

MARZO 22, 2009

EDICIÓN NO. 309L • The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley
Edición Lawrence/Methuen

2009 Spring Budget Forum | 20
Wednesday, March 25th,
6pm @ the Lawrence Public Library

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300 Easy for Izzi Reyes anunció oficialmente

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 7
■ MÁS FOTOS EN LA PÁGINA 6 & 7

Rodeado de su familia, Israel Reyes hizo el anuncio oficial de que está tratando de conquistar la posición de Alcalde de Lawrence.

Doscientas setenta y cuatro personas firmaron el libro de invitados a la entrada de la Logia Elks, en Lawrence, el jueves, 19 de marzo, 2009.

El Representante Barry Finegold, un viejo amigo del candidato, dijo a la entusiasta multitud que Reyes es “el

candidato correcto en el tiempo correcto”. Finegold habló brevemente acerca de los desafíos a que Israel tuvo que sobreponerse mientras crecía, para convertirse en la persona que es hoy”.

“Este es el año en que vamos a hacer historia. Yo anuncié mi candidatura hace más de dos años. Yo no esperé por una oportunidad ni por alguien que abandonara la carrera. Yo estoy postulándome porque amo a Lawrence”, dijo Reyes.

Fácilmente trescientas personas se reunieron en la Logia de los Elks en Lawrence, para darle apoyo a Israel Reyes, que rodeado de su familia, hizo el anuncio oficial de que se postulará para la posición de Alcalde de Lawrence. Lea el discurso completo (en inglés) en la página 6.

Easily, three hundred people gathered at the Elks Lodge in Lawrence to support Israel Reyes, who surrounded by his family, made the official announcement that he is seeking the position of Mayor for Lawrence. Read Israel Reyes' entire speech on page 6.

**POWER 92.1 FM
PRIMERA ESTACIÓN FM EN ESPAÑOL EN EL ESTADO**

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 9
■ MÁS FOTOS EN LA PÁGINA 8 & 9

Pat Costa, General Manager de Costa-Eagle Broadcasting, anunció que el 12 de marzo, 2009, la Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones le había extendido una licencia para transmitir la señal de WNNW POWER 800 a través de la banda FM. “Esta decisión ha hecho historia en el Estado de Massachusetts y ha abierto una nueva ventana de oportunidades para todos los hispanos a través del estado”, dijo Costa.

Ahora usted puede escuchar la misma programación, con una pequeña demora, a través de 800 AM y 92.1 FM.

Costa agradeció a su equipo legal en Washington, a sus creativos ingenieros radiales en Michigan, su profesional equipo de empleados y a los clientes que lo han apoyado y muy especialmente

POR FAVOR VEA **SURÍS**

■ CONTINÚA EN LA PÁGINA 8

\$130,000 RAISED TO SUPPORT YOUTH PROGRAMS AT YMCA'S AUCTION

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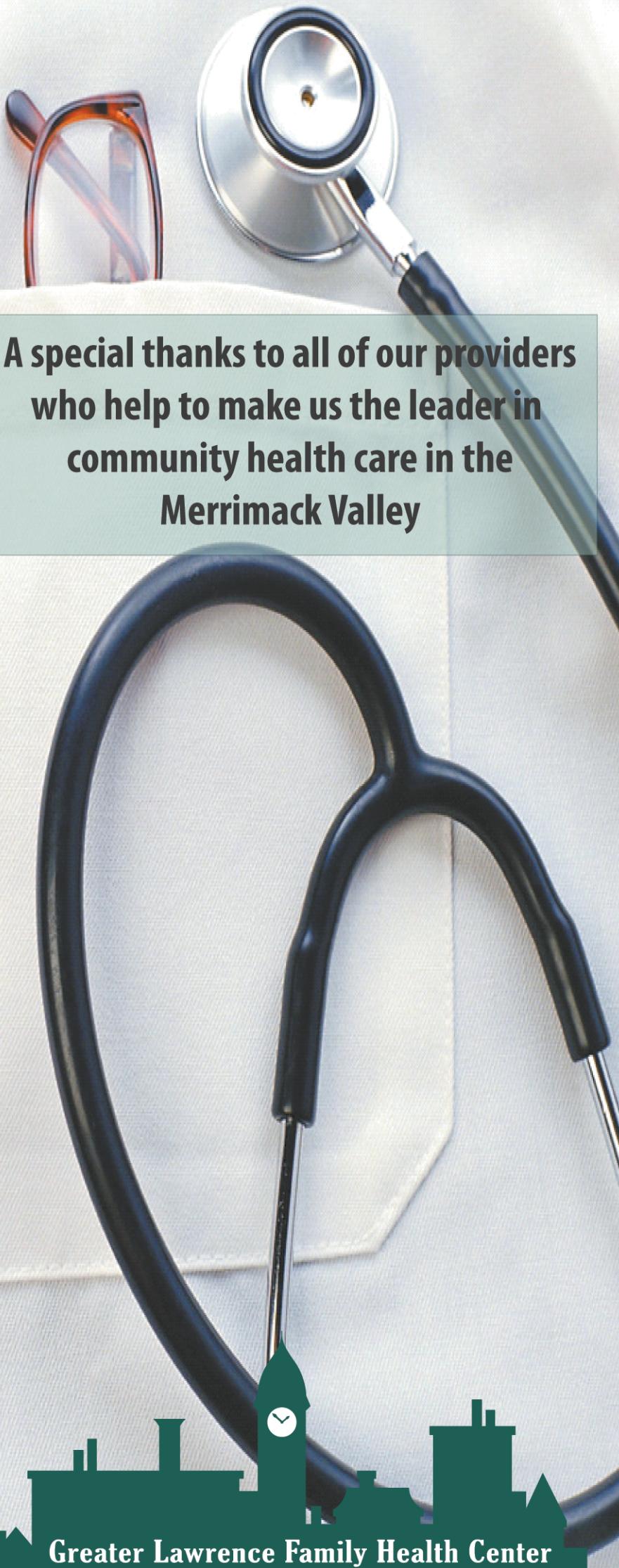
Reunión Enfocada en la Juventud

| 12

La Secretaria del Trabajo y Desarrollo de la Fuerza Laboral, Suzanne Bump, conversa con Frederick T. Carberry, Director Ejecutivo, Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board a su llegada a la Reunión Enfocada en la Juventud que se llevó a cabo en el Merrimack College.

Youth-Focused Summit PAGE 12

Celebrating Provider Appreciation Week



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Vincent Waite
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Virginia Morrison
Cara Soifer
Nelly Padua
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Rachel Brodie
Asima Chowdhry
Stephen Ozaroff
Vidal Primiterio
Karen Sweeney

March 30th - April 3rd

Reunión Enfocada en la Juventud



Sitting at the same table were, from L/R, Ilene N. Karnow, academic supervisor grants/public relations, Greater Lawrence Technical School; Julisa Alfonzo, school age child care director, Merrimack Valley YMCA and Howard F. Allen, M. Ed. director, Business Resource Center, Cambridge College.

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 12
TRADUCCIÓN AL ESPAÑOL POR ALBERTO SURÍS

Más de 200 dedicados residentes del área del noreste de Massachusetts se reunieron esta semana para desarrollar estrategias y crear un futuro más brillante y seguro que conduzcan hacia la educación y carreras para jóvenes para que puedan triunfar.

'Dejar la escuela superior es un pasaporte a la cárcel', de acuerdo al Dr. Andy Sum del Center for Labor Market Studies de la Universidad de Northeastern. Esta semana, el Dr. Sum y miembros de su equipo de investigación presentaron nuevas estadísticas que revelaron nuevas tendencias en educación y empleo entre los jóvenes del área de Lowell, del Valle de Merrimack y de la costa del norte.

El Northeastern Massachusetts Youth Summit se llevó a cabo el jueves, 19 de marzo, en el Merrimack College en North Andover. El tema fue Una Iniciativa Regional para Cultivar la Educación y las Opciones de Carreras para los Jóvenes, y servir con sesiones de trabajo la forma de resolver los problemas del abandono de los estudios y el de cultivar las opciones que aseguren que todos nuestros jóvenes tengan éxito en la escuela y a través de su vida. Juntos podemos cambiar el futuro de los jóvenes y de las comunidades en nuestra área.

Más de 200 participantes representantes de escuelas, trabajadores, proveedores de servicio a la juventud, estudiantes, empleados municipales, miembros del sistema de educación, agencias estatales, oficiales electos y otros oyeron algunas preocupantes aunque no sorprendentes declaraciones del Dr. Sum.

- La población de 16-24 años de edad en la región del noreste de WIB creció entre el 2000 al 2007. Racialmente, el crecimiento incluye un 30.9% negra, 22.4% hispana, y 10% blanca.
- Durante ese mismo tiempo, el empleo a jóvenes declinó de una forma severa en todos y cada uno de los grupos socioeconómicos de la zona demográfica,

aunque la cantidad de empleos entre los jóvenes en el 2008 fue más baja entre los varones negros y asiáticos y de bajos recursos económicos.

- En el 2000, el 50% de los que abandonaron la escuela superior encontró empleo, lo cual declinó a un 36.7% en el 2008. El porcentaje de jóvenes en la escuela que tenían empleo bajó de un 34.4% en el 2000 a un 22.1% en el 2008.
- Entre más bajo sea el ingreso familiar menor es la posibilidad de que un joven de esa familia encuentre trabajo. Otro grupo en peligro son los jóvenes que han cometido ofensas sexuales, madres jóvenes solteras y jóvenes con discapacidades.
- El porcentaje de jóvenes que abandonó la escuela superior en la región noreste del WIB durante el 2006 al 2007 fue de un 7.4%, mucho más alto que el porcentaje a nivel estatal durante el mismo periodo – 6.5%.
- Al mismo tiempo, las cifras de jóvenes hispanos que abandonó la escuela superior en la región del noreste fue de 22.3% y para los nacidos en el extranjero fue de 21.5%. A nivel estatal esos números fueron 19% y 13.8%, respectivamente.

La razón de la reunión cumbre fue la de una exploración de iniciativas para el desarrollo de la juventud.

Julisa Alfonzo, directora del departamento de cuidado de niños de edad escolar de la YMCA del Valle de Merrimack, que participó de la reunión, es prueba fehaciente de que no todos los jóvenes han sido creados igual. Julisa, de 24 años de edad, podía ser una de las estadísticas que aparecen arriba, sin embargo ella se ha desatacado en todo lo que ha hecho en su vida. En el 2003 se graduó de la Greater Lawrence Technical School con un título en

JUVENTUD

CONTINÚA EN LA PÁGINA 11

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

El inconsistente Laboy

Hace varias semanas, el Superintendente Escolar de Lawrence, Dr. Wilfredo T. Laboy tuvo que anular su propia decisión de no permitir a los alumnos el graduarse con una C. Pensándolo bien, creemos que lo que él quería hacer era motivar a los estudiantes elevándoles los estándares, algo con lo que estaríamos de acuerdo, pero no en medio del año escolar. Si esa es la intención, primero él tiene que cambiar la ley escolar y entonces informarlo a los estudiantes cuando comiencen el curso.

Entonces vino el problema con la maestra de italiano, despedida por tener una degustación de alimentos en su clase, después de haber obtenido permiso de sus superiores. Estos dos episodios generaron docenas de llamadas a Rumbo de alumnos y padres, muchos de ellos temerosos de darnos sus nombres. Después de una masiva demostración de alumnos ante el Comité Escolar, la maestra fue invitada a retornar a su puesto.

Ahora es la Dra. Terika Smith, la misma que despidió a la maestra de italiano, está siendo arrojada 'frente a un autobús' por Laboy por no haber llamado a la policía en los incidentes de estudiantes consumiendo bebidas alcohólicas en la Escuela Internacional, cuando es conocido por todos que maestros y/o directores por orden de Laboy no pueden llamar a la policía bajo ninguna circunstancia.

Si la policía decide poner cargos en contra la Dra. Smith, será impredecible lo que el Dr. Laboy hará.

The erratic Laboy

A few weeks ago, Lawrence School Superintendent Dr. Wilfredo T. Laboy had to reverse his own decision not to allow children to graduate with C. Come to think of it, we thought that he wanted to motivate the students setting higher standards, something we could agree with, but not in the middle of the school year. If that is the intention first, he needs a change in the school policy and then, inform the students when they enter as freshmen.

Then was the situation with the Italian language teacher, fired for having a food tasting at her class, after obtaining permission from her superiors. These two episodes generated dozens of calls from students and parents alike to Rumbo, most of them afraid to give their names. After a massive protest before the School Committee, the teacher was invited to return to her position.

Now is Dr. Terika Smith, the same one who fired the Italian language teacher being thrown under the bus by Laboy for not calling the police in the drinking incident at her International School, when it's well known that teachers and/or principals can't call the police under any circumstances by Laboy's strict orders.

If the police decide to press charges against Dr. Smith, it will be unpredictable to see what Dr. Laboy will do.

Cartas al Editor | Letters to the Editor

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

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

Rumbo

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Published on the 8th & 22nd of Every Month

POR DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

Desde Mi Esquina

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 15

Otro dominicano a la alcaldía

Una de mis actividades favoritas es asistir a los eventos políticos para ver a personas que no he visto en mucho tiempo y ponerme al día en cosas de actualidad. Por lo regular me saludan con alegría, pero también noto cuando me ignoran o incluso me miran con otras ganas. El jueves pasado, en el anuncio de la candidatura de Israel Reyes a la alcaldía de Lawrence, sentí de todo. Vi a algunos estudiantes que tuve en mis equipos noticiosos durante mis días en la Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence como mi estrella de la Escuela Bruce, Sandra Dávila. Hoy en día, ella está casada con tres hijos y trabaja en la oficina MSPCC en Lowell. ¡Fue muy agradable verla!

Mientras tanto, mis ojos se cruzaron con los de Reyes, así como los de su madre y su esposa varias veces, pero ninguno vino

cerca de mí o me saludó. Sentí que me cayó una ducha de agua fría, pero ni siquiera me erizó porque me podía imaginar lo que estaba pasando por sus mentes. Sí, yo fui una de las personas indeseables en esa reunión y se hizo evidente.

¡Llamando a la Guardia Nacional!

No se trata de despedir a la Dra. Terika Smith de la Escuela Secundaria Internacional por motivo de que unos estudiantes estaban bebiendo ron en el aula y en la cafetería. El departamento escolar no puede garantizar que los niños de la Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence puedan estar protegidos. Hay demasiados incidentes relacionados con la administración. Este incidente ilustra la arrogancia y la negación que es el sello del Superintendente Escolar Wilfredo T. Laboy y su "legado de aprendizaje".



Estos niños están corriendo un riesgo y en grave peligro en virtud de esta falta de supervisión y disciplina. Alguien tiene que movilizar a los padres de los estudiantes de LHS y asistir en masa a las reuniones del Comité Escolar, por desgracia, ellos necesitan hacer ruido y no aceptar un no por respuesta o escuchar débiles excusas.

¿Dónde están los Senadores y Representantes del Estado? ¿Dónde está el Gobernador? ¿Dónde está el jefe del Departamento de Educación? Los resultados del MCAS son información pública que puede ser fácilmente obtenida a través de la Internet, sin embargo, me parece que soy la única persona que presta atención a su contenido. Los resultados son abominables y después de 8 años, Laboy debería tener mejores resultados. Los niños fracasan en la escuela secundaria porque los resultados de las pruebas muestran que han venido fracasando a lo largo de su vida escolar. Fracasaron en el 3ro y 5to y 7mo grado, etc. ¿Cómo podemos esperar que tengan mejores resultados en high school? Todas las escuelas y todos los niveles de grado tienen un porcentaje muy alto de estudiantes que necesitan mejorar o están fracasando; algunas escuelas tienen un 90% en las dos categorías. ¿No está indignado aún?

Nuestros estudiantes no son tontos ni perezosos, se les hace fracasar. Culpe

POR FAVOR VEA DÍAZ

CONTINÚA EN LA PÁGINA 9

Fiorentini honra a dos irlandeses

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 14

VER FOTO EN LA PÁGINA 14

Este año, el Alcalde de Haverhill James J. Fiorentini designó al señor John Ronayne y al Abogado David Swartz como los responsables de izar la bandera irlandesa en el ayuntamiento el día de St. Patrick.

El Abogado Swartz es nieto de Anne McGowan de County Fermanagh, Ireland. En el pasado, él ha servido a Haverhill como Concejal, Representante Estatal y también como Asistente del Fiscal del Distrito. Él es miembro del Courthouse Building Committee and is a Ward Chairman for the Haverhill Democratic City Committee.

El Abogado Swartz es miembro de la Parroquia St. James de Haverhill. Después de graduado de St. James High school, él se graduó de Providence College y Harvard University Law School.

El Sr. John Ronayne es de Castleyons, County Cork, Ireland. (Este es el mismo pueblo de la madre del Concejal de la Ciudad William Ryan.) John se mudó de Irlanda a los Estados Unidos en 1985 y ha vivido en Haverhill por los últimos 8 años. Él es operador de equipo pesado con el Local 4.

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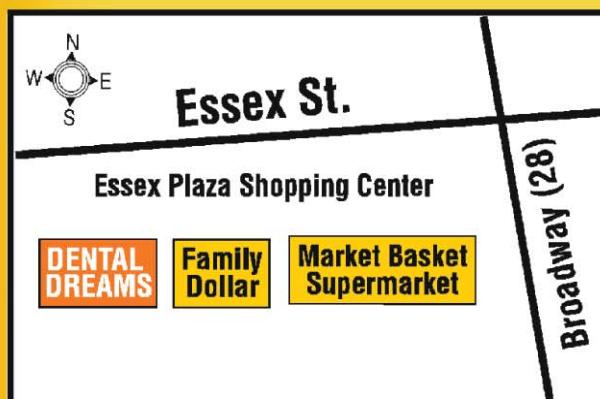
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Israel Reyes paid tribute to the women in his life, his mother Benigna Millán, his wife Patricia Sánchez-Reyes and his daughters Briana e Isabela.



Special salute to Salustiano González, an old friend.

Speech by Israel Reyes during the announcement of his candidacy for Mayor on March 19, 2009

Running for public office is never an easy task. It takes a toll on your family and personal life. I've got to tell you, I love public service and am extremely fortunate to be in a position to give back to the community that has been so good to me.

And if it were not for some very special people in my life I would never be able to do it. For that reason, and so many more, I want to acknowledge my wife who has been so supportive of this journey and my mom, the best mom anyone can ask for and a relentless campaigner. I love you both

very much.

Now, as to why we are all here tonight! In a few short months, Lawrence will be electing our next CEO to lead our great City. What I can tell you right off the bat is this, I didn't wait till the water was just right, till the political opportunity came

and I sure didn't need to wait till someone dropped out of the race in order to make my decision to run for Mayor.

I'm running for Mayor because I love Lawrence! I'm bullish on Lawrence! After 30 years of living in this great city, being involved in the community, knocking on

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BRIAN DE PEÑA

Representative Barry Finegold, an old friend of Reyes came to show his support for the candidate.



Lenny Degnan, left, joined forces to elect Israel Reyes as the next mayor of Lawrence.



Old friends supporting Israel Reyes.

thousands of doors, and making thousands of phone calls, I know that I have a deep rooted understanding of the issues most important to ALL Lawrencians.

I've been listening! As I knock on doors all over this city it is repeated over and over... we want the next Mayor to address the

state of our economy and unemployment, to stabilize our tax base, address public safety and quality of life issues, and strengthen our education system.

Unemployment tears at the fabric of our neighborhoods! It affects our family's ability to provide for our loved ones and

keeps countless people up at night worried about where their next paycheck will come from. Right now Lawrence is nearing 20%

PLEASE SEE REYES

CONTINUES ON PAGE 19

300 Easy for Izzi

BY ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 1

Surrounded by his family, Israel Reyes made the official announcement that he is seeking the position of Mayor of Lawrence.

Two hundred and seventy-four people signed the guests book at the entrance of the Lawrence Elks on Thursday, March 19, 2009.

Representative Barry Finegold, a long time friend of the candidate, told the cheering crowd that Reyes was, "The right candidate at the right time." Finegold spoke briefly about the challenges Israel had to overcome while growing-up to become the person that he is today.

"Este es el año en que vamos a hacer historia", (This is the year when we are going to make history) said Israel in Spanish. "I announced my candidacy over two years ago. I did not wait for an opportunity or someone to drop-off. I'm running because I love Lawrence."

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HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

Aunque no hablamos español, haremos el mayor esfuerzo para poder comunicarnos. Gracias por su colaboración.



CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA 1

SURÍS: Primera Estación FM en Español en el Estado

a los radio oyentes, que dependen de POWER todos los días por las noticias, el tiempo y el entretenimiento.

"Nosotros en Costa-Eagle Broadcasting continuaremos nuestra promesa de proveer lo mejor en programación local a la comunidad que

servimos y continuaremos siendo los líderes en transmisiones en español y siendo la POWER (LA FUERZA) de Massachusetts", terminó Costa.

Costa-Eagle Broadcasting está localizado en el 462 de la Calle Merrimack en Methuen, MA.

TOP: From Left to Right - Costa-Eagle radio account managers, Michelle De los Santos, Lisette Hernandez; Johnny Mackenzie, Program Director; morning personality, Awilda Reyes, Pat Costa General Manager; and personalities Isabel Gonzales, Santiago Matias and Richie Herrera.

RIGHT: For his service to the community at large, Pat Costa received the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Star Award from its President and CEO Joseph J. Bevilacqua. Also pictured Representative William Lantigua and MVCC Vice President, Sales & Service Wilfred N. Carpenter.

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CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 4

DÍAZ: Desde Mi Esquina

al sistema; culpe a Laboy que después de ocho años a la cabeza del sistema debíamos tener mejores números en las pruebas del MCAS. A él le encanta rodearse de personas que le sigan la corriente sin tener en cuenta las destrezas de ellos y el despido de la Dra. Smith no es la respuesta, ella no debió haber sido contratada.

Él hace una decisión tonta tras otra. Y él no es lo suficientemente hombre para decir la verdad; él le dice a los directores que no llamen a la policía. Él debe quitarle responsabilidad a Smith porque él le dijo que lo hiciera de esa manera - entonces la abandona ante el público. Recuerde, cada director tiene en su evaluación una cláusula de un aumento basado en el número de suspensiones. La prueba de ello está en el artículo publicado por el Eagle-Tribune el jueves, 19 de marzo, el cual dice que el Jefe de Policía John Romero dijo que el Director Asistente Michael Qualters prometió a la joven intoxicada que si ella iba al hospital, él no lo reportaría a la policía.

Dado que al alcalde no le importa nada y le permite que se salga con todo lo que se le antoje, quizás es el momento de llamar a la Guardia Nacional para sacarlo de aquí.

Disfunción sistemática

El Tribune nos muestra una pequeña porción de las noticias en Lawrence. El otro 90% pasa desapercibido por la mayoría de la gente. Por ejemplo, hay cerca de \$4,000,000.00 en facturas sin pagar de la

construcción de la escuela secundaria. Jim Vittorioso preguntó acerca de esto durante la última reunión del Comité Escolar y recibió una respuesta vaga que pareció satisfacerlo.

¿Está alguien ocultando la auditoría de la construcción de la escuela? ¿Dónde está el informe de auditoría de las finanzas de la ciudad? Tal vez esto se debatirá el próximo miércoles por la noche en la biblioteca. Cuando hicieron el mismo espectáculo el año pasado en el Centro de Ancianos, hicieron muchas preguntas y entre ellas qué pasa con la Comisión de Derechos Humanos. Algunos residentes que desean servir en esa junta han hecho solicitudes pero nunca han sido llamados.

Recuerde que el alcalde nombró a dos empleados del ayuntamiento como "nombramientos de emergencia" a la Comisión Histórica para asegurarse de que los votos estarían allí para algo que le preocupaba. Una frase resume los problemas de Lawrence: "disfunción sistemática."

Acción mal dirigida

El dictador/superintendente ha emitido una nueva política de consumo de alimentos para todas las aulas de los grados 1-12. Con efecto inmediato deben adherirse a las directrices adjuntas. Esta política está

POR FAVOR VEA DÍAZ

CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 19



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POR MAUREEN NIMMO

Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 18

Saludos Amigos Lectores. Bueno, por fin puedo decir que de verdad llegó la primavera. Es oficial desde el viernes 20 de este mes. Pienso que nos merecemos una bella y caliente primavera después de haber pasado un invierno tan malo. Los meses de diciembre y enero fueron especialmente miserables este año; y eso que técnicamente hablando, ¡diciembre no cuenta como parte del invierno!

Una vez más, Lawrence ha comenzado su temporada de presupuesto. Mark Andrews, director del Departamento de Presupuesto y Finanzas, (y para quien siempre le es temporada de presupuesto) tiene las manos muy llenas en estos momentos. No tan solo tiene él que organizar un plan factible para el próximo año fiscal, a la vez él tiene que encontrar la manera de modificar el presupuesto actual ya que nos encontramos con un déficit inesperado. El elemento más controversial del plan para modificar el presupuesto es el del programa de "furlough." La idea de este programa es que todos los empleados de la ciudad, comenzando desde el alcalde, acepten diez días sin pago antes del final de junio. Este programa es un poco complicado para explicar, pero esta es la idea principal.

Queda por decir, que como empleada municipal, yo preferiría no tener que hacer esto. Sin embargo, prefiero aceptar este programa que enfrentar la alternativa, el cual sería despidos masivos. Como estamos entrando el cuarto período de este año fiscal, los despidos tendrían que ser cuatro veces más severos; si hubiésemos podido habernos preparado para este déficit desde que este presupuesto fue aprobado, no tuviésemos que despedir a tanta gente. Estos son tiempos muy difíciles para todos. El alcalde y el Sr. Andrews están explorando todas las alternativas posibles. Todos los que trabajamos para la ciudad necesitamos poner de nuestra parte para que todos podamos salir de esta situación difícil.

Como he dicho a menudo, no considero estos artículos como medios para ventilar

mis vistas filosóficas o políticas, excepto cuando envuelven directamente a la biblioteca y el alfabetismo. Sin embargo, este es un caso especial. Es tiempo de que todos los que trabajamos para la ciudad, sin importar cuantos años llevamos de servicio, nos unamos y hagamos este sacrificio para que no se pierdan más puestos de trabajo. Es imposible no saber las graves condiciones económicas de nuestro país. Todos estamos tomando algún tipo de golpe financiero, pero yo oro por la unión de la ciudad y que todo el mundo tome un pequeño golpe financiero para evitar que muchos sufran uno grande.

Por otro lado, hemos estado gozando del divertido mes de la Herencia Irlandesa. La parada estuvo preciosa y el tiempo perfecto. Como todos los años, el almuerzo anual de los Hibernicos fue todo un éxito. La presencia de los cantantes de "Celtic Thunder" fue maravillosa. El pasado sábado, aquí en la biblioteca, tuvimos un orador de genealogía irlandesa; también estamos ansiosos por el concierto de música celta por George y Terri Kelley, el cual se llevará a cabo el día 29 de este mes (a las 2:00 de la tarde en el auditorio de la biblioteca principal).

La biblioteca, en colaboración con el coordinador del Departamento de Reciclaje de la ciudad (parte del Departamento de Obras Públicas), Groundwork Lawrence y varias maestras de nuestras escuelas, estamos trabajando en un nuevo programa llamado "Literacy for Youth." Nuestro plan es el de combinar la lectura y el uso de la biblioteca para crear una conciencia a temprana edad sobre el reciclaje y cómo cuidar a nuestro planeta. Les mantendré informado según el proyecto vaya progresando.

El cielo está azulado. La nieve se está desapareciendo. Estoy contenta. ¡Nos vemos en la biblioteca!



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Los pediatras de Massachusetts introducen un programa estatal para ayudar a los padres a dejar de fumar

Los pediatras de Massachusetts están usando una nueva herramienta para ayudar a proteger a sus pacientes del humo del tabaco. El programa para profesionales de salud infantil y familiar QuitWorks for Child and Family Health Care Practitioners ofrece un modelo de eficacia clínica comprobada para ayudar a los pediatras a hablar con los padres de sus pacientes y las personas que los cuidan sobre dejar de fumar, y les permite derivar a los fumadores a un programa telefónico gratuito para ayudarles a lograrlo.

Este programa es una adaptación al ámbito pediátrico del programa QuitWorks, inaugurado en 2002, y es una colaboración del Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts (Massachusetts Department of Public Health, DPH) con la rama de Massachusetts de la American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP), la Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) y todas las compañías principales de seguros de salud del estado. Se basa en la investigación del programa de la American Academy of Pediatrics «Iniciativa clínica contra la exposición al humo del tabaco» (Clinical Effort Against Secondhand Smoke Exposure, CEASE) fundado en el MassGeneral Hospital for Children (MGHfC).

«En Massachusetts, la gran mayoría de los adultos no fuma», explica la Dra. Lauren Smith, pediatra y directora médica del Departamento de Salud Pública del estado. «Estamos trabajando duro para llegar a quienes todavía fuman y ayudarles

a dejar de hacerlo, por su propio bien y por el de sus niños. QuitWorks for Child and Family Health Care Practitioners es una herramienta fundamental de nuestra campaña para asegurar que todos los niños de nuestro estado tengan la oportunidad de crecer sin estar expuestos al humo del tabaco.»

DPH enviará por correo 4.000 kits de inicio de QuitWorks a pediatras y médicos de familia de Massachusetts durante febrero y marzo de 2009.

«Si usted fuma, la mejor manera de proteger la salud de sus hijos es dejar de fumar», dice Carole Allen, pediatra de Harvard Vanguard y presidenta de la rama Massachusetts de la American Academy of Pediatrics. «Ahora, el pediatra de su niño puede hacer algo más que simplemente aconsejarle que deje de fumar, puede ayudarle a lograrlo. Es una gran diferencia.»

En Massachusetts, aproximadamente 250.000 niños están expuestos al humo del tabaco en sus propias casas; ésta es una estadística que el programa se está esforzando por reducir.

«Nuestra meta es eliminar la exposición de los niños al humo del tabaco y ofrecer a cada padre la mejor oportunidad de dejar de fumar», afirma Jonathan Winickoff, fundador de CEASE y pediatra en MGHfC.

PEDIATRAS

■ CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 18

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CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 3

JUVENTUD: Reunión Enfocada en la Juventud

Administración de Negocios. En el 2007 recibió su título de Bachiller en Psicología de Salem State College y actualmente está matriculada en Cambridge College tratando de sacar su Maestría.

El Congresista John Tierney, miembro del Comité de Educación y Trabajo recalcó la importancia de iniciativas organizadas dirigidas a las necesidades de la juventud.

Suzanne Bump, Secretaria de Labor y Desarrollo de la Fuerza de Trabajo de Massachusetts, que fue presentada por Joseph Bevilacqua, Chairman del Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board, explicó la ventaja del desarrollo de la juventud. Había planillas que informaban que ‘Cuando la gente joven tenga acceso a una variedad de ayuda y oportunidades, no solo evitarán envolverse en estilos de vida que sean destructivos para sí mismos, y aún más, ellos obtendrán un alto sentido de su identidad y una amplitud de conocimientos necesarios para tener éxito como adultos. (Adaptado de Introducción a Conceptos de Desarrollo de la Juventud: Cuestiones de Colaboración Comunitaria, por Sheperd Zeblin de AEDI Center for Youth Development Policy Research).

Donna Cupelo, presidenta de Verizon Communications, Región de New England, habló sobre la importancia de los negocios y la industria en el proceso de dar apoyo a la juventud y proveer información, internados y otros tipos de oportunidades.

Kathy Betts, deputy assistant secretary for Children, Youth and Families en el Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services introdujo a Laurie Jo Wallace, directora de Medical Foundation's Youth Development and Training Division. La información que cubrió: “America’s Promise” and the BEST Initiative.

Los participantes recibieron la bienvenida a Merrimack College del Dr. Josephine Modica-Napolitano, Dean de ciencia e Ingeniería.

Durante la sesión de grupos, los participantes sugirieron los próximos pasos y formas de comunicación acerca de los recursos disponibles en base a una amplia área, el ofrecer información actual sobre eventos, entrenamientos y otras oportunidades de servicio proveídos para continuar la sociedad y la forma de proveer información y puntos de referencia para los jóvenes. La intención del grupo es la de ampliar y añadir profundidad a la sociedad. Para más información y para unirse a la sociedad, puede llamar a Deborah Andrews, MVWIB Youth Program Manager al 978-722-7087. Tome parte en desarrollar nuevas formas de ayuda para que nuestros jóvenes puedan conectar los mundos de educación y trabajo.

La reunión cumbre fue patrocinada por la Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Executive Office of Education, Commonwealth Corporation, and America’s Promise Alliance con la cooperación de tres Workforce Investment Boards del noreste de Massachusetts.

ESTOS SON LOS HORARIOS DE LOS EVENTOS:

Marzo 23-27, 9:00 – 4:00 P.M. Promoción del “Health Insurance Partnership” entre negocios de la Comunidad Camboyana. Este es el programa del estado que ayuda a trabajadores independientes y a pequeños empresarios a obtener seguro para sus empleados.

Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA)
120 Cross St, Lowell, MA

Marzo 23-24

“Inscripción sin Cita” 10 AM – 5 PM
Latin American Health Institute (LHI)
9 Central Street, Lowell, MA

Marzo 23-24, 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.

Feria de Información e Inscripción al Seguro de Salud
LHI and CMAA
Corner of Merrimack and Central Street, Lowell, MA

Marzo 24, 3:00 – 5 PM

“Inscripción sin Cita” (LHI)
Massachusetts Association of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS)
11 Mill Street, Lowell

Marzo 25, 6-8 PM

Feria de Salud e Inscripción al Seguro en la High School
Lowell Community Health Center (LCH)
50 Father Morissette Boulevard, Lowell, MA

Marzo 25, 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

“Inscripción sin Cita” (LHI)
Lazarus House (Dental Clinic)
412 Hampshire Street
Lawrence, MA

Marzo 25 12:00 – 4:00 PM

Feria de Información e Inscripción al Seguro de Salud
Greater Lawrence Community Action Council (GLCAC)
200 Common Street (Al frente del City Hall), Lawrence, MA

Marzo 25, 8:30 – 10:00 AM

“Inscripción sin Cita” (LHI)
Drop In Center
16 Ashland Street, Haverhill, MA

Marzo 26, 2 – 5 PM

“Inscripción sin Cita” (LHI)
YWCA of Greater Lawrence
38 Lawrence Street, Lawrence, MA

Marzo 27, 1-3 PM

“Inscripción sin Cita” (LHI)
Community Action, Inc.
145 Essex Street, Haverhill, MA

Marzo 28, 10 AM – 2 PM

Health Insurance Enrollment Fair
Lowell Community Health Center
17 Warren Street, Lowell, MA

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Great Lawrence Community Action Council (GLCAC)
Phone: 978-681-4978
Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA)
Phone: 978-454 6200
Latin American Health Institute (LHI)
Phone: 978- 459 3366

“Cubramos al Desasegurado” (Marzo 22-29) Una semana para que todos en el Merrimack Valley se inscriban al seguro de Salud

En el marco de la semana “Cubramos al desasegurado” (Marzo 23-29) el Merrimack Valley Health Enrollment Network y sus organizaciones de la comunidad asociadas realizan una serie de eventos especiales en Lowell, Lawrence y Haverhill para inscribir personas elegibles a los programas de seguro de salud del estado. Este proyecto de la Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, promueve una campaña nacional de inscripción masiva al seguro de salud durante esta semana.

Los eventos están destinados a informar a los residentes sin seguro médico acerca de las opciones y beneficios que la nueva Ley de Seguro de Salud ofrece a personas que ganen menos del 300 por ciento del Índice Federal de Pobreza, \$32,508 (para un individuo), \$43,740 (para una familia de 2 personas), \$54,936 (para una familia de 3 personas), \$66,168 (para una familia de 4 personas). Las organizaciones miembros del Merrimack Valley Health Enrollment Network ampliarán sus esfuerzos durante toda la semana con ferias, distribución de información en las calles e inscripción al aire libre en sitios y horarios convenientes con personas que hablan español.

La Merrimack Valley Health Enrollment Network (MVHEN) es una agrupación de organizaciones de la comunidad trabajando juntas para aumentar la cobertura de seguro de salud en la región. Sus organizaciones socias son: Lowell Community Health Center (LCHC), Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA), Greater Lawrence Community Action (GLCAC) y the Latin-American Health Institute (LHI). Esta red de Organizaciones es financiada por la Oficina de Salud y Servicios Humanos del estado (EOHHS).

El Merrimack Valley Health Enrollment Network es un programa coordinado por el Instituto de Salud Latinoamericana, una organización enfocada en la Salud Pública de la comunidad Latina por más de 20 años. Su experiencia y conocimiento de la comunidad es puesta al servicio de las demás organizaciones miembros de la red para facilitar que todos en el área del Merrimack Valley tengan acceso al Seguro de Salud. Para mas información visite: www.mvhealthenrollment.net.

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Northeast Youth-Focused Summit

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 3

More than 200 committed residents from the Northeast area of Massachusetts convened this week to develop strategies to create positive futures and upwardly mobile pathways to education and careers for youth so they are ready to succeed.

'Dropping out of high school is an apprenticeship for jail', according to Dr. Andy Sum from the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University. Dr. Sum and members of his research team presented new data this week that revealed emerging trends in education, employment, and overall well-being of teens in the Greater Lowell, Merrimack Valley and North Shore Workforce Investment Board areas.

The Northeastern Massachusetts Youth Summit was held on Thursday, March 19, at Merrimack College in North Andover. The theme was A Regional Initiative to Cultivate Education and Career Options for Youth, and served as a working session to problem-solve ways to enhance community-wide dropout prevention activities and cultivate education and career options to ensure that all of our youth are succeeding in school and in life. Together we can change the future of teens and communities in our area.

More than 200 participants representing schools, workforce development, youth-serving community providers, students, municipal employees, higher education



Youth-Focused Summit participants Suzanne M. Bump, secretary of labor and workforce development, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, second from left with Mary Sarris, executive director, North Shore WIB; Frederick T. Carberry, executive director, Merrimack Valley WIB; Barbara O'Neil, executive director, Greater Lowell WIB.

officials, state agencies, elected officials and others heard some distressing, though not surprising, news from Dr. Sum.

1. The population of 16-24 year olds in the Northeast WIB region grew between 2000 and 2007. Ethnically, growth includes 30.9% Black, 22.4% Hispanic, and 10%

White.

2. During the same time, teen employment declines were severe in every major demographic and socioeconomic group, although the employment rates of teens in 2008 were lowest among young males, Blacks and Asians, and low income youth.
3. In 2000, 50% of high school drop outs

were employed, which dropped to 36.7% in 2008. In-school youth dropped from 34.4% employment in 2000 to 22.1% in 2008.

4. The lower a family's income, the less likely youth in the family are employed. Other at-risk groups are the young ex-offender population, young single mothers, and youth with disabilities.

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Youth participating in the summit: L/R Kimsang Tom, Diana Foucault, George Matias and Elaine Pittas, all from Shriver Job Corps Centre, from Devens, MA and André González, YouthBuilt, Lawrence.

5. The percentage of high school dropouts in the Northeast WIB Regions from 2006 – 2007 was 7.4%, higher than the state rate for the same time period – 6.5%.

6. At the same time, dropout rates in the Northeast region for Hispanic youth were 22.3% and for foreign born was 21.5%. Corresponding state numbers were 19% and 13.8%.

The summit response was an exploration of Asset-based Youth Development Initiatives.

Julisa Alfonzo, 24, school age child care director of Merrimack Valley YMCA, a participant at the summit is a reliable proof that not all youth are created equal. Although Julisa, could fit into the above statistics, she has excelled in everything she has done in life. In 2003, she graduated from Greater Lawrence Technical School with a Business Administration degree. In 2007, she received her Bachelor's in Psychology from Salem State College. Actually she's

enrolled in Cambridge College pursuing her Master.

Congressman John Tierney, a member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, recorded remarks on the importance of organized, united initiatives that address the needs and strengths of youth.

Introduced by Joseph Bevilacqua, Chairman of the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board, Massachusetts Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Suzanne Bump, explained Asset-based Youth Development. Handouts informed that 'When young people have access to an array of supports and opportunities, they not only avoid engaging in self-destructive lifestyles, but more affirmatively, they achieve the healthy sense of identity and full range of competencies necessary to succeed as adults.' (Adapted from an Introduction to Youth Development Concepts: Questions for Community Collaborations by Sheperd Zeblin from AEDI Center for Youth

Development Policy Research).

Donna Cupelo, New England Region President, Verizon Communications spoke about the importance of business and industry in the process of supporting youth and providing career path information, internships and other hands-on opportunities.

Kathy Betts, deputy assistant secretary for Children, Youth and Families in the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services introduced Laurie Jo Wallace, Director of the Medical Foundation's Youth Development and Training Division. Information covered "America's Promise" and the BEST Initiative.

Participants were welcomed to Merrimack College by Dr. Josephine Modica-Napolitano, Dean of Science and Engineering.

During breakout sessions, participants suggested next steps to be ways to

communicate about available resources on an area-wide basis, to offer up-to-date information on events, trainings and other opportunities for service providers to continue to partner and ways to provide information and referral site for youth. The group intends to add breadth and depth to the partnership. For more information and to join the partnership, please call Deborah Andrews, MVWIB Youth Program Manager at 978-722-7087. Take part in developing new ways to help our youth bridge the worlds of education and work.

The Summit was sponsored by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Executive Office of Education, Commonwealth Corporation, and America's Promise Alliance in partnership with three Workforce Investment Boards of Northeastern Massachusetts.

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Fiorentini honored Two Irishmen

BY ALBERTO SURÍS

albertosuris@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

This year, Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini (center) has designated Mr. John Ronayne (left) and Attorney David Swartz (right) as the official raisers of the Irish Flag at City Hall on St. Patrick's Day.

Attorney David Swartz is the grandson of Anne McGowan of County Fermanagh, Ireland. In the past, he has served Haverhill as a City Councilor, State Representative

and also as an Assistant District Attorney. He is member of the Courthouse Building Committee and is a Ward Chairman for the Haverhill Democratic City Committee.

Attorney Swartz is a member of St. James Parish in Haverhill. After graduating from St. James High School, he graduated from Providence College and Harvard University Law School.

This year, Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini (center) has designated Mr. John Ronayne (left) and Attorney David Swartz (right) as the official raisers of the Irish Flag at City Hall on St. Patrick's Day.

Mr. John Ronayne is from Castleyons, County Cork, Ireland. (This is the same town City Councilor William Ryan's mother hails from.) John moved from Ireland to the United States in 1985 and has lived for the past 8 years in Haverhill. He is a heavy equipment operator with Local 4.

CALENDAR - More on Page 20 State Representative Barry Finegold Speaks to THNA

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25TH @ 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Good Counsel School's Judson Hall

The THNA monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 and our guest speaker will be State Representative Barry Finegold. Barry will be discussing the state budget, energy issues and answering questions from all in attendance.

All of the THNA meetings are open to the public to allow neighbors and residents the opportunity to discuss any issues or concerns they may have. In attendance for the THNA meetings are representatives from various city departments including District D (Tower Hill) City Councilor Nick Kolofoles, At-Large City Councilor Roger Twomey, Fire and Police Department including Police Chief John Romero and Fire Chief Peter Takvorian. If you have a concern or issue with public safety, this is a great meeting to attend.

For additional information visit our website at www.thnalawrence.com

Northeast Free Patch Giveaway Press Event

Please join Mayor Sullivan and the Lawrence Tobacco Free Partnership to launch the Northeast Free Patch Giveaway at a press conference on April 1, 2009, at 10:00 AM at Lawrence City Hall. On March 31, 2009, the Federal cigarette tax will increase \$.62 per pack; this is a perfect time to help smokers make a quit attempt. During April and May, a free 2-week supply of nicotine replacement patches will be available to any qualifying adult in Lawrence and the surrounding communities in Northeastern Massachusetts.

When and Where is your next event?

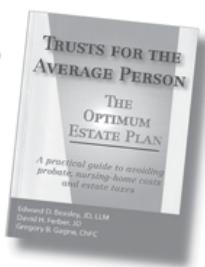
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Send us this information:

Event Name and Date
Location
Time
Fee (if Any)
Contact Information

Event Description

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Superintendent's report on alcohol incident at LHS

On Friday, March 13, 2009 around noon time, a student from the International High School was found to be under the influence of alcohol and sent to the School Nurse for evaluation. No alcohol was found in the student's possession at that time. Based on the nurse's assessment, the student was sent to the hospital by ambulance for medical treatment, as she is also taking prescription medication. This incident of a medical matter was immediately reported to the my office as is protocol.

Over the course of the afternoon, there were rumors that other students may have been drinking with this student and that alcohol was seen on the campus. Dr. Smith, Ms. Geiser, and the safety officers were following up on these rumors while also investigating an incident that happened Thursday afternoon off school grounds after school hours. During the course of these two investigations, it became apparent that there was some blending of the two matters. Around 3:15 p.m. on Friday, a group of 6 - 7 students had been identified as being involved in the community incident and the drinking matter. Since a couple of the students were still on school grounds, these students were brought to the office and their book bags were searched. At this point, alcohol was found in one of the book bags. The alcohol was confiscated and the administrators began making phone calls to the parents of these students and the other identified students to meet with them on Monday regarding this incident and the disciplinary actions that would be taken. The meeting concluded on Tuesday morning and Dr. Smith was preparing a summary, when Lt. Burke came to see her about the Thursday afternoon incident and inquired as to a possible alcohol matter that had occurred on Friday and was not reported to the Police. Dr. Smith indicated that she had been involved in the investigation of this matter and had just completed the investigation and had not yet called the police in. She did hand over the confiscated alcohol to Lt. Burke and shared the information that she had gathered relative to this matter. Unfortunately, I had not received any follow up report about the actual confiscation of the alcohol, so there was no information forwarded to you sooner.

Dr. Smith has re-emphasized the need for teachers to be vigilant about what students are bringing into activities and that only water is allowed in classrooms or in the cafeteria for activities. She also reinforced this matter with students yesterday.

This afternoon, we were made aware that the Eagle Tribune will be running a story this matter of underage drinking at the International High School tomorrow. The police provided them with a report on the issue and gave the impression that the incident was intentionally not reported to them. We did speak with the writer this afternoon to outline the process that was followed and that there was no intent to hide this incident, but that the Principal was trying to gather all of the information before moving forward with a report to the police.

Take care

Wilfredo T. Laboy, EdD.
Superintendent of Schools
wlaboy@lawrence.k12.ma.us
(978) 975-5900 ext. 303

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

From My Corner

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

Another Dominican for mayor

One of my favorite activities is attending political events to see faces I have not seen in a long time and catch up on old stories. I am usually greeted with glee but I also noticed when I'm given the cold shoulder or even the evil eye. Last Thursday, at Israel Reyes' announcement of his candidacy for mayor of Lawrence, I had it all. I saw some students I had in my "News Teams" during my days in the Lawrence Public Schools like my Bruce School star Sandra Dávila. Today, she is married with three children and works at the MSPCC office in Lowell. It was so good to see her!

Meanwhile, my eyes crossed Reyes' as well as his mother's and his wife's eyes several times but none came near me or said hello. But the cold shower didn't even give me goose bumps because I could imagine what was going through their heads. Yes, I was one of the undesirables at that gathering and they made it obvious.

Calling the National Guard!

It is not a question of firing Dr. Terika Smith from the International High School over a few students drinking rum in a classroom and in the cafeteria. The school department cannot guarantee that the children in the Lawrence Public Schools can be protected anymore. There are too many incidents involving the administration. This incident further illustrates the arrogance and denial that is the hallmark of Superintendent Wilfredo Laboy's "legacy of learning".

These kids are at risk and in grave danger under this lack of supervision and discipline. Someone needs to mobilize the parents at LHS and storm the School Committee meeting; unfortunately, they need to get rowdy and not take no for an answer or listen to feeble excuses.

Where are the State Representatives and Senators? Where's the Governor? Where's the head of the Department of Education? The MCAS results are public information which can easily be obtained through the Internet yet, I seem to be the only person who pays attention to its content. The results are abominable and after 8 years, Laboy should have more to show for. Kids fail in high school because test scores show that they failed throughout their entire school career. They failed in 3rd and 5th and 7th grade, etc. How can we expect them to do better? All the schools and all grade levels have a very high percentage of students needing improvement or failing; some schools have 90% in those two categories. Are you outraged yet?

Our students are not stupid or lazy; they are made to fail. Blame the system; blame Laboy who after eight years at the head of the system should have shown better numbers on the MCAS tests. He

loves to surround himself by "yes" people without consideration for skills and firing Dr. Smith is not the answer; she should have never been hired.

He makes one foolish decision after another. And he's not even man enough to stand up and tell the truth; he tells the principals not to call police. He should take the heat off Smith because he told her to do it that way – then he lets her hang. Remember, each principal's evaluation has a clause for an increase based on the number of suspensions. Proof of that is the article published by the Eagle-Tribune on Thursday, March 19, quoting the Police Chief John Romero saying that Assistant Principal Michael Qualters promised the intoxicated girl that if she agreed to go to the hospital, he wouldn't report it to police.

Since the mayor doesn't care and lets him get away with everything, perhaps it's time to call the National Guard to get him out of here.

Systemic Dysfunctionality

The Tribune shows us the "tip of the iceberg" in news gathering in Lawrence. The other 90% goes undetected by most folks. For example, there is nearly \$4,000,000.00 in unpaid invoices from the high school project? Jim Vittorioso asked about that during the last School Committee meeting and received a vague answer which seemed to satisfy him.

Is someone hiding the school construction audit? Where is the overdue audit of the city's finances? Maybe that will be discussed this coming Wednesday night in the library. When they created the same dog-and-pony show last year at the Senior Center, many questions were asked including what's happening with the Human Rights Commission. There have been applications from residents who want to serve on that board who have never been called.

Remember when the mayor appointed two City Hall employees as "emergency appointments" to the Historical Commission to make sure that the votes would be there



Procedures for Food and Beverage Consumption on School Grounds for Grades 1-12

Due to issues of health and safety, no student or staff member will be allowed to consume any beverage or food product in any classroom within the Lawrence Public Schools. All food items are to be consumed in the cafeteria, teacher's room, or a private office. This measure is being taken to minimize food by-products being in classroom spaces that lead to pest control issues and to reduce the potential for illegal substances to be brought into the school in bottled packages or thermos containers.

To this end, the following items will no longer be allowed in school, during school hours or school-sponsored events, unless served in the cafeteria, brought in as part of a parent provided lunch and eaten in the cafeteria, or served at an approved event:

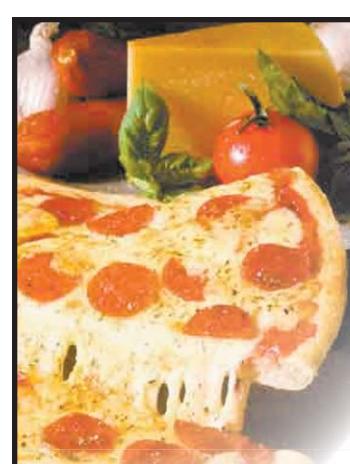
- 1) Bottled liquids of any kind, including bottled water
- 2) Purchased drinks from outside vendors, including coffee, tea, hot chocolate, soft drinks, juices, etc.
- 3) Foods that are not in compliance with the Lawrence Public Schools Wellness Policy

If there is a need to provide a beverage to students in a classroom due to heat conditions or during testing sessions, then the beverage must be water and it must be provided in a paper cup.

for something that he cared about. One phrase sums up the Lawrence experience: "systemic dysfunctionality."

PLEASE SEE DÍAZ

■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 16



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\$130,000 raised to support youth programs and scholarships YMCA's 18th Annual Auction a Success



Passing around the "Pot of Gold," the final item auctioned off at the Merrimack Valley YMCA's 18th annual auction are (from left to right): Andover/North Andover YMCA Board Member Cathy Drivas; Lawrence YMCA Board Member Jen Abdulla; Auction Committee Member Liz Moughan; and YMCA volunteer Brigitte Guy.



Rosa Lopez (left) and Rebecca Montgomery, both of New Balance headquarters in Lawrence, admire silent auction gifts at the YMCA's auction. Rosa is on the YMCA's Board of Directors and Rebecca lives in Methuen.



Auction volunteers (from left to right) Elizabeth Covino of Andover; Douglas Currier of Haverhill; and Melissa O'Brien of Methuen, prepare for a night of intense bidding at the 18th annual "Reach Out for Youth & Families" auction, held at the Wyndham Andover Hotel on March 14.

18th Annual Merrimack Valley YMCA 'Reach Out For Youth & Families' Auction packs Wyndham's Ballroom

Saturday, March 14, was the date of the Merrimack Valley YMCA's 18th Annual Auction held at the Wyndham Andover Hotel. More than 350 guests packed the ballroom and bid on more than 150 silent auction items, and

50 live auction packages. Some popular items that saw fierce bidding were tickets to Bruce Springsteen's concert in April; a week-long stay at a home in Port St. Lucie; a private helicopter tour; Bocce with the Grellas (Methuen's Tom Grella from The

Next Food Network Star, as well as many Patriots and Red Sox packages. This year the auction raised nearly \$128,000 in support of the YMCA's "Reach Out For Youth & Families" financial assistance program.

CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 4

DÍAZ: From My Corner

Shoot the messenger mentality

The dictator/superintendent has issued a new food consumption policy for all classrooms grades 1-12. Effective immediately they must adhere to the attached guidelines. This policy is directed at students and staff. Supposedly, a formal notice to parents was sent on Friday. You may read the letter in its entirety on this page.

There is a problem with that directive because the School Committee sets up policies for the school department. That change in policy was approved at an illegal meeting of only three members of the School Committee, Greg Morris, Jim Vittorioso and Peter Larocque plus the mayor the night that the television stations were in town, Thursday, March 19th. The superintendent sent a notice to the School Committee members telling them that they should attend a "workshop" on the budget.

Something that puzzles me is that I asked the City Clerk Bill Maloney the next morning if that meeting had been posted and he said it was. I later found out that there was no meeting held because Laboy called it a "workshop". A workshop does not have to be posted like a regular meeting and opened to the public.

That leads me to conclude that the vote taken that night for the Procedures for Food and Beverage Consumption on School Grounds for Grades 1 – 12 was illegally taken because it was done during a "workshop" not a regular meeting of the School Committee where it should go through a First and Second Reading and public input.

This has been Laboy's way to divert our attention, pretend that he is doing something when in fact, he is not doing anything to correct the problem while deviating from the real problem: Dr. Smith and his own flawed rules.

For MCAS testing teachers will be allowed to provide water in paper cups to students but they should worry about spills on test booklets. It doesn't say if bag packs will be searched upon entering the buildings. And what about children or adults who need for health reasons to have water with them? Kids now have to buy water from school and those who receive free or reduced lunch will have to buy water, as well as athletes and teachers. This is ridiculous and inhumane!

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Fee (if Any)

Contact Information

Event Description

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO
315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843
Email: editor@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.

To the Editor:

The fulfillment of a dream is never attained simply through wanting. Patience, hard work, perseverance and, most importantly, the commitment of believers is what turns a dream into reality. For years the staff and trustees of Merrimack Valley Hospice dreamed of building a Hospice House to offer compassionate, comprehensive end-of-life care to patients who cannot remain at home during their final days. Our dream is almost realized, with the construction of a Hospice House on North Avenue in Haverhill nearing completion. We didn't do this alone – our friends across the Merrimack Valley, through gifts large and small, donated nearly \$4.4 million in support of this important project. We're almost there, but not quite. Now, we need your help to reach our \$5 million goal. The Hospice House has been meticulously designed and will include 14 private suites for patients and their families, as well as unique shared spaces that create a tranquil feeling including living rooms and gathering areas, a family kitchen, library, sanctuary and beautiful gardens. Two of the rooms can be converted to children's rooms complete with a crib and rocker.

In the coming weeks we'll be writing to our friends and neighbors asking for support of this important project. Please give thoughtful consideration to this request and know that donations of all sizes matter and will help. Your contribution will help us bring comfort to a husband with young children who is struggling to care for his ailing wife, a frail, elder hoping to remain by her dying husband's side, or an ill child needing round-the-clock care..

To make a gift today, please call Vicki Kelley at 978-552-4162 or visit www.merrimackvalleyhospice.org. Your gift of any size matters and will make a difference.

On behalf of the patients and families that will find comfort in this special house, thank you for your consideration of support. We remain dedicated in our belief and ever grateful to all who join us in achieving this dream.

Sincerely,

JOAN STYGLES HULL RN, MBA
President/CEO

BY ELLEN BAHAN
ellenbahan@rumbonews.com



It's All About Right(s)

Just Kidding

St. Patty's Day 2009. How come when I write my political satire, John Molori and the other party goers, that attended Bridgeboy Mayor Manzi's fundraiser, don't think it's just all in fun?

What better way than to start it off with a song!

*"Good People" by Jack Johnson
You win, it's your show, now.
So what's it gonna be 'cause people will tune in?
How many train wrecks do we need to see?
Before we lose touch of, we thought this was low
It's bad getting' worse
Where'd all the good people go?
I've been changin' channels
I don't see them on the TV shows
Where'd all the good people go?
We got heaps and heaps of what we sow
They go this and that with a rattle a tat
Testing one two, now whatca gonna do
Bad news, misused, got too much to lose
Gimme some truth, now whose side are we on?
Whatever you say, turn on the boob tube
I'm in the mood to obey, so lead me astray
And by the way, now
Where'd all the good people go?
Sitting round feeling far away
So far away but I can feel the debris, can you feel it?
You interrupt me from a friendly conversation
To tell me how great it's all gonna be
You might notice some hesitation
It's important to you, not important to me
Way down by the edge of your reasons
It's beginning to show, and all I really wanna know is
Where'd all the good people go?
Anyway ok, whatever you say
Wrong or resolute but in the mood to obey
Station to station desensitizing the nation
Going, going gone.*

I'll bet you all thought I was going to sing the bad boyz song. I can't make any promises, but after all it is St. Patrick's Day.

In the past I have always proclaimed that if all I am left is ridicule, invective and blame, I'm in!

The Billy and Joey show is like the ones you were forced to watch in grammar school, and you could just not wait till it ended.

And as this poor excuse for a soap opera drones on and on, I see the Methuen Assisted Suicide Housing Project is up and running, desperately seeking victims... I mean residents.

There are microwave radiating antenna on the Historic Fire Department Building, irradiating the children in the daycare across the street, never mind the firefighters housed in the base station.

Hey don't we have a Historical District Commission that crawls up inside others, but this seems to have gotten a quick and clean pass through. Once again I am not surprised. You know it is not too late to throw around your power, which you so like to do! AND MAKE THEM TAKE IT DOWN. After all it is historic, it is downtown, and it is your job... what you signed on for.

And if this is not enough, DO IT FOR THE CHILDREN, WHO ARE HOUSED ACROSS THE STREET ALL DAY LONG. I do think you at least capable of caring about the children.

There are new interesting and informative studies recently released from Europe that you should find interesting about the effects on children.

There are microwave radiating antenna on the Mar-Lin Housing Project AKA Mills Falls, that are irradiating the downtown never mind the 100% Section 8 citizens housed in the housing project.

These are the poor people so we really do not care so much about them, but what about the firemen who in first bounce, besides spending extended amounts of time dwelling in the base station that houses the humdinger of antenna on the tower.

Another tribute to the Billy and Sharon years. Loyal readers have a little faith, remember that newspapers are archived

Hey don't we have a Historical District Commission that crawls up inside others, but this seems to have gotten a quick and clean pass through. Once again I am not surprised. You know it is not too late to throw around your power, which you so like to do! AND MAKE THEM TAKE IT DOWN. After all it is historic, it is downtown, and it is your job... what you signed on for.

forever, it is a law, and someday there will be justice.

Hollywood Haggar

Someone once asked me how come I never run out of stories, my answer was it never fails when I think there is nothing left to tell...RANDY always come through for me.

THANK YOU RANDY! That's Capitan Randy to the rest of you out there in the lovely confines of Methuen.

As I was reading the story in the daily record of advertising, death, Dear Abby and horoscope, my only wish was that Hollywood would not lure Randy away from our fair town.

What would we do. WHAT WOULD I DO! For many years Randy has supplied us with outrageous antics that just so happen to be true; all the while light speeding through the ranks of the Methuen Police Department with a skyrocketing salary to match the rank.

I thought the key to his success was knowing the right ass to kiss and when to kiss it. I understand though as of late, Senator Baddour mentioned his new moniker... suppository.

I guess in order to maintain status quo the requirements call for escalation, I always knew you had it in you Randy!

Please don't abandon us for Hollywood!

CrossOver

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NOTES FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

BY MAUREEN NIMMO

Lawrence Public Library Director

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 10

Hello Rumbo readers. All right: this time it is really spring I hope. As of Friday the 20th it is official. I think we have all earned a warm and pleasant spring after a nightmare of a winter. December and January were real miseries this year and December, technically speaking, doesn't even count as winter!

Lawrence has entered into our budget season once more. City Budget and Finance Director, Mark Andrews, (for whom it is always budget season) really has his hands full. Not only does he need to construct a feasible plan for the upcoming fiscal year but he also must find a way to make up for unexpected shortfalls in this year's budget at the same time. One of controversial elements of the fiscal plan is the furlough package. The idea behind this is that every city employee, from the mayor on down, accept ten days off without pay before the end of June. The plan is a little more complicated than that, but that is the basic idea.

Needless to say, as a city employee I would rather not have to do this. However, I would far rather accept the furlough than face the alternative which is mass layoffs. Because we are entering the fourth quarter of the year, a layoff would have to be four times as severe as it would have been if we could have planned for it at the time the fiscal 09 budget was drawn up. These are difficult times for everyone. The Mayor and Mr. Andrews are exploring every alternative. Those of us who work for the city need to each do our share towards helping them get us through.

As I have often said, I don't consider

these articles a place to vent my political or philosophical views except insofar as they directly involve the library and literacy. This is a special case, however. It is time for all of us working for the city of Lawrence, no matter how much or how little seniority we might have, to stick together and make a sacrifice so that no further jobs are lost. There is no way to avoid an awareness of this country's grave economic circumstances. Everyone is taking some kind of hit but I pray the city will unite so that everyone takes a small hit to avoid anyone taking a huge one.

We have all been enjoying a fun Irish Heritage Month. The parade was lovely and the weather perfect. The annual Hibernian luncheon was a lot of fun, as usual. The presence of the Celtic Thunder singers didn't hurt. We had an Irish Genealogy speaker here on Saturday and we look forward George and Terri Kelley's performance of Celtic music on the 29th (2:00 Sargent Auditorium in the Main Library) to round out the month.

The library, in collaboration with the city Recycling Coordinator (from DPW), Groundwork Lawrence and several Lawrence teachers have been working on a new initiative called "Litter-acy for Youth". Our plan is to combine reading and library usage with early awareness of recycling and green thinking. (Hence the spelling.) I'll keep you informed as things progress.

Sky is blue. Snow is gone. I am happy. See you at the library.

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www.mvYMCA.org
978.725.6681



State Pediatricians Introduce Statewide Program to Help Parents Quit Smoking

Massachusetts pediatricians are using a new tool to help protect their patients from secondhand smoke. The QuitWorks for Child and Family Health Care Practitioners program provides a clinically-proven model to help pediatricians talk to their patients' parents and caregivers about quitting smoking, and enables them to refer smokers to a free, phone-based program to help them quit.

The program is a pediatrician-specific adaptation of the QuitWorks program launched in 2002, and is collaboration between the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP), the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), and all major health insurers in the state. It is based on research from the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) Clinical Effort Against Secondhand Smoke Exposure (CEASE) program founded at MassGeneral Hospital for Children (MGHfC).

"The vast majority of Massachusetts adults don't smoke," said Dr. Lauren Smith, a pediatrician and the Medical Director of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. "We are working hard to reach those who still do, and to help them quit for their own sakes and the sake of their children. QuitWorks for Child and Family Health Care Practitioners is an essential tool in our effort to ensure that every child in Massachusetts has a chance to grow up smoke-free."

DPH will mail 4,000 QuitWorks starter kits to pediatricians and family practitioners in Massachusetts during February and March 2009.

"If you smoke, the best way to protect your child's health is to quit," said Dr. Carole Allen, Harvard Vanguard pediatrician and president of the Massachusetts Chapter

of the American Academy of Pediatrics. "Now your child's pediatrician can do more than just tell you to quit—he or she can help you to quit. It's a big difference."

Nearly a quarter of a million Massachusetts children are exposed to tobacco smoke in their own homes, a statistic the program strives to reduce.

"Our goal is to eliminate children's exposure to secondhand smoke and to give every parent the best possible chance of quitting," said Dr. Jonathan Winickoff, founder of CEASE and a pediatrician at MGHfC. "When parents are ready to try to quit, it's important that we're there to help."

Secondhand smoke is known to increase children's risk of sudden infant death syndrome, respiratory infections, ear infections, decreased lung growth, and more severe asthma. Of the more than 4,000 toxins secondhand smoke contains, at least 60 are known to cause cancer, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A 2006 report from the Surgeon General states that "secondhand smoke causes premature death and disease in children," and explains that there is no safe level of exposure.

"If we can help more parents and caregivers quit smoking, they and their loved ones will be healthier. And, if some of the money they save by not buying cigarettes could be used for nutritious food and education, their children's health and future well-being would be that much more assured," explained Dr. Robert Naparstek, MD, Chair of the MMS Committee on Environmental and Occupational Health at the Massachusetts Medical Society.

Information about QuitWorks for Child and Family Health Care Practitioners is available at www.quitworks.org.

■ CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA 10

PEDIATRAS: Los pediatras de Massachusetts introducen un programa estatal para ayudar a los padres a dejar de fumar

"Cuando los padres están listos para dejar de fumar, es importante que estemos disponibles para ayudarlos".

Se sabe que el humo del tabaco aumenta el riesgo infantil de síndrome de muerte súbita del lactante, infecciones respiratorias, infecciones de oído, disminución del crecimiento pulmonar, y asma más severa. De las más de 4.000 toxinas que contiene el humo del tabaco se sabe que por lo menos 60 causan cáncer, según los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades. Un informe de 2006 del Director General de Salud Pública de los Estados Unidos afirma que "el humo del tabaco causa muerte prematura y enfermedades en los niños", y explica que ningún nivel de exposición es seguro.

"Si podemos ayudar a más padres y cuidadores a dejar de fumar, ellos y sus seres queridos estarán más saludables. Y, si parte del dinero que ahorrán al no comprar cigarrillos lo destinaran a alimentos nutritivos y educación, la salud y el bienestar futuro de sus niños se beneficiaría más aun", dice el Dr. Robert Naparstek, presidente del Comité de Salud Ambiental y Ocupacional de la Massachusetts Medical Society.

Para más información sobre el programa QuitWorks for Child and Family Health Care Practitioners, por favor visite www.quitworks.org.

CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA 9

DÍAZ: Desde Mi Esquina

dirigida a los estudiantes y al personal. Supuestamente, una notificación formal a los padres ha sido enviada el viernes. Usted puede leer la carta en su totalidad en inglés en la página 15.

Hay un problema con la directiva debido a que el Comité Escolar es quien establece las políticas para el departamento escolar. Ese cambio en la política fue aprobada en una reunión ilegal de sólo tres miembros del Comité Escolar, Greg Morris, Jim Vittorioso y Peter Larocque más el alcalde la noche que los canales de televisión estuvieron en la ciudad, el jueves, 19 de marzo. El superintendente envió una notificación a los miembros del Comité Escolar diciéndoles que debían asistir a un "taller" sobre el presupuesto.

Algo que me intriga es que le pedí a Bill Maloney, el City Clerk a la mañana siguiente, si esa reunión se había publicado y dijo que así fue. Más tarde descubrí que no había ninguna reunión porque Laboy lo calificó como un "taller". Un taller no tiene que ser publicado como una reunión ordinaria ni ser abierta al público.

Esto me lleva a la conclusión de que la votación de esa noche por el Procedimiento para la Alimentación y Consumo de Bebidas en la Escuela Para los Grados 1 - 12 fue ilegal porque se hizo durante un "taller" no en una reunión ordinaria del Comité Escolar donde debe pasar por una primera y segunda lectura y las aportaciones del público.

Esta ha sido la forma de Laboy para desviar nuestra atención, simular que está haciendo algo cuando en realidad, no está haciendo nada para corregir el problema, mientras nos distrae del verdadero problema: Dr. Smith y sus propias normas defectuosas.

Para los profesores haciendo pruebas del MCAS se les permitirá ofrecer agua en vasos de papel a los estudiantes, pero deben preocuparse por los derrames sobre los folletos de la prueba. No dice si las mochilas serán revisadas al entrar en los edificios. ¿Y qué va a pasar con los niños o adultos que necesitan por razones de salud tener agua con ellos? Los niños ahora tienen que comprar agua de la escuela y los que reciben almuerzo gratis o a precio reducido tendrán que comprar el agua, así como los atletas y profesores. ¡Esto es ridículo e inhumano!

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 Jerry Proulx, reclutador de voluntarios, al 1-800-892-0890 ext. 463 (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.

Groundwork Lawrence joins Groundwork USA in Washington, DC visit

On St. Patrick's Day 2009, Groundwork Lawrence (GWL) joined members of the Groundwork USA (GWUSA) national organization for a presentation in partnership with the Northeast-Midwest Institute and the Revitalizing Older Cities Task Force in a room reserved in the Cannon House, in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the meeting was to engage Federal support for Groundwork's growing effective program for urban sustainability. As we build our collective capacity to respond to the vast needs experienced by marginalized communities across the country, GWUSA is seeking an investment in our projects, programs and operations by the Federal government to help us continue achieving our mission and goals at the local level.

Moderated by active partner Greg Lewis of the Northeast-Midwest Institute, the presentation room was packed with guests with National perspectives (legislators and Federal agencies) who listened, asked questions, and appeared to be motivated to support the Groundwork mission for recognition in Federal legislation.

Amongst the invited guests, Congresswoman Nikki Tsongas spoke on behalf of her local Groundwork organization, Groundwork Lawrence, citing the many successes of the program. Sacha Cruz & Wanny Muñoz, youth members of GWL's Green Team, spoke about how Groundwork has changed their lives personally, citing the need to be role models in their community. The youth highlighted their work on cleanups and projects and how these experiences have enhanced their self esteem and propelled them to continue their education past high school.

Groundwork was formed in 1996 by an initiative between the EPA and National Park Service Rivers and Trails Assistance Program and individual cities, and is dedicated to the mission of "changing places, changing lives". GWL was established in 2001. Currently there are 21 cities throughout the US with either active trusts or doing a feasibility study to create new trusts.

Prior to the presentation, GWL also took the opportunity to speak to EPA staff. From their positive response, GWL plans to continue to reach out to additional Federal agencies in the near future. GWL Executive

Director Kate O'Brien said, "When the guests of the forum saw the Lawrence Green Team members speak personally about how their lives were affected by Groundwork, there was a resounding thunder of applause. Groundwork is positioning itself uniquely as more than a representative of the Green movement...we are truly a people movement".

Groundwork Lawrence is part of Groundwork USA (www.groundworkusa.org), a growing national network of Trusts working to stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods in older industrial cities across the US. Our work is more important now than ever before, and is consequently attracting more interest and attention than ever—especially from legislators who are part of the Northeast-Midwest Revitalizing Older Cities Coalition. In this period of fiscal responsibility and containment, Groundwork USA has shown itself to have the ability to leverage \$15 to each \$1 Federal dollar.

For more information on Groundwork Lawrence or Groundwork USA visit www.groundworklawrence.org or www.groundworkusa.net.

■ CONTINUES FROM PAGE 7

REYES: Speech by Israel Reyes during the announcement of his candidacy for Mayor on March 19, 2009

unemployment. In order to realize the severity of this economy you need only drive down Essex Street or Broadway. You find countless empty storefronts, roads in disrepair, spray paint and a fear that we may not recover.

I remember when my dad lost his job after 25 years. His company moved to Georgia where the labor is cheaper. I witnessed first-hand how it impacts families and their ability to provide. This is unacceptable. The Reyes Administration will work aggressively to include a vocational training component to the Adult Learning Center, make sure our WIB includes a Workforce Ready" Job Skills Program and provide TIF's to small businesses to help create jobs locally. Lawrence needs to be the regional leader in job re-training in order to provide the skills employers are seeking.

residents, and visitors need to know, Lawrence is about public safety and the Public Safety needs to be equally a top priority of the next administration. Businesses, large and small, residents, and visitors need to know, Lawrence is a safe city! I know first-hand about public safety and the pitfalls that our streets can offer our youth and the harm it can do to a city. You know, a few years back, I lost my two young nephews to the streets. There's not a day that goes by that I don't think about them. No one in this race understands public safety like I do, and no one in this race cares more about public safety than me! I will be relentless in our pursuit of making Lawrence the safest city in the Commonwealth.

I tell you tonight, the Reyes Administration will make public safety

a top priority and we will have a zero tolerance policy with offenders! I will work day and night with our police, state and federal officials to round up criminals and toss them out of this city, and better the lives of hard working men and women like you.

In order to accomplish our goals, I strongly believe we must start with strengthening our education system. I can not begin to tell you what it has done for me. It has truly made all the difference in the world. I know the road won't be easy, but nothing worth doing ever is. As such, we need to start our journey with our youngest children. I will be vigilant in my efforts in securing federal and state funding to reduce the achievement gap. We will begin providing extended day learning programs for all grade levels, increase part-time Pre-K and Kindergarten classes to full time Early Education to ease the stress on working families and we will create a Gang Intervention Collaborative with Law enforcement, school officials and the District Attorney's Office to develop a safer learning environment.

There's no doubt that this campaign needs to be about the issues, about our future and not our past. Tonight is just the first step as we outline our plans for Lawrence. I hope that the other candidates in this race will take the time to reach out to voters, and listen to their concerns and ideas to move this city forward, we deserve no less that. Above everything else, this campaign should make whoever wins, not just a better candidate, but a better door to door, make phone calls, and talk about

mayor for us all. I will continue to go door to door, make phone calls, and talk about my plans for Lawrence. As a matter of fact, tonight, I propose a series of debates so that every candidate can outline their plans and answer the questions of voters like you. And for the press in attendance tonight, I challenge each of you to host these debates. The voters of Lawrence have the right to an open and honest debate that discusses the issues we all care about, and our leaders should be ready, willing and able to do just that. So I say, right here, right now, name the time and place and I will be there with all of you to show why I should be the next mayor of Lawrence.

My friends, I admit to you that the journey we must travel will not be an easy one, but it is something that we can win with the right leadership. My business, educational and community involvement over the last 30 years has uniquely prepared me to be your next Mayor, but I can't do it alone! I'm going to need your help. I ask you, if you're ready for change, if you're ready to write the next chapter in Lawrence's history books - let's turn the page together. My staff and volunteers are wearing red t-shirts all over this hall, and I implore you, please, go see one of them and sign up to become an agent of change for the Team Reyes. If you can spare an hour a week, knocking on your neighbors doors, making phone calls, hosting a coffee or simply stuffing mail, it will bring us an hour closer to our goals. I need you to create change. The type of change we can all be proud of!

The only real question left is, "Are you ready for a change? Are you with me? Can I count on you?"

Well then let's go make history!

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Free Nicotine Patches for Veterans

Massachusetts veterans are now eligible for a FREE quit-smoking offer from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Massachusetts veterans and their family members and survivors who call the Massachusetts Smokers Helpline at 1-800-Try-To-Stop will receive a free four-week supply of nicotine patches valued at \$100 retail, along with informational resources on the benefits of quitting smoking, and tips on how to stop. Program participants can also receive free telephone support to help them quit.

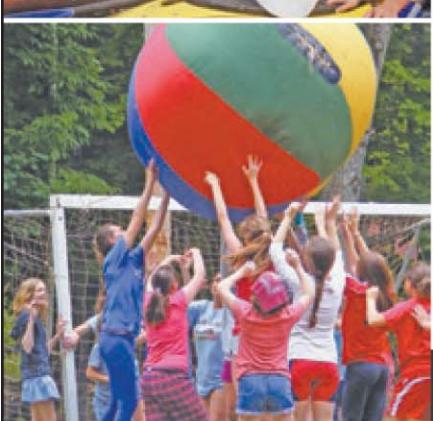
The nicotine patch giveaway program will run through June 30, 2009.

Massachusetts veterans smoke at a higher rate than the general adult population: 24% as opposed to 18%, when adjusted for age (based on figures from 2005-07). This new quit-smoking offer for veterans is a joint effort of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services.

More information is available online at www.makesmokinghistory.org/veterans.

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MVCC: "The Massachusetts Economy"

3/27/2009
Salvatore's Riverwalk Conference Center
354 Merrimack Street, Lawrence MA

TIME: 7:30 AM - 9:15 AM
MORE INFO: Call 978.686.0900

The Massachusetts Economy: A Report from the Massachusetts State Senate
The Government Affairs Committee of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce will host on March 27, 2009, A Report from the Massachusetts State Senate, with Senator Steven Baddour, Senator Sue Tucker & Senator Bruce Tarr. The Program will be held from 7:30 - 9:15 AM at Salvatore's Riverwalk Conference Center, 354 Merrimack Street, Lawrence, MA. Sponsors of this program are: Covanta Energy; Devine Millimet & Branch; National Grid; Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems; Sheehan, Phinney, Bass & Green; Trinity Emergency Medical Services; and Wheelabrator, North Andover. The Cost is \$25 per member and \$35 for non-members. Online: www.merrimackvalleychamber.com.

LMCC: Community Outreach Fashion Show "Walking With Swagg"

3/28/2009
Boys & Girls Club
136 Water Street, Lawrence

TIME: 4:00 PM
Proceeds to benefit the Youth Community Coalition. Contact Delilah Rivera or Ricky Vazquez at 978.975.8793.

Celtic Celebration

3/29/2009
The Lawrence Public Library
51 Lawrence Street, Lawrence MA

TIME: 2:00 PM
Presented by The Irish Foundation and the Friends of the Lawrence Public Library

Andover musicians George and Terri Kelly will present a program including: Tales of the Ancient Celts, Celtic music ranging from Ancient Gaelic Airs to Current Songs, and

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Event Name and Date
Location
Time
Fee (if Any)
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Event Description

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PORTADA | FRONT PAGE | YMCA's 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

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a Sing Along of Irish Favorites. Terri Kelly will be playing the Library's beautiful 1914 Steinway Piano. Admission is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the concert.

"Amistad" Martial Arts Championship

3/29/2009
Social Naturalization Club
120 Broadway, Lawrence, MA
Presents by KOKUSAI KEMPO-KARATE ACADEMY. For Information call Iris Velo 978-397-4298.

LMCC: Guitar Hero Battle

4/11/2009
112A E. Haverhill Street, Lawrence
CALLING ALL GAMERS!
Trophy for the FIRST place winner. Light snacks will be served. All ages welcomed! For R.S.V.P. please call Ricky Vazquez at 978-975-8793

Reach Out for Youth and Families Swimming Relay

5/3/2009
Lawrence YMCA
40 Lawrence Street, Lawrence
\$10 per participant. Four swimmers on every relay team - sign up individually or as a team. Races are divided by age and skill level. Prizes for top finishers in each age division. Instructional floatation devices are permitted. Ages three to adult. Registration forms are available at the front desk. Please contact Claudia Soo Hoo, Aquatics Director, at 978.686.6291 x 26 with any questions.

YWCA Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon

5/14/2009
The YWCA of Greater Lawrence is holding its 26th annual Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Philips Healthcare,

on Thursday, May 14, 2009 at the Andover Country Club to recognize Merrimack Valley women leaders for their professional achievements and civic contributions. Emceed by Senator Susan Tucker, with Keynote Speaker Dr. Carol Leary, President of Bay Path College, the luncheon begins at 12:00 p.m.

Since 1983, Tribute to Women has recognized over 600 Merrimack Valley women leaders from large and small companies in the private, public and non-profit sectors. The luncheon also serves as one of two major annual fund-raisers hosted by the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, with proceeds going to fund women and youth service programs.

To make a nomination, sponsor or attend the event, visit www.ywcalawrence.org to view the Tribute to Women Nomination and Sponsorship & Reservation Forms, or contact Susan McNeff at smcneff@ywcalawrence.org or call 978.687.0331 x1029.

5th Annual Cat's Meow Chocolate Tasting & Silent Auction

5/15/2009

Indian Ridge Country Club
73 Lovejoy Road
Andover, MA 01810

TIME: 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM
FEE: \$ 25

Presented by the Billerica Cat Care Coalition. Live jazz from "Moon Glow." Sample chocolate creations from: Ye Olde Pepper Candie Companie, Mrs. Nelsons Candy House, Chefs of the Old World, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Fatbread, Whole Foods, Starbucks, Edible Arrangements, Dove Chocolate Discoveries, Godiva, Batian Peak, Panera Bread. Purchase in advance at www.billericacatcarecoalition.org

MVCC: Afternoon with The Harlem Globetrotters

5/29/2009
TD Banknorth Garden
TIME: 1:00 PM
FEE: \$ 35

Enjoy an exciting afternoon with your family, friends, business associates and the HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS

V-Day Lawrence:
A Night of Spoken Word & Art

Featuring: London Bridgez
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Help Us Raise Awareness in Ending
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Empowering the Community with Our Voices and Words

Friday, April 3rd @ 8 p.m. Doors Open @ 7 p.m.
Bell Tower Square - 60 Island St. - Lawrence, MA
\$5 @ the door
For more information contact: 978-397-5851

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A V-Day 2009 Campaign Event

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Show Starts at 8:00 PM (Doors Open at 7:00 PM)
South Lawrence East School - Auditorium
165 Crawford Street, Lawrence, MA 01843 - \$10.00 ticket
Reserve your tickets @ vdaylawrencetix@yahoo.com
or call 978-397-5851
Proceeds Benefit: YWCA of Greater Lawrence

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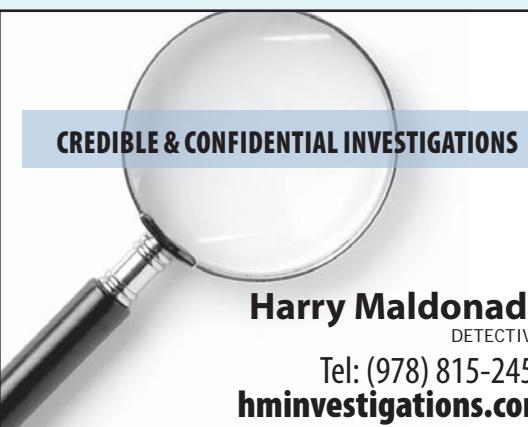
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Friday March 20th - Open Auditions
(5-8pm) (Ages 13-18 only)



Friday March 27th - 'Hollywood Round'
(5-8pm)

Friday April 3rd - TOP TEN COMPETITION
(6-8pm)

CLUBHOUSE IDOL GOES REGIONAL!

This year's Clubhouse Idol and Runner-Up will also compete against Boston's three other Music Clubhouses to be crowned the ULTIMATE Clubhouse Idol.



The winner and runner up will attend workshops at the renowned Berklee College of Music in Boston and learn from the pros what it takes to be a professional singer.



Contestants will be competing for additional prizes not to mention the experience of being on the Berklee stage!

**Win an iPod Touch****Clubhouse Wide
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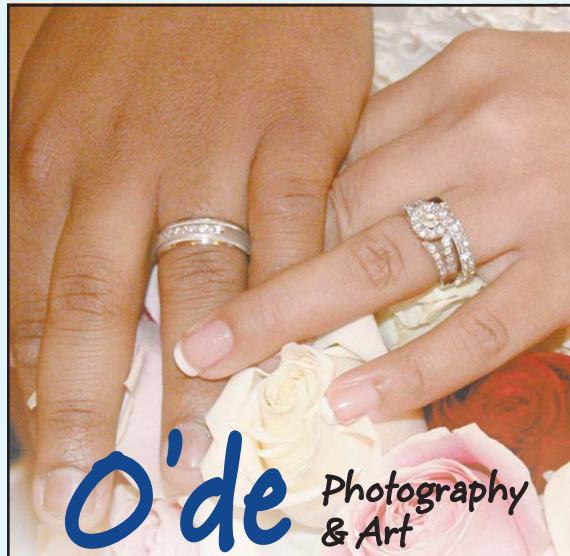
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www.lawrencemusicclubhouse.org or 978-686-6191 for more details



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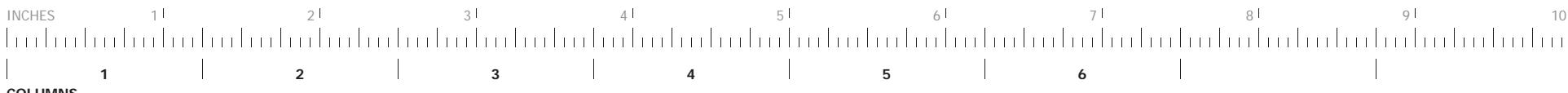
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JOBS AVAILABLE

The U. S. Census Bureau is hiring for the 2010 Census. These temporary, part-time jobs offer good pay, flexible hours up to 40 hours a week, and the chance to work near home. Call toll free 1-866-861-2010 for more information. Visit our website at <http://www.2010censusjobs.gov>.

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NOTICIA PARA EL PÚBLICO

La compañía Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA) tendrá una reunión pública el miércoles, 25 de marzo, 2009 a las 10:30 a.m. en la Cámara del Concilio en el ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Lawrence.

La razón para esta reunión es para presentar un cambio en la frecuencia de todas las (11) rutas básicas que tiene la MVRTA en la Ciudad de Lawrence. La razón para este cambio es por la construcción que va estar en efecto por el Massachusetts Highway Department en el puente de la calle Broadway y el Duck Bridge en Union St. entre los próximos cuatro años. Por esta construcción las rutas serían desviadas causando que las guaguas corran tarde, cambiando la frecuencia del servicio dará más tiempo a las guaguas para correr los viajes completos y a tiempo.

Lunes - Viernes

Servicio de Horas	PRESENTE	PROPUESTO
Frecuencia	Frecuencia	Frecuencia
5am – 9am	25 minutos	30 minutos
9am – 2pm	45 minutos	60 minutos
2pm – 6pm	25 minutos	30 minutos
6pm – 8pm	45 minutos	60 minutos

Sábado

Servicio de Horas	PRESENTE	PROPUESTO
Frecuencia	Frecuencia	Frecuencia
7am – 7pm	45 minutos	60 minutos

Las siguientes rutas serán afectadas por este cambio de frecuencia y habrá un cambio para cada ruta en su agenda:

- 01 Haverhill / Methuen / Lawrence
- 32 Andover
- 33 North Andover
- 34 Prospect Hill / Lawrence General Hospital
- 35 Water Street
- 36 Lawrence Street / Holy Family Hospital
- 37 Beacon Street
- 39A Colonial Heights / North Andover Mall
- 39B Phillips Street / North Andover Mall
- 40 Methuen Square
- 41 Lawrence / Lowell

Comentarios serán aceptados en la reunión pública en persona o por escrito. Comentarios también podrían ser mandados por escrito a MVRTA, 85 Railroad Avenue, Haverhill MA 01835 ó por correo electrónico a marketing@mvrta.com.

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CITY OF LAWRENCE



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DUTIES: Under the supervision of the Assistant Treasurer, perform a variety of financial accounting and clerical duties in support of department operations. Mainly responsible for maintaining and preparing accurate reporting to the general ledger through the MUNIS applications for all departmental cash receipts and State and Federal grants and revenues. This includes preparing, coding and verifying weekly cash receipts before entering and initiating batches in the general ledger. Prepares stop payments through interaction with banks and the Comptroller's office. Responsible for disbursement and accurate accounting of all Payroll deductions including Court ordered probate and garnishments through the Internal Revenue and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

QUALIFICATIONS: High school diploma with business background in accounting. Minimum 5 years experience in bookkeeping operations, including knowledge of city accounting systems, revenue and expenditure classifications. Knowledge of Mass General Laws pertaining to job functions listed above. Computer skills a must to include Office and Windows. Bilingual English/Spanish a plus.

Appointing Authority: Michael J. Sullivan, Mayor

Posting Date: March 16, 2009 Deadline: March 27, 2009

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Si pensaba que un anuncio pequeño no funciona, esta es la prueba de que estaba equivocado. Este pequeño anuncio ha logrado llamarte la atención y ya le ha dedicado unos segundos de tu tiempo. Los lectores de Rumbo podrían estar leyendo sobre sus productos y/o servicios. El costo del anuncio no es un secreto ni envuelve trucos de venta. Este lo podrás calcular con la guía que aparece en esta página. ¿Qué pondrías tú en este espacio? Comunícate con Alberto al (978) 794-5360.

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Thank You!

Marie Gosselin and the Saint Patrick's Parade Committee wish to thank these corporations and individuals that so generously made possible that the 2009 Saint Patrick's Parade in Lawrence was such a huge success.

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