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BUSINESS NEWS ESSENTIAL TO BOSTON'S LEADERS.



CONGRATULATIONS
BOSTON BRUINS
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CHAMPIONS

THIS WEEK

SOCIAL WORK

Federal government says workers who complain about their jobs on sites such as Facebook and LinkedIn are protected by labor laws.

News

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URBAN HEALTH

Dr. Azzie Young is presiding over a growth spurt at the Mattapan Community Health Center.

News

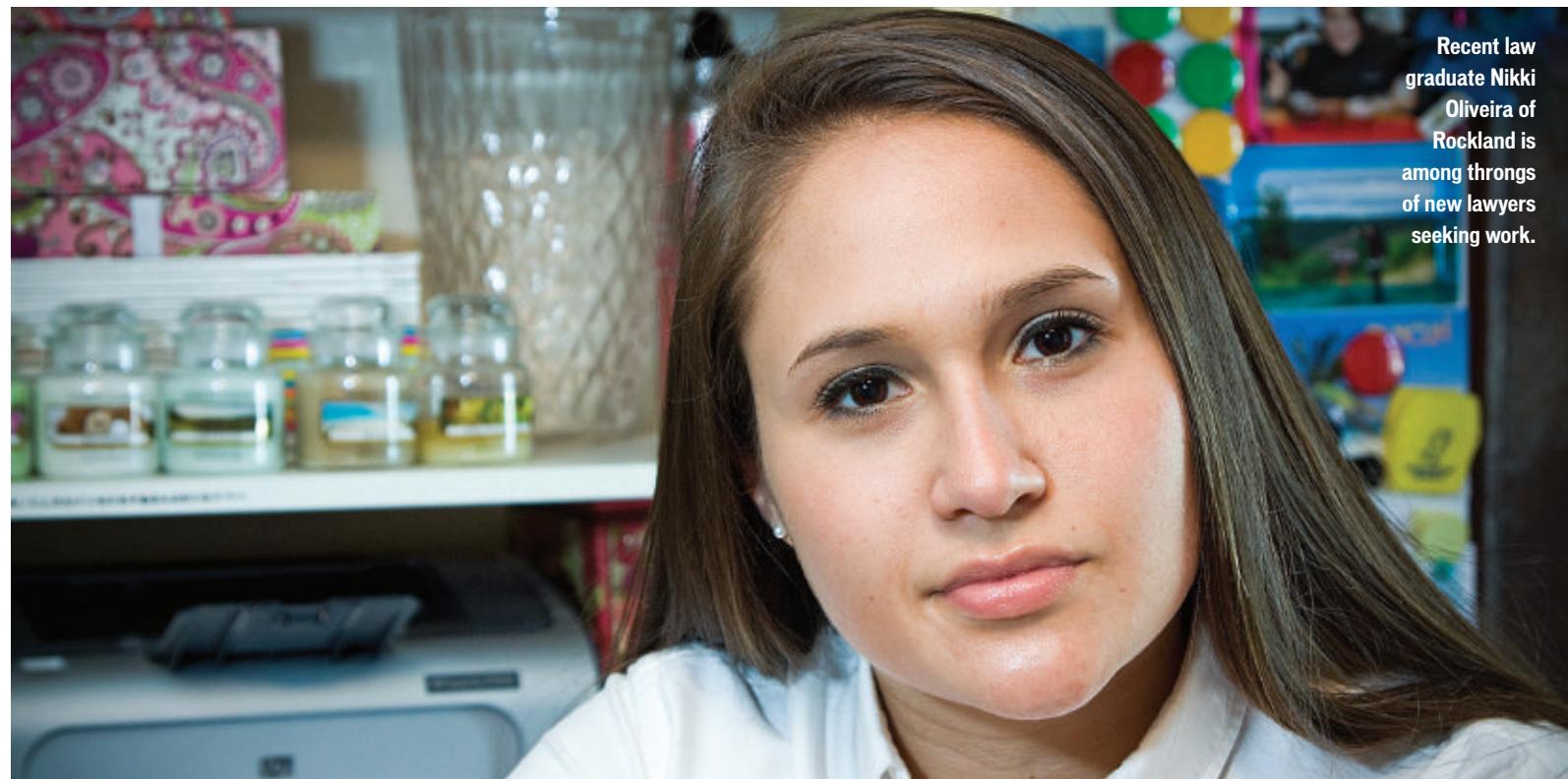
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BUILDING JOY

Haril Pandya pursues his career in architecture while also focusing on building a happy life – and pursuing hobbies such as making short films.

In Person

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Recent law graduate Nikki Oliveira of Rockland is among throngs of new lawyers seeking work.

W. MARC BERNSAU | BUSINESS JOURNAL

VERDICT: FEW LEGAL JOBS

Recent law school grads scramble for jobs to avoid being part of the industry's 'lost generation'

'LAST THURSDAY I WENT TO AN ALUMNI RECEPTION ... THERE WERE SO MANY PEOPLE WHO GRADUATED LAST YEAR WHO STILL AREN'T EMPLOYED.'

NIKKI OLIVEIRA

Went straight from graduating college to attending law school at New England Law Boston

By Lisa van der Pool

lvanderpool@bizjournals.com

Amanda Muller wanted to be a lawyer since she was 7 years old.

But although the Illinois native graduated from **Boston University School of Law** one year ago in May and was sworn into the Massachusetts Bar last November, she has yet to find a full-time job practicing law. That's despite the fact that she's applied to hundreds, perhaps thousands of jobs, she estimates. And like most recent grads, she has more than \$100,000 in student loan debt.

"I've heard too many times to count, 'We'd love to hire you, but we don't have a job for you,'" said Muller, 28, who is working part-time doing document review work while she job hunts. "I try not to get frustrated."

Muller has plenty of company — and competition — from her fellow law school graduates of 2010. Nationally, the 2010 law school class shares the unpleasant distinction of having an overall employment rate of 87.6 percent, the lowest rate since 1996, according to a recent report from the **National Association for Law Placement Inc.** (NALP) in Washington, D.C.

See LAWYERS, Page 34

DESPITE FDA APPROVAL

Heart test no boom for BG Medicine

By Julie M. Donnelly | juliedonnelly@bizjournals.com

The third time was the charm for Waltham-based **BG Medicine** (Nasdaq: BGMD), which succeeded in going public this February after two failed attempts, one in 2007 and one in 2010. The company's lead product, a diagnostic test for heart failure, achieved approval from the **U.S. Food and Drug Administration** last November.

But so far, the company's revenue from the test has been "negligible,"

CEO Pieter Muntendam said.

After an initial bump, the company's stock lately has wallowed below the IPO price, and has been very thinly traded, with an average daily volume of 22,000 shares over the past three months. The company is counting on widespread adoption of the test, through a new business model, to drive its success.

See HEART, Page 34

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EMERGING LEADER

Architect takes time to enjoy the journey Structured play

By Keith Regan | Special to the Journal

As a newly minted architect in the early 1990s, Haril Pandya generated a binder of rejection letters, including one from CBT Architects in Boston, the firm where he's now a senior associate and project manager.

"It was funny to see it," Pandya said. "It's kind of a reminder that you don't know where your path will take you, and to enjoy the journey and stay open-minded."

His path includes a range of creative output: musical scores for independent films, charity concerts with his band, radio show hosting, stand-up comedy and short films — including "ex man," which he and friends made during the Boston 48 Hour Film Project (<http://www.48hourfilm.com/boston/>) and which took home an audience favorite award — as well as a marketing video for CBT.

Pandya's recent portfolio includes helping Blackstone Group complete a redesign of the lobbies at its downtown office buildings, including 1 Post Office Square. He's also helped open schools in India and lent his design experience when Habitat for Humanity set out to create a new prototype for affordable housing.

"I've been able to be part of a team that's worked on hundreds of millions of dollars worth of construction and made a difference," he said.

What are your top three goals for the year?

To always look for ways to be happy, have fun and live life. I make a lot of short films, and if an idea gets into my head, I just do it. How many times do you get to do exactly what you want to?

What are your guiding principles for good management?

Clear, vertical communication, allocation of responsibilities, and to remember that no matter what project you're on, that your staff comes first. Empower them — you will always get better results.

What is the best business decision you've made?

To venture off and run my own firm for eight years — and then to know when to leave it.

What is the toughest business decision you've made?

Not to foolishly act upon every interesting business idea or venture I have ever come up with.

Who were or are your mentors?

My friends, family and co-workers. They are always amazing sources for advice, support and inspiration.

HARIL PANDYA

Title: Senior associate/project manager
Company: CBT Architects
Age: 39
Hometown: Needham
Education: Bachelor's degree from Rochester Polytechnic Institute, 1994

What is your overall view of the Boston area as a place to do business?

If you stand still in downtown Boston long enough, you'll eventually meet almost everyone you've ever worked with. It's a very small city, so make friends.

What are your civic passions?

Humanity is all we have as a society. People matter. I have designed a prototype home for Habitat for Humanity in Stoughton with my firm. I've also started several schools in rural India, and my bands have played charity shows all over the country.

For more with Haril Pandya
visit bostonbusinessjournal.com



W. MARC BERNSAU/BUSINESS JOURNAL

Architect, musician and filmmaker: Haril Pandya likes to make the most of his time.

LESSONS LEARNED

Do you think the economy and business climate are better than a year ago?

DAVID SAWYER, Safer Places Inc.



Our business is providing background screening for employers, and we have definitely seen an increase in the number of requests over the past year. Companies are hiring more than they were a year ago, which suggests to us that the business climate is improving.

CHRIS PELLEGRINO, Sloan McCarron Capital



Corporate balance sheets are stronger, tax revenues are rising, and recent softness in economic measures and stock prices will result in lower oil prices and improved business environment by the end of the summer, leading to a more supportive spending environment.

WIL ROGERS III, The Rogers Law Firm



Is the economy better than a year ago? Unfortunately, no. However, there is opportunity even in this economic climate. The companies that succeed under these market conditions are those who strive to provide real, demonstrated value to their clients.