

# MassYouth RedEye Gazette

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*This unique print and online collaborative student coverage of the Patrick-Murray Inauguration events brought together eight public schools, under the coordination of Newton South's Denebola newspaper, Senior Editor Jason Kuo, Senior Web Editor Jason Agress, Editors Dan Friedman and Clara Fraden, and with the advice and support of Newton North's Newtonite newspaper's Staff and Advisor.*

*The Harbinger*  
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*The Forum*  
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Bill Schechter, Advisor

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*The Villager*  
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## Why & How MassYouth RedEye Gazette?

At the center of their remarkable campaign to gain Massachusetts' top offices Deval Patrick and Tim Murray urged greater civic awareness and, in particular, greater youth participation.

For student journalists and their newspaper advisors the Inauguration outreach to seven state-wide locations which followed the Patrick/Murray victory seemed a perfect opportunity to accomplish each.

We could cover the Commonwealth's reaction, capture the electorate in all their variety and diversity. And we would do it through a unique process and product—a new student journalism network of eight schools across the Commonwealth built upon the old New England Scholastic Press Association, a new collaborative medium, the MassYouth RedEye Gazette, a new online student newspaper made of already established newspapers.

We wanted to extend the precision and power of proven print journalism into the exciting but sometimes questionable world of newer technologies. We especially wanted to expose our reporters and editors to a world of politics not so much newer as made more real because more accessible by two successful candidates who sounded and acted real towards students.

Although time and event-limited at its inception, our experience may well have convinced us this project has, like the two candidates, a future — the MassYouth RedEye Gazette looks forward to repeat occasions, at least in the form of regular student press conferences.

-RedEye Advisor, George Abbott White

# ‘Together We Can’

## Patrick sees bright future ahead

by Samantha Abrams, Emily Miner, and Alexandra Sliwkowski

On Wednesday, January 3, 2006, governor Deval Patrick and running mate Tim Murray greeted a crowd of enthusiastic supporters at Worcester’s Union Station as part of a multi-city tour across the state.

After a rocky start with criticism from opposing parties, Patrick was able to win over votes and gain citizens’ trust in his potential and the promises he vowed to

work towards. Through his grassroots campaign, which involved door-to-door promotions, Patrick and Murray were able to reach out to

*“Patrick brings the breath of fresh air that people are looking for”*

all members of the community, race, gender and status aside. “Patrick brings the breath of fresh air that people are looking for,” Worcester native, Sandra Katz said.

After dissat-

isfaction with the former administration, citizens sought a leader who would be an active member of the Commonwealth. As one supporter bluntly stated, “Romney was out of the state some 212 days last year – that’s barely a resident, never mind a governor.”

Patrick did not take for granted the support of those present. He was sure to thank them in advance for their willingness to stay engaged but reminded them that citizenship



Photo by Emily Miner  
Patrick speaks to his supporters at Worcester event.



Photo by RedEye staff

A young chorus sings at Worcester event celebrating victory

is a daily effort. He assured attendees that, “no challenge we are facing is beyond our capacity to solve.” Patrick is capable of connecting with Democrats and Republicans alike. He has high expectations for the next four years and beyond,

but admits that tough times are ahead. He brings a newfound confidence to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts but remains realistic in his expectations. Patrick emphasizes that citizens not only have faith in their government, but in themselves as

well. Although his four years in office have just begun, it seems the greatest contribution he could hope to make is in transforming the identity of Massachusetts citizens and encouraging them to realize their full capabilities.





Kipaya Kapiga

**Civic engagement:** *Newton North seniors Jillian Hubbard and Emily MacArthur sit with principal Jennifer Price before the ceremonies begin at the Youth Inauguration.*



Kipaya Kapiga

**Lending an ear:** *Gov. Deval Patrick listens to youth ideas and questions.*

## Why civic engagement is VITAL

by Emily MacArthur and Jillian Hubbard

"In my school, most people don't make it to high school and even more people don't make it to college because of the homicide rate." Sarah is one of the two people chosen to represent her inner-city Boston school at the first Youth Inaugural Forum.

In a place like Newton North it can be so easy to forget why we have to stay involved in local politics.

With just a few sentences, Sarah

brought all 1,500 people in the Schubert Theatre back down to earth this Inauguration Day.

But the reason that we must stand up is not only murder in Boston – it's cut funding for electives, the deterioration of our buildings and increasingly harsh MCAS standards that inhibit ELL and immigrant kids from graduating.

It's the possibility of losing the right to equal marriage and the situation in Darfur.

Gov. Deval Patrick said in his Inaugu-

ral Address, "... we ought to know that either we invest today or we will surely pay excessively tomorrow. An investment in education today beats an investment in prisons tomorrow."

Why must we be civically engaged? Because we cannot afford not to be.

Too often we make excuses for our inactivity.

Too often teenagers ignore current events. Too often teenagers will think that they are too young to make a difference, or that no one will listen to

them.

Or too often they just don't care. Let's face it, the Bush years have not exactly been encouraging.

Today we have no excuse. Gov. Patrick gave the first Youth Inaugural Forum today, encouraging teen-agers to get as involved as possible and asking questions about the issues important to us.

The campaign was a 40,000-person strong move for change, and the Patrick Administration intends to continue the involvement.

How can you get

involved?

Write an email to your congressman (or Governor Patrick) about an issue important to you.

Go to a rally.

Watch the news.

Vote. (Seniors, January 23<sup>rd</sup> is the day to vote for the new Newton North) Visit [www.patrick-murraytransition.org](http://www.patrick-murraytransition.org). Send \$10 somewhere that will use it to help someone.

Just DO something.

Don't let other people decide your future for you.

It's time to step up to the plate.

# Students inquire about priorities

BY JUSTINE BUNIS

Raising his voice over applause and exuberant cheering, Gov. Deval Patrick offered words of advice to more than 1,000 teen-agers gathered at the Schubert Theatre, Thursday, Jan. 4.

"Stay engaged in your causes and communities every day," Patrick urged. "Don't think that just because change won't happen right away, you shouldn't struggle for it, shouldn't care for it!"

Three hours after his official swearing in on the State House steps, Patrick was at the Schubert for the Youth Inaugural. He had invited two students from each high school in the commonwealth to attend.

Among the youth delegates there were Newton North seniors Jillian Hubbard and Emily McArthur. With them was principal Jennifer Price.

This event was an opportunity for the youth to honor the new governor, ask him questions and give him suggestions about how to encourage civic engagement in the young people of Massachusetts.

Community organizer and Patrick's deputy campaign manager Ron Bell then started the discussion segment of the program with the first question for the youth.

"I get my motivation from seeing social injustices around me," he said. "What motivates you?"



Kipaya Kapiga

**Power of one:** Motivational speaker Jason Cross shares the story of how he turned his life around and became involved with Patrick.

A girl in the audience asked first about Governor Patrick's stance on charter schools.

"I support charter schools," Patrick said. "But we need to fix funding so we are adequately supporting charter schools and public schools."

Dawn, another girl in the audience, spoke about how the Boys and Girls Club has motivated and guided her since she joined when she was eleven.

Through their program, Dawn visited Washington and met with Massachusetts legislators. She wants to become a teacher, and she asked Patrick for more funding for community service projects like the Boys and Girls Club.

When the governor asked if Dawn had been to the governor's office, she said no.

"Whenever you're ready," she said, "make an appointment with me."

"So I have to get in your schedule?" Pat-

rick replied. "Dawn's example is how you start one thing and it leads to another. She shows how important it is to just try something!"

Sarah from Boston told the governor her thoughts about the issues facing the youth.

"Homicide is our big issue," she said. "I'm looking forward to working with you. A lot of change needs to happen in schools, like arts and sports that keep kids out of trouble."

Two students, Danny and Jeff, asked Governor Patrick to describe his plans concerning the environment and sources of renewable energy.

Danny mentioned a wind farm that was built in Hull and is now used in science classes to get people involved and interested in science and the environment.

"A very important issue to me is how we turn to more use of renewable energy," Patrick answered. "If we don't make a dif-

ference in our generation, you are going to have big problems in your generation."

In response to Anderson's question of what he will do about the environment, Patrick said that individuals, including himself, can make a difference by changing their own lives.

"We have to model behavior that we're asking from the citizens," Patrick said.

One girl took the opportunity to express her admiration for Patrick.

"Thank you very much," she said. "You are such an inspiration."

She told about her experiences in the South End Technological Program with Mel King, where she said she learned about new fields in science and gained self-esteem. She thanked King, her English teacher and the governor.

"People like you, her and Mr. King will make me who I am in the future," she said.

Jason, a former gang member who turned his life around after getting involved in his church, spoke about changing yourself and then the world.

"I learned that I needed to look at myself in the mirror and start with me," he said. "Michael Jackson said it the best, we really have to start with the man in the mirror. The power of one creates the power of unity."

Asia from Boston asked the governor what he will do to help public schools afford resources and educational advances.

"Most African-Americans don't make it to high school or college," she said. "What can we expect from you to help us out with that?"

Patrick said that a good education is about the whole child, not just the scores he gets on a standardized test.

"A good education is about the conditions that enable you to build relationships with individual teachers," he said. "Relationships with individual teachers saved me."

Amy from Worcester finished the comments with a thought about the future of youth in the commonwealth.

"Having us here today is your first step in keeping us involved," she said. "Just keep providing opportunities for volunteering in the government."



# Music begins Youth Inauguration



Kipaya Kapiga

**Empowerment through dance:** Members of the OrigiNation Dance group perform at the Schubert during the entertainment section preceding Gov. Patrick's speech.



Kipaya Kapiga

**Thoughtful:** Gigory Goryachev performs flamenco selections during the entertainment section.

**by Justine Bunis**

To honor Gov. Deval Patrick, young people performed a series of musical acts at the Youth Inaugural at the Schubert Theatre, Thursday Jan. 4.

Ron Bell, a community organizer and Patrick's deputy campaign manager, hosted the event and introduced the performers.

First, Major "Choirboy" Johnson-Finley, a student at the Berklee College of Music, sang the National Anthem.

Then, Gigory Goryachev from St. Petersburg in Russia played two impressive flamenco guitar selections. He also shared why he was involved in this campaign and youth inauguration.

"I love this country," Goryachev said. "That's why I immigrated here. I want to be part of this community."

Bell complimented Goryachev's performance and his passion.

Next, a dance troupe from Boston called OrigiNation performed. Mickey, a girl who has been in the troupe for seven years, explained its mission.

"We empower youth ages five to fifteen through dance and performance," she said.

Mickey told how OrigiNation increases young people's self-esteem and their respect for civic responsibility.



# Patrick shares life lessons

by Justine Bunis

Gov. Deval Patrick finished the Youth Inaugural at the Schubert Theatre Thursday, Jan. 4 with a speech filled with thanks and advice.

"I thank you for taking time and sharing your ideas," he said. "I want to thank every teacher who comes in every day with an idea about how to light a spark in you."

He offered two lessons his own teachers taught him about life.

"First, take a chance," he said. "Step out there. There will be all kinds of forces discouraging you from taking that step. The worst thing that will happen is that it won't work out."

Quoting Benjamin Mays he said, "Not failure but low aim is sin."

"My second lesson is about disappointment," he said. "You will experience disappointment in your own lives, in your own government, even in this government."

"I want you to understand that things take time and struggle before they come to fruition."

Patrick received a standing ovation as the Brockton High School marching band played the last song of the afternoon.



Kipaya Kapiga

**Ideas:** A high school representative poses a question to Gov. Patrick.



Kipaya Kapiga

**Questions:** Another student shares her experiences and expectations with Gov. Patrick.



# Newton educator celebrates victory

By Nathan Yeo

“You saw really older people there just waiting to want to see him and shake his hand. He’s like a rock star,” Newton South METCO counselor Katani Sumner said. Sumner sang at the MFA Gala on Friday, January 5 in celebration of Governor Deval Patrick’s inauguration.

Summner sang a half hour long selection of jazz and R&B for over 50 people in the Bravo Café at the MFA.

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*“It was a historic event and I wanted to be there. There was like a lot of positive energy, everybody was happy, interacting”*

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While Patrick’s family attended the event, the governor was not able to be present due to a meeting.

Summner is a friend of Patrick’s sister Rhonda Patrick-Sigh through



Photo by RedEye staff  
Katani Sumner and her husband Rev. Byron Chris Sumner at the MFA while celebrating Patrick and Murray’s victory

Jubilee Christian Church, which they both attend.

After Patrick’s wife, Diane Patrick, heard Sumner sing during Patrick-Sigh’s wedding renewal,

Diane Patrick had invited Sumner to sing at the inaugural celebrations.

Her experience at the event was positive.

“It was a historic event and I wanted to be there. There was like a lot of positive energy, everybody was happy, interacting, great food, different food, different rooms...it was nice.”

In addition to being a part of the METCO program, a grant program which allows students from certain cities to attend schools in other districts, Summner has a strong background in singing, despite not attending a music program in college. She sings gospel music at her church and professionally at private parties.

She was also worked for the famous music hall The House of Blues from 1993 to 2003 as the MC for the Gospel Brunch. She has sung the national anthem at the TD Banknorth Garden 6 times, and will sing there again on April 18.

Sumner hopes she will be able to sing at events for the governor in the future.



Photo by RedEye staff

Former US Attorney for Massachusetts Donald Stern and his wife Erica Stern celebrate Patrick’s victory at the MFA

# A focus on community and a raise in expectations

By Katie D'Angelo

While newly elected Governor Deval Patrick spoke of his plans to help the citizens of Massachusetts, he emphasized the importance of his supporters' involvement in their communities.

"I never asked you to raise your expectations for me; I asked you to raise your expectations for yourself," Patrick said in his speech at the North Shore inaugural reception at Merrimack College.

In order to encourage involvement, 12 organizations set up booths so that guests could learn about the various programs.

The organizations focused on issues ranging from affordable housing for people in need to locally grown food.

"I think the issue of housing is a major concern. There isn't enough housing for people in need. It's a disaster. A lot of the organizations are working on this," said Robert Cabana, a volunteer for Deval Patrick's campaign.

"Every organization is trying to help our neighbors. People come over saying they want to help in some way. It's time to stop thinking and actually do something. We can all learn to hammer a nail," said Dana Owens, a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity.



Photo by RedEye Staff

(top) Governor Patrick and Representative Martin Meehan listen while (bottom) Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray speaks about his and Patrick's first day at the State House

The main goal of the display was to gain publicity for the organizations and recognize the work of those involved. "We are asking guests to come through and thank these organizations for their hard work. We hope they will then stay and talk a few minutes to find ways they can get involved and help," said James Sinclair, who directed the civic engagement part of the reception.

Director of Community Education for the "Wellspring House" Nancy Goodman agreed. "It is always useful to introduce ourselves to others. All of these organizations are dependent on volunteers."

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## What do you think are the major problems facing the North Shore? - By Stephanie Colbert

*"I believe that the North Shore has to create an identity economically, and through the workforce, education, and tourism."*

-Cynthia McGurren of Salem State College

*"The North Shore needs to attract more small businesses."*  
-Donna Papadopoulos of Peabody

*"[Patrick] has to stop the state from losing more workers."*  
-Tom Casey of Lawrence

*"Water is being pulled out of rivers faster than it can be replaced."*  
-Gael Motz of Medford

*"We need to improve the quality of schools, decrease the overcrowding of classes, and have more after school and head start programs."*  
-Alice Gardner of Beverly

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A major concern for all the organizations is the lack of funding they are receiving from the state, a situation they hope Patrick can change. According to Jackie Dort, RSVP administrative assistant, Massachusetts's non-profit organizations had about \$10,000 in funding; however, it was recently taken away.

Other organizations present included the League of Women Voters, Democratic Town Committees, Planned Parenthood, Class Inc., HAWC, Neighbors in Need, Family Services, and Senior Care Inc/RSVP.



# Patrick and Murray bring hope to North Shore

**By Stephanie Colbert**

Governor Deval Patrick's inaugural reception at Merrimack College was full of supporters with hopes of solving the North Shore's major problems.

In addition to the ever-present problems of healthcare and deficit, citizens look to Patrick to improve the schools systems.

"We need to improve the quality of schools, decrease the overcrowding of classes, and have more after school and head start programs," Alice Gardner of Beverly said.

Many citizens think Massachusetts needs to draw in a larger workforce.

"We need to attract young, bright students to stay in the state," Kay Herlihy of Haverhill said.

With the threat of global warming and the quest for new energy sources, Tom Casey of Lawrence hopes that alternative energy is going to create jobs.

According to Congressman Marty Meehan, Massachusetts will work to be more environmentally friendly.

"We need to invest in renewable energy," Meehan said.

As Patrick begins his first term as governor, his supporters are optimistic that he is the right person to solve these educational and economical problems.

"He has great innovative ideas for the future," Herlihy said.

"He has fresh ideas and enthusiasm, and he's coming in with people from all across the board," Donna Papadopoulos of Peabody said.

According to Janet Hansweedon of Salem, "keeping communication open" is what will help Patrick improve on the issues most important to North Shore



Photo by Ethan Tieger

*Governor Patrick arrives at Merrimack event celebrating his and Lieutenant Governor Murray's victory*

residents.

"After his first day [as Governor], he was out meeting with people from the North Shore," Meehan said.

"I will be calling on you, each one of you, to stay engaged," Patrick said in his inaugural address.

## Artists show North Shore culture to Patrick

**By Jenna Mullarkey**

Through art and music, the culture of the North Shore and Merrimack Valley was displayed at Deval Patrick's North Shore inaugural reception on Friday, January 5.

Lynne Lupien, city coordinator for Lowell, who worked on the Patrick campaign, organized the art gallery at Merrimack College. When Patrick was elected, Lupien was asked to organize the event. The theme was "A Walk Through Our Region."

"We received 37 entries. I sat down with my helpers and we talked about what we thought about each artist," Lupien said. They narrowed the group to 25. "We judged them by how they would appeal to the show, the ability of the artist, and the uniqueness of the art," she said. The group graded each work and looked for a piece to represent each area.

One of the artists selected for the event was photographer



Photo by Jenna Mullarkey

Lauren Poussard of Salem. "The event is bigger than I expected. I'm having a great time talking to the other artists, and it's a treat to be showcased with them," Poussard said.

Music played throughout the night. Harpist Emily Halpern Lewis played in the art gallery, and the Phillips Academy Gospel Choir sang in the main room.

Blues band Sweet Willie D and the North Shore All Stars also performed before and after Patrick's arrival.

"I think it's pretty spectacular, and very upbeat," Maeve Cullinane of Manchester said of the group's performance.

Choir member Gabby Iappelli appreciated the opportunity. "It's fantastic to be afforded such an opportunity. This event is huge not just for Massachusetts, but for the nation. It's a great experience, and I'm so grateful to be here," she said.



Photo by RedEye staff

# A perspective on Patrick

By Ethan Tieger

As the evening progressed at Deval Patrick’s North Shore inaugural reception, the anticipation grew to finally meet the newly elected governor. After following Patrick’s campaign since the start, it was an honor to see him speak in person. The atmosphere was filled with an upbeat energy, reflecting everyone’s excitement to see the new governor.

When our newspaper staff arrived at Merrimack College, I wasn’t sure what to expect in terms of who would be there and how the night would progress. After watching many of the debates between the gubernatorial candidates and the many speeches made by Patrick, I knew that his speech would be both inspirational and inclusive of everyone in the audience.

Hearing the governor and lieutenant governor speak of the people’s responsibility for success and new direction this country will take, led me to feel that change was imminent. As a student, I will witness the change first hand and will also see the effects on this country later on as an adult. My hope for a better state and nation grew with every word.

It seems rare that a high-ranking politician would make time to try and meet all of his supporters, but that’s exactly what he did.

Unlike other politicians, Patrick is very inclusive in how he leads. By making his way around the entire room, he found a chance to shake as many hands as possible, so that everyone got the chance to meet him, even if it was only for a brief moment.

# Young and old

By Stephanie Smith

Teenagers, families, older men and women, and young couples were all present at Governor Deval Patrick’s inaugural reception at Merrimack College in North Andover on Friday night. Everyone attending had at least one thing in common: They were there to celebrate Patrick’s election and inauguration.

Many of the celebrators had also helped out with Patrick’s grassroots campaign.

Janet Weedon of Salem volunteered to help out with the campaign. “When I first met him, I was blown away—he was so dynamic,” she said. “I want to see a Democrat in the governor’s office. He seems to have a good feel for the needs of the Commonwealth,” she added.

Mimi Hollister of Marblehead also decided to volunteer with the campaign after hearing Patrick speak.

“Early on, I heard our Marblehead Democratic party chair say this was the first time she’d been excited about politics in a long time, [and] the minute we heard him speak, we could understand what she meant,” she said of her decision.

Lawrence resident Tom Casey, who was a delegate for Patrick in the state convention, decided to volunteer because he belongs to a union that Patrick spoke to, and said Patrick is “dynamic, attractive, and exciting.”

“I decided to come to celebrate, see people I know,” he said.

“We’re here to celebrate and support. I believe in Deval Patrick and Tim Murray.” Mike Cataldo, chairman of the Essex Town Democratic Committee said,

Beverly resident Virginia McGlynn agreed. “I’m a registered Republican, but I was delighted when he won, and I thought it would be fun [to come],” she said





(left) Musician James Taylor plays at Pittsfield celebration. (top right) Newly-elected Deval Patrick speaks with young supporter. (bottom right) Diane Patrick enjoys celebrations at Pittsfield event.

## Increasing number of youth work on campaign

by Alex Temple

"I think its totally exciting and thrilling that kids were involved," Governor Deval Patrick said during his inaugural reception in the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield. "There were so many people that came to the campaign through their kids."

At his speech in Symphony Hall, the governor acknowledged that many kids had learned of the campaign and had subsequently turned their parents into voters. Patrick also mentioned

that many supporters of his who are not of voting age were invaluable in terms of volunteering.

"I was a volunteer for the Patrick and Murray campaign," Springfield High School of Science and Technology Galita Diaz said. "I think we [teenagers] should be more involved."

A large portion of attendees were young adults. Cathedral High School sophomore Richard Duffy was interested in politics and wanted to

hear what Patrick had to say.

"I'm looking to go into politics," Duffy said, "I support whoever's the best person, and if I could have, I would have voted for Patrick."

At the reception that followed the speeches at Symphony Hall, there were many teens milling about the dance floor. David Arce, 17, a student at Cathedral High School, said "I came because I got a free ticket, to be perfectly honest."

Robert Smith, a 17 year old student at Pioneer

Valley Performing Arts (PVPA) said "I'm here for the community, I'm not that interested in politics."

Quinn Brown, a fellow PVPA student said "I'm here to be informed, I think Springfield Public Schools need more funding."

There were even pre-teen supporters of Patrick, including Harrison Hunter, 12 of Deerfield.

"I came here with my father to support Deval Patrick. I'm not extremely interested in politics, but I think it's important," Hunter said.

During the speeches at Symphony Hall Representative Richard Neal said that "Elections are about the future. The candidate that offers the best vision of optimism wins."

Because of this, the Democratic Party seems to have an innumerable amount of young supporters. The Party hopes to keep this strong base of support for at least the next two years, if not longer.

The optimistic future offered by the Democratic States free of war and working to-

ward economic stability, which is a reasonable goal and a distant memory for most children of High School age.

"I'm a patriot and I want to learn more about Deval Patrick and the community," said Ashley Berez of the Springfield High School of Science and Technology.

Berez's opinion seems to be typical of Massachusetts High School students who are interested in politics, but it must be remembered that only a dangerously low proportion of the teenage population is interested.



Photo by RedEye staff

A student band plays at Pittsfield event celebrating Governor Patrick's and Lieutenant Governor Murray's victory.

## A change for the West

by Caroline Peppek

Major politicians in Western Massachusetts are as uncommon as tepid temperatures in January. Governor Deval Patrick's stop in Springfield, which coincided with near record high temperatures last Saturday, showed that just about anything can happen.

"Words cannot express the appreciation that this city and, in fact the entire Pioneer Valley feel for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor sharing with us their inauguration," said Springfield Mayor Charles E. Ryan.

Crowds began gathering at the Springfield Symphony Hall hours before the inauguration ceremony was set to take place.

When the doors finally opened at 7:00 p.m, the crowd surged into the brightly lit auditorium.

Debbi Allen Driskell, a substitute teacher currently employed in the Springfield public school system, had brought her nephews to the ceremony in order to inspire them with Governor Patrick's story.

"We wanted to bring them because we wanted to show them what was possible," Driskell said.

Mayor Charles E. Ryan put this sentiment best when he said, "Deval, we have waited for you a long, long time."

Ryan, who was the first public official of the night to speak, spoke about his own involvement in the Governor's inauguration in Boston last Thursday.

Ryan was followed by Congressman Ri-

chard E. Neal, who noted the participation of Western Mass residents in the Governor's election.

"It was the people of Western Mass that gave them [Patrick and Murray] a shot," Neal said.

Neal introduced Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray, who had grown up in Worcester, as a Western Mass citizen.

Murray, who referred to state-wide unity in his speech, said, "We are one commonwealth."

Many in the crowd, who undoubtedly felt the lack of state government during the last administration, clapped at this mention of unity.

The Lieutenant Governor then proceeded to introduce Governor Deval Patrick, whose entry on to the stage was met with a standing ovation. Once the applause subsided, Governor Patrick spoke about a unified Commonwealth and a return to civic values.

"It's because I know people are hungry for a sense of community," Patrick said.

Governor Patrick told those in attendance that the want and need for a sense of community transcends partisan politics. This was also received with clapping and some cheers from the audience, almost interrupting the Governor's speech.

Governor Patrick finished his speech by providing an optimistic view of the future.

"Human hands have made these challenges, and none are beyond our capacity to solve," he said.

## A governor of "the whole state"

by Alex Temple

"I am here to be the governor of the whole state, not just the area around Beacon Hill."

When Governor Patrick proclaimed this at Springfield Symphony Hall on Saturday night, the audience replied with wild applause.

Although the state as a whole is overwhelmingly Democratic, a Republican minority had control over the governorship for the past sixteen years. During every election since, the western half of the state has tried to revive the Democrats, only to be out voted by the densely populated area around Boston.

But that all changed. The former administration's policy toward the western half of the state, led to its downfall.

"I have a bad taste in my mouth because of the last administration," said Officer George Jacques of the Springfield Police Department, who voted for

Patrick. "I'm originally from New Bedford and I used to think everything past Worcester was in upstate New York."

The present administration is trying to amend the mistakes of its predecessor by coming west and showing appreciation for the support they received.

With news of the state's billion dollar deficit, many think the state won't be able to afford to pay for any part of the state, never mind the sparsely populated west.

But Governor Patrick isn't worried, "I'm an optimist," he said. "Human hands have made these challenges and none are beyond our capacity to solve."

After the precession had ended, Patrick assured the people that he will work for the people and use their ideas to help govern the state.

"I'm going to show up. I'm going to solicit ideas from the western part of the state and then act on them," Patrick said.



# Coming together as a community

**By Chris Leveroni**

They stood, elbow to elbow on the stage in front of a sea of Democratic supporters. They are young and old, men and women, politicians and students, white and black.

They are a contingent of Cape Codders and a part of the foundation of newly inaugurated Governor Deval Patrick's campaign. The Governor honored and thanked them Sunday in front of a standing-room-only crowd in the grand ballroom of the Sheraton Hotel in Hyannis.

Along with thanking the crowd, Patrick spoke about preserving the feeling of

hope and enthusiasm his victory has incited. "Hope without action is a meaningless thing," Patrick said. "Put [hope] in your sock drawer or your cookie jar, wherever you keep something special because you will need to return



Photo by RedEye staff  
*Supporters stand by the newly-elected governor*

to this feeling when times aren't so hopeful."

Barnstable High School teachers Mike and Mary Gyra said they were happy to be at such a historic event and reiterated Patrick's optimism.

"We aren't used to going to things that are so happy like this; we haven't been filled with this much hope in a long time," Mike Gyra said.

The feeling of hopeful enthusiasm was echoed by all in attendance, including at least a dozen teachers from Barnstable High School.

"Excited is really the best word I can use to describe my feelings," BHS history teacher and "lifelong Democrat" Leonard Gobeil said.

17-year-old BHS senior Arielle Martin was one of several teens to attend the event.

"I love the fact that he is honest with the people, that he under-



Photo by RedEye staff  
*Governor Patrick and Lieutenant Governor Murray stand together during Barnstable event.*

stands change won't be easy," Martin said.

Despite the celebratory aspect of the event, most in attendance were also anxious to see the changes that Governor Patrick will make during his term in office. One major issue that concerns Cape residents, particularly the teachers in attendance, is that of education funding. Chapter 70 is the formula through which public school funds are dispersed throughout the Commonwealth. It is based on property tax evaluations.

Many people feel that Cape schools do not get the funding they need from the state because of the high property values in their towns. But many local educators

argue that the property tax base is skewed by summer vacation rentals and wealthy property owners who do not make their primary residence on Cape Cod. Lacking adequate funding, many Cape school systems, including Barnstable, have, in recent years, required student participation fees to keep programs and cover costs.

Barnstable High School's equity officer and a local volunteer on Patrick's grass roots campaign John Reed has many issues with Chapter 70.

"No kid should have to pay for busses or sports. Everyone should have the same opportunities," Reed said.

When asked about the statewide educa-

tional funding formula Governor Patrick responded, "There are a lot of issues concerning Chapter 70, the greatest being its focus on property values as opposed to median income. The previous administration began work on reforming this and we will continue to work at it."

The stop in Hyannis was the next to last celebration event for Patrick who spent the entire weekend after his inauguration last Thursday traveling from one end of the state to the other thanking supporters and well wishers.

"Deval Patrick has inspired people across the state in a way that hasn't been seen in generations," said Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray Sunday.

# From the Editor: A call for change

by Jason Kuo

In the Newton Public Schools, it took nearly a year for the teachers to get a new contract.

Countless educators in the school system use their own money to pay for class supplies as the schools are steadily running out of resources.

One of Newton's high schools, Newton North, may lose its accreditation because the building is in such disarray.

And yet, the Newton Public Schools is amongst the best funded in the state.

Clearly, the system is broken. Public

*“For years, education has ridden in the back seat and some of the nation’s best educators and students paid the price.”*

education in Massachusetts is flailing due to lack of funding.

But as the state left the primaries and headed toward election, Deval Patrick and Tim Murray seemed like a new hope for public education, for teachers, and for students.

These were candidates that promised increased funding, new initiatives, and smaller classroom sizes. Their promises brought people together and won them the State House.

But what I ask of the governor is to make good on his promise. Now obviously there are other matters of concern in the state and the 1.1 billion will hinder any plans, but we desperately need a change.

For years, education has ridden in the back seat and some of the nation's best educators and students paid the price.

I realize that everyone is asking for more funding—more money for public safety, more investment in the local economy, healthcare—but if the gov-



Photo by RedEye staff

*Governor Patrick listens to a young student at the Youth Inaugural*

ernor truly wants to do all of those things, it all starts with a education.

Obviously, this can't happen overnight. And better public schools will require the combined effort of the entire community—Patrick has made this

clear. But having taken the first step—getting new leadership in the State House—a change for the better in education may be in the future.

So Patrick, we're all rooting for you. Please, don't mess it up.