

News of current economic developments and cultural events
from the [Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council](#).



[Comcast](#), the nation's leading provider of entertainment, information and communications, has promoted **John Fouhy** of North Andover to Vice President of Government and Community Relations for the company's Northern New England Region. Fouhy, who has 20 years of experience in the cable industry, oversees the company's government relations and community relations programs in a region that extends through 350 communities in northern Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine. He was promoted from Senior Director of Government and Community Relations.



The **Newburyport Daily News** won a *Publick Occurrences Award* for outstanding reporting for its "Port in Progress" series at the annual [New England Newspaper Association](#) Spring Publishers Conference in Boston. The award is given to newspapers for "outstanding reporting done in the spirit of courage and independence of Publick Occurrences, the nation's first newspaper." The Port in Progress series detailed Newburyport's largely successful efforts in the 1960s and 70s to derail a federal urban renewal project that threatened to destroy the historic downtown. Read The *Newburyport Daily News* story: [Daily News series wins regional award](#)



The **Lowell Sun** received two awards at the annual [New England Newspaper Association](#) Spring Publishers Conference in Boston:

- ❖ The Morley Piper First Amendment Award, which highlights the work newspapers do in educating the public and upholding the First Amendment. The Sun was honored for its *"varied, regular, thorough and multi-faceted education and support for First Amendment concerns ... and for having a columnist regularly writing about First Amendment issues."*
- ❖ Best Front Page Design award, which recognizes outstanding front-page design for coverage of a local event: The Red Sox winning the World Series in 2007.
- ❖ **Lorie Perrone** has been promoted to advertising director at The Sun. Previously retail sales manager, she is responsible for overseeing the newspaper's call center, its retail and classified display efforts and the creative services group. Perrone previously worked at The Nashua Telegraph and the Eagle-Tribune.



INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS

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Newburyport- based [Institution for Savings](#) President/CEO **Mark Welch** and Executive Vice President/COO/CFO **Michael J. Jones** reported that the bank posted double-digit growth in all key areas in 2007, at the same time that the bank was completing a merger with the Ipswich Cooperative Bank and opening a fifth office in Rowley. Total assets as were \$870.4 million; loans grew by 20.8% percent, to \$511.1 million. At the meeting, the Bank's Corporators elected one new Trustee and several new officers: **Jeremiah Lewis**, president of the Bernard M. Sullivan Insurance Agency of Ipswich, was elected a Trustee; former Newburyport Mayor **Mary Anne Clancy** was promoted to Vice President, Communications, and **Wesley Barry**, **April Shonkwiler** and **Joshua Tuff** were promoted to Assistant Vice Presidents. The President's Award for outstanding performance was presented to **Wesley Barry**. [Press release](#).

Billerica-based [Luminus Devices Inc.](#) has received \$72 million in venture capital financing. Luminus makes light-emitting diodes (LEDs) for high-definition televisions and digital projection systems. [Press release.](#)



The former medical imaging division of Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. is now an independent company - [Lantheus Medical Imaging](#), and will continue to be based in Billerica. **Don Kiepert**, founder and former head of Point Therapeutics, will be President and CEO. *Boston Business Journal* story: [Ex-Bristol-Myers unit spun off, remains local.](#)



[Artist's rendering of the planned Hamilton Canal District.] Lowell's **Hamilton Canal District**, a 15-acre site adjacent to the downtown district, is about to undergo a massive \$800 million transformation. "This plan is transforming a significant neighborhood of the city and hopefully transforming the city itself," said **Adam Baacke**, Lowell's assistant city manager and director of Planning and Development. The mixed-use proposal includes 1.9 million square feet of development, made up of more than 700 housing units, 50,000 square feet of retail space, 350,000 square feet of commercial space, a 450-seat theater that could possibly be a new home for the Merrimack Repertory Theater, 1,700 parking spaces, parks and pedestrian walking routes along the canals. Read *The Lowell Sun* story by Jennifer Myers: [HAMILTON CANAL: LOWELL'S NEW GATEWAY By 2021, plan calls for retail, housing; theater possible.](#)



The [DoubleTree Hotel](#) in downtown Lowell is undergoing a \$5 million renovation of the nine-story, 252-room structure. **Lowell Mayor Edward "Bud" Caulfield** stated "That hotel is vital to our promotion of downtown Lowell. The first thing people ask when they visit is 'Do you have a hotel?' and we are pleased to say that we do. So I am happy to hear -- and the council will be happy to hear -- that it is being renovated to a first-class facility." Read *The Lowell Sun* story by Dan O'Brien: [DoubleTree to Get New Look Lowell hotel embarks on \\$5 million renovation to spruce up inside and outside.](#)



Construction of downtown Haverhill's new state-funded \$1.2 million boardwalk along the Merrimack River will begin soon. The project includes a new 300-foot section behind The Tap restaurant on Washington Street and the renovation of the old boardwalk behind Haverhill Cooperative Bank on Merrimack Street. Read *The Eagle-Tribune* story by Shawn Regan: [Landscape architect chosen for downtown Haverhill boardwalk Construction of \\$1.2 million structure to start this summer.](#)



Methuen's [Richard Bonanno](#), owner of **Pleasant Valley Gardens**, was recently selected as the New England representative on the Environmental Protection Agency's new Federal Agricultural Advisory Committee. The group will advise EPA officials on issues affecting farms, ranches and rural communities, including climate change, renewable energy, managing livestock waste and advancing sustainable agriculture. Bonanno has a doctorate in plant physiology and horticultural crops, and is a weed science specialist. Read *The Eagle-Tribune* story by Stephanie Chelf: [Local farmer takes national stage to help other N.E. farmers.](#)



Lowell native and Lowell High School graduate [Gerald Chertavian](#), who went on to receive an MBA at Harvard and to create a non-profit organization that offers an intensive education and apprenticeship program for urban youth, has been appointed to the Massachusetts Board of Education. Read *The Lowell Sun* story by Hillary Chabot: [Lowell native named to Board of Education](#).



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Fred Shaheen, co-owner of Amesbury-based food distribution company [Shaheen Brothers](#), received this year's Judge John E. Fenton Sr. Citizenship Award at the St. Patrick's Day luncheon in Lawrence. Read *The Eagle-Tribune* story by Yadira Betances: [Fred Shaheen needs to find space for Fenton Award; businessman to be honored for civic involvement](#).



Tewksbury-based broadband communications company [Amperion, Inc.](#) has secured 2.9 million in venture capital and will unveil new products and a new business model. Read the Mass High Tech story by Efrain Viscarolasaga: [Power line player Amperion gambles on new cash, new model](#).



Chelmsford-based [Zoll Medical Corp.](#) has signed a contract with a fire department near Paris for \$1.1 million. The fire department will equip all of its rescue vehicles with the medical device company's "AutoPulse," a device that includes a band placed over the heart of a patient during cardiac arrest and provides automatic chest compressions. Zoll, which makes resuscitation devices, employs 1290 workers.



BillERICA-based [BTU International](#) which specializes in thermal technology solutions for the electronics and alternative energy industries has signed a \$3 million order for its Pyramax semiconductor packaging product, the largest it has received for the Pyramax product.



Methuen-based paving company [Kingston Ready Mix](#) is marketing environment-friendly "[pervious concrete](#)," paving material that acts like a sponge, allowing water to soak through it and back into the groundwater without contaminating wetlands. Most recently the product was used to pave a 12,000-square-foot parking lot on Chelmsford Street in Lowell. "The results are "fabulous," said property-owner Peter Doyle. Read *The Eagle-Tribune* story by Bill Kirk: [Local paving company gets earth-friendly with concrete that allows for drainage](#).



LOWELL GENERAL HOSPITAL [Lowell General Hospital](#) offers free informational sessions:

- ❖ Saturday, April 5, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – and Thursday, April 17, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. - **Birthplace Tours** - led by a Childbirth Educator
 - ❖ Tuesdays, April 8 through May 13, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. - **My Life, My Health** – a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) developed through the School of Medicine at Stanford University, designed to enhance regular treatment and disease-specific education, helping individuals manage their health and maintain active and fulfilling lives. Registration required: 1-877-LGH-WELL (1-877-544-9355)
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Billy Costa, NECN's "TV Diner," recently paid a second visit to downtown Lowell's restaurants.

Watch *The Lowell Sun* video: [TV Diner does Lowell.](#)



The Merrimack Valley will be well-represented at the 8th Annual Pioneer Institute Center for Economic Opportunity Conference - Friday, April 25, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., Mechanics Hall, 321 Main Street, Worcester. The conference - **At Work in the Middle Cities** - is intended to help state and local governments implement a comprehensive agenda to improve the quality of governance and urban life and restore the Cities' economic health. Welcome: Jim Stergios, Executive Director, Pioneer Institute; Keynote Address: Gregory Bialecki, Undersecretary for Business Development, Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development; Panel 1: Innovative Economic Development: Mayor Lisa Wong, Fitchburg; David Panagore, Chief Development Officer, Springfield/Finance Control Board; Matthew Morrissey, Executive Director, New Bedford Economic Development Council, **Adam Baacke**, Assistant City Manager/Director of Planning and Development, Lowell; Panel 2: Data as a Policy Tool: Mayor Joseph Curtatone, Somerville; **Mayor Thatcher W. Kezer, III, Amesbury**; Stephen Lisauskas, Executive Director, Springfield Finance Control Board; Stephanie Hirsch, Director, SomerStat; Roberta Schaefer, Executive Director, Worcester Regional Research Bureau. Free; RSVP by April 21: J. Fenton, 617-723-2277; jfenton@pioneerinstitute.org.



[Merrimack Valley Magazine's March/April issue](#) is now available. The new issue includes articles about Billerica's baseball star Tom Glavine, the Valley's Irish heritage, maple sugaring at Turtle Lane Farm in North Andover, Lowell's Revolving Museum and shopping in Newburyport.



[Click here for UMass Lowell news & events.](#)

- ❖ Through Thursday, April 3: "**flora + fauna**," sculpture by Michael C. McFalls. University Gallery, McGauvran Student Union, First Floor, UML South, 71 Wilder St., Lowell.
- ❖ Through March 27 - **3D Show**, curated by Prof. Jim Coates, features the work of students enrolled in the book arts, ceramics and sculpture studios programs. Wednesday, March 12, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. - pizza and root beer reception; Dugan Art Studios, UML South, 883 Broadway Street.
- ❖ Friday, April 4, 10:00 a.m. - **Nancy Pelosi**, the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and **Governor Deval Patrick** will be featured speakers at the inaugural ceremony of UMass Lowell **Chancellor Marty Meehan**. Campus Recreation Center; ceremony followed by reception at LeLacheur Park. The University community and general public are invited to attend the weeklong program of academic and social activities that will lead up to the inauguration ceremony. Most events are free and open to the public. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend. [Schedule of events.](#)
- ❖ Monday, March 31, 9:00 a.m. - , "Vision for Addressing Climate Change," Cumnock Hall.
- ❖ Tuesday, April 1, 7:30 a.m.: "Achieving Excellence Through Partnerships – UML in the Community;" Wannalancit Conference Center
- ❖ Tuesday, April 1, 2:30 p.m. - Honors Program lecture with author Jonah Lehrer, editor-at-large, SEED magazine; O'Leary 222.
- ❖ Tuesday, April 1, 8:00 p.m. - concert for students, Recreation Center
- ❖ Wednesday, April 2, 1:00 p.m. - "Innovation for the Next Generation" (clean technology); Alumni Hall.

- ❖ Wednesday, April 2, 4:00 p.m. - Jonathan Kozol, noted authority on advocating for equal access to high quality education for all students, will give the M. Virginia Biggy Lecture; O'Leary 222.
- ❖ Wednesday, April 2, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. - Tsongas Industrial History Center open house, Boot Mill.
- ❖ Thursday, April 3, 9:00 a.m. - Center for Women and Work discussion on "Re-envisioning Local, National and Global Security as if Women Mattered;" Alumni Hall.
- ❖ Thursday, April 3, 1:00 p.m. - Peace and Conflict Studies Institute's 13th-annual Day Without Violence - Linda Biehl, the University's first Greeley Scholar for Peace Studies, will focus on "A New Vision for Peace: Creating Strategies for Responding to Gang Violence;" O'Leary 222.
- ❖ Thursday April 3, 5:00 p.m. - reception in the O'Leary lobby and mezzanine leading up to the Inaugural Benefit Concert in Durgin Concert Hall at 6:00 p.m.; tickets are \$100 for admission to both the reception and concert. Proceeds will go to an endowment to support the Music Department and the Martin T. Meehan Educational Excellence Fund, which will fund scholarships and support campus initiatives in areas of excellence. The concert will feature faculty and student performers, including the University Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band and University choirs. After the concert, the Inaugural Gala will begin with a reception at Allen House at 7:30 p.m. This \$1,000 per-person event will also raise money for the Martin T. Meehan Educational Excellence Fund, as well as other endowments.
- ❖ April 4 - Inauguration night will feature "Living the Legacy," a concert for peace to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr. The performance by the New England Orchestra with Prof. Kay George Roberts, conductor, will be at the Eliot Church, 273 Summer St., Lowell at 6:00 p.m.



[Northern Essex Community College news & events:](#)

- ❖ [Workforce Development Services](#) offers customized, high quality training and consulting services.
- ❖ Patricia Morrow of Tyngsborough has been appointed assistant professor of business at NECC, where she has been an adjunct faculty member since 2002. Morrow earned her Associate of Science degree in liberal studies at Middlesex Community College, a B.A. in history/women's studies from UMass Boston and a Master of Science in Management from Lesley University.
- ❖ Wednesday, March 26, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. - **Richard Kamber**, professor of philosophy at The College of New Jersey, will speak as part of the Genocide awareness series: "[Can Democracy Prevent Genocide?](#)" Free, open to the public; Technology Center, Haverhill Campus. Info: Judith Kamber, jkamber@necc.mass.edu or 978-556-3955.
- ❖ March 28 – April 6 - NECC Performing Arts Department presents **The Diary of Anne Frank**; NECC, Spurr Building, Haverhill campus. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#)
- ❖ NECC will offer two children's summer camps - [College for Kids](#) and [Arts Alive](#) – on the Haverhill campus. College for Kids, which runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., will offer a junior division for 9 to 11 year-olds, and a senior division for 12 to 14 year-olds. Arts Alive is designed for 6 to 8 year-olds. Camps will run in four, one-week sessions, starting July 7 and ending August 1; each session is \$175 per camper with a non-refundable \$35 registration fee that is waived if the registration is received prior to March 15. Info: Deidre Budzyna, 978-556-3456 or dbudzyna@necc.mass.edu.
- ❖ Monday, April 14, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - [Foundations for a Successful Lean Implementation](#) - review the foundations of Lean business principles, which can help companies gain a competitive edge in the global economy; presented by Associated Industries of Massachusetts (A.I.M.), Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MassMEP), and NECC's Office of Workforce Development; Technology Center, Haverhill campus; \$75, \$50 for a company's second participant; limited to three participants per company; [register online](#) info: Allan MacGregor, NECC, 978-556-3836, or amacgregor@necc.mass.edu
- ❖ NECC recently unveiled its new natural science lab, which was made possible through a generous donation from Hewlett Packard (HP). The lab is now equipped with 21 HP Tablet PC's which can be used in the lab or carried to field sites. "These powerful computers allow us to study the natural sciences in very exciting new ways," says Marcy Vozzella, chairperson of the college's Natural Sciences Department. "Our goal is to move away from the traditional lecture approach and incorporate more technology and hands-on learning across the natural sciences curriculum." HP's donation to the college included a cash grant and equipment totaling \$86,000. Info: Marcy Vozzella, mvozzella@necc.mass.edu or 978 556-3326.



Middlesex Community College news and events:

- ❖ **Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Institute** - a series of two-day training sessions, January through June; Fridays 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Bedford campus; \$175 for each two-day session; The ASD Institute provides information, skills training and access to resources needed to work effectively with children with ASD and regulatory disorders; designed specifically for professionals, paraprofessionals, parents and family and community members interested in helping children with ASD. Info: Nancy Tyler Higgins, 781-280-3563 or higginsn@middlesex.mass.edu or Marci Barnes, 781-280-3669 or barnesm@middlesex.mass.edu.
- ❖ **Health Programs Information Sessions; Thursday, March 27, 6:00 p.m. Lowell Campus**
- ❖ **Online Career Training Certificates - Virtual Information Session.**
- ❖ New certificate and associate degree programs in **Energy Utility Technology.**
- ❖ MCC's **Division of Business and Workforce Development** offers programs to help companies strengthen their workforce, increase managerial effectiveness, enhance productivity, and improve quality and profitability.
- ❖ **Community Education and Career Training**
- ❖ **Summer 2008 Credit & Noncredit Course Offerings**
- ❖ Register for MCC's **Summer Camps**, for children ages 10-15. This year's sessions will include *Veterinary Early Training (VET), Aviation and Simulation, Graphic Design/Photoshop, Forensics, Digital Photography, Fashion Design, Web Design, History of Sports, Jewelry Making, Leadership and Video Game Design.*



Cambridge College Lawrence Regional Center news and events:

- ❖ Cambridge College offers undergraduate degrees in business, human services, psychology and education; graduate degree programs in Education, Counseling and Psychology, Licensed Mental Health Certification, Master of Management in Business, and Health Care Management.
- ❖ Cambridge College offers one-year certificate programs and degree programs for bilingual individuals interested in becoming interpreters for medical, human services or community needs. Info: 978-738-0502.
- ❖ Cambridge College Lawrence Regional Center is seeking new faculty, especially for science, math, licensed mental health counselors, psychologists, educators, and ESL specialists. Info: Dolores Calaf 978-728-0502 ext 1471 or send your resume to Dolores.Calaf@cambridgecollege.edu
- ❖ Cambridge College, Lawrence Regional Center is an ETS Authorized TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language™) IBT Center. **register online.**
- ❖ Cambridge College will design a program that will fit the needs of a particular employer, with specific training packages or workshops. Info: 978-738-0502 x 1471.



Enterprise Center at Salem State College:

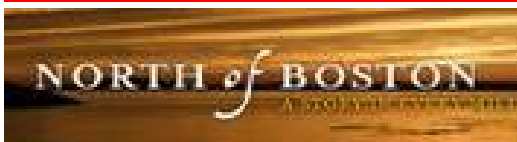
- ❖ Thursday, March 20, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. - **Best NEW Ways to Reach Customers;** free.
- ❖ Tuesday, March 25, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - **Starting a Business on eBay;** Speaker: Chris Damianakos, The Soiree Group; cosponsored by the Small Business Development Center. \$25.
- ❖ Thursday, April 10, 8:30 -10:30 a.m. - **Employees & Subcontractors: Recruit, Retain and Comply** – how to develop and retain a loyal, productive team while complying with employment laws; speaker: Laurie LaBrie, Integrated Staffing, Inc. presented by the Small Business Development Center; free.
- ❖ Thursday, April 24 — 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. - **Managing A Mid-Size Company For Growth And Profit** – workshop focuses on key management skills needed as companies add employees; basics of good delegation, organizational development, strategic management planning, and recruiting good talent; speaker: Marc Chinoy; free.

Merrimack Valley Venture Forum:

- ❖ **Dennis Warren**, who has served as president of MVVF since its inception five years ago, has been named vice president of business development for the [Smaller Business Association of New England \(SBANE\)](#). In this new role, he will play a pivotal part in shaping collaborative relations with organizations such as MVVF and the MVEDC. Dennis' new e-mail address is dennis@sbane.org
- ❖ **Susanne Ferrara**, who has been a driving force in MVVF, will serve as MVVF interim president until the board meets to formally elect a new president. Susanne's e-mail: sferrara@mvvf.org
- ❖ Wednesday, March 19, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - [Public Resources for Growing Your Business](#) - Speaker: Dr. William Ribich, President and CEO Foster-Miller; Moderator: Bob Kispert, Director, Federal and University Programs, John Adams Innovation Institute; Panel: David Buck, Chairman, Zweave, Inc.; George Kachen, Ph. D - Director, Research & Technology Development, UML; Michael Hunter, Director, Mass Business Resource Team; Charles Warner - Procurement Specialist, Procurement Technical Assistance Center. members \$20, non-members \$40; UML Conference Center, Wannalancit Mill, 600 Suffolk Street, Lowell; register: Jalyn Campanini, jcampanini@mvvf.org



The [Tsongas Industrial History Center](#), a partnership of Lowell National Historical Park and the University of Massachusetts Lowell, invites educators to apply for one of three week-long sessions (June 22-June 27; July 13-July 18; and July 27-August 1) of **Inventing America: Lowell and the Industrial Revolution**. K-12 teachers (public & private), administrators, and school personnel are eligible. Applicants must register through [Tsongas Industrial History Center-National Endowment for the Humanities](#) web site; deadline: March 17; info: Ellen Anstey, 978-970-5080.



North of Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau news & events:

- ❖ Thursday, March 27, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. - **Annual Dinner**, Salvatore's, 354 Merrimack Street, Lawrence; annual awards presentation, induction of new Board of Directors and keynote address by **Congresswoman Niki Tsongas**; info: Membership Manager **Rachel Abdulla**. Rachel@northofboston.org.



Greater Merrimack Valley
Convention & Visitors Bureau

adventures await [Greater Merrimack Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau news & events.](#)

- ❖ [Watch the Greater Merrimack Valley CVB's new marketing video.](#)



Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce and Industry news & events:

- ❖ Thursday, March 27, 5:30 p.m. - Las Vegas Night; Elks' Lodge, Low Street, Newburyport.



Amesbury Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Foundation news & events:

- ❖ Wednesday, March 26, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. - **Good News Business Salute**, Amesbury Sports Park, 12 South Hunt Road; honoring Bartley Machine, Barking Dog Bar and Grill and Ovedia Artisan Chocolates; Speaker: Dr. S. Mark Bean; guest Emcee: Dave Boudreau, Institution for Savings; \$11 member and \$21 non-member before March 21; after March 21, \$13 members and \$22 non-members; RSVP: 978-388-3178.

[Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce](#) news and events:

- ❖ Tuesday, March 25, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. – **Identity Theft Seminar** sponsored by NMTW Community Credit Union; Wyndham Hotel, Concord Road, Billerica; free luncheon; RSVP: 978-459-8154.
- ❖ Wednesday, March 26, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Business After Hours; Lowell 5, Fletcher Street, Chelmsford; \$10 Chamber member, \$20 Non-member; reservations: 978-459-8154.
- ❖ Thursday, March 27, 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. – **Small Business Administration workshop**; 131 Merrimack Street, Lowell; small business financing and government contracts; free, open to the public.
- ❖ Wednesday, April 2, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. – Dracut District Day, Dracut Public Library; all Dracut businesses with business issues or interested in learning more about the Chamber; free.
- ❖ Tuesday, April 8, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. – Tewksbury District Day, Tewksbury Public Library. All Tewksbury businesses with business issues or interested in learning more about the Chamber; free.
- ❖ Tuesday, April 8, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. – Networking at Noon, Infusions Bistro, One Village Square, Chelmsford; reservations: 978-459-8154; free to all chamber members and those interested in joining.
- ❖ Tuesday, April 22, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. – Business After Hours, Centro Restaurant, 24 Market Street, Lowell; reservations at 978-459-8154; free to all chamber members and those interested in joining.
- ❖ Thursday, April 24 – Small Business Administration Workshop from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at 131 Merrimack Street, Lowell. Free and open to all small business owners.
- ❖ Friday, April 25, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. – WISE (Women Inspiring Success and Empowerment) 2nd Annual Breakfast - guest speaker **Attorney General Martha Coakley**; Holiday Inn, Four Highwood Drive, Tewksbury; \$40; RSVP 978-459-8154
- Tuesday, April 29, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. – **Breakfast Before Business**, 99 Restaurant, 850 Chelmsford Street, Lowell; free to all chamber members and those interested in joining.



[Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce news & events:](#)

- ❖ The **Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce** and the **Haverhill Downtown Association** have joined forces, hoping to promote restaurants, shops and other firms both downtown and throughout the city. Read *The Eagle-Tribune* story by Mike LaBella: [Working for the common good Haverhill's business groups merge to help merchants citywide.](#)
- ❖ Tuesday, March 25, 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. **State Treasurer Timothy P. Cahill**; DiBurro's; Info/rsvp: Leanne Eastman, 978-373-5663 or leanne@haverhillchamber.com



[Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce news and events.](#)



[Young Professionals of Greater Lowell:](#)

- ❖ Thursday, March 27, 5:30 p.m. - Trivia and Networking Event, Brewery Exchange, Lowell; \$5 entry fee; prize money for the winning trivia team; RSVP: info@ypgl.org



[The Provident Bank](#) Lobby for the Arts:

- ❖ Through April 4 – **Robert Connery photography – Sky and Sea**; 66 Storey Avenue, Newburyport; Artist's reception Thursday, March 20, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.



Lowell National Historical Park (Visitors Center, 246 Market Street, Lowell):

- ❖ The Lowell National Historical Park will celebrate its 30th anniversary on June 6; Read The Lowell Sun story by Michael Lafleur: [National Park poised to celebrate 30 years in city.](#)
- ❖ **Spring Hours (through May 23):**
 - Visitor Center, 246 Market Street: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily
 - Boott Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John Street: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily
 - Mill Girls & Immigrants Exhibit, 40 French Street: 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. daily
 - Walking Tours: 2:30 p.m. daily

❖ **Urban Village Arts Series:**

Tuesday, March 25, 7:00 p.m. - **Kathryn Kulpa**, editor, teacher, librarian and author, will read and discuss her writing; dancers from Lowell's **Angkor Dance Troupe**, traditional Cambodian dance; poet **Fred Marchant**, winner of the Washington Prize and translator of Vietnamese poet Tran Dang Khoa's work; free.

❖ **Urban Naturalist Series** offers the opportunity to get out and enjoy the natural side of the City:

- ❖ Tuesday, March 18 - **When the River Runs Wild: Flood Control on the Merrimack River** ; 6:30 p.m. - View the 1936 Flood video produced by the Lowell Historical Society; 6:50 p.m. - Learn how the Army Corps of Engineers manages flood control on the Merrimack River.
- ❖ Saturday, March 22, 8:00-10:00 a.m. - **Urban Naturalist Series: Birding 101** - learn to identify birds by sight and sound; bring field guide, binoculars; Lowell Cemetery, Lawrence St. entrance.
- ❖ Saturday, April 19, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. - **Earth Day** – Earth-Friendly fun: paint a terra cotta pot; kids can play in a raised garden bed; see environmental artwork on canvas and on litter barrels; tour the greenhouse, listen to music; hands-on demonstrations: composting, recycling, seed starting and seed ball making. Hosted with the [Community Gardens Greenhouse](#), 220 Aiken Street; free.

Register for this year's **Great Explorations Summer Day Camps:**

- ❖ **Boott Camp**, July 7-11 and July 28-August 1 - a hands on look at the birth and growth of Lowell; children build a canal system, weave on looms, and see how people lived over 100 years ago;
- ❖ **Wonders of Water**, July 21-25, explores water, power, transportation and recreation as children discover the Merrimack River on a National Park boat;
- ❖ **National Parks Adventures Camp**, July 14-18 - children visit four different national park areas, meet a Minute Man and travel to the Boston Harbor Islands.

Each camp runs Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. summer camp programs are designed and staffed by professional educators with a ratio of one staff member for each 8-10 children. Snacks and T-shirts provided; children bring a brown bag lunch; \$175 per week, sibling discount available; Boott Camp and Wonders of Water are open to boys and girls ages 8 to 12, and National Parks Adventures for ages 10 to 14; pre-registration required. [Info/register](#): 978 970-5080.



Irish Heritage Month in Lawrence:

- ❖ Through March 31 – Irish books, CDs, DVD's; South Lawrence branch, Lawrence Public Library; free.
- ❖ Through March 31 – Irish Art Exhibit, Lorica Artworks, 90 Main Street, Andover;
- ❖ Sunday, March 30, 2:00 p.m. – Ireland in Song and Recital on a Steinway Piano performed by George and Terri Kelley, Sargent Auditorium, Lawrence Public Library; free.



Chelmsford Public Library: Friday Night Coffee House - songs and music inspired by "To Kill a Mockingbird;" free, open to the public-

- ❖ Friday, March 21, 7:00 p.m. - Blues troubadour, Dan Stevens
 - ❖ Friday, April 4, 7:00 p.m. - Cajun & Zydeco music of the Squeezebox Stompers.
- Wednesdays, March 19, April 2, 6:30 p.m. - [Fabulous Photos](#) - free workshops on digital photography



[Turtle Lane Maple Farm](#) in North Andover welcomes visitors during spring maple sugaring season. Read the *Merrimack Valley Magazine* story by Barbara C. Bourassa: [A Taste of Sugar on Turtle Lane](#).



The [Lowell Summer Music Series](#) – The Summer 2008 concerts begin June 27, and continue through September 6, presenting the best in blues, folk, classic rock, roots and world music (full series lineup to be announced in March). [Buy the 2008 Season Pass online through MVArts.info](#).



The [Addison Gallery of American Art](#) at Phillips Academy, Andover (free and open to the public. **Winter Exhibitions:**

- ❖ Through March 23: [Eye on the Collection: Views and Viewpoints](#)
 - ❖ Through March 23: [Stollerized](#)
 - ❖ Through March 23: [Winslow Homer: Land and Sea](#)
 - ❖ Through April 13: [Birth of the Cool: California Art, Design, and Culture at Midcentury](#)
-



[Pollard Memorial Library](#), 401 Merrimack Street, Lowell offers:

- ❖ The Pollard Memorial Library has partnered with Film Movement, Inc. to bring award-winning, independent and foreign films the second Thursday of each month; free, open to the public.
-



Newburyport's [Firehouse Center for the Arts](#) offers:

- ❖ Through April 6 – Firehouse Gallery: **Pamela Perkins** and **Eva Timothy**; one-of-a-kind recycled glass collages of Ms. Perkins, and the limited edition photographs of Ms. Timothy; artists' reception Sunday, March 30, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.; free, open to the public.
 - ❖ Wednesday March 26, 8:00 p.m. - **The subdues**. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#).
 - ❖ Friday April 4, 8:00 p.m. - Kate Taylor. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#).
 - ❖ Sunday April 6, 3:00 p.m. - **Methuen Ballet Ensemble** presents **SNOW WHITE** [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#).
 - ❖ Friday April 11, Saturday April 12, 8:00 p.m. - Exit **Dance Theatre** presents **The Cruellest Month** [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#).
 - ❖ Sunday, April 13, 2:00 p.m. - [Northshore Youth Symphony Orchestra](#).
 - ❖ Sunday April 13, 7:30 p.m. - April Verch. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#).
 - ❖ Thursday April 17, 7:30 p.m. - **The Lascivious Biddies**. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#).
-



[Essex Art Center](#), 56 Island Street, Lawrence:

- ❖ **Spring classes** - [online brochure](#).
 - ❖ Through May 2 - Elizabeth A. Beland Gallery: **Impermanence- Photography** by [Shelley Zatsky](#); Main Gallery: **Photography and the sculpture it inspires – Photographers** [Helena Parrish](#), [T. Luke Young](#) and [Robert J. Umenhofer](#); sculptors [Hilary Scott](#) and [Flynn Costello](#) – were asked to respond to the photography and create three-dimensional artwork.
 - ❖ Saturday May 31, 6:00 p.m. - **New Paint Auction**; Jackson Lumber, 215 Market Street, Lawrence; Info/tickets: 978.685.2343.
-



Newburyport Art Association offers:

- ❖ Through March 30 - **Winter III Members' Juried Show**
 - ❖ Amesbury woodcarver **Donald Grover, Jr.'s** wood relief carvings are on display this month at the Newburyport Art Association.
-



Lowell's Revolving Museum:



- ❖ Through December 31 - **Toys & Games: More than Amusement** - a wide range of toys and games from the earliest dolls to the technology of today's video games.
 - ❖ Wednesday, April 2, 7:30– 9:00 p.m. - **Bette Davis Tribute Hollywood Golden Age Cocktail Party**; \$10; cash bar. RSVP: fdonna@lowellma.gov
 - ❖ Friday, April 4, 6:00 7:15 p.m. - **Lowell Film Festival Opening Reception**; free.
 - ❖ Saturday, April 5, 11:30a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Lowell Film Festival Short Films**; free.
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Merrimack Repertory Theatre –

- ❖ March 13 – April 6 - **A Delicate Balance** - the play that earned **Edward Albee** his first Pulitzer Prize and established his place as one of America's most distinguished writers.
 - ❖ April 17 – May 11- Regional Premiere - **The Four of Us**, Itamar Moses.
 - ❖ Thursday, May 29, 6:00 p.m. - **Fiends of Merrimack Repertory Theatre - Live and Silent Auction—“Lights, Camera, Auction!”** Doubletree Hotel, Lowell. **Bianca de la Garza**, morning anchor for WCVB-TV Channel 5, will be auctioneer; info: Jeffrey Prescott, 978-654-7552 or development@merrimackrep.org.
 - ❖ MRT's **Young Artists at Play (YAAP)** summer theatre program for children and youth in grades K-12:
 - ❖ June 30 – July 18, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - **The Play's the Thing** includes text analysis, voice, movement and stage combat. Students will also rehearse a Shakespearean play to be performed in the new auditorium for family and community guests on July 18.
 - ❖ July 21 – August 1, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - **Fun with Improvisational Theatre** includes acting technique, improv skills, clowning and narrative. On August 1, students will perform an Improvisational Theatre Show, open to all; info/enroll: Linda Trudel, 978-654-7550.
-



Whistler House Museum of Art, 243 Worthen Street, Lowell:

- ❖ Through April 19 -Works from the Permanent Collection; in celebration of the Museum's centennial.
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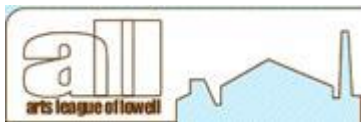
New England Quilt Museum, 18 Shattuck Street, Lowell:

- ❖ Through March 29: **Puzzled & Board**, Guest Curators- Nancy Halpern and Anita Loscalzo
 - ❖ Saturday, April 5, 1:00 p.m. - **Holice Turnbow**, expert on vintage wholecloth quilt patterns, will lecture.
-

Brush Art Gallery

[Brush Art Gallery and Studios](#), 256 Market Street, Lowell:

- ❖ Through April 5, **Juried Members' Exhibition** - 38 artists in a diverse range of media, juried by Michael Lally, Executive Director, Whistler House Museum of Art; Jim Dymont, Exhibits and Gallery Manager; and E. Linda Poras, Executive Director/Curator Brush Art Gallery and Studios.
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[Arts League of Lowell](#) (ALL) Arts Gallery, 246 Market Street:

- ❖ Opening March 29 - ABSTRACTIONS II - Juried Show; Reception Saturday April 5, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
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[Western Avenue Studios](#), 122 Western Avenue, Lowell:

- ❖ Saturday, April 5, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. - Open studios; browse the latest works by more than 100 artists.
-



[Haverhill Historical Society/Buttonwoods](#), 240 Water Street, Haverhill:

- ❖ Through April 4 - Display of more than 100 paintings and photographs by more than 30 area artists; Read The Eagle-Tribune story by Mike LaBella: [Local artists to exhibit their work at Haverhill museum](#)
 - ❖ Friday, March 28, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. - Wine tasting; \$15, \$25 per couple. Info/tickets: 978-374-4626.
-



[Click here for news and events.](#)

- ❖ The Essex National Heritage Commission (ENHC) **Partnership Grant Program** fosters collaboration between non-profit organizations and public entities that share the ENHC's mission to preserve and promote the historical, cultural and natural resources in the region. Since its creation in 1998, the program has awarded \$1.5 million in seed grants to 266 projects in all 34 Essex National Heritage Area communities. ENHC is now accepting 2008 Partnership Grant applications, due by Monday March 3, 5:00 p.m.. [Application guidelines, criteria, and forms.](#)
-



[Lowell Memorial Auditorium](#) –

- ❖ Thursday, March 20, 8:00 p.m. - **Anne Murray**
 - ❖ Friday, March 28, 8:00 p.m. - **Movin' Out**
 - ❖ Saturday, March 29, 8:00 p.m. - **Comedian Chelsea Handler.**
-



[Tsongas Arena in Lowell:](#)

- ❖ Friday March 21, 5:30 p.m. - **Taste of Chaos**
-



PCA Westford's [Parish Center for the Arts](#) offers:

- ❖ Friday, March 21, 8:00 p.m. - **Philippe LeJeune, Boogie Woogie Jazz & Blues Quartet.**
 - ❖ Saturday March 22, 8:00 p.m. – **Contra Dances; [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](#)**
 - ❖ Saturday April 5, 8:00 p.m. - **Steve Hunt Band. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info.](#)**
 - ❖ Saturday April 12, 8:00 p.m. - Mr. Nick's Blues Mafia. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info.](#)
-



**Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Greater Lowell and the Nashoba Valley**

24th Annual Comedy Show & Auction -Thursday,

March 20, 6:00 p.m. .Silent auction, 7:45 p.m. show; Lenzi's, Route 110, Dracut; tickets \$30, \$275 for table of 10; Info: Carla Waldo, cwald@macomfcu.org. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](http://www.MVArts.info)



Symphony by the Sea - Sunday March 30, 3:30 p.m. - Karidoyanes: Cafe Neon: Fantasy on Greek Songs and Dances; Saint-Saens: Piano Concerto No 4; Beethoven: Symphony No. 5. The Governor's Academy, Byfield. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](http://www.MVArts.info)



The Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios, 122 Western Ave., Lowell:

- ❖ Through March 31- Group Show: 'Auspicious Beginnings,' featuring works from Western Avenue Studio's artists Donna Berger, Laura Gawlinski, Heidi Jackson, Majorie Layman, Paula Richards and Gay Tracy.
 - ❖ April 2 - 27 - The Reluctant Observer: A Photographic Diary; Stuart E. Krentcil; opening reception Friday, April 4, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
-



Lowell Film Festival, Friday and Saturday, April 4 & 5: **Immigration, Globalization and the All-American City: Lowell in the World**" Several Lowell organizations present a series of documentary and feature films on the subjects of globalization and immigration. Always an "immigrant city," Lowell stands today in the midst of a population transformation no less profound than the one that shaped the city in the middle of the 19th century. We will explore what this means through feature films, locally produced film shorts, and discussions with the artists involved in their production; free, open to the public.



11th annual Lawrence Film Festival at Northern Essex : Saturdays, April 5, 12 and 19, 8:00 p.m.; free, open to the public; films will be shown in the atrium of the Franklin Street campus; free parking in secure parking lot; info: Mark Palermo, 978-556-3000 ext 7463

- ❖ April 5: **Dirty Pretty Things**
 - ❖ April 12: **The Band's Visit** (Youth Award winner at Cannes Film Festival 2007)
 - ❖ April 19- **Pan's Labyrinth**
-



UMASS Lowell Center for the Arts, 35 Wilder Street, Lowell:

- ❖ Sunday April 6, 2:00 p.m. - **Anne of Green Gables** [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info](http://www.MVArts.info)
-



Tewksbury Community of Artists:

- ❖ Through April 1 - Group Watercolor Exhibit, Tewksbury Public Library.
-



Tyngsboro Theatre Program presents:

- ❖ Friday April 4 & 11, 7:00 p.m., Saturday, April 12, 7:00 p.m. - **Jesus Christ Superstar**; Tyngsboro Theater Program, 50 Norris Road, Tyngsboro. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info.](http://www.MVArts.info)



Saturday April 12, 8:00 p.m. - **Richard Thompson** - Named by Rolling Stone Magazine as one of the Top 20 Guitarists of all-time. Nock Middle School Auditorium, 70 Low Street, Newburyport. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info.](http://www.MVArts.info)



Essex Chamber Music Players:

Sunday, April 13, 2:30 p.m. – flutist *Michael Finegold*, cellist **Emmanuel Feldman** and pianist **David Pihl** perform works by Haydn, Sofia Gubaidulina, Roger Rudenstein and Christopher Caliendo; Northern Essex Community College Tech Center, Haverhill. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info.](http://www.MVArts.info)



Pentucket Players, Inc.:

- ❖ Thursday – Saturday, April 17-19 - Rogers & Hammerstein's "**SOUTH PACIFIC**" Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover. [Buy tickets online through MVArts.info.](http://www.MVArts.info)

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