This summer, Victor Quadros will be working in the labs of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. It’s a dream for most medical students, never mind a rising high school senior.

Quadros, who is completing his junior year at Lynn Classical High School, was accepted into the Young Empowered Scientists for ContinUed Research Engagement (YES for CURE) program — a three-year training initiative for highly motivated high school and undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career in scientific research. Quadros will benefit from two summers of mentored cancer research experiences; participation in an advanced scientific curriculum; year-round professional skills training; discussion of recent scientific articles with Dana-Farber and Harvard Cancer Center postdoctoral fellows; networking with scientists and students in other research programs; experience in presenting his research; and summer stipends.

The initiative is funded through a grant from the National Cancer Institute.

Quadros has been participating in the program since February, joining other YES for CURE Scholars twice each month at Dana-Farber for a series of Wednesday evening seminars and workshops. He will join Dr. David Barbie this summer in Barbie’s lab targeting innate immunity in cancer.

“It’s eye-opening seeing some of the things applied,” said Quadros. “I’m looking forward to learning a lot of the lab techniques, and it’s been a good refresher on the genetics of public health.”
Plenty of reasons for graduates to be proud

Congratulations to the graduating classes of 2019! I was honored to have been in attendance at all of the graduations this year and to see the pride on faces of every student as they received their diplomas. Just as important, I witnessed the pride on the faces of the faculty and families who have loved, supported, and encouraged you along your educational journey.

For those of you heading off to higher education, the workforce, the military, or taking some time for reflection before deciding what to do next, I urge you to remember that you are amazing, you are important, and you have much to contribute to our City and to our World. I hope you continue to experience success and to feel fulfilled in all you do.

As mayor, I have the privilege of visiting our schools every month. Every time I visit, I am awed by a school community that values each and every student and is working hard to support student learning and success.

I am so proud to be your Mayor; proud of your resiliency, your social consciousness, and your incredible achievements this year.

I wish you all a happy and safe summer and look forward to the great things that will happen next school year.

Don’t forget to check out our Parks and Recreation website for summer activities and splash pad locations at http://www.lynnma.gov/citydepartments_parkandrecreation_programs.shtml or by calling 781-268-8000.

Free meal programs will be available soon and once they are, you can find them on the Child Nutrition Outreach Program website at https://meals4kids.org/find-summer-meal-site or by calling the Food Service department at 781-477-7220.

For all you readers out there don’t forget the City Sponsored summer reading program at the Lynn Library located at 5 North Common St. For more information please call 781-595-0567.

Thomas M. McGee is mayor of Lynn.

Time to look back on good times and forward to more

As they tend to do, the 2018-19 school year flew by. As unpopular as the position might be, I found myself not wanting the school year to end. This is so in large part because, with the onset of spring comes wonderful displays of learning and growth. Be it concerts or shows or art exhibitions — from which you will find some excellent photos in this edition of The Educator — late spring is rich with authentic results of the hard work students and educators have done in partnerships with families over the course of the year. As Superintendent, I find these events deeply meaningful and heartening.

While I have an appetite for more, I accept that the school year must come to a close. The Lynn Public Schools family has worked incredibly hard and the gentler pace that summer tends to bring is well-deserved.

With the 2018-19 school year in the books, I hope you share the same confidence that I do in assessing it as a good one. In my humble opinion, even the most turbulent of school years are good ones in that we, as a community of concerned and committed folks for young people, learn something and make meaningful connections. With each and every experience, positive or otherwise, and a bit of reflection and dialogue, we grow. That has certainly been the case this school year and I am grateful for it.

As you might imagine, work to prepare for a smooth opening to the 2019-20 school year is already underway, and it has been for weeks. This past year, we, in collaboration with nearly 30 community partners, spent considerable time developing a strategic plan. We are really proud of this work and we intend to share the polished version at the beginning of next school year. That said, know that the strategic plan and the core values therein are the anchor of our plans for next year and beyond. Much more to come! For now, rest, relax, but continue to learn.

Dr. Patrick A. Tutwiler is superintendent of schools.
Zacarias earns scholarship in electrical union apprenticeship program

By Meaghan Casey

Wilmer Zacarias has already had a hand in creating livable space at the new AvalonBay development in Saugus — all while he’s still in his senior year at Lynn Vocational Technical High School.

Zacarias just graduated from the electrical program at Lynn Tech, which teaches students to install electrical equipment for lighting, heating and power applications in commercial, industrial and residential buildings. Students use commercial tools and equipment and work in a shop with simulated residential and industrial work areas. They also have the opportunity to complete 1,200 hours of work experience toward an electrical apprenticeship.

Matt West, cooperative education coordinator at Lynn Tech, says that co-ops and internships are available to juniors and seniors who meet eligibility requirements. Vocational teachers must sign off on the readiness of each student, and employers agree to offer them advanced on-the-job training. It can often lead to full-time employment upon graduation.

“Co-op is engrained here at Tech,” said West. “We’re here to get the students out to work. It’s project-based learning, so it’s very active, physical, engaging and hands-on.”

West says more than 50 students were placed in co-op positions this spring. To secure a spot, students are required to prepare a resume and cover letter, interview and, if accepted, go through an orientation period before starting the job. Students are required to keep a journal reflecting their progression of learning and are graded by their employers.

Zacarias has had multiple co-op experiences. Last year, he worked at McCurdy Electric and Pagliaro Electric, followed by a summer position at Lahey Hospital, where he was dealing with wiring. He has been with All-Pro Electric since September, working at properties such as 95 Essex St. in Haverhill and AvalonBay, which is being built at the site of the former Hilltop Steak House as mixed-use development with retail space and 280 residential units. Some of Zacarias’ responsibilities have included cutting outlets for electrical boxes, installing panels and running wire in the units.

“I can’t wait to do it full-time,” he said. “I love building stuff and making it work.”

“Wilmer is a very confident individual,” said Ron Hennessy, one of two teachers in the electrical department. “Every company he’s worked for has absolutely loved him. He’s always prepared and always on time. He gets straight As and Bs and when he’s out in the field, he’s learning what he needs to know on the job. He’s a model student.”

Hennessy says the department works to fit each student to a co-op job. The school has relationships with Fischbach & Moore, Pagliaro Electric, Brothers Electrical and All Pro Electric, whose president, Mike Harrington, is a 1981 graduate of Lynn Tech.

“We have a strong advisory committee and the companies and unions will tell us what they’re looking for,” Hennessy said.

Zacarias, whose parents emigrated from Guatemala, is the first in his family to have electrical training. His younger brother, a junior at Lynn Tech, is in the plumbing shop.

Last month, Zacarias was awarded a scholarship to the Greater Boston Joint Apprentice Training Center, which is dedicated to developing skilled, responsible and responsive electricians and technicians who bring value to the clients they serve, the union they represent and the contractors who employ them. Apprentices undergo 10,000 hours of on-the-job training, as well as 1,000 hours of intensive classroom instruction with qualified instructors. The program was created in partnership with the Local 103 IBEW electrical union out of Dorchester, which Zacarias will be eligible to join.

“That’s the goal,” said Hennessy. “The unions are very busy and very active in placing their members. When they call your number, you go. With this path, it’s not a job; it’s a career.”
Lynn students learning in two languages

Graduation ceremonies across the city featured a new addition this year — special recognition for students who attained high functional and academic levels of proficiency in English and a foreign language.

There were 78 LPS graduates who were awarded the State Seal of Biliteracy, a key element of the Language Opportunity for Our Kids (LOOK) Act, which was signed into law in 2017. In June of 2018, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopted regulations that describe the criteria that school districts must use to award the State Seal of Biliteracy, beginning with the graduating class of 2019.

Though participation in the program is voluntary, LPS was one of the districts approved to implement it this year. The award recognizes students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation. The vision is to help students recognize the value of their academic success and see the tangible benefits of being bilingual.

The seal appears on the transcript and diploma of the graduating senior and is a statement of accomplishment for future employers and for college admissions. Lynn graduates also wore silver cords with their gowns to denote the achievement.

Of this year’s LPS awardees, 34 were from Lynn Classical High School, 31 from Lynn English High School and 13 from Lynn Vocational Technical Institute. Five of those students earned the Seal of Distinction, a more advanced level that requires a score of at least 260 on the English Language Arts grade 10 MCAS test and a score of Advanced-Low on the partner language assessment.

The district awarded seals in seven partner languages, mostly in Spanish, but also in Bengali, Haitian Creole, French, Georgian, Swahili and Turkish.

In the fall, the district will offer the language assessment to students as they start their academic journeys. Students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation may apply for the Seal of Biliteracy. The award recognizes the value of their academic success and the tangible benefits of being bilingual.

The seal appears on the transcript and diploma of the graduating senior and is a statement of accomplishment for future employers and for college admissions. Lynn graduates also wore silver cords with their gowns to denote the achievement.

Sewell-Anderson teacher calls it a career

By Meaghan Casey

After more than two decades of teaching in Lynn Public Schools, Leslie Cole is calling it a career—and a successful one at that.

Cole, a kindergarten teacher at Sewell-Anderson Elementary School, has helped mold the futures of so many young students as they start their academic journeys.

“I’ve enjoyed seeing the kids flourish and grow from September to June,” she said. “In this role, you’re the first step in their education. Seeing their excitement when they first start reading is a wonderful thing.”

“It’s bittersweet to leave, but the younger staff is great and I know I’m leaving everything in good hands,” she continued.

Cole has watched with pride as many of her former students have gone on to graduate from high school and college. One of those students, Kayla Walleston, is even following in similar footsteps, working as a first-grade teacher at Cobbet Elementary.

“It’s wonderful seeing her giving back,” said Cole.

A Medford native, Cole originally had plans to become a legal secretary, but quickly realized she really wanted to work with kids. She earned her bachelor’s degree in early education from Salem State and worked for four years at a daycare center in Boston before having three children of her own — Megan, Frederick and Christopher.

When her children were young, she began substitute teaching and was active with the Sisson Elementary School PTO.

“That was my foot in the door,” said Cole, who started long-term subbing when her children were still at Sisson, and then was hired as a full-time teacher in the district.

Before joining the Sewell-Anderson staff, Cole taught at Callahan and Sisson elementary schools, spending 19 years at Callahan.

“It was difficult to leave Callahan after so long, but coming here to Sewell-Anderson was one of the best decisions,” said Cole. “It’s been a great couple of years, and it’s a great way to go off and start my next journey.”

Cole and her husband, Kevin, who also just retired, plan to travel and are expecting their first grandchild later this year.

Kevin’s father, Frederick Cole, is a former educator who recently retired as executive director of the Lynn Business Education Foundation. He ended his LPS career as deputy superintendent.

“He was such an inspiration,” said Cole, adding that her daughter is carrying the educational torch for the next generation.

Megan now works in early intervention for Aspire Developmental Services. She and Cole earned their master’s degrees in special education together — a shared achievement Cole will always cherish.

Classical student excels in and out of classroom

Earlier this year, Quadros participated in the Health Professions Recruitment & Exposure Program (HPREP) at Harvard Medical School. The enrichment program is aimed at recruiting high school students from the Boston area, particularly those from underserved and underrepresented backgrounds, into science and medicine. Its mission is to promote knowledge, critical thinking and excitement about science while building students’ confidence in their ability to succeed in these fields. There were 10 Saturday sessions from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning in mid-November and ending in early February featuring a hands-on biology and health curriculum. Participants were also connected with mentors and had the opportunity to meet with them individually during each session.

Although Quadros has had enviable first-hand experience in the health sciences, he is leaning more towards a career in evolutionary biology, paleontology or oceanography. He was thrilled to have the opportunity to visit the Harvard Museum of Natural History and the Museum of Comparative Zoology, guided by curatorial assistant Eva Biedron. There, he got a closer look at the evolutionary history of vertebrates, including spectacularly preserved fishes, dinosaurs and early mammals.

“It was really cool to visit those rare collections and see some important pieces of history and academic rivalries,” said Quadros, noting the visit was arranged by Michael Fannon, who teaches biology, honors biology and forensics at Classical.

“I’m grateful for all the opportunities Mr. Fannon’s given me,” said Quadros. “I’ve always been interested in science. It’s one of the better and most consistent models we can use to describe our observations of the world around us. I just never knew how to make it a career, but Mr. Fannon’s helped me with that.”

If he could describe his dream job, Quadros says he would be working in a museum, researching specimens, or perhaps studying the ocean. Either way, he knows it will be research-driven. Quadros can pinpoint when his initial curiosity in evolutionary science was sparked. He was just a toddler and his father was watching “Jurassic Park.” He was hooked. He continued to be an inquisitive learner, reading and watching documentaries at an early age.

“My mom says that by the time I was in preschool, I would go in with an encyclopedia,” said Quadros.

That academic drive has never diminished. At Classical, Quadros has taken Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry, Biology and Calculus, as well as Honors Anatomy and Physiology, Marine Biology and Mathematical Biology. He will take AP Environmental Science next year. In May, Quadros scored 760 out of 800 on the SAT subject test in biology. As he weighs his college options, he will almost certainly be applying to a few of the Ivies.
In a world where young people sometimes face challenges stemming from poverty, broken homes, bullying and depression, it's so important for them to be able to view school as a safe space.

That's why Lynn Public Schools has dedicated even more resources in recent years for school social workers and clinical directors, who are dedicated to fostering healthy and caring environments for students and staff.

The district has 24 social workers supporting 22 of its schools. Their role is to promote students' academic, emotional and social success by providing services that strengthen home, school and community partnerships. They conduct assessments and evaluations to identify barriers to learning and develop appropriate interventions; empower students and families to access school and community resources; provide counseling to address targeted issues interfering with students' well-being; participate in attendance intervention teams; respond to crises; collaborate with mental health service providers; and promote positive school-home collaborations.

Robert Bishop, a social worker at Lynn Classical High School, says he's noticed more solidarity among his students, and a culture of peer mentoring and support has blossomed. “Many have identified my office as their source of emotional recharge during lunch or a free period,” he said.

Tina Hoofnagle, program specialist for the district’s parent and family engagement, hopes the work is helping to erase the stigma around mental health, and encouraging students to open up. “Whether students are dealing with problems at home — family disruption, housing evictions, trauma — we can help them navigate troubled waters,” said Hoofnagle. “And if a child is coming in hungry or emotionally unsettled, our social workers will check in and help stabilize them and get them back to class.”

Hoofnagle has 17 years’ experience in the district. She was one of LPS’ first four social workers in 2009, and has been thrilled to see the program expand. “We have a great team and they’re so active promoting positive cultures in their schools through monthly parent workshops, food pantry programs, social skills groups, PBIS activities, yoga workshops, art therapy, attendance initiatives, recess play groups, lunch groups and more,” she said. “We also have a lot of amazing social service organizations that partner with us, and part of our job is to familiarize families with the resources that are available to them.”

At Brickett Elementary School, social worker Michelle L’Italien has partnered with clinical psychologist Rebecca Murphy of Lynn Community Health Center, who provides school-based behavioral health care. “It’s wonderful to have Rebecca at the school,” said L’Italien. “She’s such a resource. Starting with the students and working all the way up to staff and administration, we try to coach individuals how to better understand themselves.”

L’Italien and Murphy also run an after-school group called “Expressing Your Feelings Through Creativity.” It helps to prepare fifth-graders for middle school, while encouraging them to use art as an outlet to work through struggles and conflict, reduce stress and improve self-esteem and awareness.

At Connery Elementary School, social worker Laura Sanchez says “it’s important to address the non-academic barriers that get in the way of learning,” adding that 200 of the school’s students cycle through behavioral health services. Cradles to Crayons and Greater Boston Food Bank have made a tremendous impact, providing Connery families and students with access to clothing, cold-weather gear, backpacks, shoes, school supplies and supplemental food support year-round.

A number of schools have also expanded on the department’s “Families Supporting Student Success” workshop, broken up over five sessions. “We started a monthly drop-in group as an extension of that, with parents coming together and sharing ideas on accessing community support organizations, stress relief and mindfulness, and helping children cope with stress and trauma,” said Jessica Letwin, a social worker at Harrington Elementary School.
ALUMNI PROFILE

HIS PASSION FOR TECH IS FIT FOR A KING

By Paul Halloran

Mark King has always been proud of Lynn Tech, but he became much more actively involved with his alma mater seven years ago when he got a visit from the former principal.

“In 2012, Al Malagrifa asked me to get back involved in my school,” King said. “Nobody tells ‘Mal’ no.”

Flash forward seven years and King, owner of Marion Street Auto Body, serves on the Lynn Tech Alumni Association, the Advisory Board and the Hall of Fame Committee. “Anything the school needs, I’m a phone call away,” he said.

King believes he owes his career – and his successful business – to the skills he acquired at Tech as a student in the auto body shop. He worked his co-op job at Marion Street Auto Body for three years. At that time, the business was owned by Louis Goudreau (father of Barry, of the rock group Boston).

After graduating from Tech in 1978, King got a full-time job at Marion Street and stayed until the Goudreau family sold the business in 1980. He worked at car dealerships for the next nine years, except for 1985 when he returned to Marion Street for a year. On Dec. 18, 1989, he came back in a new role: owner.

Thirty years later, he is still here and the business is thriving. “The reputation of our business is still standing from the days of Louis Goudreau,” said King, a Lynn Tech Hall-of-Famer. “We do everything we can for our customers.”

King attributes the longevity to his providing a one-stop-shopping experience for customers when they come through the door after an auto accident. “I deal with the insurance company, set up the car rental and take on the burden of the car accident for the customer,” he said.

That’s one of the reasons he has resisted the temptation to expand beyond eight employees, a group that includes his brother. “If I had a bigger business I would have gotten to the point where I couldn’t be as personal with my customers,” he said.

From his shop on Marion Street, across the street from the Ancient Order of Hibernians, King has been an eyewitness to progress, from the opening of Federal Street to through traffic, to the new Market Basket. A rotary is coming to the intersection of Marion, Federal and Waterhill streets with a new development planned.

“My career is centered in this neighborhood,” Kind said. “I’m watching development and growth and I can see how great it is for the city. The neighborhood is just going to get better. The City of Lynn is where it’s at. It’s a thriving city.”

That’s why King is looking forward, and not back, as he prepares to celebrate three decades in business later this year. “I hope to be here for another 30,” he said.

 seul text image

Immigration: a personal story

Breed Middle School students who are English Language Learners were asked to reflect on the challenges of adjusting to life in a new city or even a new country. One of those essays appears below.

By Josileidy De Jesus

When you move to another country it can be complicated and difficult because you might not know anything about the country or know anybody that lives there. How would you feel if you had to move and leave everything behind? When I came to the United States, I felt sad and depressed because I had no friends or anything here. I started to get depressed because I felt lonely and miserable. When I started fifth grade I got depressed because nobody would talk to me. I had no friends and other kids were bullying me because I didn’t speak English. I only knew Spanish.

In sixth grade my life was better and more fun. I could understand more when my teachers started to explain things to me, and when other people communicated with me I could answer them. In sixth grade I started to learn more English, not perfectly, but I could talk to others and to defend myself. I could defend myself when other people talk bad things about me thinking that I couldn’t understand them. I didn’t know that much English but at least I could communicate with others, not just my friends. I started to have good grades and more friends.

Now I’m in eighth grade, and soon I will finish middle school. This year has been the best. Now I can communicate with anybody and understand much better. In school I’m doing very good. I get mostly A’s in my classes and I’m good at writing and also at reading. I feel so lucky because of the teachers that I have. They really help me.

If I had stopped trying, I would be in my house doing nothing probably, but thanks to my teachers and my mom I just kept going. I haven’t reached my goal yet. I have to keep learning more still but I feel more confident in myself. Students should never stop trying.

Poster child for a cleaner city

City Councilor-at-Large Brian Field congratulates Lincoln-Thomson student Chris Pacheco, who submitted the winning entry in the city-wide poster contest that was run in conjunction with Earth Day. Second-grade students were asked to draw posters urging people not to litter. Also helping to coordinate the poster contest were the city council, school committee, mayor, superintendent and DPW.
A peach of a play

Marshall Middle School students put on an outstanding production of *James and the Giant Peach* on May 15.

Jazz Band hits all the right notes

The Lynn Public Schools Jazz Band performed a concert at Lynn English High School on April 30. William Sokolow, top right, conducts while Alexander Patten, center, plays the trumpet.
Masters of art

The Lynn Public Schools All-City Art Exhibit was on display at LynnArts from May 1–15. Students, parents and teachers enjoyed the May 1 opening.

1. Erin McNeil points out a painting she likes.
2. Ireny Delacruz stands out amid the colorful decorations.
3. Amaya Thurman has found her artwork - and is quite happy about it.
4. A student takes a photo of the artwork on display.
5. Ingalls student Gloriana Romero stands beneath her painting of a bunny.
6. Shoemaker first-grader Jake Buchanan proudly shows off his painting.

PHOTOS: BOB ROCHE

1. Erin McNeil señala un cuadro que le gusta.
2. Ireny Delacruz se encuentra entre las decoraciones coloridas.
3. Amaya Thurman ha encontrado su obra de arte - y está muy feliz.
4. Un estudiante toma una foto de la obra de arte en exhibición.
5. La estudiante de Ingalls, Gloriana Romero, se para debajo de su pintura de un conejo.
6. Jake Buchanan, estudiante de primer grado de Shoemaker, muestra con orgullo su pintura.