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ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE IN LAWRENCE

Alumnos de la Escuela Wetherbee, ganadores del Premio al Mejor Tema, luciendo el verde.
Wetherbee Grammar School children, winners of the Best Theme, wearing green.



ANUNCIAN PROGRAMA PREPARADO, LISTO, DÉJALO

El Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan, anunciando el comienzo de la campaña de ayuda para aquellos que quieran dejar de fumar.



DESDE LA IZQUIERDA: el Director de Programación Johnny McKenzie, El Alcalde de Lawrence Michael J. Sullivan, CEO y Gerente Pat Costa, el Representante Estatal William Lantigua y el CEO de la Cámara de Comercio Joseph Bevilacqua.

En una breve ceremonia la semana pasada, ejecutivos de Costa-Eagle Broadcasting anunciaron que la Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones (FCC) aprobó su petición para aumentar la potencia de la estación WNNW de 1,000 vatios a 3,000.

Con esta fuerza adicional, la Power 800 se podrá escuchar claramente más allá de Boston. "Estábamos tratando de alcanzar el mercado de Boston", dijo Pat Costa CEO y Gerente de la estación. "Ahora podemos llegar hasta Cape Cod."

Para la ocasión, estuvieron presentes el Alcalde de Lawrence Michael J. Sullivan, el Representante Estatal William Lantigua y Joseph Bevilacqua, CEO de la Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Merrimack.

Costa-Eagle Broadcasting incluye una sociedad con el Eagle-Tribune y tienen otras dos estaciones: WCCM 1490 AM y WCEC 1110 AM.

EL PASTOR JARVIS DICE:

"El 8 de marzo más que un día festivo una fecha para reflexionar"

Por Beatriz Pérez | Página 8

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

WINNERS | GANADORES

MARCHERS | BANDAS DE MARCHA

- 1st Lawrence High School JROTC
2nd The Men of St. Patrick
3rd Irish Step Dancers

FLOATS | CARROZAS

- 1st St. Patrick School
2nd Lawrence Fire Department
3rd Acting Out Theatre Group

BEST OVERALL THEME ("WEARING OF THE GREEN")

EL MEJOR TEMA ("LUCIENDO EL VERDE")
The Wetherbee Grammar School

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Tower Hill Neighborhood Association

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City of Lawrence Re-Organizes Offices of Planning and Community Development

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Editorial

RUMBONNEWS.COM/EDITORIAL

Lawrence se une

La Ciudad de Lawrence está atravesando un par de batallas desagradables con una demanda ante los tribunales pidiendo la cancelación de las elecciones pasadas como resultado de los problemas con la lista de votantes inactivos. También, la petición de la comunidad dominicana para lograr que le den a Broadway un nombre honorario y el cual ha causado más discordia de lo merecido.

En medio de tanta negatividad, hemos de concentrarnos en el maravillo espectáculo que la Concejala del Distrito F, Marie Gosselin y su comité lograron organizar el domingo pasado: La Parada de San Patricio. La Ciudad Inmigrante demostró nuevamente qué nos une y cómo podemos unirnos en una celebración que no es tan siquiera nuestra en lo que muchos dicen fue el desfile más largo y bello de años recientes.

Dicen que el Día de San Patricio todos somos irlandeses; pues bien, las diferentes nacionalidades y grupos lingüísticos de Lawrence no pretendieron ser irlandeses sino que orgullosamente felicitaron a los inmigrantes de Irlanda con hermandad, como nuestros vecinos.

El colorido de los trajes, la música y los lenguajes hicieron palpable el mensaje de que Lawrence no ha cambiado desde su creación y seguirá creciendo a pesar de la gente que trata de echarla abajo.

Debíamos pedirle a la Concejala Gosselin su ayuda organizando los festivales de verano. Vamos a enviar un reto a los grupos que estuvieron presentes el pasado domingo para asegurarnos que van a participar en los festivales y paradas de la comunidad de habla española.

Lawrence comes together

The City of Lawrence is going through a couple of ugly battles right now with a lawsuit asking for the elections to be cancelled as a result of the inactive list mess. Also, the Dominican community's request to give Broadway an honorary name has created more discord than it deserves.

In the midst of such negativity, let us focus on the wonderful spectacle that District F Councilor Marie Gosselin and her committee managed to organize last Sunday: the St. Patrick's Parade. The Immigrant City came through to demonstrate again what unite us and how we can all come together in a celebration that is not even ours, which many would say this was the best parade in many years.

They say that on St. Patrick's Day everyone is Irish; well, the different nationalities and language groups of Lawrence didn't pretend to be Irish but proudly saluted the immigrants from Ireland with brotherhood as our neighbors.

The colorful costumes, music and languages brought home the message that Lawrence has not changed since its creation and it will continue to grow in spite of the people trying to drag it down.

We should request Councilor Gosselin's help in organizing the festivities of the summer months. Let's challenge the groups that were there last Sunday to make sure that they all participate in the festivals and parades of the Spanish-speaking community.

CARTAS AL EDITOR | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO 315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843

Email: rumbo@rumbonews.com

Las cartas deben tener menos de 300 palabras de largo. Favor de incluir un número de teléfono o dirección electrónica para confirmar quién la envía.

Letters must be less than 300 words in length. Please send a telephone number or email address by which we may confirm the sender.

Point After Club quiere su propia casa



MIEMBROS, PERSONAL Y AMIGOS DE POINT AFTER CLUB Edwin Arroyo, Don Bartlet, Elsa Colon, Tom Coppinger, Arelis Cruz, John Davies, Delia Diaz, Julio Encarnación, Jacqueline Feliz, Linda Forbes, Steve Fox, Steve Gagnon, Steve Kanan, Michael Koshar, Julie Howard, Gerry Langan, Carol L'Italien, Micha McGuire, Lisa Ortiz, Dennis Ouellette, Karen Pearse, Elvin Rentas, Anna Rice, Carmen Rivera, Thelma Shapiro y Sam Zocco.

Por Alberto Surís

Localizado en el Centro Masónico de Lawrence desde 1984, el Point After Club quiere tener su propia casa. El Club ha crecido en miembros y prestarles los servicios que ellos requieren, cada día se les hace más difícil por no contar con las facilidades requeridas. "Seguimos un modelo de rehabilitación internacional y uno de los estándares es que tengamos nuestro propio lugar, no compartido", dijo Tom Coppinger, el Director de Point After Club.

El Point After Club es una casa donde adultos con incapacidades siquiátricas, son ayudados a recuperar la confianza en sí mismos y adquirir las destrezas necesarias a fin de disfrutar de una vida productiva y socialmente satisfactoria.

El Point After Club surgió de las limitaciones que los enfermos mentales sufrían en el Hospital Mental de Danvers. Rose Coppinger, era entonces una asistente de salud mental en la Unidad de Lawrence y veía las limitaciones que ellos tenían. "El único lugar que tenían era un patio cercado dentro de los límites del hospital", dijo Anna M. Rice, hija de Rose y miembro de la actual junta directiva.

Gracias a los esfuerzos de Rose Coppinger, el Point After Club abrió sus puertas en 1979, en unas cuantas habitaciones en el Lawrence YMCA. No fue sino hasta el año 1984 que el club se mudó a su actual sitio en el Templo Masónico. "Estamos muy agradecidos de los Masones, pero ya necesitamos

nuestra propia casa", dijo Coppinger.

De acuerdo con sus hijos Tom y Anne, Rose, que falleció en agosto del año pasado, ella estaba convencida de que los pacientes necesitaban una casa en Lawrence que fuera no solamente terapéutica, sino un sitio donde ellos pudieran compartir, de un lugar amistoso donde encontraran el apoyo de sus amigos.

Rose comenzó proveyendo reuniones sociales una tarde por semana. El programa causó tal diferencia en las vidas de los que habían estado hospitalizados en Danvers, que fue extendido a los viernes, sábados y domingos. Desde que comenzó, el Point After Club nunca ha cerrado sus puertas.

Para dar comienzo al proyecto de recaudación de fondos con vistas a construir o habilitar un hogar con las especificaciones necesarias, Point After Club está anunciando una cena de espagueti para recaudar fondos. "Esta será la primera en una serie de eventos relacionados a la recaudación de fondos", dijo Tom Coppinger. "Más adelante, en octubre, tendremos una carrera que esperamos que produzca más que la cena", dijo su hermana Anne.

Vea el anuncio, en español, sobre la cena de espagueti en la página 3.

See the ad, in English, about the spaghetti dinner on page 24.

Rumbo

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BOULEVARD JUAN PABLO DUARTE: reconocimiento, no vergüenza

Por Beatriz Pérez

En ocasiones el hacerse el desentendido ante peticiones de comunidades que no solo representan un número dentro de las estadísticas, sino que han incidido por años en el crecimiento de muchos lugares en los Estados Unidos, sería fácil de asimilar si viene de aquellos que son anglos de pura cepa (para decirlo en buen dominicano) y no por naturalización, o peor aún de quienes son parte de esa cantidad de inmigrantes que conforma la población de Lawrence. Pero en personas que al igual que otros grupos han hecho de esta ciudad y de otros lugares de los Estados Unidos un lugar de inmigrantes resulta hasta risible el hecho de restar importancia y valor a un ser humano que aún después de 193 años de haber nacido es recordado como el más grande patriota dominicano.

Ciertamente que el circo montado por algunos de los concejales de esta ciudad el pasado 7 de marzo en el Concejo Municipal cruzó la línea de lo ridículo a la desestimación más grande que en años pudo haber sentido la valiosa comunidad dominicana que vive en Lawrence.

Creer que somos estúpidos es más difícil que parecerlo. Jugar con el sentimiento patriótico de los dominicanos es una afrenta que de mi parte jamás he de olvidar, tomando en cuenta que al igual que muchos representó parte de ese grupo que un día salió de su Patria en busca de un mejor futuro en la tierra donde los sueños hace tiempo dejaron de ser color de rosa y tienen sello de discriminación y racismo.

Lo peor de todo esto es que algunos de los miembros del Comité de Ordenanza que anteriormente habían votado a favor de llevar esta petición ante el Concejo en pleno, de repente parecieran que le estaban hablando en chino. Ellos trataron de insinuar que fueron acorralados por el Cónsul General de la República Dominicana, Dominico Cabral, el Presidente del Concejo Municipal Patrick Blanchette y el Representante Estatal William Lantigua, quienes la noche en que se reunió el Comité de Ordenanzas motivaron y recordaron que ciudades como Nueva York, Providence, Miami entre otras han reconocido la importancia que para la comunidad dominicana tiene la figura, la obra y el legado de Juan Pablo Duarte.

Si en algo fallamos fue en dar como un hecho que el Concejo en pleno decidiría a favor de poner a un tramo de la Broadway, el nombre de Boulevard Juan Pablo Duarte, sin importar que fuesen cinco o siete esquinas.

Eso que se negaron (claro en tiempo de elecciones) comían el mangú, el salcocho y hasta eran capaces de bailar merengue y bachata, haciendo creer a los ilusos que realmente nos estimaban.

Lo más importante es recordar a esos Concejales (que quizás gracias a muchos de los nuestros están hoy en el sitio en que se encuentran) dos años, como dice un comercial de televisión pasan volando, pero que hay ofensas que jamás pasan al baúl de los recuerdos.

Esa noche fue evidente, aunque se niegue, que tres factores influyeron en hacer cambios a la solicitud inicial: primero el racial, la influencia de terceros que han sido capaces de comparar a Juan Pablo Duarte con Osama Bin Laden, y otros, además de las diferencias políticas.

¡Gracias! al presidente del Concejo Municipal Patrick Blanchette, a la Concejal At-Large Nilka Alvarez-Rodríguez, al Concejal por el Distrito C, Jorge González por esa defensa que asumieron como si se tratase de una en particular.

A Nick Kolofoles del Distrito D, quien a pesar de haberse inclinado por la idea de poner el nombre a solo una esquina, mantuvo una actitud de respeto hacia los dominicanos.

Nos veremos en el Concejo Municipal y esta vez esperamos convencer a los que nos inclinamos a pensar realmente están confundidos, de cuán importante es para los dominicanos y dominicanas que aquí viven contar con un nombre simbólico de Boulevard Juan Pablo Duarte, debajo del nombre Broadway. Acaso, ¿es mucho pedir? No somos conformistas y por ello no aceptamos que solo una esquina lleve el nombre en cuestión.

En cuanto a qué ha hecho Duarte en Lawrence, es la misma pregunta que millones de dominicanos estarán haciendo en este instante, en cuanto a George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy en nuestra Patria.

La razón de que importantes calles y avenidas lleven sus nombres, es que cuando de reconocer el valor y el honor de hombres y mujeres de cualquier parte de

mundo y el rol que han jugado en pro de la libertad y la democracia, las actitudes personales y las diferencias políticas se ponen hacia un lado.

Si en algo fallamos fue en dar como un hecho que el Concejo en pleno decidiría a favor de poner a un tramo de la Broadway, el nombre de Boulevard Juan Pablo Duarte, sin importar que fuesen cinco o siete esquinas. Lo vimos como realidad porque pensamos que la emprendedora comunidad dominicana se lo merecía.

Como pregunta, ¿qué pasaría si los dominicanos entre ellos taxistas, propietarios de bodegas, de negocios de envío de remesas, de transportación interestatal, de salones de belleza, barberos, dueños de restaurantes entre otros paralizaran sus labores por solo 3 ó 4 horas?

Señores Concejales, nos vemos pronto en el Concejo y que Dios les bendiga. Al igual que a aquellos que reaccionan movidos por un odio desmedido, como si estuviesen cobrando facturas pendientes.

La opinión emitida en este artículo es de la responsabilidad de su autora, lo expresado en el mismo no necesariamente refleja el sentir de Rumbo

WALK NOW 2006 TAKE AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST AUTISM

Esta es una invitación para que caminemos juntos el 17 de junio próximo en la Caminata Anual WALK NOW! en la lucha contra el autismo en el Gillette Stadium. Invitemos a amigos, familiares y compañeros de trabajo. También puede patrocinar a alguien que quiera caminar ese día si a Ud. se le imposibilita estar presente.

La meta es colectar fondos para las investigaciones biomédicas que conllevarán a encontrar una cura para el autismo. Ya hay progresos, pero aún falta mucho.

Se recomienda a los caminantes registrarse y colectar \$200 entre amigos, familiares y compañeros de trabajo que auspicien su participación. Ud. recibirá su camiseta WALK NOW T-shirt.

También puede ayudar registrando su empresa como Patrocinador Corporativo de WALK NOW 2006. Llame al (888) 8-AUTISM y pida WALK NOW o envíe un e-mail a walknow@cureautismnow.org

POINT AFTER CLUB

Primera Cena Anual de Spaghetti para dar comienzo a la Campaña de Recaudación de Fondos para la construcción de "Nuestro Propio Hogar", en honor de Rose T. (Lawlor) Coppinger.

¿Cuando? Sábado, abril 1, 2006

¿Dónde? El Templo Masónico, situado en el 43 de la Calle Jackson, Lawrence, MA.

¿Hora? 4:00 PM. a 7:00 PM

COSTO: Adultos, \$8.00
Niños menores de 12 años, \$5.00

¿POR QUÉ? A beneficio de la Campaña de Recaudación de Fondos a beneficio de Point After Club, un programa de Mental Health Resources Plus, Inc., pro construcción de "Nuestro Propio Hogar".

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Ciudad de Lawrence Reorganiza oficinas de Planeamiento y Desarrollo Comunitario

La oficina de Planeamiento y Desarrollo Comunitario ha estado siendo severamente criticada durante el año pasado después que la intervención de HUD determinara que hay un número de asuntos que necesitan ser atendidos. Además piensan que muchos de los asuntos son sistémicos por naturaleza y ocurrieron durante los diez años pasados. La buena noticia fue que no hubo malversación de fondos que habrían dado lugar a sanciones o un plan del reembolso.

La buena noticia se puso mejor pues todas las quejas han sido satisfechas por la Ciudad de Lawrence.

Para lograr esto el Alcalde Michael J. Sullivan alistó los servicios de varios consultores que alternadamente trabajarían muy de cerca con el personal de HUD para mejorar el departamento. Los resultados hasta el momento han sido impresionantes y varios puntos de referencia fueron fijados por mucho trabajo duro.

Todo lo que había programado continuó siendo financiado y siendo apresurado para asegurar que los grupos locales que dependen de estos fondos no fueran afectados negativamente.

Un plan consolidado de cinco años fue creado y aprobado por HUD, el cual llevará a la ciudad hasta después del 2010.

Un área estratégica de la revitalización del vecindario fue aprobada por la Asociación de Vecinos de North Common. El Gateway, el centro comercial de Lawrence y hasta una parte de Prospect Hill. Esta área asegurará que la ciudad pueda demostrar resultados tangibles, mensurables sobre los siguientes tres años como se recomienda bajo las mejores prácticas de HUD.

La ciudad recibió una dádiva de 3 millones de dólares que había solicitado para continuar combatiendo agresivamente el envenenamiento de la contaminación de la pintura de plomo y de llegar a cumplir con la ley. Un plan de acción anual para los fondos de CDBG del 2006 y los fondos de HOME fue creado y aceptado a tiempo.

"Esto presagia buena ventura para el futuro de estos departamentos y estoy seguro que a medida que continuamos creando una oficina fuerte en una fundación sólida, los ciudadanos de Lawrence serán los ganadores en un final"

Michael Sullivan,
Alcalde

"Estamos aguardando una carta de crédito y nos hemos asegurado que la Oficina de Desarrollo Comunitario recibirá muy pronto el financiamiento", dijo el Alcalde Sullivan. "Pero lo más importante es que la Ciudad de Lawrence desarrolló una reorganización completa de nuestro departamento, que será sumamente diferente", añadió el Alcalde.

Con la ayuda del consultor Dan Cahill, el Alcalde Sullivan ha sometido una reorganización que separa el departamento en Oficina de Planeamiento y Oficina de Desarrollo Comunitario. Este plan fue endosado por HUD y aprobado recientemente por el Concilio de la Ciudad de Lawrence. Junto con esta división el plan incluye una remuneración y clasificación completa de todas las posiciones que asegurará las buenas calificaciones, probabilidades de avanzar y la retención de los empleados para consolidar ambos departamentos.

El Sr. Frank Bonet, director de personal, fue instrumental en cerciorarse que este plan fue un buen reflejo de lo que tratamos de hacer con las descripciones de trabajos para enlistar a candidatos capacitados en todas las posiciones. Aún cuando algunos proyectos requerirán un esfuerzo coordinado del personal de ambas oficinas o la cooperación de otros departamentos municipales, la reorganización podrá enfocarse en los proyectos que son pagados por HUD. Los nuevos departamentos también tendrán personal de ayuda adicional para mejorar el servicio al público y aumentar la capacidad de los dos departamentos.

El personal actual de la Oficina de Planeamiento y Desarrollo Comunitario hizo un trabajo excepcional en condiciones nada halagadoras bajo la dirección de Fred Carberry. Ambos, el personal de HUD y los consultores Dan Cahill y Jansi Chandler dijeron que estaban muy impresionados con el profesionalismo y el buen ejemplo demostrados por el personal a través de todo el proceso.

"Esto presagia buena ventura para el futuro de estos departamentos y estoy seguro que a medida que continuamos creando una oficina fuerte en una fundación sólida, los ciudadanos de Lawrence serán los ganadores en un final", dijo el Alcalde Sullivan.

¿QUIERE MEJORAR SUS DESTREZAS EN INGLÉS?

Lawrence Family Development Charter School en West Street está ofreciendo tutoría en inglés. Los solicitantes han de tomar un examen en inglés para saber a qué nivel están. El costo es \$50 por un término de 13 semanas que es el programa menos costoso en toda el área. Las clases son por la noche de 6 a 8 pm, de lunes a jueves. Los estudiantes toman clases de Inglés como Segundo Idioma en dos de esas noches. Pregunte por Sandy en el (978) 689-9863.

IX Foro de Negocios

Acercamiento al Mercado Hispano de Estados Unidos y Canadá 2006

El Consulado General de México en Boston informa que el IX Foro de Negocios "Acercamiento al Mercado Hispano de Estados Unidos y Canadá 2006" se llevará a cabo el 15 y 16 de junio en la Ciudad de México.

Los objetivos del Foro son: a) establecer e impulsar una mayor relación de negocios entre empresarios hispanos de Estados Unidos y Canadá; b) difundir entre los empresarios hispanos las oportunidades de negocios en México; y c) capacitar a los empresarios mexicanos para exportar al mercado hispano.

El programa contempla diversas actividades entre las que destacan: conferencias, paneles sectoriales, talleres, asesorías con expertos en comercio exterior, y entrevistas con representantes de empresas.

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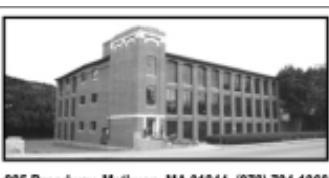
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Un mensaje personal de Heather y Paul McCartney

Por muchos años, hemos sentido un compromiso personal hacia la protección de los animales. Hoy quisiéramos pedirles ayuda en un asunto que es muy importante para nosotros - detener la caza masiva de las focas canadienses.

Acabamos de regresar de un viaje por los criaderos de focas en el Golfo de St. Lawrence en Canadá. Caminamos por el hielo entre las focas madres a medida que amamantaban a sus bebés recién nacidos.

No hay palabras para expresar cuán hermoso es el paisaje, sin otra cosa que el hielo y el océano hasta donde se puede ver. Los únicos sonidos que escuchamos fueron los del viento y el llanto de los cachorros llamando a sus madres.

Pero, dentro de unas pocas semanas, los botes llegarán y el llanto de esas pequeñas focas será el del terror y la agonía a medida que las asesinan contra el hielo ya sea con bates o pistolas. El blanco hielo se manchará con la sangre de las focas, asesinadas para abastecer la industria de las pieles.

Hoy, necesitamos desesperadamente su ayuda para detener este crimen.

Creemos que si todos trabajamos unidos, podremos convencer al gobierno canadiense para que terminemos con esta cacería para siempre. Por eso le pedimos que haga una contribución lo más generosa posible a The Humane Society of the United States para que continúen luchando por salvar a los bebitos de las focas.

La campaña de protección de las focas

de la HSUS está uniendo a todos los ciudadanos conscientes del mundo entero para presionar al gobierno canadiense y que termine con esta cacería. Su donación será utilizada exclusivamente para esta campaña y permitirá que la HSUS envíe a un grupo de expertos, periodistas y videógrafos al

hielo para que puedan documentar la caza, exponiendo la crueldad que el gobierno canadiense no quiere que el mundo vea.

Queremos asegurarnos que todo el mundo sabe lo que está pasando en este aislado témpano en medio del mar, y no vamos a descansar hasta que la matanza

haya terminado para siempre. Favor de donar hoy.

Sinceramente,
Heather y Paul McCartney
Este mensaje fue recibido a través de Sharon Dubois con permiso para su reproducción.

A personal message from Heather and Paul McCartney



For years, we have shared a personal commitment to animal protection. Today we'd like to ask for your help in supporting an issue that is deeply important to us — stopping Canada's massive seal hunt.

We have just returned from a trip to the seal nursery on the ice floes in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in Canada. We walked on the ice among mother seals as they nursed their newborn babies.

There are no words to express how breathtaking the landscape is, with nothing but ice and ocean as far as the eye can see. The only sounds we heard were the wind and the cries of the baby seals, calling out to their mothers.

But in just a few weeks, the boats will arrive, and the cries of the baby seals will be those of terror and agony as

sealers clamber onto the ice with their clubs and guns. The pristine white of the ice will be stained with the blood of these baby seals, bludgeoned and shot to death so the sealers can sell their skins to the fur industry.

Today, we desperately need your help to stop this slaughter.

We believe that if we all work together, we can convince the Canadian government that now is the time to end the hunt forever. That's why we are asking you to make as generous a gift as you can to help The Humane Society of the United States continue to fight to save Canada's baby seals.

The HSUS's ProtectSeals campaign is bringing all compassionate and humane-thinking citizens of the world together to pressure the Canadian government to end

this hunt forever. Your donation will be used exclusively for the ProtectSeals campaign and will enable The HSUS to send a team of experts, journalists, and videographers to the ice so they can document the hunt, exposing the hideous cruelty that the Canadian government doesn't want the world to see.

We plan to make sure that the world knows what happens on those isolated ice floes in the middle of the sea, and we will not rest until the slaughter has ended forever. Please donate today.

Yours,
Heather and Paul McCartney

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VOCES Y VISIONES

Highlights from El Museo del Barrio's Permanent Collection

Esta exposición proveniente de uno los únicos museos de la nación que se dedica al arte latinoamericano, caribeño y latino, presenta trabajos de artefactos de la era precolombina hasta arte contemporáneo de nuestros días, los cuales captan las voces y visiones de estos artistas y culturas. En vista desde el 10 de marzo hasta el 26 de junio de 2006.

Voces y Visiones: Highlights from El Museo del Barrio's Permanent Collection es una exposición que viajará internacionalmente; fue organizada por El Museo del Barrio con el apoyo de la Fundación MetLife. Apoyo adicional ha sido aportado por The National Endowment for the Arts y por The New York State Council on the Arts, una agencia estatal. El patrocinador de medios de comunicación es WZID, 95.7FM.

EVENTOS PARA TODOS!

The Currier Museum of Art ofrecerá una diversidad de programas y eventos durante la entera duración de la exposición Voces y Visiones. Los invitamos a que vengan y nos ayuden a celebrar esta exposición de arte y cultura Latinoamericana y Caribeña.

Apoyo financiero para la Celebración Cultural Latinoamericana y Caribeña es generosamente aportado por Bank of America, the Manchester Regional Community Foundation of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation y Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield en New Hampshire.

VISITAS GUIADAS DE LA EXPOSICIÓN PARA JÓVENES Y ADULTOS

Tome una visita guiada de la exposición Voces y Visiones: Highlights from El Museo del Barrio's Permanent Collection, en las siguientes fechas:

- Domingo 10 de marzo a las 2:00 p.m.
- Sábado 1 de abril a la 1:00 p.m.

**Voces y Visiones:
Highlights from El
Museo del Barrio's
Permanent Collection**
es una exposición que
viajará
internacionalmente; fue
organizada por El
Museo del Barrio con el
apoyo de la Fundación
MetLife.

- Domingo 7 de mayo a las 2:00 p.m.
- Sábado 3 de junio a la 1:00 p.m. en español
- Domingo 18 de junio a las 2:00 p.m.
- Gratis luego de pagar la entrada al museo.

VISITAS GUIADAS PARA TODA LA FAMILIA

Sábado 25 de marzo a la 1:00 p.m.: La familia entera está invitada a tomar la visita guiada de la exposición Voces y Visiones conducida por el educador John Patrick Picciano. La misma será presentada en español. Gratis luego de pagar la entrada al museo.

Sábado 22 de abril a la 1:00 p.m.: Traiga a su familia al Currier Museum para hacer una visita guiada de la exposición Voces y Visiones en inglés. Aprenda acerca de arte Latinoamericano con un docente perteneciente al museo. Gratis luego de pagar la entrada al museo.

PRESENTACIÓN MUSICAL

Jueves 30 de marzo a las 6:00p.m.: El guitarrista y compositor nativo del país de Cuba, José Lezcano, va a presentar un programa de guitarra de música tradicional

de América del Sur. El Dr. Lezcano ha presentado conciertos en cuatro continentes y ha ganado varios premios. Gratis luego de pagar la entrada al museo.

PRESENTACIÓN DE MARIONETAS

Miércoles 26 de abril a las 2:00 p.m.: Venga y aprenda acerca de la vida en el país de México con este programa producido en conjunto con la exposición Voces y Visiones. El marionetista John Patrick Picciano va a presentar "El Tattro", un cuento mexicano, usando marionetas y mascaras hechas a mano. Esta presentación es recomendada para edades de siete años en adelante. Gratis luego de pagar la entrada al museo.

CONFERENCIA DADA POR EL ARTISTA ROBERTO CHAO

Sábado 29 de abril a la 1:00 p.m. en español; a las 3:30 p.m. en inglés: El artista en residencia del taller abierto del centro de arte Currier, Roberto Chao, va a dar una conferencia acerca de la historia de la pintura de murales Latinamericanos, incluyendo su trabajo mas reciente el cual desarrolló con la colaboración de jóvenes de la ciudad de Boston y sus alrededores. Otro de los temas va a ser su proyecto actual el cual esta siendo desarrollado en el taller abierto del centro de arte Currier. El mismo incluye la producción en escala grande de un mural que celebra la cultura latina. Como cierre se va a poder ver un film documentario que muestra como este mural esta siendo desarrollado. Gratis luego de pagar la entrada al museo.

VACACIONES DE PRIMAVERA EN ABRIL

Del 24 al 28 de abril en el Centro de Arte Currier: Forme parte de las voces y visiones de artistas Latinoamericanos, Caribeños, y Latinos. Haga una vasija decorativa en cerámica, tradicional de la cultura Precolombina-Taína de Caribe. Cree su propia Mascara igual a las producidas en México y América Central. Inspírese con los trabajos de impresiónhechos por los artistas mexicanos Rafael Ferrer y Nitza Tufiño. Explore como pintar con el estilo de los artistas mexicanos Frida Kahlo y Diego Rivera. ¡Y mucho más! Para anotarse en cualquiera de estos programas llame al teléfono 669-6144 extensión 122.

FESTIVAL PARA LA FAMILIA

Sábado 20 de mayo de 12:00 p.m. a 4:00 p.m.: ¡El arte y sonidos de Latino América van a estar vivos en este festivo evento! Visite el Museo o el Centro de Arte Currier y haga un proyecto de arte, observe un baile típico interpretado por un grupo de danzarines latinos, píntese la cara en el estilo tradicional, disfrute de deliciosas comidas típicas o simplemente visite esta exposición especial. Festividades para todas las edades. Entrada gratis.

CONCIERTO

Sábado 3 de junio a las 3:00 p.m.: Los Cimarrones del Sur es un grupo musical compuesto por 6 miembros. Los mismos provienen de Puerto Rico y vienen especialmente al museo Currier a ejecutar una presentación de música, percusión y baile. Van a explicar y demostrar ritmos de las islas de América del Sur. ¡Esta va a ser una presentación muy excitante! Gratis luego de pagar la entrada al museo.

La adolescencia

Por Arturo Ramo García
aramo@adigital.ptic.mec.es

En la tarea de educar a los hijos, una fase importante es conocerlos en profundidad. Porque todos son diferentes, con sus posibilidades y limitaciones propias y con sus necesidades particulares. Las diferencias fundamentales vienen determinadas por el sexo, la edad o grado de maduración y la personalidad. Los chicos son distintos de los adultos, de los otros niños de su edad y de sí mismo a lo largo de su vida personal.

Siendo que cada chico es diferente, los objetivos de formación también han de ajustarse a cada persona en particular. El nivel de exigencia que se aplica a cada chico ha de ser proporcional a sus posibilidades.

En el desarrollo del chico cobra especial importancia la adolescencia, una etapa en la que el hijo además de ser diferente, toma de que lo es, por el nacimiento de la intimidad. El profesor Debesse dice que "la adolescencia ha sido hasta hace poco la cenicienta de las etapas de la vida, la desgraciada Polonia situada entre dos países poderosos. No es una infancia que se agosta ni un mero embrión de edad adulta, sino una etapa con ser y valor propios. No es una fase más de la existencia, sino una realidad total y compleja, un mundo".

Por otra parte la adolescencia se prolonga en edades adultas y se manifiesta en el extrapunitivismo (echar la culpa a los demás), la carga emocional y en el inconformismo indiscriminado.

La sociedad actual, que se caracteriza por ser consumista, permisiva y pragmatista, no es capaz de aliviar la inseguridad y desamparo emocional del adolescente, sino que los acrecienta. Esto se acrecienta con la manipulación publicitaria, del sexo y de los valores.

Por eso, es importante hacerse cargo de la trascendencia de la etapa de la adolescencia en el mundo de hoy y los riesgos que acechan. La prevención de las influencias negativas del ambiente es una tarea prioritaria en todo proceso educativo.

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Haz la diferencia en nuestra comunidad y participa como voluntario para Home Health Partners. Estamos buscando voluntarios bilingües en el área de Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill y Chelmsford.

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Llame a Remi Sánchez al 978-552-4528 o rsanchez@homehealthfoundation.org

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¿Por qué la insistencia por castrar a los animales?

Por muchos años, el último martes de febrero ha sido designado por la Liga Animal de Doris Day como "Spay Day U.S.A." (Día de Castración) y febrero ha sido elegido como el mes dedicado a eso por numerosas sociedades protectoras y grupos que abogan por los animales. Hay muchas formas que usted puede contribuir a este esfuerzo, comenzando con la castración de sus propios gatos.

Es difícil pensar que esta era de descubrimientos, muchas personas continúan ignorantes sobre el valor de castrar a sus animales. Los malentendidos son muchos:

ELLA NECESITA TENER UNA CRÍA ANTES DE SER OPERADA

No hay prueba médica que apoye esta suposición. Es más, el castrar a su gata no solo la libra de la miseria de esos frecuentes períodos de calor que pasa durante toda su vida, sino que le reduce el riesgo de cáncer de la mama y elimina el riesgo de cánceres uterinos y de ovarios, así como pyometra. Si ninguno de estos argumentos son convincentes lo suficiente, considere la posibilidad de complicaciones durante el parto, lo cual puede resultar en la muerte de la madre y hasta de los cachorros, sin mencionar la posible amenaza que representa la eclampsia.

QUISIERA QUE MIS HIJOS PRESENCIEN EL MILAGRO DE UN NACIMIENTO

Jeri Dopp, de Safe Haven for Cats, tiene la respuesta perfecta a eso: "Haga eso y en seguida vaya a un refugio para que también presencien la agonía de la muerte al ver cuantos de estos gatitos son matados. Una gata que no esté castrada puede producir 420,000 gatos en siete años – 10 millones en diez años. Saque la cuenta. No es nada agradable, considerando que la mayoría de estos gatos viven una vida muy difícil y por lo regular terminan con una muerte prematura y no natural."

LA CASTRACIÓN HARÁ QUE MI GATO ENGORDE MUCHO Y SE PONGA HARAGÁN

Todas las gatas tienen el potencial de engordar y ser vagas. Dándole a su gata una comida de buena calidad apropiada, así como envolverse con ella de vez en cuando en algún ejercicio la ayudará a mantenerse en buenas condiciones físicas.

PROMUEVA LA BUENA SALUD

Arriba discutimos las gatas. Con los gatos es similar ya que la castración les puede prevenir el cáncer testicular. También reducirá mucho el ansia de pelear con otros gatos, lo cual inevitablemente conduce a abscesos, heridas en las orejas, y a veces hasta la muerte.

REDUCE LOS POSIBLES PROBLEMAS DE COMPORTAMIENTO

Los gatos que no son alterados se orinan por doquier y su orine tiene un fuerte hedor que es extremadamente difícil de remover de las paredes, muebles, y cortinas. Las gatas también lo hacen – es un instinto natural diseñado a atraer un compañero del sexo opuesto. Además, ambos sexos, cuando no han sido alterados harán todo lo que sea necesario por escaparse de la casa para salir a buscar amores.

AYUDE A PREVENIR A EXPLOSIÓN EN LA POBLACIÓN

Las primeras dos razones son personal; esta es universal. Usted podrá pensar que porque puede encontrar buenos hogares para los cachorros de su gata, que no está contribuyendo al problema. Piense de

nuevo. Simplemente, no hay suficiente "buenos hogares" para todos. Por cada gatito que llega a un buen hogar, otro gato pierde su vida en un refugio.

Si quiere gatitos jóvenes, considere ayudar a un refugio criando una de esas crías. Tendrá la satisfacción de verlos en su etapa más simpática (la cual solamente dura unos meses), y así tendrá la satisfacción de haber ayudado en lugar de contribuir al problema.

Esperamos que si ha leído esto hasta el final, está ahora convencido del valor de la castración de sus propios gatos. ¡Espere! Hay mucho más que usted puede hacer para ayudar a los cientos de miles de gatos en necesidad de ser castrados. Y este es un buen mes para empezar.

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EL PASTOR JARVIS DICE:**“El 8 de marzo más que un día festivo una fecha para reflexionar”****Por Beatriz Pérez**

Los sucesos que antecedieron a la proclamación del día 8 de marzo como Día Internacional de la Mujer y la cruel realidad que alrededor del mundo viven un sinnúmero de mujeres víctimas de violencia doméstica, las que son sometidas a humillaciones, irrespeto y desconsideraciones fueron los puntos más relevantes del discurso pronunciado por el Reverendo Víctor Jarvis, durante la ceremonia de reconocimiento a varias mujeres del área, el pasado miércoles en la Iglesia Evangélica Hispana que preside el pastor Nelson González.

Esa noche, entre otras cosas, Jarvis manifestó que el 8 de marzo en lugar de ser una fecha festiva debe de ser motivo para reflexionar. Reflexionar sobre todos los abusos que son cometidos contra la mujer, sobre la necesidad de que los hombres respeten la dignidad de este hermoso ser y ante todo el deseo de unir esfuerzos para que el aborto no siga cobrando más vidas.

En cuanto al flagelo de la violencia doméstica el religioso destacó que es un problema que no solo es común en los países del tercer mundo, sino que también es palpable en naciones desarrolladas o en vía de desarrollo.

Asimismo, el presidente de AMEDAL indicó que los 365 días del año deben ser dedicados para enaltecer la sublimidad y la hermosura de la mujer.

“Hay países que permiten el adulterio en el hombre, el cual hasta se llega a premiar; pero si es una mujer la infiel se le señala y hasta se le quita la vida”, dijo.

El pastor Juan Melo, tesorero de la Asociación de Ministros Evangélicos, AMEDAL y pastor de la Iglesia de Dios de la Profecía hizo la invocación del acto de reconocimiento.

Las mujeres reconocidas por



Julia Polanco, Zoa Méndez, Sara Suárez, el Reverendo Víctor Jarvis y su esposa Ana Jarvis; Yadira Betances, Virgilia Berroa en representación de su hija Elvira Gabriel; y Jan Burkholder en representación de la Senadora Sue Tucker, luego de recibir la placa de reconocimiento en el Día Internacional de la Mujer.

AMEDAL, en el día Internacional de la Mujer fueron la Senadora Susan Tucker; Yadira Betances del Eagle-Tribune; Sara Suárez, del Noticias Univisión 27; Julia Polanco, que dirige el Ministerio Milagros de Jesús que provee alimentos a personas necesitadas; la propietaria de Méndez Flowerlooms Zoa Méndez; Elvira Gabriel y la pastora Marilyn Méndez (ausente).

La madre de Elvira Gabriel, Virgilia Berroa, recibió y agradeció en nombre de su hija el reconocimiento. De igual modo la senadora Tucker envió una representante para recibir la placa.

A parte de las placas que fueron entregadas por el presidente de AMEDAL y Sandy Guerrier, miembro de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos, las reconocidas

recibieron un ramo de flores de manos de Milagros Grullón.

La Concejala At-Large Nilka Álvarez Rodríguez estuvo entre los presentes.

Aunque en torno a los orígenes del 8 de marzo, existen ciertas contradicciones en algunos historiadores, lo que realmente interesa es recordar que este día fue marcado por el dolor, la tragedia, el irrespeto y hasta la muerte y tal vez por todo esto muchos han de coincidir con el reverendo Jarvis de que es día de reflexión no de festejos.

Una de esas contradicciones aparece en un artículo firmado por Carmen López en una página de Internet: CMI-Sucre, en riseup.net. López indica que la historia española, el 8 de marzo se vincula al incendio ocurrido en esa fecha en el año 1908 en la

fábrica textil Cotton, de Nueva York, provocado por el mismo empresario a causa de unas obreras que se habían declarado en huelga y estaban encerradas en la empresa.

Destaca la articulista que para hacer temblar esta teoría tan sólo hace falta mirar el calendario: el 8 de marzo de 1908 era domingo, un día extraño para declararse en huelga porque no perjudica al empresario. Pero sí que es cierto que hubo un incendio en la fábrica Triangle Shirtwaist Company, en el que murieron muchas mujeres, la mayoría jóvenes inmigrantes de entre 17 y 24 años, no fue sin embargo el 8 de marzo de 1908 sino el 25 de marzo de 1911, la primera celebración del Día Internacional de la Mujer.

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La Academia Bellesini abre matrícula

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Bellesini Academy es una escuela media privada, gratuita que sirve a niños de familias con recursos limitados en Lawrence. La misión de la escuela es proveer un ambiente académicamente retador y estructurado en forma de preparar a los

estudiantes para el éxito en escuelas secundarias de preparatoria universitaria. Cada estudiante recibe más de 2,000 horas de instrucción al año.

El día de Bellesini consta de 12 horas con 8 horas de clases académicas, una sesión por las tardes de 2 horas de enriquecimiento y 2 horas por la noche de estudio. Los estudiantes también son requeridos a tomar parte en un programa de verano de 5 semanas que continúa su currículo de inglés y matemática



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Atención: Un Boletín Informativo

La “Gripe Aviar” es Asunto de Todos!

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Día: Lunes 27 de Marzo del 2006

Lugar: Millette Manor - 72 Calle Vine, Nashua - NH
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Hora: 6:00 PM a 7:30 PM

El tema de discusión se dirige hacia la Comunidad Hispana y será presentada por el recién nombrado Epidemiólogo principal de New Hampshire, el Dr. José Thier Montero, MD. Siendo de origen hispano, domina el idioma Español sin tener que gritar “auxilio”.

Por lo general, la información que se presentará es con la intención de darle a conocer los planes, preparativos y esfuerzos que se están llevando y se llevarán a cabo si se tiene que responder a un evento pandémico debido a la “Gripe Aviar” y el impacto a la Comunidad.

Dígase presente. Para más información, comuníquese con las siguientes personas:

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UN PUNTO DE VISTA**“Prejuicio una cáscara a la vez”**

Por Paul V. Montesino, PhD.
buzonabrierto@aol.com



Recientemente me senté a ver una presentación de la película “Choque,” una de las candidatas para mejor película de los premios de la Academia que se exhibió y discutió en nuestro grupo de Diversidad. Posiblemente no hubiera podido terminar mi artículo antes que los votos se emitieron, pero ese no es el propósito de este comentario. Lo que ocurre en la ciudad del celuloide no me interesa tanto. (Nota: después de terminar este escrito la película “Choque” se llevó el premio como mejor película del año.)

La cinta puede ser evaluada desde muchos ángulos, algunos técnicos, otros temáticos, pero es abundantemente claro que en la impresionante serie de incidentes étnicos de la historia existe el mensaje poderoso de que vivimos en un conflicto racial subyacente constante a nivel consciente y sí, a nivel subconsciente también. Se presenta visiblemente que las tensiones desbordadas por los “choques” de esos incidentes donde el prejuicio se enfrenta a los prejuiciados duran mucho más que esos eventos, algunas veces antes de ocurrir y otras veces después, con consecuencias y repercusiones catastróficas. El incidente, el choque, es solamente la culminación y el apogeo. El jugueteo de manos que lo precede y el efecto de la mañana siguiente son otra cosa.

Eso no es poco usual. Estudios llevados a cabo por investigadores en el campo de la psicología biológica han identificado un rasgo de nuestro comportamiento evolutivo muy desconcertante, uno que bloquea el desarrollo para convertirnos completamente en lo que llamamos ser “humano.” Parece que estamos fabricados para reaccionar automáticamente a desconfiar en otros que “percibimos” ser diferentes a nosotros. Por favor, noten la palabra “percibimos.” La realidad es un concepto diferente.

Esa peculiaridad no es siquiera consciente; es reactiva y protectora de quienes nos creemos que somos y va hacia atrás miles de años cuando un segundo instantáneo era todo el tiempo que teníamos disponible para decidir si la cara que veíamos en frente de nosotros era amiga o enemiga y teníamos que actuar de acuerdo. En el crecimiento de la parte animal de la humanidad, si estábamos caminando por una jungla, un bosque y hasta un valle, y de repente nos encontrábamos con un extraño, nos asustábamos y, sintiéndonos amenazados, reaccionábamos evitando, escapando o atacando a ese extraño. Así podíamos vivir otro día más; uno suficiente en nuestra breve existencia.

Ese comportamiento fue útil cuando la vida era una experiencia peligrosa y competíamos por recursos naturales que eran escasos o creímos que eran escasos en un mundo sin leyes, límites o cooperación. Nuestro alimento, nuestros cónyuges, nuestra prole y tal vez nuestro pequeño círculo de familiares estaban identificados como parte de mí y todo lo demás era una amenaza a ese mí. Hoy día

nos distraemos con el pensamiento convincente de que el prejuicio y la discriminación raciales por parte de otras personas es el principal culpable, pero un análisis simple probará que la raza es solamente una versión de esos sentimientos prejudiciales y el enemigo real, como se dice, somos nosotros mismos. Es la cara que vemos en el espejo cada mañana.

Quizás usted recuerde un artículo que yo escribí recientemente sobre mis antepasados en relación con mi participación en el proyecto de trazar el cromosoma “Y” de mi DNA. Es interesante recordar ese estudio porque mucho proviene de ese relato sobre nuestra historia biológica. Si, como se ha probado sin duda alguna, cada hombre vivo hoy día es descendiente de uno negro que vivió en África Oriental hace miles de años, ¿Por qué nos hemos desviado tanto del tronco original y ahora somos incapaces de reconocernos o aceptarnos los unos a los otros como los parientes que somos?

Las implicaciones biológicas de nuestras caminatas sobre la tierra en nuestro peregrinaje constante por encontrar un lugar mejor donde vivir son evidentes. Mientras nos movíamos de climas calientes a frescos, desde lugares soleados que demandaban una piel oscura para protección ecológica hacia otros menos iluminados donde ese color era inútil, nuestras características físicas cambiaron también. Y mientras más cambiábamos físicamente, más diferentes y extraños nos sentíamos de los demás. Se hizo así nada imposible que igualmente nos temiéramos unos a otros y ese temor duradero, convertido en lo que ahora llamamos prejuicio, hizo nuestra destrucción mutua más fácil y aceptable.

Yo no tengo que hacer una lista larga de ejemplos sobre lo que me refiero. Hay cantidad de historia escrita donde la raza apareció o se probó ser parte de nuestros conflictos, pero ese no es el objetivo de estos comentarios. Estoy seguro que existen también muchos incidentes históricos similares que nunca fueron reportados. Y desde luego, no nos limitamos y detuvimos a sospechar a otros solamente por la manera que lucían. Mientras nuestras mentes se volvían más “sofisticadas y educadas,” no estoy seguro si esos son los adjetivos que aplican, añadimos una nueva dimensión al mirar a otros como extraños: la forma en que pensamos. El color nos habrá mantenido separados; pensar diferente lo ha hecho más aceptable moralmente.

Una cebolla protege su corazón con las capas numerosas que genera que la alimentan y la soportan. Nosotros soportamos nuestro centro vital con las capas numerosas de prejuicio que tenemos disponible. Yo negro, tú blanco; yo hombre, tú mujer; yo blanca, tú negra; yo mujer, tú hombre; yo educado, tú analfabeto. Yo Musulmán, tú Cristiano; yo Cristiano, tú Musulmán; yo Judío, tú Cristiano; yo Cristiano, tú Judío; yo derecho, tú gay; yo... tú.... Bueno, usted puede escoger y crear su propia lista.

No creo que tenga que añadir o describir muchas más capas de prejuicio sobre esta cebolla para probar mi punto de vista. Los investigadores también descubrieron que



la única manera de alejarnos de esta enfermiza posición es ver y relacionarnos con el individuo que existe en cualquier grupo. Si yo lo veo a usted como Roberto el hombre que da la casualidad es negro, o Luís, que da la casualidad es blanco y no simplemente como puntos en una línea de negrura o blancura, tal vez lo voy a aceptar a usted por lo que es: una rama de ese tronco de árbol común del que todos descendemos.

Ese es el significado de la película “Choque.” Yo no sabía si iba a ganar el premio de la Academia, pero si sabía que lo

que esa película describe es real. Tratemos de despojarnos de esas capas gruesas que hemos creado en nuestra cebolla de prejuicio. Dicen que uno llora cuando pela cebollas; yo sé que es cierto; yo he pelado algunas en mi vida, ¿no lo ha hecho usted? No me importaría pelar ésta si nos libera del prejuicio. Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy.

El Dr. Montesino, totalmente responsable por este artículo, es el Editor de LatinoWorldOnline.com y conferencante del Computer Information Systems Department en Bentley College, Waltham, MA.

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Carnaval anual para la prevención de los desahucios

El jueves, 6 de abril, desde las 6:00 p.m. hasta las 10:00 p.m., Community Teamwork, Inc. Auspiciará su 4ta celebración anual de un Carnaval Caribeño con el propósito de recaudar fondos para prevenir el desahucio de nuestras familias.

Todo el dinero recaudado irá a beneficiar a individuos y familias viviendo en Lowell y pueblos aledaños que no tienen un hogar o están en peligro de quedarse sin él. Solamente 400 boletas van a ser vendidas a \$100 cada una, y cada persona que la compre entrará en una rifa de \$10,000 y otros premios en efectivo.

Si quieren pueden compartir el costo con otros familiares o amistades. La actividad incluye las tradiciones del Carnaval Caribeño incluyendo una banda de música en vivo del caribe - Hot Like Fire - con barriles de acero, bailarinas del carnaval, una cena estilo buffet que incluye deliciosos platos isleños, rifas y una subasta silente.

"El año pasado, recaudamos \$40,000 para nuestros servicios a la prevención del desahucio", dijo la Directora Ejecutiva de CTI, Karen Frederick. "Con estos fondos, le hicimos frente a las necesidades urgentes de 500 personas trabajadoras pobres y de bajos recursos, previniendo que los sacaran

Esperamos que los miembros de esta comunidad apoyen nuestro trabajo en Lowell y sus alrededores uniéndose a nosotros...

de sus casas, evitando adjudicaciones de los bancos, el cierre de servicios de gas, electricidad y calefacción y escasez de alimentos. También proveemos acceso a cuidado de salud de emergencia, transportación y asistencia con el empleo. Esperamos que los miembros de esta comunidad apoyen nuestro trabajo en Lowell y sus alrededores uniéndose a nosotros en una agradable noche dando la bienvenida a la nueva temporada primaveral."

Si alguien está interesado en comprar boletos o recibir más información, favor de llamar al (978) 459-0551, ext. 281.

**Community Teamwork, Inc.'s
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Merrimack Valley FCU auspicia programa de radio en español



La semana pasada, la invitada fue Mayte Rivera, miembro de la Junta Directiva de MVFCU quien explicó el proceso para poder tomar parte en dicho cuerpo. También explicaron que esta cooperativa de ahorros es ahora una entidad comunitaria y lo que eso significa para el público.

Con la intención de alcanzar mejor a la comunidad de habla española del Valle de Merrimack, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union está auspiciando un programa radial en la WCEC 1110 AM todos los lunes de 9:30 a 10:00 a.m.

Este programa es producido y animado por Dalia Diaz, Representante de Asuntos Culturales en el Departamento de Desarrollo de Mercadeo de MVFCU, es el primero en ser auspiciado por una institución financiera en el Valle de Merrimack. La Sra. Diaz, quien ha desarrollado un programa de educación financiera que está utilizando dentro de la comunidad, trae información y material educacional a su audiencia. "La radio es el vehículo perfecto para llevar esa educación a una audiencia mayor", dice Dalia.

Ella ha tratado temas tales como ahorros, cuentas corrientes, crédito, atracos a los ancianos y recientemente, el alto nivel de familias perdiendo sus casas por no poder pagarlas en esta área.

Dalia también lleva de invitados a otros empleados de la cooperativa, lo que ha resultado en llamadas telefónicas que sobrepasan el programa en inglés en la WCCM 1490 AM. Cuando Lin Gonzalez compareció hablando de los servicios que proveen, esto resultó en varias llamadas que ella personalmente recibió. "Yo no tenía idea que el público estaba tan ansioso de esta información," dijo la Sra. Gonzalez.

John MacDonald AVP Business Development y Political Affairs dijo, "El programa de Dalia está diseñado para educar a la comunidad y particularmente a las personas que han carecido de servicios en el pasado. El programa de Dalia simula la filosofía de la cooperativa de crédito y demuestra la pasión que MVFCU siente por sus socios y por la comunidad a quien sirve. Estoy orgulloso de Dalia y espero francamente que este programa radial

Con más de 45,000 miembros, Merrimack Valley FCU ofrece cuentas corrientes gratis, transacciones financieras a través de la Internet gratis, pago de sus cuentas gratis y una amplia gama de préstamos al consumidor y de bienes raíces a las tarifas y términos más competitivos del mercado.

ayude a las personas que realmente lo necesitan", concluyó el Sr. MacDonald.

Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union está reconstruyendo un edificio histórico a lo largo de Merrimack Street en Lawrence, MA y espera mudarse para el 2007. Esta será la sede de sus oficinas administrativas con 40,000 pies cuadrados y una nueva sucursal.

Con más de 45,000 miembros, Merrimack Valley FCU ofrece cuentas corrientes gratis, transacciones financieras a través de la Internet gratis, pago de sus cuentas gratis y una amplia gama de préstamos al consumidor y de bienes raíces a las tarifas y términos más competitivos del mercado. También, recientemente, instituyeron una línea de productos para pequeños comerciantes. Sus cuatro sucursales a través de North Andover, Haverhill y Methuen con una quinta abriendo en Plaistow a principios del 2006, les asegura que podrán cubrir las demandas de los nuevos socios al igual que los existentes – uno a uno.

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¿Son tributables sus beneficios del Seguro Social?

Cuánto, si algo, de sus beneficios del Seguro Social está sujeto a impuestos depende del total de sus ingresos y estado civil. Generalmente, si los beneficios de Seguro Social son su único ingreso, sus beneficios no son tributables y usted probablemente no necesita presentar una declaración de impuestos federales.

Si usted recibió ingresos de otras fuentes, sus beneficios no serán tributados a menos que su ingreso bruto ajustado modificado sea más que la cantidad base dispuesta para su estado civil para propósitos de la declaración. Sus beneficios tributables e ingreso bruto ajustado modificado se calculan en una hoja de trabajo en la Forma 1040A o en el folleto de instrucciones de la Forma 1040.

Antes de dirigirse al folleto de instrucciones, haga el siguiente cómputo rápido para determinarse si algunos de sus beneficios pueden estar sujetos a impuestos:

- Primero, agregue una mitad del total que usted recibió de Seguro Social al resto de sus ingresos, incluyendo cualquier interés exento de impuestos y otras exclusiones de ingresos.

- Entonces, compare este total a la cantidad base dispuesta para su estado civil para propósitos de la declaración.

El 2005 las cantidades bases son:
 · \$32.000 para los matrimonios que declaran juntos.
 · \$25.000 para un soltero, cabeza de familia, viudo/viuda calificado con un niño dependiente, o individuos casados que declaran por separado y no vivieron con sus cónyuges en ningún momento durante el año.
 · \$0 para las personas casadas que declaran por separado habiendo vivido juntas durante el año

Para más información sobre los impuestos a los que podrían estar sujetos sus beneficios del Seguro Social, vea la Publicación de IRS 915, *Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits*. La Publicación 915 está disponible en el sitio del Web del IRS en el IRS.gov o llamando la 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

Qué hacer si no ha presentado su declaración del 2004

La falta de presentar una declaración de impuestos federal le puede resultar costosa —ya sea que termina debiendo más o se pierde un reembolso.

Hay varios motivos por los que los contribuyentes no presentan sus declaraciones de impuestos. Tal vez usted no sabía que era una obligación presentarlas. De repente, lo fue dejando para después y luego lo olvidó. Cualquier que sea el motivo, lo mejor será que presente su declaración lo antes posible. Si necesita ayuda, aunque sea para una declaración tardía, el IRS está listo para asistirle.

Aquí hay algunas consideraciones a tomar:

PENALIDADES POR NEGLIGENCIA EN DECLARAR

Si usted debe impuestos, una demora en presentarlos puede resultarle en una penalidad por la tardanza, además de los cargos por intereses. Mientras más se demore en presentar su declaración más crecerán estos cargos.

PÉRDIDA DE SU REEMBOLSO

No hay una penalidad por negligencia en declarar si usted tiene un reembolso pendiente. Sin embargo, no puede recibir su reembolso sin presentar una declaración de impuestos. Si usted espera demasiado para presentarla, puede correr el riesgo de perder su reembolso del todo. El límite para reclamar un reembolso es tres años después

Hay varios motivos por los que los contribuyentes no presentan sus declaraciones de impuestos...

Cualquier que sea el motivo, lo mejor será que presente su declaración lo antes posible.

de la fecha límite para su presentación.

EITC

Las personas con derecho a reclamar el Crédito Tributario por Ingreso del Trabajo (EITC) deben presentar su declaración para reclamar el crédito aun si de otra manera no estuvieran obligados a declarar impuestos.

Si usted necesita o no necesita presentar una declaración de impuestos depende de varios factores, incluyendo su estado civil para propósitos de la declaración, su edad, y su ingreso bruto.

Para más información sobre cómo presentar una declaración de impuestos de años pasados visite el sitio de Internet del IRS en IRS.gov, llame a la línea de ayuda tributaria para individuos del IRS al 1-800-829-1040 o visite una oficina local del IRS.

Reclamando el Crédito por Cuidado de Menores y Dependientes

Si usted le pagó a alguien para que cuidara de su hijo ó dependiente para usted poder trabajar o buscar trabajo, usted

pudiera reducir su impuesto reclamando El Crédito por Cuidado de Menores y Dependientes en su declaración de impuestos. Usted también puede reclamar el crédito si le pagó a alguien para que cuidara a su dependiente que tiene menos de 13 años o por su cónyuge ó su dependiente de cualquier edad que está incapacitado física o mentalmente y no puede cuidarse a sí mismo.

El crédito es un porcentaje de la cantidad de los gastos que pagó al que proveyó servicio relacionado con el cuidado de niños y dependientes. El crédito puede ser de hasta 35 % de los gastos calificados dependiendo del ingreso.

Para el 2005, usted puede usar hasta \$3,000 de los gastos pagados en el año por una persona calificada, o \$6,000 para dos o más personas calificadas. Estas cantidades límites deben ser reducidas por la cantidad de cualquier beneficio de cuidado por dependiente proporcionado por su empleador que es excluido de su ingreso.

Para reclamar el crédito por gastos de cuidado de niños y dependientes, usted debe reunir las siguientes condiciones:

INGRESO

Usted debe tener ingreso por trabajar como por ejemplo; salario, propinas u otra compensación tributable del empleado o ingresos netos por trabajo a cuenta propia.

PORTADOR

Los pagos por cuidado no pueden ser pagados a alguien que usted reclama como dependiente en su planilla o a su hijo que tiene menos de 19 años.

ESTADO CIVIL

Su estado civil debe ser soltero, cabeza de familia, viudo/a calificado con un dependiente o casado declarando en conjunto.

CUIDADO

El cuidado debe haber sido provisto a uno o más personas calificadas.

HOGAR

La persona calificada debe vivir con usted por mas de la mitad del año 2005.

Hay algunas limitaciones en la cantidad de crédito que usted puede reclamar. Si usted recibió beneficios por cuidado de dependientes de su empleador, hay otras reglas que aplican.

Para más información acerca del Crédito por Cuidado de Menores y Dependientes, vea la Publicación 503, Gastos por Cuidado de Menores y Dependientes. Usted puede bajar esas Publicaciones de la página de Web del IRS.gov gratis u ordenarlas llamando al 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

¿Está interesado en comprar una casa económica?

Bread & Roses Housing está aceptando aplicaciones para comprar dos casas de 3 dormitorios que están en construcción en el 12 - 14 Hampton St., Lawrence. Cada unidad (la mitad del duplex) tiene un costo de \$75,000 y serán vendidas a propietarios de bajos ingresos y ser primeros compradores. Las casas deben permanecer ocupadas por sus dueños y mantenerse a bajos precios en ventas futuras. Para recibir más información y una aplicación, tiene que asistir a una reunión - el jueves, el 9 de marzo a las 6 PM o el domingo, el 26 de marzo a las 1:30 PM en la biblioteca pública de Lawrence.

DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH SKILLS?

Lawrence Family Development Charter School on West Street is offering a tutoring program to learn English. Applicants take a placement test in English to see where they fit. The cost is \$50 for a term of 13 weeks. That's the cheapest program in the area. Classes are at night from 6-8 pm, Monday through Thursday. Students take ESL on two of those nights. Ask for Sandy at (978) 689-9863.

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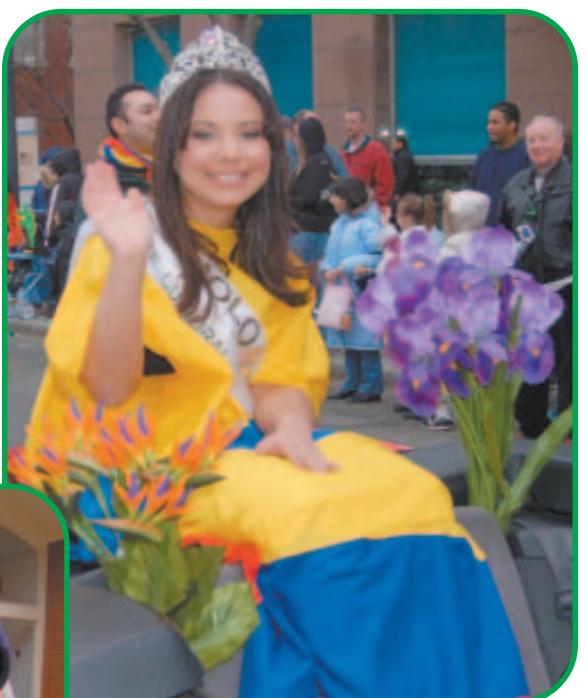
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ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE IN LAWRENCE



St. Patrick's Day Parade Organizing Committee, standing from the left: Dottie Incropera, Marie Gosselin, John Griffin (St. Patrick), Irene O'Callahan, Diane Hillman, Ray Hillman, and School Committee Member Greg Morris. Sitting in front: Barbara Jones and Linda Schiavone.



New Business Center Comes to Light on the Merrimack

A new business center, geared to serve the Lawrence and Merrimack Valley business communities, will emerge at Monarch on the Merrimack - the old Wood Mill — this June.

Kate McDonough, President and COO of the Waterfield Business Center of Woburn, will open the new Waterfield Lawrence to provide affordable, full- or part-time furnished professional office space to small businesses, people with home offices who will expand the concept of business centers even further.

Ms. McDonough plans several initiatives to reach the needs of a professional meeting space, or larger companies that desire a Merrimack Valley location. Waterfield will offer conference rooms on an as-needed basis, as well as "virtual offices". With the virtual opportunity, a receptionist familiar with you and your business personally answers your phone and transfers the call to you or takes a message. Complete mailing services offer a professional address, so no one knows your actual office is really a corner of your living room! And, you can rent office space as you need it when your home office doesn't project the appropriate image for a client meeting.

Business centers fulfill the need of small businesspeople and entrepreneurs whose size doesn't justify the expense of leasing a traditional full-time office. Unlike traditional leasing, business centers offer short or long term, or occasional use agreements. With the new Waterfield Lawrence, McDonough will expand the concept of business centers even further.

In addition to her ongoing efforts to assist small businesses, she also has plans for several initiatives to support specific market segments within the Merrimack Valley such as the Hispanic community, women in business, etc. A prime example of her outreach efforts is the active role she has taken within the Membership Committee of the Merrimack Valley Venture Forum, where she will use the resources of the Forum and those of Waterfield Lawrence to fill a need for women's networking groups in the Merrimack Valley.

McDonough, herself, is currently being

Amenities such as high speed internet access and videoconferencing will also be available. But what truly sets Waterfield apart is McDonough's vision that continually actualizes itself through new and creative resources to make her client's day easier.

recognized in the premier issue of the Alliance Business Centers Network (ABCN) newsletter. She is the first ABCN member to be profiled in the "Cool Member" department, and is described as an exemplary manager and a great leader as well as a caring and compassionate advocate for her clients:

"Kate has gone the extra mile to accommodate her clients. She has used her innovative business sense, interpersonal skills and personal touch to bring her center to new levels of success. She takes care of her clients by taking care of their businesses in the most helpful and innovative ways."

As a member of ABCN, Kate will offer Waterfield Lawrence clients "Alliance Access" or reciprocal use of facilities at every Alliance location at no extra charge.

Waterfield Lawrence will cater to today's businessperson. Amenities such as high speed internet access and videoconferencing will also be available. But what truly sets Waterfield apart is McDonough's vision that continually actualizes itself through new and creative resources to make her client's day easier. She partners with her clients, saves them 40% or more on office expense, and offers auxiliary services such as discounts on local businesses. Waterfield Lawrence promises the flexibility and services to fulfill the needs of Merrimack Valley business today.

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Letters to the Editor

Saying Hello!

I am presently taking a Spanish course at Newburyport High School and last week my assignment was to come up with as many words as possible that sound and/or look the same in English as Spanish. I, of course, went directly to Rumbo and did my assignment from there! I had more words than anyone and the professor thought that it was a great idea! So my thanks to you for helping me get a good grade, as well as keeping me informed about local issues!

Soon I will be conversing with you in your native tongue, so watch out!

Mary Ellen McEvoy-Lawlor
Administrative Assistant
Lucent Career Center

Saludando

Estoy tomando clases de español en Newburyport High School y la semana pasada me dieron la asignación de buscar palabras tantas palabras como me fuese posible que suenan o se parecen en inglés y en español. Yo, por supuesto, fui directo a Rumbo e hice mi asignación de ahí. Yo tuve más palabras que los demás y el profesor pensó que esa fue una idea genial. Así que gracias a ustedes por ayudarme a obtener una buena nota, a la vez que me mantienen al tanto de los asuntos locales.

Pronto podré conversar con ustedes en su idioma nativo así que ¡cuídense!

Mary Ellen McEvoy-Lawlor
Administrative Assistant
Lucent Career Center

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Address: 315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843
e-mail: rumbo@rumbonews.com

Letters should have no more than 300 words. Please include a telephone number or electronic address to confirm who is sending it.

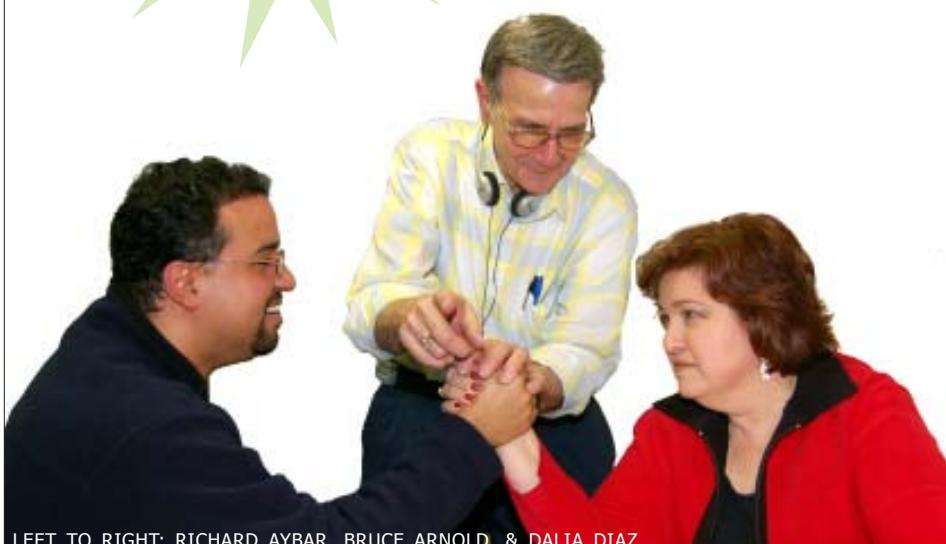


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News
Interviews
Commentaries on Local Issues

THIS FRIDAY
12PM - 1PM



LEFT TO RIGHT: RICHARD AYBAR, BRUCE ARNOLD, & DALIA DIAZ

Community Teamwork, Inc.'s 4th Annual Carnival Fundraiser to Prevent Homelessness

On Thursday, April 6, 2006, from 6:00pm-10:00pm, at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, Community Teamwork, Inc. will host its 4th Annual "Caribbean" Carnival Celebration Fundraiser to Prevent Homelessness. All proceeds benefit individuals and families living in Lowell and surrounding towns who are homeless or facing potential homelessness.

Only 400 tickets are being sold at \$100 each, with each ticket holder being entered into a jackpot drawing for a chance to win \$10,000 and other cash prizes. People can share the cost of a ticket with friends or family.

The event features the traditions of Caribbean Carnival including a live Caribbean band - Hot Like Fire - with steel drums, Carnival dancers, a buffet of delicious island dishes, raffles and a silent auction.

"Last year, we raised \$40,000 for our Homelessness Prevention services," says CTI Executive Director Karen Frederick. "With these funds, we met the urgent needs of over 500 working poor and low-income people, preventing evictions, foreclosures, utility and heat shutoffs, and food shortages. We also provided access to emergency health care, transportation and employment assistance. We hope community members will support our work to prevent homelessness in Greater Lowell and join us for a lively evening to usher in the new spring season."

If you're interested in tickets or more information, please call 978 459-0551, ext. 281.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Parents Helping Parents, a child abuse prevention agency, is looking for bi-lingual volunteers with good interpersonal skills and a commitment to strengthening families to facilitate support groups Lawrence. Volunteers must commit to spending five hours a week for a period of one year as a facilitator. Training and ongoing supervision and support is provided by Parents Helping Parents. Call 1-800-882-1250 to request application materials or for more information visit our website at www.parentshelpingparents.org.

City of Lawrence Re-Organizes Offices of Planning and Community Development

"...it will be the citizens of Lawrence who will be the big winners in the end"

The Office of Planning and Community Development has been under some heavy criticisms over the last year after a HUD audit determined there were a number of findings that needed to be addressed. Furthermore they felt that many of the issues were systemic in nature and were reoccurring over the last ten years. The good news was that this was certainly no misappropriation of misspending of funds that would have resulted in sanctions or a re-payment plan.

Well, the good news just got better with all the findings having been addressed satisfactorily by the City of Lawrence.

To accomplish this task Mayor Michael J Sullivan enlisted the services of several consultants who would in turn work closely with HUD staff to improve the department. The results to this point have been impressive and several important benchmarks were set and met by a lot of hard work.

All programming continued to be funded and expedited to ensure that the many local groups that depend on this funding were not negatively affected.

A five year consolidated plan was created and approved by HUD, which will take the city through 2010.

A neighborhood revitalization strategy area was carried out and approved for the North Common Neighborhood Area. The Gateway, Downtown Lawrence and even some of lower Prospect Hill. This target area will ensure the city can show tangible, measurable results over the next three years as is recommended under HUD best practices.

A 3 million dollar grant Lead Paint Abatement grant was applied for and received. This will allow the city to stay aggressive in its efforts to fight lead paint poisoning and bring many units into compliance. An annual action plan for 2006 CDBG and HOME funds was created and

accepted on time.

"We are currently awaiting the letter of credit and have been assured that the Office of Community Development will be receiving full funding very shortly," said Mayor Sullivan. "Most importantly the City of Lawrence developed a complete re-organization of our department, which will be vastly different," he added.

With the help of consultant Dan Cahill, Mayor Michael Sullivan has submitted a re-org that separates the department into an Office of Planning and Office of Community Development. This plan was wholeheartedly endorsed by HUD and recently approved by the Lawrence City Council. Along with this division the plan included a complete compensation and classification of all position that will ensure strong qualifications, good chances for advancement and long-term employee retention to strengthen both departments.

Mr. Frank Bonet, Personnel Director was very instrumental in making sure this plan was a good reflection of what he was working on citywide and that job

descriptions would enlist strong candidates to all positions. Even though many projects will take a coordinated effort from both staffs as well as input from other city departments, the re-organization will allow for a more focused approach on projects which are paid for through HUD funding. The new departments will also have additional support staff to better serve the public and increase the capacity of the two departments.

The current staffs of the Office of Planning and Community Development did an outstanding job under less than optimal conditions through the leadership of Mr. Fred Carberry. Both the senior staff of HUD and the consultants Dan Cahill and Jansi Chandler said they were impressed with the professionalism and the good morale shown by staff throughout the entire process.

"This certainly bodes good will for the future of these departments and I am sure as we continue to build a strong office on this solid foundation, it will be the citizens of Lawrence who will be the big winners in the end," said Mayor Sullivan.

Windsor Green at Andover Andover, Massachusetts

is currently accepting applications for placement on its waiting lists for 48 units of affordable housing currently under construction. Anticipated occupancy is scheduled for late April through July, 2006 for the following unit sizes: 43 units will be rented to households at 80% or below current area median income limits (AMI) for: 3-1BR units and 40-2BR units; 5 units will be rented to households at 50% or below current area median income limits for: 1-1BR unit, 2-2BR units, 2-3BR units. In order to qualify, gross annual household income cannot exceed the following income limits per household size:

INCOME LIMITS	ONE PERSON	TWO PERSON	THREE PERSON	FOUR PERSON	FIVE PERSON	SIX PERSON	SEVEN PERSON	EIGHT PERSON
VERY LOW INCOME (50% OF AMI)	27,350	31,300	35,200	39,100	42,250	45,350	48,500	51,600
LOW INCOME (80% OF AMI)	41,700	47,700	53,650	59,600	64,350	69,150	73,900	78,650

1-BR rents \$703-\$1,087; 2-BR rents \$840-\$1,301; 3-BR rents \$966 Heat and HW is included in rent. Housing applications may be obtained at: Windsor Green at Andover Management Office, 311 Lowell Street, Andover, MA 01810 = or by telephone at (866) 818 - 5700. Applications will be accepted by mail or can be hand delivered to the above address beginning March 3, 2006

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Merrimack Valley FCU sponsors Spanish radio show

In an effort of reaching out to the Spanish-speaking community of the Merrimack Valley, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union is sponsoring a radio show on WCEC 1110 AM every Monday from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

This program is produced and hosted by Dalia Diaz, Cultural Business Development Representative of MVFCU is the first of its kind to be sponsored by a financial institution in the Merrimack Valley. Ms. Diaz, who has developed a financial literacy program being used in the community, brings information and educational material to her audience. "Radio is the perfect vehicle to bring that education to a larger audience," said Dalia.

She has delved into subjects of savings, checking accounts, credit, elderly scams and most recently the high level of foreclosures in this area.

Ms. Diaz also brings other Spanish speaking credit union employees as guests on the show, which has resulted in an influx of telephone calls that have even surpassed our English-speaking show broadcasted over WCCM 1490 AM. When Lin Gonzalez appeared talking about the services they



provide, it resulted on several calls that she personally received. "I had no idea that the public would be so anxious for information," said Ms. Gonzalez.

John MacDonald AVP Business Development & Political Affairs said, "Dalia's Spanish-speaking radio program is designed to educate the community and

Last week's guest was Mayte Rivera, a member of MVFCU's Board of Directors who explained the process to take part on said Board. They also explained that this credit union is now a community charter and what that means to the public.

particularly the underserved. Dalia's radio program emulates the credit union philosophy and demonstrates the passion MVFCU has for its membership and the community we serve. I am proud of Dalia and truly hope this radio program will help people who need it most," concluded Mr. MacDonald.

Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union is rebuilding some historic mill space along Merrimack Street in Lawrence, MA and expects to move in by 2007. This will become the headquarters with 40,000 sq. ft. and a brand new branch office.

With over 45,000 members, Merrimack Valley FCU offers free checking, free online banking, free bill payment and a wide range of consumer and real estate loans at the most competitive rates and terms available. Also, recently they instituted a small business product line. Their four branches throughout North Andover, Haverhill and Methuen and their fifth branch opening in Plaistow in early 2006, assures them to be able to meet the demands of new and existing members – one member at a time.

BANKING ON LITERACY A Forum to Discuss Immigrant Utilization of Banks and Credit Unions

Lawrence Literacy Works, in conjunction with Northern Essex Community College and the Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council, Inc. sponsored a "Banking on Literacy" forum on March 14th to discuss the implications of a recent study commissioned by the Immigrant Learning Center and sponsored by Nellie Mae.

The study, by Dr. Jorge Santiago, an Associate Professor at Northern Essex Community College, focused on immigrant homebuyers in Lawrence and Lowell. Immigrant Homebuyers in Lawrence and Lowell, Massachusetts: Keys to the Revitalization of the Cities details the risks and perils immigrants, primarily Latinos, face in obtaining mortgages. These challenges include that despite the fact that Latino immigrant owner-occupied housing has increased 166%, only 57% used a real estate agent.

While most immigrants had a significant down payment (ranging from \$5,000-\$10,000), a lack of credit history forces immigrants to obtain sub-prime lending rates.

Although the average price paid for a home in Lawrence ranged from \$151,000-\$300,000, most immigrants did not use conventional banks.

The majority of Latino homebuyers expressed overall satisfaction with the home buying experience (77%), despite the fact that the majority felt confused during the process (64%).

The forum was followed by a discussion of ways for banks and credit unions to assist the immigrant community

in obtaining education, training and reasonable financing rates as well as alternative ways to decrease the high foreclosure rates, which were up 47.6% in Essex County from 2004 and jumped 110% in Lawrence.

According to Robert E. Bernier, former banker and current Advisory Board member of Lawrence Literacy Works, "Lawrence has experienced the highest increase in property value in the state. With the softening of the real estate market and the increase in foreclosures, it's essential that we come together as a banking community to get ahead of the curve and coordinate with community-based organizations to provide information and financial education to our residents."

Lawrence Literacy Works (LLW) is a community partnership, with funding from Commonwealth Corporation, United Way of Merrimack Valley, Stevens Foundations, Northern Essex Community College and LLW member organizations. Our mission is to strengthen the relationship between workforce development, economic development and education so that children and families, newcomers and incumbent workers will have access to a continuum of quality services, allowing for pathways to postsecondary education, workforce training and upward mobility.

Lawrence Literacy Works is a member of Literacy USA, a national organization in support of literacy coalitions nationwide.

For additional information, please contact Dawna Perez at Lawrence Literacy Works (978) 738-7605.

Letters to the Editor

Reader supports Savastano

North Andover has an opportunity to return an honest and dependable man to a seat on its board of selectman, a man who has shown over time that his heart and soul is for the betterment of our town. In a capacity as a Selectman he was able to make decisions based on what was best for the people of North Andover. He listened to what the town's people wanted, and tried to evoke change. He was very watchful of the town's bond rating which had declined and was involved in restoring it to a higher level during his tenure.

He has been a volunteer for the town in many capacities for many years. As a member of the Cable Committee he was involved in negotiating the past two contracts which resulted in two new television studios for our town to use. When the new contract was written it was decided that the studio was going to be run without the help of the cable company and he wrote the operating and the capitol budgets to that end.

He has been the Senior Operations Officer for North Andover Emergency Management Agency for many years, giving of his time, experience, and dedication. Countless hours of training and testing are necessary to keep up to date with what is needed to do the job in an ever-changing arena of terrorism and natural disasters. The agency has one vehicle and this man even keeps up the maintenance and the installation of

necessary equipment of this vehicle and asks nothing in return.

He has a history of supporting the children of North Andover. He worked hard for the Youth Center, coaching youth sports, and starting a Christmas Special that has been providing children with presents for the holidays for many years. This was done in conjunction with the hosts of *Sports and Things* television show of which he was the producer for many years.

He understands the need to balance public safety with good education. He understands that to spend money you have to have money. He believes you have to work your way out of budget problems by promoting North Andover as a viable place to do business, a place that is willing to partner with business owners through responsible tax schemes to make our town an attractive place to locate.

Of course this could only be one person, and I'm proud to know him and call him my friend and my choice for Selectman for the Town of North Andover, John Savastano. I ask everyone to look at candidates for office, compare what they have done for our town, and vote on March 28, 2006. One name stands the test of time, and that name is John Savastano.

Cindy Ward
North Andover

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should have no more than 300 words. Please include a telephone number or electronic address to confirm who is sending it.



IT'S ALL ABOUT RIGHT(S)

ITSALLABOUTRIGHTS.COM | BY ELLEN BAHAM

And they all lived happily ever after...

On March 9, 2006, the final meeting of the PIP, (Public Involvement Petition), regarding 4 Gleason St. and 254 Broadway was held at the Timony Grammar School.

It was a light turnout, which was not unexpected. You see, I have this theory, that if the team that wants the project (who by the way are in cahoots with our town officials continually contrive to wear you down, or in some of our cases use taxpayer funded retribution), the plan is you will eventually go away with your tale between your legs, muttering to yourself that you cannot fight City Hall.

Last night's meeting was according to status quo. Billy Manzi our mayor did attend, as did our new community developer Faust.

Faust arrived with another woman who was supposed to remain anonymous. I say this because this woman was not introduced and did not sign the attendance sheet.

The visitor was Diane Sullivan of Mass Development, the venture capitalist arm of state government, who has given the Methuen Assisted Suicide Living Complex a 10+ million dollar tax-free loan. I can see why she wanted to remain a mystery guest.

I always find it amazing the politicos, whom we fund and whose existence is solely based on protecting and serving the citizens, appear to be on a laid out game plan, instead of working with and for the people.

These politicos cajole, cajone and commiserate with those wishing to pound a project through whether it is good for the people or not.

Our public officials, the mayor, new procured Community Development Director, and representative from Mass Development did not have the common decency or class to introduce themselves to the citizens; they proceeded to whisper with the Licensed Site Professional, Alan Walker, who reports to the developer, David Spada.

It would have been nice to see that the Community Developer Director was interested in the people's concerns. Apparently, Billy had told her and she had heard enough. Basically, her and the money girl sat mute for the evening.

Why, before a project ever becomes public, these same officials coupled with the developers have met many times and agreed on fabricating the same story? They conspire without ever seeking input from the neighbors who dwell in those neighborhoods that are about to be breached.

Billy has taken up the same modus operandi as old shar. I hear he has a parade of developers trouncing through the west wing, (Matty K acting as usher, butler, tour guide and your hairs sticking up in back boss), making the deal before the citizens ever get wind of the project.

I am sure that your already know the outcome of the perceived clean-up at Gleason Street. It amounts to a spoonful being taken out of the ocean!

The testing, some privately accrued, some funded by grant money, some funded by DEP money, as stated in the extensive file is where the figures that show the stellar

extent of the contamination. So, when I quote the staggering statistics I have quoted in the past, they are from official documents that have been funded in part by your tax dollars.

The testing also shows chemicals not related to the past industry at the site have also been discovered at alarming levels. The only way those chemical got into the soil and ground water was for them to be dumped in the dark of the night down the extensive drain system in the old factory.

The dumping was documented in the daily record of advertising, death, Dear Abby and horoscope, along with police reports. Reports to the DEP strike force were also filed.

The facts are a matter of public record. It shows beyond a shadow of a doubt that what happened down on Gleason Street was deliberate.

I find it amazing with all that transpired, the fact that I am in possession of all the official documentation, that cannot be misconstrued or refuted; still our newly elected and appointed officials still refuse to represent the people's team.

I, and those who have spent an extraordinary amount of time, money and angst to hold these public officials accountable have only asked that this parcel be cleaned and while doing so protect the surrounding neighborhoods. We have remained steadfast in our declarations and have not wavered in the face of astronomical adversity.

Loyal readers, if you were a public official whose duty it was to take care of the citizens, wouldn't you launch a sweeping investigation of circumstances that took place on Gleason Street?

If a few citizens would put their families, livelihood, they're very existence on the line to try and make sure the truth is heard, a truth that can be proven by official government documentation, how can our politicos turn a blind eye and march forward without so much as a side-glance to those families, who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

Two families lost children, little boys, eight years old. These little boys had not even begun their lives and they were stuck down. They died of brain tumors whose cause is attributed to chemical exposure. There are a whole string of families, living in a row between the two boys' homes that are also suffering from diseases that have no specific cause except environmental pollution.

The past code enforcer for the City of Methuen is currently suffering from the same brain tumor that took the life of the little boys.

I now ask the public officials, you Billy, because before you were mayor you were Central District Councilor, can you look these families straight in the face and then continue to sit with those who are lying, hiding documents and trying to downplay the stellar contamination that exists down on Gleason Street?

Mayor Manzi you said you were nothing like Sharon Money Pollard! From where I sit you appear to be fitted for one of

Loyal readers, if you were a public official whose duty it was to take care of the citizens, wouldn't you launch a sweeping investigation of circumstances that took place on Gleason Street?

those red power suits she so liked to strut around in. You handled this dirty rotten deal the same way old shar did. You laughed in the face of concerned citizens. I do realize what it is all about: A BRIDGE!

I have been telling you for five years now, how our elected officials and appointed officials have been part and parcel to this terrible travesty that has taken the lives of two little boys. With any luck someone who is much stronger than I, my friend at the Boston Globe will soon be releasing a story telling you why.

There is a large amount of corruption existing in Methuen. As you know, I spent a great deal of time documenting it for the permanent public record. All these dirty deals are just peripheral matters, GLEASON STREET IS LIFE AND DEATH.

"Well, if you told me you were drowning I would not lend a hand
I've seen your face before my friend
But I don't know if you know who I am
Well, I was there and I saw what you did
I saw it with my own two eyes
So you can wipe off the grin, I know where
you've been
It's all been a pack of lies

And I can feel it coming in the air tonight,
Oh Lord" (Phil Collins, *In the Air Tonight*)

WOOOOEEEEE, \$81,000 dollars!

I ran into Mayor Billy the day the daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and horoscope announced Billy spent \$81,000 to beat me. I told Billy that I was honored and impressed! His retort, "You should be!"

I am always awed the way these politicos spend enormous amounts of money to win a \$65,000 salary. It's got to be the power and the "all you can eat, never ending buffet".

It will be real interesting to see just what \$81,000 does buy? I am keeping a diary, when I see a large contributor show up somewhere they weren't before, connected to the public spout, I'll know payment has been made.

Billy says...

On March 6, 2006, I dropped off a stack of Rumbos at Town Hall, for their reading pleasure. In the evening, I attended the council meeting and on my way to the front funeral parlor chair, I stopped by the first floor bulletin board to check on the Rumbos. All were gone! I was shocked!

Now, you all know the trouble I had

Bellesini Academy Accepting Applications for Admission for 2006-2007 School Year

Bellesini Academy is currently accepting applications for students entering grade five this fall. A limited number of spots are also available in grades six and seven.

Bellesini Academy is a private, tuition-free middle school that serves boys from limited financial means living in Lawrence. The mission of the school is to provide an academically challenging and highly structured environment that prepares students for success in private college preparatory high schools. Each student receives over 2000 hours of instruction each year:

Bellesini's 12-hour school days include 8 hours of academic classes, a 2 hour afternoon enrichment program, and a 2 hour evening study period. Students are also required to attend a five week summer program that continues their English and math curriculum and also provides sports clinics and enrichment activities. Graduates of Bellesini have been accepted to many fine high schools on scholarship, including Brooks, Pingree, Austin Prep, Noble & Greenough, St. John's Prep, Central Catholic, and Notre Dame High School.

Interested parents are encouraged to obtain an application and information packet in person at the school, located at 94 Bradford St. in Lawrence. Questions may be addressed via phone at (978) 989-0004.

with the last regime throwing Rumbo out. I guess they just didn't like good news and good reporting. Now, loyal readers, you all know that I only write the truth, if it bothers some or makes others feel guilty, then perhaps I can offer a solution. CHANGE YOUR WAYS! DON'T DO IT, GET A DIFFERENT JOB. Or just don't read it!

I decided to look in the trash along side the bulletin board, even though Billy had already assured me that NO ONE would be throwing out Rumbo. You are not going to believe this, but there, nestled on top of the trash was a stack of Rumbos.

I have informed Billy! Billy says that he does not condone this behavior, and further more states that NO ONE IS TO THROW OUT RUMBO. I can only surmise that a few zealots, left over from the reign of the nefarious queen who achieved their position due to some heavy, I've-hid-the-ring-now-find-it-and-kiss-it, are the culprits.

They should thank their lucky stars that I did not become mayor and keep their dirty, hot little hands off the Rumbos.

A POINT OF VIEW

“Prejudice a layer at a time”

By Paul V. Montesino, PhD.
mailboxopen@aol.com



I recently sat down for a private viewing of the movie “Crash,” one of the candidates for best movie in this year’s Academy Awards that was presented to our diversity group. I started to write this article before the Awards ceremony and thought I probably would not finish it until the votes were in, but that is not the purpose of this commentary. What happens in tinsel town is of no interest to me. (Note: the movie was chosen by the Academy as the best of the 2005 year.)

The film can be evaluated from many angles, some technical, some thematic, but what is perfectly clear in this riveting series of racial prejudice incidents is the powerful message that there is so much underlying racial conflict going on in our lives at the conscious and yes, even the subconscious level. It also presents very visibly that the tensions released by the “crashes” of the incidents where prejudice meets prejudiced fester much longer than those events, some times before they happen some times after, with catastrophic consequences and repercussions. The incident, the crash, is just the climax. The foreplay and the morning after effect are something else.

That is not unusual. Studies conducted by researchers in the field of human biopsychology have identified an evolutionary disconcerting behavioral trait, one that blocks our development to become what we call a full human being: it seems that we are wired to automatically distrust anyone who is “perceived” to be different from us. Please notice the word: “perceived.” Reality is a different concept.

That trait is not even conscious, it is reactive and protective of whom we think we are that goes back thousands of years when one split second was all the time we had to decide whether the face we saw in front of us was friend or foe and then had to act accordingly. In the animal growth side of humankind, if we were walking through a forest, a jungle or even a valley, and suddenly met a stranger, we got scared and, feeling threatened, we reacted by avoiding,

escaping or attacking that stranger. So we lived another day. One was enough in our brief existence.

The trait was useful when life was a dangerous proposition and we competed for natural resources that were scarce or we thought were scarce in a world without laws, limits or cooperation. Our food, our mates, our progeny and perhaps our small circle of close relatives were identified as part of me and all else was a threat to that me. Today we distract ourselves with the convincing thought that racial prejudice and discrimination by others is the main culprit, but a simple analysis will prove that race is only one version of those feelings and the enemy, as they say, is us. It is the face we see in the mirror every morning.

You may remember an article I wrote about my ancestors regarding my participation in the Genealogical “Y” chromosome DNA tracing research project. It is interesting to look at that study because much comes out of our biological history from the story. If, as it has been proven without doubt, every man alive today is a descendant of a black man who lived in Eastern Africa thousands of years ago, how come we have diverged so much from that original trunk that we now don’t recognize or accept each other as the relatives we are?

The biological implications of our walking travels over the earth in our constant pilgrimage for a better place to live since that time are clear. As we went from hot to cooler climates, from sunny places that demanded a dark skin for ecological protection to less well lit environments where that color was useless, our physical characteristics changed. And the more we changed physically, the more we looked different and stranger to each other. So it was not impossible to fear each other as well, and that fear, converted into what we now call prejudice, made mutual destruction easier and acceptable.

I don’t have to make a long list of examples of what I am talking about. There is a lot of recorded history where race seemed to play a part in our conflicts, but that is not the subject of these comments. I am sure there is a lot of unrecorded history as well of such incidents. But, of course, we did not stop at suspecting others for the

That is the meaning of the movie Crash. I didn’t know if it was going to get the Academy Award but I know it describes what is real. So let us drop the thick layers we have created in our onion of prejudice.

way they look. As our minds became more “educated and sophisticated,” I am not even sure if those words qualified, we added a new dimension to our looking as strangers to each other: the way we think. Color may have kept us apart; thinking differences made it morally acceptable.

An onion protects its core with the many layers it creates that feed and support it. We support our own selfish core with the many layers of prejudice available to us. Me black, you white; me man, you woman; me white, you black; me female, you male; me educated; you illiterate. I Muslim, you Christian; I Christian, you Muslim; I Jewish,

you Christian; I Christian, you Jewish; I straight, you gay; I...; you... you can make a choice or your own list.

I don’t think I need to add or describe many more layers in this onion of prejudice to support my point of view. The researchers also found that the only way we grow and move away from this malaise is to recognize the individual within the group. If I see you as Bob the man who happens to be black, or Louis the man who happens to be white, and not as dots in a line of blackness or whiteness, perhaps I will accept you for what you are: a descendant branch of that common trunk we all share. That is the meaning of the movie Crash. I didn’t know if it was going to get the Academy Award but I know it describes what is real. So let us drop the thick layers we have created in our onion of prejudice. It is said that we cry when we peel an onion; I know it is true; I have peeled one, haven’t you? I would not mind crying to peel this one if it makes us free of prejudice. And that is my point of view today.

Dr. Montesino, solely responsible for this article, is the Editor of LatinoWorldOnline.com and Senior Lecturer in the Computer Information Systems Department at Bentley College, Waltham, Massachusetts.



City of Nashua

Division of Public Health and Community Services
18 Mulberry Street - Nashua, NH 03060

(603) 589-4500
Fax (603) 594-3323

Attention: A Public Health News Bulletin

“Avian Flu is Everybody's Business!”

The Division of Public Health and Community Services in collaboration with the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services will be hosting a public forum titled:

“Avian Flu en Español”

Date: Monday, March 27, 2006

Place: Millette Manor - 72 Vine Street, Nashua – NH
(Behind the “St. Louis of Gonzague” Parish)

Time: 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

The lead speaker will be New Hampshire State Epidemiologist Dr. Jose Thier Montero. Having roots of Hispanic origin, he brings with him the ability to speak Spanish, which allows him to address and engage the public directly. In doing so, it eliminates the potential of misinformation, and thereby, enhances accuracy of the information to be delivered which successfully eliminates the “Lost in Translation” factor.

The goal is to discuss the State’s efforts of planning for a flu pandemic.

Join us! For further information, please contact:

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Susana Middleton – (603) 594-4337 @ Ledge Street School or, <mailto:middletons@nashua.edu>
Awilda Muñiz – (603) 641-6060 @ University of New Hampshire or, <mailto:Awilda.Muniz@unh.edu>
Maria Whalen – (603) 668-8010 @ Southern NH Services, Inc. or, <mailto:mwhalen@SNHS.org>
Lourdes Ulloa – (603) 882-4362 @ St. Louis de Gonzague Parish or, <mailto:fmlulloa@verizon.net>
Pastor Rubero Adorno – (603) 889-1095 @ Iglesia Pentecostal y Misionera or, <mailto:pastorrubero@comcast.net>

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Mr. B's Sports Memories

Remembering October 1959

By Frank Benjamin



Freddie Hines and his orchestra was the headliner at Bob White's Town Line in North Andover for your dancing pleasure. The Short twins were appearing at the Flamingo with two shows nightly and on Mondays the club offered Cha Cha lessons by Gino's dance instructors. Gloria and Freda were belly dancing to full houses at the SAC Club on Elm St. Paul Hagopians band provided the music. The Capri headlined Ford and Reynolds with a great comedy act and beautiful Martha Maxwell singing the songs of the day along with the Four Sharps for your dancing pleasure.

It was primary election time and the ballot signed by City Clerk Joe Smith had the following candidates running for the mayor's position and it was a two year term in 1959: John Buckley, John Archetti, Martin Killourie, John P.S. Mahoney, John McAuliffe, Stephen O' Donohue, and Peter Theroux.

Candidates for the office of Alderman of Engineering had only the incumbent Nick Callahan. For the Alderman of Public Safety it was Louis Scanlon whose daughter Bridget Shaheen still resides locally, David Ackroyd, John Cronin and Vinnie Foley.

The public property candidates included incumbent and almost unbeatable was Johnny Fallon who for years had a lunch cart near the Spicket River on Lawrence St., Joseph Fitzgibbons and Richard Lavin

would be his rivals.

Gerry Guilmette of South Lawrence was an incumbent and was from a popular family that ran a gas station on South Broadway. His son Ronnie still lives at Salisbury Beach after a long and distinguished career as a State cop and later served as an Interim Chief of the Lawrence Police Department running against Gerry were Edmund Houlihan and Phil Moore who for many was a short order cook at the Cedar Crest on Broadway.

Running for the School Committee were George Callahan, Francis O'Connell, John Stundza, Mary Donahue Sullivan, Al Deluca, Ron Isabelle, C. Howard Lister who also had a gas and repair station on South Broadway, Irving Newman, Michael Twomey, George Urdang, and Fred Vallerio.

The Elm Farm market featured an oven-ready turkey for 39 cents a pound, a five-pound canned ham for \$ 4.49. A 2-pound package of all meat skinless frankforts went for 99 cents. Shyers Lobster Pound in Salem, N.H. featured one claw lobsters for 49 cents a pound and chicken lobsters for 59 cents a pound. Today you can't get to look at a lobster for that price. One night I was at a fine eating establishment and when my order of lobster was brought to me from the kitchen and it only had one claw, I asked the waiter why my lobster had only one claw and he said this one had been in a fight and I asked him how come he didn't bring me the winner?

Findeisen's ice cream stand is still on Jackson St., Methuen and in 1959 the special

It was primary election time and the ballot signed by City Clerk Joe Smith had the following candidates running for the mayor's position and it was a two year term in 1959: John Buckley, John Archetti, Martin Killourie, John P.S. Mahoney, John McAuliffe, Stephen O' Donohue, and Peter Theroux.

was if you bought one quart of ice cream at \$1.10 cents you got another quart free but you could buy a half gallon package for one dollar.

Sutherland's on Essex St. featured leather-look handbags for \$2.79, corduroy tapered trousers for women went for \$2.98 a pair and famous brand better girdles were being sold in their foundation salon on the third floor for \$4.89.

Sterling Drugs also on Essex St. sold alarm clocks for \$1.87, slipper sox for 99 cents, a box of 50 book matches for 13 cents, an electric vaporizer a \$ 4.98 value for \$3.98, a package of fifty double-edged blades for 88 cents and cough syrup for 79 cents,

normally a dollar.

The music and movie industry was preparing to bury Mario Lanza whose great voice was silenced much too early. Can you recall his great rendition of *Be My Love*? His biggest problem was his addiction to food and the roller coaster of what was a tremendous battle of the scale that allegedly took a toll on his heart.

Manzi Dodge on Methuen St. & Rte. 110 on the Lawrence Blvd. sold 1959 Dodges with only seven for \$2,197. A 1957 DeSoto Fire Dome with full power, four doors, sold for \$1,785. A 1956 Studebaker Club Sedan with automatic drive went for \$1,185. One could purchase a 1955 Nash 4-door sedan for \$885. Notice some of these brands no longer are made.

Bronson Chevrolet off Jackson St. and answered the phone number at Murdoch 64116, were featuring a sale mat, had cars from 1950, 51, 49, and 47 including a 1951 4-door Studebaker and a 1950 Kaiser 4-door for \$ 95. Kaiser had once had the compact "Henry J" named after the company owner.

Clark Motors in Andover had 58 Plymouth with a radio, heater and power flite for \$2,195 and a 56 Mercury 2-door, hard top with Mercomatic for \$1,395. Sam Kalil and Sons were at Swan St. and Merrimack St. in Methuen; they had many used cars and featured a 51 Chevy Deluxe 4-door with power glide for \$250. The Kalil phone number was also part of the Murdoch exchange that we all had preceding 978 days. More on the year 1959 in future articles.

ELLEN BAHAN:

CONT. FROM PAGE 19

I will be watching, and Billy is on alert!

Where are the donuts?

The night of the snazzy gala extravaganza red-light show, the boyz were abuzz with fame. DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM? After the slide show ended, the boyz were running in and out of Billy's office, giving interviews like the stars they are.

I was amused as I thought back to the way old shar handled those allowed into the inner sanctum of the west wing.

Toody, Keeper of All Public Information in the Town of Methuen, never, I REPEAT NEVER left the west wing without removing those keys from her pocket, resembling the ring that Captain Kangaroo used to carry, and lock the door up tightly.

Matty K, I reiterate those are mighty big boots to fill.

There was no face-time-media use allowed by any of the handpicked handmaidens using the west wing, when queenie graced the throne.

I am watching this frenzy and all of a sudden the elevator doors part and off steps Randy Haggard; that's Capitan Randy, and he was carrying a tray of coffees, he was also looking bewildered.

I can't believe that these waitress duties are something new to Randy. Randy is truly a handmaiden's handmaiden. I can

think of no other reason why he was catapulted to the rank of Capitan. Is Randy the Capitan in charge of the traffic? Nothing surprises me.

All I could think as I saw Randy pathetically standing in the hall, looking for additional instructions. WHERE ARE THE DONUTS? I decided that he must have put them in his pockets.

1-2-3 red light

As I slid into my front row funeral parlor chair, I could not help but notice that the rear quarter of the Great Hall was filled with (come on, 1 verse) Bad boys, bad boys, whatca gonna do, whatca gonna do when they come for you!

It always gets my attention when these handpicked, handmaidens appear altogether in the council chambers, guns strapped to their sides, some still wearing the earmuff accessory to their taxpayer supplied togs (cell phone), even though we are inside. And don't tell me they have to be on the phone while a meeting is going on, because if they are on duty, THEY SHOULD NOT BE THERE!

What always comes to my mind? Are these boyz doing this to intimidate the council? A strong-arm tactic employed to affect a positive vote. Whatever harebrained scheme the badly acting chief perceives are the offenders.

and his trusty dawwg are hatching?

I listened intently as the chief and the slicker-than-snot, red-light camera salesman purported what we cannot live without these cameras.

Where have I heard mention of cameras before? Funny, when the playground behind the Tenney Grammar School burnt to the ground, the chief cried for cameras.

When Greycourt Park was vandalized, again the chief called for cameras.

Aren't the chief and the dawwg in big trouble for using a camera to secretly film the disgraced, ex-solicitor?

Looks to me like cameras are a replacement for good sound police work.

Oh, look at me, good sound police work, I must be dreaming!

As I was listening to the camera proposal, and was stunned by the fact that this company, who sets up the cameras, operates, and maintains for no money down, does not send out tickets to everyone who violates the law (RUNS THE RED LIGHT).

Before any tickets are issued by this company, a police officer, one of the handmaidens I suspect, views each and every one of the tapes, clearing the way to issue tickets to those who the officer perceives are the offenders.

Now, before I finish my thoughts on

red lights cameras, just jump into the way back machine with me, it's a short trip back to March 1, 2006. In my column, *Random Unconnected Thoughts*, I wondered about the accident that occurred around the last election that the police with the help of the politicos covered up.

I received a telephone call, describing an accident and I WAS SHOCKED; it was not the accident that I had been wondering about. It was another accident, COVERED-UP, DUE TO CONNECTIONS! Back to the red-light.

I was also informed by a concerned citizen, Jack Burke, that when the article about the cameras hit the daily record of advertising, death, Dear Abby and horoscope, Mr. Burke did a quick search of companies that do supply these cameras and low and behold, the company that was giving the proposal and entertaining the handpicked handmaidens was not the largest purveyor, nor the second largest purveyor of these services.

According to the proposal given that night at the meeting, competitive bidding was not included in the snazzy computer extravaganza. I smell gas!

"A study of red-light cameras in

SEE **ELLEN BAHAN:**

CONT. EN LA PÁGINA 25



ACTIVITIES AT THE HAVERHILL SENIOR CENTER

For any of the following activities, unless noted differently, please call Kathy Bresnahan or Rita LaBella at the Council on Aging at (978) 374-2390.

Ballroom Dancing

Put on your dancing shoes and join the Haverhill Council on Aging for an evening of ballroom dancing! Trilogy will perform live at the Citizens Center 10 Welcome Street, Haverhill, on Saturday, March 25, from 7:30 to 11:00 p.m. Doors will open at 7:00. Tickets are \$8.00 per person. Buy tickets early as seating is limited. Call your friends and join in this lively evening of fun! You can dance the night away or simply sit and enjoy the music. Light refreshments will be served: soda, coffee, tea, desserts. There will be a raffle and door prizes.

Lord of the Dance - Lowell

COA has tickets to Lord of the Dance at Lowell Auditorium on Wednesday, March 30 at 8:00 p.m. Michael Flatley and his 30 superbly choreographed precision dancers have been selling out arenas and theatres worldwide with this Celtic-infused spectacular program. Bus will leave from the Citizen Center at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$45 per person.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Haverhill COA has tickets to the Boston Symphony Orchestra All-Mozart Program open rehearsal on Thursday, April 6, at 10:30 a.m. Bus will leave Westgate at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be dutch treat after the performance. Tickets are \$30 per person for ticket and transportation.

Alleppo Shriners Circus

Haverhill COA is planning a trip to the Aleppo Shriners Circus in Wilmington, MA, at the Shriners Auditorium on Friday, April 21. The bus will leave Westgate at 12:30 a.m. and return to Haverhill at approximately 6:00 p.m. Tickets are complimentary, and transportation for this event is \$10.00 per person for seniors. Reservations must be made by March 14 for this trip.

Art in Bloom

Haverhill COA is planning a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts Art in Bloom Exhibit on Monday, April 24. April 2006 marks the 30th Anniversary of Art in Bloom, and it is a wonderful spring event. Please call the COA if you are interested in learning more about this exciting opportunity to visit the MFA.

Mystery Show

COA is planning a Mystery Show on Wednesday, May 17, 2006 at Luciano's on Lake Pearl in Wrentham, MA. The show will feature a musical group that had its start in the late 1950's and featured many gold records. Tickets for this trip are \$61 including a lunch as well as the show and transportation from Haverhill. Transportation will leave from Westgate at approximately 10:00 a.m.

FREE CELL PHONES

Council on Aging announces it has a supply of free cell phones for Haverhill seniors. These phones are programmed to call 911 in an emergency. This is a free service. Please call Joel Berg for additional information.

NEET DRIVERS NEEDED

A dependable car, a good driving record and a little time each month are all you need to become a NEET driver. The Northern Essex Elder Transport, Inc. program (NEET) drives seniors from their homes to out-of-town medical appointments. All of the seniors requesting NEET rides are independent and ambulatory. The NEET drivers are provided with supplemental insurance for their vehicle and are reimbursed at \$.40 per mile. Call the Haverhill Citizen Center at 978-374-2449 or the NEET office at 978-388-7474 to sign up.

Downeaster to Portland, ME

Haverhill COA is planning a trip to Portland, Maine, on Wednesday, June 7. Participants will depart from Haverhill at 10:30 a.m. aboard Amtrak's "Downeaster". Upon arrival participants will be transported to Old Port for lunch at DiMillo's Floating Restaurant. There will be ample time after lunch for shopping and browsing in Old Port. The bus will leave Portland at approximately 4:00 and return to Haverhill at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Jim Nabors

COA is planning a trip to Mohegan Sun to see Jim Nabors on Tuesday, June 13. Jim Nabors is most widely known for his many television appearances, yet the talented singer has also recorded over 38 albums, including five gold and one platinum. Tickets for this trip are \$64 including a \$30 gaming package and a full buffet lunch, as well as the show and transportation from Haverhill. Transportation will leave from Westgate at approximately 7:00 a.m.

Weight Watchers

Weight Watchers is coming to the Citizen Center! Our central location and accessible parking make this the perfect site for Boomers, Seniors and others to attend informative sessions led by a knowledgeable, supportive Weight Watchers leader. Learn to make better choices and eat wholesome foods. Everyone is welcome!!

Meetings will take place on Thursdays at 4:15 p.m. Cost is \$12.00 per week for 10 weeks with \$120 payable in full, in advance. Payments can be made using cash, check (made out to Weight Watchers), money order or credit card. Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express accepted. Minimum of 15 paid members is required for the classes to begin.

Monthly Discussion Group

Council on Aging is seeking members to form a monthly discussion group to be held at the Citizen Center. Day and time will be determined according to the needs of the group. Topics for lively conversations could include current events, politics, international events, local events, etc.

Plans for Parking Project move forward

Mayor James Fiorentini announces the beginning of preliminary engineering plans for a new intermodal transit parking facility in downtown Haverhill today. Planning for a new parking facility has been in the works since a \$7.6 million appropriation for the project was signed into law as an earmark in the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) budgets in September of 2005. The funding was secured through the efforts of Congressman Marty Meehan. The money did not initially provide for the preliminary engineering process.

The federal grant monies are specifically designated to provide parking for transit related parking needs and may be applied for only by an FTA designated transit provider. In September of 2005 the City of Haverhill approached the Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA) and requested that they begin the process of securing the funds. In February the MVRTA appeared at a Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting and requested that the project be placed on the Merrimack Valley Transportation Improvement Program. This was the first step in getting access to Federal funds.

Today, the MVRTA notified Mayor Fiorentini that it was securing \$200,000 in additional State and Federal funds to complete the Preliminary Engineering and Site Selection Process. The \$160,000 in Federal monies will come from section 5307 FTA Planning funds. The other \$40,000 is from State Regional Transit Capital funds.

"I want to thank Senator Baddour for his assistance in securing the necessary state matching funds to move this project along," said Mayor James Fiorentini this morning.

Mayor Fiorentini will now appoint a

"This is a great step forward in the process of finding more parking in the downtown area. Building this facility is critical. We've been looking for more parking for 25 years and we can finally move forward on it"

Mayor Fiorentini

task force to the responsibilities of reviewing the preliminary engineering work and assisting site selection for the garage. Three sites are being considered now for the project location. All of them are currently parking lots: the corner of Essex and Locust streets, the corner of Moulton Way and Granite Street, and the lot west of the train bridge on Essex Street near Lafayette Square. It is expected this new parking will provide 475 spaces nearby or adjacent to the Haverhill Commuter Rail or bus stations to help alleviate parking strains for commuters, employees and customers of downtown businesses, and downtown residents. The lot is expected to be ready for use within 3 years of completion of the site selection process.

"This is a great step forward in the process of finding more parking in the downtown area. Building this facility is critical. We've been looking for more parking for 25 years and we can finally move forward on it," stated Mayor Fiorentini.

BJ'S COMING TO HAVERHILL

Mayor Calls Zoning Change to Allow B J's "Great News for Haverhill"

The Haverhill City Council voted to rezone a portion of the Ward Hill Industrial Park to "commercial highway" and allow BJ's Wholesale Club to locate in the city.

Mayor James J. Fiorentini immediately said he would sign the rezoning ordinance the next day. Fiorentini called the news that BJ's Wholesale Club would locate in the city "great news for our city and a critical part of our program to bring retail business back to the city."

Last year, Mayor Fiorentini proposed that the city consider rezoning land near interstate highways to allow for retail establishments as a matter of right. As part of what Fiorentini called is "21st Century Retail Policy" he asked the city to eliminate the special permit requirement for businesses to locate within what is a called

a "commercial highway" district. The rezoning allows BJ's to locate in a commercial highway district without obtaining a special permit.

"For the past thirty years, retail stores have left our city. A critical reason was our outdated zoning requirements, which made it difficult for retail stores to locate in areas where the businesses want to locate, near highways. With the change in our zoning policies, retail has started to come back to our city."

BJ's is great news for our city. BJ's will bring with them 100-150 new jobs, new tax revenues, and a place for our citizens to shop. I commend the city council for voting for this. They did the right thing and have helped move Haverhill forward."

Greater Lawrence Students Headed to DECA State Competition

Ten students will represent Greater Lawrence Technical School at the 47th annual DECA State Career Development Conference March 16-18 in Boston.

The students, who major in Marketing, Fashion Design, and Culinary Arts and Hospitality, qualified to attend the conference by winning awards at the recent DECA District competition.

"Students learn critical thinking and planning through participating in DECA competitions," GLTS Fashion instructor Catherine Ackerman said. "They increase their self confidence, and become more poised individuals."

Marketing students who will attend the state conference are juniors Yaliza Fana and Cristal Diaz, and sophomores Brianna Calderon, Halysson Cunha, Michael Scott, and Joshua Medina. Representing Culinary Arts will be senior Francheska Torres, and sophomores Elizabeth Deziel and Christopher Poe. Senior Magger Galvan will represent Fashion. Elizabeth is from Methuen, while the other students are from Lawrence.

All placed in the top five at the District conference in categories such as Retail Merchandising Management Level, Restaurant and Food Service Management, and Apparel Accessories Associate Level. Over 1,100 DECA members and chapter advisors, representing approximately 55 schools from throughout the Commonwealth, are expected to attend the state conference. The event is designed to help develop future business leaders.

Business, education, and government



Greater Lawrence Technical School students who have qualified to attend the DECA state conference by winning awards at the District competition are (front row from left) Brianna Calderon, Cristal Diaz, Elizabeth Deziel, and Yaliza Fana; and (back row from left) Joshua Medina, Magger Galvan, Halysson Cunha, and Michael Scott. Not shown are Christopher Poe and Francheska Torres. *Graham Entwistle Photo*

leaders will serve as competitive event judges.

Halysson Cunha and Michael Scott teamed up to place second in the Sports and Media Entertainment category at the District conference. They earned their trip to the state conference by displaying their marketing knowledge through a 90-minute

The two students credited topics learned in their Marketing Essentials course, such as demographics, with helping them in the District competition. They also pointed to math instruction as providing the necessary background in calculating interest and net worth.

written test, and a role play before a judge. "Our role play was on using publicity to attract a new fan base, and to maintain a current fan base," Michael said. "We had 30 minutes to prepare, and 15 minutes before the judge."

"The judge played the role of a football team owner, while we were representatives from a public relations company," Halysson added.

The two students credited topics learned in their Marketing Essentials course, such as demographics, with helping them in the District competition. They also pointed to math instruction as providing the necessary background in calculating interest and net worth.

Yaliza Fana, who is in her second year of DECA membership, placed second in the Vehicle and Petroleum Marketing category. Customer service skills learned in the classroom and through working in the school's gift shop helped her place among the top students at the District conference, Yaliza said. Her role play was on training new employees.

Overall, 45 Greater Lawrence students attended the District conference.

DECA is an international student organization made up of young people interested in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship. Its purposes are to develop a respect for education, which contributes to occupational competence, and to promote understanding and appreciation for the responsibilities of citizenship in our free, competitive enterprise system.

Greater Lawrence sent 61 students to District Competition

Sixty-one students from Greater Lawrence Technical School, Andover, tested their skills in areas ranging from carpentry to electronics at the SkillsUSA North District Finals on Tuesday, March 14 at Greater Lowell Technical High School in Tyngsboro.

The district contest consisted of two written tests: one assessing knowledge in a student's career major, and the other assessing SkillsUSA organizational knowledge.

"The students who participate in the District competition have a better understanding of what it takes to compete in today's dynamic workforce," Greater Lawrence SkillsUSA advisor Ilene Karnow said.

About 500 students compete at four SkillsUSA district events across the Commonwealth. The top three winners in each category go on to the Massachusetts SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference April 27-29, where they compete in hands-on activities in their major.

The Greater Lawrence students who competed in the March 14 district contest included:

Architectural Drafting:

Samantha Richardson

Automotive Service Technology: Stephen Richard and Edward Abdoo

Basic Health Care Skills: Yazira Jiminez, Misael Abreu, Gira Mirabel, and Smaily Hernandez

Carpentry: John Provencal, Sarah Deziel, Dariana Perez, and Alfonso Parra

Collision Repair Technology:

Tiffany Clark, Luke Pratt, and Kimberley Deschenes

Commercial Baking:

Jessica Balbi, Rocio Diaz, Emily Cancel, and Kathleen Sindjeu

Computer Maintenance Technology:

James Sheehan

Cosmetology:

Tacianna Camatta, Kendra Fantauzzi, and Angi-Ara Rodriguez

Culinary Arts:

Ivianna Perez, Elizabeth Deziel, Christopher Poe, and Kristine Picart

Electronics Applications:

Stephen Lebel, Imanuel Villegas, and Martin Ramo

First Aid/CPR:

Kirssi Gonzalez, Grisel Santiago, Deborah Morales, and Astrid Parra

Food and Beverage Service:

Shandise Torres, Judit Ayala, Juan Santiago, and Paloma Rodriguez

Graphic Communications:

Sabrina Dorsainvil and Christopher Talavera

"The students who participate in the District competition have a better understanding of what it takes to compete in today's dynamic workforce," Greater Lawrence SkillsUSA advisor Ilene Karnow said.

Internetworking:

Ramon Pinargote, George Nunez, Angel Mendez, and Hung Ong

Nurse Assisting:

Suhaiti Villa, Kristin Maglio, Jalissa Thomas, and Lloiza Tejada

Office Computer Applications:

Yanel Lopez, Mark Berube, Amnelys Morales, and Rafael Sanquintin

Plumbing:

Vincent Bonugli, Sarah Mannion, and Katie Lind

Residential Wiring:

Neury Balbi, Maria Burgos, and Gersson Ramos

Sheet Metal:

Leonard Carpenter, Jonathan Rivera, and Esther Vargas

Technical Drafting:

Jonathan Santiago
National Gold Medals

The gold-medal winners at the state competition advance to the national SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, Missouri in June. Greater Lawrence has advanced to the nationals four times in the Community Service event. Last year's team, consisting of Gloriluz Rosario, Rafael Sanquintin, and Kirssi Gonzalez brought home gold medals.

This year's community service team is volunteering at Lazarus House in Lawrence, where students have been serving meals, painting, and building picnic tables, among other activities.

In addition to Ms. Karnow, Linda Cote serves as a Greater Lawrence SkillsUSA advisor.

Greater Lawrence is a "total participation" school, involving all its students in the SkillsUSA process. The SkillsUSA Professional Development Program used at GLTS teaches students skills that ensure a smooth transition from school to the work world. Among other topics, students are taught goal setting, communication skills, and career awareness.

Methuen YMCA's Cyberspace Internet Café opens to rave reviews

Will be open Friday nights from 6:00 to 9:00 pm weekly

The Methuen Branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA unveiled its new Cyberspace Internet Café on Friday, March 3, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Nearly 200 youth turned out to enjoy a night of fun and games at the YMCA.

In addition to enjoying the internet café, students played ping pong, pool, air hockey, and football in the game room. The gymnasium was also available for pick up basketball games and shooting hoops. Some youth chose to just hang out, listen to music, and read magazines.

Pizza, refreshments and beverages were available to all youth and their parents who attended.

Jose Retamar and Nicholas Mazzone each won free YMCA Youth Memberships as part of a raffle held that night.

The Cyberspace Internet Café is a safe, supervised environment where youth can play games online, instant message with friends and will be open Friday nights from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information, contact Jim Vaillancourt or Stephanie Lane at the Methuen Branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA at (978) 683-5266.

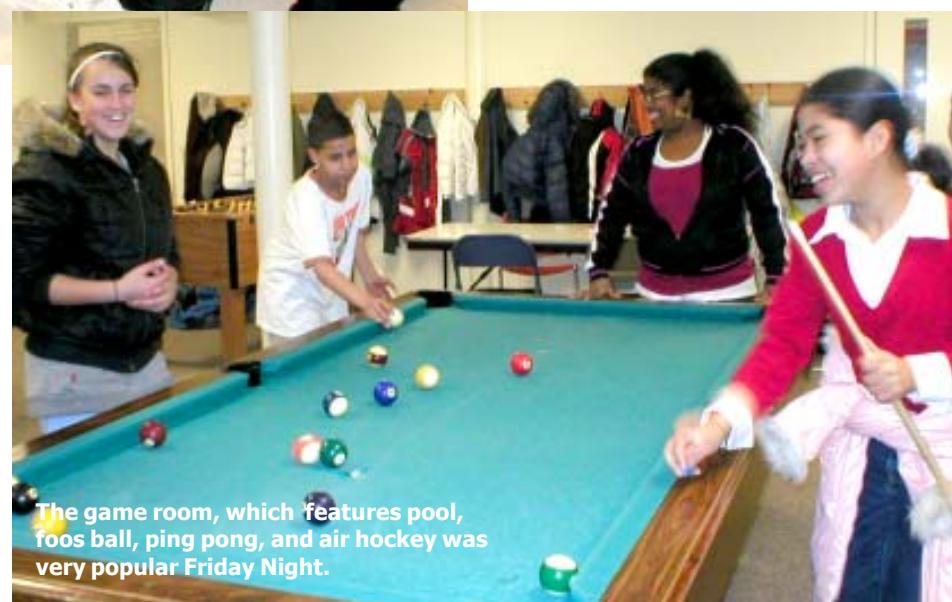
YMCA Youth & Family Services Coordinator James Vaillancourt helps Dennis Averin, age 10, at the opening of the Cyberspace Internet Café at the Methuen YMCA.



Grey Twomey, age 13, and Jesse Rodenhiser, age 14, take a break.



Justin Guy, age 12, reads a magazine in the Cyberspace Internet Café at the Methuen YMCA.



The game room, which features pool, foos ball, ping pong, and air hockey was very popular Friday Night.

Point After Club

1st ANNUAL SPAGHETTI SUPPER

to begin "A Home of Our Own" Fundraising Campaign,
in honor of Rose T. (Lawlor) Coppinger.

When: Saturday, April 1, 2006
Where: The Masonic Temple, 43 Jackson St, Lawrence, MA
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Cost: \$8.00 Adults
\$5.00 Children 12 years old and under
Why: To benefit the Fundraising Campaign for the Point After Club, a Mental Health Resources Plus, Inc. program, so that we may acquire "A Home of Our Own".
A 50/50 Raffle & Door Prizes
Tickets can be purchased at the door or by calling Linda Forbes @ 978.681.7753, or Anna Coppinger Rice @ 978.332.5550. Email: pointafter1@aol.com

What's New at NECC

Ghost Tales Told at Life Long Learning

Teddi DiCanio of Marblehead will present Ghost Stories for Adults, on Thursday, March 23, at 2 p.m. during Northern Essex Community College's Life Long Learning Program in room 103A in the Technology Center on the Haverhill campus. This program is open to the public. Admission is \$1.

Listen to Teddi DiCanio as she performs storytelling magic which is eclectic and full of history and mystery. As a resident of Marblehead, much of her work is oriented to the sea. As a voice teacher, she likes to incorporate music into some of her work. She has performed at Peabody-Essex

Museum's Eerie Events, ARTSalem's Spooks and Spirits and has been part of Boston Mayor Thomas Menino's Storymobile program.

Teddi teaches private singing lessons. Her emphasis is on classical and church music. She has sung with several groups, including the Memphis Oratorio, the Harvard-Radcliffe Chorus, the Festival Chorus of Old North Church, and St. Michael's choir. Currently, she sings with Our Lady, Star of the Sea's choir. She also teaches swimming at the Marblehead/Swampscott YMCA.

NECC Hospitality Program Hosts Reunion

Northern Essex Community College's Hospitality & Travel Program will hold a reunion on Wednesday, April 5, 2006, from 6 to 10 p.m., at DiBurro's Function Facilities, 887 Boston Road, Ward Hill, MA. Alumni of all hospitality and travel related programs at NECC are invited to attend.

Tickets are \$30 for alumni and \$35 for guests. This includes a dinner choice of roast top sirloin of beef with jardinière sauce or baked stuffed boneless breast of chicken with supreme sauce. There is a cash bar.

Tropical attire is optional. There will be a prize for the most creative outfit.

A 50/50 raffle will be held. Proceeds will benefit student scholarships at NECC.

RSVP with payment and entrée selection by Monday, March 27, 2006 to Libby Jensen, Director of Alumni & Donor Relations, 100 Elliott Street, Haverhill, MA 01830. Make checks payable to: NECC Alumni Association. For additional information contact Libby Jensen at 978-556-3621 or ljensen@necc.mass.edu

If you have any questions regarding this section or anything else, please get in touch with the shelter during regular work hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am to 4pm, Thursdays from 12 noon to 7pm, and Sundays from 12-3 pm by calling (978) 687-7453.

MSPCA Online
Find our page in the Internet:
methuen-mspca.org

The animal shelter is located at 400 de Broadway, Ruta 28 en Methuen.



Kindness and Care for Animals™

PAWSITIVELY INTERESTING

MSPCA - Methuen & Rumbo Cooperative Education Column

PETS LOOKING FOR ADOPTION

Clyde, New Zealand Mix, Age: Adult, Sex: Neutered Male

Clyde was brought to the shelter after being found as a stray. Domestic rabbits can not survive outdoors and should never be let loose to fend for themselves. Clyde is a social, outgoing and friendly bunny. He would do well in most homes and is happy to be handled and especially likes to be given treats. His favorites are red peppers and dandelion greens. If you are looking for a new addition to your home, Clyde could be the perfect choice for you. Stop by the shelter to meet him and say hello!



Mozart, Domestic Short Hair, Brown Tiger and white, Age: 3 years old, Sex: Neutered Male

Introducing Mozart! Mozart is a very handsome, three-year-old white and brown tiger. He came to the shelter as a stray but it's hard to believe since he is so friendly and sweet. Mozart is playful, energetic and affectionate... all wrapped up in one cool cat! Mozart is FIV positive which is something that his family should be aware of since it means he can only be with other cats that have FIV or be the only cat in the home. FIV cannot be contracted by dogs or humans so there is no concern there. Mozart can live a long and healthy life even with FIV. We'd be more than happy to give you more information on FIV and Mozart if you are interested in being his new family. He is truly one of a kind... a big love bug!

Nikki, Labrador Retriever Mix, Age: 1 year, Sex: Female

This is Nikki. She is a high energy girl who needs to go to a home with an experienced dog owner—someone who has time to take her to obedience school and help her to be a well-mannered lady of her household. She knows "sit" but is a little weak on her other commands. Being exuberant and a little mouthy in her greetings, she would do better in a home without small children who might be scared when she jumps up to say hello. She loves people and very much likes to please you. She enjoys all types of games, and even chases water when you run the hose. Nikki has a loving heart and, with a little discipline and lots of love, she will make a wonderful companion.



T.J., Domestic Short Hair - orange and white tiger, Age: 1 year old, Sex: Neutered Male

Meet T.J. This fun-loving, laid back boy would make a wonderful addition to any home. He is very friendly and loves to play. He is used to living with other cats and gets along with them. In fact, he is here at the shelter because his owner had too many cats. If you are looking for a sweet, mellow companion to add a little spark to your home, stop in and say "hi" to T.J.

Talula, Chinchilla, Mini Rex Mix, Age: 2 years old, Sex: Spayed Female

Meet the most beautiful rabbit here at the shelter! Her name is Talula... pretty name for a pretty girl. Talula is two years old and has the most gorgeously long eye lashes. We say she is the Marilyn Monroe of bunnies! She does great with people, especially kids. She loves to sit on your lap, be held and patted. Oh, and she adores her carrots, apples and parsley. She's very healthy. She is looking for a family that will spend time and play with her letting her run around and hang out with them and allow her to explore. She truly is one special rabbit and in need of one special family.



Torino, American Staffordshire Terrier Mix, Age: 7 months, Sex: Neutered Male

This ball of energy is Torino. He is here because he was abandoned. Torino is looking for a home without small children because, at only 7 months, he plans on being your youngest child. Having lots and lots and lots of energy to spare, Torino will definitely benefit from some obedience training and a good regimen of exercise or playtime. He is especially fond of tug of war games. He is very sociable and likes to meet new people. He would benefit most from living with experienced dog owners who will give him plenty of love, but also a firm hand so he behaves himself.



ELLEN BAHAN:

CONT. FROM PAGE 21

Washington, D.C., by The Washington Post found that despite producing more than 500,000 tickets (and generating over \$32 million in revenues), red-light cameras didn't reduce injuries or collisions. In fact, the number of accidents increased at the camera-equipped intersections. (Popular Mechanics March 2006, "Big Brother Is Ticketing You.")

"Likewise, red-light cameras in Portland, Oregon, produced a 140 percent increase in rear-end collisions at monitored intersections, and a study by the Virginia Transportation Research Council found that although red-light cameras decreased collisions resulting from people running traffic lights, they significantly increased accidents overall. (Popular Mechanics March 2006, "Big Brother Is Ticketing You.")

The boyz failed to mention these staggering statistics in the snazzy extravaganza, or any negative statistics; the goal was to close the deal.

What caught my undivided attention was when the council got ready to vote and our Solicitor McQuillan said he had a problem with the statute that was cited to be the mechanism for the distribution of the spoils. OH, YES THE SPOILS!!!

Sometimes I plumb forget it is always about the money!

I do not want a single red cent to be distributed, accrued, managed, collected or banked by these two bad boyz! (chief and dawwg)

They have falsified a grant document in the past and cannot be trusted with any of the people's money! In fact, we need to audit and scrutinize every cent that has been under their care! If they will falsify one grant application, I find it highly likely they will not have a problem doing it again and again, and again. You could say it is a way of life!

"The problem of increased collisions can be aggravated by jurisdictions that shorten the duration of yellow lights, apparently to generate more ticket revenues. (Popular Mechanics, March 2006.) Would we ever do anything like that in Methuen?

The chief and the dawwg have put the City of Methuen into jeopardy by not following protocol in the Moe Lariviere case. I think you can understand my wariness when the police department is given discretionary power to issue these tickets.

Hell, I'm dreaming, they already have discretionary power to issue tickets, and I can prove that they have abused their power in the past.

Moe Lariviere also proved that, and informed the dawwg that he was wrong. Moe made him rectify his knowingly falsifying a police investigation. These boyz and their handpicked handmaidens cannot be trusted and I think we can be guaranteed that a ticket will never be given to a family member, friend, or someone who is connected.

I think the majority of us Methuenites are law-abiding citizens, carefully trying to obey the laws. I see more politico's driving, cars with old and new political stickers on them breaking the law, running red lights, making illegal left hand turns, parking in the handicap spaces. In fact, I see unmarked police cruisers parked in fire lanes, not on official police business, personal pleasure business.

I see those that think they are elitist, cheating, and I know they will never get a ticket. According to my sources these

connected individuals are getting by with a lot more than a red light violation.

The boyz view this as a cash cow, and they do not even have to leave the barn to get it. Excuse me, that's the fort, the very same fort that when the homeland security money became available to the cities and towns, Methuen quickly put in for monies to fortify the fort.

I know, if I were a criminal, the first place I would go would be the police station!

I was amused by Billy Manzi's retort in regards to this issue. He needs a legal opinion! Not for anything but isn't his newly, rules-waived-Toody (chief of staff), a lawyer? Is Matty K's only job to tell Billy he's got something on his teeth, or that his fly is down? You'd think that for 77K he would, at least, have an inkling of how constitutional these cameras are? Or, at least, how to find out.

What about Tina Touma Conway, our City Clerk who also slides in at a cool 77K? Tina is also a lawyer. I can understand that perhaps Billy did not get the chance to question Tina since she seems to be away from her desk a great deal of the time.

What about David Bain, I think he makes more than 77K. He is the Director for Human Resources and is also a lawyer. In fact, every year that the queen sat on the throne she made sure that Bain was also given an additional 10K stipend, above and beyond the department head salary, because he was a lawyer.

I can see why Billy did not consult him. Bain's claim to fame when we luckily snatched him from the public spout in Lawrence was that in all his years for Lawrence he never won a case. I am sure you can see why we could not live without him.

Wait! There is one more lawyer who graces the Methuen roles. What about Peter McQuillan. How come Billy didn't ask him?

You'd think with all these lawyers under one roof they could have put their heads together and come up with one brain.

You see Billy, you made your mistake when you left the research of this cream puff of a deal up to the badly acting police chief and his trusty dawwg. NEVER SEND A BOY TO DO A MAN'S WORK!

One more thing, as many of you know I was lucky enough to spend eight months last year in the beautiful state of North Carolina. I lived outside Wilmington, NC on a barrier island. Everyday, someone from my family had to traverse into Wilmington for business. Wilmington had cameras.

Every day there were rear end collisions at the intersections where the cameras were placed. Wilmington was convening meetings to talk and start the procedure to remove the cameras. The local newspapers did several editorials questioning the use of these cameras, and went as far as to say that they should be discontinued.

We just hired 10 new police officers to catch up to the already brass heavy hierarchy that the chief and the dawwg have orchestrated. I guess that the some of the brass boyz didn't have anybody to boss around! I think that these new hires should be stationed at these intersections and stop those that break the law!

I know it is a novel idea, but how about some good steady police work. All they would have to do is step out the police station door, these proposed big brother lights are within walking distance to the police station. How ironic!

Calendario de Eventos

Calendar of Events



Welcome to Rumbo's new Calendar of Events

To have your event listed on this section of Rumbo, please send us an email to (and only to) calendar@rumbonews.com. The email must contain the name, date, time and location of the event. A contact email and phone number is recommended. A brief description of less than 30 words could also be included. If your message is missing any of this information, it will not be posted. Posting of your event is subject to space availability. Rumbo is not responsible for any misprinted information.

COST OF ADVERTISING

Events organized by non for profit organizations will be posted for FREE. If your event is for profit, please contact us to learn about our posting fees. Please visit our website, rumbonews.com, for display ads rates.

PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

You must submit your event 5 days prior to our Publication Dates

Rumbo is published four times a month. Our Regional Edition is printed on the 1st and 15th of every month. This edition reaches Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, Andover, North Andover, and Lowell in Massachusetts. It is also distributed in Manchester, Nashua, and Salem in New Hampshire. Publications printed on the 8th and the 22nd of each month are only distributed in Lawrence and Methuen.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS

Please use our email address calendar@rumbonews.com for anything in reference to posting an event on this section of the paper.



The Lawrence Cultural Alliance publishes the Events Calendar on a quarterly basis. For a complete listing of their calendar of events, please visit their website: lawrenceculturalalliance.com

The Robert Frost Poetry Hoot

Tuesdays at Cafe Azteca | 7-9 PM
180 Common St, Lawrence, MA
Tel. 978-689-7393

TUESDAY MARCH 14
Cambridge College Poetry Laureate Cesar Sanchez Beras & Mark Schorr reading from new Lawrence poems followed by an Open Mic.

TUESDAY APRIL 11
Robert Crawford and Midge Goldberg are joined by nine other finalists from the 2006 Robert Frost Award followed by an Open Mic.

TUESDAY MAY 9
A Poetry Magazine Hoot featuring Megan Grumpling and Deborah Warren followed by an Open Mic.

TUESDAY JUNE 13
Student Literary Magazine Hoot followed by an Open Mic.



THE MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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APRIL 5, 2006

Pat's Function Hall
Alpha/River Street, Route 110, Haverhill, MA
11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

For information call the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce (978) 686-0900

BLACK PORTRAITURE: BETWEEN INVISIBILITY AND STEREOTYPE

A lecture by Nell Irvin Painter, Edwards Professor of American History, Emerita, Princeton University, and author of the books, "Creating Black Americans: African American History and Its Meanings, 1619 to the Present" and "Sojourner Truth, A Life, A Symbol".

Sunday, March 19, 2:00 pm at Kemper Auditorium, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA. The lecture and exhibition are free.

Texas Hold-Em Tournament

\$2000 First Prize*

based on 100 player minimum

*Gift cards will be awarded to all prize winners

Proceeds To Benefit Knights of Columbus

Thursday, March 16

Knights of Columbus #4027
462 Broadway
Methuen, MA

Registration
6:00 pm



Game Time
7:00 pm



\$100 Donation
Buy 4000 in chips
(no Re-Buys)



Pre-Registration recommended. Contact Bob Bartlett @ 978-686-1291



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Nuevo Programa
NEW SHOW: CHANNEL 23



Latinos Unidos of NH (LUNH) has its new weekly show at Channel 23, Public Access Channel for Manchester, every Friday at 6:00PM with Nery Yasendii Gonzales as interviewer.

Latinos Unidos de NH (LUNH) tiene un nuevo programa semanal en el Canal 23 de Acceso Público para Manchester, todos los viernes a las 6:00 p.m. con Nery Yasendii Gonzales como presentadora.

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Ciudad de Lawrence



**Adquiridor de propiedad/
Oficial de disposición**

No-Unión, No-Exento

Grado 3, \$45,000 - \$55,000 anuales

Bajo la dirección del Director de Planificación, la posición realiza funciones administrativas responsables y confidenciales para el Departamento de Planificación de la Ciudad. Principal empleado en el departamento para la adquisición y/o disposición de propiedades "tax title" de la ciudad, bajo propiedades útiles. Trabaja estrechamente con varios departamentos de la ciudad incluyendo el Abogado de la Ciudad, quien ejerce importante autoridad legal durante el proceso de "tax title". **Calificaciones:** Bachillerato con cursos de Asistente Legal o equivalente, y por lo menos con un (1) año de experiencia en asistencia legal en una oficina legal trabajando en asuntos de bienes raíces; o una combinación equivalente de educación y experiencia. Fecha límite: Marzo 23, 2006.

Asistente Administrativo

No-Unión, No-Exento

Grado 2, \$35,000 - \$45,000 anuales

Deberes: La posición es responsable de proveer altos servicios de oficinista en el Departamento de Planificación; el empleado recibe llamadas telefónicas y visitantes, mantiene un sistema de archivo, prepara reportes, prepara una variedad de correspondencia, coordina reuniones y turnos; realiza todas las labores similares según lo requerido. **Calificaciones:** El candidato para esta posición debe tener un Grado Universitario de Administración Pública o un campo similar; o dos años de cursos universitarios, de tres a cinco (3-5) años de experiencia en administración pública, preferiblemente en áreas de implementación de políticas públicas y/o servicios a los constituyentes. Preferiblemente competente en lenguajes inglés y español. Fecha límite: Marzo 23, 2006.

Las solicitudes están disponibles en la Oficina de Personal en el ayuntamiento de Lawrence o escribiendo a:

Frank Bonet, Director de Personal

City Hall, Personnel, 200 Common Street, Room 302, Lawrence, MA 01840.

Lista detallada de trabajos y descripciones de trabajo están disponibles en la Oficina de Personal o visitando la página de Internet de la Ciudad de Lawrence:

www.cityoflawrence.com

Un empleador de igualdad de oportunidades

Ciudad de Lawrence



BOARD & COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

CITY OF LAWRENCE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

(3 OPENINGS)

One three year term

Two openings to serve a one year term

CITY OF LAWRENCE AIRPORT COMMISSION

(2 OPENINGS)

One is for a two year term

One is for a three year term

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

(3 STAGGERED APPOINTMENTS)

One opening is for a one year term

One openings if for a two year term

One opening is for a three year term

LAWRENCE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(2 OPENINGS)

Both openings are for a five year term

Prospect Hill Historical Commission (one opening)

One is for a three-year term

CITY OF LAWRENCE COUNCIL ON AGING

(2 OPENINGS)

Both openings are for three year terms

LAWRENCE COMMISSION ON DISABLED AND HANDICAPPED

(4 OPENINGS)

Staggered terms

Lawrence Human Rights Commission (two openings)

Both openings are for three year terms

Anyone interested in applying for these boards and commissions should go to Mayor Michael J. Sullivan's Office, 200 Common Street, 3rd Floor for applications. Applicants must be Lawrence residents and applications must be filled out in full. Deadline for applications is **Tuesday, March 21st, 2006 at noon**. Chosen applicants will go before the City of Lawrence Personnel Committee and Lawrence the City Council.

Anuncian programa Preparado, Listo, Déjalo

Por Alberto Surís

El pasado lunes 6 de los corrientes, Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan, dio la bienvenida a un nuevo programa del Departamento de Salud Pública, diseñado para la ciudad de Lawrence, concentrado en ayudar a aquellos que deseen dejar de fumar.

Ante líderes políticos y comunitarios, envueltos en el cuidado de la salud de nuestros residentes, Sullivan declaró el 6 de marzo el 'Día de no Fumar en Lawrence' y entregó una proclama a Dianne Knight, representante del Greater Lawrence Community Health Center, organizadora del evento.

El Congresista Marty Meehan, los Representantes Barry Finegold y William Lantigua, así como Lois Keithly, Directora Interina del Programa de Control del Tabaco de Massachusetts; Robert Ingala, CEO de Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) y Joseph McManus, Presidente y CEO del Hospital General de Lawrence, tuvieron palabras de advertencia para aquellos que aún continúan fumando y de aliento para los que están tratando de dejar el vicio. "El fumar es una enfermedad que puede prevenirse", dijo Meehan.

El programa, que comenzó el día 6 de marzo, se extenderá hasta el 31 del mismo mes. Residentes de Lawrence, interesados en dejar el vicio, pueden llamar al 1-800-879-8678, donde le ofrecerán un suministro GRATIS por dos semanas a aquellos que están realmente interesados en dejar de



Alba Castro, Doris Anzianni, María Alavarces y Gretchen Latowsky.
Anziani y Alavarces iniciarán una campaña casa por casa, buscando a fumadores interesados en dejar de fumar, para explicarles de este programa.

fumar. "Si necesitan más, pueden dirigirse al GLFHC, donde podrán adquirirlo con descuento", expresó Ann Marie Rakovic, representante de JSI Research and Training Institute, Inc, proveedores del parche.

Llamando a Ann Marie Rakovic y Jasiel Fernández al 1-800-879-8678, ellas le ofrecen parches gratis por dos semanas, a aquellas personas interesadas en dejar el vicio de fumar. Rakovic y Fernández son representantes de JSI Research and Training Institute, Inc, proveedores del parche.



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