

# Business

THE SUN, LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

## Shaw's cuts 700 store positions

WEST BRIDGEWATER — Shaw's Supermarkets announced Friday that it is reducing its store-level workforce by 700 positions across all 169 of its Shaw's and Star Market stores in New England.

The cuts, which represent about 4 percent of the company's associates, will be finalized today, Shaw's said.

Steve Sylven, a spokesman for the company, told *The Enterprise* of Brockton that no stores are closing. Shaw's has stores on Boston Road in Groton, Cambridge Street in Burlington, Main Street and the Daniel Webster Highway in Nashua and Indian Rock Road in Windham, N.H.

Sylven told the *Enterprise* that about 90 associates affected by the layoffs had already been informed of their status.

Shaw's is not disclosing what types of jobs are being cut or which stores will see the most cuts. Sylven did say that both part- and full-time workers are affected.

"A decision of this nature is never easy, but after careful evaluation, it is unfortunately the necessary step for us to take to help improve our business, reduce expenses and reinvest in more customer-fac-

## SANDBOX SESSION



More than 200 student and youth entrepreneurs came together last week to learn, experience and have fun with entrepreneurship at the Merrimack Valley Sandbox 2012 Catalyst Kickoff at Lawrence High School. The event included group discussions where people had an opportunity to talk about their entrepreneurial ideas and a keynote speech from entrepreneur Desh Deshpande. Above, from left, Adam McLaughlin and Jordan Tye, student entrepreneurs at UMass Lowell, talk about "Supporting Devices," a custom crutch grip that's designed around the user's hand imprint. At right, Brian Khoi talks about "Read 2 Me," an e-reader app that allows individuals to record any type of reading passage and share it with their loved ones. Khoi is teaming with a Middlesex Community College student on the project.



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