

**SPECIAL EVENT: DURHAM CALDWELL'S *Tumultuous Affairs*
AT THE LONGMEADOW ADULT CENTER**

On Wednesday, February 24th at 12:30 p.m., Durham Caldwell will be at the Longmeadow Adult Center, 231 Maple Road, Longmeadow to discuss his new book, *Tumultuous Affairs*. Caldwell is well known for his many years of news coverage, particularly election news. He came to Springfield in 1956 as news director at Radio Station WSPR. He moved to WHYN AM & FM in 1961 and added WHYNTV/40 in 1962. TV news director duties also included at various times working as a field reporter, news anchor, documentary writer and producer, editorial writer and substitute sportscaster.

Those who broke into broadcasting during his years at WHYN Radio and TV40 include Ray Hershel, Kathy Tobin, Joan Goodman, Cora-Ann Mihalik (who went on to anchor in New York City), Sally Thorner (recently retired as an anchor in Baltimore), Della Crews (who anchored in Pittsburgh), and Jim Douglas (current governor of Vermont). TV documentaries included: "Bishop Weldon: A Look Back," "The Sixties," and "Springfield Armory: Fight for Survival."

Durham Caldwell left TV40 in 1988 to work briefly as manager of public information for the Springfield Public Schools. He then edited the weekly *Ludlow Register* from 1989 to 1993 and continues on that newspaper as a columnist.

Author Durham Caldwell has invented the Massachusetts City of Riverbridge, but he has populated it with characters familiar to long-time Springfield area residents. The events are ripped from yesterday's headlines: the Goldwater movement, the upheaval caused by urban renewal, protests over the Vietnam War that led to fistcuffs between opposing sides, a sit-down led by a college president, friction between the police and the black community, civil rights vigils, and the decade-long fight to end de-facto segregation in inner-city schools.

Caldwell knows his Massachusetts politics and politicians. He's covered them for broadcast and print outlets for more than half a century. His book's central figure, TV newsman Buzz Buckley, has to cope not only with the competition but also with the moral myopia of a station owner aligned with the city's big shots – and the distraction of a rollicking, Rabelaisian romance with an old high school sweetheart and a growing fondness for his politically ambitious city councilor daughter-in-law.

He is aided and abetted by a colorful cast of characters including Mayor Big Jim McCann, TV anchor Jerry Finnerty, City Councilors Rowdy Hennessy and Mr. DDT, and civil rights leaders Bobby and Lenora Clark and the Rev. Dr. James Shoemaker. There are cameo appearances by Richard Nixon, Hubert Humphrey, Larry O'Brien, Elliot Richardson, Silvio Conte, Ted and Joan Kennedy, Mossie Donahue, and three Massachusetts governors.