



# FITCHBURG PRIDE

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2 SECTIONS

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## Three cheers for the class of 2009



Fitchburg High School graduates Franz Cuba (left) and James Peppard (right) celebrate minutes after receiving their diplomas during FHS commencement last weekend. To see more photos and a full list of graduates from all of Fitchburg's high schools, please see pages 10 and 11.

PRIDE PHOTO/CHARLES STERNAIMOLO

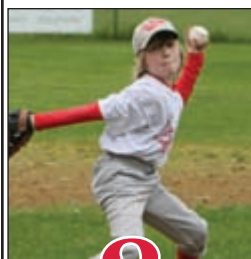
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Fitchburg is the place to be

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Nail biter at Cal Ripken

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Youngsters get green thumbs

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## IT Dept. Wired for word on budget

BY CAROLINE KERAS  
CKERAS@FITCHBURGPRIDE.COM

When Mayor Lisa Wong formed an Information Technology Department in Fitchburg last year, she could have only dreamed about how successful it would be.

"We have come a long way to really building out our IT infrastructure," said Wong.

One of the major projects undertaken by the department this year was the institution of a city permit-tracking program. This program allows for city employees to view the status of anyone requesting a permit or license from the city.

The easy access to a list of abutters for construction projects, or who owes the city money in the way of fines or taxes, will be an asset to the city for years to come, according to IT Department Director Trevor Bonilla.

"It should make us more efficient," he said. "Hopefully it is an application that we can use for the next couple decades."

Bonilla is aiming to have the system ready for use by city employees by the end of the month, which may provide for a bigger challenge than it seems.

"The end of the year is busy for IT, because we hold off on spending until we know how much we have left," said Bonilla. "We have always been forced to do a lot of the legwork ourselves."

They will have the help from Figureseven, Inc. in their next project of redesigning the city's Web site.

The city permit-tracking program will be able to be accessed by residents through this new Web site. Bonilla hopes to have residential

*"IT is absolutely vital for local government. Technology is everywhere."*

—TREVOR BONILLA  
DIRECTOR OF THE  
FITCHBURG IT DEPARTMENT

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## Boy Scouts award Ansin

BY CAROLINE KERAS  
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For decades, Kimberly L. Ansin has been integral to North Central Massachusetts in her service.

In recognition of her volunteer efforts, the Boy Scouts of America Nashua Valley Council honored Ansin with its 2009 Distinguished Citizen Award during a ceremony held this week at the Four Points by Sheraton hotel in Leominster.

"We are looking for people who emulate the values of scouting in the community, and do service," said Council Executive Gerald Bieler. "She thinks about other people, helps other people, and is community service oriented."

Working with the Applewild School has been one of Ansin's main priorities since her time as a student there.

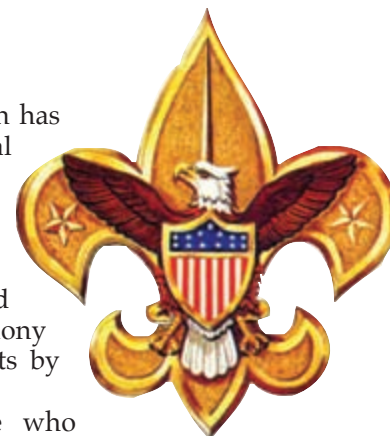
She is currently an Executive Board officer and Trustees Committee chairman, and sits on the Diversity Committee, the Development Committee, the Alumni Council, and the annual Fund Parents Committee at Applewild.

She has also served at the school as chairman of the Alumni Council, an alumni representative on the Board of Visitors, Financial Aid Task Force, Liaison Committee, Head Search Advisory Committee, Parent's Association Nominating Committee, library volunteer, homeroom parent, and in the third grade ARC Buddies program.

Along with her work at Applewild, Ansin has been heavily involved with the United Way of North Central Massachusetts.

"She has done so much for our organization over the years," said Phil Grzewinski, president of the United Way of North Central Massachusetts.

Over the years, Ansin has helped with the Tocqueville Events Committee, as chairman for the Day of Caring, and as the leadership



Continued on page 19

College; Crystal Leanne Harper, Quinsigamond Community College; Ashley Marie Heller, Mount Wachusett Community College; Erik Robert Herold, Boston University; Vang Herr, work force; Kayla Lynn Hillman, Fitchburg State College; Mercedee Octavia Alexis Hobbs, work force; Leah Antoinette Huebel, work force; Barry George Hyvarinen, Jr., United States Coast Guard; Anam Iqbal, Mount Wachusett Community College; Yohana Island Mateo, Clark Atlantic University; Robert Allen Jellison, Wentworth Institute of Technology; Jillian Theresa Jenkins, Mount Wachusett Community College; Danielle Lyn Jennison, UMASS Amherst; Zachary David John, Fitchburg State College; Shanay Latifah Jones, Mount Wachusett Community College; Alison Lee Joyce, Fitchburg State College; Rambo Keosetha Keobandith, United States Marine Corps; Mina Sarah Kim, MA College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences; Ladda Amanda Kosaketh, Sterling College; Cory Lynn Kymalainen, University of New England; Sarah Marie Laakso, UMASS Amherst; Amanda Elizabeth LaClair, work force; Hannah Linda LaLancette, Bridgewater State College; Rachael Michelle Lanson, UMASS Lowell; and Ethan Gilles LaPointe, Middlesex Community College.

Ryan Thomas Lavorati, Wentworth Institute of Technology; Dan Thanh Le, work force; Corey Michael LeBlanc, Mount Wachusett Community College; Jake Allan LeBlanc, Mount Wachusett Community College; Ger Lee, work force; Tyler Edward Leger, Mount Wachusett Community College; Andrew Norman Liebfried, Mount Wachusett Community College; Ivana Lortongsy, work force; Giovanna Karina Luna, Everest Institute; Shauna Elizabeth Lydon, Quinsigamond Community College; Brittany-Rose Ruth Machunsky, Mount Wachusett Community College; Taneisha Ann Marie Malcolm, Mount Wachusett Community College; Sarai Marcial, Mount Wachusett Community College; Matthew Allen Marcoux, University of New England; Sharaai Marrero, Bryn Mawr College; Salina Rose Martin, Mount Wachusett Community College; Jenesky Katrine Martinez, Mount Wachusett Community College; Stephanie Ann McCluskey, Bridgewater State College; Lee Allen McFadden, Mount Wachusett Community College; Brittany Angela Mello, Plymouth State College; Gregory Mendez, Springfield College; Emily Rose Mitchell, UMASS Amherst; Xavier Viconte Mitchell, Mount Wachusett Community College; Ronald Phillip Mitchell III, work force; Jomalys Yamille Molina, Mount Wachusett Community College; Madalyn Amber Moore, Keene State College; Ramon Ernesto Mora, Mount Wachusett Community College; Henrique Morales, work force; Yaritza Moreno-Santiago, Fashion Institute of Technology; Craig Michael Moretto, work force; Alberto Morotti, work force; Kevin Moua, Mount Wachusett Community College; Kong Meng Moua, Mount Wachusett Community College; Michelle Chipoy Moyo, University of Hartford; Molly Marie Murphy, University of Rhode Island; Kate Elizabeth Murray, Bryant

University; Christina Alexandra Nava, work force; Eric Joel Noguera, Universal Technical Institute; Shamara Diana Norman, Connecticut Culinary Institute; Jeremy Christopher Norton, work force; Matthew Kyle Nowd, Mount Wachusett Community College; Terrence Joseph O'Kane, Framingham State College; Sean Mark O'Quinn, Boston University; Babatunde Shonibare Ogunleye, Worcester Academy; Christian Jonathan Oquendo, Universal Technical Institute; and Francisco Givan Otero, work force.

Andrew Robert Palmer, Job Corps;



After commencement, an FHS graduate is overcome with emotion when he sees his family.

PRIDE PHOTO/CHARLES STERNAIMOLO

Nathan Daniel Parsons, Mount Wachusett Community College; Dracar Thomas Payton, Mount Wachusett Community College; Kaitlin Gail Pearson, Becker College; James Edward Peppard, United States Army; Xochitl Alejandra Perea, University of Bridgeport; Michael Phouangsaly, UMASS Amherst; Matthew Adam Pitard, work force; Jordon Nathaniel Porter, Mount Wachusett Community College; Alaina Katherine Primeau, Bridgewater State College; David Allen Ptak, Southern New Hampshire University; Brandon Andrew Quinn, Quinsigamond Community College; Jeremy Paul Racine, Mount Wachusett Community College; Amanda Ashlee Rasmuson, Fitchburg State College; Shakeela Lashay Reed, Mount Wachusett Community College; Matthew David Renaud, Mount Wachusett Community College; Bryan Joel Reyes, Arts Institute of Boston; Iliana Reyes, Mount Wachusett Community College; Morgan Elizabeth Ricci, The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale; Drew

Clayton Richard, work force; Emily May Richard, work force; Perla Isabel Rincon, work force; Caridad Casiano Rivera, Mount Wachusett Community College; Ryan Zachary Robar, Avon Old Farms; Sarina Kay Roberts, Mount Wachusett Community College; Angel Luis Rodriguez, Mount Wachusett Community College; Diana Margarita Rodriguez, Mount Wachusett Community College; Jeiddy Lee Rodriguez, Henri's School of Hair Design; Margarita Diana Rodriguez, Mount Wachusett Community College; Zuleyka Rodriguez, Mount Wachusett Community College; Camila Rodriguez Ortiz, UMASS Amherst; Edwin Roman, work force; Marysa Elizabeth Rousseau, Mount Wachusett Community College; Andrea Marie Rutkowski, Michael's School of Hair Design & Esthetics in Partnership w/ Paul Mitchell; Andrea Marie Saball, UMASS Lowell; Joanna Salcedo, Quinsigamond Community College; Jason Nathaniel Sandage, United States Army; Catherine Lynne Sandrelli, Worcester State College; Christian

Santiago, United States Army; Josue Francisco Santos, Universal Technical Institute; Kiomary Santos, Mount Wachusett Community College; Nayrim Celeste Serrano, Mount Wachusett Community College; Edward Martin Shaughnessy, Fitchburg State College; Cara Rose Sheridan, Mount Wachusett Community College; Maria Diana Sierra, Mount Wachusett Community College; Lorry Souvanny Silaphet, Worcester State College; and Takkisha LeAudrea Snowden, Quinsigamond Community College.

Alexis Karitza Solis, Mount Wachusett Community College; James Fitzgerald St. Cyr, Jr., Mount Wachusett Community College; Angela Mae Stetson, Mount Wachusett Community College; Jennifer Marie Sylvia, Mount Wachusett Community College; Ashley Ann Teixeira, Mount Wachusett Community College; Brittany Lee Teixeira, Mount Wachusett Community College; Sivan Thammachak, Pine Manor College; Phonesavanh Amy Thanadabouth, Quinsigamond Community College; Johnathan Sovannamacha Theang, Mount Wachusett Community College; Liza Thirakoune, Assumption College; Angela Lynne Torgersen, Boston College; Jessica Torres, Mount Wachusett Community College; Manuel Torres, United States Army; Cameron Trodello, University of Southern California; Sean Michael Vaillancourt, Mount Wachusett Community College; Alyssa Helene Valcourt, Bridgewater State College; Javier Vazquez, Anna Maria College; Samantha Elaine Vazquez, Mount Wachusett Community College; Xiomara Vazquez, Mount Wachusett Community College; Jaylese Christine Vega, Simmons College; Samantha Anita Veilleux, Fitchburg State College; Carlie Jessica Vicente, work force; John Fitzgerald Waggoner, work force; Jared Matthew Weed, Wentworth Institute of Technology; Cassandra Ann Whitney, Franklin Pierce University; Lauren Shelby Whittemore, UMASS Amherst; Tralane Alexander Whittle, Dean College; Sarah Elizabeth Wilson, Mount Wachusett Community College; Haley Anne Woods, University of New Hampshire; Tria Xiong, work force; Bee Yang, UMASS Lowell; Mary Yang, work force; Teddy Yang, Westfield State College; Txong Yang, Framingham State College; Wong Yang, Wentworth Institute of Technology; Yeng Yang, Mount Wachusett Community College; and Emily Marie Yost, University of New Hampshire.

### NORTH CENTRAL CHARTER ESSENTIAL SCHOOL

Saskia Amado, Lillian Calcaterra, Travis Falk, Corey Johnson, Sasha Johnson, Ashlee Laffita, Nathan Lamkin, Ryan LaPlume, Bruce Martinez, Christopher McCrone, Kimberly O'Brien, Kylee Pait, Mark Peterson III, Jennifer Ritari, Jillian Rivers, Melanie Shepard, and Shaizee Vang.

### ST. BERNARD'S GRADUATES

Gregory Michael Berube, Kyle Joseph Boucher, Stephanie Ann Bouvier, Kevin Donelan Bresnahan, Victoria Elizabeth Carle, Lauren Nicole Chappel, Mallory Margaret Craig, Alexis Marguerite Donnelly, Shane Edward Donnelly, Kelly Anne Finn, Kelly Ann Hartnett, Anson Daniel Hatfield, Meredith Lynn Hohman, Sam Martin Francis Ingemi, Beyang Kima-tabong, Raymond James Leger, Jessica Lynne Lopez, Curtis Thomas Niñitas, Cory Lee Sevigny, Brittany Nicole Simonds, Stephanie Marie Tait, Jeffrey Ryan Terho, Katherin Thomas, Molly Erin Thompson, and Ryan Michael Wilson.

### FITCHBURG EVENING ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

Rick Alexander Aldrich, Josue Alicea, Matthew William, Thomas Anderson, Albert Charles Autino, Jr., Antoinette Kasmira Barnette, Nicholas Ryan Bourgault, Chelsea Leigh Bourne, Sarah Jean Bunnell,

Tracey Jacqueline Carpenter, Zachary Thomas Cassels, Eric Diaz Colon, Sarah Nicole Cordio, Alexander Joseph Cormier, Rebecca Elizabeth Cote, Omar Antonio Cruseta, Teela Ann Delaney, Samantha Diaz, Jessica Feliciano, Veronica Figueroa, Andrew James Gale, Jaquelin Ann Garcia, David Elias Gautier, Gary Robert Goulet, Leonela Altigracia Grullon,

Cindy Emelina Guerrero, Justin Alexander Hewitt, Kara Lee Holden, Thomas Allan Labaw, Elizabeth Mary LeBlanc, Miguel Angel Lugo, RaeElle Marie Lyons, Lilliam Ivette Melendez, Luis Jose Morales, Terray Andrew Morrison, Aleah Marie Nelson, Jarell Neftali Nunez, Samantha Rae Peasha, Alexis Rafael Ramirez, Edwin Antonio Ramirez, Angellito Garcia

Rodriguez, Steve Rodriguez, Mahaly Marie Rohena, Joshua William Henry Ross, Seth Andrew David Ross, Sheila Nanette Sanchez, Denise Margaret Shepard, Courtney Leigh Theriault, Juan Ernesto Trinidad, Pamela Airyn Valerio, and Crystal Champagne Vargas.