.

**Tom:** In layman's terms, for the average voter, how is a President McCotter going to change the daily lives of Americans, how are you going to improve their lives?

**McCotter:** Because I trust you to self-govern, to utilize your liberties to pursue your own happiness. You are the ones who are going to fix it. Unlike President Obama, I don't think government is the solution, I think you are. He trusts government, I trust you.

To find out more about Congressman Thaddeus McCotter you can visit his website: [mccotter2012.com](http://mccotter2012.com)

Christine Morabito is a resident of Haverhill a member of the Merrimack Valley Tea Party and a columnist for The Valley Patriot. You can email her at [christine.morabito@hotmail.com](mailto:christine.morabito@hotmail.com)

Tom Duggan is president of Valley Patriot, Inc., a former Lawrence School Committeeman, former political director for Mass Citizens for Marriage, a Police Survivor and hosted the Paying Attention! Radio Program from 2001-2011. You can email your comments to [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com).

# Uglo-Americans Unite!

Paul Murano

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

The ugly may finally be getting some attention. And I'm not being cute. The New York Times just released an article on how "ugly" people are discriminated against (NYT, Aug. 27, 2011).

Being attractive, it states, helps you earn more money, find a more attractive spouse, and get better deals on mortgages. "Each of these facts has been demonstrated over the past 20 years by many economists and other researchers."

The article continues, "One study showed that an American worker who was among the bottom one-seventh in looks, as assessed by randomly chosen observers, earned 10 to 15 percent less per year than a similar worker whose looks were assessed in the top one-third: a difference of \$230,000 over a lifetime."

But we don't need studies. The ugly truth is that everyone knows unattractive people are discriminated against in all endeavors of life. And this is a problem for not only for women, but men too: "While extensive research shows that women's looks have bigger impacts in the market for mates, another large group of studies demonstrates that men's looks have bigger impacts on the job."

The solution? Brace yourself. "Why not offer legal protections to the ugly, as we do with racial, ethnic and religious minorities, women and handicapped individuals?" Don't laugh. If people were honest everyone would admit a bias against the attractively-challenged. Intuitively we all enjoy being around attractive people, in person and through the media. And this bias manifests itself in discrimination. We discriminate against the ugly in picking a mate, choosing a president, hiring an employee, and even choosing friends. Beauty in art, nature, and fellow human beings is always preferred. In every political cycle the more attractive candidate wins. Why do you think Romney, Perry, and Bachmann are beating Ron Paul and Tim Pawlenty in the polls? Do you really think their policies are that much different? Trace every single presidential final since the Kennedy-Nixon showdown

inaugurated the television age. The more attractive candidate always wins. One reason potential candidate Chris Christie has caught the attention of so many is not only because of his attitude, but because of his size.

We have not had such a calorically-challenged president since...well...maybe never. Teddy Roosevelt comes close. How many calorically-challenged or beauty-disadvantaged older women do we have promoting a product or anchoring the news?

It's probably safe to say that your grandmother will not be replacing any of the "Fox News babes" anytime soon, regardless of how well she can deliver the verbiage. The "Where's the Beef" lady back in the 1980's was the last commercial star of this genre, but only because of the humorous absurdity, as was the case with the elderly one in "Golden Girls".

Age discrimination is actually illegal, but is ugly discrimination? Not yet.

What would it look like if we took this ugly bias seriously? First, ugly people would become a "community". Don't all groups that feel discrimination become so-called communities? The gay community, the black community, Latino community, etc.

"I was born this way; it's genetic" would be the mantra for the attractively-challenged. "Ugliness" would be added to the short litany of unlawful discriminations. There may gradually be an AAUP (American Association for Ugly People), a federal department to deal with discrimination against the ugly, and perhaps a "congressional ugly caucus".

Isn't there a congressional black caucus? This new caucus would include the ugliest members of congress. Who would admit to this, or better yet who would judge? Maybe the congress would vote on its 12 ugliest members to represent the ugly across America. By a secret ballot, I would imagine.

And who would judge discrimination cases based on ugliness? You would probably need a government body to decide who is truly ugly and who is just having

UGLO page 37

## Ye Gay Ol' Valley

# Monogamish

D. B. Langevin

VALLEY PATRIOT LESBIAN COLUMNIST

For the record, the word marriage originated in medieval France in the mid-1200's. The term marriage is not mentioned in the bible. At no time did whatever entity you believe in say that marriage was between one man and one woman. So, please, for the love of God, stop quoting that when there really is no quote to be quoted. Say that five times fast.

I do believe in marriage. Most insane adults do. I believe a marriage should be between two consenting adults who have fallen in love, cannot imagine their lives without one another, treat each other with respect and dignity and feel incomplete without the other in their life. PERIOD!

I love my wife. She makes me laugh every day. She tells me she loves me a little too much, but at least she loves me and respects me as I do her. I married her because we fell in love and because our state thankfully says we can. Between the two of us, we've turned the word 'wife' into a term of power and endearment instead of a term of subservience. I neither have the energy nor the desire to share my heart or my body with any other human being. Michelle, my wife, is the one person I have chosen to spend, make and waste time with until death do us part.

As a gay American, I consider myself quite liberal. I know this makes most of the readers of this conservative rag gag, but I recently read an article in The Advocate, a monthly magazine for the gay community, that made my liberal heart skip a beat and almost stop. It was entitled Monogamish. It was about how gay marriage is changing the institution of marriage for the better, but in this instance I couldn't disagree more. As much as it makes me cringe to share this with the Valley Patriot's conservative readership, I think it's important for me, as a member of the gay community, to show and share that the majority of us are not trying to change the institution of marriage; we're trying to preserve, honor and strengthen it.

According to writer Dan Savage, Monogamish is a term, "to signify committed relationships in which the partners are mostly monogamous, but there's a little allowance for the reality of desire for others and a variety of experiences and adventure and possibility." In other words, people in a monogamish relationship give one another permission to sleep around outside of their 'marriage' or bring another person or persons into their bed with their spouse. Yeah! I know! What?! I tried to be objective and open minded when reading this article, but I just couldn't swallow that pill. I looked at all of my other relationships as a comparison. I have more than one sibling, more than one friend, and more than one child. I don't feel like I am betraying my son because I love my daughter, or my sister because I love my brother, but this is just too liberal for even this dyke.

This is not a gay phenomenon. According to a study conducted by Brookings Institution as reported in The New York Times, 28% of heterosexual couples, 29% of lesbian couples, and 69% of gay male couples participate in monogamish relationships. I wonder what the study would show if political couples were surveyed. Oh, that's right, those men: Clinton, Edwards, Gingrich, Hart, Schwarzenegger, and the Kennedys to name a few simply cheated. They didn't have the decency to discuss the possibility of an open marriage with their wives.

But there in lies the problem: Open Marriage or Monogamish does not a marriage make. These are people who want their cake and eat it too. Many of these couples have children. Are they open about their philandering with their children? How do they explain and justify this to them? Marriage is a two adult deal. If there's room for another adult in your bed then don't get married. I got so angry reading this article because I felt it set the gay community back to before the 1970's when homosexuality was thought to be a mental disorder and we were all sex

MONOGAMISH page 40

# What Will It Take to Wake Jews Up?

Dennis Prager

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

The question is in no way meant to be provocative, let alone insulting. But the world, including vast numbers of Muslims, needs this question answered.

After having studied Arabic at college and lectured on comparative religion for decades, and having devoted years to writing my upcoming book comparing American values with leftist and Islamist values, I have become convinced of two things regarding Islam: It must be reformed, and it can be reformed.

Both suppositions are highly controversial. Few believing Muslims think that Islam needs to be reformed; the suggestion would strike most religious Muslims as absurd, if not insulting and ultimately blasphemous. And it would strike many non-Muslim critics of Islam as naive. As Lord Cromer, British consul-general in

Egypt from 1883 to 1907, put it in a quote known to all Western students of Islam, "Islam reformed is Islam no longer."

Let's deal first with the question of whether Islam needs reforming.

The case for it is compelling. Here are a few reasons:

— Majority-Muslim and Islam-based countries are not, and have not been, free societies. According to the 2010 Freedom House "Freedom in the World" survey, of the world's 47 Muslim-majority countries, only two are free, 18 are partly free, and 27 are not free. There is no honest explanation for this nearly total absence of liberty in Muslim countries that does not reflect in some way on Islam.

— Muslim treatment of Jews and Christians in places like medieval Spain was morally far superior to the treatment of non-Christians by European Christians during the same period. But in the modern

period, nowhere that Islam has controlled has afforded non-Muslims anywhere near the equality that non-Christians have taken for granted in the Christian world.

— There was a burst of intellectual and scientific creativity in the Muslim world for a few hundred years, but then the opponents of reason came to dominate Islam, and with it came a loss of scientific and intellectual curiosity.

How could it have been otherwise? The dominant Muslim view was that the natural world had no laws. Everything that occurred did so solely because Allah willed it. If an arrow hit its target, it was not because of the archer's ability or wind patterns or laws of physics; it was because Allah willed it.

According to a United Nations report written by Arab scholars, the Arab world's lack of interest in the non-Arab and non-Muslim worlds is so great that in any given year comparatively tiny Greece translates more books into Greek than all the Arab countries combined translate into Arabic.

— Regarding women, one cannot name a culture or religion in which the status of women is as low as it is in many Muslim societies. Moreover, the status of women has actually declined in many Muslim societies in the present generation. For example, the veil is more common in Egypt

today than it was a hundred years ago.

— In nearly every Muslim country in which non-Muslims live (usually Christians) — from Nigeria to Egypt to Iraq — they suffer persecution.

— A very small percentage of Muslims are terrorists. But nearly every international terrorist is Muslim. And according to every poll I have seen, at least 70 million of the world's more than a billion Muslims support Islamist actions and theology.

— Every state that calls itself an Islamic Republic and rules according to Islamic law is a totalitarian state, and it is usually a bloodthirsty one.

Saudi Arabia is an example of the first; Taliban Afghanistan, Islamist Iran and Islamist Sudan are examples of both.

So, yes, Islam needs to be reformed. This is no insult to Muslims. Judaism and Christianity have undergone major changes. And needed to.

Can Islam be reformed? I do not agree with Lord Cromer. I believe it can.

What is necessary is that Muslim reformers:

1. Honestly acknowledge the Muslim moral record — i.e. the lack of liberty in Muslim nations, the killing of large numbers of non-Muslims, the low status

AMERICAN JEWS, PAGE 36



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THE DOCTOR IS IN

# What you need to know about Bursitis

Rami Rustum, M.D.  
VALLEY PATRIOT MEDICAL COLUMNIST

Bursitis is the inflammation or irritation of the bursa. The bursa is a sac filled with lubricating fluid, located between tissues such as bone, muscle, tendons, and skin, that decreases rubbing, friction, and irritation.

There are 160 bursae in the body. The major bursae are located adjacent to the tendons near the large joints, such as the shoulders, elbows, hips, and knees.

What causes a bursa to become inflamed?

Bursitis is most often caused by repetitive, minor impact on the area, or from a sudden, more serious injury. Age also plays a role. As tendons age they are able to tolerate stress less, are less elastic, and are easier to tear.

Overuse or injury to the joint at work or play can also increase a person's risk of bursitis. Examples of high-risk activities include gardening, raking, carpentry, shoveling, painting, scrubbing, tennis, golf, skiing, throwing, and pitching. Incorrect posture at work or home and poor stretching or



Dr. Rami R. Rustum, M.D. is the Director of Merrimack Pain Associates at 50 Prospect St. in Lawrence. You can contact him at: ramirustum@comcast.net. Tell him you read his column... he likes that!

conditioning before exercise can also lead to bursitis.

An abnormal or poorly placed bone or joint (such as length differences in your legs or arthritis in a joint) can put added stress on a bursa sac, causing bursitis. Stress or inflammation from other conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis, gout, psoriatic arthritis, thyroid disorders, or unusual medication reactions may also increase a person's risk. In addition, an infection

can occasionally lead to inflammation of a bursa.

How is bursitis diagnosed?

The most common symptom of bursitis is localized pain, tenderness or swelling. The pain may build up gradually or be sudden and severe, especially if calcium deposits are present. Loss of motion in the shoulder -- called "adhesive capsulitis" or frozen shoulder -- can also be a sign of bursitis.

The Greater Trochanteric Bursa inflammation is very common reason for having hip pain radiating to the knee as shown below.

How is bursitis treated?

Bursitis can be treated in a number of ways, including:

- Avoiding activities that aggravate the problem.
- Resting the injured area.
- Icing the area the day of the injury.
- Taking over-the-counter anti-inflammatory medicines.

If the condition does not improve in a week, see your doctor.

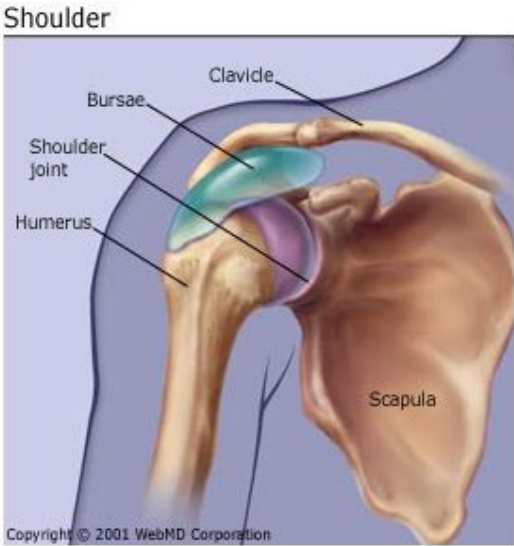
Your doctor can also prescribe drugs

to reduce the inflammation. Corticosteroids, also known simply as "steroids," are often used because they work quickly to decrease the inflammation and pain. Steroids are also one of the safest treatment methods and can be injected directly at the site of injury. Unfortunately, 30% of people may not get complete relief from one injection. Another disadvantage is that for recurrent cases, it is not safe to administer steroids frequently (more than every four months).

Physical therapy is another treatment option that is often used, especially for a frozen shoulder. This includes range-of-motion exercises and splinting (thumb, forearm, or bands).

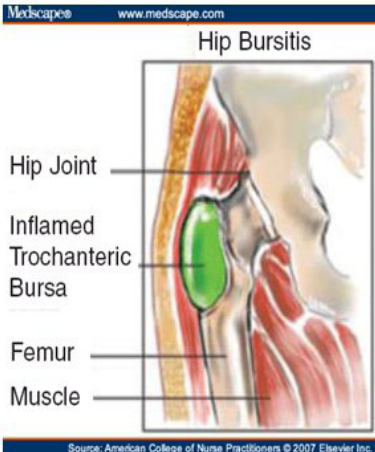
Surgery, although rarely needed, may be an option when bursitis does not respond to the other treatment options.

Infectious (septic) bursitis requires even further evaluation and aggressive treatment. The bursal fluid can be examined in the laboratory to identify the microbes causing the infection. Septic bursitis requires antibiotic therapy, sometimes intravenously. Repeated aspiration of the infected fluid may be required. Surgical drainage and removal of the infected bursa sac (bursectomy) may



also be necessary. Generally, the adjacent joint functions normally after the surgical wound heals.

References: 1- Web MD, 2- Medscape Education website 3- Medicinenet 4- American college of rheumatology.



## Fall Allergies and How To Avoid Them

Thomas Johnson, M.D.  
VALLEY PATRIOT ALLERGY COLUMNIST

Along with the scenic foliage in New England this autumn comes the misery of fall allergies. There are a variety of environmental culprits to avoid this season that can cause itchy eyes, sneezing, sniffles, and chapped nostrils. These allergies can come from a sensitivity to molds, ragweed, trees, or grasses.

Molds are common during autumn. Outdoor molds are plentiful in rotten wood, and fallen leaf piles. Damp fall weather also encourages mold growth inside bathrooms, kitchens, basements, carpets, refrigerators, and garbage cans.

Ragweed is the most common cause of late summer and fall hay fever symptoms. Blame your stuffy, runny nose and sneezing on this weed. Ragweed usually blooms from mid-August to the first frost.

Trees and grasses that pollinate in the fall, such as cedar elm, Chinese elm and eucalyptus, cause a variety of allergic reactions in autumn. These allergenic grasses include pampas grass and wild mustard.

You can't prevent allergies, but you can reduce your exposure to allergens to ease your symptoms. To avoid fall allergies you can wear a facemask while



mowing or raking leaves, cut back trees and brush that overhang your house and remove leaves and clippings.

Also try to repot plants outside and delay outdoor activities until after midmorning, when pollen counts are highest.

If you can't avoid triggers, or if avoiding them doesn't help your symptoms, talk to your health care provider about treatment. A variety of medications are available to treat allergies, such as antihistamines and decongestants. Allergy shots can provide long-term relief.

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# Gut Dysfunction and Chronic Disease

Dr. Jin Sung

VALLEY PATRIOT CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

Gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms are one of the leading causes for visits to the primary care physician and the emergency room. In the United States alone, there are millions of people suffering from GI symptoms, which range from mild symptoms to those more serious to interfere with normal daily activities. Some of the more common GI symptoms related to disease are inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), gastritis, peptic ulcer, colon cancer and diverticulosis. Even more common are the "functional" disorders, which include chronic constipation, diarrhea, bloating and flatulence.

When people think of GI disease they think of symptoms related to the stomach, small intestine, large intestine and colon. What is surprising is that GI dysfunction can be the underlying cause of many conditions we normally do not relate back to the GI tract. A condition called intestinal permeability or "leaky gut" can be implicated in rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, eczema, chronic urticaria and other autoimmune conditions.

So what is a leaky gut? Leaky gut is a compromised GI lining which will allow macromolecules to slip back into the body rather than be eliminated during normal bowel movements. Leaky gut along with other GI dysfunction has been associated with a long list of chronic conditions including celiac disease, chronic yeast infections, chronic fatigue, food allergies, fibromyalgia, migraine headaches, pernicious anemia and others. The

ability of the body to maintain healthy GI function, and to heal the GI barrier when its integrity is breached, is integral not only to healthy aging but to protection from many diseases and disorders. What most people don't know about the GI tract is that approximately 60% of the total immune system is located in the mucosa of the GI tract. So how important is the GI tract to the overall immune response to viruses and bacteria? Very important.

In our office we apply the 4 Rs to restoration of normal gut function.

1. Remove all pathogens. Pathogens include "bad" bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasites and foods.
2. Replace digestive enzymes and restore normal pH of the stomach
3. Reinoculate with "good" bacteria or probiotics along with prebiotics.
4. Regenerate by providing nutritional support for healing and growth of normal GI mucosa.

The 4R program has been an integral program within the natural healing community to help tens of thousands of patients across the country.

DeAnn J. Liska, PhD, Lukaczer, ND. Gut Dysfunction and Chronic Disease: The Benefits of Applying the 4R GI Restoration Program, Advanced Nutrition Publications, Inc. 2001



Dr. Jin Sung is a chiropractic physician located at 126 Merrimack Street in Methuen MA. He can be reached at 978 688 6999. His website is [www.DrJinSung.com](http://www.DrJinSung.com)

## Let's talk about Food

Pennie Hale

VALLEY PATRIOT FOOD COLUMNIST

Most people think about food three times a day. They think about what they are going to eat for breakfast, lunch and dinner. I think about food a lot more often than that. When I am feeling stressed, anxious, tired, sad or bored I think about food. For many reasons, food became my addiction. I believe I am a sugar addict. Some people laugh at that term and I understand why. Some may believe that sugar is not an addictive substance but I disagree. If I avoid sugar throughout the day, I don't crave it. However, when I have just a little, I crave more. I want more. I think about eating more. Is that not the thought process of an addict?

Every morning I start off the day with the best of intentions. I always have a healthy, low-sugar meal. By midday, when my energy level dips, I am not always able to prepare a healthy lunch. I eat what is available. And we all know that sugary products are always available. Lunchtime is a pivotal time of day for me. If I am able to take the time to find or prepare a nutritious meal, the rest of the day usually follows that pattern. I continue to avoid sugar and eat healthy, low-calorie, low-sugar foods. I feel better about my choices, my mood is good and I have the ability to stay focused and be productive. If, however, I give in and eat convenience food, the pattern of eating in an unhealthy way continues until I go to bed. At that point, I begin to calculate my calorie intake for the day and it's then that I realize that I had lost control and that I gave in to my addiction.

I am reading a book about the addictive personality. Why do some people abuse drugs or alcohol or other destructive substances while others have eating disorders and food addictions? I believe



that if a person has an addiction of any kind, it is likely that he or she is not the only one in the family who does. This is true for me. As I stated in the first column I wrote, my eating disorder began when I was twelve. It distracted me from a lot of chaos and turmoil that was going on in my family at that time. I learned that food satiated not only my hunger, but my emotional needs as well. Years later, I still struggle with the same issue. Each day I try to deal with emotions that I have without trying to push them down with food. It's never easy. I'm trying to learn how to manage my emotions and stress level in a conscious, aware manner that is healthy for my body and for my psyche. Some days I am successful. Other days, I am not. I think the trick is to not let the bad day affect the next day. When I have a bad day, it is very easy to give myself permission to throw in the towel, give in to my addiction and let the pattern continue endlessly. I am happy to report that I am able to acknowledge when I have made bad choices and have the ability to start fresh

FOOD, PAGE 35

## Sean Fountain

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## TEA PARTY: FROM PAGE 25

too expensive. The system he yearns for makes Italians wait an average of 70 days for a mammogram. While I'm in no great hurry to have my breast compressed to the size of an IHOP buttermilk pancake, I'm able to book such a procedure in a matter of days.

**LIE: THIS IS NOT A GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF HEALTHCARE.**

You be the judge. Obamacare calls for the creation of 159 agencies, boards and commissions who will decide what benefits must be provided, what procedures will be approved and what doctors will be paid. There are even sections of the law referring to "lifestyle behavior modification" (Orwellian for social engineering). The details of this absurd legislation will be left to federal agencies - unaccountable to the voters - including 16,000 new IRS

agents to collect the new taxes and ensure your compliance.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is neither protection nor affordable. The Tea Party will not rest until this cancerous law is snuffed out, smothered, eradicated or whatever else means the same thing.

**Please join our Tea Party events:**

**September 13th and 14th @ 6 p.m.**

**Seminar by The Free Market Warrior - Loren Spivack, VFW Hall, 32 Park Street, N. Andover**



Christine Morabito is a resident of Haverhill and a member of the Merrimack Valley Tea Party. You can email her at [christine.morabito@hotmail.com](mailto:christine.morabito@hotmail.com)



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Realtor

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# Live the WOW!

**STOP Getting DISTRACTED. Avoid those Tempting Whims and Irritating Time Wasters. Instead, Force Yourself to Pay Attention to the Things that will Help You Live the WOW!**

Thomas Connors  
VALLEY PATRIOT WOW! COLUMNIST

People have great intentions! They decide that Living the **WOW!** is the kind of life they were meant to live. Then as fast as they made a commitment to change and adapt their lifestyle .... WHAM! The onslaught begins. Nuisances and stumbling blocks begin to fall right on their path to success. They pile up. And then they get Distracted. They succumb to their old routines and boring way of life. Part of the process of protecting yourself from these barriers to successful living is becoming aware of their very existence. So, beware!

**Knowing WHO you are, WHY you are on this earth and WHERE you want to go. THAT is the first step to staying on track.**

WHO YOU ARE refers to your ability to go through the process of identifying your weaknesses, your strengths, your loves and dislikes, your values and what is really important to you.

WHY YOU ARE ON THIS EARTH involves you trying to find your Purpose; the reason you are on this earth in the first place.

WHERE YOU WANT TO GO deals with your Goals. What do you want to do with your life? Where ARE you going?

These questions won't be answered overnight. They could take days, weeks,

months. Maybe years, before you feel confident with how you position yourself. But, realize that people Living the **WOW!** have gone through the same thing. There is no shortcut to reaching these decisions. It takes time. Accept it and begin the process now.

**We all get Distracted from time to time. Just don't let those Distractions paralyze you and control the type of life you live.**

The first Distraction that will try to derail you is your Attitude.

You made a decision to begin Living the WOW! You began the process of assessing your life as it is and how you want it to be. Then you found yourself scratching your head after two short days wondering why everything hasn't turned around for you.

THAT is the wrong attitude to adopt. It is unrealistic. That type of thinking cripples your attempt to change the way you live. Now, IF you know those feelings are going to crop up, you can be prepared for them and destroy them when they do. If you handle these Distractions in this manner you will not get discouraged. Result? You will stick with your plan.

**How about these Distractions? These Whims and Time Wasters. They come in many forms. Yet, they all accomplish the same thing. Preventing you from Living the WOW! if you are not ready**

for them.

Here are some examples. Living the **WOW!** calls for you to do something out of the ordinary Saturday night. Your wife suggests a nice supper out and dancing. Haven't done that since you first dated. "Oh, wait!" The Patriots are playing that night." So what. Unless you are getting paid serious money by the Patriots or their opponents to dissect plays, would you really ask your wife to take a backseat to Living the **WOW!**?

It's Sunday night. You set aside that night to plan your coming week. You are determined to stop winging it at work and have discovered that planning for your work week has made you more productive. "Darn!" you say. The Oscars are on that night. You reason that skipping your preparation, just this once, won't hurt. The heck it won't!

Time Wasters. The list goes on. Watching television, playing video games and going out with the "guys". And you ladies have to protect yourself as well. Shopping, just for the thrill of it. Joining the girls for gossip, when you have more important things to do.

And the Whims? How about buying a car you can't really afford? Then using that as an excuse for not being able to afford tapes, books or courses that will increase your knowledge and earning power.

**At American Training's Contract Services Division, we know what the effect of Distractions is all about.**

It causes people to lose track of what they are doing, slows them down and ultimately costs them money in the form of a paycheck. Same is true with the Students in our College level courses. Boyfriend issues and day care problems will throw

many a person off course. Great intentions that get eaten up by Distractions.

**Distractions have been plaguing civilization in a multitude of ways since the beginning of time.**

Why do you think God gave Moses the Ten Commandments? That's right. So, he and his people wouldn't get Distracted on their journey and the way in which they were expected to live their lives. God knew that with the Ten Commandments as a guide, they could Live the **WOW!**

It's the same reason Jesus spent time away from His disciples to contemplate His death? He did not want to let anything or anyone Distract Him from showing us the greatest love anyone has ever shown for another person.

Simply put, history would not be written the same had Distractions been allowed to overwhelm Moses and his people and Jesus.

Keep a keen awareness as you conduct a self-awareness of yourself. Begin to notice the Distractions that pop up and throw you off course. IF you do that, I Guarantee you will soon be saying ...

Now, that's a **WOW!**



Tom Connors is President/CEO of American Training, a diverse collection of companies committed to "Bringing Out the Best in Everyone They Touch". He believes in living life to the fullest by making the WOW! a regular part of your personal, spiritual

and working life. You can reach Tom at Tom@AmericanTrainingInc.com or by writing to him at Tom Connors, American Training, 102 Glenn Street, Lawrence, MA 01843} © 2011. You can also visit Tom at his BLOG ... TomConnors-ThinkPad.blogspot.com



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Loving baseball my entire life, I have been the eyes of seeing each game for the viewers of LynnCam night after night. If it wasn’t for me turning on the Anycast, and having a crew of four cameramen, there wouldn’t be a way Navigator fans could see their defending 2010 NECBL Champion team in action.

Alongside broadcasting four Navigators baseball games, being a cameraman for two, audio for one, I have directed the last 17 games.

My whole life I have been going down the Cape with my family, and have finally had the chance to go down the Cape for two consecutive weekends.

Going to Cape Cod is a lot different then being up in the Boston area for summer vacations.

“It’s a lot cooler down the Cape in the summer then Boston,” said Shawn Hansen of Shawn Hansen’s Comedy Corner. “This morning I woke up to go the bathroom, and I heard an older woman talking to a man outside my window when I came back. It is 7:00 a.m.!!! Go to bed!!! Sew a

change purse, knit a kite, do whatever you want, but don’t talk this loud at 7:00 a.m. outside my window when I am trying to sleep.”

For more information about Shawn Hansen’s Comedy Corner, Shawn Hansen’s Sports Corner, or Shawn Hansen’s Music Corner, go to [www.shawnhansen.weebly.com](http://www.shawnhansen.weebly.com). In the brief bio about Hansen, it will probably say that he attends UMass Lowell ... and writes for the Billerica Minuteman.

Both of those statements fall into the category of “False Acquisitions,” because none of them are true anymore. Hansen stopped writing for the Billerica Minuteman in October 2010, and graduated from UMass Lowell with a Bachelors of Liberal Arts degree in May 2010.

“Shawn Hansen is currently in his last year at UMass Lowell. He wrote for “The Campus Report,” and was Sports Editor. Hansen now writes for “The UMass Lowell Connector,” “Billerica Minuteman,” “Bedford Minuteman,” “Tewksbury Advocate,” and the “Wilmington Advocate.” Follow his blog about the Lowell Devils by going to [valleypatriotsportsflash.blogspot.com](http://valleypatriotsportsflash.blogspot.com). To get in touch with Sports Journalist Shawn Hansen of The Valley Patriot, email him at [Shawn.Hansen38@gmail.com](mailto:Shawn.Hansen38@gmail.com).”

EMG Labratory Attains Prestigious National Accreditation

LAWRENCE - EMG Laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility for electrodiagnostic medicine, was awarded the American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine’s (AANEM) highest level of recognition, Accreditation with Exemplary Status. EMG Laboratory has provided advanced testing of nerves and muscles to communities in and around Merrimack Valley and Cape Cod since 1997. Currently, it is the first and only electrodiagnostic laboratory with such accreditation to serve these communities.

Led by Drasko Simovic, M.D., EMG Laboratory is one of only 17 EMG laboratories nationwide to achieve the AANEM’s peer-reviewed accreditation for high-quality performance, integrity and patient care, exceeding a rigorous set of measures of excellence.

“This accreditation validates the quality of Dr. Simovic’s work as superior,” said Allan H. Ropper, M.D., Executive Vice Chairman, Department of Neurology, Brigham and Woman’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School. “He’s a dedicated and highly qualified specialist with a strong commitment to electrophysiology and to the patients he treats. He’s thoughtful about how he conducts studies, tailors the study logically, and provides referring physicians diagnoses with certainty. Such certainty is important. It helps referring physicians make well-informed decisions about a clear course of patient treatment.”

Dr. Simovic uses techniques from major U.S. academic centers. He completed Boston University’s Affiliated Hospitals Residency Program in Neurology and two fellowships in electrodiagnostic medicine and clinical neurophysiology at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center, Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston, MA.

He is one of the few Boston-area specialists Board Certified in four specialties: Neurology (ABPN), Electrodiagnostic

Medicine (ABEM), Clinical Neurophysiology (ABPN-CN), and Disability Analysis (ABDA). An Assistant Professor of Neurology at Tufts University’s School of Medicine, Dr. Simovic has co-authored groundbreaking research in gene therapy and diabetic neuropathy and published research in novel electrodiagnostic techniques.

“We are pleased to receive this accreditation and recognition from the AANEM,” said Dr. Simovic. “Electrodiagnostic medicine is my passion. I receive gratification in my daily work by helping patients along the path of wellness and establishing correct diagnoses. Once we know the name of our ‘medical enemy,’ it’s much easier for physicians to use the appropriate therapeutic tools. My dedication to providing test results to referring physicians on the same day the test is conducted helps doctors provide the best care to their patients.”

Electrodiagnostic medicine helps diagnose conditions with symptoms including pain, numbness, tingling and/or weakness from problems such as carpal tunnel syndrome, neuropathy, pinched nerves, and low back and neck pain to complex diseases such as muscular dystrophy and Lou Gehrig’s Disease.

About AANEM: The American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine ([www.aanem.org](http://www.aanem.org)) is dedicated to advancing neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, and electrodiagnostic medicine. Its 5,000 physician members work to improve the care of patients with muscle and nerve disorders.

About EMG Laboratory: Serving communities in and around Merrimack Valley, MA and Hyannis, MA for many years, EMG Laboratory provides the highest levels of patient care and diagnostic support for referring physicians in its state-of-the-art facility. EMG Laboratory, a multi-lingual environment, specializes in sophisticated Electromyography and nerve conduction testing that provides information about a range of nerves and muscles disorders. The highly detailed information and meticulous analysis that follows are critical to understanding the complete neuromuscular condition, which assists physicians in selecting an effective treatment plan. Visit [www.emglaboratory.com](http://www.emglaboratory.com) for information about EMG Laboratory and Dr. Simovic.

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# Back to School Blues for your Doggie

Tracey Zysk

VALLEY PATRIOT DOGGIE COLUMNIST

Back-to-school time can be a really hard time on your family dog. After having the children to play with all summer, your pup is suddenly alone most of the day and that can give him a case of the "back-to-school blues".

Dogs get use to having the kids around, playing with them, taking them for walks and in general just having the comfort of knowing they are there. A parent or child-care is in and out of the house and friends and family are around more often. During this time it decreases the level of anxiety in your dog.

However, once school starts, your dog's schedule changes the very first day your children go back to school. It is quick, it is dramatic and it is a completely out of the routine your dog has gotten accustomed to. It is very common for your dog to experience separation anxiety.

Even a well-behaved dog may start to display undesirable behaviors, chewing on furniture, having accidents inside the home, barking excessively or may even start to nip a little.

But no worries, this is as correctable as it was getting your dog use to his summer schedule.

Some of the things you may be able to do to eliminate "the blues" are the following:

1. Hire a Dog Walker – A solid 30 minute walk mid day can help eliminate boredom, loneliness and help get your dog up and moving. Your dog will build a relationship with his walker and he will associate the walker's visits as a positive and he will know the walker is there just for him. He will feel extra special and of course will love the one on one time too.

2. Send him to a Doggie Daycare Some dogs need a little more than a dog walk, because of their energy level or because they have a higher level of anxieties the dog may need to spend the day at a doggie daycare. Dogs that have tons of energy and play well with other dogs are the best candidates for a doggie daycare

3. Send him to a Playgroup - Play groups tend to be held at night or on weekends and some are owner and dog interactive. This is a great way to spend some quality time with your dog and to create a bonding experience in a group setting and to help with his socialization skills.

4. One on One time - Don't forget to put some time aside each night to spend with your dog. Remember even when the kids come home from school they may have after school activities or homework and may not have enough time for doggie playtime. Once the kids settle down for the night you could block off sometime just for the two of you. Another idea



would be to take a long walk after dinner with the entire family. This will create the sense of belonging for your dog.

Overall, "Back-to-School Blues" is a common behavior more than likely your dog will experience. Just have a little patience and try some of the following suggestions listed. Transition will occur but with a little extra help on your part this will happen quicker and easier than you ever expected.

Tracey Zysk, owner of Wiggles & Jiggles Pet Care in North Andover MA is a local pet care professional. She has been featured on local radio, tv and newspapers educating the general public on animal care and animal health & wellness. Tracey is a proud supporter of Police, Fire & Military K9 units. Tracey may be reached at [wiggleswalk@comcast.net](mailto:wiggleswalk@comcast.net). Become a fan on facebook at Wiggles & Jiggles Pet Care and follower of [www.traceythedogwalker.blogspot.com](http://www.traceythedogwalker.blogspot.com)

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## PUPPY LOVE! with Kate Whitney

One Tail at a Time Rescue is a small home based rescue located in Georgia and Massachusetts. We are helping to place at-risk dogs from shelters into preapproved, reference checked, home visited homes. An application is the first step in One Tail's adoption process. One Tail at a Time Rescue does not usually have dogs on-site. Each application is reviewed and approved applicants are sent photos of current dogs or pups available for adoption. Together, applicants and One Tail help choose the pet that will best fit into the adopter's lives and family.

Every dog or pup adopted through One Tail at a Time Rescue is fully updated with all recommended immunizations, heartworm tested and given heartworm and flea/tick prevention meds, microchipped if available, and spayed or neutered prior to adoption. No animal will be placed prior to being altered. Each adoption includes all the above, plus leash, collar, dog food and natural biscuit samples, and transportation to the adoptive family's home. We also include information on crate training, tips for helping to keep your pet healthy and happy, and free helpful advice for the lifetime of your dog!

We are always in need local families interested in fostering one of our great, loving dogs. Sometimes fosters are only needed overnight the night prior to transport to the dog's new homes. Overnight fosters need to be able to transport their guests to the meeting place early the following morning. If you are interested in long-term or short-term fostering for One Tail at a Time Rescue, either in Massachusetts or Georgia, please email us for more information.

Please help... We are always in need of small donations. Most needed are collars, leashes, old towels and flannel sheets for crate comfort, instant dog tags called "Fastags", and used crates in good condition. Monetary donations can also be made to help pay for unexpected vet bills for specific animals that we pull from shelters. Donations for this purpose will only be accepted by the treating veterinary establishment which will be provided to you upon request. If you'd like to help or need more info about helping, please email us. [onetail@comcast.net](mailto:onetail@comcast.net)

Phone: 978/373-4167 or 978/387-5619 (c)



# The Canine Heroes of September 11, 2001

Tracey Zysk

VALLEY PATRIOT DOGGIE COLUMNIST

Ten years later... it is as if it was yesterday. After the buildings went down, the search started. Images of firefighters, police, military, New Yorkers and tourists all helping out, looking and searching.

As a viewer watching this unravel on TV, I still couldn't fully comprehend or maybe believe what I was watching. But I noticed dogs, and more dogs, police and fire dogs and search and rescue dogs.

I clearly remember thinking, are they trained for this? As a Country, most of us hadn't experienced anything like this. Our Military had, and the dogs of the Military had been trained for combat, had served in Desert Storm and in other military conflicts, but this was a different type of event. FEMA was utilizing dogs but their team consisted of less than twenty trained K-9's. As an animal professional, I became even more intrigued how the dogs would be utilized at Ground Zero.

These dogs were going to have to be able to sniff out humans, fire, bombs, explosives and even unknown foreign objects. At that point, nobody really knew all the details of what occurred around this event. Nobody really knew what to

expect. A handler really had to trust his dog and let the dog do what he was trained to do. The handler had to have a keen

eye and respond to every signal his dog was going to give him.

I saw a clip on the news about an organization called National Disaster Search Dog Founda-

tion. They were one of the organizations that deployed to the site.

I immediately wanted to find out more about them and my research began. How these dogs were trained, what were they capable of doing, will they be able to handle an event of this size. In fact, my passion for working dogs began from the events of 911.

I was glued to my TV and flipping from

station to station to watch each and every part of this rescue and in every scene I saw police and fire departments from

all across the country showing up with their dogs.

The important part these dogs played in the search from both a rescue and a recovery perspective is unbelievable. The towers had already tumbled,

people were trapped and our first line responders were unable to find or to get to them. Emergency rescues were relying on the noses of their dogs. These dogs not only sniffed to their needed location but the dogs were the ones that crawled into the debris, the dogs were the ones that stepped on the smoldering ground and the dogs were the ones that were digging into the rubble. For most of the people saved from underneath the building, their first contact with life was with the dog that

found them.

The events of 911 really brought well deserved attention to the power of K-9 search and rescue. Since 911 more and more towns, cities, States and government agencies have added additional K-9's with several different search specialties to their forces.

In respect to the Anniversary of 911 please take a moment and say a little pray to the K-9's that took part in the tragedies of that day. Some of those dogs lost their lives at that site, some were burned and several became ill with various diseases including lung cancer from that event. Ten years later, most if not all of these K-9 Heroes have passed away. They are not to be forgotten. Think positive thoughts in regards to all the human lives that were saved or to the families that were able to have the recovery of a lost one, all with great appreciated and a special thank you to "Man's Best Friend"

Tracey Zysk, owner of Wiggles & Jiggles Pet Care in North Andover MA is a local pet care professional. She has been featured on local radio, tv and newspapers educating the general public on animal care and animal health & wellness. Tracey is a proud supporter of Police, Fire & Military K9 units. Tracey may be reached at [wigglewalk@comcast.net](mailto:wigglewalk@comcast.net). Become a fan on facebook at Wiggles & Jiggles Pet Care and follower of [www.traceythedogwalker.blogspot.com](http://www.traceythedogwalker.blogspot.com)



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## Food Addiction: From Page 30

the next day. We all know that no one is perfect and that it's unrealistic to expect mistakes to never happen.

If you struggle with an addiction of any kind, I urge you to seek support. If you struggle with a food addiction or disorder, know that I understand. I would like to hear your story.

What I know for sure is that several things help me with my struggles with weight. Talking about it is at the top of that list. Talking about food addictions, disorders, obsessions and unhealthy thoughts about food is a common daily occurrence for me. Discussions about

healthy food recipes and exercise routines are also common. What I would like to do with this column is to offer you, the Valley Patriot reader, the opportunity to share your own personal stories with me. I am not a food, weight loss or eating disorder expert. I am not someone who is qualified to offer advice or tips. I would, however, love to read your story and possibly share it with other readers and continue my own personal story in a monthly column. If you are interested, please email me at [pennielacouture@verizon.net](mailto:pennielacouture@verizon.net)

*Written by Pennie Hale, Methuen resident and Valley Patriot food columnist.*



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# September Is National Cholesterol Education Month

**Celeste Begley**

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR

September is National Cholesterol Education Month, an ideal time to have your blood cholesterol checked and take action to lower it if it is high. High blood cholesterol affects more than 65 million Americans and is a major risk factor for heart disease, the No. 1 killer of women and men in the U.S. Many people don't know their cholesterol is high since the condition usually doesn't have any symptoms. However, a simple blood test can determine your cholesterol number. If your cholesterol is too high, you can lower it by incorporating lifestyle changes that will lessen your risk for developing heart disease and reduce the chance of having a heart attack or dying of heart disease. If lifestyle changes aren't enough, medication can help.

"Right at Home of Boston North encourages you to have your blood cholesterol checked," said Rosaleen Doherty, Co-Owner, "Your cholesterol number will tell you whether you should change your diet or become more active so you can continue to lead a long and healthy life."

Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance your body needs to function normally. Your body makes all the cholesterol it needs, so when there is too much of it in

your blood, it builds up on the walls of your arteries, causing them to narrow and slow blood flow to the heart. If enough blood, which carries oxygen, cannot reach your heart, you may suffer chest pain. If the blood supply to a portion of the heart is completely blocked, the result is a heart attack.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute recommends that you have your cholesterol checked every five years with a blood test, called a fasting lipoprotein profile. Compare your results with the following information:

- Total cholesterol – Less than 200 milligrams (mg) of cholesterol per deciliter (dL) of blood is desirable.

- Low-density lipoprotein (LDL or "bad" cholesterol) – Less than 100 mg/dL is best; LDL is the main source of cholesterol buildup in the arteries; the higher your LDL level, the greater your chance

of getting heart disease.

- High-density lipoprotein (HDL or "good" cholesterol) – 60 mg/dL or more is optimal; HDL helps keep cholesterol from building up in the arteries; the higher your HDL level, the lower your chance of getting heart disease.

- Triglycerides – 150-199 mg/dL is borderline high and 200 mg/dL is high; triglycerides is another form of fat in your blood that can increase the risk of heart

disease; if your level is borderline high or high, you may need treatment.

You can lower your cholesterol number by making these lifestyle changes:

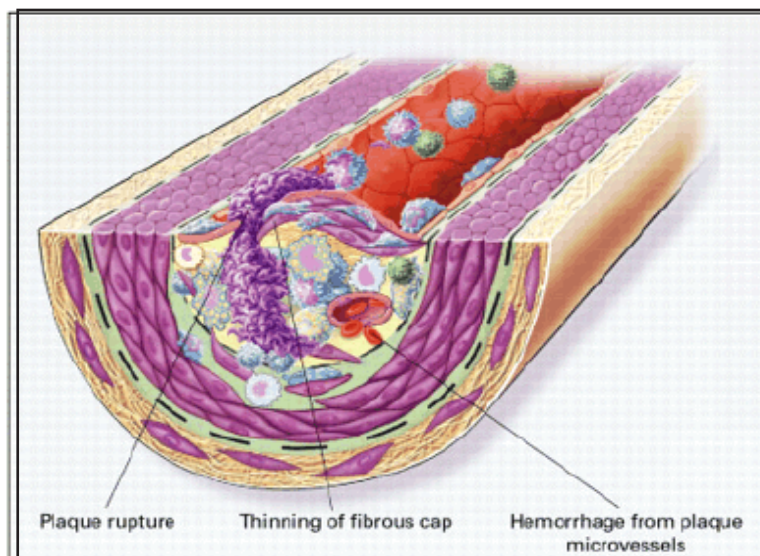
- Eat more fresh fruits and vegetables and whole grains, which are low in fat and high in fiber.
- Maintain a healthy weight.
- Be physically active for 30 minutes on most, if not all, days.
- Don't smoke or quit if you smoke.

Factors you cannot control but also can affect your cholesterol number include:

- Age – Cholesterol increases with age.
- Gender – Before menopause, women have lower total cholesterol levels than men of the same age. After menopause, women's LDL levels tend to rise.
- Heredity – Your genes partly determine how much cholesterol your body makes. High blood cholesterol can run in families.

About Right at Home of North Shore, Merrimack Valley and Wakefield/Melrose (Boston North)

Right at Home is an award winning family owned and operated private home health agency. It was started by Jay Ken-



ney and Rosaleen Doherty on the North Shore in 2002. Since that time, they have expanded to three offices serving almost 500 families per week with senior home care services.

Right at Home offers in-home companionship, personal care and nursing care to seniors and disabled adults who want to continue to live independently. They directly employ and supervise all caregiving staff, each of whom are thoroughly screened, trained, bonded and insured prior to entering a client's home.

Right at Home serves all of Essex County and cities and towns North of Boston in Middlesex and Suffolk Counties. For more information on Right at Home, visit [www.rightathomemass.net](http://www.rightathomemass.net) or read the Rosaleen Doherty's caregiving blog at [www.rightathomemass.net](http://www.rightathomemass.net) and click BLOG.



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## AMERICAN JEWS: FROM PAGE 28

of women, etc. This does not necessitate rejecting the Quran or Islam.

2. Eschew incorporating Sharia into state law and oppose the establishment of any Islamic theocracy (which is not, in any event, Quran-based, according to moderate Muslims).

3. Publicly and unambiguously condemn all violence in the name of Islam, including violence against Israel.

4. Express a deep appreciation of the moral record of America, including its superb treatment of both its Muslim citizens and Muslim immigrants, along with a complete rejection of the Islamist notion that America is hostile to Muslims.

5. Fully accept the existence of Israel as a Jewish state, and distance themselves from the Muslim/Arab obsession with Israel.

At this very moment, there are Muslim reformers who believe and express all five of these propositions.

Examples include University of Delaware Professor Muqtedar Khan, who runs [www.ijtihad.com](http://www.ijtihad.com): "American Muslims really have no reason to feel they are victims of anything ... ." The Muslim American community is thriving, proof of "America's benevolence and tolerance of Islam."

Another is Ahmed al-Rahim, a professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia: "The most important message is that we condemn all kinds of hate speech, including anti-Semitism and anti-Americanism, and that we come out as boldly as possible against violence committed by Muslims in Iraq, in Israel ... ."

Regarding the Muslim obsession with Israel, Khan has written: "It is time the leaders of the American Muslim community woke up and realized that ... Islam is not about defeating Jews or conquering Jerusalem. It is about mercy, about virtue, about sacrifice and about duty. Above all,

it is the pursuit of moral perfection."

Zainab Al-Suwaij, a refugee from Saddam Hussein's Iraq and executive director of the moderate American Islamic Congress, publicly declared that America "has given Iraqis the most precious gift any nation has ever given another — the gift of democracy and the freedom to determine its own future."

And Dr. Zuhdi Jasser, a physician in Arizona whose parents fled Syria in the 1960s, is the founder and chairman of the board of the moderate American Islamic Forum for Democracy (AIFD). A believing and practicing Muslim, Jasser advocates American values, promotes a Quran-based life to be practiced by the individual Muslim and never imposed by the state. He is courageous in confronting the Islamist Muslim groups that the mainstream media in the Western world have promoted to appear as the spokesmen for Western Muslims.

As Jasser says of organizations such as CAIR and other so-called Muslim civil rights organizations, "There was more concern with hate crimes against Muslims, which I think were relatively low; there was more focus on that than actually looking at the violence and the hate speech that has been committed in the name of Islam."

Islam is too important to deny its need to reform. And it is too important to deny its ability to ever reform.

And if it does reform, Muslims who have embraced America and American values will lead the way.

Dennis Prager hosts a nationally syndicated radio talk show and is a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. He is the author of four books, most recently "Happiness Is a Serious Problem" (HarperCollins). His website is [www.dennisprager.com](http://www.dennisprager.com).

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# American Legion News

John Lenotte

VALLEY PATRIOT VETERAN COLUMNIST

## Service to America

When most people think about service organizations, they think about the Lions, Elks, Rotary, Exchange Club and others similar to them. However, what about the Veteran Service Organizations like the American Legion, VFW, Amvets, DAV and Marine Corps League? I would have to say it is an image that persists about what these groups do for they are more than just a local hangout for veterans. Any member's lounge is secondary, it is a business that provides funds to the parent group.

I will quote you some statistics from the American Legion that have just come out from reports for the calendar year 2010. This is for all Legion posts in the world:

3,899,125: Hours of community service performed by post members

\$4,249,713: Money spent performing community service by American Legion posts

159,187: Number of veterans benefits cases handled by American Legion post service officers

\$2,319,797: Money spent by posts providing emergency aid in their communities

\$1,953,108: Dollars raised by local posts for VA hospitals

34,621: Number of Legionnaires who are registered in VA Volunteer Services

830: Number of local Heroes to Home-towns coordinators, who assist wounded warriors and newly discharged veterans as they adjust to civilian life

80,097: Number of pints of blood donated by Legionnaires

7,209: Number of ROTC medals presented by Legionnaires

21,074: Number of school medals presented to students by local posts

109,475: Number of funeral honors provided by local Legion posts for veterans and military personnel

16,105: Number of American Legion Boys State participants sponsored by Legion posts

\$1,037,926: Local donations to The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund, to help the children of military personnel killed on duty after 9/11

47,508: Number of youths participating in Legion-sponsored Scouting units

237,905: Number of competitors participating in local American Legion oratorical

contests

13,934: Number of college scholarships granted by local American Legion posts

2,272: Number of American Legion Baseball teams sponsored

6,943: Number of participants in post-sponsored Junior Shooting Sports clubs

\$202,486: Money donated by local posts to help children's hospitals

13,807: Number of American Legion posts worldwide

This is what the American Legion specifically is all about. And the other Veteran Service Organizations do their part as well. Our motto is veterans still serving America. I think those numbers show that

we do what we say! And this is only part of what we do. Most states have Legion Service officers who help with VA claims.

We don't look for praise but it is interesting that most papers, unlike the Valley Patriot, will not print the good works that we do. But if there is a potential negative, it becomes front page news! I leave it to you to judge. Look beyond the surface to see what gets done on a local, state and national basis as volunteers from the Legion and others step up to the plate.

A recent point of dissension is those in Washington DC looking to change the military retirement system. Are our elected officials willing to change their generous benefits package? How many of them have served in uniform and seen upfront the sacrifices our troops and their families make? And it is not for glory. It is a sense of duty, a love for this country. Our troops during Vietnam were basically abandoned at home. We have a volunteer force that needs incentives to stay on active duty.

And now more plans to rely on the Reserve and Guard as budget cuts will hit active duty forces. Can we/they be that short sighted? I pray not.

Unless our elected officials hear from you and I, they will think we don't care or that we agree with them. Let your voices be heard. I can assure you, they will be hearing my voice.

May God bless our troops and their families



John Lenotte is the American Legion, Commander, Wilbur M. Comeau Post 4 Haverhill and Vice Commander, Dept. of Massachusetts. You can Email him at [JohnLDistrict8@verizon.net](mailto:JohnLDistrict8@verizon.net)

# Ask the Reverse Mortgage Guy

Bob Irving CSA®

1ST INTEGRITY MORTGAGE

Q - If I end up owing more on my reverse mortgage than my home is actually worth, what happens? - William - Methuen MA

A - Some poorly educated or inexperienced reverse mortgage loan originators may be providing bad advice to borrowers when it comes to discussing an important "feature" of the government insured Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM). These

unique loans to senior homeowners at least 62 years old are often hailed as "FHA insured"

and "nonrecourse". That's absolutely correct. But, unfortunately, the originator may offer a summary conclusion such as "... so if you ever end up owing more than the property is worth, you can just walk away! FHA pays the difference."

That's not necessarily correct. A recent article by James Veale (Reverse Review - August 30, 2011) points out that this is not the end of the story for reverse mortgage borrowers. You may pay a very big price to "just walk away" from your HECM loan. Many reverse mortgage loan originators do not know the whole story because they have not been trained well. Training sometimes consists of following around another employee with more experience for a week and attending a couple of closings.

The FHA insurance covers the lender, not the borrower. So while the lender may eventually be reimbursed for the shortfall if you owe more than the home is worth... you still owe the money. The borrower does pay for the FHA insurance, but in no case is the borrower the beneficiary according to Mr. Veale. The lender is the beneficiary. Again... you still owe the money.

The nonrecourse feature of a HECM simply means that the lender will not be able to obtain a deficiency judgment in a

court against the borrower(s). But you still owe the remaining balance if there is a shortfall. And your home will be foreclosed. Your credit will be dinged and the foreclosure remains on your credit report. Additionally, there may likely be some income tax consequences. For a full understanding of the consequences of these specific issues you should consult with your attorney and tax advisor.

Q- How can I get reliable reverse mortgage information? Joanne J. - Wilmington MA

A - Follow a few simple rules when obtaining information about

reverse mortgages. Robert Wagner, Fred Thomson, Henry Winker (and coming soon, Barbara Eden of I Dream of Jeanie fame) know next to nothing about reverse mortgages. The free CD offered by these personalities on TV is just a way to get your name and phone number for follow up by faceless pitchmen from a boiler room call center.

Rule -1 Do your own basic research. Check as many different sources as possible on the internet - but remember, in many cases you could be reading information that is in error or outdated. Do not plug in your name, address and phone information at any web site unless you want to be bombarded by companies running a boiler room phone operation designed to pressure you into completing an application.

Rule -2 Discuss the concept of reverse mortgages with a trusted financial adviser. Be very careful here. First, question your adviser and ask "Do you have any direct experience with reverse mortgages?" Then, "Do you work with a reverse mortgage professional?" Even some highly regarded attorneys and financial planners have only a vague understanding of the modern day reverse mortgage program...

REVERSE, page 40

# UGLO-AMERICANS: FROM 28

a bad hair day. "Feeling" ugly is not good enough. Perhaps an oversight committee would also be needed to ensure this body does not discriminate in their ugly judgments. If a judge, for example, were to have an uneven record of judging ugly among the races...well, that could get ugly. Ugliness must be seen as afflicting every race, sex, and ethnicity equally.

Humor aside, there are more people discriminated against because of their looks and appearance than perhaps all the other reasons combined. And spiritual beauty is often overlooked. If the government is to be involved in race, color, creed, religion, ethnic origin, age, sex, disability, and sexual orientation - why not fat and ugly? Of course they would call it some-

thing more innocuous like "appearance" discrimination, but if the camel's nose is allowed under the tent won't the entire camel eventually appear?

As silly as this all sounds, whether it be right or wrong to allow the government to be involved in who we discriminate against in our lives, consistency would demand the inclusion of the unattractive. That seems to be the ugly truth.



Paul Murano taught theology and philosophy at Assumption College and Northshore Com. College. He was also co-host of The Paying Attention! radio program and Host "Beneath the Surface" on Burlington Cable Access. You can E-mail Paul at [PJDM@aol.com](mailto:PJDM@aol.com)



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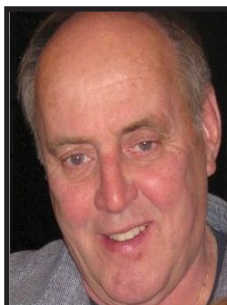
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[JohnLDistrict8@verizon.net](mailto:JohnLDistrict8@verizon.net)

## TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK: FROM 21

The SBA has proven to be an invaluable resource for small business in America and proof that they have faith in helping to make small business successful," said Lupoli. Massachusetts SBA Director

Bob Nelson says, "We are extremely pleased that Sal's significant contributions to our state and regional economy are being recognized on a

national level in the SBA 100 publication. Congratulations, Sal." The SBA 100 companies include businesses in a variety of industries, from manufacturing, to food and beverage, to shipping. Each business received SBA support in the form of capital, contracting, counseling or investment before going on to create at least 100 jobs.

**PRAYER SHAWL** -Communities Together, Inc., formerly The Greater Lawrence Council of Churches, will sponsor the 8th Annual Interfaith Prayer Shawl Tea at St. Augustine's Parish, Center for Education and Ministry, 35 Essex Street, Andover on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Please join them for light refreshments as we celebrate the Prayer Shawl Ministry, offer shawls for a blessing by clergy, and share stories of how the ministry touches lives.

Their speaker will be Terry Holbrook, RN, Merrimack Valley Hospice Chaplain. Come and hear how prayer shawls are an important aspect of the compassionate care so essential to hospice patients and their families. This event is free and open to the public. Please RSVP (very helpful but not required) by Friday morning, September 16, to the Communities Together office: (978) 686-4012 or [ctstaff276@comcast.net](mailto:ctstaff276@comcast.net).

**AUDITIONS** -The Albany Berkshire Ballet is holding open auditions for its 2011 Annual Nutcracker Tour of the Northeast. The Nutcracker tour will run from November 19th through December 18th. Performances will take place at the

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts; Burlington, VT, Collins Center for the Performing Arts; Andover, MA, Colonial Theatre; Pittsfield, MA, The EGG-Center for the Performing Arts; Albany, NY, and

—Tracey Zysk

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City Stage & Symphony Hall; Springfield, MA. Preview Performances will be held at Bard College at Simon's Rocks', Daniel Arts Center, in the

McConnell Theater; located at 84 Alford Rd., Great Barrington, MA.

The Andover auditions will be held on Sunday, September 18th, 2011 at the North Reading School of Ballet. Auditions are open to all local boys and girls age 6 and up. The times for auditions are age based; ages 6-8 begin at 11:00am (Reindeer, Mini-mice & Clowns), ages 9 -12 begin at 1:00pm (Party Children, Clara, Fritz, Angels & Mice), and ages 12 and up begin at 3:00pm (Angels, Maids, Soldiers & Mice). The audition fee of \$15 applies to all ages. - Girls bring Pointe Shoes - Party Children must be no taller than 4' 7" - Clara no taller than 4' 10" For more information contact Albany Berkshire Ballet at 1-413-445-5382, via email at: [abballet@verizon.net](mailto:abballet@verizon.net) or visit our website: [www.berkshireballet.org](http://www.berkshireballet.org), or you may also contact The North Reading School of Ballet by phone at: 1-978-664-6433, via email at: [NRSBallet@gmail.com](mailto:NRSBallet@gmail.com) or visit their website at [www.NRSBallet.com](http://www.NRSBallet.com)

**HAVERHILL - NEW MOON PERFORMANCES** - She's performed for millions at the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. As comfortable and vibrant on the small stage as big, she'll usher in the New Moon Coffeehouse's 24th season. The April Verch Band performs a joyful night of fiddling, step dancing, and song on Saturday September 17th. The performance starts at 8:00 pm. Tickets cost \$20. The evening starts with an opening set by upcoming star and Haverhill native Kaytee Amaro.



Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon coordinates disaster relief with the dedicated volunteers of the local Red Cross during last month's Tropical Storm Irene. Irene left thousands of Valley residents powerless and caused millions of dollars in damage. Only seven Methuen residents took advantage of the free shelter set up at the Timmony School, but Chief Solomon said that they were ready for any situation.

The April Verch Band, with April at the helm on the fiddle, delivers richly textured phrasing on traditional roots tunes, bluegrass and newgrass melodies, jazz-influenced compositions, and country music.

When April trades her fiddling for the rhythmic art of stepdancing, the band takes on the sound of the old lumber camp halls where those without instruments created rhythms with their feet. The metal taps on April's shoes generate exhilarating cadences that enhance her traditional Ottawa Valley arrangements.

It's even more impressive when April continues playing intricate rifts on her fiddle while dancing the rhythmic pulse that drives the tune. The overall effect on her audiences is electrifying. Please visit [www.aprilverch.com](http://www.aprilverch.com) for complete bio and hi-rez pictures. 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](http://www.newmooncoffeehouse.org), or by calling 978-459-5134. The coffeehouse is located in the glorious old Universalist Unitarian Church at 16 Ashland St. Haverhill MA 01830.

**NECC OFFERS NEW PROGRAM FOR OLDER LEARNERS** - Getting Friendly with Fungi, Five Fun Films, Sacred Geometry, and Aging Gracefully are just a few of the topics offered this fall by Northern Essex Community College's

newest Life Long Learning Program titled College of Older Learners (CoOL). CoOL encourages learning as a community with active engagement from both the participants as well as the seminar leader. It is a member-directed, peer-led program that encourages members to help develop future seminar topics or become seminar leaders. The membership fee is \$25 for the 2011 fall semester. Each six-week, two-hour per week seminar is \$10.

The CoOL seminars begin the first week in October and will be held on the Haverhill campus. Topics include, Getting Friendly with Fungi: Edible Mushrooms of the North Shore with Liz Anderson; Five Fun Films with Leonard Douglas, Dante's Inferno, with Peter Spellman; Sacred Geometry with Ben Coughlin; Energy, Environment & Global Affairs with Michael Levin; How Good is Your Diet with Ruth Young; Aging Gracefully with Arleen Damon and Emily Weidman; The Good Life with George Medelinskas; Enriching Our Relationship with Life with Kate Zehnter. For additional information or to register for CoOL seminars contact Charlene Boucher at [cboucher@necc.mass.edu](mailto:cboucher@necc.mass.edu) or 978-556-3825. For a complete list of seminars, times, and locations visit Life Long Learning's CoOL website at <http://www.necc.mass.edu/community-engagement/cool/>

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FROM THE DESK OF

**MARK GRAY**

Lawrence School Committee District "E"

In my term as the school committee rep I have had business owners thank me for representing their tax dollars. People from every district have thanked me for caring about their children and giving them a voice. People have pledged support and have trusted me with confidential issues. Now it's my turn to express my thanks to all of you. I have always been impressed with the good character of those in my district, greater than my own, who open their homes and hearts to discuss all kinds of issues. With all the headaches and issues this city places on a person, I can say that the one greatest offset was the people I have had the opportunity to meet and those that I now dare call friends.

Thank you.



PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT MARK GRAY

# Marc Sachs Joins Salvatore's Restaurant Group

Lupoli Companies is pleased to announce that hospitality industry veteran, Marc Sachs, joined Salvatore's Restaurant Group as Corporate Director of Hospitality and Beverage in June, 2011. Marc takes responsibility for ensuring premium and distinctive guest experiences at each of the growing, Lawrence-based restaurants. Marc designs, implements, and trains the adult beverage program that complements the abundant, fresh Italian cuisine for which Salvatore's is known.

Service is the highest calling, and Marc brings that core value with him to Salvatore's. Marc is a distinguished Guest Lecturer at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, where he specializes in teaching front of the house hospitality and



service.

Marc began his career in New York City as a member of the opening service staff of Windows on the World in 1976. As an experienced part of the Boston scene, Marc shared his talents with the Copley Plaza Hotel and the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge. He then led Merchant's Wine & Spirits to prominence as a fine wine and spirit retailer in the Financial District. Most recently, Marc was Corporate Beverage Manager at Uno Chicago Grill. He is a frequent contributor and speaker at both the Cheers and Vibe Beverage Conferences. Born and raised in the Bronx, and a graduate of the Bronx High School of Science, Marc lives in Arlington, MA, proud father to sixteen year old Zoe, and thirteen year old Elias.

## FROM THE MAIL BAG

### Reader Unhappy with CondoManager

To the editor,  
On 2/22/11, I wrote a letter to my Court Association Board President regarding its employee, in the capacity as Property Manager, who earns a staggering seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000.00) per year income.

It had come to my attention that the Property Manager had signed a resident's name to a Landlord/Tenant Agreement. The document states in part, "The parties acknowledge that this agreement is legal and binding, and affix their signature with the understanding that they do so under penalty of perjury." The Property Manager appears to have forged the signature where the tenant/owner was to sign. Past, signed, yearly agreements clearly reflect the forged signature.

I had spoken with Salem Police Lieutenant Malisos regarding this matter. I had spoke with Salem Town Prosecutor Jason Groski. At this time, no criminal complaint has been completed.

In fact, Salem Police Lieutenant Malisos stated this is a civil issue and directed

that a civil court complaint be filed. It is unclear whether the Property Manager was acting within her scope of employment or this was an independent act on her part, which is not condoned by the Court Association.

I sought documented clarification from the Board of Directors regarding their position in this matter. There was no response to the certified letters I sent. The Property Manager appears to continue her employment regardless of her improper actions and its negative residual impact to residents.

I firmly believe current and future tenants should know of this wrongful act. If you are currently renting or plan to rent an apartment in Salem, NH, and the Property Manager quite strongly resembles a "Librarian of yesteryear" and is a sixty-five (65) year old female.....

Be Warned.....Be wary.....Beware.

*Sincerely,  
Judith Tompson, Salem NH*

## TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK: FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Headlined by Pauline Wells Foster Kids of Merrimack Valley (FKMV), a local organization dedicated to serving the needs of foster kids throughout Merrimack Valley, is hosting a fundraising benefit event Thursday, September 29, 2011 with Pauline Wells at the Blue Ocean Music Hall. FKMV is a certified 501(c)3 non-profit organization serving foster children in the Merrimack Valley, including Lawrence, Methuen, Andover, North Andover and the greater Haverhill region. FKMV's goal is to bring a positive influence into the lives of these children and support them as they grow; they offer a range of programs for local foster children of all ages. Funds raised at the Pauline Wells Benefit Concert will be used to support FKMV programs. FKMV works closely with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to make sure all programs offered are complementary and needed, and do not overlap with the state and federally funded programs.

Ms. Wells will perform together with DEVRI, as they take the stage at the Blue Ocean Music Hall in a special evening to benefit the Foster Kids of Merrimack Valley. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit programs offered by Foster Kids of Merrimack Valley. Tickets are \$30 (plus \$2 ticket handling fee) and can be purchased online at [www.fosterkidsmv.org/paulinewells](http://www.fosterkidsmv.org/paulinewells). Tables of six (6) may be purchased for \$192 as one transaction. It will take place at the Blue Ocean Music Hall, 4 Oceanfront North, Salisbury, MA, 01952. Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 7:30 PM. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. For more information, please visit our website at: <http://www.fosterkidsmv.org/paulinewells>

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Dates: 8 week training Beginning Sep-

tember 26th until November 21, 2011 (no class on October 10th). Classes held on Mondays 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Location: Merrimack Valley Hospice House, 360 North Avenue, Haverhill, MA 01830.

All training is provided by hospice professionals from Merrimack Valley Hospice. All Merrimack Valley Hospice Volunteers must be 18 years old.

This class is offered free of charge. However, registration is required, please call Sheryl Meehan at 978-552-4522 or email [smeehan@homehealthfoundation.org](mailto:smeehan@homehealthfoundation.org).

**METHUEN** - Nicholson Stadium, - Sunday September 11, 2011 Methuen Pop Warner will host a commemoration on the 10TH anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks beginning at 12:00 PM. Expected attendees include; Mayor Wm. Manzi of Methuen, several Methuen City Councilors, Methuen VFW Honor Guard, Methuen Police Department Honor Guard, Methuen Fire Department Honor Guard, Methuen High School Football and Cheerleading Teams, as well as many other dignitaries and honored guests. Methuen Pop Warner will have for sale special edition commemorative T-shirts with all proceeds going to benefit the Veteran's Northeast Outreach Center in Haverhill, MA. Established in 1985, The Veteran's Northeast Outreach Center is a private non-profit organization serving the Greater Merrimack Valley. Their mission is to provide the highest quality of services to assist, support and advocate for Veterans and their families. Please visit [www.northeastveterans.org](http://www.northeastveterans.org) or call 978-372-3626 for more info regarding The Veteran's Northeast Outreach Center. For detailed information regarding the event please phone either contact at the top of this announcement.

To advertise in the Valley Patriot email us at [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com) or call 978-771-4091 and leave your contact information. One of our fine sales people will get back to you.



Tom Duggan is president of Valley Patriot, Inc., a former Lawrence School Committeeman, a Police Survivor and hosted the Paying Attention! Radio Program from 2000-2011, You can email your comments to [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com).



The Official Kick Off Campaign For The Lowell Lions Tree Planting Project Was Held In Lowell's Armory Park Recently With Governor Jane Fanjoy Seen Here Doing The "Heavy" Lifting. Lowell's President Pledged To Governor Jane That Lowell Will Fulfill It's Pledge To Plant At Least 20 Trees Around Various Lowell Locations. Pictured Left To Right (Front) Gov. Jane Fanjoy.....PDG, ZC Ted Irvin. Rear Left To Right. Rachel Kisker (City Of Lowell's Design Planner).....City Of Lowell's Commissioner Of Parks/Recreation Tom Bellegarde (First Husband) Neil Fanjoy, Lowell President Marcel V. Plouffe, and Lowell Director PZC Dick Provencher. It Also Should Be Noted That Gov. Jane Proclaimed That Lowell Is The First Official Club In 33N To Plant A Tree/Start The Campaign

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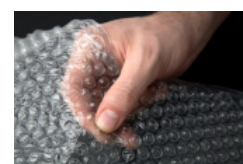
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HERO IN OUR MIDST, KATSAROS: FROM PAGE 1

Beyond man’s control

Two days after Pearl Harbor, with “patriotism jumping in my veins,” 17-year old Katsaros joined the Navy Air Cadets, later enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and sworn in December 7, 1942.

He flew 11 combat missions against Germany, February 11 to March 20, 1944: Frankfurt (3 missions), Leipzig (producing ME-109 fighter planes), Lippstadt, Wilhelmshaven, Cologne, Berlin, Berlin/Erkner, Augsburg, and Landsburg am Lech.

He took part in the massive operations that blitzed Germany—the “Big Week,” February 20-25, 1944—the largest and most successful missions ever run.” For their role, the 401st received two Presidential Distinguished Unit Citations, for raids against Leipzig and Frankfurt.

The day his plane was shot down, four crew members were KIA, Katsaros’ body was riddled with shrapnel, his mangled right arm hung paralyzed. Yet before bailing out, he wrapped his scarf around the neck of a fellow gunner, hemorrhaging from a severed artery, and helped him bail out.

With seconds to spare, Katsaros bailed

out at 27,000 ft in a 25,000 ft free-fall, losing consciousness. But first he said a fast prayer.

Valley of the shadow of death

His prayer was answered.

He landed on the “Bonne Maison Farm.” Alive, but shattered with six broken ribs, a fractured left ankle, a badly twisted and sprained right ankle and severe contusions to head, back and leg.

A farm worker saw him and carried him to the farmhouse.

Then the Gestapo arrived . . .

Thus began “the long escape”—a three-month, 3,000-mile journey from the north of France to the south, climbing the Pyrenees before reaching Spain, then Gibraltar and freedom.

Thanks to the French underground, Katsaros survived. They whisked him from one safe-house to another, often right under the nose of the Gestapo!

The Germans offered a \$10,000 reward for Katsaros.

Twice the Gestapo captured him! After his bail-out, and later when an undercover German collaborator betrayed him.

Each time the French Resistance stormed the scene, guns blazing and rescued him!

Repeatedly, he narrowly escaped death.

John Katsaros literally walked “through the valley of the shadow of death”—and beyond it to life.

Code Burgundy—the long escape

The French Resistance, working with British Intelligence, code-named Katsaros “Burgundy” and mapped out his entire escape route. Slipping through enemy lines, he gathered strategic information.

Katsaros took on many disguises. He was a cell leader’s deaf-and-dumb nephew injured in a Paris raid, a French “gendarme,” complete with uniform and cap that walked the beat with his rescuer and a French citizen, with papers and photo expertly forged.

Messengers of mercy

Through it all, the brave men and women of the French Resistance sacrificed their lives and endured torture to save his life. Among his many angels of mercy:

- The underground doctor, a French Jew, who performed three surgeries in three days on his right arm, with little or no anesthesia available! When he advised amputation because gangrene had set in, the Resistance leader pointed a pistol at his head and shouted, “NO!” Katsaros’ arm was saved.
- The elderly woman who came daily to feed him, though fearing for her life. Her son was a German POW.
- The family who loved and cared for him like their own son, when he was weak and emaciated. His extended stay put their lives at peril.
- The men who hid him in a winery’s storage cellar, deep underground.
- The farmer who hid him in a covered dry well, 20 to 30 feet underground.

Above him, Katsaros heard the Gestapo interrogating the farmer!

Enemy’s eyes are blinded

Often the Gestapo looked right at Katsaros without “seeing” him.

Once he laid crumpled in the street, while German soldiers strolled by.

On Easter Sunday, he received Holy Communion in a church filled with German soldiers. Not one “saw” him. Later he celebrated Easter dinner with three Resistance leaders and their families. Before eating, “we had special prayers, rejoicing in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

“One more mountain”

The unexpectedly long, four-day, four-night trek, with a Basque guide, across the Pyrenees into Spain was grueling and torturous. The trail circuitous, rated “severely difficult.”

No food. Virtually no water.

No winter climbing clothes.

German patrols with dogs. Spotter planes circling overhead.



S/Sgt. Katsaros’ 3-month, 3,000-mile escape to freedom, described in his book “Code Burgundy,” yielded an abundance of vital secret information to American and British intelligence.

Since Katsaros’ right arm was useless, others often pulled him up, using a branch.

Worse yet, he had only dress shoes, two sizes too small! His feet became cramped and frozen. The soles wore thin. Over snow-covered rocks and steep, icy slopes they hiked, fording rivers with stony beds.

Yet he kept walking. One step at a time. In faith.

“One more mountain, one more mountain,” their Basque guide kept urging.

Weak, exhausted, weighing 87 lb, Katsaros told the others to go on without him. They refused. “You’re one of us. We will not leave you. See, we’re getting closer to freedom. We’re all going to make it.”

Someone slipped him two sugar cubes. Their kindness kept him going.

Finally, they reached Spain. Another lockup. Another rescue. Freedom at last!

The Light shines in darkness

What sustained a 20-year old in such fiery trials? John Katsaros says, “Faith in God, knowing He was always with me. That gave me courage to act in the face of death. I firmly believed He always heard me when I prayed. He sent His people to save my life. When you experience the miracles of God, you know!”

Ultimately, good always triumphs over evil.

As the Apostle John wrote, “The Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it.”

(To order the book “Code Burgundy: The Long Escape,” contact author: jkatsaros3@comcast.net)



Helen Mooradkanian is our new Valley Patriot Hero columnist and a former business writer. She is also a member of the Merrimack Valley Tea Party, You can

email her at hsmoor@verizon.net



PHOTO: TOM DUGGAN

Valley Patriot Hero Columnist Helen Mooradkanian wiith John Katsaros and Council General of France Christophe Guilhou. Guilhou presented Katsaros with the French Legion of Honor this month.

MONOGAMISH: FROM PAGE 28

addicts and deviants. All the gay couples in my life who have been legally married believe in and emanate a monogamous relationship unless, of course, they are not divulging information to my wife or me. This could be the case because according to the article, “divulging the bounds of an unconventional relationship can be akin to coming out of the closet.” I find that comparison insulting. Coming out of the closet is to be welcomed and celebrated. I think telling people that you are in one of these relationships is more like admitting you’re incapable of commitment and keeping your pants or skirts on.

Marriage between two committed adults

be it man and woman, woman and woman, or man and man is to be accepted as good for continuing and preserving family values. Monogamish relationships push the envelope too much. This is just another disgusting display of a new generation that is incapable of saying, “No!”



Dani Langevin is a teacher and has a Bachelors in Fine Art and Masters in Education. She has written four young adult novels, one of which is self-published. You can email Dani at Dani-BLangevin@aol.com

GEORGETOWN FROM PAGE 18

- High School Teacher;
- 32) Cerise Cauthron \$74,552.18 Middle/High School Teacher;
- 33) Sandra Starratt \$73,956.62 Pennbrook School Teacher;
- 34) James Rodden \$73,379.25 Police
- 35) DianeWeldon \$73,011.67 Middle/High School Teacher;
- 36) Janice Downing \$71,849.13 Middle/High School Teacher;
- 37) Heidi Mongeau \$71,818.80 Middle/High School Teacher;
- 38) Geraldine White \$71,446.10 Perley School Teacher;
- 39) Linda Husak \$71,120.87 Middle/

- High School Teacher;
- 40) Francis Gately \$70,598.08 Middle/High School Teacher.
- For a complete listing of the 538 people who earned a salary from the Georgetown Taxpayer in 2010 for their services to the town (including poll workers, firefighters, and substitute teachers), please see [www.GeorgetownToday.org](http://www.GeorgetownToday.org), your free site for posting anything related to Georgetown.



Lonnie Brennan is a former Georgetown Selectman and a founding board member of VoteCoreValues.org. You can reach him at Lonnie@justlonnie.com. He can be reached at Lonnie.Brennan@verizon.net.

REVERSE MOTGAGES: FROM 37

and few really understand all the pros/cons. The better one’s have established relationships with reverse mortgage experts whom they trust. Get a referral to that consultant.

Rule -3 Locate an EXPERIENCED reverse mortgage consultant. You may need to interview 2 or 3 to find someone you feel comfortable with. Is this person willing to come to your home to answer your questions? Some will only do business over the phone – making it very difficult to judge character and professionalism. Does this person suggest involving your children or your attorney? If your “expert” wants you to avoid involving family members or your trusted adviser, run away as fast as you can. Is the initial conversation satisfying – did your questions get answered directly or were you fire-hosed

with detail that overwhelmed you? Beware, too, of the person who stresses how much more money you qualify for under a Fixed Rate HECM – he makes much more money if you go for it and may not have your best interests in mind. Your needs will lead you to the right product.

Rule -4 Verify that your reverse mortgage consultant has completed all licensing requirements for your state. Go to [www.nmlsConsumerAccess.org](http://www.nmlsConsumerAccess.org) and plug in the person’s unique number. (My number is 19086). No number? – chances are they are not registered in your state. Find someone else who is.

If you try to follow the above rules, you should have no trouble gathering information and making an informed decision. Reverse mortgages are not difficult to understand once you do your homework.



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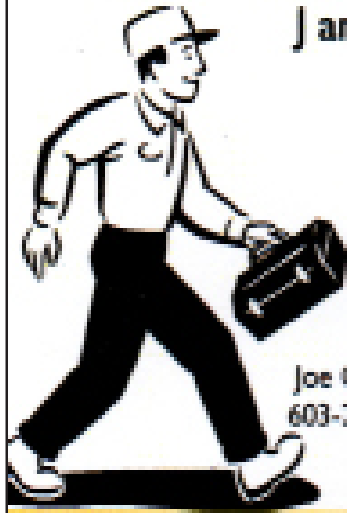
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