

MIDDLESEX COUNTY SHERIFF

Inmates save town money

Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian assigned an inmate work crew to the Town of Maynard from Nov. 28 to Dec.3.

The work crew will be assisting the town with furniture removal. The project will save Maynard an estimated \$7,500 dollars.

The inmate work crew is part of the Middlesex Sheriff's Office Community Work Program, which provides free labor via non-violent inmates to public buildings and organizations. Under the supervision of correctional officers, the program teaches

inmates the value of a hard days work while saving taxpayer money. Inmates involved in the program are from the minimum security facility at the Middlesex House of Correction in Billerica. They go through a rigorous screening process and caseworker review to ensure communities the safest, most trustworthy workers available. All inmates classified as eligible for this program are nearing the end of their sentence. Work projects do not displace any public or private employees, nor do they in-

terfere with union or the public bidding processes.

On average, the Community Work Program saves Middlesex County communities a combined \$1 million a year.

"Strong community partnerships help address unique public safety situations with unique public safety solutions," said Koutoujian. "Our inmates learn the value of a hard days work and help carry the financial burden that is hindering so many municipalities."

