

**Free seminar April 7**

Merrimack Valley Hospital, 140 Lincoln Ave., Haverhill, will offer a free seminar, *Overcoming the Stigma of Addiction: A Disease That Touches Us All*, on Tuesday, April 7, from 7 to 8 p.m. in the hospital auditorium. One free contact hour will be awarded to health care professionals who attend. Guest speaker is Punyamurtula S. Kishore, M.D., M.P.H., a certified addiction medicine physician, who will talk about addiction; the controversy over whether it is a biological disease or a societal effect; the impact of the addict; and the various treatment methodologies.

Kishore earned his medical degree from Andhra University in India, his masters degree in public health from Harvard University, and certificates in forensic psychology and addiction studies from Bridgewater State College.

The seminar is free to the public as well as health care professionals. Pre-registration is required. Light refreshments will be served. To register, call Mary O'Neil at 978-420-1157.

- See more at: <http://www.andovertownsman.com/local/x645346228/News-briefs-Friday-April-3-last-day-to-submit-issue-for-Town-Meeting-debate-and-other-news-items#sthash.ImLh6Uk7.dpuf>