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(MA) Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, Andover, North Andover, Lowell  
(NH) Salem, Nashua, Manchester

*Haverhill*

## Celebró Independencia Dominicana



### Celebrated Dominican Independence

Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini, Dominican flag in hand, congratulates the Dominicans on their day. Gathered in his office are:

El Alcalde de Haverhill James Fiorentini, bandera dominicana en mano, felicita a los dominicanos en su día. Congregados en su oficina, se destacan: Carmen Milagros Almonte, Cónsul General de la República Dominicana, Vicecónsul Ana Gratereaux, Felipe Peña, Gary A. Ortiz, organizador del evento, Teresa Colomé y Andrés Vargas, Concejal de Haverhill.

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*Methuen*

## Día de Globo Negro

El Jefe de la Policía de Methuen Joseph Solomon anunció que el Departamento de Policía de Methuen participó en el Día del Globo Negro el pasado fin de semana en honor a las vidas que se han perdido por la adicción a opiáceos.

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## Black Balloon Day

Chief Joseph Solomon announced that the Methuen Police Department participated in Black Balloon Day this past weekend to honor the lives that have been lost to opioid addiction.

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Nombran a nuevo miembro del Comité Escolar de Lawrence.

New member of the Lawrence School Committee is appointed.

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## Irlandeses izaron su bandera



### Local Irish raised their flag

Eileen O'Connor Bernal, jefe de gabinete del Alcalde de Lawrence trajo saludos de la ciudad y dio inicio a la celebración del Mes de la Herencia Irlandesa aquí en Lawrence. En la foto con ella, Bill Sullivan, Division 8 AOH, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

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Eileen O'Connor Bernal, Lawrence Mayor's Chief of Staff brought greetings from the city, opening the celebration of the Irish Heritage Month here in Lawrence. Also pictured is Bill Sullivan Division 8 AOH, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

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## Habitat delivers 100 Parker St.



Felicia Frias, unit 8 is receiving the keys from Randy D. Larson, Executive director of Habitat For Humanity.

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## Reunión con la Junta de Registro

Por Dalia Díaz

La tan esperada reunión ante la Junta de Registro en Lawrence finalmente tuvo lugar el pasado sábado, 5 de marzo en el Ayuntamiento. De las más de 8,000 firmas recogidas originales, el Departamento de Elecciones eliminó 3,080 nombres reduciendo así al esfuerzo de destitución a un fracaso. La Fundación para la Transparencia en el Gobierno necesitaba 655 nombres adicionales para ser válido.

El abogado Louis Farrah quien está al frente de la Fundación, citó oficialmente a varias personas y el interrogatorio comenzó inmediatamente con Sara García, ex empleada del Departamento de Elecciones quien renunció el pasado enero. Ella estaba segura de sí misma para responder a todas sus preguntas sobre todo aquellas acerca de la falta de entrenamiento formal que había recibido.

La Sra. García testificó que el sistema utilizado para certificar las firmas es el mismo empleado con documentos de nominación de candidatos a cargos políticos. Ella explicó que en caso de duda, se ponían en contacto con la Oficina del Secretario de Estado para clarificar y mencionó a alguien con el nombre de Bridget en el puesto de informaciones (Help Desk).

Con el fin de comprobar la validez de uno de los firmantes, el primer paso era mirar en la lista del registro de votantes y si el nombre y la dirección no son exactos no sería aceptada. La Sra. García reveló, además, que cada vez que un nombre aparecía ilegible, en lugar de encontrar otra solución, fueron instruidos para



simplemente marcarlo como descalificado.

Después de haber descalificado a más de 3,000 nombres sin el beneficio de una revisión, la Junta mantuvo que una vez rechazada, no tenían autoridad para ponerlos de nuevo.

Durante el interrogatorio de Richard Reyes, el Lic Farrah le preguntó si es del todo posible producir en el sistema informático utilizado en el Departamento de Elecciones un informe de Actividad Cambios y él con confianza, dijo que así es. El abogado Farrah pidió algunos detalles más sobre el proceso para obtener dicho informe y Reyes explicó.

La reunión terminó sin ponerse de acuerdo para otra reunión porque incluso el Secretario Municipal William Maloney dijo que, "Estas preguntas planteadas fueron suficientes complejas para merecer una revisión judicial." Por lo tanto, el siguiente paso según el abogado Farrah será en los tribunales.

## Meeting with the Board of Registrars

By Dalia Diaz

The much awaited meeting before the Board of Registrars in Lawrence finally took place last Saturday, March 5th at City Hall. Of the original 8,000+ signatures gathered, the Elections Department eliminated 3,080 names thus rendering the recall effort a failure. The Foundation for Transparency in Government needed an additional 655 names to be valid.

Attorney Louis Farrah who is heading the Foundation, subpoenaed several people and the questioning began immediately with Sara García, former Elections Department employee who resigned last January. She was self-assured responding to all his questions particularly the ones about the lack of formal training she had received.

Ms. Garcia testified to the system used to certify the signatures as they would with nomination papers for candidates for political office. She explained that in case of doubts, they contacted the Secretary of State's Office for clarification and mentioned someone by the name of Bridget at the Help Desk.

In order to check the validity of a signer, the first step was looking up the voter registration list and if the name and address did not match they would not be accepted. Ms. Garcia further revealed that whenever a name appeared illegible, rather than find another solution, she was instructed to just mark it as disqualified.

Having disqualified over 3,000 names



without the benefit of a review, but the Board maintained that once rejected, they had no authority to put any names back.

During the interrogation of Richard Reyes, Atty Farrah asked him if it is at all possible to produce in the computer system used in the Elections Department an Activity Report Changes and he confidently said it is. Attorney Farrah asked some further about the process to obtain said report and Reyes explained in detail.

The meeting ended without agreeing to another meeting because even City Clerk William Maloney said that "These questions raised were complex enough to merit a judicial review." So, the next step according to Atty. Farrah will be in Court.

## EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

### Honor a quien Honor Merece

En nuestra edición 433 de marzo 8, 2014 dedicamos nuestro editorial al Canal Street Gym por el trabajo que con mucho sacrificio lleva a cabo el entrenador José Bugzy Martínez y su equipo con un grupo de jóvenes que diariamente van al gimnasio a hacer ejercicio, practicando principalmente el deporte del boxeo.

Visitamos el gimnasio y quedamos muy impresionados con la disciplina imperante en el lugar que nos trajo a la memoria los días en que los gimnasios en varias escuelas estaban abiertos bajo la dirección de Frank Benjamin, más conocido como Mr. B por sus ejércitos de niños de todas las edades que se reunían cada tarde hasta tarde en la noche, para disfrutar de un buen rato, practicando deportes, especialmente baloncesto, mientras recibían disciplina tan necesaria en estos días.

El programa era patrocinado por la Liga Atlética de la Policía de Lawrence y subvenciones del Departamento de Justicia y C.D.B.G. de HUD y tristemente fue eliminado por falta de fondos.

La Logia de los Hijos de Italia que vívidamente recuerda haber preparado cenas clásicas de espagueti para recaudar fondos para los jóvenes de la Liga Atlética de la Policía de Lawrence de la cual Mr. B y su hijo Bill eran los directores, está organizando un homenaje a Frank Benjamin el 31 de marzo y honrarlo por esos años de servicio a la ciudad y especialmente a los niños de Lawrence.

Atamos el Canal Street Gym con el programa de Mr. B por la similitud en los objetivos de ambos: el bienestar de los niños. Mr. B ha declarado, y los Hijos de Italia están de acuerdo, que todo lo recaudado el día del homenaje sea entregado al Canal Street Gym.

Estamos de acuerdo con ambas partes y felicitamos a Mr. B por su generosa propuesta. No cabe duda que a través del Canal Street Gym, él continúa pensando en los niños de Lawrence.

### Honor where honor is due

In our edition 433 of March 8, 2014 we dedicated our editorial to the Canal Street Gym for the work, with great sacrifice, coach Jose Bugzy Martinez and his team perform with a group of youngsters who daily go to the gym to exercise, mainly the sport of boxing.

We visited the gym and were very impressed with the prevailing discipline in place that brought to mind the days when gyms in several schools were opened under the direction of Frank Benjamin, better known as Mr. B by the armies of children of all ages gathered every evening until late at night to enjoy a good time, playing sports, especially basketball, while receiving much-needed discipline these days.

The program was sponsored by the Police Athletic League of Lawrence and grants from the Department of Justice and HUD's CDBG program which sadly was eliminated for lack of funds.

The Lodge of the Sons of Italy vividly remembers preparing classic spaghetti dinners to raise funds for the youth of the Lawrence Police Athletic League of which Mr. B and his son Bill were directors, is organizing a tribute to Frank Benjamin on March 31st to honor him for those years of service to the city and especially the children of Lawrence.

We tied the Canal Street Gym with Mr. B's program for the similarity in the objectives of both: the welfare of the children. Mr. B said, and the Sons of Italy agree that all proceeds from this tribute are delivered to the Canal Street Gym.

We agree with both sides and we congratulate Mr. B for his generous proposal. There is no doubt that through the Canal Street Gym, he continues to think of Lawrence children.

## Rumbo

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POR DALIA DÍAZ  
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READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

# Desde Mi Esquina



## Reunión ante la Junta de Registro

Esta es una aclaración para aquellos que no conocen la diferencia entre reportar las noticias y un artículo de opinión. Esta es mi columna, se trata de mi opinión. Si desea noticias, lea el resto del periódico. Publicamos todo tipo de noticias y eventos sin editorializar porque eso sería inmoral a mi modo de ver. Nos ajustamos a los hechos y si no estoy de acuerdo, para eso es que tengo mi columna.

Recientemente un jefe de departamento en el Ayuntamiento me dijo que Rumbo parece ser el boletín del alcalde porque a cada evento que él asiste está cubierto con fidelidad y cada comunicado de prensa procedente de la oficina del alcalde es traducido diligentemente por mí y publicado como es, de forma gratuita a la ciudad.

En la página 2 de esta edición, escribí acerca de la reunión ante la Junta de Registro el pasado sábado - sólo los hechos sin editorializar.

Ahora, aquí voy con lo que realmente pienso:

El 15 de febrero escribí sobre mi solicitud de un informe de la actividad en los cambios en la lista de votantes del 3 de noviembre, 2015, al 9 de diciembre del 2015 y me dijeron que no se puede hacer. Richard Reyes, del Departamento de Elecciones dijo que es imposible, así que hablé con Rafael Tejada, ex coordinador bilingüe de elecciones que me dijo cómo es posible conseguirlo.

En ese momento, dudé si Richard Reyes conoce el sistema o que ha recibido la orden de no emitir ningún informe. ¡Resultó muy refrescante oírle responder que el informe que he estado pidiendo es, en efecto, posible producir de ese sistema! ¿Quién es el mentiroso ahora?

El abogado Farrah le pidió muchos detalles y ahora que estaba bajo juramento respondió con prontitud con un montón de detalles. Ahora, vamos a ver si me envían el informe de actividad y cambios que he estado pidiendo.



## El nuevo miembro del Comité Escolar

El Concejo Municipal votó para nombrar a un nuevo miembro del Comité Escolar por el Distrito A, Emmanuel Castañeda al puesto dejado vacante por Kemal Bozkurt después de su renuncia.

El Sr. Castañeda está en su último año en la Universidad de Massachusetts/Lowell donde estudia finanzas, y se graduará este año con un título de licenciatura. Se graduó de Central Catholic High School en 2012.

Durante la reunión del Comité de Personal hace un par de semanas, y nuevamente durante la reunión del concejo, la Concejal del Distrito A Sandy Almonte dio un discurso apasionado sobre las calificaciones de Emmanuel y por qué debemos apoyar a los jóvenes para que se involucren en la política y la vida pública. "Tendrá buena relación con otros estudiantes, no como una figura paterna, pero alguien que puede relacionarse con ellos."

Teniendo en cuenta que el comité escolar tiene muy pocas responsabilidades, también creo que es un gran campo de entrenamiento. Él aprenderá a socializarse a ese nivel y lo más importante, que va a obtener la práctica en las Reglas del Orden de Robert, algo que muchos políticos

actuales y miembros de juntas carecen.

La otra candidata para el puesto era Donna Bertolino, decano adjunto de Servicios de Apoyo Académico en Northern Essex Community College. Ella tiene una Maestría en Educación.

Votando a su favor estaban Sandy Almonte, Estela Reyes, Kendrys Vásquez, Brian De Peña y Modesto Maldonado. Votando en contra fueron Marc Laplante y David Abdo. Nilka Alvarez-Rodríguez estaba ausente.

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## Más de 11,400 Asociados de Walmart en Massachusetts Recibirán Aumento Salarial

**Los asociados en Massachusetts también comparten más de \$7.9 mil en bonos trimestrales en efectivo**

Como parte del aumento salarial más grande en un día del sector privado, más de 1.2 millones de asociados de Walmart y Sam's Club en los EE.UU., incluyendo 11,460 en el estado de Massachusetts recibirán un aumento de sueldo en su cheque de pago el 10 de marzo. Los aumentos son parte de una inversión de dos años de parte de la compañía de 2.7 mil millones de dólares en aumentos salariales, capacitación, trayectorias profesionales más claras y nuevas oportunidades de enseñanza para sus trabajadores.

Los asociados de Walmart son elegibles para recibir bonos en efectivo trimestrales basados en el desempeño de su tienda. Para el año fiscal completo, asociados de Walmart en todo el país ganaron más de \$550 millones en bonos, incluyendo \$7,978,626 en Massachusetts. Además del aumento de salarios, el cheque de pago del 10 de marzo asociados elegibles en Massachusetts incluirá parte de la prima de más de \$2,200,210 obtenido en el cuarto trimestre del año.

La inversión de Walmart en sus asociados es mucho más que salarios y beneficios. Está diseñado para proporcionarles a los asociados las habilidades, el conocimiento y las herramientas que necesitan para crecer con la empresa y proporcionar una buena atención al cliente. La compañía también está creando nuevos programas de capacitación, lo que creará trayectorias profesionales claras desde los puestos básicos de entrada a trabajos con mayor paga y más responsabilidad.

### SALARIOS Y OPORTUNIDADES DE ASCENSO

Un trabajo en Walmart significa un salario competitivo para todos los asociados. El año pasado, Walmart EE.UU. y Sam's Club promovieron más de 200,000 asociados, incluyendo 2,546 en Massachusetts, a puestos de trabajo con salarios más altos y más responsabilidad. Además, más de 150,000 asociados, incluyendo 1,253 en Massachusetts se convirtieron de medio tiempo a tiempo completo. Los cambios

salariales este mes incluyen:

Todos los asociados contratados antes del 1 de enero del 2016 recibirán por lo menos \$10/hora.

Nuevos asociados en puestos básicos de entrada contratados después del 1 de enero continuarán recibiendo \$9/hora y se moverán a por lo menos \$10/hora después de haber completado satisfactoriamente el nuevo programa de entrenamiento de habilidades de venta al por menor conocido como Pathways.

Asociados que ya ganan más de \$10/hora van a ver a su aumento salarial anual a partir de marzo en lugar de esperar hasta su fecha de aniversario.

Walmart está aumentando la tarifa en las bandas salariales por hora a puestos que no son básicos de entrada. Cualquier persona ganando por debajo del nuevo mínimo se moverá automáticamente hasta el nuevo mínimo.

Asociados al nivel máximo o por encima de su máximo en su categoría salarial recibirá una suma fija una sola vez que equivale al 2 por ciento de su salario anual.

Walmart en Massachusetts

La inversión local de Walmart va más allá de los últimos aumentos de sueldo de la empresa. En Massachusetts, la empresa:

Opera 52 unidades al por menor.

Gastó \$2.8 billones con proveedores locales, apoyando 55,436 trabajos del proveedor en el año fiscal 2015.

Pagó más de (\$53 millones de dólares) en impuestos y apoyando más de (\$90.2 millones) en impuestos sobre las ventas en el año fiscal 2015.

Esta inversión en los asociados se tomo en cuenta en la perspectiva financiera hablada el pasado mes de octubre en la reunión analista anual de la compañía.

## Impacto Noticias

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# Diez familias recibieron las llaves en 100 Parker Street

## El renovado convento de San Patricio son los más nuevos hogares para familias de Hábitat

El viernes, 26 de febrero de 2016, casi seis años desde el momento que la construcción comenzó, Merrimack Valley Hábitat para la Humanidad (MVHH) entregó las llaves de diez viviendas en el 100 de la calle Parker a partir de las 8:00 am y continuando durante todo el día hasta 5:00 pm.

"Como comunidad todos trabajando juntos, incluyendo: un mínimo de 100,000 horas de tiempo de construcción de voluntarios, horas de equidad por el sudor de la familia, nuestros patrocinadores de Adopte-Una-Unidad, miembros de la comunidad de la fe, numerosos subcontratistas, los donantes y patrocinadores financieros, la Ciudad de Lawrence, nuestra junta directiva y el personal, finalmente hemos entregado esta renovación histórica y diez hogares a nuestras muy meritorias familias", dijo el presidente actual de la junta directiva, y dueño de The Financial Advisors, Dick Sumberg.

Merrimack Valley Hábitat para la Humanidad no sólo ha transformado un edificio histórico de Lawrence, el antiguo Convento de San Patricio, que ahora se conoce cariñosamente como el Edificio Bixby por la fundadora de Habitat Margot Bixby, pero también han fomentado un sentido de estabilización a este barrio en el sur de Lawrence con diez nuevos propietarios.

MVHH compró la centenaria estructura de la Arquidiócesis de Boston en 2008. Después de obtener las aprobaciones de la Junta de Apelaciones de Zonificación de Lawrence, la Junta de Planificación y la Comisión Histórica, la organización recibió el permiso oficial de construcción el 1 de abril, 2010. Las Hermanas de la Caridad de Halifax vivieron allí durante muchos años y enseñaban en la escuela al frente, que es ahora la Academia Católica de Lawrence.

El proyecto del 100 Parker Street es el más grande jamás emprendido por MVHH, y - como renovación de un edificio histórico en lugar de ser una construcción nueva, ha sido el más complejo. El edificio

ha conservado rasgos arquitectónicos significativos, incluyendo una sala central y escalera de roble originales de 110 años conduciendo a los pisos superiores. Para mostrar y dar gracias a todos los involucrados, están organizando una dedicación formal para la construcción y los propietarios de viviendas durante la próxima primavera.

Con el fin de completar cualquiera de estas construcciones, Merrimack Valley Hábitat para la Humanidad depende de seguidores a través de muchos espectros. Para este edificio en particular las asociaciones de patrocinio incluyen: Federal Loan Home Bank, Charlesbank Homes, Clipper Ship Foundation, Abbot and Dorothy Stevens Foundation, Bike and Build, Timothy Horne, Watts Water Technologies, Building Science Corp., Joyce Andrews, the Putnam Foundation, the Sumberg family, Tom and Susan Knight, Nathaniel and Elizabeth Stevens Foundation, the City of Lawrence, Joyce Andrews, Schrafft Charitable Trust, Artemas W. Stearns Trust, Eleanor B. Condie Trust, Rogers Family Foundation, MacMillan family, Worthen Foundation, Two Commandments Foundation y los auspiciadores de Adopte-Una-Unidad: Arlington Community Trabajando, South Church of Andover, Deloitte LLP Boston, Monotype, Refined Renovations, Temple Shir Tikvah of Winchester, The Financial Advisors, y Axial Financial.

Al celebrar 30 años de construcción de viviendas y dar esperanza para merecidas familias, Merrimack Valley Hábitat ha construido y/o renovado 92 viviendas en Lawrence, Haverhill, y Methuen con un valor de mercado total estimado en \$12.4 millones. También están construyendo actualmente en el 40-50 la calle Margin - construida en asociación con la escuela Greater Lawrence Technical School, así como el inicio de su primera construcción para veteranos en la calle Phillips 124-126, y con miras hacia el 2017 con una nueva propiedad recientemente donada por el banco Institution for Savings en Salisbury,



Randy D. Larson is the executive director who is handing over the keys to Ricardo Chanquet.

## Ten families received keys for 100 Parker Street

### Renovated St Patrick's Convent the newest homes for Habitat families

On Friday, February 26, 2016, almost six years from the time construction began, Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity (MVHH) turned over the keys to ten homes at 100 Parker Street starting at 8:00am and continuing throughout the day up to 5:00pm.

"As a community all working together, including: a minimum of 100,000 hours of volunteer construction time, family sweat equity hours, our Adopt-a-Unit sponsors, faith community members, numerous sub-contractors, donors and financial supporters, the City of Lawrence, our board of directors and staff, we finally delivered this historic renovation and ten homes to our very deserving families," said current board president, and owner of The Financial Advisors, Dick Sumberg.

Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity has not only transformed a historic Lawrence landmark, the once St. Patrick's Convent, which is now affectionately referred to as the Bixby Building after their founder Margot Bixby, but have also furthered a sense of stabilization to this South Lawrence neighborhood with ten new homeowners.

MVHH bought the 100-year-old structure from the Archdiocese of Boston in 2008. After securing approvals from the Lawrence Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board and the Historical Commission, the organization received the official go-ahead building permit on April 1, 2010. The Sisters of Charity of Halifax lived there for many years and taught at the school across the street, which is now the Lawrence Catholic Academy.

The 100 Parker Street project is the largest ever undertaken by MVHH, and -- as renovation of an historic property rather than new construction, it has been the most complex. The building has retained significant architectural features,

including a central hall and 110 year old original oak staircase to the upper floors. To showcase and thank all involved, they will be organizing a formal dedication for the building and homeowners this coming spring.

In order to complete any of their builds, Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity is reliant on supporters across many spectrums. For this particular building sponsoring partnerships included: the Federal Loan Home Bank, Charlesbank Homes, Clipper Ship Foundation, Abbot and Dorothy Stevens Foundation, Bike and Build, Timothy Horne, Watts Water Technologies, Building Science Corp., Joyce Andrews, the Putnam Foundation, the Sumberg family, Tom and Susan Knight, Nathaniel and Elizabeth Stevens Foundation, the City of Lawrence, Joyce Andrews, Schrafft Charitable Trust, Artemas W. Stearns Trust, Eleanor B. Condie Trust, Rogers Family Foundation, MacMillan family, Worthen Foundation, Two Commandments Foundation and our Adopt-A-Unit sponsors; Arlington Community Trabajando, South Church of Andover, Deloitte LLP Boston, Monotype, Refined Renovations, Temple Shir Tikvah of Winchester, The Financial Advisors, and Axial Financial.

As they celebrate 30 Years of building homes and hope for deserving families, Merrimack Valley Habitat has now built and/or renovated 92 homes in Lawrence, Haverhill, and Methuen with a total market value estimated at \$12.4 million. They are also currently building at 40-50 Margin Street - a partnership build with Greater Lawrence Technical School, as well as beginning their first ever Veteran Build at 124-126 Phillips Street, and looking to break ground in 2017 at a new property just recently donated by the Institution for Savings in Salisbury, MA.



Ricardo Chanquett is the gentleman who received unit 9 that was sponsored by the South Church. Here are some church members.



Bruce Letwin, MVHH volunteer shows his 500 hour pins for volunteering time.

# Policía de Methuen participó en el Día Negro Globo

El Jefe de la Policía de Methuen Joseph Solomon anunció que el Departamento de Policía de Methuen participó en el Día del Globo Negro el pasado fin de semana en honor a las vidas que se han perdido por la adicción a opiáceos.

El evento reconoce a todos los que han sido afectados por la epidemia actual de medicamentos. Se originó a partir que de los residentes Peabody Diane y Lauren Hurley, que perdieron un miembro de la familia a una sobredosis de heroína el 6 de marzo de 2015.

Para el primer aniversario de la muerte de su ser querido el domingo, la familia Hurley colgó un globo negro afuera de su casa. Ellas animan a cualquier familia que haya sido afectada por la epidemia de drogas para que hagan lo mismo, tomar una foto y luego publicarla en los medios de comunicación social con el #blackballoonday.

En 2015, Methuen tuvo 133 sobredosis, y dos de las víctimas murieron. Hasta la fecha en el año 2016, ha habido 29 sobredosis en la ciudad, con una muerte relacionada a las drogas.

Este fin de semana, el departamento

de policía ató un globo negro afuera de la estación.

"No hay nadie sin haber sido tocado por la epidemia de opioides actual", dijo el Jefe Solomon. "Ya sea que se esté recuperando de la enfermedad de la adicción, perdió un ser querido a una sobredosis, o conoce a alguien que ha sido afectado por el abuso de drogas, les animamos a participar. Juntos, como comunidad, vamos a trabajar para asegurar que no se pierdan más vidas".

La policía fue notificada del Día Negro del globo a través de la comunidad de Adicción de Recursos de contratación de servicios de Methuen (C.A.R.E.S). La iniciativa comenzó en octubre de 2015, en respuesta a la crisis de salud pública en torno a los opioides.

El Alcalde Stephen Zanni y el Jefe de Policía Solomon contrató a dos Especialistas en Asuntos Comunitarios, Jennifer Burns y Jacquelyn Ingersoll, para encabezar la iniciativa de proporcionar recursos para la recuperación, la educación a la comunidad y alcance a poblaciones de alto riesgo.



From left, Lauren Hurley and her mother Diane Hurley inflate balloons. (WBZ-TV)

## Methuen Police to participate in Black Balloon Day

Chief Joseph Solomon announces that the Methuen Police Department participated in Black Balloon Day this past weekend to honor the lives that have been lost to opioid addiction.

The event recognizes all who have been impacted by the current drug epidemic. It originated from Peabody residents Diane and Lauren Hurley, who lost a family member to a heroin overdose on March 6, 2015.

For the one-year anniversary of their loved one's death on Sunday, the Hurleys will hang a black balloon outside their home. Anyone who has been affected by the drug epidemic is encouraged to do the same, take a picture and then post it on social media with the #blackballoonday.

In 2015, Methuen had 133 overdoses, and two of the victims died. To date in 2016, there have been 29 overdoses in the city, with one related death.

This weekend, the police department tied a black balloon outside the station.

"No one has been untouched by the current opioid epidemic," Chief Solomon said. "Whether you are recovering from the disease of addiction, lost a loved one to an overdose, or know someone who has been affected by drug abuse, we encourage you to participate. Together, as a community, we will work to ensure no more lives are lost."

Police were notified of Black Balloon Day through the Methuen Community Addiction Resource Engagement Services (C.A.R.E.S). The Initiative began in October 2015 in response to the public health crisis surrounding opioids. Mayor Stephen Zanni and Chief Solomon hired two Community Engagement Specialists, Jennifer Burns and Jacquelyn Ingersoll, to spearhead the initiative by providing recovery resources, education to the community and outreach to high risk populations.

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# Celebrando el Mes de la Herencia Irlandesa

Por Alberto Surís

Dando inicio a la celebración del Mes de la Herencia Irlandesa aquí en Lawrence, un pequeño grupo de irlandeses locales se dio cita en el parque, frente al Ayuntamiento de Lawrence para izar su bandera.

Después de cantar el Himno Nacional de Irlanda, Susan Fink y Edward F. Curran fueron los encargados de izar la bandera. El Representante Frank Moran trajo saludos de la Cámara de Representantes.

El Mes de la Herencia Irlandesa-Americana es celebrado por proclama

del Presidente y el Congreso de los Estados Unidos en honor a los logros y las contribuciones de los inmigrantes irlandeses y sus descendientes que viven en Estados Unidos. Se celebró por primera vez en 1991 y no es un evento anual. El Mes de la Herencia es en marzo para coincidir con el Día de San Patricio, la fiesta nacional de Irlanda el 17 de marzo. Los Meses de Herencia son, por lo general proclamados por las naciones para celebrar siglos de contribuciones por un grupo de un país.



Representative Frank Moran brought greetings from the House of Representatives.



Susan Fink and Edward Curran were responsible of the rising of the Irish flag. Ms. Fink is the President of Division 8 LAOH and Mr. Curran is the 2016 Irishman of the Year.

## Celebrating Irish Heritage Month

By Alberto Surís

Beginning the celebration of Irish Heritage Month here in Lawrence, a small group of local Irishmen and women met at The Common across from City Hall to hoist their flag.

After singing the Irish National Anthem, Susan Fink and Edward F. Curran were in charge of raising the flag. Representative Frank Moran brought greetings from the House of Representatives.

Irish-American Heritage Month is celebrated by proclamation of the President

and Congress in the United States to honor the achievements and contributions of Irish immigrants and their descendants living in the United States. It was first celebrated in 1991 and it is not an annual event. The Heritage Month is in March to coincide with Saint Patrick's Day, the Irish national holiday on March 17. Heritage Months are usually proclaimed by nations to celebrate centuries of contributions by a group to a country.



### Join us for the next MCLI Social Innovator Mixer!

Wednesday, March 16  
3:30 - 5:00  
At El Taller Cafe and Bookstore  
275 Essex Street, Lawrence, 2nd Floor  
Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.  
Parking available at meters on the street.

RSVP Requested:  
TFry@LawrenceCommunityWorks.org  
2016 MCLI Mixers  
March 16 - Lawrence  
April 13 - Lowell  
May 11 - Lawrence

### What are MCLI Mixers?

Member of the Class of 2016 are developing projects as socially responsible leaders and innovators. You are invited to hear these ideas at an early stage, and offer your feedback and advice.

At each Mixer, several members of the class make short pitches for their leadership projects. After these informal pitches, we open up for networking and feedback.

This process culminates with the MCLI Showcase and Graduation on the evening of June 8. Plan to join us!

## Volunteers Needed!

Did you know that 1 in every 50 children in the US will go to sleep without a home this year? Horizons for Homeless Children is looking for energetic and enthusiastic volunteers to play with children living in family homeless shelters in Northeastern Massachusetts.

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- Programa de Asociación Padres
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*La Academia de Bellesini es una escuela secundaria católica independiente, **sin matrícula** que sirve a estudiantes en grados 5-8 de familias de bajos ingresos en Lawrence.*

# Concejo Cultural de Lawrence concede ayuda para Artes, Cultura

El Alcalde Daniel Rivera y Pat Mariano, presidente del Concejo Cultural de Lawrence, han anunciado la concesión de 61 becas por un total de más de \$70k para los programas culturales en Lawrence. Beneficiarios de las subvenciones incluyen diversas asociaciones culturales, organizaciones sin ánimo de lucro y múltiples escuelas K-12 Lawrence, tanto públicas como privadas. El proceso de solicitud de subvención es competitivo, y el dinero se destina a actividades y programas que enriquecen las artes y la cultura en la comunidad de Lawrence.

Las decisiones sobre qué actividades de apoyo se realizan en el ámbito de la comunidad por una junta de voluntarios designados por el municipio. "Son los voluntarios locales que realmente hacen que este sistema funcione," dijo el Alcalde Daniel Rivera. "Hacen que recursos limitados vayan tan lejos como sea posible, y toman decisiones difíciles sobre a qué proyectos debe darse apoyo. Gracias a ellos, las artes, las ciencias y las humanidades son parte de la vida cotidiana de las personas en nuestra comunidad."

El Concejo Cultural de Lawrence es parte de una red de 329 concejos culturales locales que sirven a las 351 ciudades y pueblos del estado. El Programa de LCC es la mayor red de financiación cultural en

la nación, apoyando a miles de proyectos basados en la comunidad en las artes, las ciencias y las humanidades cada año. La legislatura del estado proporciona una asignación anual al Concejo Cultural de Massachusetts, una agencia estatal, que a su vez asigna fondos a cada comunidad.

"Subvenciones del Concejo Cultural expone a nuestra comunidad para todo, desde conciertos hasta programas educativos. En una comunidad tan rica en diversidad como Lawrence, las acciones de la comunidad con el apoyo de estas becas fomentan el aprendizaje, la creatividad y una visión del mundo expandido a todo lo que tocan", dijo el Representante Estatal Frank Moran.

"El Concejo Cultural recibió muchas propuestas de calidad durante este ciclo de financiación. Nos complace informar que esas propuestas financiadas ofrecen algo para todos en la comunidad desde nuestros ciudadanos más jóvenes hasta nuestros ancianos. A medida que nos esforzamos por ampliar las actividades culturales de calidad para los ciudadanos de Lawrence, los dos estamos emocionados y orgullosos de los eventos que se llevarán a cabo en nuestra ciudad este año. Enhorabuena a todos los premiados", dijo la Presidenta del Concejo Cultural Pat Mariano.

"El Comité Cultural Colombiano del Valle del Merrimack está muy agradecido

con los fondos asignados que nos permiten hacer tomar conciencia, y educación acerca de nuestra cultura colombiana para enriquecer las vidas de los residentes de Lawrence y las comunidades circundantes", dijo Carmenza Bruff del Comité Cultural Colombiano.

A nivel estatal, más de \$2.34 millones serán distribuidos por los concejos culturales locales en 2016. Los subsidios apoyarán una enorme gama de actividades:

conciertos, exposiciones, producciones de radio y video, excursiones escolares, programas para jóvenes después de la escuela, talleres de escritura, programas de esfuerzos de preservación histórica, conferencias, actos de víspera de Año Nuevo, programas educacionales sobre la naturaleza y educación científica para las familias y los festivales de la ciudad. Casi la mitad de los fondos de LCC apoyan las actividades educativas para los jóvenes.

## Lawrence Cultural Council Awards Grants for Arts and Culture

Mayor Daniel Rivera and Pat Mariano, chair of the Lawrence Cultural Council, have announced the award of 61 grants totaling over \$70k for cultural programs in Lawrence. Grant recipients include various cultural associations, non-profit organizations and multiple K-12 Lawrence schools, both public and private. The grant application process is competitive, and grant money goes towards activities and programs that are meant to enrich the arts and culture available to the Lawrence community.

Decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by a board of municipally appointed volunteers. "It's the local volunteers who really make this system work," said Mayor Daniel Rivera. "They make limited resources go as far as possible, and they make the tough decisions about which projects should be supported. Thanks to them, the arts, sciences and humanities are part of people's everyday lives in our community."

The Lawrence Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.

"Cultural council grants expose our community to everything from concerts to

educational programs. In a community as rich in diversity as Lawrence, the grass-roots activities supported by these grants foster learning, creativity and an expanded worldview to all they touch," said State Representative Frank Moran.

"The Cultural Council received many quality proposals during this funding cycle. We are pleased to report that those funded proposals offered something for everyone in our community from our youngest citizens to our elderly. As we strive to expand quality cultural activities for the citizens of Lawrence, we are both excited and proud of the events that will be held in our city this year. Congratulations to all our awardees," said Cultural Council Chair Pat Mariano.

"The Colombian Cultural Committee of the Merrimack Valley is very thankful with the funds allocated that allow us to bring awareness, and education about our Colombian culture to enrich the lives of the residents of Lawrence and surrounding communities," said Carmenza Bruff of the Colombian Cultural Committee.

Statewide, more than \$2.34 million will be distributed by local cultural councils in 2016. Grants will support an enormous range of grass-roots activities: concerts, exhibitions, radio and video productions, field trips for schoolchildren, after-school youth programs, writing workshops, historical preservation efforts, lectures, First Night celebrations, nature and science education programs for families and town festivals. Nearly half of LCC funds support educational activities for young people.

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# Haverhill celebró Independencia Dominicana

Por Alberto Surís

El pasado sábado, 27 de febrero, la oficina del Alcalde de Haverhill James Fiorentini, se vio abarrotada de entusiastas dominicanos que vinieron a celebrar la independencia dominicana y el izamiento de su bandera en el Ayuntamiento de Haverhill.

El Alcalde Fiorentini felicitó a los dominicanos por la independencia de su país y por los logros que han conquistado en éste y especialmente en Haverhill y les agradeció por el apoyo que le han brindado a la ciudad y a su gobierno. Fiorentini destacó la elección de Andy Vargas, primer concejal latino como uno de esos triunfos y también el nombramiento de Orlando Pacheco, primer jefe de departamento de la ciudad como agente de compras.

Carmen Milagros Almonte, Cónsul General de la República Dominicana, leyendo de un documento preparado, agradeció a Fiorentini en nombre del Presidente dominicano Danilo Medina por la deferencia que muestra para con sus compatriotas y además hizo una corta reseña de lo que fue la gesta que dio lugar a la independencia dominicana y el proceso histórico que culminó con la declaración de la República Dominicana y su separación de Haití en febrero de 1844.

Los Concejales William J. Macek, Melinda Barret y Joseph Bevilacqua estaban entre los oficiales electos que asistieron a la ceremonia además de Andy Vargas.



De izquierda a derecha, el Concejal Joseph Bevilacqua y el Alcalde de Haverhill James Fiorentini se unieron al grupo de dominicanos que querían su foto con el Concejal Andy Vargas, centro. Ellos son Gary Ortiz, Teresa Colomé, Carmen Milagros Almonte, Cónsul General de la República Dominicana, el Concejal Andy Vargas, los Vice Cónsules Ana Gratereaux, Carlos Tejada y Frank Tejada, y Claudio Pérez, Secretario del Consulado Dominicano en Boston.

From left, Councilor Joseph Bevilacqua and Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini joined the group of Dominicans who want their picture taken with Councilman Andy Vargas, center. They are Gary Ortiz, Teresa Colome, Carmen Milagros Almonte, General Consul of the Dominican Republic, Councilor Andy Vargas, Vice-consuls Ana Gratereaux, Carlos Tejada and Frank Tejada, and Claudio Perez, Dominican Consulate in Boston Secretary.

## Haverhill celebrated Dominican Independence

By Alberto Suris

On Saturday, February 27th, the office of Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini was packed with enthusiastic Dominicans who came to celebrate the Dominican Independence Day and the raising of their flag at city Hall.

Mayor Fiorentini congratulated the Dominicans for the independence of their country and the achievements they have gained in this country and especially in Haverhill while thanking them for the support they have given to the city and its government. Fiorentini said the election of Andy Vargas, first Latino councilman is one of those achievements and also the appointment of Orlando Pacheco, first department head of the city as purchasing

agent.

Carmen Milagros Almonte, General Consul of the Dominican Republic, reading from a prepared statement thanked Fiorentini on behalf of the Dominican President Danilo Medina by the deference shown toward their countrymen and also read a short statement about the feat that gave Dominicans their independence and the historical process which culminated in the declaration of the Dominican Republic and its separation from Haiti in February 1844.

Councilmen William J. Macek, Melinda Barret and Joseph Bevilacqua were among the elected officials who attended the ceremony along with Andy Vargas.

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### NECESITAN CHOFERES PARA TRANSPORTAR ANCIANOS

Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Lawrence, una coalición de comunidades de fe, agencias de servicio social y organizaciones de salud, está buscando voluntarios para llevar a ancianos a citas al médico y otras citas de calidad de vida a través del Programa de Friends in Deed de Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley. Si usted puede, aunque sea ocasionalmente, por favor, llame a Renee A. Baker, reclutador de voluntarios, al 978-946-1463 (y mencione Interfaith Caregivers.)

Gracias de parte de Interfaith Caregivers y los muchos ancianos que necesitan de los servicios de choferes voluntarios para poder permanecer independientes en su propio hogar.

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## MCC to Host Free MILES Opening Session

Middlesex Community College will host investigative reporter and bestselling author Hank Phillippi Ryan as keynote speaker for the spring Opening Session of the Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education for Seniors (MILES) at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, in the Bedford Campus Center Café East, 591 Springs Road. The event is free and open to the public. 70

As the on-air investigative reporter for Boston's NBC affiliate, Ryan has won 22 Emmy Awards, 13 Edward R. Murrow Awards and dozens of other honors for her groundbreaking journalism.

Ryan is also the author of eight best-selling mystery novels. She has won multiple prestigious awards for her crime fiction, including a coveted Mary Higgins Clark Award. Her latest novel, "What You See," received a starred review from "Library Journal." Ryan is also a founding teacher at Mystery Writers of America University. To learn more, visit [www.HankPhillippiRyan.com](http://www.HankPhillippiRyan.com).

MCC's MILES program offers stimulating, interactive daytime seminars and workshops – with no term papers, tests or grades – for active, older adults. This informational and entertaining opening session provides community members an opportunity to learn more about MILES and the courses being offered, and is a good opportunity to meet instructors and peers. Light refreshments will be served.

The spring session of MILES runs from March 28 through April 28 on the Bedford campus. The two-hour study groups meet from 2 to 4 p.m., in one-, two- or five-week sessions, and are facilitated by individuals with expertise in their field, including some



MCC faculty and staff. The workshops and seminars focus on a variety of topics, including movies, nature, art, literature, technology, health and environmental issues, religion and history.

"The goal of MILES is two-fold," said Marci Barnes, Director of Lifelong Learning. "The first is to enrich lifelong learning for active, older adults through our varied and interesting programming. The second goal is simply to provide personal enrichment and social interaction with like-minded members of the community."

Each MILES course is \$15. All MILES participants enjoy free use of the MCC Fitness Center and library. For the complete schedule of MILES courses, contact Caitlin Campopiano at 781-280-3570 or visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/MILES](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/MILES). To register for MILES courses, call 1-800-818-3434.

## MCC's Free Concert Series Begins with the Anglo-American Duo

A World of Music, Middlesex Community College's 2016 spring concert series, begins with a performance by the Anglo-American Duo, to be held at 8 p.m. Friday, April 1, in MCC's Concert Hall (Building 6), on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road. The concert is free and open to the public.

Praised for its energetic and sophisticated performances, the Anglo-American Duo is comprised of American violinist Timothy Schwarz and British pianist Jane Beament. They will perform "Five Hommages" by British composer David Osbon, as well as works by three other composers, including Ludwig van Beethoven, Edward Elgar, and Olivier Messiaen.

Additional concerts in the A World of Music concert series include, "Three Guitars," a concert of guitar solos, duos and trios, to be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 9, in the MCC Concert Hall on the Bedford campus; a Farewell Concert for Johannah Segarich, longtime MCC music faculty member and mezzo-soprano, at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 17, in the MCC Concert Hall; Cambodian Music Featuring Master Song Heng, at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 30, in the Federal Building Assembly Room on the Lowell campus; and MCC Student Recitals featuring student singers and instrumentalists at 12:30 p.m. Monday, May 9, in the MCC Concert Hall



on the Bedford campus, and the voice students of Professor Johannah Segarich performing at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday, May 10, in the Federal Building Assembly Room, on the Lowell campus. All concerts are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Carmen Rodriguez-Peralta, director of A World of Music, at 781-280-3923 or [peraltac@middlesex.mass.edu](mailto:peraltac@middlesex.mass.edu). For directions, visit: [www.middlesex.mass.edu](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu)

To see video clips of previous MCC concerts, visit: <http://www.youtube.com/user/MCCmusicOnline2#g/a>



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## Division 8 AOH Lawrence Announces 2016 Award Recipients

The Rev. James T. O'Reilly OSA Division 8 Ancient Order of Hibernians has announced the names of their 2016 Award Recipients.

Eric M. Alaimo has been selected as the 2016 recipient of the Richard Cardinal Cushing Award, and Edward F Curran has been selected, as the 2016 Irishman of the Year. Both of these awards will be presented at the 145th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 12, 2016.

### Eric M. Alaimo

Eric M. Alaimo, the son of Michael and Joan Alaimo of Methuen, is a graduate of Holy Trinity Grammar School, Central Catholic High School, received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Saint Michael's College in 2006 and his Masters Degree from Boston College in 2008. At Central Catholic, where he teaches religion, he organized the Catholic Action Club and annually leads a group of students to the Pro Life March in Washington every January. He has taught Confirmation classes at Saint Mary's Parish in Lawrence and is active in Cursillo at Saint Basils in Methuen. He is a member of Saint Monica Knights of Columbus Council 14725 in Methuen and at present is the Faithful Captain of the Father O'Donnell 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Assembly 393 in Lawrence. He also serves as the Catholic Action and Pro Life Chairman for Division 8.

### Edward F. Curran

Edward F. Curran was born and raised in Lawrence, the son of the late James and Elizabeth Curran. He attended St Patrick Grammar School, Lawrence High School and Boston State College. A Vietnam Veteran of the United States Army, he worked for many years for the City of Lawrence and is a retired Veterans' Agent

for the City of Methuen. Annually he runs several events to help raise money for scholarships that benefit local veteran's children. A member of Our Lady of Good Council Parish, he has served on their Parish Pastoral Council. Mr. Curran is also active in Cursillo at Saint Basils in Methuen. Married to the former Ellen Brennan for the past 40 plus years, they are the proud parents of two sons, Patrick and Matthew. Anyone interested in attending the Hibernian Dinner Dance should contact Charles Breen @508 328 0323

### Stephen Kelley

Division Eight will present the John E. Fenton Citizenship Award to another native Lawrencian, Stephen Kelley, of the Lawrence Boys and Girls Club, for his distinguished community service to the Greater Lawrence Area at the Hibernian Saint Patrick's Luncheon on Friday, March 18, 2016.

Stephen Kelley, a native of South Lawrence, attended Saint Patrick's Grammar School, Central Catholic High School and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. He is the Associate Director of the Lawrence Boys and Girls Club where he has worked and volunteered for over 50 years. Over the years, Mr. Kelley has been recognized for his commitment and distinguished service to the youth of the city by the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and the National Council of Youth Sports among other groups. Kelley and his wife, Sonya, reside in Methuen with their two sons, Andrew and John. Anyone wishing information on the 47th Annual Hibernian Saint Patrick's Day Luncheon should contact Jack Lahey at 603 898 7766.

## USCIS Anuncia Subsidios de Ciudadanía e Integración

### Los subsidios apoyarán a los servicios de preparación en ciudadanía para residentes permanentes

El Servicio de Ciudadanía e Inmigración de Estados Unidos (USCIS, por sus siglas en inglés) está aceptando solicitudes para dos oportunidades de obtención de fondos bajo el Programa de Subsidios de Ciudadanía e Integración. Estas son oportunidades de subsidios competitivos para organizaciones que preparan a los residentes permanentes para la naturalización y promover la integración cívica a través del aumento del conocimiento del idioma inglés, y la historia y civismo estadounidense. Estos dos programas proporcionarán hasta \$10 millones en subsidios para preparación para obtención de la ciudadanía en comunidades a través de todo el país. La fecha límite para entrega de solicitudes es el 22 de abril.

A través de esta oportunidad de subsidios, USCIS busca expandir la disponibilidad de servicios de alta calidad de preparación para la ciudadanía a través de todo el país. Estas dos oportunidades son:

- Educación en Ciudadanía y Servicios en Solicitudes de Naturalización: Esta oportunidad proveerá fondos a hasta un máximo de 36 organizaciones que ofrecen tanto instrucción en ciudadanía como servicios en solicitudes de naturalización a residentes permanentes.

- Educación en Ciudadanía Únicamente: Esta nueva oportunidad de fondos ayudará a las organizaciones sin fines de lucro a establecer nuevos programas de educación en ciudadanía o ampliar la cualidad y alcance de los programas educativos existentes. USCIS espera otorgar fondos

hasta 10 organizaciones sin fines de lucro a través de esta oportunidad. Al hacerlo, USCIS busca fomentar la expansión del campo actual de los programas de educación en ciudadanía, particularmente a aquellos ofrecidos por organizaciones pequeñas de base comunitaria que no hayan recibido subsidios de parte de USCIS anteriormente.

USCIS espera anunciar los 46 receptores de los subsidios en septiembre.

Desde el año 2009, USCIS ha concedido aproximadamente \$53 millones a través de 262 subsidios otorgados a organizaciones de servicios de inmigrantes que han provisto servicios de preparación para la ciudadanía a más de 138,000 residentes permanentes en 35 estados y el Distrito de Columbia.

Para solicitar esta oportunidad de obtención de fondos, visite [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). USCIS exhorta a los solicitantes a visitar [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) con suficiente tiempo de antelación a la fecha límite para que puedan obtener la información de inscripción necesaria para completar el proceso de solicitud.

Para información adicional sobre el Programa de Subsidios para Ciudadanía e Integración para el Año Fiscal 2016 visite [www.uscis.gov/es/subsidios-ciudadania](http://www.uscis.gov/es/subsidios-ciudadania) o póngase en contacto con la Oficina de Ciudadanía de USCIS mediante correo electrónico a [citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov).

Para más información acerca de USCIS y sus programas, por favor visite [www.uscis.gov/espanol](http://www.uscis.gov/espanol), o síganos en Twitter (@USCIS\_ES), YouTube (/USCIS) y el blog en español de USCIS Compás.

## USCIS Announces Citizenship and Integration Grant Opportunities

### Grants will support citizenship preparation services for permanent residents

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is now accepting applications for two funding opportunities under the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. These are competitive grant opportunities for organizations that prepare permanent residents for naturalization and promote civic integration through increased knowledge of English, U.S. history and civics. The two programs will provide up to \$10 million in grants for citizenship preparation programs in communities across the country. Applications are due by April 22.

Through these grant opportunities, USCIS seeks to expand availability of high-quality citizenship preparation services throughout the country. The two opportunities are:

- Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services: This opportunity will fund up to 36 organizations which offer both citizenship instruction and naturalization application services to permanent residents.

- Citizenship Instruction only: This newly created grant opportunity will assist nonprofit organizations in establishing new citizenship instruction programs or expanding the quality and reach of existing citizenship instruction programs. USCIS expects to award up to 10 nonprofit

organizations through this opportunity. In doing so, USCIS seeks to encourage the expansion of the existing field of citizenship instruction programs, particularly those offered by small, community-based organizations that have not previously received a grant from USCIS.

USCIS expects to announce all 46 award recipients in September.

Since 2009, USCIS has awarded approximately \$53 million through 262 grants to organizations that have provided citizenship preparation services to more than 138,000 permanent residents in 35 states and the District of Columbia.

To apply for this funding opportunity, visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). USCIS encourages applicants to visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) before the application deadline in order to obtain the registration information needed to complete the application process.

For additional information on the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program for fiscal year 2016, visit [www.uscis.gov/grants](http://www.uscis.gov/grants) or email the USCIS Office of Citizenship at [citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov).

For more information about USCIS and its programs, visit [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). Follow us on Facebook (/uscis), Twitter (@uscis), YouTube (/uscis) and the USCIS blog The Beacon.

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## NECC Summer Kids Program has New Location, New Courses



Healthy Hiking is just one of the dozens of course offerings at NECC's STEM College for Kids at Quarrybrook summer program. Students at NECC's new STEM College for Kids at Quarrybrook will explore the 245 acres of hiking trails, vernal pools, and natural space.

Designing an outdoor adventure game, making raisins dance, creating a secret garden stepping stone, and building a treehouse model are what students will be doing this summer at Northern Essex Community College's STEM College for Kids program, which has moved to NECC's new affiliate location - Quarrybrook Outdoor Learning Center in Windham, N.H. The new locale allows for new course offerings like Healthy Hiking, Nature Drawing, Environmental Testing, and Spa Science.

Transportation to and from Quarrybrook will be available from NECC's Riverwalk location at 365 Merrimack St., Lawrence, for full-time students at a cost of \$25 per week.

Quarrybrook, which is located on 245 acres of natural space, including hiking trails, vernal pools, and historical artifacts, is currently being managed by Northern Essex.

STEM College for kids focuses on science, technology, engineering, and math while also offering the arts. This year's courses include Adventure Games which will take students outdoors where they will play games, explore what makes games both fun and playable, and design their own adventure games; Crazy Chemistry allowing students to explore the principles of chemistry as they blow up a balloon and make raisins dance and create environmentally friendly cleaners and bath salts; and Healthy Hiking where students

learn about calorie burning and proper nutrition while honing basic safety skills while hiking the trails of Quarrybrook.

Other courses include Map Making in the World, Natural Skin Care for Kids, Singers and Songwriters, T-Shirt Design, and Woodland Creatures: Models & Masks. For a complete course list visit the STEM College for Kids course website at [www.necc.mass.edu/college-for-kids/#courses](http://www.necc.mass.edu/college-for-kids/#courses)

STEM College for Kids will run daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. offering both a junior (ages 9 to 11) and senior (ages 12 to 14) division. There are four, one-week programs consisting of three sessions (morning, midday, and afternoon) each day beginning July 11. Each weeklong session is \$75, or \$225 for a full week of three, daily sessions. Lunch is from 11 to 11:45 a.m. and is brown bag.

There is a \$40 registration fee, which will be waived if registration and payment is received by Friday, April 1.

Students select one of two courses for each session according to their age group. Choices are honored on a first-come, first-served basis.

For additional questions, contact [College4Kids@necc.mass.edu](mailto:College4Kids@necc.mass.edu) or call 978-556-3326. To download a registration form or for more information visit the STEM College for Kids website at <http://www.necc.mass.edu/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/college-for-kids.pdf>

## NECC's New Head Softball Coach is a Familiar Face

For two years, Kendra Hobbs was the understudy for the role of head softball coach at Northern Essex Community College. Last week Hobbs stepped into the spotlight as coach. It is a role she has been preparing for since she was a young girl.

The 24-year-old Haverhill resident served as NECC's assistant softball coach for the last two seasons when the softball team was revitalized under Coach Robert Gillespie. He recently resigned to become softball coach at Newburyport High School.

"We don't plan on missing a beat," said the 2009 Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School graduate where she was a star softball player. In 2013, she graduated from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts where she studied biology and was a valued member of both the softball and volleyball teams.

"We are very fortunate to have had Kendra on our staff. She was able to move right into the head coaching job. Kendra will do a great job as she is very knowledgeable about the sport of softball. She knows the student-athletes and is very familiar with NECC," said Northern Essex Athletic Director Sue MacAvoy.

As head coach, Hobbs has the opportunity to meld her personal playing experience, which she has honed since she was 12, with her coaching experience. Before she was tapped to be the assistant NECC softball coach, Hobbs coached 12 to 18 year-olds on travel teams for five years. She still coaches a U-16 team.

In addition to her coaching duties, Hobbs works as a long-term, substitute teacher in the Haverhill school system. She is also working on completing her teaching licensure and is planning to enroll in a master's degree program in secondary education.

Other than play softball, Hobbs says there are two paths she has always wanted to follow - teaching and coaching; the first allows time for the second and the second complements the first, she says.

Her coaching style, she says, is to set an example.

"I have a lot of patience. I like to teach," she says. "I like to take the friendly approach and show by example. I get things done when I need to."

Hobbs has the more than a dozen players who have joined the team working



New NECC Head Softball Coach Kendra Hobbs is a familiar face. She served as Assistant Coach for two years.

on conditioning. Some players are returning for their second year, so Hobbs is already familiar with their playing ability.

"We have a good group. They are academically stable. These students have plans for their future," she says. "They are invested in themselves."

Hobbs says she would really like to see the team make it to the state championship, but acknowledges that with only one pitcher it could be a challenge.

Hobbs says her players can expect a season of fitness and strength training.

"Some coaches start the season with fitness and strength and then back off," she says. "I think it's crucial to stay strong for the whole season because it's a long season and the players need endurance."

In addition to going for the win, Hobbs says, she hopes her players have fun and learn something.

"As a team, we are really stepping in the right direction," she says. "We could skyrocket over the next few years."

Northern Essex offers a variety of varsity sports including Men's basketball, softball, women's volleyball, men and women's track & field, men and women's cross country, and men's baseball. For information on joining a team, visit the NECC Athletics website at <http://athletics.necc.mass.edu/landing/index>

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## Northern Essex to Host Spring Open House in Lawrence



Northern Essex Community College will host an open house for prospective students on Saturday, March 12 at the Dr. Ibrahim El-Hefni Allied Health and Technology Center, 414 Common Street, Lawrence. The open house, which will run from 10 a.m. to noon, is free and open to the public.

Those attending can take a tour of the campus, learn about financial aid, and explore academic programs.

NECC's Lawrence campus houses

the majority of the college's health care programs and features state of the art classrooms and lab spaces, a high-tech health education simulation center, an information literacy lab, a library, and much more.

For additional information about the upcoming open house, please contact enrollment services at 978-556-3700 or at [admissions@necc.mass.edu](mailto:admissions@necc.mass.edu) To learn more about programs offered through NECC, please visit [www.necc.mass.edu](http://www.necc.mass.edu)

## NECC Celebrates Dr. Seuss's Birthday, March 2



Beloved children's author Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, was born on March 2, 1904. As a homage to the literary genius who brought us "Green Eggs and Ham", "The Cat in the Hat", "The Lorax", "One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish", and "Fox in Socks", to name a few of his works, Northern Essex Community College's Alumni Office invited the children of Little Sprouts, the child care center located on NECC's Haverhill Campus, to a morning celebration in the David Hartleb Technology Center on the Haverhill campus.

After a reading of "The Cat in the Hat Comes Back" by staff and faculty including President Lane Glenn, Vice President of Administration and Finance David Gingerella, Early Childhood Education

(ECE) Professor Deirdre Budzyna, ECE student Kim Dymont, Little Sprouts teacher Jessica Collins, and NECC Enrollment/Academic Counselor Vengerflutta Smith, the children were treated to a breakfast of Dr. Seuss "hat" themed fruit skewers, green eggs and ham sandwiches, yogurt, and juice.

Each child was given a copy of the book Green Eggs and Ham as a keepsake.

Northern Essex offers an associate degree in early childhood education which prepares students, for professional careers in Early Childhood

Education or for transfer to a four-year college.

The college also offers an associate degrees in elementary education and liberal arts: Middle/ High School Teaching.

## NECC Service-Learning Coordinator Engages Students, Community Partners

In addition to being successful, Northern Essex Community College wants its students to be good citizens. Janel D'Agata-Lynch, NECC's first Civic Engagement and Service-Learning Coordinator, is helping with this mission.

D'Agata-Lynch was appointed to this part-time, pilot position to assist NECC in "preparing students for engaged citizenship". This follows the recommendation of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education which voted two years ago to "Include civic learning and engagement as an expected learning outcome in public higher education".

Since then, Northern Essex has been actively working with interested faculty to incorporate a civic or service-learning component into their curricula and connect them with community partners. Partners have included food pantries, homeless shelters, assisted living centers, Boys and Girls Clubs, local schools, and a number of other nonprofits.

While NECC students can connect with the community through many volunteer opportunities, service-learning is a classroom experience.

D'Agata-Lynch identifies community partners and makes sure NECC student involvement is meeting the needs of the partner and that the partner's needs are tied to the course objectives.

For example, English as a Second Language students made several visits to an area assisted living facility where they interviewed residents with questions they had developed to help residents tell their personal histories.

"This was mutually beneficial," said D'Agata-Lynch. "The students worked on improving their English speaking skills while developing their note-taking and interview skills. The residents benefitted from sharing their personal histories." In



addition, personal connections were made, and the residents offered advice to the students about life and pursuing their goals.

Northern Essex students who participate in service opportunities can expect real-world experience that connects their classroom work with a community need; an opportunity for career exploration and networking; improved communication, critical thinking, team building and problem solving skills; a better awareness of community resources and needs; skills and resources to be a successful college student; confidence to address community needs and the opportunity to make a positive impact.

D'Agata-Lynch notes that both volunteerism and service-learning are important when applying and interviewing for jobs. Employers like to hire well-rounded citizens.

For information on civic engagement and service learning, contact D'Agata-Lynch at [jdagatalynch@necc.mass.edu](mailto:jdagatalynch@necc.mass.edu)

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# La FTC promoverá la Semana Nacional de Protección del Consumidor, marzo 6 al 12

Durante la Semana Nacional de Protección del Consumidor, que se desarrollará del 6 al 12 de marzo, la Comisión Federal de Comercio (FTC, por su sigla en inglés) — trabajando conjuntamente con más de 100 agencias del ámbito federal, estatal y local, grupos de consumidores y organizaciones nacionales — destacará los esfuerzos llevados a cabo para proteger a los consumidores contra el fraude, el robo de identidad y otros asuntos relacionados con los consumidores.

Durante 18 años, la Semana Nacional de Protección del Consumidor ha sido un momento propicio para alentar a los consumidores a conocer sus derechos, tomar decisiones de compra informadas y reportar las estafas, el robo de identidad y las prácticas comerciales desleales. El sitio [protecciondelconsumidor.gov](http://protecciondelconsumidor.gov) ofrece información sobre una amplia variedad de temas, entre los que se incluyen el crédito y las deudas, la seguridad en internet, cómo reconocer a los impostores y otras estafas, el robo de identidad y mucho más.

El sitio contiene un blog donde los visitantes pueden mantenerse actualizados acerca de las últimas noticias sobre la protección del consumidor, incluyendo nuevos recursos, información sobre las acciones legales y los eventos patrocinados por los participantes de la Semana Nacional de Protección del Consumidor. La gente también puede obtener recursos gratuitos y herramientas promocionales para sus propias actividades de protección del

consumidor e información sobre cómo presentar quejas de consumidor.

Jessica Rich, Directora del Buró de Protección del Consumidor de la FTC dijo al respecto: “La FTC y nuestros colegas participantes de la Semana Nacional de Protección del Consumidor están todos los días en la primera línea de la protección del consumidor. Esperamos que la gente aproveche esta semana para encontrar los recursos necesarios para combatir las estafas y el fraude en sus comunidades a lo largo del año.”

Durante la Semana Nacional de Protección del Consumidor, nuestros colegas y cientos de grupos comunitarios de todo el país realizan eventos para promover la educación general de los consumidores o para destacar la importancia de un tema específico, como el programa shred-a-thon ideado para reducir el riesgo de robo de identidad. Para informarse sobre la Semana Nacional de Protección del Consumidor, por favor visite y suscribese al blog.

La Comisión Federal de Comercio trabaja para promover la competencia y proteger y educar a los consumidores. Usted puede aprender más sobre los temas de interés de los consumidores y presentar una queja de consumidor en internet llamando al 1-877-FTC-HELP (382-4357). Haga clic en la opción “me gusta” la FTC en Facebook, “siganos” en Twitter, lea los artículos de nuestro blog y suscribese a los comunicados de prensa para acceder a las noticias y recursos más recientes.

## FTC, Partners to Promote Education During National Consumer Protection Week, March 6-12

The Federal Trade Commission — working with more than 100 federal, state and local agencies, consumer groups, and national organizations — will spotlight efforts to protect consumers from fraud, identity theft and other consumer issues during National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), March 6-12, 2016.

For 18 years, NCPW has been a time to encourage consumers to learn about their rights, and how to make informed buying decisions and report scams, identity theft and unfair business practices. NCPW.gov offers information on a wide range of topics, including credit and debt, online safety, imposter and other scams, identity theft and more.

The site features a blog to update visitors on the latest consumer protection news, including legal actions, new resources and partner-sponsored NCPW events. People also can get free resources and promotional tools for their own consumer education activities, as well as information on filing consumer complaints.

“The FTC and our NCPW partners are on the front lines of consumer protection every day,” said Jessica Rich, Director of the FTC’s Bureau of Consumer Protection. “We hope people will take advantage of this week to find resources that will help them fight scams and fraud in their communities all year long.”

During NCPW, partners and hundreds of community groups across the country host events to promote general consumer education or highlight a specific issue, such as a shred-a-thon to reduce the risk of identity theft. To find out about NCPW events, please visit and subscribe to the blog.

The Federal Trade Commission works to promote competition, and protect and educate consumers. You can learn more about consumer topics and file a consumer complaint online or by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP (382-4357). Like the FTC on Facebook (link is external), follow us on Twitter (link is external), read our blogs and subscribe to press releases for the latest FTC news and resources.

## Sen. L’Italien Joins Bipartisan Group Pushing For Education Aid Boost

Proposal would send \$850K more to schools in her Senate district

Sen. Barbara L’Italien has joined a broad coalition of more than 70 lawmakers pushing for an increase in school aid under the state’s education funding formula.

In a letter sent to House and Senate budget makers this week, Sen. L’Italien advocated for a boost in minimum per pupil aid to help local school districts that may not otherwise qualify for additional funding.

Under Gov. Charlie Baker’s state budget proposal, Chapter 70 education funding would increase by an average of less than one percent for more than 200 school districts. That translates to an increase of about \$20 per pupil, a reduction from the 2016 Chapter 70 funding increase of \$25 per pupil.

Sen. L’Italien has already heard from school officials in her district who are unhappy with the governor’s education funding proposal.

“Typically we have provided more of an education funding boost than the governor is proposing, and school districts have come to rely on that,” said Sen. L’Italien, who represents the communities of Andover, Lawrence, Tewksbury and Dracut. “I feel strongly that we need to make education funding more of a priority and give our public schools what they need to at least maintain existing services.”

Under the current Chapter 70 formula, the vast majority of school districts across Massachusetts receive only minimal increases each year. These school districts face rising expenses every year, however, to maintain existing services. Most of the drivers of annual cost increases -- such as rising energy and health care rates, contractual obligations and state and federal testing mandates -- are beyond the control of local districts and local decision-makers.

Sen. L’Italien is one of 73 Democratic and Republican senators and state representatives who have written a letter to House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Brian Dempsey and Senate Way and Means Committee Chairman Karen Spilka requesting a larger minimum aid

increase that the governor’s \$20 per pupil proposal. The lawmakers are asking for an increase of \$50 per pupil over this year. An increase of that amount would represent an overall increase of \$20.2 million over the governor’s budget proposal.

“This modest and achievable increase will realize a significant boost in local aid to our school districts and help offset what is still likely to be a challenging year,” according to the bipartisan letter signed by senators and state representatives.

The FY2017 state budget proposal is expected to be released this spring and will be finalized by July. Details on the state budget are available online at [malegislature.gov/budget](http://malegislature.gov/budget).

Here are the funding impacts to school districts in Andover, Tewksbury, Dracut and Lawrence under Gov. Baker’s \$20 per pupil increase proposal as well as increasing it to various levels. The governor’s proposal is in italics. Sen. L’Italien’s recommendations are in bold. The amounts represent proposed increases to Chapter 70 current year funding.

### Andover

\$20: \$16,306  
\$25: \$46,206  
\$35: \$106,006  
\$50: \$195,706

### Dracut

\$20: \$76,540  
\$25: \$95,675  
\$35: \$133,945  
\$50: \$191,350

### Lawrence

\$20: \$301,760  
\$25: \$377,200  
\$35: \$528,080  
\$50: \$754,400

### Tewksbury

\$20: \$70,460  
\$25: \$88,075  
\$35: \$123,305  
\$50: \$176,150

## Lawrence families will vie for 80 seats in Lawrence Family Day Public Charter School Lottery on March 9

Legislation seeks to lift enrollment caps that currently prevent charter expansion in Lawrence

An annual lottery will be held at Lawrence Family Day Charter School (LFDCS) on Wednesday, March 9. The school has received twice as many applications for seats as there are slots available for the next school year (160 applications for 80 openings).

Not just in Lawrence, but around the state, drawings for charter school seats can be frustrating for parents vying for limited openings due to enrollment caps set by state law. These caps are preventing tens of thousands of children from enrolling in some of the state’s highest performing public schools. Charter school advocates have filed legislation that would lift enrollment caps.

Since applicants outnumber available seats, charter enrollment is determined by blind lottery. Those who don’t “win the lottery” get placed on wait lists. Statewide, more than 34,000 children are on state-audited waiting lists. There are nearly 1,800 children in Lawrence on waiting lists.

LFDCS is constrained to growing by just 20 students per year reach its enrollment cap of 800. Its application deadline was Feb. 26. On Wednesday, the school will draw students’ names out of a large metal tumbler – similar to that used at community Bingo games – for openings in K1 (four year olds), and a wait list for grades K2 (five year olds) through third grade.

“About the only thing that comes to us with no effort is old age.”

“Lo único que nos llega sin ningún esfuerzo es la vejez.”

- Gloria Pitzer

## Holy Family Hospital to Host Methuen Mental Health and Wellness Forum

### Event is part of educational outreach to residents on mental health issues

A panel of experts will discuss mental health and its challenges at a forum called “Understanding Mental Wellness: Making Connections...Staying Healthy” on Thursday, March 31, 2016. The event will be from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Holy Family Hospital’s Auditorium, Ground Floor, 70 East St., Methuen.

This is the first English-speaking program in a series of free mental health community forums being planned by the City of Lawrence Mayor’s Health Task Force (MHTF). Nearly 300 people have attended three Spanish forums in Lawrence and Haverhill in the last 15 months.

According to the latest data issued in 2014 from the National Institute of Mental Health, there were an estimated 43.6 million adults aged 18 or older in the United States— representing 18.1% of all U.S. adults— with any type of mental illness within that year.

Community health needs assessments conducted in the last three years by Holy Family Hospital and Lawrence General Hospital revealed that rates of emergency room visits where mental health was the primary or associated cause were higher in Lawrence, Haverhill, and Methuen, than that of the state. Additionally, as part of Holy Family Hospital’s Community Health Needs Assessment, conducted in 2015, participants of seven English and Spanish focus groups identified Mental Health as a major problem for which they were seeking more information, assistance with coping skills, and treatment.

Forum speakers for the March 31 forum include: Peter Amari, RN, Psychological Nurse Practitioner, retired police officer and EMT; Cristen Sweet, LICSW, LADC 1, Clinical Supervisor, Lahey Behavioral Health Emergency Services Program, Haverhill and private practice; Barbara Worsley, RN, Coordinator of Family Driven Practice, Dept. of Mental Health; and Lucy Ingram, Certified Peer Specialist, the Northeast Recovery Learning Community. The moderator will be Holly Hammershoy, LMHC, Clinical Director, Therapeutic Mentoring Program Supervisor, Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, and Co-Chair of the MHTF’s Behavioral Health

Working Group.

Topics that will be presented include defining mental health and its relationship to overall medical, spiritual and physical wellness; accessing assistance and treatment; dealing with a loved one with a mental health issue from a caretaker’s perspective; and successfully coping with a mental health issue from a first-person perspective. Information on area resources also will be available.

This event is free of charge and no pre-registration is required. Community residents from the Greater Lawrence area are all invited. A light dinner will be served and two \$50 gift certificates will be raffled as door prizes.

For more information, please call Karen Kennedy at Holy Family Hospital at (978) 687-0151, or Elecia Miller or Vilma Lora at the City of Lawrence Mayor’s Health Task Force, at 978.620.3527 and 978.620.3526, respectively.

his forum is made possible thanks to the financial support of Holy Family Hospital and Lawrence General Hospital and in full collaboration with members of the MHTF Behavioral Health Working Group.

The City of Lawrence Mayor’s Health Task Force (MHTF) is a broad-based coalition of health care and social service providers, environmental groups, academic institutions, businesses, and city planners whose mission is to improve the quality of life for local community residents by developing healthy activities and public policies. The MHTF also serves as Community Health Network Area (CHNA) 11 for the Mass. Dept. of Public Health, expanding its service delivery area beyond Lawrence to Methuen, Andover, North Andover, and Middleton. The MHTF’s Behavioral Health Working Group is made up of representatives from Holy Family Hospital, Lawrence General Hospital, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, MA Dept. of Mental Health, Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, Northeast Recovery Learning Community, and several other local social service agencies helping residents cope with mental health issues.

## Benefit concert for MSPCA’s Nevin Farms set for April 16, 2016

Supporters can buy tickets now to enjoy an unforgettable event at the Claddagh to support vital Merrimack Valley animal care organization.

A Huge Production presents the Pet Rock Benefit Concert & Benefit Bazaar sponsored by XFINITY to benefit the Methuen Animal Care and Adoption Center at Nevin Farm on Saturday, April 16, 2015 from 7 PM – 1 AM at Claddagh Pub, 399 Canal Street, Lawrence, MA. Beyond enjoying at least four dynamic music performers, attendees will have the chance to sample local beer and buy special merchandise to help support the MSPCA’s efforts at Nevin Farm. Additionally, attendees will have the opportunity to win raffle prizes.

Performances by: Modern Day Prophet, Brave Pursuit, detuned, and The Rolling Who.

The Claddagh Pub donated the use of its Music Hall for the event and Harpoon Brewery is participating in the event as well.

The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$25 in advance and are exclusively available online at Brown Paper Tickets (petrock2.brownpapertickets.com) or at the door during the event. The event is all ages, but attendees must be 21+ to participate in beer tastings. Contact: Rich Gordon / Cell: 978-376-6952.

## Tribute for Frank Benjamin

On Thursday, March 31, Frank Benjamin, WCCM-AM sports radio personality, Rumbo newspaper columnist and long-time advocate of area sports will be the focus of a roast held at the Methuen Sons of Italy Lodge.



Let’s roast Mr. B will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at Sheehan’s Towing on 36 Lawrence St., Methuen and the Methuen Lodge on 459 Merrimack St.

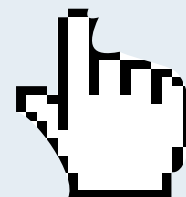
A very limited number of tickets will be available the night of the event. The cost is \$30 with a buffet included.

Proceeds will be donated in Mr. B’s name to the Canal Street Boxing Gym in Lawrence.

Those who wish to serve as *roasters* should call John Mele Sr. at 978-373-3208 no later than March 18, between the hours of 5 and 7 p.m.

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[RUMBONEWS.COM](http://RUMBONEWS.COM)



## Buon Giorno Good Morning Buenas Tardes

Every Sunday beginning at 9 AM with Sicilian music

9:30 - 11 Italian/English

11 - 11:30 This is Rock ‘n Roll

11:30 -12 Así es Colombia



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BY DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

## From My Corner



### Meeting before the Board of Registrars

This is clarification for those who don't know the difference between reporting news and an opinion piece. This is my column, it is about my opinion. If you want news, read the rest of the paper. We publish all kinds of news and events without editorializing because that would be immoral in my book. We stick to facts and if I disagree, that's what my column is for.

I was recently told by a department head at City Hall that Rumbo seems to be the mayor's newsletter because every event he attends is covered faithfully and every press release coming from the mayor's office is dutifully translated by me and published as is, free of charge to the city.

On page 2 of this edition, I wrote about the meeting before the Board of Registrars last Saturday – just the facts without editorializing.

Now, here I go with what I think:

On February 15th I wrote about my request for a copy of the Activity Report Changes on the voters list from November 3, 2015 through December 9, 2015 only to be told that it cannot be done. Richard Reyes, of the Elections Department said that it is impossible so I spoke to Rafael Tejada, former bilingual elections coordinator who told me how it is possible to get it.

At that time, I doubted if Richard Reyes doesn't know the system or he has been ordered not to issue any reports. How refreshing it was to hear him answer that the report I have been asking for is indeed, possible to produce from that system! Who's the liar here?

Attorney Farrah asked many details now that he was under oath to which he responded promptly with lots of details. Now, let's see the Activity Report Changes that I have been asking for.

### The new School Committee member

The City Council voted to appoint a new member to the School Committee, Emmanuel Castañeda to the District A seat vacated by Kemal Bozkurt upon his resignation.

Mr. Castañeda is a senior at UMass/Lowell studying finance where he will graduate this year with a bachelor's degree. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in 2012.

During the Personnel Committee meeting a couple of weeks ago, and again during the council meeting, District A Councilor Sandy Almonte gave a passionate speech about his qualifications and why we should support our young people getting involved in politics and public life. "He



will have good rapport with other students, not as a father figure but someone who can relate to them."

Considering that the School Committee has very little responsibilities, I also think that this is a great training ground. He will learn to socialize at that level and most importantly, he will be getting practice in the Robert's Rules of Order, something many current politicians and board members are lacking.

The other candidate for the position was Donna Bertolino, Assistant Dean for Academic Support Services at Northern Essex Community College. She has a Master's in Education.

The vote in his favor was Sandy Almonte, Estela Reyes, Kendrys Vasquez, Brian De Peña and Modesto Maldonado. Voting against were Marc Laplante and David Abdoo. Nilka Alvarez was absent.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO  
315 Mt. Vernon St.  
Lawrence MA 01843  
Email: rumbo@rumbonews.com



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

### Volunteers Needed!

Did you know that 1 in every 50 children in the US will go to sleep without a home this year? Horizons for Homeless Children is looking for energetic and enthusiastic volunteers to play with children living in family homeless shelters in Northeastern Massachusetts.

A commitment of just 2 hours a week will make a significant difference in the lives of some wonderful children in your community.

Trainings for your region are coming up soon - sign up today!

Sign up today! Contact us at (978) 557-2182 or at northeast@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org

for more information and an application, or fill one out online at www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org.

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**RUMBONNEWS.COM**

## Lawrence Public Library South Branch

135 Parker Street



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Branch ♦ 135 Parker Street, Lawrence, MA 01843 ♦ 978-620-3500 ♦ www.lawrencefreelibrary.org

### Essex Heritage Launches "Find Your Story" to Celebrate 20th Anniversary

(Salem, MA) — Essex Heritage, in keeping with its 20-year tradition of supporting the region's unique cultural heritage, has launched a short-video contest to encourage everyone to find and share their favorite places in the Essex National Heritage Area (Essex County, Massachusetts). Find Your Story is a public awareness campaign celebrating two milestone anniversaries: the 20th anniversary of the congressional act designating the Essex National Heritage Area and the National Park Service centennial.

"As a National Heritage Area celebrating our 20th anniversary during the National Park Service centennial year, we are building on the National Park Service's popular Find Your Park movement", said Essex Heritage CEO Annie C. Harris. "Find Your Story is our way of joining with partners across the country to encourage everyone to find their park and share their stories. Our goal is to highlight and share the myriad of special historic, urban, natural, and cultural places right here in our own backyards – and we have great prizes for people and their most loved places."

#### About Find Your Story Challenge

Find Your Story invites the public to create short videos showcasing their favorite places via a series of "challenges" throughout the year. First up the "Find

Your Story Winter 2016 Challenge" which invites people to share their favorite place in Essex County to enjoy winter -- with or without snow -- (and why). All videos submitted by April 1 will be eligible to win the Winter Challenge prizes. Essex Heritage will award two prizes: the best video short will win a \$150 Gift Card to Whole Foods, Swampscott and the place that the most individuals name as their favorite place will receive \$500 from Essex Heritage.

Visit [www.EssexHeritage.org/FindYourStory](http://www.EssexHeritage.org/FindYourStory) to learn more about the Winter Challenge and to see how you can share your story and enter for a chance to win.

#### About Essex Heritage and the Essex National Heritage Area

Essex Heritage is the non-profit organization that manages the Essex National Heritage Area by developing programs that enhance, preserve, and encourage recreation, education, conservation and interpretation projects on Boston's North Shore and the Lower Merrimack River Valley. The Essex National Heritage Area is comprised of the 34 cities and towns of Essex County, MA. For more information, visit [www.EssexHeritage.org](http://www.EssexHeritage.org) or call (978) 740-0444.

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## Merrimack Valley Chamber State Senate Forum



Pictured (L to R) Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce (MVCC) President/CEO Joe Bevilacqua; MVCC Chairman Sal Lupoli; State Senator Kathleen O'Connor Ives; State Senator Barbara L'Italien; State Senator Bruce Tarr and MVCC Government Affairs Chairman Cal Williams.

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Series held its Annual State Senate Breakfast Forum on Friday March 4th. State Senators Kathleen O'Connor Ives; Barbara L'Italien and Bruce Tarr discussed an update of the MA State Senate and their initiatives. Each Senator addressed the sold out audience of businessmen and women, and discussed the state's economy, jobs, education including vocational technical education and community college, manufacturing, energy, and more.

## Merrimack Valley Chamber with David Alward Consulate General of Canada



Consulate General of Canada David Alward recently joined the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce (MVCC) for an Episode of the Merrimack Valley Chamber Means Business Program. Consulate General Alward talked about how Exporting to Canada creates jobs and business in Massachusetts and the Merrimack Valley

and how it strengthens the Economy. Consulate General Alward has been confirmed as the MVCC Expo VIP Luncheon Speaker which will take place on Wed, April 6th --- 12 Noon to 1:15 PM at the Phoenician Restaurant in Haverhill. The Consulate General will discuss Business Opportunities with Canada.

## NECC Campus Classic 5K and Fun Run to be Held May 7



The Fourth Annual NECC Campus Classic 5K and Fun Run will take place on Saturday, May 7.

The USATF certified 5K race will begin at 10 a.m. on the college's Haverhill Campus, 100 Elliott Street, and wind through the beautiful rural campus and surrounding residential neighborhood. Competitive runners—as well as novices and walkers—are invited to participate. Online registration will remain open until April 30.

Children ages 12 and under are invited to participate in the Fun Run, which is organized by age group, at 9 a.m. Registration for this event is \$10.

The first 200 5K registrants and the first 50 Fun Run registrants will receive free t-shirts. 5K Awards will be given to the top male and female overall plus age divisions 14 and under, 15-18, 19-25, 26-30, 31-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60+.

All Fun Run participants will receive an award. Because this is a campus event, participants are encouraged to wear apparel

from their college as they run or walk. Proceeds from the race will benefit the NECC Annual Fund, which provides support for student scholarships and academic programs.

Covanta, one of the world's largest owners and operators of infrastructure for the conversion of waste to energy as well as other waste disposal and renewable energy production businesses, is the Platinum Sponsor for this event.

For more information visit campusclassic5k.com or contact Lindsey Mayo, NECC director of alumni and community relations, at lmayo@necc.mass.edu or 978 556-3621.

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Please do not drop off items after store hours

*Bring this ad to either store (Lawrence or Billerica) for a 10% discount on your purchase*

## CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### American Training's Annual Coat Drive

Spread the **WOW! Magic** in our community by donating coats and jackets to American Training's annual Coat Drive. Help us make life matter by keeping our community warm. Last year more than 100 coats were collected and thus, more than 100 community members were kept warm through the harsh winter.

This year, we're expecting another difficult winter and are hoping to collect even more coats and jackets. All donations will be distributed to those in our Community who are in need, through our own programs and Anton's Coat Drive.

Donations can be made now through February 1 at any of these three American Training locations (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday): 6 Campanelli Drive in Andover, 150 Industrial Avenue in Lowell, and 107 Audubon Road in Wakefield, or by contacting Robin Gazelian at 978-685-2151, ext. 6822.

Be a part of the WOW! Magic, donate today! Find out more at [americantraininginc.com/coatdrive2015](http://americantraininginc.com/coatdrive2015).

Thank you for helping us make life matter!

### Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

Please contact Heal Lawrence if you wish to make a contribution to the victims of the recent fires in Lawrence. The website has a list of donated items and things that are still needed.

Favor de ponerse en contacto con Heal Lawrence si desea hacer una contribución a las víctimas de los incendios recientes en Lawrence. El sitio en la internet tiene una lista de artículos que han sido donados y lo que todavía necesitan.

<http://heallawrence.org/>

[heallawrence@aol.com](mailto:heallawrence@aol.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/heallawrence.mass>

[www.rumbonews.com](http://www.rumbonews.com)



### When You're Ready to Quit.

We're Ready to Help.

You don't have to quit smoking on your own. Call the American Cancer Society anytime, day or night, at 1-800-ACS-2345. We are here to help.



EDITOR @  
RUMBONEWS.COM

## Tsongas now accepting submissions for 2016 Congressional Art Competition

Congresswoman Niki Tsongas is now accepting submissions for the 2016 Congressional Art Competition.

The annual competition promotes artistic talent and achievement among young artists, providing them with the opportunity to have their artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol Building. The competition is open to high school students.

In years past, hundreds of students from across the District have submitted artwork to be judged by a panel of area artists, based on a platform of criteria. This year, the winning student will have his/her artwork displayed in the United States Capitol for one year, as well as receive two complimentary airplane tickets to Washington, D.C. to participate in the national ceremony in mid-June.

All individuals who wish to participate must follow the artwork guidelines, as well as submit information and release forms with their piece. This information and the forms can be found at the Congresswoman's website: <http://tsongas.house.gov/congressional-art-competition/>

Artwork should be delivered to Congresswoman Tsongas' Lowell office: 126 John Street, Suite 12, Lowell, MA 01852.

Submissions are due by April 15, 2016. An artists' reception will be held on April 23 at Mill #5 in Lowell (250 Jackson Street, 4th floor, Lowell, MA), at which time Congresswoman Tsongas will announce the overall winner and runners up. There will be a keynote address given at the event by a local artist.

If you have any questions, please call 978-459-0101 or visit the Congresswoman's website.

### The Behavioral Health Working Group

of the

City of Lawrence Mayor's Health Task Force (MHTF),  
Holy Family Hospital, and Lawrence General Hospital

present...

## "Understanding Mental Health and Wellness: Making Connections... Staying Healthy"

A Community Forum in English

**DATE:** Thursday, March 31, 2016  
**TIME:** 5:30PM– 8: 00PM  
*(Dinner will be served between 5:30PM–6:00PM)*  
**LOCATION:** Holy Family Hospital's Auditorium  
70 East Street, Ground Floor, Methuen, MA

Space is limited to the first 80 people

A light dinner will be served



Register at the door and participate in a raffle for a gift certificate valued at \$50.00

This forum is for families and the general public who are looking for basic information on mental health conditions that affect them, and their connections to overall wellness. There will also be information on where to find help for one's self, relatives, and friends.

Learn from a panel of Mental Health experts and hear personal accounts from a caregiver, as well as someone who is successfully coping with a mental health condition.

For more information, please contact:



Karen Kennedy  
978.687.0151  
Ext. 2007

Vilma Lora  
978.620.3526

Elecia Miller  
978.620.3527



# CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EXCHANGE CLUB  
**15<sup>TH</sup>**  
ANNUAL

**RICK BARRY**  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**  
**BREAKFAST**

**MARCH 17 2016** 🍀 **7:30 AM**

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Table of 10, full page color ad in program book, and event recognition.

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Deadline for ad submission is March 1, 2016

Full Page Ad (BW) 5 x 8 - \$300  
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Business Card Ad (BW) 3.5 x 2 - \$50

For program book information, please contact:

Tarry Santos  
tsantos@merrimackmortgage.com

Rebecca Colantuoni  
rncolantuoni@comcast.net

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[Lowell-Lawrence](#)

**Consumer Products & Services**  
If you've got an idea for a product or service to sell to consumers or even a non-profit service, this is your pitch contest!  
**Deadline to apply: March 31 @ 11:59pm**

[South Coast](#)

**Social Impact**  
Does your venture have a social impact component? We're accepting for-profit and non-profit social impact ideas.  
**Deadline to apply: March 26 @ 11:59pm**

**All Ideas**  
Come pitch any idea you may have, anything from a rocket ship to an ice cream company.  
**Deadline to apply: April 9 @ 11:59pm**

[Spanish Program - EparaTodos](#)  
**Concurso Pitch - Lanza Tu Idea**  
Know a Spanish speaking entrepreneur? This is their time!  
Conoces un empresario Latino? Este es su tiempo!  
**Deadline to apply: April 6 @ 11:59pm**

**GARDEN WORKSHOPS**
**TALLERES DE JARDINERIA**

**LEARN, GROW, NOURISH**  
**FREE GARDEN WORKSHOP SERIES**

**Starting Seeds**  
March 26, 12 – 2pm  
Would you like to learn how to save money by starting your garden with seeds instead of buying starter plants? Then join us!

**Soil & Compost**  
April 9, 12 – 2pm  
Learn about the importance of soil and how to create and add your own compost to create nutrient rich soil for a thriving garden.

For more information contact **María Natera**:  
mnatera@groundworklawrence.org, (978) 974-0770 x7006

**APRENDER, CRECER, ALIMENTAR**  
**GRATIS SERIE DE TALLER DE JARDINERIA**

**Empezando las Cemillas**  
Marzo 26, 12 – 2pm  
Te gustaría aprender como ahorrar dinero en empezando tu propio jardín con semillas en vez de comprar las plantas? Entonces únete a nosotros!

**Suelo Y Abono**  
April 9, 12 – 2pm  
Aprende sobre la importancia del suelo y cómo crear y añadir tu propio abono para crear un suelo rico en nutrientes para un jardín floreciente.

Para mas información, póngase en contacto con **María Natera**:  
mnatera@groundworklawrence.org, (978) 974-0770 x7006

**DOE FAMILY FOUNDATION**

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*Changing Places, Changing Lives*

## CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Hundreds will walk to create a world free of MS at Walk MS: Nashua



(National MS Society) Residents take part in Walk MS: Nashua 2015

Nearly 350 people are expected to raise more than \$73,000 to support cutting-edge research and life-changing programs and services for people living with MS at the annual Walk MS: Nashua, presented by Biogen, taking place on May 7th at Amherst Street Elementary School. 9 a.m. check-in; 10 a.m. start Walk MS is an opportunity for people living with MS and those who care about them to connect and join together to be inspired and raise critical funds for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Walk MS: Nashua attracts friends and families of people affected by MS, people living with MS, corporate teams, and individuals who want to help end MS forever. Participants have the option of

walking 3 or 5 miles along fully accessible routes. Each year, nearly 333,000 people walk to create a world free of MS across the country.

**PARTICIPATION/ VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION:**

Sign up now to walk for MS, at walkMS.org. Invite your friends and family to get involved, form a team, and stand together to eliminate multiple sclerosis. And if you feel inspired to go the extra mile (or two), check out our other upcoming spring walks in towns near you!

Proceeds raised will support cutting-edge MS research and life-changing programs and services for people living with MS.

### Haverhill's Brightside Environmental Hero's Award Night

On Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 6:00pm at the Haverhill Country Club, Haverhill's Brightside will be honoring individuals and groups, who have gone above and beyond in helping to make Haverhill a better place to live. Tickets for the event are \$30 per person and may be purchased at the Brightside office room 205 in City Hall or at the door. Appetizers will be served, raffles and cash bar.

Speaker: Sgt. Matt Wray United States Marine Corp

Guest Speaker: Barbara MacPhee, Bee-Keeper & Environmentalist From Holden MA, will present a PowerPoint presentation on the bee population decreasing at an alarming rate and how planting certain flowers in gardens, planters and vegetable gardens will dramatically help to increase the bee population again.

Special Guest: Author Ellen Sousa of Turkey Hill Brook Farm, will have a book signing.

#### Hero Award Nominees

- |                                         |                                    |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dave Labrode/City Wide Clean-Up         | Haverhill Alternative School       |
| Whittier Middle School                  | Keith Boucher/Urban Kindness       |
| Ron Mills/Common Ground                 | Alan Drelick                       |
| Haverhill Garden Club                   | Rocky Morris/Clean River Project   |
| Roger Lemire                            | Heather McMann/GroundWork Lawrence |
| City Councilor Attorney Thomas Sullivan | James Valenti/ Riverside Clean Up  |
| Joan Cranton & Gale Park Neighbors      | Bill Rogers/Tattersall Farm        |
| Dick Leblond                            | Merrimack River Park Group         |
| Linda Brown – President                 | Highland Friendship Association    |

In Memory of The Late Carol Davies, River Street Community Garden

Please join us in honoring these special individuals and groups for their tireless efforts in helping to make Haverhill a better place for all to live.

“Obstáculos son las cosas que una persona ve cuando no sigue su meta.”

\*\*\*

“Obstacles are things a person sees when he takes his eyes off his goal.”

- E. Joseph Cossman

**SEMANA HISPANA EN LAWRENCE**  
HISPANIC WEEK IN LAWRENCE

"Construyendo en Familia, una Mejor Educación"  
Building in Family, a Better Education"

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**Cena Anual / Annual Dinner**  
**D'GALA 2016**

Sábado / Saturday  
Marzo / March

Desde / From  
6:00PM to 12:00AM

**26**

Lawrence ELK'S LODGE  
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Lawrence MA. 01843

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nuestros Embajadores 2016.  
..your donation will support the Scholarships for  
our Ambassadors 2016.

Para mas información / For more information  
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Email: arimar75@aol.com  
Zoila Disla (978) 828-5682  
Email: ZDisla\_realestate@hotmail.com

Donación / Donation  
\$50.00 p.p

**Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc.**

*Choices for a life-long journey*

**Join us as a Community Champion for a Great Cause!**

**March for Meals by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc.**

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. (ESMV) is happy to announce we will be participating in the 14th annual March for Meals celebration to support our Elder Nutrition Program in the Merrimack Valley (Meals on Wheels). This is a month-long, nationwide celebration of Meal on Wheels and the homebound and vulnerable seniors who rely on its vital safety net.

Since 2002, Meals on Wheels America has led the annual awareness campaign in an effort to fill the gap between the seniors served and those in need which is widening due to increased demand with a rapidly aging population combined with declining public and private resources, and rising costs. As part of the celebration there will be an opportunity for Community Champions such as elected officials, local celebrities and many others to help deliver meals to our seniors. We encourage you to join us as a Community Champion this year!

**Deliver meals anytime between:**  
**Monday, March 21st and Friday, March 25th**  
**10:00 am -12:00 pm**  
**(Site locations available throughout the Merrimack Valley)**

We will photograph and document all our Community Champions. Highlights will be included in local and national media outlets. To confirm your participation or to learn more about how you can help the Meals on Wheels Program, contact:  
Pati Fernandez, Director of Development and Community Programs  
PFernandez@esmv.org or 978-946-1254.

This celebration is not limited to delivering meals, but also includes speaking out for seniors and raising awareness for the power of Meals on Wheels! Each March, Meals on Wheels programs across the country join together in the March for Meals to celebrate the proven collaboration of local community organizations, businesses, all levels of government and compassionate individuals to ensure our seniors are not forgotten.

We are looking forward to having your participation and further support!

# CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## NEWS NASHUA, NH NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 COURT STREET

For directions and information on parking go to: [www.nashualibrary.org/directions.htm](http://www.nashualibrary.org/directions.htm)

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Fax: 603-594-3457

### OPEN STORYTIMES AND PUPPET SHOWS

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10a.m. Thursdays at 7 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Open Storytimes & Puppet Shows run continuously, and no registration is required.

### BABIES AND BOOKS STORYTIME

Through stories and music, learn how to read aloud and develop your baby's language and pre-reading skills. Babies and their caregivers are welcome to join us. Thursdays: 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. ages: 13 to 24 months; 11 a. m. and 12 noon ages: birth to 12 months. No registration required. For more information call the Children's Room at (603) 589-4631.

### Activities for Teens at Nashua Public Library

In addition to books, movies, manga, graphic novels, and computers, the Nashua Public Library offers plenty of programs after school for teens in grades 6 through 12. Go to [tinyurl.com/nplteen](http://tinyurl.com/nplteen) and start signing up!

### Learn WordPress at Nashua Library

The Nashua Public Library now offers a class in how to use WordPress to create websites and blogs. This class is in addition to other one-time computer workshops offered at the library: Computer Basics; Internet; Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access; Genealogy; and Online Job Searching. View the schedule at [www.nashualibrary.org/computerclasses.htm](http://www.nashualibrary.org/computerclasses.htm). All are free and open to the public, although registration is required (call 589-4611).

### Bring the Family to the Zoo for Peanuts

Now you can visit the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston or the Stone Zoo in Stoneham at greatly reduced admission prices, using your Nashua Public Library card. Simply go to [nashualibrary.org](http://nashualibrary.org) and click Museum Passes. Then follow the instructions to reserve a pass for the date you want to go. The pass admits six people at just \$6 per adult and \$4 per child ages 2 to 12. Children under 2 are free. Regular admission is \$12-\$18. You can also book a pass at the reference desk in the library or by calling (603) 589-4611.

### Memory Café at Nashua Public Library

Come to the Nashua Public Library on the third Friday of the month from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for Memory Café, a gathering of people with early memory loss and their caregivers. Each month's program will have activities centered on a theme, along with plenty of time to enjoy free refreshments and socialize.

Come to the Nashua Public Library on Friday, February 19, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for Memory Café, a gathering of people with early memory loss and their caregivers. Each month's program has activities centered on a theme, along with plenty of time to enjoy free refreshments and socialize.

Memory Café will not be held in March; the April meeting will be held on the 15th.

If you would like to attend, please register by calling 589-4610 or going to [www.tinyurl.com/nplevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/nplevents) and scrolling down to the date of the event. Memory Cafe is sponsored by the library and Home Health and Hospice Care.

### Need help finding a good book?

Are you looking for ideas on what to read next? Maybe you need suggestions for books to buy for your grandchildren or mother-in-law for the holidays. Let Nashua Public Library staff zero in on the right ones for you, with Reading Radar.

Just go to [nashualibrary.org/connect/reading-radar](http://nashualibrary.org/connect/reading-radar). That's where eight staff members tell you a bit about their own reading preferences. Choose the one whose interests match yours fill out a short form, and that person will reply with five suggested titles.

If you want suggestions for children's books, go to [nashualibrary.org/explore/kids](http://nashualibrary.org/explore/kids).

### Nashua Public Library Annual Book Sale March 19 and 20

#### Preview for Friends Members Friday Evening, March 18

The Nashua Public Library's annual book sale will be held on Saturday, March 19, from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday, March 20, from 1 pm to 4 pm at the library. All proceeds will benefit the Friends of the Nashua Public Library and their support of important library programs.

To ensure enough time for book sale preparation, the library will accept book donations until Sunday, March 13. The library cannot take textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, or books that are in poor condition.

The carefully sorted, huge inventory includes books in dozens of categories, from picture books to general fiction, history, mystery, and true crime. Pricing is as follows: hardcover: \$2, paperbacks \$.50 and \$1, children's hardcover: \$1, children's paperback: \$.25. We also sell a variety of media, including cassettes, CDs, and DVDs ranging from \$.25 to \$2. Unique items are specially priced.

All Friends members are invited to a preview the night before the sale, on Friday, March 18, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm. The preview gives members the opportunity to buy before the sale opens to the public on Saturday. Memberships may be purchased at the preview: teen \$5, senior/student \$10, individual \$15, family \$30, patron \$50, and benefactor \$100. Light refreshments are provided. Book sales are the primary fundraiser for the Friends. With these funds, the Friends are able to support critical library programs that the library budget does not adequately cover. These programs include hosting major author visits for the Nashua Reads program, funding museum passes, sponsoring concert and movie series, and funding library improvements.

### Family Concert at Nashua Library

The Nashua Chamber Orchestra performs its annual family concert at the Nashua Public Library on Saturday, March 12, at 3 p.m.

The program will introduce children to the instruments of the orchestra. All ages are welcome. At the orchestra's gala last year, 15-year-old violist Sydney Richardson won the opportunity to conduct a piece during this concert. She will lead the Toreador movement of Bizet's Carmen Suite #1. The afternoon will also feature other student soloists, including violinists Daniel and Isabel Chin.

The Nashua Chamber Orchestra fills an important niche between the full symphony and the chamber ensemble, focusing on lighter works written for small orchestra. Under Music Director David Feltner, the NCO seeks to provide a supportive

environment for talented amateurs to perform classical music of high caliber before an appreciative audience. Details of other upcoming NCO performances are at [nco-music.org](http://nco-music.org). The library concert will be held in the Music/Art/Media Wing. It is free and open to the public.

### Limited tax forms available at libraries this year

Because taxpayers are increasingly filing their tax returns electronically, the Internal Revenue Service has told libraries that it will cut back again this year on the type and number of forms provided for library customers.

This year the Nashua Public Library will only have the 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ forms to give out, and only in limited quantities. The library will not be able to give

away instruction booklets for these forms but will lend them out for short-term use.

If you have instruction booklets of your own, please consider donating them to the library once you are done with them.

You can order forms and instructions from the IRS by calling (800) 829-3676 or by visiting [www.irs.gov/forms](http://www.irs.gov/forms).

According to an email from the IRS, 95 percent of taxpayers filed electronically in 2015.

Free tax assistance for seniors and low-income taxpayers will be available again this year at the Nashua Public Library from February 1 through April 15. Volunteers from AARP/VITA will be in the Music/Art/Media Wing on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. More information will be available starting in late January at [www.tinyurl.com/npltax](http://www.tinyurl.com/npltax).

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# CLASIFICADOS | CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC HEARING

**City of Lawrence, MA**  
**Mayor Daniel Rivera**

DOC. 59/2016  
In City Council  
March 2, 2016



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning the proposed amendment to the Revised Ordinances of the City of Lawrence to be further amended by ADDING the following new paragraph to Section 10.36.340 of the Municipal Code (Handicapped Parking), to be inserted in the proper alphabetical order:

Juniper Street, west side, to a point one hundred and fifty two (152) feet southerly of the intersection of Basswood Street, to a point one hundred and seventy two (172) feet southerly of the intersection of Basswood Street.

To the extent that there exist any ordinances to the contrary, they are hereby repealed in that respect only.

Persons wishing to be heard shall be afforded the opportunity.

Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

## PUBLIC HEARING

**City of Lawrence, MA**  
**Mayor Daniel Rivera**

DOC. 49/2016  
In City Council  
March 2, 2016



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning the proposed amendment to the Revised Ordinances of the City of Lawrence to be further amended by ADDING the following new paragraph to Section 10.36.340 of the Municipal Code (Handicapped Parking), to be inserted in the proper alphabetical order:

Hamlet Street, north side, to a point one hundred and fifteen (115) feet easterly of the intersection of Frost Drive to a point one hundred and thirty five (135) feet easterly of the intersection of Frost Drive.

To the extent that there exist any ordinances to the contrary, they are hereby repealed in that respect only.

Persons wishing to be heard shall be afforded the opportunity.

Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

## PUBLIC HEARING

**City of Lawrence, MA**  
**Mayor Daniel Rivera**

DOC. 33/2016  
In City Council  
February 2, 2016



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in City Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning the proposed amendment to Section 3.7(a) of the Lawrence City Charter by DELETING the following current Section 3.7(a) (Appointments):

Sec. 3.7 Appointments to City Offices. Removal.

(a) Appointments. The mayor shall submit to the city council, unless otherwise provided, the names of all persons he desires to appoint as a department head or director of any city agency. The city council shall refer all such candidates to the standing committee on personnel and administration which shall investigate all such candidates for confirmation and make a report with recommendations to the full city council not less than seven nor more than twenty-one days following such referral. A nomination of the mayor shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the council. The provision of Section 3.8(c) shall not apply. If the city council has taken no action, said appointments shall become effective on the thirtieth day following the date the name has been received by the city council.

And INSERTING in its place and stead the following new Section 3.7 (a) (Appointments):

Sec. 3.7 Appointments to City Offices. Removal.

(a) Appointments. The mayor shall submit to the city council, unless otherwise provided, the names of all persons he desires to appoint as a department head or director of any city agency. The city council shall refer all such candidates to the standing committee on personnel and administration which shall investigate all such candidates for confirmation and make a report with recommendations to the full city council not less than seven nor more than twenty-one days following such referral. A nomination of the mayor shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the council. The provision of Section 3.8(c) shall not apply. If the city council has taken no action, said appointments shall become effective on the forty-fifth day following the date the name has been received by the city council.

The approval of the above reverend Home Rule Petitions referenced herein shall be subject to the applicable provisions of Article 89 of Article II of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, City Charter sec. 4.9, and/or any lawful provisions governing Home Rule Petitions in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Persons wishing to be heard on this matter will be afforded the opportunity.

Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

## PUBLIC HEARING

**City of Lawrence, MA**  
**Mayor Daniel Rivera**

DOC. 269/2015  
In City Council  
March 2, 2016



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning the proposed amendment to the Revised Ordinances of the City of Lawrence to be further amended by ADDING the following new paragraph to Section 10.36.340 of the Municipal Code (Handicapped Parking), to be inserted in the proper alphabetical order:

Osgood Street, east side, to a point sixty five (65) feet southerly of the intersection of Abbott Street, to point eighty five (85) feet southerly of the intersection of Abbott Street.

To the extent that there exist any ordinances to the contrary, they are hereby repealed in that respect only.

Persons wishing to be heard shall be afforded the opportunity.

Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

## PUBLIC HEARING

**City of Lawrence, MA**  
**Mayor Daniel Rivera**

DOC. 60/2016  
In City Council  
March 2, 2016



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning the consideration of authorization of the Lawrence City Council upon the following proposed loan order:

An Order Authorizing a Sewer System Evaluation Survey, Sewer System and Drainage Improvement Planning, Sewer System improvements, and Drainage Improvements Including the Payment of Costs Incidental and Related Thereto

ORDERED: that \$19,967,000.00 is appropriated for the purpose of financing (i) sewer system evaluation survey, (ii) sewer system and drainage improvement planning, (iii) sewer system improvements, and (iv) drainage improvements, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto, and including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow \$19,967,000.00 and issue bonds or notes therefore under Chapter 44 of the General Laws and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws, or any other enabling authority; that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the City unless the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor determines that they should be issued as limited obligations and may be secured by local system revenues as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C; and in connection therewith to enter into a financing agreement and/or a security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid available for the project or for the financing thereof; that the Mayor is authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection, to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out the project; and that in order to reduce interest costs, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to provide for the sale and issuance of refunding bonds under G.L. c.44, Sec. 21A at one time or from time to time, to refund all or any portion of the principal of and redemption premium and interest on any general obligation bonds issued pursuant to this order, and any other general obligation bonds outstanding as of the date of adoption of this order, and to pay all other costs incidental or related thereto. In addition, the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the appropriate officials of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth") to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all bonds of the City authorized to be borrowed pursuant to this loan order, and any other bonds of the City that have been authorized, but not yet issued as of the date hereof, and to provide such information and execute such documents as such officials of the Commonwealth may require in connection therewith.

Persons wishing to be heard shall be afforded the opportunity.

Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

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**Canal Street Gym**

**CLASIFICADOS | CLASSIFIEDS**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**City of Lawrence, MA**  
**Mayor Daniel Rivera**

DOC. 294/2015  
In City Council  
February 2, 2016



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in City Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning a proposed petition to abandon a portion of the public roadway known as Keilhau Court presently owned by the City of Lawrence, MA and more particularly described as follows:

Land in Lawrence, Essex County, Massachusetts, as appearing on a draft plan prepared and submitted by Frank S. Giles Land Consulting entitled "Plan of Land 1-3 Keilhau Court, prepared for Cats Realty Trust, dated August 25, 2014" filed with the Office of the City Clerk in the above referenced document file containing approximately one thousand, seven hundred and eighty and one half (1,780.5) square feet of land, more or less, according to said plan.

A copy of the above referenced plan and other documents pertaining to the proposed abandonment of City owned real property may be examined and viewed at the Office of Community Development, Community Development Department, third floor, 225 Essex Street, Lawrence, MA and at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA on any business day between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 p.m.


Persons wishing to be heard on said matter shall be given the opportunity.

Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**City of Lawrence, MA**  
**Mayor Daniel Rivera**

DOC. 295/2015  
In City Council  
February 2, 2016



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in City Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning a proposed petition to abandon a portion of the public roadway known as Chickering Street presently owned by the City of Lawrence, subject to this petition described as land in Lawrence, Essex County, Massachusetts, shown as "Lot X" on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Lawrence and Andover, Mass." Prepared for P&L Realty Trust Two, dated April 30, 2015" filed with the Office of the City Clerk in the above referenced document file and more particularly described as follows:

Northwesterly: by Lot B on said plan one hundred fifty and 47/100 (150.47) feet and by land now or formerly of Richard F. and Claire M. Berube, thirty and 00/100 (30.00) feet;  
Northwesterly: by land now or formerly of Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shown on said plan, forty and 77/100 (40.77) feet;  
Southwesterly: by Lot A on said plan, one hundred forty-eight and 90/100 (148.90) feet; and;  
Southwesterly: by a lone shown on said plan, forty and 00/100 (40.00) feet;

Said parcel to be abandoned contains six thousand, nine hundred and ninety nine fee (6,999) square feet of land, more or less, according to the herein referenced plan.

A copy of the above referenced plan and other documents pertaining to the proposed abandonment of City owned real property may be examined and viewed at the Office of Community Development, Community Development Department, third floor, 225 Essex Street, Lawrence, MA and at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA on any business day between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 p.m.

Persons wishing to be heard on said matter shall be given the opportunity.

Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

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Notice is Hereby given by Sheehan's Towing L.L.C. of 26 Lawrence St Methuen, MA, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after March 16, 2016 by private sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and lien fees:

- 2007 Acura MDX VIN# 2HNYD28557H524313
- 2013 Nissan Altima VIN# 1N4AL3AP2DC179872
- 2003 Toyota Highlander VIN# JTEGD21A630054442
- 2007 Ford Fusion VIN# 3FAHP07Z47R262462
- 2003 Mitsubishi Outlander VIN# JA4LX31G33U067494
- 2003 Ford F-350 PU VIN# 1FTSX31P63EC11616
- 2006 Acura MDX VIN# 2HNYD18906H532413
- 2007 Nissan Altima VIN# 1N4AL21E67N417921

Robert Sheehan  
Owner, Sheehan's Towing L.L.C.  
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