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The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley (NH) Salem, Nashua, Manchester

Nuevos patrulleros en Lawrence



El Jefe de Policía de Lawrence, John J. Romero y el Alcalde de Lawrence William Lantigua, parados entre los dos Interceptors adquiridos por la Ciudad de Lawrence que serán añadidos a los 8 nuevos entregados el 1ro de julio, 2012 para reemplazar los que están en mal estado. |2

New Cruisers for LPD

Lawrence Chief of Police John J. Romero and Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua stand between two new Interceptors bought by the City of Lawrence which will be added to the 8 new ones delivered on July 1st. 2012 to replace some in state of disrepair. |2

Lawrence Area Veterans Honored



On Veterans Day, the City of Lawrence honored all area veterans with a warm, colorful ceremony held at South Lawrence East School on November 11, 2012. Jorge (J.T.) Torres, Corporal (USMC)/Specialist (ARNG) Retired, was the guest speaker.



Shantel Cuevas performed a great rendition of the National Anthem. Through the years, every time Joey Grieve was in the program, you knew that he was going to please the audience. But this time, the MCMAA 2011 Junior Entertainer of the year surpassed any other audition. He has grown up not only in height, but in the quality of his voice. Usually, he sings patriotic themes *a capella* but his rendition of I'm Proud to be an American with sound background left many in tears. |6



Merrimack Valley Kidney Ride Fundraiser Raffle

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Desayuno de Panqueques para Veteranos



Durante los últimos 3 años, el Concejal-At-Large de la Ciudad de Lawrence, Roger Twomey ha honrado a sus compañeros veteranos con un desayuno. En la foto con el Sr. Twomey está su esposa Marilyn que lo apoya en todas sus actividades. |7

Pancake Breakfast for Veterans

For the past 3 years, Lawrence City Councilor-At-Large Roger Twomey honors his fellow Veterans with a Pancake Breakfast. Pictured with Mr. Twomey is his wife and best supporter, Marilyn. |7

Queremos desear a todos nuestros lectores y sus familias un feliz Día de Acción de Gracia

We want to wish all of our readers and families a very happy Thanksgiving Day.

Dos nuevos autos para la policía de Lawrence



El patrullero Ángel López está a punto de dar al Alcalde de Lawrence William Lantigua una prueba de conducción alrededor de la manzana en uno de los dos Interceptors recientemente adquiridos por la ciudad para mejorar su flota de vehículos y reemplazar algunos que están en mal estado. De acuerdo con el Jefe John Romero, el precio de cada uno de estos Interceptors es más de \$30,000.

Two New Cruisers for LPD

Patrolman Angel Lopez is about to give Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua a test drive around the block in one of the two Interceptors recently acquired by the city to improve its float and replace those in bad shape. According to Chief John Romero, the price tag of these Interceptors is in the high \$30K.

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World AIDS Day Saturday, December 1st, 2012

This year's World AIDS Day ceremony will mark the 20 year Anniversary in Lowell. The activities will start at 1:00pm at City Hall, 375 Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA 01852. A reading of the proclamation will be on the front steps, followed by candlelight walk to Living Waters at 10 Kirk Street, Lowell, MA 01852. Candles will be provided.

Living Waters will host the reception starting at 2:00pm with refreshments and information tables. A portion of the AIDS quilt will be displayed at the reception. A remembrance tree will be at Living Waters for participants to share or dedicate names of loved ones affected by HIV and AIDS. During the reception there will be a panel presentation and awards ceremony.

Students will be doing a performance and there will be an open microphone. Everyone is invited to attend and participate. Please join us at City Hall at 1:00pm. This year's World AIDS Day theme is:

Getting to Zero

Zero Discrimination: On gender, race, sexuality...
On addiction...On people living with HIV and AIDS...
On homelessness...On immigration...On human Beings...

World AIDS Day December 1



EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL Jaime necesita ayuda

La ceremonia en honor a todos aquellos que han servido que se llevó a cabo el 11 de noviembre, 2012 en South Lawrence East School fue en muchos aspectos una de las mejores que hemos asistido, a excepción de la falta de los veteranos presentes. Contamos unos nueve, tal vez 10.

La realización de las guardias de color de LHS JROTC y el Drill Team, el Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard, los niños de la Prospect Hill Magnet School, Shantell Cuevas en su interpretación del Himno Nacional y Joey Grieve en su mejor actuación hasta ahora así como la presentación del orador invitado Jorge Torres, Cabo (USMC)/Especialista (ARNG) Jubilado, fue un gran homenaje a nuestros veteranos.

Tenemos que confesar que no fue hasta que llegamos al desayuno que el Concejal Roger Twomey ofrecía a los veteranos esa mañana que nos enteramos sobre el evento en la Escuela SLES.

Fue una cuestión de falta de comunicación. Como Jaime Meléndez nos explicó, su carga de trabajo casi se ha duplicado. La guerra continúa mientras que los veteranos están regresando y su primera preocupación es cuidar de ellos. "Eso me dejó muy poco tiempo para avisarle a todo el mundo", expresó con tristeza.

Expresamos la preocupación de Meléndez al Concejal Twomey que respondió con un muy prometedor e-mail, "Lamento escuchar eso. Hace unos años, yo mismo, Marilyn, Linda Arvanitis, Maureen Imielkoski y Lou Ann Bistany fuimos el equipo que elaboró el evento del Día de los Veteranos de la Ciudad de Lawrence para Francisco Ureña. Desde luego que me acercaré a Jaime Meléndez el próximo año para ayudarlo con este evento. El es nuevo en esto, tal vez necesita un poco de ayuda."

Alabamos a Jaime Meléndez por el evento que presentó dentro de sus límites y damos gracias al Concejal Twomey por su maravillosa oferta, teniendo en cuenta que él tiene las manos llenas con su propia celebración.

Nada es suficiente por lo que hagamos por alguien que jamás pide reconocimiento - ¡Nuestros veteranos!

Jaime needs help

The ceremony honoring all who served held on November 11, 2012 at the South Lawrence East School was in many aspects one of the best we ever attended, except for the lack of Veterans in the audience. We counted nine, perhaps 10.

The performing of the Color Guards of the LHS JROTC and the Drill Team, the Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard, the Prospect Hill Magnet School children, Shantell Cuevas in her rendition of the National Anthem and Joey Grieve in his best performance ever and the presentation by the Guest Speaker Jorge Torres, Corporal (USMC)/Specialist (ARNG) Retired, was a great tribute to our veterans.

We have to confess that it was not until we arrived to Councilor Roger Twomey's Breakfast to honor the veterans that morning that we found out about the event at SLE School.

It was a matter of lack of communications. As Jaime Melendez explained, his work load has almost doubled. The war continues while veterans are coming back and his first concern is taking care of them. "That left me little time to tell everybody," he expressed with sorrow.

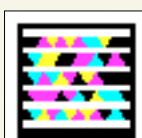
I expressed Jaime's concern to Councilor Twomey who responded with a very promising e-mail "Sorry to hear that. A few years ago myself, Marilyn, Linda Arvanitis, Maureen Imielkoski and Lou Ann Bistany were the team that put together the Veterans Day event for the City of Lawrence for Francisco Urena. We will certainly reach out to Jaime Melendez next year to help him with this event. He is new at this, maybe he needs some guidance."

We praised Jaime Melendez for the event he put forward within his limits and thank Councilor Twomey for his wonderful offer, considering that he has his hands full with his own celebration.

Nothing is enough for what we do for somebody that never asks for recognition - Our Veterans!

Rumbo

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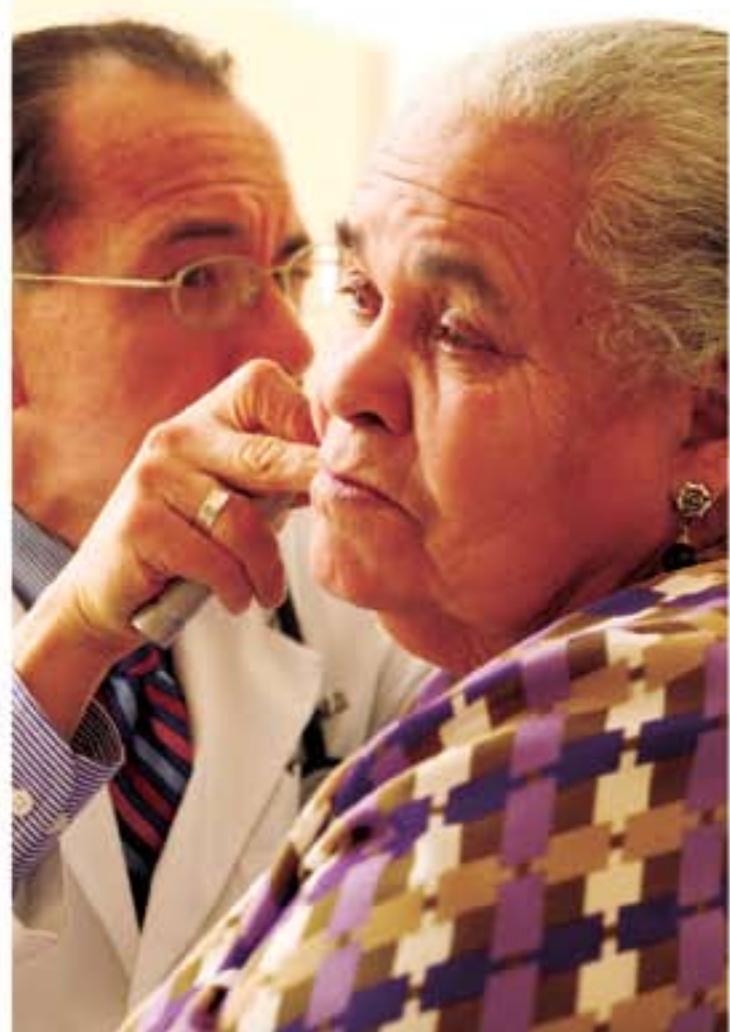
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POR DALIA DÍAZ
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READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Desde Mi Esquina

Arreglando las elecciones

Durante los días finales de las elecciones de 2012, hubo muchas comunidades en todo el país que aprendieron lecciones de sus operaciones electorales locales. Lo que estas comunidades encontraron fue que es necesario hacer ajustes o cambios, a muchas áreas de los planes operativos de voto. Irregularidades en la votación fueron continuadas molestias a los votantes de la mayoría de estos pueblos y ciudades.

Una de esas comunidades fue la Ciudad de Lawrence, que todavía tiene que cumplir con sus grupos de interés para discutir las acciones necesarias para corregir las situaciones inaceptables que se produjeron la semana pasada. La Oficina Electoral de Lawrence fue sorprendida con la guardia baja en varias áreas de sus operaciones. La ciudad todavía tiene que analizar su sistema y llegar a soluciones viables para eliminar este tipo de sucesos en futuras elecciones.

Varios de los problemas en la Ciudad de Lawrence fueron: largas filas en las urnas de votación, los trabajadores no entrenados debidamente, la falta de recursos como marcadores, cabinas electorales confiables y fuertes, las listas de votantes activos e inactivos en las que no se podía confiar, el personal de la oficina electoral ineficaz, y la percepción de cierto personal de la oficina electoral cometiendo actos ilegales.

Algunas de las soluciones para algunos de los problemas anteriores son simples. Por ejemplo, la falta de marcadores a mitad de la jornada electoral, se podría haber resuelto con sólo atar los bolígrafos en las urnas, lo que elimina el riesgo de que los votantes se vayan con ellos. Otra ventaja es que podemos ahorrar el sueldo de tener a una persona todo el día pidiendo que sean devueltos a la salida.

Otra sería la de garantizar que todas las mesas de votación fueran reparadas y seguras antes de ser colocadas en los colegios electorales. "En 2006 tuvimos muchas cabinas construidas a través de la oficina del Sheriff, pero son débiles y se están cayendo en pedazos," me dijo el Escribano de la Ciudad William Maloney. "Tenemos que construir alrededor de 100 mesas nuevas a un costo de alrededor de \$600 cada una."

Otra solución consiste en proporcionar entrenamiento práctico a todos los trabajadores electorales y garantizar que todos hablen inglés eficaz y competentemente. Hay necesidad de tener personal bilingüe, pero buen dominio del idioma inglés debe ser obligatorio. Este trabajo es más que mirar la lista de votantes y la entrega de la boleta. El trabajo implica relaciones con los clientes, servicio al cliente y la capacidad de formular y responder preguntas de los votantes. Una buena visión es fundamental, he visto trabajadores de la mesa que no pueden encontrar direcciones o nombres en particular en un día ajetreado.

"Hemos tenido una participación electoral del 56% y sabíamos que después de las elecciones presidenciales de 6 de marzo que íbamos a tener un número muy elevado de votantes inactivos en el otoño," dijo Maloney. "Esa fue la causa de los retrasos y las largas filas porque tenían que firmar una declaración de residencia permanente, pero

la gente fue muy paciente - querían votar", explicó.

El Sr. Maloney también alabó el comportamiento de los votantes durante todo el día.

Utilizando la tecnología moderna

Al asegurarnos de que nuestros días de elecciones son eficaces, el Alcalde y el Concejo Municipal deben correctamente financiar el presupuesto de la oficina electoral. Es la responsabilidad del Escribano de la Ciudad presentar un presupuesto basado en las necesidades y potenciales crisis futuras, no sólo un presupuesto mínimo que puede o no alcanzar para cubrir la temporada de elecciones.

Esta ciudad debe invertir en su infraestructura tecnológica para sacar provecho de software eficaz para ayudar a esta ciudad. No estamos pidiendo a la ciudad que cambie a un sistema electrónico de votación. Sin embargo, estamos recomendando que la ciudad invierta en un software que permite a los residentes de la ciudad emitir su voto en cualquier mesa de votación. El uso de este método podría eliminar los problemas de los votantes inactivos o problemas asociados con ser registrado en un distrito diferente.

Esto podría hacerse mediante la compra de software simple que se puede implementar en cada estación de votación. El software se instala en los ordenadores portátiles de bajo costo capaces de leer toda la lista de votación de la ciudad con una columna que indique si el votante está activo o inactivo. Este sistema se puede conectar con el servidor principal de la ciudad y el sistema de la Oficina de Elecciones.

Una vez que el votante entra en cualquier estación de la ciudad, el trabajador puede marcar el nombre y recibe una boleta. Al salir del centro de votación, el nombre será revisado de nuevo, no importa dónde vive el votante en Lawrence. Esto eliminaría los problemas de tener que enviar a un votante a otra parte de la ciudad debido a estar inscripto en otro.

Si la persona está en la lista de inactivos, entonces él o ella tendrían que mostrar una identificación pero se les permite votar al igual que los miembros activos. También eliminaría el riesgo de votar más de una vez ya que la lista principal se actualizará al instante.

Contamos con 24 centros de votación en esta pequeña ciudad. Ese número podría reducirse a tal vez uno o dos por distrito y el uso del sistema portátil que he señalado anteriormente, eliminará la confusión con la lista de inactivos, lo que requiere menos trabajadores en cada sitio.

Hay muchas ideas que podrían ayudar a la ciudad en tener operaciones rápidas y efectivas implementadas. Pero no vamos a llegar si la ciudad no está verdaderamente comprometida a tener un comité para estudiar la actualización de nuestro sistema caótico y arcaico.

Si usted tiene alguna otra sugerencia, favor de dejármela saber. Este es el momento de empezar a planear.



Anatomía de un encubrimiento

Si usted no ha leído la historia principal de la semana pasada en Rumbo, le recomiendo que lo haga y la compare con un caso similar en Haverhill.

La primavera pasada, tres policías fueron censurados por escribir un informe falso o incompleto y por violar la ética policial mientras intentaban proteger al ex Superintendente Diputado de la Policía Estatal ya jubilado, después de un accidente por conducir ebrio. Los tres fueron suspendidos por 5 días sin pago y el Alcalde James Fiorentini y el Jefe de Policía de Alan DeNaro están sosteniendo reuniones para pedir que sean permanentemente despedidos de la fuerza.

¡Lawrence es tan diferente!

Ceremonia del Día de los Veteranos

¡La Ceremonia del Día de Veteranos de este año en la escuela South Lawrence East School fue preciosa! Shantell Cuevas cantó una de las mejores interpretaciones del Himno Nacional que he escuchado en muchos años.

Y Joey Grieve tuvo una presentación especial con su música patriótica que me hizo llorar. He estado viendo a este niño desde que tenía 8 años de edad, y su voz se ha vuelto más profunda y fuerte. Joey rindió homenaje a todas las ramas de los servicios armados, entonces America the Beautiful y God Bless the USA.

¡Felicitaciones a NILP!

El grupo de Lee Lewis and the Doo Wop Allstars con música de los años 50 y 60 fue mejor de lo esperado. Bailé toda la noche al igual que cuando era una adolescente. Gracias NILP.

¡Feliz cumpleaños a mí!

Por favor, vaya a mi página de Facebook. Tengo un mensaje especial para todos mis amigos.

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.

ANUNCIO PAGADO

CONSEJOS SOBRE SEGUROS

Las casas deben estar aseguradas al 80% de su valor de reemplazo para poder calificar para una póliza como propietario. Hay descuentos disponibles a menudo cuando aseguran una vivienda por el 100% de sustitución. El seguro se basa en la reconstrucción de una casa después de un incendio.

La cobertura de terremoto se puede añadir a una póliza porque "el movimiento de tierra" se excluye.

Problemas con el agua y alcantarillado son excluidos a menos que agregue cobertura adicional. Esto es importante para los sótanos terminados.

El seguro contra inundaciones se debe comprar por separado. Los daños por inundaciones no están cubiertos por el seguro de propietarios de viviendas.

La cobertura como propietario de la vivienda no se basa en el precio de compra o la determinación del impuesto o el monto de la hipoteca. Cada uno de estos incluye la tierra y los cimientos y esos no se queman.

Los deducibles más altos le pueden ahorrar dinero. Muchas pólizas tienen deducibles más altos en caso de vendavales.

Es importante tener un seguro más alto por responsabilidad para proteger sus activos, o si usted es dueño de una familia de varios apartamentos.

El seguro de la propiedad es para edificios ocupados por el dueño.

Un edificio ocupado por inquilinos está asegurado con una póliza contra incendios residenciales u otra cobertura.

El seguro de responsabilidad civil es importante para edificios ocupados por inquilinos en caso de que alguien se lesioné en su propiedad.

Cuando los jóvenes se mudan ya no están cubiertos por su póliza de propietario y necesitan un seguro de alquiler. El seguro para inquilinos está disponible incluso si comparten un apartamento con alguien.

Las empresas en su casa no están cubiertas por el seguro de propietarios de la vivienda. Una póliza independiente es necesaria incluso para una guardería de niños.

Recuerde que todas las pólizas tienen exclusiones y limitaciones. Asegúrese de saber lo que está comprando y siempre compare las cotizaciones por escrito, no por vía telefónica.

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ANUNCIO PAGADO

No más fumar En bares y restaurantes

Por Alberto Surís

Una propuesta de enmienda a la regulación del uso y consumo de tabaco en Lawrence fue ante de una audiencia pública el miércoles, 14 de noviembre 2012 en la cámara principal del Ayuntamiento, la cual fue aprobada por unanimidad por el Concejo de Salud encabezado por Dr. Joel Gorn.

La enmienda prohíbe la operación de "barras de fumar" o "hookah lounges" en la Ciudad de Lawrence, así como prohíben las máquinas Roll-Your-Own (RYO) de cigarrillos en las tiendas locales al por menor.

RE: BARRAS DE FUMAR-Esta enmienda simplemente eliminará la posibilidad de que las empresas locales puedan utilizar una escapatoria o excepción bajo MGL 270 s. 22, que permite a los establecimientos que cumplen con ciertos criterios para permitir fumar.

Todos los bares y restaurantes de Lawrence recibirán la notificación de la audiencia por escrito.



City of Lawrence Board of Health presided by Dr. Joel Gorn.

Diane Knight, Director, Northeast Tobacco Free Community Partnership speaking during the public hearing.

**In bars and restaurants:
No more smoking!**

By Alberto Surís

A proposed amendment to the Lawrence tobacco regulation went before a public hearing Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at Lawrence City Hall's Council Chamber, and it was approved unanimously by the Board of Health headed by Joel Gorn, MD.

The amendment banned the operation of "smoking bars" or "hookah lounges" in the City of Lawrence, as well as ban Roll-Your-Own (RYO) cigarette machines from local retail stores.

RE: SMOKING BARS-This amendment will simply eliminate the possibility that local businesses will use a loophole or exception under MGL 270 s. 22, which allows establishments that meet a certain criteria to permit smoking.

All Lawrence bars and restaurants will receive notification of the hearing in writing.

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Lawrence Area Veterans Honored



Children from the Prospect Hill Magnet School leading the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.



From left: Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua; Brother Rene Roy, FMS, Central Catholic President; and Jaime L. Melendez, Jr., Director, Lawrence Veterans Services presiding over the ceremony.

By Alberto Surís

On Veterans Day, the City of Lawrence honored all area veterans with a warm, colorful ceremony held at South Lawrence East School on November 11, 2012.

Jaime L. Melendez Jr. Director, Veterans' Services Department welcomed the attendees and introduced the Guest Speaker, Jorge (J.T.) Torres, Corporal (USMC)/Specialist (ARNG) Retired.

In his speech, Mr. Torres commended Jaime for the work he is doing on behalf of all veterans. He also paid tribute in a very emotional account of the work and sacrifices of all veterans. Whether they served in battle or not, they face all kinds of dangers.

Mayor William Lantigua thanked Mr. Torres explaining that his emotions were part of the memories brought to him.

"Election Day, no matter who you voted for, demonstrated the freedom our veterans preserve. Veterans miss their children's birth, their weddings, in order to serve."

The National Anthem by Shantell Cuevas was one of the best ever heard and Joey Grieve's patriotic songs brought the audience to tears. His voice is stronger and more powerful than ever.



Jorge Torres' Biography

Torres was born in Villalba, Puerto Rico on October 12, 1967. He was 20 years old when he enlisted in the U.S. Marines, on April 27, 1987 where he went through an intensive training until his honorable discharge in July 1st 1991.

Too long to list, his military education while in the Marines include Advance Infantry Warrior Training; Anti-Terrorist Training; Counter Terrorist Tactical Training; Non-Commissioned Officers School; Quarter Battle Training; FBI, Long Range Sniper Training; U.S. Marshall Ballistics Training; Basic Repelling School and Basic Armor School.

At the Army National Guard which he joined on February 14, 2006, he went through Anti-Terrorist Awareness Training; Ammunition & Explosives Safety Training; Combat Service Support Very Small Aperture Terminal (CSS/VSAT) System Training; Combat Service Support (CSS/CAISI System Training) Casualty Management Training; Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA/

AR 40-66 Training); Operational Support Team Training; Personal Security Detail Training, and Advance Defense/Offense Vehicle Training. He was discharged on February 13, 2012 from the ARNG.

His civilian education started at his younger years at Greater Lawrence Technical High School, followed by a Business Management career at Northern Essex Community College and transferring to UMASS Pursuing a B.A. as Hazmat Specialist and Building Performance Specialist in June, 2011.

Torres has received a long list of decorations, service medals and badges, during his military career which include the Rifle Expert Badge (USMC/ARNG); Pistol Sharp Shooter Badge (USMC/ARNG) and Meritorious Mass (USMC). He has received 3 Letters of Appreciation from the USMC.

**PLEASE SEE JORGE TORRES
CONTINUES ON PAGE 17**

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Desayuno de Panqueques para Veteranos

Por Alberto Surís

Durante los últimos 3 años, Concejal At-Large de la Ciudad de Lawrence, Roger Twomey ha honrado a sus compañeros veteranos con un desayuno de panqueques.

Además de panqueques, el desayuno incluyó butifarras, tocino, jamón, frutas, panetelas, donuts, jugos y café.

Este año el evento tuvo lugar en el Reliefs In ubicado en el #1 de la Calle Market, en Lawrence el Domingo, 11 de noviembre 2012.

Pancake Breakfast for Veterans

By Alberto Surís

For the past 3 years, Lawrence City Councilor-At-Large Roger Twomey honors his fellow Veterans with a Pancake Breakfast.

Besides pancakes, the breakfast included sausages, bacon, ham, fruit, muffins, donuts juice and coffee.

This year's event took place at the Reliefs In, located at One Market Street, Lawrence on Sunday, November 11, 2012.



Selecto grupo de voluntarios que ayudaron a organizar el magnífico evento llevado a cabo en honor de los veteranos.
Select group of volunteers that help organize this wonderful event to honor our veterans.

Back Row Standing L-R--- Dan Selenis, Nancy Begley, Deirdre Twomey, Roger Twomey, Connie Kurchian, Ray Lacroix, Keith Wlodyka. Middle Row Standing L-R--Martha Velez, Debbie Twomey, Marilyn Twomey, Patricia Riddle, Ann Clegg. Seated L-R--- Maureen Imielkowski, Louann Bistany, Marilyn Mercier, Linda Arvanitis.

Las nuevas caras de la YMCA

Por Dalia Diaz

La Sucursal de la YMCA de Lawrence está creciendo y cambiando con los tiempos. El sabor latino se puede reconocer desde el momento en que entra y hasta los miembros de habla inglesa están disfrutando de la transformación. La Y de Lawrence es una verdadera representación de la comunidad a la que sirven.

Julian Villegas llegó a la Y el año pasado como el nuevo director ejecutivo. Fue una sabia decisión porque tenía una amplia experiencia trabajando con diferentes YMCA's en el desarrollo de programas y capaz de hablar español, por lo tanto fue una bendición para Lawrence.

Ahora la recepcionista en esta sucursal es Floralba Gómez. Una estudiante de psicología en Middlesex Community College, ella tiene grandes modales de servicio al cliente con todos los miembros. Ella fue producto de la escuela de South Lawrence East School y de la Escuela Superior para Artes Escénicas antes de entrar en Middlesex.

Floralba sueña con ser una maestra de escuela y muy orgullosamente habla de su hermano, que es uno de los cinco estudiantes más destacados de Lawrence High School.

"Trabajar en la Y cambió mi vida; toda mi perspectiva de la vida ha cambiado", dijo.

Jennifer Mejías también fue recientemente contratada como gerente de mercadeo de la Merrimack Valley YMCA, trabajando desde la oficina corporativa. Ella es otra lawrenciana que estudió en la



Jennifer Mejías, marketing manager; Julián Villegas, executive director of the Lawrence Branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA and Floralba Gómez, receptionist at the Lawrence Branch.

Escuela Oliver, de ahí asistió a la escuela de preparatoria Gobernador Dummer y recibió una beca para estudiar en la Universidad de Syracuse. Se graduó con una licenciatura en administración y mercadeo así como un título en comunicación pública. Ella enseñó en una escuela en Swampscott a estudiantes de los grados segundo al quinto, y decidió volver a la universidad y ahora está persiguiendo su MBA en Boston College.

En su nuevo puesto, el objetivo inmediato de Jennifer es hacer un llamamiento a los miembros latinos y aumentar su membresía. Se da cuenta de que la mayoría de las personas no saben que la YMCA es una organización privada sin fines de lucro que no recibe subvenciones del gobierno y opera exclusivamente con las donaciones que recibe de sus miembros, la comunidad y las cuotas de afiliación.

The new faces of the YMCA

By Dalia Diaz

The Lawrence Branch of the YMCA is growing and changing with the times. The Latin flavor can be recognized from the moment you enter and even the English-speaking members are enjoying the transformation. The Lawrence Y is a true representation of the community they serve.

Julian Villegas came to the Y last year as the new executive director. It was a wise decision because he had extensive experience working with different YMCA's developing programs and able to speak Spanish, it was a blessing to Lawrence.

Now the receptionist at this branch is Floralba Gómez. A psychology student at Middlesex Community College, she has great customer service manners with all members. She is a product of the South Lawrence East School and the Performing and Fine Arts High School prior to entering Middlesex.

Floralba dreams of being a school teacher and very proudly talks about her brother who is among the top five students at Lawrence High School.

"Working at the Y changed my life; my whole perspective about life has changed," she said.

Jennifer Mejías was also recently hired as marketing manager for the Merrimack

YMCA
CONTINUES ON PAGE 23

Designer Denise Hajjar Brings Her Fashions to NECC

Internationally recognized fashion designer Denise Hajjar, who is also designer-in-residence at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston, was the special guest at the Women of Northern Essex Community College annual Membership Tea on Wednesday, November 14, in the Hartleb Technology Center on the Haverhill campus, 100 Elliott St.

Hajjar, born and raised in the Boston area, is said to have inherited her design interest and talent from her grandmother who was a designer in Damascus, Syria, and her grandfather who was a patternmaker and dress factory owner from Beirut, Lebanon.

After graduating from The School of Fashion Design, Hajjar chose to stay close to her Boston roots and start a business here. With almost 30 years in her own design business, Hajjar has established herself as a top designer, having sold her creations nationally to department stores, specialty boutiques, and individual clients worldwide.

Since March of 2006 she has been the designer-in-residence at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel.

Opening her retail boutique has provided her with the opportunity to showcase her ready-to-wear line of day and evening wear, and her made-to-order,



one-of-a-kind designs to customers from all over the world.

Hajjar has designed costumes for television, theatre, commercials and movies, such as, "Undercurrent," starring Lorenzo Lamas and Brenda Strong; new uniforms for the "Boston Children's Chorus" and most recently, five gowns for Vanna White

from "The Wheel of Fortune".

Approximately 200 ladies attended the elegant event. The tea menu featured assorted tea sandwiches, a fruit cascade, and a variety of desserts. Each table had gorgeous centerpieces of fresh flowers courtesy of Flowers by Steve.

Founded in 1997, The Women of NECC

was organized to help Northern Essex in its efforts to raise money for scholarship for needy and deserving students. Last year, the Women of Northern Essex gave more than \$30,000 in scholarships and they are proud to have created an endowment fund of \$200,000 exclusively for scholarships.



Seen at event, from left, Jean Poth of Groveland, vice president of institutional advancement; Dalia Diaz of Lawrence, Rumbo publisher and former member of NECC's Board of Trustees; board member, Nancy Greenwood of Methuen, board member; Joanne Fournier of North Andover, board member and Gerri Murphy of North Andover, president, of the Women of Northern Essex Community College at their Membership Tea and Scholarship Benefit.

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NILP celebra recepción y asamblea anual

El Northeast Independent Living Program (Programa de Vida Independiente del Nordeste, Inc. - NILP) llevó a cabo una recepción y Asamblea Anual en sus oficinas en Lawrence, MA.

NILP ha podido ayudar a las personas con discapacidad con información y servicios en toda la región de Merrimack Valley por más de 32 años.

Más de 100 personas asistieron a este evento, incluyendo consumidores, empleados, socios de la comunidad de negocios, personal de agencias estatales y socios de servicios humanos. Los visitantes recorrieron los programas, se reunieron con el personal y vieron las numerosas mejoras realizadas incluyendo el nuevo letrero y el embellecimiento exterior realizado el año pasado con la colaboración de la Fundación Stevens en North Andover y el Agnes M. Lindsay Trust de Manchester, NH.

La Junta comenzó con una bienvenida de la Directora Ejecutiva, June Cowen. Varios premios de reconocimiento se presentaron. Entre ellos: el ADA Champion Award fue a Vinny Ouellette del Departamento de Servicios Humanos, Parques y Recreación de la Ciudad de Haverhill por proveer accesibilidad a los más de 20 parques en Haverhill; Voluntarios del Año a Lisa Visone y Lisa Crider de United Parcel Service (UPS) en Chelmsford; Socio Comunitario del Año a John Enos de All-Star Pizza en Lawrence; el Premio David E. Ray al consumidor Alex Malvers de Haverhill; Premio al Liderazgo Extraordinario a Gary Hale, de la Comisión de Rehabilitación de Massachusetts en Lawrence; y el Premio Empleada 110% a Rebecca Puentes por su trabajo con el Consorcio de Recursos para Ancianos y Discapacitados (ADRC).

Los nuevos miembros elegidos para la Junta Directiva de NILP son: Kevin Hatch de Methuen; Denise Jackson, de Lynn; el abogado Richard Consoli de North Andover y Chris McNeil de United Parcel Service (UPS).

NILP ofrece servicios de abogacía para una vida independiente a personas con discapacidades que viven en el área metropolitana del Valle de Merrimack para que puedan vivir y trabajar de forma independiente.

Noviembre marca el inicio de la Campaña Anual del Fondo de donaciones para el Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. para servir a las personas con discapacidades en toda la región de Merrimack Valley. Como novedad este año, las donaciones pueden hacerse a través del sitio web, www.nilp.org con PayPal, que acepta todas las tarjetas de crédito y débito. Hay un botón de donación conveniente en el sitio web y usted puede imprimir su recibo. Los cheques girados a NILP siempre se aceptan, NILP, 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence, MA 01843. Las donaciones son deducibles de impuestos en la medida permitida por la ley.

Para obtener información sobre los servicios y programas del Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. visite el sitio web www.nilp.org o llame a Kevin Farrell (978) 687-4288, de lunes a viernes.



Desde la izquierda vemos a la Junta Directiva de NILP: Michael Alan de Methuen, Jami Cope, Presidenta de la Junta y residente de Andover y Chris McNeil de Middleton quien conduce los eventos del foro. Jami recibió el Premio de Liderazgo Sobresaliente en la Junta Directiva por su amplio servicio a la agencia, y el apoyo a su misión de apoyar la independencia de las personas con discapacidades.

The NILP Board of Directors: Michael Alan of Methuen; Jami Cope, President of the Board and Andover resident and Chris McNeil of Middleton runs the forum events. Jami received the Board Outstanding Leadership Award for her extensive service to the agency, and support for its mission to support the independence of people with disabilities.

Northeast Independent Living Program (NILP) miembro del personal, Rebecca Puentes recibió el premio Empleada 110% por su trabajo ejemplar este año. Rebecca es Coordinadora de NILP con el Consorcio de Recursos de Envejecimiento y Discapacidad. Ella es muy meritaria de este premio y su maravillosa obra es muy apreciada.

The Northeast Independent Living Program's (NILP) staff member, Rebecca Puentes received the staff 110% Award for her exemplary work this year. Rebecca is the NILP's Program Coordinator with The Aging and Disability Resource Consortium Program. She is most deserving, and her wonderful work is greatly appreciated.



NILP hosts Open House, Annual Meeting

The Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. (NILP) held their Open House and Annual Meeting at the agency location in Lawrence, MA on October 24. NILP for over 32 years has been assisting individuals with disabilities with information and services throughout the Merrimack Valley region.

Over 100 people attended this event including consumers, staff, community business partners, state agency personnel and human services partners. Visitors toured the programs, met with staff and looked at the many improvements made including the new sign and landscaping accomplished this past year with assistance from the Stevens Foundation in North Andover and the Agnes M. Lindsay Trust, Manchester, NH.

The Annual Meeting began with a welcome from Executive Director, June Cowen. Several recognition awards were presented including: the ADA Champion Award to Vinny Ouellette from the City of Haverhill, Human Services, Parks and Recreation Department for the accessibility of the more than 20 parks in Haverhill; Volunteer of the Year Award to Lisa Visone and Lisa Crider of United Parcel Service (UPS) in Chelmsford; Community Partner of the Year Award to John Enos of All-Star Pizza in Lawrence; David E. Ray Award to consumer Alex Malvers of Haverhill; Outstanding Leadership Award to Gary Hale of the Mass Rehabilitation Commission in Lawrence; and Staff 110% Award to Rebecca Puentes for her work with the Aging and Disability Resources Consortium (ADRC).

New members elected to the NILP Board of Directors include, Kevin Hatch of Methuen, Denise Jackson of Lynn, Attorney Richard Consoli of North Andover and Chris McNeil from the United Parcel Service (UPS).

NILP provides advocacy and independent living services to people with disabilities living in the greater Merrimack Valley area, so they can live and work independently.

November marks the beginning of the Annual Fund Campaign for donations to the Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. serving individuals with disabilities throughout the Merrimack Valley region. New this year, donations can be made through the website, www.nilp.org using PayPal which accepts all credit and debit cards. There is a convenient donation button on the website and you can print out your receipt. Checks made out to NILP are always accepted as well, NILP, 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence, MA 01843. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

For information on services and programs of the Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. go to the website www.nilp.org or call Kevin Farrell (978) 687-4288, Monday to Friday.

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Pentucket Kiwanis annual event keeps growing

By Alberto Surís

The Pentucket Kiwanis held its Annual Charity Auction and Wine Tasting to fund their many charitable causes on Friday, November 2, 2012 at The Galleria Banquet Room, Maria's Family Restaurant, located at 81 Essex Street, in Haverhill, MA. Besides the exquisite dishes prepared by Maria's chef, wines from Rolivia and New Castle ale were plentiful.

Local Kiwanis have been contributing to the Greater Haverhill Community since 1923. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

Founded in 1915 in Detroit and with

headquarters now in Indianapolis, Kiwanis International is a thriving organization of service- and community-minded individuals who support children and young adults around the world.

More than 600,000 Kiwanis-family members in 96 countries make their mark by responding to the needs of their communities and pooling their resources to address worldwide issues. Through these efforts, Kiwanis International truly is "Serving the Children of the World".

Pentucket Kiwanis is a nonprofit organization and any contribution is tax deductible to the extent of the law.



Ann Marie Pigeon, Robert Pigeon, Sheila Murray with Nancy Roberts McKenna, the event chair.



Shelley Blinn, Maria Bevilacqua and Susan Bonefant having a great time.

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HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL



Kevin Schiavoni getting a refill from Vinnie Grande from Rolivia Inc.



Kevin Schiavoni and Brian D'Ambrosio bidding on an item.

LE AYUDAMOS A BAJAR DE PESO

Qsymia, una nueva droga para bajar de peso que fue aprobada por la Administración de Drogas y Alimentos de EE.UU. a principios de este año está disponible con receta médica.

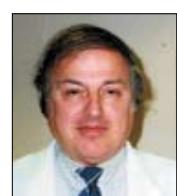
Esta es la primera vez en 13 años que la FDA aprobó un medicamento recetado para el control de peso crónico en adultos obesos o con sobrepeso con al menos una condición médica relacionada con el peso, como la presión arterial alta, diabetes tipo 2, o el colesterol alto.

Es el paso más reciente de la FDA para darle a los médicos y sus pacientes más herramientas para combatir el exceso de peso ya que las tasas de obesidad continúan aumentando en los EE.UU.



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Patrick-Murray Administration Celebrates Grand Re-opening of Teen Center in Lowell

Governor Deval Patrick yesterday joined state and local officials and youth to celebrate the grand re-opening of the newly transformed United Teen Equality Center (UTEC). The center, which provides education, workforce development and employment opportunities to Lowell's highest-risk youth, received an energy efficiency upgrade that both highlights the energy efficiency opportunities available in historic buildings, and provides an example of sustainable practices for the young people who use the building.

"I continue to be inspired by the determination of the teens here at UTEC," said Governor Patrick. "Because of their hard work, as well as the investments by local, state and federal partners, we have created an energy efficient, sustainable building that will help generations of young people reach their full potential."

The Patrick-Murray Administration directed a combination of \$1.9 million from President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and \$850,000 from MassDevelopment, the state's finance and development agency, to get the renovation of UTEC's historic building and a major addition off the ground in May 2011.

"We are thrilled with the energy efficient transformation of this facility," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rick Sullivan. "It is our hope

this project can serve as a great example to other communities in the Commonwealth, and across the nation, for how historic buildings can become energy efficient."

UTEC's energy efficient renovations include the installation of a 34 kilowatt solar PV system, the conversion of the church's steeple into a solar chimney as part of a passive cooling system, and an electric vehicle charging station outside the main entrance. The facility is expected to be the first LEED Platinum certified building in Lowell, and the oldest in the nation. It also features a commercial kitchen and cafe open to the community, a performance center with audio and video production and new classrooms for alternative education programs. The building will now support 20 new full-time positions for UTEC's older youth population, and enable enrollment in alternative education and employment skills programs to double.

"Today, UTEC is celebrating so many people who support our most disconnected young people on their paths to more sustainable lives, including the investment in UTEC's green building as a model of sustainability for years to come," said UTEC Executive Director Greg Croteau. "We could not be more excited to celebrate this milestone with the Governor, members of his cabinet, and so many other supporters from throughout the Commonwealth."

"This renovation and addition



(Photo Credit: Eric Haynes / Governor's Office)

Governor Patrick celebrates the grand re-opening of the newly transformed United Teen Equality Center (UTEC) in Lowell.

shows how well MassDevelopment's Community Service 501(c)(3) Loan Fund complemented the efforts of the Patrick-Murray Administration and our federal partners," said MassDevelopment President and CEO Marty Jones. "MassDevelopment appreciates the opportunity to help UTEC provide a more comprehensive workforce development program, become more energy-efficient, and create 20 permanent positions and more than 100 construction

jobs for Merrimack Valley workers."

The \$1.9 million in ARRA funding was allocated to UTEC by the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) as part of the State Energy Program's High Performance Building initiative, which directed more than \$15 million in grants to ten projects to deliver dramatic savings, create hundreds of jobs, and demonstrate replicable solutions to common energy challenges.



Client Spotlight

Crossover
Tuesdays at 10 AM
(in English)

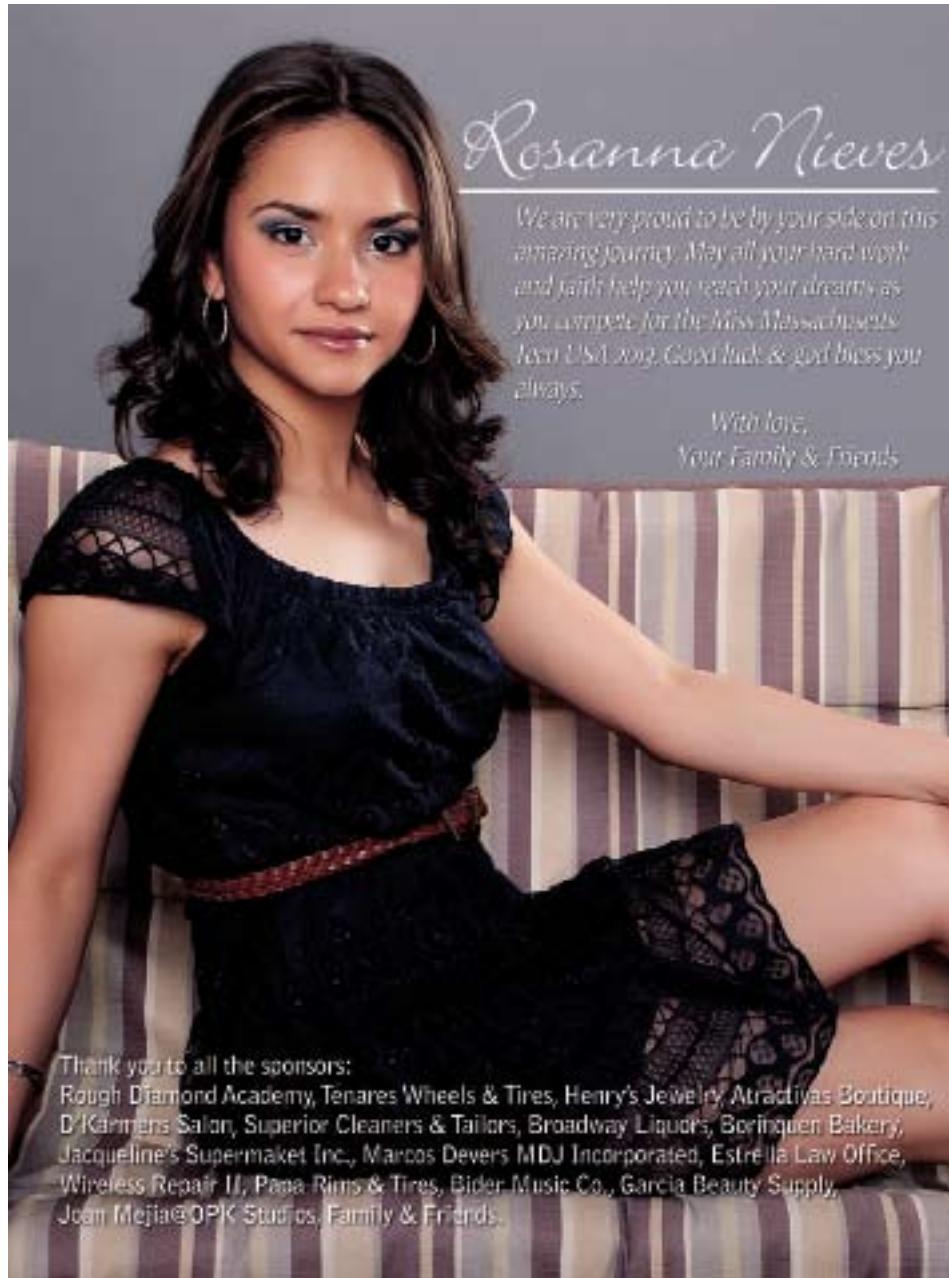
Crossover
Sábados a las 11am
(en Español)





Dalia Diaz
Host & Director

Rosanna Nieves for the Miss Massachusetts Teen USA 2013



Last year, Rosanna Nieves competed in the Miss Mass Teen USA 2012 and did top 15 semi-finalists out of 52 teen girls. This year she would be competing again to see if she can bring that crown to Lawrence and the Latin Community, the Miss Massachusetts Teen USA 2013.

She is 18 years old and is now attending Emmanuel College in Boston (freshman). Her major is Biology/Pre-Med and she is in the dancing team, First Year Leadership Academy and SAGE which is a mentor group.

El matrimonio está unido a la fe

Por Valentín Abelenda Carrillo
vabelcarro14@gmail.com

Un día de primeros de octubre leía un artículo sobre el matrimonio que me parece interesante para los lectores y del cual transcribo unos párrafos.

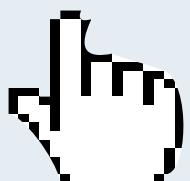
El Papa reconoció hace unos días que "lamentablemente y por varias causas, el matrimonio, precisamente en las regiones de antigua evangelización, atraviesa una profunda crisis" y explicó que "el matrimonio está unido a la fe, no en un sentido genérico" sino que el matrimonio "como unión de amor fiel e indisoluble, se funda en la gracia que viene de Dios Uno y

Trino, que en Cristo nos ha amado con un amor fiel hasta la cruz".

También recordó que existe "una evidente correspondencia entre la crisis de la fe y la crisis del matrimonio" y que la Iglesia "afirma y testimonia desde hace tiempo" que el matrimonio está llamado a "ser no sólo objeto, sino sujeto de la nueva evangelización" y reiteró "una de las ideas clave del renovado impulso que el Concilio Vaticano II ha dado a la evangelización es la de la llamada universal a la santidad, que como tal concierne a todos los cristianos".

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POR ARTURO RAMO GARCÍA
aramo@adigital.pntic.mec.es

Los encargos familiares

Para mejorar el funcionamiento de la familia, tanto los padres como los hijos se pueden responsabilizar en sacar distintos encargos adelante. De esta forma, los hijos desde los seis y siete años aprenden a colaborar en la buena marcha del hogar.

Los encargos se pueden distribuir en la tertulia familiar y pueden ser muy variados. He aquí algunos ejemplos: el padre puede ayudar a un hijo en el estudio de las matemáticas, el hijo mayor puede responsabilizarse de pequeñas reparaciones de la casa, otro hijo puede ayudarle al más pequeño a bañarse por las noches, otro puede ayudar a su madre a preparar la cena, un chico pequeño recogerá los juguetes después de usarlos, otro encargo puede ser que un día a la semana ponga y retire la mesa o vaciar el lavaplatos. Estos son ejemplos posibles, pero en cada casa pueden ser distintos o añadir otros nuevos.

Es conveniente que los padres o los hermanos mayores expliquen personalmente a cada uno la forma de hacer bien su

encargo. Los más pequeños pueden ayudar a los mayores en un encargo antes de responsabilizarse del mismo. Es bueno que desde el principio tengan la satisfacción del trabajo bien hecho y ejerciten su voluntad colaborando con sus hermanos.

Un aspecto muy importante de la tertulia familiar es la revisión de los encargos. Puede ser que el hermano mayor sea el secretario y tenga la lista de las tareas de cada uno. Se puede comentar lo que ha ido mejor y peor desde la última reunión y acordar los cambios de turnos para el futuro.

En la conversación alguno se puede quejar de que un hermano pequeño le desordena los libros de su estantería o que alguno se apoya con las manos en las paredes y terminan ensuciándose. Siempre con buen humor y sentido positivo se van encontrando soluciones para construir la familia día a día entre todos y hacer más agradable la vida a los demás.

The family responsibilities

In order to improve the functioning of the family, both parents and children can become responsible for different tasks. That way, children from the time they are six or seven years old, are learning to cooperate in the smooth running of the home.

The tasks can be distributed in the family gathering and they can be quite varied. For example: the parent can help a child studying mathematics, the eldest son can take responsibility for small home repairs, another child can help the youngest to bathe at night, one of them could help making dinner, pick up a little boy's toys after use, another task can be one day a week set up and remove the table or empty the dishwasher. These are possible examples, but each home may be different or add new ones.

Ideally, parents or older siblings should explain personally to each one how to do

their assignment. Younger children can start out by helping older ones before taking up that same responsibility. It's good from the beginning to have the satisfaction of work well done and exercise their will to work with siblings.

A very important aspect of the family gathering is the review of assignments. It may be that the older brother is the secretary and has the list of tasks of each one. You can comment on what has gone better or worse since the last meeting, and set shift changes for the future.

In conversation one may complain about a little brother's books cluttered shelf or another one placing her hands on the walls which end up getting dirty. Always keep good humor and find positive solutions in order to build the family every day among everyone and make life more pleasant for others.

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El Dr. Montesino, totalmente responsable por este artículo, es el Editor de LatinoWorldOnline.com

La ficción que pudo haberse hecho realidad.

Hace solamente un mes que escribí y publiqué un artículo titulado "Octubre 12 de 1492. Revisando la Historia". El escrito se suponía que fuera, bueno, ficticio, en realidad intentado ser risible: Nada real sobre ello. Pero los resultados de las recientes elecciones en los Estados Unidos me hacen pensar que tal vez había alguna realidad seria enterrada bajo las palabras expresadas en ese comentario. La tinta de las palabras está todavía fresca.

Esto fue lo que dije: "Yo no soy un experto en estos asuntos de migraciones, pero ahora que habíamos jugado con la idea de quién desembarcó donde, mis amigos y yo comenzamos a preguntarnos cuál hubiera sido el impacto del cambio de dirección de las colonizaciones española y británica en América si nuestra ficción hubiera sido realidad".

Pero debo ir más atrás en el tiempo a un artículo anterior titulado "Ghettos del Alma" que escribí durante la elección presidencial del 2008 mucho antes de que las listas de candidatos se habían decidido por ambos partidos políticos: "Esas palabras cubrieron todo ser humano que haya vivido en esas condiciones. Y nadie lo va a olvidar. Él tendrá que revisitar y discutir este problema si decide postularse para la nominación presidencial en el 2008. Y la gente que va a querer que lo

revisite son parte de la comunidad latina de cuarenta y cinco millones de miembros en los Estados Unidos que votan. Comprende Dr. Gingrich?"

Mis comentarios estaban relacionados con la observación de "ghetto" hecha por el Doctor Newton Gingrich en uno de sus frecuentes discursos públicos que se resumió en esta frase: "Los últimos días trajeron consigo una nueva polémica sobre el uso del idioma inglés, que parecía tocar una fibra sensible, sobre todo en la población latina: el uso ampliamente difundido por Newton Gingrich de la palabra 'ghetto' para describir aquellos que no hablan inglés..."

La razón por el artículo de hoy es que ambos comentarios, los de la ficción y la realidad, parecen haberse unidos este noviembre 6 cuando la población de latinos, llámenos hispanos o hispano parlantes si prefiere, ha aumentado a más de cincuenta millones. Y nos hemos comportado como si hubiéramos aterrizado en Plymouth Rock y nos hubiéramos expandido después fuera del ambiente de ghetto en el que nos habían metido.

Nuestros votos se convirtieron en el evento significativo de la boleta que eventualmente decidió los llamados estados "cara o cruz". Y, desde luego, ni siquiera tenemos que mencionar el hecho de que fue

también importante en estados que ya no pertenecen a la categoría de "cara o cruz" como California.

Como resultado de esta nueva percepción de cuántos somos y quiénes somos, el paisaje político luce como la tierra después que un terremoto poderoso la ha hecho temblar. Hay muchas "mea culpas" por parte de aquellos que no vieron ese cambio en la población o eran incapaces de ver esa realidad. El tema de la inmigración fue erróneamente caracterizado, y muchos que consideraban la reforma migratoria como si fuera una mala palabra, la han movido de repente a terreno sagrado. Los inmigrantes indocumentados no votan, así que resulta inconcebible creer que ese asunto los llevó a las urnas.

Fueron en realidad mucho de los documentados inmigrantes que estaban cansados de ver a amigos o familiares siendo acosados o deportados debido a la carencia de una vía legal a la ciudadanía lo que impulsó al voto. En otras palabras, uno no tenía que ser indocumentado para sentir pena por los que lo eran. Y los numerosos asuntos sociales que dividen a los Estados Unidos son importantes para nosotros

POR FAVOR VEA MONTESINO

CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 18

A POINT OF VIEW

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The fiction that may have become real

It has been only a month since I wrote and published an article entitled "October 12, 1492. Rewriting History." The piece was supposed to be, well, fictional, actually meant to be funny: Nothing real about it. But the results of the recent USA elections make me wonder if there was some reality buried under the words expressed in that article. The ink on the words is still fresh.

This is what I said: "I am not an expert on this migration issue, but now that we had played with the idea of who landed where, my friends and I started to wonder what the impact of a change of direction by the Spanish and British colonization of America could have been if our fiction had turned out to be reality."

But I must go back to an earlier article entitled "Ghettos of the soul" written during the presidential election of 2008 long before the slate of candidates had been settled for both political parties. "Those words blanketed any human being who has ever lived under those conditions. And no one is going to forget it. He will have to revisit and discuss this issue if he decides to run for the presidential nomination in 2008. And the folks who will want that revisit are part of the forty-five-million strong Latino community in the United States who vote.

PLEASE SEE MONTESINO

CONTINUES ON PAGE 18



RESTAURANTE FAMILIAR

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First Annual Hallows Eve 5k Fun Run & Walk attracts over 400 people



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BRIAN DE PEÑA

The A.M.S.I. Foundation hosted its First Annual Hallows Eve 5k Fun Run and Walk on Sunday, October 28, 2012 to raise money for scholarships that are awarded to high school students throughout the Merrimack Valley area.

The event in its first year attracted 353 registrants with over 400 people in attendance. As promised; ghosts, goblins, and the like were in full attendance as participants, spectators, and volunteers dressed up for the occasion. Prizes were awarded to best costumes, top overall runners, top female and male categories, and top runners in different age group categories. For photos and information for next year's run, visit www.hallowsevefunrun.com.



Primer Evento Anual Hallows Eve 5k Fun Run and Walk atrae a más de 400



La Fundación A.M.S.I. organizó lugar el domingo, 28 de octubre del 2012, la primera carrera y caminata anual las cuales son otorgadas a estudiantes de "Hallows Eve 5k Fun Run and Walk" escuelas secundarias en el área del Valle del Merrimack.



En su primer año, este evento atrajo 354 participantes registrados y un total de sobre 400 personas en asistencia.

Fantasmas, duendes y demás se encontraban en plena asistencia con los participantes, espectadores y voluntarios vestidos para la ocasión.

Se otorgaron premios para los mejores

disfraces, mejores corredores en general, mejores corredores femeninos y masculinos y mejores corredores en varias categorías de edad.

Para ver las fotos, resultados de la carrera, y la información para la carrera del próximo año visite www.hallowsevefunrun.com.



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BY DALIA DÍAZ
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LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner

Fixing the elections process

During the final election days of 2012, there were many communities across the United States that learned lessons of their local election operations. What these communities found was that it is necessary to make adjustments, or changes, to many areas of the voting operational plans. Voting irregularities were continued nuisances to the voters of the many of these towns and cities.

One such community was the City of Lawrence which has yet to meet with its stakeholders to discuss needed actions to correct the unacceptable situations that occurred last week. Lawrence Election Office was caught off guard in several areas of their operations. The city has yet to analyze their operations and come up with viable solutions to eliminate these occurrences in future elections.

Several of the City of Lawrence elections issues were: long lines on the voting polls, untrained poll workers, lack of resources such as writing tools, dependable and sturdy voting booths, unreliable active/inactive voters list, ineffective election office staff, and the perception of wrong doing by election office staff.

Some of the solutions for a few of the above problems are simple. For instance, the lack of writing markers, halfway through the Election Day, could have been solved by simply affixing the markers onto the voting booths, thereby eliminating the risk of voters walking out with them. Another advantage is that we can save the salary of having a person all day asking for the pens to be returned on the way out.

Another would be to ensure that all voting booths were repaired and sound prior to being placed in the election polls. "In 2006 we had many booths built through the Sheriff's office but they are flimsy and are falling apart," City Clerk William Maloney told me. "We need to build around 100 new ones at a cost of about \$600 each."

Yet another solution is to properly provide hands-on training to all election poll workers and to ensure they all speak effective and proficient English. There is a need for bilingual skills, but good English language skills should be mandatory. This work is just more than looking at a list of voters and handing out the ballot. The work entails customer relations, customer service, and the ability to ask and answer questions of the voter. Good eyesight is vital; I've seen poll workers unable to find addresses or names particularly on a busy day.

"We had a 56% voter turnout and we knew after the March 6 Presidential Elections that we would have a very high number of inactive voters in the fall," said Mr. Maloney. "That was the cause of delays and long lines because they had to sign an affirmation of continued residence, but people were very patient – they wanted to vote," he explained.

Mr. Maloney also complemented the voters' behavior throughout the day.

Using modern technology

In making sure that our election days are effective, the Mayor and City Council

must properly fund the budget of the election office. It is the responsibility of the City Clerk to submit a budget based on needs and future potential crisis, not solely a bare bones budget that may or may not get you through the election season.

This city must invest in its technological infrastructure to capitalize on effective software to assist this city. We are not calling on the city to utilize electronic voting systems. However, we are recommending that the city invests in software that allows the city residents to cast their vote in any voting station. Using this method could eliminate issues of inactive voters or issues associated with being registered in a different district.

This could be done by purchasing simple software that can be deployed in each voting station. The software would be installed in inexpensive laptops able to read the entire voting list of the city with a column indicating if the voter is Active or Inactive. This system can be connected to the city main server and Elections Office system.

Once the voter enters any station in the city, the poll worker could electronically check off the name and receives a ballot. As the voter exits the polling place, the name will be checked off again, no matter where the voter lives in Lawrence. This would eliminate issues of having to send a voter across town because of registering issues.

If the individual is on the Inactive List, then he or she would be required to show identification but would be allowed to vote just like the Active members. It would also eliminate the risk of voting more than once since the main list will be updated instantly.

We have 24 polling places in this small city. That number could be reduced to perhaps one or two per district and using the laptop system outlined above, thus eliminating the confusion with the Inactive List, requiring less workers at each site.

There are many ideas that could assist the city in having quick and effective operations implemented. But we won't get there if the city is not truly committed to properly having a committee to look into updating our chaotic and archaic system.

If you have any other suggestions,



please let me know. This is the time to start planning.

Anatomy of a cover-up

If you have not read last week's cover story, I recommend that you do it and compare it to a similar case in Haverhill.

Last spring, three police officers were caught writing untruthful or incomplete report and violating police ethics while trying to protect a retired State Police Deputy Superintendent after a drunken driving accident. All three were suspended for 5 days with no pay and Mayor James Fiorentini and Chief of Police Alan DeNaro are holding meetings asking for them to be permanently fired from the force.

Lawrence is so different!

Veterans Day Ceremony

This year's Veterans Day Ceremony at the South Lawrence East School was beautiful! Shantell Cuevas sang one of the best renditions of the National Anthem that I have heard in many years.

And Joey Grieve had a special presentation with his patriotic music that made me cry. I've been watching this child since he was about 8 years old and his voice has gotten deeper and stronger. He paid tribute to all of the armed service branches, then American the Beautiful and God Bless the USA.

Congratulations to NILP!

The Lee Lewis and the Doo Wop evening with music of the 50s and 60s was better than expected. I danced the night away just like when I was a teenager. Thank you NILP.

Happy Birthday to me!

Please go on my Facebook page. I have a special message for all my friends.

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Former Warrior Shawn Loiseau signed to the Indianapolis Colts Practice Squad



Shawn Loiseau from Shrewsbury, Mass., became the first Warrior in school history to sign with an NFL franchise

following the NFL draft. Loiseau signed his undrafted free agent contract less than an hour after the completion of the draft.

"I couldn't be more excited for the opportunity that the Colts organization is giving me," said Loiseau. "I am going to work as hard as possible while I am here to prove to them that I belong."

Loiseau was originally signed by the Houston Texans as an undrafted free agent following the 2012 NFL Draft on May 14, 2012 before being waived on August 31 following the Texans last preseason contest. Loiseau has received some interest throughout the first 10 weeks of the NFL season before signing to the Colts practice squad on Tuesday. He began team activities on Tuesday afternoon in Indianapolis after passing his physical in the morning.

The Shrewsbury, Mass. native became

the first Merrimack College player to sign a NFL deal on Tuesday. Offensive lineman Mackenzy Bernadeau from Bentley University remains the only Northeast-10 player ever drafted in the NFL being selected in the seventh round, pick number 250, by the Carolina Panthers.

Loiseau left Merrimack as one of the most decorated student-athletes in school history. He was a consensus All American last fall after piling up 121 tackles, breaking the 100 tackle plateau for the third straight season. "We are so proud of Shawn and I am glad he is continuing to live his dream," said head coach John Perry. "He is an example of what is possible here at Merrimack for all of our student-athletes."

Loiseau finished his career with 382 tackles, including 377 in his final three seasons, ranking him first all-time in school

history. He broke the school record for tackles in a season with 133 in 2010 and was named 2nd team All-American. Loiseau was twice named Northeast-10 Conference Defensive Player of the Year, marking the first time a Merrimack player earned that award on two occasions.

Loiseau played in the East-West Shrine game following his senior season, marking the first ever Warrior to be invited and to participate in the game. He also took part in the NFL Scouting Combine, the lone Northeast-10 Conference player invited to participate.

"Hearing the news about Shawn this morning really capped what has been a great weekend in Merrimack Football as our senior class finished the season with a great win Saturday and a 9-2 record at home over the last two seasons," stated Perry.

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■ CONTINUA DE LA PAGINA 13

MONTESINO

también.

Muchas soluciones se han ofrecido sobre esta "sorpresa de Noviembre" de las elecciones, pero serán inútiles si continúan viéndonos como miembros de un ghetto, lo que eso significa. Nosotros somos parte de un ghetto más grande: se llama el universo. Y aquellos que quieran nuestro voto, sean republicanos o demócratas, no deben olvidarlo. Y esto no es ficción ni broma, es bastante serio.

Oh, a propósito, las proyecciones del Dr. Gingrich sobre el voto latino en este ciclo electoral estuvieron equivocadas por un 37%, pero usted y yo sabemos que eso realmente no importa, su inglés es muy fluido. Si seguimos creciendo a la misma tasa, en el 2016 veremos muchos más de nosotros halando la palanca de las urnas.

Y este es mi punto de vista hoy.

■ CONTINUES FROM PAGE 13

MONTESINO

Comprende Dr. Gingrich?"

My comments were related to a "ghetto" remark by Dr. Newton Gingrich in one of his frequent public speeches summarized in this sentence: "The past few days brought with them a new controversy about the use of the English language that seemed to touch a raw nerve, particularly within the Latino population: Newton Gingrich's widely reported use of the word 'ghetto' to describe those who do not speak English..."

The reason for today's article is that both, the fiction and the real comments, seem to have coalesced this November 6 when the population of Latinos, call us Hispanics if you prefer, has increased to over fifty million. And we behaved like we had really landed on Plymouth Rock and had expanded from the ghetto environment where we had been cajoled.

Our votes became the significant ballot event that decided the result in many of the so-called toss up states. And, of course, we don't even have to mention the fact that it was also important in states that are no longer in the toss up category like California.

As a result of this new perception of how many we are and who we are, the political landscape looks like the ground after a powerful earthquake hit it. There are "mea culpas" on the part of those who missed the shift in the population and those who were incapable of seeing

the reality. The immigration issue was totally mischaracterized, and many who considered immigration reform a bad word have suddenly moved it to sacred ground. Undocumented immigrants don't vote, so it would be inconceivable to believe that the issue drove any of them to the voting booth.

It was actually many of the documented immigrants who were tired of seeing friends or relatives being harassed or deported due to their lack of a legal path to citizenship that fueled the vote. In other words, you did not have to be undocumented to feel sorry for those who were. And the many social issues that divide the United States are important to us as well.

Many solutions have been offered about this recent election "November surprise," but they will be useless if we continue to be seen as members of a ghetto, whatever that means. We are part of a bigger ghetto: it is called the universe. And those who want our vote, whether Republicans or Democrats, better remember it. And this is no fiction or a joke. It is darn serious.

Oh, by the way, Dr. Gingrich's projection about the Latino Vote this election cycle was off by 37%, but you and I know that it does not really matter, his English is fluent. If we keep growing at the same rate, 2016 will see many more of us hanging in there pulling the levers to vote.

And this is my point of view today.

Groundwork Lawrence glow gala and annual fundraiser

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Lawrence Catholic Academy Open House

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Lawrence Catholic Academy faculty, staff, and students will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about our school programs. Bring your family and friends to tour the school, enjoy some refreshments, win a special door prize or just take a stroll down memory lane. For more information on our Open House or our school programs, please contact John M. Licciardi at 978.683.5822 or email him at jlicciardi@lawrencecatholicacademy.org.

Recepción en la Academia Católica de Lawrence

Lawrence Catholic Academy anunció que está organizando una sesión informativa desde el grado pre-escolar hasta el 8vo grado, el jueves, 29 de noviembre 2012 de 6:30 pm-8:00 pm en 101 Parker Street, Lawrence, MA. Lawrence Catholic Academy ofrece: Atención Individual, Programa Shadowing, Política Anti-Bullying, Asistencia Económica, Programa de Matrícula Rewards, vales infantiles del Circuito, Tecnología Avanzada, Facultad certificada por el estado, Diversidad, pizarras interactivas, programas Antes y Despues de la Escuela y más de 100 años de excelencia académica.

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

Watercolors

Watercolors by award-winning painter Suzanne Binnie are on display at the Nashua Public Library through August. The exhibit, "Culhaven Studios Presents," features floral, animal, and bird paintings, predominantly watercolor with some mixed media, including ink and rice paper and some Zentangle. "Watercolor is my first love," says Binnie, "and Zentangle is my new passion." Binnie's work won Best in Show Awards at the Callao Art Show in Virginia in 1997 and at E. W. Poore's Juried Show in Manchester in 2007. The exhibit can be viewed during regular library hours.

For more information, call Carol at (603) 589-4610 or visit www.nashualibrary.org and click Events. The library is located at 2 Court Street. Visit www.nashualibrary.org/directions.htm to find out where to park. For more information, call (603) 589-4610.

Nashua Reads film series

Four films that explore the issues raised by the Nashua Reads book. For titles call (603) 589-4646.

Holiday Programs for Kids

Registration is open now at www.tinyurl.com/nplkid for these holiday programs for children at the Nashua Public Library. A Nashua Public Library card is required for registration.

Holiday Gift Craft

Kids ages 6–10 are invited to join us for a holiday craft. Space is limited; please preregister at tinyurl.com/nplkid. Tuesday, November 27, at 4 p.m.

Holiday Storytime and Craft

Join us for stories, a craft, a puppet show and refreshments. Space is limited; please preregister at tinyurl.com/nplkid. Thursday, December 6, at 1 p.m. for ages 2–5 and 4 p.m. for ages 6–10. When school is closed for inclement weather, children's programs are cancelled. For more information call (603) 589-4631.

Fall Kids' Programs at Nashua Library

Registration for fall programs for children at the Nashua Public Library has started at www.tinyurl.com/nplkid. Bring your library card with you if you choose to register at the library. Classes requiring registration are open to Nashua library cardholders only.

Stream Indie Films: Free, With Your Library Card

This fall the library became a beta test site for IndieFlix, an online service that lets library customers stream independent films to their computers or handheld devices.

IndieFlix offers films in all genres for all ages, including numerous film festival selections and award winners. You can search by genre, age level, film festival, and country of production. The dashboard feature allows you to create a viewing profile, list recently watched films, and select future viewing choices for your queue.

Go to www.tinyurl.com/nplibrowse to create your IndieFlix account. If you need help, call the library's reference desk at (603) 589-4611.

How's the health of New England's forests?

Scott Ollinger, associate professor of natural resources at the University of New Hampshire, will present "New England Forests and the Winds of Change" at the Nashua Public Library on Monday, November 26, at 7 p.m.

The talk will examine how air quality, climate, and carbon dioxide have affected forests in our region. Ollinger is involved in research in ecology and biogeochemistry, including a joint project between UNH and the U.S. Forest Service aimed at characterizing patterns of forest growth and nutrient status through field measurements and remote sensing.

The event is presented by the library in partnership with the Nashaway Chapter of the Audubon Society and the UNH Speakers Bureau. It is free and open to the public; registration is not required.

For more information, contact Carol Luers Eyman at (603) 589-4610 or visit www.nashualibrary.org and click Events.

Biology-inspired art at Nashua Public Library

Works by local artist Alhan Irwin are on display in the Image Gallery at the Nashua Public Library in November and December. The show includes microscopic tapestry patterns and other digital art.

Irwin creates her microscopic tapestry works by enhancing and colorizing magnified images of viruses, bacteria, and other microorganisms. She then arranges them in tapestry-like patterns reminiscent of the Middle East, where she was raised. She is inspired by microbial motifs because, although they cause disease, the ecosystem would not function without them.

Irwin has won local and national awards for her art. In addition to illustrating magazines, brochures, CD covers, logos, and billboards, she has produced internationally acclaimed children's books, and continues to enhance

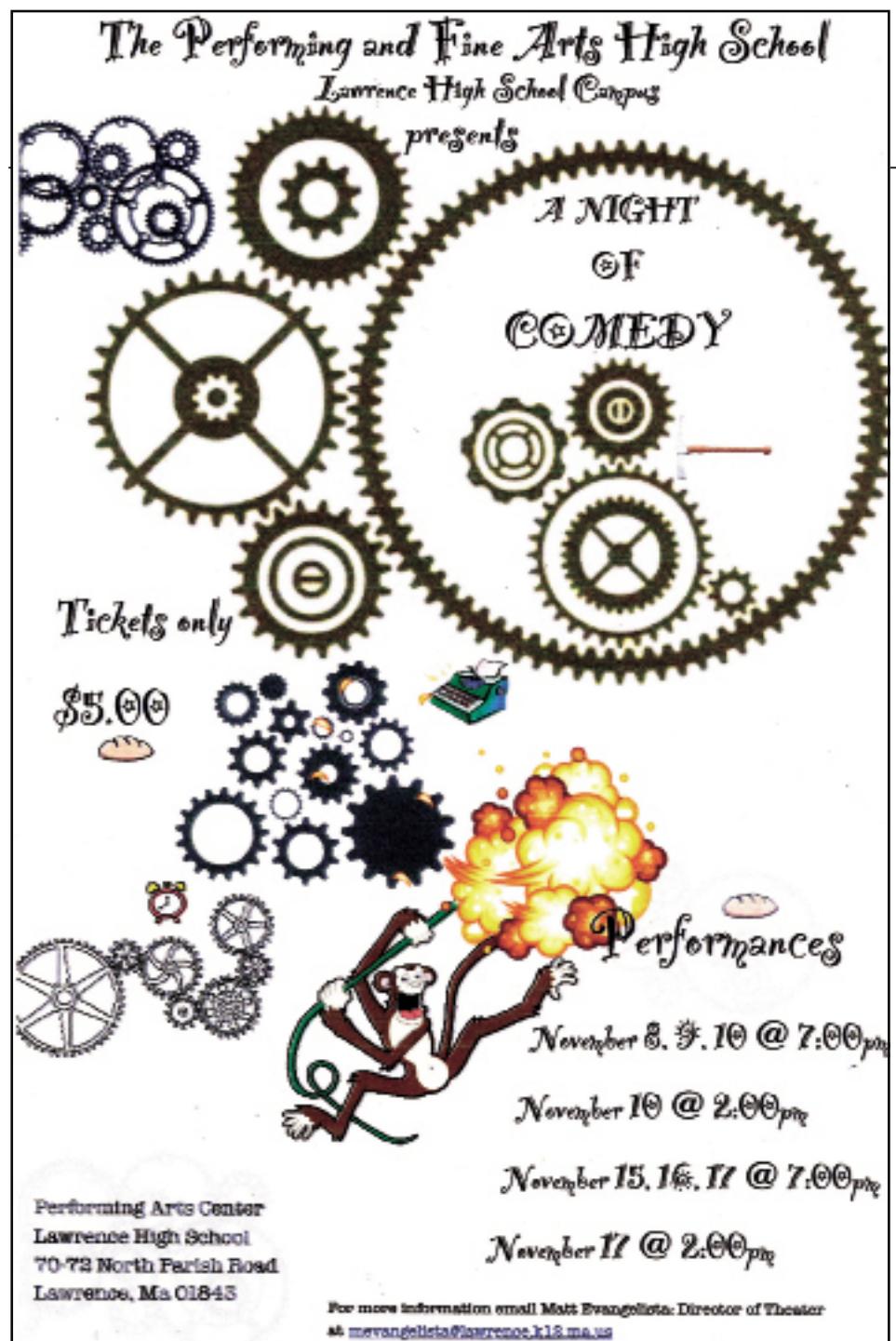
Lawrence Senior Center

Actividades Futuras

Nov 16 Cena Especial! \$9 12:00pm.
Nov 20 Funda de Compra. 10:00-1:00pm.
Nov 21 No habrá actividades en la tarde.
Nov 22 & 23 Centro Cerrado.
Nov 26 Bingo Especial! 1:00pm \$5.00.

Upcoming Events

Nov 16 Thanksgiving Dinner Party. 12:00pm \$9
Nov 20 Brown Bag. 10:00-1:00pm.
Nov 21 No afternoon activities!
Nov 22 & 23 Center Closed!
Nov 26 Special Bingo! 1:00pm \$5.00



and colorize microscopic images for global stock agencies. The exhibit can be viewed during regular library hours.

Holiday Concert at Nashua Library

The Nashua Public Library presents "Holiday Magic" featuring flutist Aubrie Dionne and harpist Piper Runnion-Bareford in concert on Sunday, December 16, at 2 p.m. The duo enchanted a library audience at their Bach's Lunch concert in the summer of 2010.

Aubrie Dionne is on the faculty at Plymouth State University, the Manchester Community Music School, and the Summer Youth Music School at the University of New Hampshire. As a flutist, she has performed with the Great Water Music Festival, Granite State Opera, New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra, Longy Chamber Orchestra, Brockton Symphony, Manchester Chamber Players, Hanover Chamber Orchestra, and Manchester Choral Society. She has also performed as a soloist with the New Hampshire Symphony, the

Lakes Region Symphony, and the Strafford Wind Symphony.

Piper Runnion-Bareford is on the faculty at the Manchester Community Music School, St. Paul's School, and Gordon College. Her principal and substitute harp positions have included the New Hampshire Philharmonic, Brockton Symphony, Nashua Chamber Orchestra, Merrimack Philharmonic Orchestra, Maine State Ballet, and Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. She has degrees in harp performance from the Royal College of Music in London and the Curtis Institute of Music.

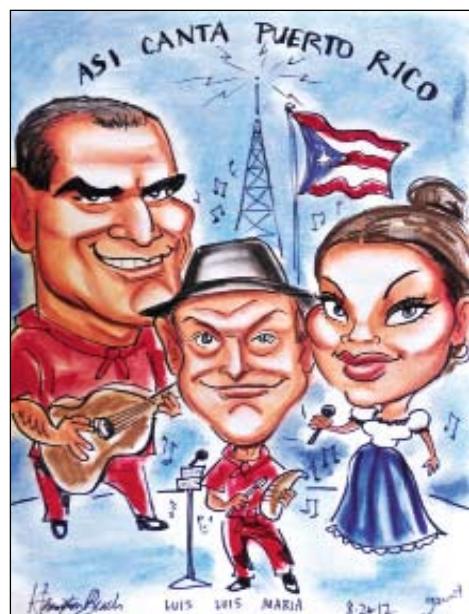
The concert is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Carol Luers Eyman at (603) 589-4610 or visit www.nashualibrary.org and click Events.

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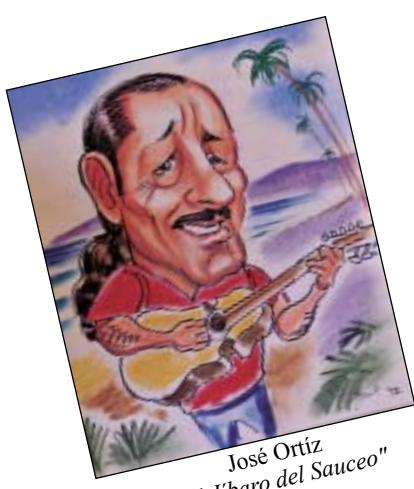
CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS



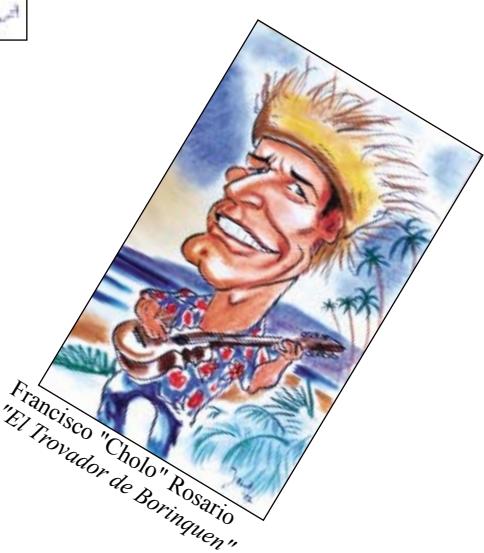
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For more information, contact
Matthew Corsetti, Methuen YMCA at
978-683-5266 or Ryan Middlemiss,
Lawrence YMCA at 978-686-6191.

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"Christmas at the Buttonwoods: A Festival of Trees"

The Opening Gala of the Festival of Trees is Friday, November 23 from 6 to 9 p.m. Regular viewing hours begin Saturday, November 24 and run through Sunday, December 9. Special events include Family Days with children's activities, a visit from Santa and Senior Days. Please go to our website at www.haverhillhistory.org for hours and the Schedule of Events. For more information email us at fot@haverhillhistory.org. The Buttonwoods Museum/Haverhill Historical Society is located at 240 Water Street, Haverhill.



El jueves, 22 de noviembre atletas del Valle de Merrimack se reunirán en el punto de partida de la 25va carrera anual Feaster Five.

El Feaster Five es una muy apreciada tradición en la mañana del Día de Acción de Gracias. Este es un evento para los participantes de todos los niveles: atletas de clase mundial, corredores y caminantes. Cochecitos, sillas de ruedas y mascotas de la familia también son bienvenidos y animados a unirse a la diversión.

Este año, los participantes de Feaster Five tendrán la oportunidad de ayudar a recaudar fondos para el Proyecto de Expansión de Andover/North Andover y la Y cuenta con la comunidad para ayudar a correr la voz y aumentar la participación. Con la ampliación de la YMCA, los miembros tendrán un mejor espacio para mantenerse activos y saludables en la comunidad.

Ally Cooper, quien va a correr por vez primera en Feaster Five, no podría estar más emocionada por el día de la carrera. Junto con su esposo y sus tres hijos, han sido miembros de la YMCA de Andover/North Andover YMCA durante tres años, y se enteró de la carrera por uno de los

On Thursday, November 22nd athletes from the Merrimack Valley will gather at the starting line for the 25th annual Feaster Five.

The Feaster Five is a much-loved Thanksgiving morning family tradition. It's an event for participants of all levels: world-class athletes, runners, joggers and walkers. Strollers, wheelchairs and family pets are also welcome and encouraged to join in the fun.

This year, Feaster Five participants will have the opportunity to help raise funds for the Andover/North Andover Expansion Project and the Y is counting on the community to help spread the word and increase participation! By expanding the YMCA, members will have a better space to stay active and healthy within the community.

Ally Cooper, a first time Feaster Five runner, couldn't be more excited for race day. Along with her husband and three children, she's been a member of the Andover/North Andover YMCA for three years, and heard about the race from one of the Y's fitness instructors.

instructores de la Y.

"Me fijé la meta personal el año pasado de convertirme en corredora y he estado entrenándome para el Feaster Five por varios meses", dijo Cooper. "Todos los sábados, la Y tiene un club de corredores, una sesión de informal de entrenamiento que es la preparación perfecta para el Feaster Five."

Si alguien está interesado en formar un equipo bajo el lema "Por qué corro para la Y" o si usted no lo había considerado, hágallo ahora.

Marko Duffy ha donado generosamente 2 (dos) entradas con buenos asientos para el juego de los Patriotas de Nueva Inglaterra vs Miami Dolphins el 30 de diciembre, 2012. Es el mejor fin de semana del año para disfrutar de un partido de fútbol.

Todos los que formen un equipo para Feaster Five entrarán en un sorteo para ganar los boletos.

Por favor aproveche esta oportunidad para apoyar el proyecto de expansión inscribiéndose para correr o caminar en la carrera de Feaster Five y ayudar a construir una nueva Y.

Si quiere más información, visite <http://feasterfive.mvymca.org>

"I set a personal goal last year to become a runner and have been training for the Feaster Five for a few months now," said Cooper. "Every Saturday, the Y holds a running club, a casual training session that is the perfect preparation for the Feaster Five."

For anyone who is interested in putting a team together for "Why I run for the Y" or if you had not considered doing so, you should NOW.

Marko Duffy has generously donated 2(two) tickets that are great seats to the New England Patriots vs. the Miami Dolphins Game on December 30, 2012. It's the best weekend of the year to enjoy a football game.

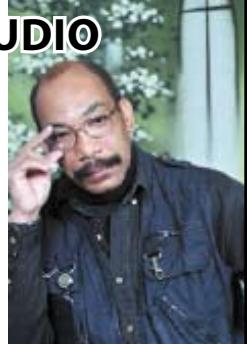
Anyone who has put a team together for the feaster five will be entered into a drawing to win those tickets!

Please take advantage of this opportunity to support the expansion project by registering to run/walk in the Feaster Five road Race to help build a new Y!

To learn more, visit <http://feasterfive.mvymca.org>

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Este taller es para informarles cómo pueden planificar temprano para cubrir los gastos universitarios para sus hijos y las diferentes formas de ayuda financiera disponibles.

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On November 14, 2012, the Lawrence Board of Health voted to amend their regulation entitled "Regulations of the Lawrence Board of Health, Sale of Tobacco Products to Minors and Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces and Public Places". The newly amended regulation bans new cigar bars and hookah bars and also bans the use of non-residential roll-your-own (RYO) cigarette/tobacco-making machines. The regulation will go into effect on November 16, 2012. For a copy of these regulations, please call the Inspectional Services Department at 978-620-3130.

PUBLIC SALE**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Notice is hereby given by Sheehan's Towing L.L.C. of 26 Lawrence St Methuen, MA, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 9, 2012 by private sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and lien fees:

1. 2001 Honda Accord VIN# 1HGCG165X1A037281
2. 1999 Oldsmobile Alero VIN# 1G3NF52EXXC418794
3. 2005 Ford 500 VIN# 1FAHP23175G102706
4. 2004 Acura TL VIN# 19UUA66204A007235
5. 2002 Ford Explorer VIN# 1FMZU73E12ZB53492

Robert Sheehan
Owner, Sheehan's Towing L.L.C.
11/15, 12/1, 12/8

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 7**YMCA**

Valley YMCA, working out of the corporate office. She is another Lawrencian who studied at the Oliver School; from there she attended Governor Dummer Prep School and received a scholarship to Syracuse University. She graduated with a degree in marketing management and a minor in public communication. She taught school in Swampscott to grades second through fifth and decided to go back to school and is now pursuing her MBA in Boston College.

In her new position, Jennifer's immediate goal is to appeal to Latino members and increase their membership. She realizes that most people are not aware that the YMCA is a private non-profit that does not receive government grants and operated exclusively with the donations it receives from its members, the community and membership dues.

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