



SUMMER IS A GOOD TIME for parties, especially those of the birthday variety. Above, Florence Tolland (middle) shares her birthday celebration with a few friends at the Wakefield Elks' Senior Picnic. Eleanor Kazlauskas (left) and Hazel E. Andrews (right) share a special moment with Tolland, who celebrated her 95th birthday at the event.

9/99

(Joe Hakey photo)

High school opens doors to the RMHS Class of 2000

New faces and aesthetic changes to greet students

By OWEN MACDONALD

READING - The Reading Memorial High School Class of 2000 will soon open the doors of the high school for yet another year this Thursday, and school officials say they are ready to go.

High school principal Frank Orlando said that there are a number of little changes that should enhance the high-schoolers' experience this year, not the least of which are some physical alterations at the school.

Beyond the fairly routine but daunting task of cleaning the entire school top to bottom, Orlando noted that almost all of the lockers used by the students have been painted inside and out by workers during the waning weeks of summer. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Harry Harutunian indicated that the orange lockers have been completely closed off from use.

"There's been a lot of work up there," said Harutunian, who noted that there had been a lot of painting, some additional windows installed, and an effort to improve the overall aesthetics of the building.

Another change that students are sure to notice is the overall

utilization of space at the building.

"The students will notice that there are a lot more open rooms this year," said Orlando.

Orlando indicated that the administration has taken an aggressive approach to making enough physical room for all the programmatic changes that are being experienced at the school. For example, one programmatic commitment that has affected the space is the addition of a new computer lab this year.

Kids will also see an increase

in the number of computers in the classrooms, said Orlando, along with increased internet capabilities.

The administration, along with the teachers and staff, has also been working hard at improving and fine-tuning the curriculum this summer. While Math and Science Curriculum Initiatives have seen a good deal of polish in the off-season, other Curriculum Initiative packages, such as Language Arts and Social Studies, are being ventured into for the first time this

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Pregnant woman in 'good condition' after accident

By JOE HAGGERTY

READING - A 32 year-old Somerville woman, 34 weeks pregnant, is in good condition after a head-on collision Sunday night at the intersection of Main Street and Franklin Street.

According to the report, Samiye Z. Girgin, 32, of 186 Sycamore Street, Somerville, was transported to Mass General Hospital after com-

plaining of abdominal, back and neck pain and discomfort after the accident at 7:05 P.M. According to officials at Mass General, the mother and baby are in good condition and she is resting comfortably.

Girgin was reportedly traveling North on Main Street when Greg A. Tocco, 30, of 10 Linwood Street, Malden allegedly cut in front of her 1986 Chevy in order

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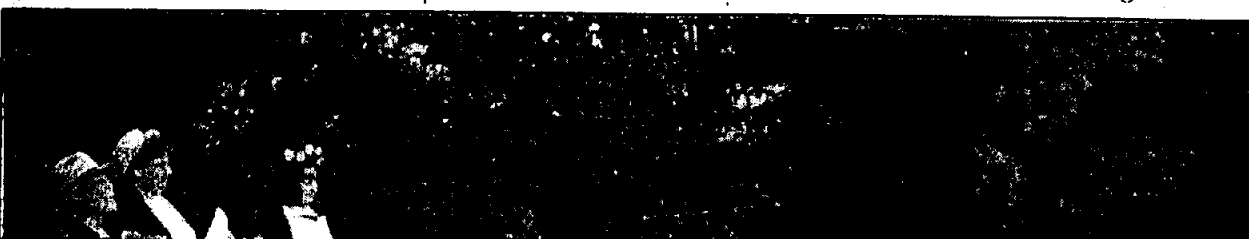
By JOE H

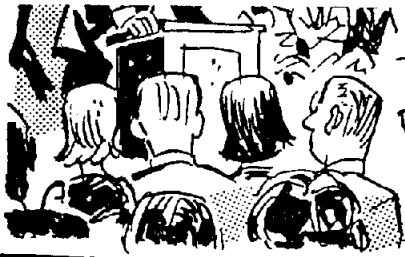
READING - Reading got a introduced to t values of each c vacant Board of at a candidate c sponsored by R Memorial Hig week.

The televised several differen posing questio Coco and Matt well as questions members and viewers at home hosted by Town I Foulds and the c ed no time in in priorities and future of Reading

"I get asked t the time as to w run for the Boar seat," said Coco address. "I think for me to use n expertise to w Reading town go help provide th municipal serv Reading townspe to expect and des

"Matters that the Board of Se all of us, and, fo think it is impo input from the p that will affect tl added Cócó. "I th tant to have ad education and s ment of open sy quality of water traffic flow in to ize the downtow promise to ha





LOCAL GOV., LILLIAN WAS AMONG THOSE LWV MEMBERS WHO RECENTLY PICKETED TOWN HALL WITH "BAN APATHY" SIGNS —



WITH HER HUSBAND, BOB AND THREE CHILDREN, A REGISTERED PHARMACIST, SHE IS A GRADUATE OF MASS. COLLEGE OF PHARMACY—SWEDISH FOLK DANCING IS A FAVORITE HOBBY. HER DANCING GROUP HAS GIVEN EXHIBITIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE & APPEARED ON T.V.



RMHS...

Continued from Page 1

year. "We've had a banner summer with lots and lots of curriculum work," said Orlando.

All of the curriculum work is put in perspective for this year's freshmen class of 2003, who will be the first class at RMHS who

must pass MCAS requirements to graduate, along with RMHS's newly implemented graduation requirements, which also pertain directly to that class.

The high school will also experience a bit of growth this year, as last year's 245 graduat-

ing seniors are replaced by a class of roughly 344 freshmen.

The kids are not the only ones who will have some new faces this year, either, said Orlando. The high school has hired nine or ten new teachers during the summer break as well.

Orlando indicated that the teachers range from veterans to some who are new to the teaching field, though he clearly felt all of the school's teachers will be a good fit for RMHS.

"All indications are that we have a quality group of teachers coming in," he said.

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Accident...

Continued from Page 1
to take a left onto Franklin Street. The two cars collided leaving both parties complaining of injuries.

Officers Picco, Caturello, Lee, Sgt. O'Brien and Det. Flynn

reported to the scene and administered first aid to the injured parties. Sgt. Steve Walsh of the State Police accident reconstructionist team also arrived, and, as a result of the investigation and witness testimony, Tocco was cited for failing to yield for right of way when making a left turn. There was one complaint levelled, however, from Assistant Fire Chief Jack Mooney, about the rescue efforts of civilians before the arrival of the rescue unit. The pregnant woman had been removed from the car prior to the arrival of medical technicians, and Mooney stated that is an emergency rescue no-no.

"No matter how many times we tell people that for safety sake it's better to let the professionals remove the victims from the car, they never listen," said

evening's meeting, presented a number of arguments to RMLD Commissioners who felt showed that the bid process was flawed.

Ford's first complaint stemmed from the tight schedule of the legal notice, which allowed only five days from publication of the bid to the visit that took place. It was indicated that by the time the company was aware of the visit had already been conducted and his company disqualified.

Ford was also unhappy with some contractors had been given "a wake-up call" by Beck about the bid, giving them an unfair advantage over contractors who relied on newspaper or trade publications to their work.

Overall, said Ford, the RMLD was preparing to award a bid to McCabe that he felt was roughly \$125,000 over the RMLD's estimates.

"I understand that this is a very small part of a very large process," said Ford, "but to save a project \$125,000 off of your own estimate is not fair to the rate-payers, or to the other contractors."

Ford also said he also tried to schedule a later site-walk and eventually, tried to have it waived, but Rucker would not

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nerable moment for a police officer. It's a one on one situation with a traffic violator, but it may be that some kind of sensitivity training may help reframe the interaction.

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