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The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley
(MA) Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, Andover, North Andover, Lowell
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Estudiantes traen personajes de fantasía a la vida



Organized by Lawrence High School. See Editorial on page 2.

Help the
Humanitarian Club
Save Lives like
Jerry's!

**REGISTER AS A BONE
MARROW DONOR**

Saturday, February 15th

11am-4pm

St. Patricks Parish Gym

188 S. Broadway St., Lawrence, MA



Jerry is the 5 year old son of Singyang and Jiaquian, and older brother to newborn sister Lillian. His favorite things to do are reading and going to the aquarium with his family. Jerry received his first bone marrow transplant last year however, the leukemia has returned and he now needs a second transplant. With your help, we could find a donor for Jerry and so many other patients like him!



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deletebloodcancer.org

Anaya Lee Montes, Fatima Castillo and Yoanirelys Rodriguez interpretando caracteres de la película Mulan. Estudiantes de Community Day Learning's Latchkey Enrichment Program trajeron personajes de los estudios de Disney y Pixar a la vida en un evento llevado a cabo en la Escuela Guilmette el 30 de enero.

|2

Vea más fotos en la página 11.

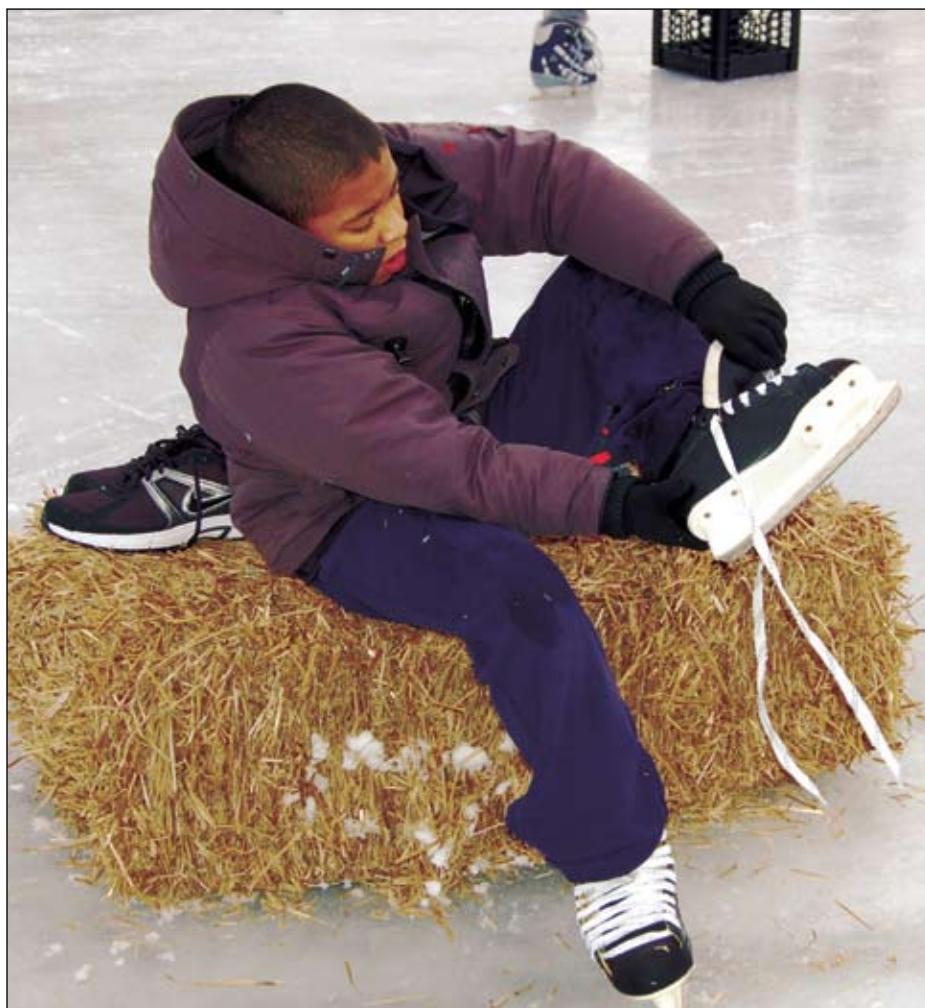
Students bring fantasy characters to life

Anaya Lee Montes, Fatima Castillo and Yoanirelys Rodriguez as characters from Mulan. Students in Community Day Learning's Latchkey Enrichment Program brought Disney and Pixar Studios characters to life on the evening of January 30 at the Guilmette School.

|2

See more pictures on page 11.

Vuelve el patinaje en hielo



Skating is back at the Common -

Pg. 8

Mayor Rivera: Programa de pasantías / Internship Program- Pg. 5

02 EDITORIAL

04 & 16 DALIA DÍAZ

21 DIRECTORIO

22 CALENDARIO

23 CLASIFICADOS



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Estudiantes traen personajes de fantasía a la vida

Frente a una multitud de más de 400 personas que llenaron el salón de actos de la Escuela Guilmotte en Lawrence, los estudiantes del Community Day Learning's Latchkey Enrichment Program trajeron personajes de los estudios de Disney y Pixar a la vida en la noche del 30 de enero. Vestidos con trajes atrevidos que van desde el Rey León a los amigos enanos de Blanca Nieves a personajes de Mulan y Woody de Toy Story 2, los alumnos interpretaron canciones y bailes en el evento, que reunió a los padres, hermanos y otros familiares en la escuela.

"Estamos muy orgullosos del trabajo duro que nuestros estudiantes han realizado desde las vacaciones de diciembre para ayudar a crear disfraces, pintar los escenarios y aprender las canciones y coreografías", dijo Wanda Gines, directora del Community Day Learning's Latchkey Enrichment Program. Grupos de estudiantes de siete sitios del programa después de la escuela, Community Day Arlington Elementary

School, Frost School, Guilmotte School, Parthum School, South Lawrence East School, y Wetherbee School en Lawrence, y el sitio en el 10 Ditson Place en Methuen, cantaron canciones de las diferentes películas.

Los estudiantes de Kindergarten a sexto grado trabajaron juntos para realizar escenas de The Little Mermaid, Aladdin, The Lion King, Mulan, Toy Story 2, Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs, y The Beauty and the Beast. La noche festiva incluyó la cena para los estudiantes y sus familias, rifas y presentaciones de los estudiantes de sinopsis de las películas. "Estamos encantados de que tantos estudiantes y sus familias se reunieron para disfrutar de este espectáculo", dijo Wanda Gines, "Es muy bueno que los padres y las familias sean capaces de salir para pasar una noche de diversión y disfrutar el producto del duro trabajo que todos los estudiantes han venido haciendo".



Janiyah Fernández y Yaneirys González vestidas como Mickey y Minnie Mouse. Ambos personajes, Minnie (cuyo nombre original fue Minerva) y Mickey, fueron dibujados por primera vez por Ub Iwerks para una película de Walt Disney.

Janiyah Fernández and Yaneirys González dressed as Mickey and Minnie Mouse. Both Characters, Minnie (whose original name was Minerva) and Mickey, were first drawn in 1928 by Ub Iwerks for a Walt Disney movie.

Students bring fantasy characters to life

In front of a crowd of more than 400 people filling the auditorium at the Guilmotte School in Lawrence, students in Community Day Learning's Latchkey Enrichment Program brought Disney and Pixar Studios characters to life on the evening of January 30. Dressed in bold costumes ranging from the Lion King to Snow White's dwarf friends to characters from Mulan and Woody from Toy Story 2, students performed songs and dances at the

event, which brought parents, siblings, and extended family members to the school.

"We are so proud of the hard work our students have put in since December vacation to help create costumes, paint sets, and learn songs and choreography," said

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS

CONTINUES ON PAGE 11

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

El sueño de Jonathan

Jonathan Guzmán es un estudiante de Matemática, Ciencia y Tecnología en la Escuela Superior de Lawrence, MA. Hace tres años fundó el Club Humanitario en Lawrence High School, con el objetivo de proporcionar a sus compañeros la oportunidad de involucrarse con la comunidad de Lawrence, así como las ciudades vecinas.

Guzmán dice que todos tenemos "un sueño" en común. Su sueño es hacer de este Club un gran lugar para que los estudiantes se expresen a otras personas fuera de su zona de confort. Organizar una Campaña de Sangre de la Cruz Roja, un Bone Marrow Drive to Delete Blood Cancer-DKMS son de las muchas actividades en las que también han estado involucrados en este último año, ayudando a los miembros a desarrollar habilidades de liderazgo.

Este sábado, 15 de febrero, Jonathan Guzmán y su Club Humanitario estarán involucrados en una gran batalla, una pelea para salvar la vida al pequeño Jerry, un niño de 5 años de edad, quien fue diagnosticado con leucemia mieloide aguda en 2012, organizando un Bone Marrow Drive para encontrar una coincidencia sanguínea para gente como Jerry, quien recibió su primer trasplante de médula ósea el año pasado sin embargo, la leucemia ha regresado y ahora necesita un segundo trasplante.

Felicitamos a Jonathan Guzmán por su comportamiento cívico ejemplar, y estamos seguros de que con los esfuerzos de este grupo y el apoyo masivo de la comunidad, Jerry va a recuperar su salud.

Roguemos al Señor por que este "sueño" se cumpla.

Jonathan's dream

Jonathan Guzman is a student of the Math, Science and Technology at the High School in Lawrence, MA. Three years ago, he founded the Humanitarian Club at Lawrence High School, with the objective of providing his peers with an opportunity to get involved in the community of Lawrence, as well as neighboring cities.

Guzman said that we all have something in common called a "dream". His dream is making this Club a great place for students to express themselves to others outside their comfort zone. Hosting a Blood Drive through the Red Cross, a Bone Marrow Drive to Delete Blood Cancer-DKMS is one of the many activities they were involved during the past year, helping members develop leadership skills as well.

This Saturday, February 15, Jonathan Guzman and his Humanitarian Club will be involved in one big fight, a fight to save little Jerry's life, a 5-year-old boy, who was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia in 2012, by hosting a Bone Marrow Drive to find a match for people like Jerry, who received his first bone marrow transplant last year. However, the leukemia has returned and he now needs a second transplant.

We congratulate Jonathan Guzman for his exemplary civic behavior, and we are confident that with the efforts of this group and massive community support, Jerry will regain his health. We pray to the Lord for this "dream" to come true.

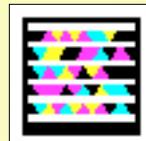
"Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it."

"Liderazgo es el arte de hacer que alguien haga algo que usted desea que se haga porque él quiere hacerlo."

-Dwight D. Eisenhower

Rumbo

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Mensaje del Representante Estatal Frank Moran en relación con el Crédito Tributario disyuntor

Quiero aprovechar esta oportunidad para pasar a lo largo alguna información para usted con respecto a un programa de crédito fiscal diseñado para las personas de Massachusetts mayores de 65 años en adelante llamado "el disyuntor" (Circuit Breaker). El disyuntor es un crédito de impuestos a la propiedad, que fue diseñado por la legislatura con la esperanza de aliviar algunas de las cargas que el impuesto a la propiedad puede crear. Esta información no es un documento oficial de impuestos, por lo que os animo a consultar con un profesional de impuestos con sus preguntas específicas. Si tiene cualquier pregunta general sobre la materia, no dude en ponerse en contacto conmigo. Puedo ser alcanzado en la Casa del Estado, llamando 617-722-2460 ó por correo electrónico a Frank.Moran@MAHouse.gov

¿Qué es el Interruptor de Crédito Fiscal?

El Interruptor de Crédito Fiscal de Circuito es un crédito de impuestos estatales para los residentes de Massachusetts elegibles de 65 años o más que pagan alquiler o impuestos de bienes raíces durante el año fiscal. A pesar de que el crédito se basa en impuestos a la propiedad, el gobierno estatal, no la ciudad o pueblo, paga el crédito.

El crédito es para los propietarios e inquilinos de alto nivel que cumplen con los límites de ingresos y otros requisitos de elegibilidad. Los propietarios pueden reclamar el crédito si pagan más del 10% de sus ingresos totales por impuestos de bienes raíces, incluyendo los cargos de agua y alcantarillado. Los inquilinos pueden contar con el 25% de su renta como el pago de impuestos de bienes raíces.

Usted debe presentar una declaración de impuestos estatal para reclamar el Crédito de interruptor de circuito. Si su crédito es mayor que la cantidad de

impuestos sobre la renta que debe, el estado le dará un reembolso por la diferencia. El crédito máximo para el año fiscal 2013 es de \$1,030. (El crédito máximo para el año fiscal 2012 fue de \$1,000.)

Para calificar:

- usted o su cónyuge deberá tener 65 años o más para finales del año fiscal
- si es casado, debe presentar en forma conjunta
- usted no puede ser el dependiente de otro contribuyente
- usted debe alquilar o comprar una casa en Massachusetts, que es su residencia principal
- Si usted es un dueño de una casa, el valor de tasación de su propiedad no puede ser mayor de \$700,000 en enero 1, 2013
- Si usted es un inquilino, usted no puede estar recibiendo un subsidio de alquiler federal o estatal (como la Sección 8), y el propietario debe pagar impuestos sobre la propiedad
- usted debe cumplir con los límites de ingresos
- la cantidad que pagó por impuestos de bienes raíces debe ser mayor que el 10% de sus ingresos totales

¿Cuáles son los límites de ingresos?

Su ingreso total no puede ser superior a estos límites para el año fiscal 2013:

- \$55,000 solo/sola
- \$69,000 jefe de hogar
- \$82,000 casado declarando conjuntamente

Message from State Rep. Frank Moran regarding the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit

I wanted to take the time to pass along some information to you regarding a tax credit program designed for Massachusetts seniors age 65 and older called "The Circuit Breaker." The Circuit Breaker is a property tax credit that was designed by the legislature with the hope of alleviating some of the burdens that property tax can create. This information is not an official tax document; therefore I encourage you to consult with a tax professional with your specific questions. Should you have any general questions on this matter, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at the State House by calling 617-722-2460 or by email at Frank.Moran@MAHouse.gov.

WHAT IS THE CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX CREDIT?

The Circuit Breaker Tax Credit is a state income tax credit for eligible Massachusetts residents age 65 or older who paid rent or real estate taxes during the tax year. Even though the credit is based on property taxes, the state government, not the city or town, pays the credit.

The credit is for senior homeowners and renters who meet income limits and other eligibility requirements. Homeowners may claim the credit if they paid more than 10% of their total income for real estate taxes, including water and sewer debt charges. Renters can count 25% of their rent as real

ANUNCIO PAGADO

El seguro para propietarios



Si usted compra una casa o un condominio o si usted alquila un apartamento, usted necesita un seguro. Usted debe saber lo que su póliza de seguro cubrirá y lo que excluye. Hay

diferentes pólizas de seguros para casas, condominios y apartamentos. Cada póliza es un "paquete" que incluye la cobertura de incendio, robo, pérdida de uso y de responsabilidad. Todas las pólizas tienen exclusiones y limitaciones.

Su póliza debe ser "a la medida" para proporcionar la protección que necesita. Hay una cobertura limitada para joyas, pieles, dinero en efectivo y otros artículos. Si usted tiene joyas caras, pieles u obras de arte puede ser necesario un seguro adicional.

Al asegurar su casa, usted asegura el edificio, otras estructuras, su contenido y también tiene la pérdida de uso y cobertura de responsabilidad civil. Si usted asegura un condominio usted asegura el interior de su unidad incluyendo su contenido, la pérdida de uso y de responsabilidad. Si usted alquila un apartamento estará asegurando su contenido, la pérdida de uso y cobertura de responsabilidad civil. Usted no es dueño del edificio por lo tanto no lo asegura.

Ponga a prueba sus conocimientos sobre seguros de propiedad: ¿Son estos VERDADERO o FALSO?

A) Yo alquilo un apartamento – el seguro del dueño me cubre.

B) Yo no necesito un seguro para mi condominio - la Póliza Maestra me cubre.

C) Mi compañía hipotecaria, dijo que sólo tengo que comprar un seguro que cubra mi préstamo.

A) Falso - usted necesita un seguro de inquilino.

B) Falso - Sus artículos personales y la responsabilidad están excluidos.

C) Falso: - Usted debe adquirir al menos el 80% del costo de reemplazo.

Para una protección adecuada debe comunicarse con nuestra oficina para una cita y discutir sus necesidades de seguro.

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ANUNCIO PAGADO

PLEASE SEE **FRANK MORAN**

CONTINUES ON PAGE 8

So good. So caring. So close.

Alcalde de Lawrence comienza Programa de Pasantías para estudiantes

Actualmente la Oficina del Alcalde Danny Rivera está trabajando con universidades locales para promover y enrolar a sus estudiantes a oportunidades en el servicio público. El Programa de Pasantías está diseñado para estudiantes universitarios que tienen interés en trabajar para instituciones gubernamentales, administración pública o que desean obtener experiencia en los asuntos de su predilección. Cada semestre se seleccionarán dos estudiantes por nueve semanas. El proceso correspondiente al programa de primavera se iniciará a partir del 10 de marzo, y finalizará el día 9 de Mayo del 2014.

Las aplicaciones para solicitar una pasantía en la Oficina del Alcalde de la Ciudad de Lawrence ya están disponibles para los estudiantes universitarios de la ciudad. La Oficina del Alcalde está buscando pasantes dedicados, inteligentes y trabajadores que muestren un gran interés en el servicio público. Las responsabilidades incluyen ayudar al departamento de operaciones diarias, como contestar el teléfono, devolver mensajes a los constituyentes, redacción de cartas, recepción de correo, y otras tareas administrativas. Los candidatos seleccionados deberán poseer excelentes habilidades interpersonales, habilidades de comunicación profesional, y capacidad de autogestión.

La Alcaldía trabaja para asegurar que la oficina sea accesible a los residentes de Lawrence. El personal del alcalde proporciona asistencia para resolver las peticiones, comentarios y preocupaciones de los ciudadanos.

"Estoy muy emocionado de brindarle la oportunidad a nuestros futuros líderes en el despacho de la alcaldía", dijo el alcalde Daniel Rivera. "Los estudiantes recibirán

una experiencia de primera mano en el trabajo con los servicios de los mandatarios y el servicio de la Ciudad de Lawrence."

Las solicitudes se pueden recoger personalmente en la oficina del alcalde en el Ayuntamiento. También están disponibles para su descarga en la página principal de la ciudad: www.cityoflawrence.com bajo "Quick Links" en la página principal.

Como Aplicar:

1. Completar la Solicitud de pasantía (disponible en la página web de la ciudad y la oficina del alcalde) a más tardar el Viernes, 28 de febrero 2014 a las 4:00 pm
2. Proporcionar una copia de su licencia de conducir.
3. Incluya junto con su solicitud una copia de su más reciente expediente universitario.
4. Incluir carta de presentación (una página con un máximo de 400 palabras) explicando la experiencia que espera obtener de la pasantía y por qué debe ser considerado para ello.
5. Carta de recomendación de un profesor u otro miembro de la facultad o del empleador anterior, pero esto no es obligatorio. Las cartas pueden ser incluidas en la solicitud o pueden ser enviadas directamente a nuestra oficina por correo electrónico a edelgado@cityoflawrence.com

Envíe por correo o entregue todos los materiales a:

City of Lawrence
Mayor's Office Internship Program - Room 309

200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA 01840
Por favor llame a Elizabeth Delgado con cualquier pregunta adicional al (978) 620-3018

FECHALÍMITE DE SOLICITUD: Viernes, 28 de febrero 2014 a las 4:00 pm

Lawrence Mayor's Office launches Internship Program

The Office of Mayor Dan Rivera is currently working with local colleges to promote and engage students in Public service opportunities. The Internship Program is designed for college students who have an interest in pursuing a career in government, public administration or who wish to gain experience in their chosen field. Two students will be selected for each semester. The spring program is set to run for nine weeks, starting March 10th and ending on May 9, 2014.

Applications are available for students to apply with the Mayor's Office within the City of Lawrence. The Mayor's Office is seeking dedicated, intelligent, and hardworking interns with a strong interest in public service. Duties include assisting the department with daily operations, such as answering the phone and returning messages from constituents, drafting letters, in-taking mail, and other administrative tasks. Successful applicants will have strong interpersonal skills, professional communication skills, and the ability to think on your feet.

The Mayor's Office works to ensure that the office is accessible to all Lawrence residents. The Mayor's staff serves and provides assistance for citizen questions, comments, requests and concerns.

"I am excited about bringing in our future leaders into the Mayor's office," says Mayor Daniel Rivera. "The students will receive a first-hand experience in working with constituents services and serving the City of Lawrence."

Applications may be picked up in person at the Mayor's Office in City Hall. It is also available for download on the city's homepage at www.cityoflawrence.com under 'Quick Links' on the home page.

In order to apply, students will need to do the following:

How to Apply

1. Complete the Internship Application (available on the city's webpage & Mayor's Office) by Friday, February 28, 2014 by 4:00 P.M.
2. Provide a copy of your driver's license or College ID
3. Enclose with your application a copy of your most recent college transcript.
4. Submit a cover letter (one page, typed, 400 words max) explaining what you hope to gain from your internship experience and why you should be considered for this opportunity.
5. A letter of recommendation by a professor or other faculty member or previous employer is recommended, but not required. Letters may be included in the application or sent directly to our office via email at edelgado@cityoflawrence.com

Mail or Drop off all materials to: City of Lawrence

Mayor's Office Internship Program - Room 309

200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA 01840

Please call Elizabeth Delgado with any additional questions at (978) 620-3018

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, February 28, 2014 by 4:00 P.M.

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Más Latinos sin seguro de salud pueden calificar para Medicaid

Ocho de cada 10 latinos sin seguro podrían calificar para Medicaid, el Programa CHIP o una reducción del costo de sus primas mensuales a través del Mercado de Seguros de Salud.

Si todos los estados ampliasen Medicaid, el 95 por ciento de los latinos sin seguro podrían calificar para una reducción de los costos de la cobertura.

Según un nuevo informe publicado hoy por el HHS, aproximadamente 8 de cada 10 latinos sin seguro podrían calificar para Medicaid, el Programa de Seguro Médico para Niños (CHIP) o una reducción del costo de sus primas mensuales a través del Mercado de Seguros de Salud. Si todos los estados aprovecharan las nuevas oportunidades para ampliar la cobertura de Medicaid conforme a la Ley del Cuidado de Salud a Bajo Precio, el 95 por ciento de los latinos sin seguro podrían calificar para Medicaid, el Programa de Seguro Médico para Niños (CHIP) o créditos fiscales para ayudarles a costear las primas del Mercado.

"La ley del cuidado de salud tiene por objeto remediar desigualdades sociales de larga data que han afectado a las comunidades minoritarias de todo el país, incluida la falta de acceso a seguros de cobertura médica con precios asequibles", afirmó Kathleen Sebelius, Secretaria de Salud y Servicios Humanos. "Gracias a la Ley del Cuidado de Salud a Bajo Precio, 10.2 millones de latinos sin seguro tienen la oportunidad de adquirir seguros de calidad asequibles a través del Mercado, y una cifra cercana a los 8 millones podrían obtener descuentos."

Conforme al informe publicado el día de hoy, de todas las personas sin seguro que reúnen los requisitos para participar en el Mercado en todo el país, 1 de cada 4 son latinos (10.2 millones de personas de un total de 41.3 millones). La mayoría (62 por ciento) vive en California, Texas y Florida; aproximadamente la mitad (4.6 millones o 46 por ciento) tienen edades comprendidas entre los 18 y los 35 años.

Entre aquellos latinos que reúnen los requisitos para obtener cobertura a través del Mercado en todo el país, aproximadamente 3.9 millones podrían calificar para una reducción de los costos de las primas mensuales y 4.2 millones podrían calificar para Medicaid o CHIP. El informe incluye una pormenorización de las tasas de falta de seguro por estado y brinda varios ejemplos de las primas que se aplicarían a los latinos que viven en las principales zonas metropolitanas. Por ejemplo, una persona de 27 años con ingresos de \$25,000 que viva en Miami, Florida, podría adquirir un plan bronce por tan solo \$87. En Houston, Texas, la misma persona podría pagar tan solo \$99 luego de tener en cuenta la reducción de las primas mediante créditos fiscales.

La mayoría (63 por ciento) de los hispanos sin seguro que reúnen los requisitos para obtener cobertura en el Mercado afirman que hablan inglés como primer idioma o que al menos lo hablan "muy bien" como segundo idioma. Cerca de un tercio (37 por ciento) se maneja en español y un 27 por ciento vive en un hogar en el que no hay ningún adulto que hable inglés. Por dicha razón, desde un inicio los esfuerzos de difusión del HHS se han realizado de forma bilingüe. Desde el 1 de octubre, la diversa comunidad latina ha tenido acceso a varios recursos pensados para ayudarlos a inscribirse a través del Mercado, incluida la posibilidad de realizar la solicitud por teléfono con ayuda del personal capacitado bilingüe del centro de atención telefónica o en persona con especialistas preparados en las comunidades locales.

Los latinos se pueden inscribir en español a través de CuidadoDeSalud.gov, donde los consumidores pueden crear cuentas, llenar una solicitud en línea y adquirir planes de salud que se ajusten a sus presupuestos y sus necesidades.

Ahora, CuidadoDeSalud.gov ofrece una experiencia de comparación y compra mucho más poderosa. Los consumidores pueden ver información detallada sobre cada plan de seguro de salud que se ofrece en su zona a través del Mercado antes de presentar la solicitud. Pueden comparar planes, beneficios cubiertos, médicos y

redes de hospitales, y los precios de los planes con base en la información que proporcionan sobre su núcleo familiar, sin necesidad de iniciar sesión ni presentar solicitud alguna. Para descubrir cómo tener acceso a costos reducidos, seguirá siendo necesario que los consumidores llenen la solicitud.

La inscripción en el Mercado está abierta hasta el 31 de marzo. La inscripción puede realizarse por cualquiera de los siguientes métodos:

- En línea, a través de HealthCare.gov o en español en CuidadoDeSalud.gov
- Por teléfono, llamando al centro de servicio al cliente con atención las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana (1-800-318-2596, TTY 1-855-889-4325); con la ayuda de una persona capacitada de su vecindario (tanto

HealthCare.gov como CuidadoDeSalud.gov tienen una sección de Find Local Help/ Encuentre ayuda local)

- Enviando una solicitud impresa por correo

Para leer el informe de hoy, visite: http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/UninsuredLatinos/rb_uninsuredLatinos_Espanol.pdf.

Instamos a los latinos que se han inscrito en el Mercado a que comparten sus historias a fin de motivar a otros consumidores a obtener cobertura médica de calidad a precios asequibles en <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/my-story/index.html>.

O en español en <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/mi-experiencia-es/index.html>.

More Latinos could qualify for Medicaid

Nationwide 8 in 10 uninsured Latinos may qualify for Medicaid, CHIP or lower costs on monthly premiums.

That means 48,000 in Massachusetts and 6,000 uninsured Latinos in New Hampshire have new options for quality, affordable coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

A new report issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) finds that nationwide, nearly 8 in 10 uninsured Latinos may qualify for Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or lower costs on monthly premiums through the Health Insurance Marketplace. In New Hampshire there are 33,000 Latinos who may be eligible for Marketplace coverage, Medicaid or CHIP, 6,000 (18 percent) of whom are uninsured.

"The health care law addresses longstanding inequalities that have affected minority communities across the nation, including lack of access to affordable health insurance coverage," said Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, 6,000 uninsured Latinos in New Hampshire have the opportunity to purchase quality, affordable coverage through the Marketplace, and the majority of those could get a break on costs."

According to this report, 1 in 4 uninsured individuals who are eligible for the Marketplace nationwide are Latino (10.2 million out of 41.3 million individuals). About half (4.6 million or 46 percent) are between the ages of 18 and 35.

If all states took advantage of new opportunities to expand Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act, 95 percent of uninsured Latinos might qualify for Medicaid, CHIP, or tax credits to help with the cost of premiums in the Marketplace.

Nationwide, the majority (63 percent) of uninsured Hispanic Americans who are eligible for coverage in the Marketplace either speak English as a first language, or "very well" as a second language. About one-third (37 percent) rely on Spanish, and 27 percent live in a household without an English-speaking adult present. This is why from the beginning HHS's outreach has

been a bilingual effort. Since October 1, the diverse Latino community has had access to multiple resources to help with enrollment in the Marketplace, including applying by phone with trained call center staff offering bilingual help, or in person with trained specialists in local communities.

Latinos can enroll in Spanish through CuidadoDeSalud.gov where consumers can create accounts, complete an online application, and shop for health plans that fit their budget and needs.

CuidadoDeSalud.gov now supports a more robust window shopping experience. Consumers can see detailed information about each Marketplace health insurance plan offered in their area before they apply. They can compare plans, covered benefits, physician and hospital networks, and plan prices based on household information they supply, all without a login or application. Consumers will still need to complete the application to find out how they can get lower costs.

Enrollment in the Marketplace is open until March 31. Available tools for enrollments include:

Online through HealthCare.gov or in Spanish at CuidadoDeSalud.gov;

Over the phone by calling the 24/7 customer service center (1-800-318-2596, TTY 1-855-889-4325);

Working with a trained person in your local community (A Find Local Help section is available on both HealthCare.gov and CuidadoDeSalud.gov);

- Submitting a paper application by mail.

To read today's report, visit: http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/2013/UninsuredLatinos/rb_uninsuredLatinos.pdf

Latinos who have enrolled in the Marketplace are encouraged to share their story to motivate other consumers to sign up for affordable quality health coverage <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/my-story/index.html>

Or in Spanish at <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/mi-experiencia-es/index.html>

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Seguiré comiendo plátanos con salami, ¿y qué?

POR/BY JOSÉ ALFONSO GARCÍA
josealfonsogarcia2@gmail.com



Hay mucha gente de piel morena y sueños fallidos que dicen querer esta ciudad con un amor tan y tan grande que desborda los caudales de toda imaginación. Sin embargo, estos amantes empedernidos, prefieren vivir inadvertidos y olvidados en ciudades vecinas donde no los conocen ni los perros; pero no se mudarían a vivir con su familia a su Lawrence del alma, ni que los maten. "¡Jesús ché!, ¿Yo vivir en Lawrence? ¿Seré yo loco? ¡Ay no, aquí hay demasiados hispanos!" se apresuran a expresar su respuesta cuando algún desprevenido les hace la pregunta del millón: ¿Y tú vives en Lawrence?

Otros que también parecen amar a Lawrence con locura son aquellos residentes que gritan con orgullo, como pregonándolo a los cuatro vientos: ¡Esta es mi ciudad! pero la única razón por la que viven aún en este campo es porque, parece que por el momento, la realidad de su entorno económico sigue siendo más fuerte que su sueño inalcanzable de marcharse para Andover.

Hay muchos otros, sin embargo, que como usted, como aquel, o como yo,

seguiremos enarbolando por siempre y con ceñida altivez la bandera de nuestro origen latino. Nos insertamos con éxito en esta cultura tan extraña como diversa sin tener que negociar, y mucho menos esconder, nuestras raíces caribeñas. Aprendemos el inglés, las bellas artes y hasta los trucos secretos del juego de dominó. Contamos con las agallas y el calor de hacernos "americanos" pero nunca renunciamos a lo que algunos han llamado con certeza, nuestras "malas costumbres" popularmente difundidas y a veces hasta exageradas por la mera percepción.

Para esos humildes y bondadosos ciudadanos que aman tanto esta ciudad; pero que al mismo tiempo la detestan, aunque con cierta ternura, a esos gavilanes del desierto, maestros en las artes de pescar en río revuelto sin mojarse los zapatos, a esos tiburones callejeros capaces de sumergirse en el fango sin estropearse su ropa, a esos paladines encumbrados de la honestidad y del decoro, los felicito y reconozco su audacia.

Los latinos tenemos la virtud de transformarnos y adaptarnos a la idea de que somos ciudadanos ejemplares y exitosos con iguales oportunidades; pero al mismo tiempo, nos negamos a dejar de saborear la agradable sensación de comernos nuestros plátanos con salami, gritar o chillar en vez de hablar cuando estamos entre la gente,

o celebrar con unos tragos sin motivos aparentes al ritmo cadencioso de un merengue ripiao. Estos hábitos, visibles factores de nuestro diario vivir, aunque notables, no parecen ser razones suficientes para permitir que nos metan a todos en un mismo saco para considerarnos como

vulgares ladrones, mentirosos, asaltantes, drogadictos, violadores, mafiosos, ilegales y corruptos. Pues, como decía mi vieja, que Dios siempre guarde en gloria: "A mí, los fósforos" o "La calentura no está en las sábanas". Yo seguiré viviendo en Lawrence y comiéndome mi plátano. ¿Y tú?

I shall go on eating plantains with salami, so what?

Many brown-skin people with broken dreams who say to love the city with a love so great and so overflowing that flows all imagination. However, they choose to live in neighboring towns ignored and forgotten where not even the dogs know them, and not even under a death threat they would come to live with their family in their adored Lawrence. "Che Jesus! Living in Lawrence? Do you think I'm crazy? Alas no, there are too many Hispanics!" They are quick to express when an unsuspecting person asks them the big question: Do you live in Lawrence?

There are the residents who seem to love Lawrence dearly shouting with pride as trumpeting from the rooftops: "This is my town!" But the only reason they still live here is because for now, the reality of

the economic environment holds them back from the unattainable dream of moving to Andover.

And many others, however, that like you or like me, will continue waving forever our Latino pride flag. We successfully inserted ourselves into this culture as strange as diverse without having to negotiate, let alone hide, our Caribbean roots. We learned English, fine arts and even the secret tricks of the game of dominoes. We have the guts and the desire to become "Americans" but never give up what some have called for sure, our "bad habits" popularly disseminated and sometimes exaggerated

GARCIA
CONTINUES ON PAGE 19

Viajar a Boston
para ver a un
especialista
pediátrico no es
muy divertido.

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sea el transporte.



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Together we deliver advanced care

Regresa el patinaje en el Parque Campagnone durante las vacaciones de febrero

El Comité de la Inauguración de la Ciudad de Lawrence se complace en anunciar el patinaje sobre hielo gratis y alquileres de patines en el Campagnone Common Park el sábado, 15 de febrero a partir de la 1 pm a 4 pm. De regreso por demanda popular, la pista redonda de 100 pies situada en frente del Escenario Leonard Bernstein estará abierta al público en general hasta el domingo, 23 de febrero.

El día de apertura incluirá la música del DJ Ángel Alba y alquiler gratuito de patines para los residentes de Lawrence desde pre-escolar hasta las tallas de adulto. Sin embargo, se anima a los residentes a traer sus propios patines después del Día de la Apertura y patinar bajo su propio riesgo. El resto de la semana la pista estará abierta hasta las 8 pm, si el tiempo lo permite - y las luces del parque se encenderán al atardecer.

Los acontecimientos que han tenido lugar tradicionalmente en Campagnone Park se componen de festivales, conciertos y juegos deportivos. Este año, el Comité Inaugural de Rivera quería traer un evento único para unir a las familias en el parque histórico situado frente al Ayuntamiento. Durante el fin de semana de inauguración, los residentes de todas las edades celebraron con el Alcalde Dan Rivera. El evento, titulado "Día de Diversión Familiar" contó con el patinaje sobre hielo, música y actividades divertidas para los niños.

"Los niños y los padres ambos se



divirtieron mucho en la pista!", dijo el Alcalde Dan Rivera. "Estamos encantados de ofrecer este divertido evento para la comunidad, una vez más."

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Outdoor Ice Skating returns to Lawrence's Campagnone Common for February School Vacation

The City of Lawrence Inauguration Committee is excited to announce free ice skating and rentals at the Campagnone Common Park on Saturday February 15th from 1PM - 4PM. Back by popular demand, the 100 ft. round rink located in front of the Leonard Bernstein Stage will be open to the general public until Sunday, February 23rd.

Opening day will include music by DJ Angel Alba and free skate rentals for Lawrence residents from pre-school to adult sizes. However, residents are encouraged to bring their own skates after Opening Day and skate at their own risk. The remaining days the rink will be open until 8pm, weather permitting- and the park

lights will be turned on at sunset.

Events that have traditionally taken place at Campagnone Park include festivals, concerts and sports games. This year, the Rivera Inaugural Committee wanted to bring a unique event to unite families at the historical park located right across from City Hall. During Inauguration weekend, residents of all ages celebrated with Mayor Dan Rivera. The event, titled "Family Fun Day" featured ice skating, music and fun activities for the kids.

"The kids and parents both had a blast on the rink!" says Mayor Dan Rivera. "We are happy to offer this fun event to the community once again."

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 4

FRANK MORAN

estate tax payments.

You must file a state income tax return to claim the Circuit Breaker Credit, whether or not you have to file otherwise. If your credit is greater than the amount of income taxes you owe, the state will give you a refund for the difference. The maximum credit for tax year 2013 is \$1,030. (The maximum credit for tax year 2012 was \$1000.)

TO QUALIFY:

- you or your spouse must be age 65 or older by the end of the tax year
- if married, you must file jointly
- you cannot be the dependent of another taxpayer
- you must rent or own a home in Massachusetts that is your principal residence

- if you are a homeowner, your property's assessed value cannot be greater than \$700,000 on January 1, 2013
- if you are a renter, you cannot be getting a federal or state rent subsidy (such as Section 8), and your landlord must pay property taxes
- you must meet the income limits
- the amount you paid for real estate taxes must be greater than 10% of your total income

WHAT ARE THE INCOME LIMITS?

Your total income cannot be greater than these limits for the 2013 tax year:

- \$55,000 single
- \$69,000 head of household
- \$82,000 married filing jointly

Diez Consejos para Ayudarle a Elegir un Preparador de Impuestos

Muchas personas contratan a un profesional cuando llega el momento de presentar su declaración de impuestos. Si usted paga a alguien para que prepare su declaración federal de impuestos por ingresos, el IRS le exhorta a elegir a esa persona cuidadosamente. Aun si usted no prepara su propia declaración, usted mantiene responsabilidad legal por lo que aparece en ella.

Aquí tiene diez consejos que tener presente al elegir un preparador de impuestos:

1. Revise las credenciales de un preparador. Todos los preparadores de impuestos pagados tienen el requisito de tener un número de identificación de preparador de impuestos o PTIN. Además de asegurarse de que tiene un PTIN, pregunte al preparador si pertenece a una organización profesional y si asiste a clases de educación continua.

2. Revise el historial del preparador. Comuníquese con el Better Business Bureau o BBB para ver si el preparador tiene antecedentes cuestionables. Fíjese en acciones disciplinarias y el estado de sus licencias. Para contadores públicos certificados, consulte con la junta de contabilidad del estado. Para abogados, consulte con la asociación de abogados del estado. Para los agentes registrados, consulte con la oficina del IRS de inscripción.

3. Pregunte acerca de cuotas por servicios. Evite a los preparadores que basan sus cuotas en un porcentaje de su reembolso o aquellos que dicen poder conseguirle un reembolso mayor al que otros pueden conseguirle. Siempre cerciórese de que cualquier reembolso pendiente le sea enviado a usted o depositado a su propia cuenta bancaria. Los contribuyentes no deberían depositar sus reembolsos en la cuenta bancaria de un preparador.

4. Pida que su declaración sea presentada por e-file. Esté seguro de que su preparador ofrece e-file del IRS. Cualquier preparador pagado que prepara y presenta más de 10 declaraciones de clientes por lo general debe presentar las declaraciones electrónicamente. El IRS ha procesado de manera segura más de 1.2 mil millones de declaraciones de impuestos presentadas por e-file.

5. Asegúrese de que su preparador esté disponible. Esté seguro de que podrá comunicarse con su preparador de impuestos después de presentar su declaración – incluso después de la fecha límite del 15 de abril. Esto pudiera ser útil en caso surgieran preguntas acerca de su declaración de impuestos.

6. Proporcione archivos y recibos. Un buen preparador pedirá ver sus archivos y recibos. Le hará preguntas para determinar el total de sus ingresos, deducciones, créditos tributarios y demás. No use a un preparador que está dispuesto a presentar su declaración con e-file usando su último talón de pago en lugar de su Formulario W-2. Esto está en contra de las reglas de e-file del IRS.

7. Nunca firme una declaración en blanco. No use a un preparador de impuestos que le pide firmar una declaración de impuestos en blanco.

8. Revise su declaración de impuestos antes de firmarla. Antes de firmar su declaración de impuestos, revisela y haga preguntas si algo no le queda claro. Asegúrese de sentirse cómodo de la exactitud de su declaración antes de firmarla.

9. Cerciórese de que el preparador firme e incluya su PTIN. Los preparadores pagados deben firmar las declaraciones e incluir su PTIN como exige la ley. El preparador también debe darle una copia de la declaración.

10. Reporte a preparadores de impuestos abusivos al IRS. Puede denunciar a los preparadores de impuestos abusivos y sospechas de fraudes de impuestos al IRS. Utilice el Formulario 14157, denuncia: preparador de impuestos. Si usted sospecha que un preparador presentó su declaración o cambió una declaración sin su consentimiento, también debería presentar el Formulario 14157-A, fraude de preparador de declaraciones o declaración jurada de mala conducta. Puede obtener estos formularios en IRS.gov o llamando al 800-829-3676.

Recursos Adicionales del IRS:

- Tema Tributario 254<<http://www.irs.gov/Spanish/Tema-254,-C%C3%B3mo>>

[escoger-a-un-preparador-de-impuestos>](#)

- Cómo escoger a un preparador de impuestos

- Publicación 4445G (ENG/SP)<<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p4445gsp.pdf>>, Cómo Seleccionar un Preparador de Declaraciones

- Verify the Status of an Enrolled Agent <<http://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Verify-the-Status-of-an-Enrolled-Agent>> (en inglés)

- How to Make a Complaint About

a Tax Return Preparer <<http://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Make-a-Complaint-About-a-Tax-Return-Preparer>> (en inglés)

- How to Report Suspected Tax Fraud Activity <<http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/How-Do-You-Report-Suspected-Tax-Fraud-Activity%3F>> (en inglés)

Video en YouTube del IRS: Elegir a un Preparador de Impuestos <http://youtu.be/10U9v_2oPt8>

Top Ten Tips to Help You Choose a Tax Preparer

Many people hire a professional when it's time to file their tax return. If you pay someone to prepare your federal income tax return, the IRS urges you to choose that person wisely. Even if you don't prepare your own return, you're still legally responsible for what is on it.

Here are ten tips to keep in mind when choosing a tax preparer:

1. Check the preparer's qualifications. All paid tax preparers are required to have a Preparer Tax Identification Number or PTIN. In addition to making sure they have a PTIN, ask the preparer if they belong to a professional organization and attend continuing education classes.

2. Check the preparer's history. Check with the Better Business Bureau to see if the preparer has a questionable history. Check for disciplinary actions and for the status of their licenses. For certified public accountants, check with the state board of accountancy. For attorneys, check with the state bar association. For enrolled agents, check with the IRS Office of Enrollment.

3. Ask about service fees. Avoid preparers who base their fee on a percentage of your refund or those who say they can get larger refunds than others can. Always make sure any refund due is sent to you or deposited into your bank account. Taxpayers should not deposit their refund into a preparer's bank account.

4. Ask to e-file your return. Make sure your preparer offers IRS e-file. Any paid preparer who prepares and files more than 10 returns for clients generally must file the returns electronically. IRS has safely processed more than 1.2 billion e-filed tax returns.

5. Make sure the preparer is available. Make sure you'll be able to contact the tax preparer after you file your return - even after the April 15 due date. This may be helpful in the event questions come up about your tax return.

6. Provide records and receipts. Good preparers will ask to see your records and receipts. They'll ask you questions to

determine your total income, deductions, tax credits and other items. Do not use a preparer who is willing to e-file your return using your last pay stub instead of your Form W-2. This is against IRS e-file rules.

7. Never sign a blank return. Don't use a tax preparer that asks you to sign a blank tax form.

8. Review your return before signing. Before you sign your tax return, review it and ask questions if something is not clear. Make sure you're comfortable with the accuracy of the return before you sign it.

9. Ensure the preparer signs and includes their PTIN. Paid preparers must sign returns and include their PTIN as required by law. The preparer must also give you a copy of the return.

10. Report abusive tax preparers to the IRS. You can report abusive tax preparers and suspected tax fraud to the IRS. Use Form 14157, Complaint: Tax Return Preparer. If you suspect a return preparer filed or changed the return without your consent, you should also file Form 14157-A, Return Preparer Fraud or Misconduct Affidavit. You can get these forms at IRS.gov or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

Additional IRS Resources:

- Tax Topic 254<<http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc254.html>> - How to Choose a Tax Return Preparer
- Choosing a Tax Professional <<http://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Choosing-a-Tax-Professional>>
- Verify the Status of an Enrolled Agent <<http://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Verify-the-Status-of-an-Enrolled-Agent>>
- How to Make a Complaint About a Tax Return Preparer <<http://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Make-a-Complaint-About-a-Tax-Return-Preparer>>
- How to Report Suspected Tax Fraud Activity <<http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/How-Do-You-Report-Suspected-Tax-Fraud-Activity%3F>>

IRS YouTube Videos:

- Choosing a Tax Preparer – English and Spanish



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Lo que nos entregues ayudará a los niños locales que participan en nuestro programa de tutoría. Debés saber que tu donación es deducible de impuestos.

¡Gracias por tu apoyo!

El estado concede subvenciones a la Colaborativa de Aguas Pluviales del Valle de Merrimack

DiZoglio anuncia \$145,000 en financiamiento

La Representante Estatal Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen) ha anunciado que la organización Merrimack Valley Stormwater Collaborative ha sido nombrada receptora de \$145,000 en la ronda del año fiscal 2014 del programa de subvención de Community Innovation Challenge (CIC).

El programa de CIC, ahora en su tercer año, se estableció en el 2012 para incentivar proyectos innovadores en el ámbito local. Más de \$10 millones han sido invertidos en 242 ciudades y pueblos de todo el estado, con el apoyo de la Corte General de Massachusetts y la Oficina Ejecutiva de Administración y Finanzas.

Con el liderazgo de la Comisión de Planificación de Merrimack Valley (MVPC), el pueblo de North Andover, y las ciudades de Haverhill, Lawrence y Methuen, son algunas de las comunidades que participan en esta colaboración, que explorarán soluciones a los problemas asociados con el agua de lluvia sin tratar que son de bajo costo y fomentar la cooperación y la comunicación regional.

El MVPC, una organización pública sin fines de lucro que representa a 15 comunidades de todo el Valle de Merrimack, ha estado comprometida por

décadas a ayudar a la zona en asuntos de planificación de transporte, uso de la tierra, el medio ambiente y el desarrollo económico. Se ha unido a las obras públicas locales y el personal de ingeniería de programas integrales de gestión relacionados con las aguas pluviales, que, cuando se deja sin tratamiento, a menudo contiene contaminantes peligrosos y pueden contaminar los suministros de agua locales.

"Esta subvención será de gran valor en la asistencia a los esfuerzos de todo el Valle de Merrimack para abordar las preocupaciones ambientales y de salud que vienen con las aguas pluviales sin tratar", dijo DiZoglio. "Es una iniciativa muy importante y me uno a mis colegas legisladores del Valle de Merrimack en la celebración de la entrega de esta generosa donación".



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Nestor H. De Jesús
Presidente

State Grants Awarded to Merrimack Valley Stormwater Collaborative

DiZoglio Announces \$145,000 in Funding

State Rep. Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen) has announced the Merrimack Valley Stormwater Collaborative has been named a recipient of \$145,000 in the Fiscal Year 2014 round of the Community Innovation Challenge (CIC) grant program.

The CIC program, now in its third year, was established in 2012 to incentivize innovative projects at the local level. More than \$10 million has been invested into 242 cities and towns across the Commonwealth with the support of the Massachusetts General Court and Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

With the leadership of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC), the Town of North Andover, and the cities of Haverhill, Lawrence and Methuen,

are among the communities participating in the Stormwater Collaborative, which will explore solutions to the problems associated with untreated stormwater that are low-cost and promote regional cooperation and communication.

The MVPC, a public, nonprofit organization which represents 15 communities across the Merrimack Valley, has for decades been committed to assisting the area in planning matters on transportation, land use, the environment and economic development. It has joined with local public works and engineering personnel on comprehensive management programs pertaining to stormwater, which, when left untreated, often contains dangerous pollutants and can contaminate local water supplies.

"This grant will prove invaluable in assisting efforts across the Merrimack Valley to address the environmental and health concerns that come with untreated stormwater," said DiZoglio. "It is an incredibly important initiative and I join my legislative colleagues from the Merrimack Valley in celebrating the awarding of this generous grant."

House Passes Supplementary Budget, Freezes Unemployment Insurance Rate

Legislation Highlights Commitment to Providing for Neediest Citizens while Aiding Businesses and Municipalities

State Representative Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen) joined her colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives to pass legislation that, for the fifth consecutive year, freezes a scheduled increase in the unemployment insurance (UI) assessment paid by all employers.

This action is estimated to relieve the average employer from an approximate 30 percent increase for UI per employee while allowing employees to receive the same benefits under this rate. In the coming months the House plans to systemically improve the UI system as it addresses minimum wage.

Because the House recognizes the challenges residents face during the winter, this legislation provides an additional \$20 million for heating assistance and about \$45 million to provide low-income homeless families with access to housing. Additionally, the Department of Transportation may spend up to additional \$50 million for snow and ice removal dependent on the state's needs.

The bill includes a \$15 million recapitalization of the Brownfield's redevelopment fund which will allow the current pipeline of projects to continue and increase development opportunities on currently vacant and underutilized properties across the Commonwealth.

The bill also provides increased funding for the Department of Children and Families (DCF), homelessness programs, and the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

"This supplemental budget includes

targeted funding for time-sensitive programs and services. We provide \$20 million for the federal LIHEAP program to ensure that the Commonwealth's most vulnerable residents remain safe and warm throughout the winter months," said Representative Brian S. Dempsey (D-Haverhill), Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee. "We also implement an Unemployment Insurance rate freeze to encourage important economic opportunities as we progress through 2014 for both employers and workers. We also recapitalize the highly successful Brownfields Redevelopment program and include funding to cover the costs of snow and ice removal, supporting the many small businesses that contract with the state to keep our roads safe."

The supplemental budget allocates \$2.78 million to DCF, thus providing adequate funds to meet the department's request of a 15:1 caseload ratio. This action follows increases in DCF funding over the past three budget cycles.

"Having worked with low-income families and abused children for years, I am thrilled that this budget focuses on the safety of our community's most vulnerable population," said DiZoglio (D-Methuen). "There must be a continuous effort to keep our children safe and that requires adequate resources. I was happy to see that this budget gained bipartisan support, as it will also assist in keeping our roads safe and clean through the remainder of winter."

This bill passed the House 146 to 2 and now moves on to the Senate.

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 2

STUDENTS

Wanda Gines, director of Community Day Learning's Latchkey Enrichment Program. Student groups from the out-of-school time program's seven sites, Community Day Arlington Elementary School, Frost School, Guilmette School, Parthum School, South Lawrence East School, and Wetherbee School in Lawrence, and the Methuen site at 10 Ditson Place, each performed songs from a different movie.

Students in Kindergarten through grade six worked together to perform scenes from The Little Mermaid, Aladdin, The Lion King, Mulan, Toy Story 2, Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs, y The Beauty and the Beast. The festive evening included dinner for students and their families, raffles, and student performances of excerpts from the movies. "We're thrilled that so many students and families came together to enjoy this show," said Wanda Gines, "It's great when parents and families are able to come out for a fun evening and enjoy the product of all the hard work students have been doing."



Cámara de Representantes aprueba presupuesto suplementario, Congela tarifa del Seguro de Desempleo

Legislación destaca el compromiso de proporcionar a los ciudadanos más necesitados mientras ayuda a empresas y municipios

La Representante Estatal Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen) se unió a sus colegas en la Cámara de Representantes de Massachusetts para aprobar una ley que, por quinto año consecutivo, congela un aumento previsto en el seguro de desempleo pagado por todos los empleadores.

Esta acción se estima para aliviar el empresario promedio de un aumento del 30 por ciento aproximado de la interfaz de usuario por empleado al tiempo que permite que los empleados reciban los mismos beneficios bajo esta tarifa. En los próximos meses la Cámara planea mejorar sistemáticamente el sistema de interfaz de usuario, ya que se dirige a un salario mínimo.

Debido a que la Cámara reconoce los desafíos que enfrentan los residentes durante el invierno, esta legislación establece una cantidad adicional de \$20 millones para la asistencia de calefacción y de alrededor de \$45 millones para proporcionar a las familias sin hogar de bajos ingresos con acceso a la vivienda. Además, el Departamento de Transporte puede gastar hasta \$50 millones adicionales para la remoción de nieve y de hielo dependiendo de las necesidades del estado.

El proyecto de ley incluye una recapitalización \$15 millones de fondos de reurbanización que permitirá a la actual cartera de proyectos para continuar e incrementar las oportunidades de desarrollo en las propiedades actualmente vacantes y subutilizados en todo el estado.

El proyecto de ley también proporciona una mayor financiación para el Departamento de Niños y Familias (DCF), los programas de la falta de vivienda, y el

Programa de Asistencia Energética para Bajos Ingresos (LIHEAP).

"Este presupuesto suplementario incluye la financiación específica para los programas y servicios sensibles al tiempo. Proporcionamos \$20 millones para el programa federal LIHEAP para asegurar que los residentes más vulnerables del estado se mantienen a salvo y caliente durante los meses de invierno", dijo el Representante Brian S. Dempsey (D-Haverhill), Presidente del Comité de Ways and Means. "También implementamos un congelamiento de las tarifas de Seguro de Desempleo para alentar importantes oportunidades económicas a medida que avanzamos a través de 2014, tanto para los empleadores como los trabajadores. También recapitalizar el exitoso programa de Reurbanización de Brownfields e incluir financiamiento para cubrir los costos de la remoción de hielo y nieve, el apoyo a las muchas pequeñas empresas que tienen contratos con el Estado para mantener nuestras carreteras seguras".

El presupuesto suplementario asigna \$2.78 millones a DCF, proporcionando así los fondos necesarios para cumplir con la solicitud del departamento de una relación de carga de trabajo 15:01. Esta acción sigue a aumentos en la financiación DCF en los tres últimos ciclos presupuestarios.

"Después de trabajar con las familias de bajos ingresos y los niños víctimas de abusos durante años, estoy encantada de que este presupuesto se centra en la seguridad de la población más vulnerable de nuestra comunidad", dijo DiZoglio (D-Methuen). "Tiene que haber un esfuerzo continuo para mantener a nuestros niños seguros y eso requiere recursos adecuados. Yo estaba feliz de ver que este presupuesto obtuvo apoyo bipartidista, ya que también ayudará a mantener nuestras calles seguras y limpias durante el resto del invierno."

Este proyecto de ley fue aprobado por la Cámara 146-2 y ahora pasa al Senado.



Leonardo González con su hija Yaneirys, después que se anunció como ganadora de una tarjeta de regalo.

Leonardo Gonzalez with daughter Yaneirys, after being named a gift card raffle winner.



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News from Middlesex Community College

Continue your education with MassTransfer at Middlesex

Middlesex Community College recognizes that after completing their MCC coursework, many students intend to transfer and pursue a bachelor's degree at another institution. For these students, Middlesex offers MassTransfer, a statewide transfer program to help streamline the transfer process.

The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education has adopted a statewide transfer policy called MassTransfer, that seeks to provide a broad population of students with straightforward and understandable options for completing bachelor's degrees. MassTransfer provides community college students, who complete approved associate degrees and enroll in linked MassTransfer programs, with the benefit of full transfer of credit, guaranteed admission, and a tuition discount to Massachusetts state colleges or universities.

MCC students who choose to transfer before earning an associate degree may still take advantage of MassTransfer. Through the MassTransfer Block program, students can transfer a block of credits that satisfy general education or core requirements across institutions. Students must complete the 34-credit MassTransfer Block with a 2.0 or higher grade point average.

For more information about MassTransfer, visit the website at <http://www.mass.edu/masstransfer/home.asp>, contact MCC's Academic, Career &

Transfer Center at 1-800-818-3434, or visit <https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer/masstransfer.aspx>

MCC Offers FREE Tutoring and Academic Support Services

Middlesex Community College's Academic Centers for Enrichment (ACE) provide free and flexible individual and group tutoring on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. Staffed by professional and peer tutors, MCC's ACE Hotspots are open for walk-in help and by appointment throughout the spring semester. Registration is now open for MCC spring-semester courses, which begin Tuesday, Jan. 21.

The goal of MCC's ACE is to help students "learn how to learn" and achieve academic success by gaining an understanding of their personal learning styles. MCC's ACE Hotspots provide a challenging and supportive environment, in which students can work independently or collaboratively to master learning strategies they can apply to their courses.

Tutoring is available in most subjects, including writing, reading/study skills, math, science, computer applications, accounting, business, economics, nursing and English Language Learner courses.

In addition to professional and peer tutoring programs, MCC's ACE offers free eTutoring online 24/7 through the Academic Support website www.middlesex.mass.edu/tutoringservices or at www.etutoring.org.

To learn more about MCC's Academic

Support Program, or to schedule a tutoring appointment, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/ace.

MCC Dental Hygiene Clinic Offers Services at Reduced Rate

The Middlesex Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic in Lowell offers preventative dental hygiene services to the public at a reduced cost. Dental Hygiene students provide direct patient care and are supervised by licensed dental hygienists and dentists.

Patients accepted for treatment are those whose dental problems have teaching value and who have the extra time required for treatment. Services include comprehensive dental hygiene care, oral prophylaxis (cleaning), scaling, dental radiographs, dental sealants, athletic mouth protectors and fluoride treatments. Because the clinic is a learning facility, appointments may take up to four hours and clients may be required to return for several appointments in order to complete the necessary treatment.

Spring semester clinic hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday; and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday while the college is in session (January through May). Appointments must be scheduled in advance.

MCC's Dental Hygiene Clinic is located on the first floor of the Talbot Building (in the Health, Science & Technology Center) at 44 Middle St., in Lowell. For pricing information or to schedule an appointment, call 978-656-3250 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/DHCLINIC.

MCC Offers Many Ways to Learn

Middlesex Community College provides students with many flexible course options to fit a variety of schedules and learning styles. In addition to traditional courses, MCC offers online, hybrid and Flexible Studies courses, as well as a number of Learning Communities. Spring semester begins Tuesday, Jan. 21, and it's not too late to register.

Traditional courses enable students and instructors to meet in a classroom, laboratory, clinic, or external setting for an established number of hours per week on a regular weekly schedule. Learning occurs through lectures, presentations, discussions and other classroom activities.

Online courses enable instructors and students to interact online with a course-management system and email. Students can complete assignments online and on hours they choose. MCC offers 15 programs of study that can be completed entirely online, as well as many other programs that are 80 percent online.

Hybrid courses combine face-to-face classroom experience with online instruction. These courses are a good option for students who may be hesitant about taking an entirely online course, or who may also want the traditional classroom experience.

Flexible Studies courses enable students to select convenient class hours from many available course-meeting times, and allow them to learn at their own pace – accelerating or taking extra time, as needed.

Students work with an instructor who specializes in the subject.

Learning Communities consist of two highly interactive courses with the same students and the same instructors. By enrolling in one Learning Community, students earn credits for two courses, and can study a topic or theme in depth.

For more information about MCC's flexible learning options, visit us online at www.middlesex.mass.edu/academics/. For registration information, call 1-800-818-3434.

Learn at a More Advanced Level with MCC's Honors Program

Middlesex Community College offers unique learning opportunities for students who elect to study at a more advanced level through the Commonwealth Honors Program (CHP).

CHP at Middlesex offers a variety of honors course options, as well as opportunities for students to master research and presentation techniques. The program also provides a variety of extra and co-curricular activities, including field trips and guest lectures.

After receiving accreditation from the State Board of Higher Education in 2010, MCC's Commonwealth Honors Program became part of an integrated network of honors programs throughout the Massachusetts public college and university system.

"The honors program is a great place for students who want to be fully engaged in their intellectual enterprise to learn as much as possible about the world around them – and focus on the collegiate experience," said MCC History Professor David Kalivas, current CHP Director.

To graduate with honors, Middlesex students are expected to complete a minimum of three honors courses, one of which must be an interdisciplinary team-taught seminar. Students must also participate in the annual Honors Conference, a public opportunity for students to display and explain their research.

Students who complete their degrees through CHP are guaranteed transfer to other Commonwealth Honors Programs at any state college or university, or can enhance their applications for other four-year public or private institutions.

For more information about MCC's Commonwealth Honors Program, visit [https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/honors/](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/honors/) or call 781-280-3553.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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L'Italien se lanza para el Senado en su lucha por familias del área

La ex Representante Estatal Barbara L'Italien de Andover ha anunciado que se está postulando para el Senado Estatal en el Segundo Distrito de Middlesex y Essex.

"He estado en contacto con muchas personas de todo el distrito que me han instado a buscar el escaño del Senado que dejará vacante el Senador Barry Finegold", dijo L'Italien. "Me siento muy honrada y llena de energía, tanto por su confianza y apoyo. Los habitantes de Andover, Dracut, Lawrence y Tewksbury han sido bien servido por Senadores como Pat McGovern, John O'Brien, Sue Tucker y Barry Finegold y yo espero continuar su tradición de liderazgo fuerte y eficaz".

L'Italien ha pasado décadas luchando por las familias de Massachusetts, los niños y los ancianos. Antes de ser elegida se desempeñó como trabajadora social en Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley y trabajó para la Línea Directa de Abuso de Ancianos de Massachusetts y Suburban West Elder Services.

La pasión de L'Italien por el servicio público la llevó a trabajar en Beacon Hill representando al Distrito 18 de Essex desde el 2003 hasta el 2011.

Ella abogó por mejorar los servicios de personas mayores en la legislatura también. Ella inició "Caring Homes", un programa comunitario que presta alivio a las familias que mantienen a las personas mayores en sus hogares en lugar de hogares de ancianos,

y aprobó la ley "Choices" que proporciona opciones en el cuidado ampliado para las personas mayores a través de una exención de Medicaid.

"Nuestros adultos mayores merecen tener la opción de vivir en sus hogares en vez de en un asilo de ancianos", dijo L'Italien. "Tanto Caring Homes como Choices permiten una opción más compasiva a un costo que es una cuarta parte del costo de la estadía en un hogar de ancianos y puede retardar el crecimiento de los gastos de Medicaid."

Una incansable defensora de los niños con discapacidades, L'Italien trabajó con demócratas y republicanos para aprobar una amplia gama de proyectos de ley que protegen a los niños con discapacidades de desarrollo, incluido el seguro integral de salud y exenciones de Medicaid para niños con autismo. También fundó la Comisión de Autismo - en la cual se ha desempeñado como presidente desde 2010 - e inició la creación de la División de Autismo del Departamento de Servicios de Desarrollo.

"Mi trabajo en favor de las personas con autismo ha permitido a las familias recibir el apoyo necesario en cuanto a comunicación para maximizar su potencial y para reducir los costos a largo plazo de la educación y cuidado", dijo L'Italien. "Las recomendaciones de la Comisión de Autismo buscan una mejor coordinación entre las agencias estatales para aumentar

la calidad del servicio que se presta."

Después de salir de la legislatura en el 2011, L'Italien trabajó en la oficina del Tesorero del Estado, Steve Grossman para ayudar a las pequeñas empresas y fomentar el desarrollo económico. Ella coordinó el Small Business Banking Partnership, el cual proveyó puso el dinero del estado a bancos comunitarios para préstamos a pequeñas empresas.

"Me sentí orgullosa de ayudar a aumentar el acceso al capital para las pequeñas empresas a crecer el empleo y la capacidad de todo el Valle de Merrimack y el estado", dijo L'Italien. "Las pequeñas empresas son la columna vertebral de nuestras comunidades."

L'Italien Actualmente trabaja para Arc de Massachusetts como Directora de Asuntos Gubernamentales, continuando sus esfuerzos para niños y adultos con discapacidades intelectuales y de desarrollo. Ella también es miembro del Comité Escolar de Andover, ayudando a orientar las políticas e iniciativas de educación para el innovador distrito escolar de Andover. Ella reside en



Andover con su esposo de 27 años, Kevin Hall, cuatro hijos, Rudy, Allie, Samantha y Andrew así como su madre, Claire Sullivan L'Italien.

L'Italien Launches Senate Bid to Fight for Local Families

Former State Representative Barbara L'Italien of Andover has announced that she is running for State Senate in the Second Middlesex and Essex District.

"I have been contacted by many people throughout the district who have urged me to seek the Senate seat being vacated by Senator Finegold," L'Italien said. "I am both humbled and energized by their confidence and support. The people of Andover, Dracut, Lawrence and Tewksbury have been well served by Senators like Pat McGovern, John O'Brien, Sue Tucker and Barry Finegold and I look forward to continuing their tradition of strong and effective leadership."

L'Italien has spent decades fighting for Massachusetts families, children and the elderly. Before entering elected office, she served as a social worker at Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and worked for the Massachusetts Elder Abuse Hotline and West Suburban Elder Services.

L'Italien's passion for public service would carry into work on Beacon Hill representing the 18th Essex District from 2003 to 2011.

She advocated for improved elder services in the legislature as well. She initiated Caring Homes, a community-based program providing relief for families to keep seniors in their homes as opposed to nursing homes, and passed the "Choices" bill providing expanded care for seniors through a Medicaid waiver.

"Our senior citizens deserve to have the choice to live in their homes rather than in a nursing home," L'Italien said. "Both Caring Homes and Choices allow that more compassionate option at a cost which is a quarter of the cost of nursing home placement and can slow the growth of Medicaid costs."

A tireless champion of children with disabilities, L'Italien reached across the aisle and worked with Democrats and

Republicans to pass a wide range of bills protecting developmentally disabled children, including comprehensive health insurance and Medicaid waivers for children with autism. She also founded the Autism Commission – of which she has served as chair since 2010 – and initiated the creation of the Autism Division of the Department of Developmental Services.

"My work on behalf of people with Autism has enabled families to receive the behavioral and communication supports necessary to maximize their potential and to lessen the long-term costs of education and care," L'Italien said. "The Autism Commission recommendations look for better coordination among state agencies to increase the quality of service being delivered."

After leaving the legislature in 2011, L'Italien worked in State Treasurer Steve Grossman's office to help small businesses and foster economic development. She coordinated the Small Business Banking Partnership, which placed state money into community banks for small business loans.

"I was proud to help increase access to capital for small businesses to grow jobs and capacity throughout the Merrimack Valley and the state," L'Italien said. "Small businesses are the backbone of our communities."

L'Italien currently works for Arc of Massachusetts as Director of Government Affairs, continuing her efforts for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She also serves on the Andover School Committee, helping to steer education policies and initiatives for the innovative Andover school district. She resides in Andover with her husband of 27 years, Kevin Hall, four children, Rudy, Allie, Samantha and Andrew and her mother, Claire Sullivan L'Italien.

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AAA cuts ribbon at new Lawrence office location



AAA Southern New England held a ribbon cutting ceremony on February 7 at its new location, 160 Winthrop Avenue (Route 114 - next to Denny's Restaurant). On hand to cut the ceremonial ribbon were (L-R) AAA Southern New England Director of Branch Operations David Hempe; AAA Regional Manager Prudy Maczuba; State Representative Marcos Devers; State Representative Frank Moran; State Representative Diana DiZoglio; AAA Senior Vice President Ken Crossley; Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Joseph Bevilacqua; AAA Lawrence Branch Manager Alison Demokritou and AAA Senior Vice President of Public and Government Affairs Lloyd Albert. AAA's new Lawrence office is open Monday-Friday 9 am - 5 pm and Saturdays 9 am - 1 pm.

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RUMBONEWS.COM**

Cambridge College launching online options through Granite State College

With shared missions for working professionals, Cambridge College is excited to expand online opportunities for students through its new partnership with a regional leader in online higher education, Granite State College.

With three Massachusetts-based campuses, and five additional sites across the country including Puerto Rico, Cambridge College already serves a multitude of diverse adult learners and was recently recognized by the Boston Business Journal as one of the Largest Graduate Schools in Massachusetts. Providing online access is a natural next step that will help working adult students earn their degree.

Granite State College is the leading public provider of online education in New Hampshire. It is one of four institutions in the University System of New Hampshire and it was recently recognized by U.S. News & World Report in the 2014 rankings of Best Online Bachelor's Degrees and Best Online Business Graduate Degrees.

Deborah C. Jackson, President of Cambridge College shared, "This unique partnership is an innovative solution that builds on the assets of both institutions in a creative way and is a model for partnerships in higher education. Both educational institutions share a common vision to make affordable, quality higher education accessible to all."

"We see many colleagues in higher

education utilizing the services of for-profit companies to launch their online programs. This is a fresh approach. Granite State will help provide the online courses that Cambridge College students need and we're doing it in a way that strengthens the overall higher education community," Kathi Mullin, Chief Administrative Officer of Granite State College.

"This truly innovative partnership between Cambridge College and Granite State offers a new model of how to create sustainable colleges and universities in the future," stated Elwood Robinson, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost of Cambridge College.

"Through this creative collaboration, both institutions will improve the overall cost of delivery. In this way, it's an excellent use of funds from a publicly-supported institution and a great example of the innovation that can emerge from the disruption and competition in today's higher education industry," added Dr. Todd Leach, Chancellor of the University System of New Hampshire.

Cambridge College has been a leader and pioneer in adult learning providing academically excellent, time-efficient and affordable higher education to a diverse population of adult learners. The College offers an innovative teaching and learning environment where working adults can build their education on a lifetime of learning.



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MR. B'S SPORT STORIES

BY FRANK BENJAMIN

The YWCA Teensters Present a Play in 1955

On November 26th 1955 the teenagers of YWCA presented a play called Sweet Sally Brown. Mrs. John Vaaler was the producer and director. Aiding her assistant producers and prompters were Judy Saliba and Mary O'Brien.

Stage managers were Donna Beshera and Joanne Gattinella; Wardrobe, Marlene Meikle; Make up, Arlene Buonanno; Art Assistant Pat Cepulinski; usherettes, Mary Caldeira and Marylyn Campagna; refreshments, Sandra Zappala and Pat Capulinski.

The hostess was Duayne Shadeed who later becomes a teacher at LHS. The cast: Ella Dupree, the principal at Haddon Hall played by Rita Maroun; Anastasia Cook, a teacher at Haddon Hall played by Mary Ann Barrett; Brooks Emery from the British Isles played by Trudy Torromeo; Dodie Bundy who never gets enough to eat played by Nancy Poole; Nydia Marble who was crazy to act on stage played by Rosemary Salamaca; Monica Milner of the upper set; Mrs. Camilla Bond, Sylvia Bond's socially prominent mother played by Janet Bardazzi;

Sylvia Bond a young heiress played by Vi Rigoli; Sally Brown the charming young heroin played by the now Methuenite Betty Connor now Cavanaugh a retired Lawrence teacher; Delilah the maid played by Phyllis Lewis; Ivadel Parker, a country girl played by Corrinne Solak; Mrs. Jimmy Parker who has a score to settle played by Peggy Emmert who is now Peggy Sullivan of Salisbury, an avid tennis player and mother of Chris Sullivan who followed his dad the late great teacher coach and former Athletic Director Mike and Chris also is an educator at Central Catholic.

This play was a comedy in three acts and was performed by all girls. The YMCA was the place for all young girls to congregate and brought girls from all parts of the City in the fifties and still does to this day. Many of the young ladies of this group became cheerleaders and later on teachers. The play was a sellout and lived up to the billing of being a comedy.

This play at the YWCA on Lawrence St. was on November 26th 1955.

Listen to Mr. B and Joe Murphy on WCCM-1110AM every Sunday from 2:00 to 3:00, talking sports. Like in the past, they will be receiving calls from coaches updating the latest results.



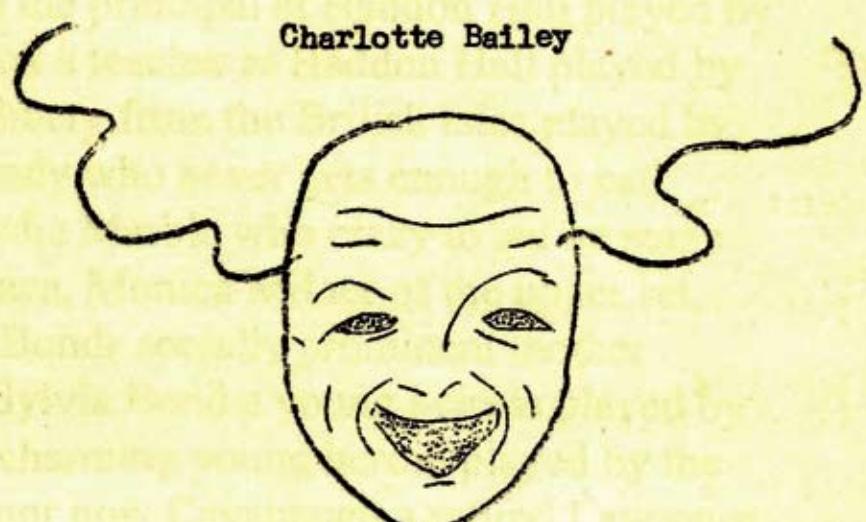
Volunteers Needed!

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

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

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

Sign up today! Contact us at (978) 557-2182 or at our website for more information and an application, or fill one out online at www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org.

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by
Charlotte Bailey

Y. W. C. A.

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Produced and Directed by Mrs. John G. Vaaler




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En el Gimnasio de la Escuela Intermedia, 400 Haverhill Street, Lawrence
DEBEN TENER 4 AÑOS CUMPLIDOS PARA EL 1 DE SEPTIEMBRE 2014
Para más información y una aplicación pueden llamar a Zori Davidovich @ 978.689.9853, ext. 140 o visite nuestra página de Internet www.lfcds.org.
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Saab Foundation and A.M.S.I. Foundation collaborate to bring dynamic author and motivational speaker to Lowell

Eric Thomas weaves a personal story of struggle and success into sound advice for local students.

Tickets are available now for "#ETinLowell!" on Thursday, April 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. Tickets start at \$20 per person and can be purchased through the Lowell Memorial Auditorium box office. A limited number of discounted tickets for middle and high school students are available through A.M.S.I. Foundation and Saab Family Foundation Facebook pages.

Renowned speaker, educator, author, activist and minister, Eric Thomas has risen to national prominence by delivering highly energetic and heartfelt messages of hope, perseverance, upward mobility, and success in the midst of obstacles. His presentations have inspired people of all age groups and demographics to live up to their full potential and peak performance levels by breaking the unproductive cycles, defeatist mindsets, hopelessness and despair that many face daily.

"The A.M.S.I. Foundation is excited to be partnering with The Saab Family Foundation to bring Eric Thomas to Lowell," said Amsi Morales, President of A.M.S.I. Foundation. "His messages of hope and success are great examples of what high school students in the Merrimack Valley should hear when considering higher education. Eric Thomas's presentation is the perfect complement to the missions of both foundations."

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more event information or sponsorship package details, please call Analise Saab at 603-475-6162 or Amsi Morales at 978-495-0944.



About Saab Family Foundation

The Saab Family Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2010. The foundation's goal is to provide grants to public charities to carry out charitable purposes; and scholarships to individuals to encourage further academic achievement. For more information: www.SaabFamilyFoundation.org.

About A.M.S.I. Foundation

The A.M.S.I. Foundation is a 501-c3 non-profit that awards scholarships to students in the Merrimack Valley Area and provides information and programs for those seeking higher education. For more information: www.AMSIFoundation.org.

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Carta Pública al Sr. William Lantigua

**Sr. William Lantigua,
Ex alcalde de la Ciudad de Lawrence**



Padre Joel Almonó

Apreciado William,
Los más próximos a usted le dicen "Willy", no tengo tal confianza para llamarle así, aunque reconozco que la primera vez que le conocí fue tan auténtica como surrealista.

Recién llegado de Minnesota, estaba paseando

por la Essex St. cuando usted se parquea en la acera, saluda a varias personas y acto seguido saca de la cajuela de su vehículo una mesa de dominó la cual coloca en la misma acera. Sin conecerme, me preguntó si juego dominó, le contesté que sé poner fichas y como si fuésemos "viejos frentes" jugamos contra todos los que vinieron en esas horas que pasamos, colocando doble seis y diciendo "dómino".

En nuestra conversación la cual teníamos entre "barajadas de fichas", supe que era el representante estatal por el distrito 16, y a su vez me presenté como el sacerdote que había llegado para trabajar con la comunidad hispana en Grace Church. Recuerdo invitarle a la Misa y su respuesta fue la de un auténtico político, "Sí, cuando tengan algo especial, me invitan que yo voy". El meta mensaje fue directo, sin códigos de lenguaje, estaba frente a un

hombre pragmático, donde las verdades ónticas sucumben frente a las realidades cotidianas. Amigo de los religiosos, no así de la religión y desde entonces no me ha sorprendido su pragmatismo.

Cuando decide optar por la candidatura a alcalde, rompió algunos moldes que sin lugar a dudas provocaron escozor, pues no permitió entrevistas en programas de panel en radio o televisión. Su ausencia brilló en algunos de los debates que se dieron entre los candidatos de ese entonces y desarrolló una campaña de puerta a puerta. Sin "límite de tiempo", no era de extrañar verle a las cinco de la mañana como a las cinco de la tarde tras la captación de votos.

Usted caló en el momento preciso que una parte de la sociedad lawrenciana, quería, sugería y anhelaba una transición, pero por el otro lado había una parte de dicha sociedad que temía a ese cambio, no necesariamente porque usted lo encarnara, sino por esa lucha dialéctica que se da entre clases sociales, aquí se da entre etnias, de clases económicas distintas y anhelos y sueños distintos. Y ese anhelo se palpó a través de la unidad de la mayoría de los candidatos hispanos de ese entonces, la cual giró en torno a su persona.

Algunos esperaban que la unidad circunstancial entre el liderazgo hispano de la ciudad, se cristalizara por medio de la observación de un pacto político tácito, que permitiera no solo la gobernabilidad de la ciudad, sino que permitiera espacio para

nuevos liderazgos emergentes, para que el período de transición fuera menos corto, pero como no hay peor cuña que la del mismo palo, las luchas antagónicas se dieron entre norte y sur, como si fuese emulando la Guerra de Secesión Americana.

Su administración se desbordó en un pragmatismo poco común, pero novedoso, el cual usted desarrolló en forma tan valiente como decidida cuando enfrentó a algunas compañías recolectoras de nieve, las cuales arrojaban al Rio Merrimack las nieves recolectadas en diferentes ciudades, contaminando el Rio Merrimack. Tal osadía era una afrenta, y nos develó que estábamos frente a una administración hispana, pero no servil.

Su administración fue de puertas abiertas, su oficina era itinerante, pues las personas podían conversar con usted hasta en el parqueo del City Hall; los puestos inferiores y medios del Cabildo fueron ocupados por hispanos, la criminalidad según reportes, bajó. Se aumentó la recaudación de impuestos y de ser una ciudad cuyo crédito era deficitario, terminó siendo una ciudad que saneó su presupuesto. Todo esto contrastaba con el estilo de vida que muchos lawrencianos querían ver en su alcalde.

Es honesto señalar el respeto que su administración dispensó a los diferentes pastores y líderes religiosos de la ciudad, todos los dirigentes eclesiásticos que tenían interés de presentar una inquietud, eran bien ponderadas. Es de algunos conocida las

aprehensiones de ciertos pastores evangélicos de verse involucrados en ningún accionar que contenga ribetes políticos, pero en su caso, algunos llegaron a orar por usted y mostrar verdaderos signos de admiración.

Pero la Alcaldía fue salpicada con "lodo" de todo tipo, estuvo bajo la lupa de la investigación, y como era de suponer el rumor popular fabricó todo tipos de conjuras y de cargos en contra suya y de sus más allegados colaboradores, tales como malversación de fondos, corrupción, tráfico de influencia, sobornos, entregar el sistema educativo al Estado, entre otras y mientras el albur corría, en muchos casos su respuesta fue el silencio. Solo se escuchó su voz tronar frente al Recall que pedía "su cabeza" a través del plebiscito popular para que usted desalojara la Alcaldía.

Para algunos su silencio frente a los desmanes, las acusaciones y las voces cargadas de denuncias de males que se encendían en su contra, era motivado por un espíritu de prepotencia, bañado en vanidad. Estimo que fueron apreciaciones erróneas, realmente era un verdadero espíritu democrático, poco comprendido el que usted demostró. Entonces la pregunta obligada que me surge es, ¿cómo un hombre con sus cualidades de liderazgo y con unos sufra gantes fieles, los que los polítólogos llaman "votos duro" y con una maquinaria electoral poderosa, pierde las elecciones? De esto hablaremos en la parte final de esta carta la próxima semana.

Buon Giorno Good Morning Buenas Tardes

Every Sunday
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9 AM with
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Open Letter to Mr. William Lantigua Mr. William Lantigua Former Mayor of the City of Lawrence

Dear William,

Those closest to you call you "Willy" but I don't believe I have the right to call you that, although I admit that the first time I met you it was as authentic as surreal. Fresh from Minnesota, I was walking along Essex St. where you parked at the curb, greeted several people and immediately removed from the trunk of your vehicle a table of dominoes and placed it on the sidewalk. Without knowledge of who I was, you asked me if I play domino; I responded that I only know how to place the pieces and as if we were "old fronts" we played against all who came by during those hours placing double sixes and saying "domino".

Through our conversation in between "shuffled chips", I learned that you were the state representative for the 16th district, and in turn I introduced myself as the priest who had come to work with the Hispanic community in Grace Church. I remember inviting you to Mass and your response was that of a genuine politician, "Yes, whenever there's something special, invite me and I'll come." The message was direct, without language codes, you were a pragmatic man front where ontic truths succumb to everyday realities. Friend of the religious, but not of religion and since then his pragmatism has not surprised me.

When you decided to run for mayor, you broke some molds which undoubtedly caused stinging by refusing to participate

on radio or television interviews. Your absence was obvious at the debates between candidates of the time, developing a door to door campaign. With no "time limits", it was no surprise to see you at five o'clock in the morning just as at five in the afternoon canvassing for votes.

You appeared at the precise moment that a portion of society wanted, suggested and craved for a transition; but on the other hand there was a segment of the community who feared that change, not necessarily because you embody it, but for the dialectic struggle between social classes, which is represented here as ethnicities, economic classes and different hopes and different dreams. And that longing was felt through the unity among most Hispanic candidates at the time, which revolved around you.

Some hoped that the circumstantial unity among Hispanic leadership of the city was crystallized by the observation of a tacit political agreement that would allow not only the governance of the city, but allow space for emerging leaders so that the transition period would be relatively short. But the antagonistic struggles occurred between north and south, as if I were emulating the American Civil War.

PLEASE SEE PUBLIC LETTER
CONTINUES ON PAGE 20

Jobs, Internships, and Volunteer Opportunities Wanted



Northern Essex Community College has a new career website for its students and alumni, and the college is inviting local businesses and nonprofits to create an account and add their jobs, internships, and volunteer positions to the site.

Once employers open an account, which is free and a simple process, they can manage posts for open positions and view student applicants' profiles, resumes, and cover letters. Employers can access the site 24 hours a day.

"We have over 7000 current students and tens of thousands of alumni," said Ashley Bragger, staff associate, Northern Essex Career Connections. "NECClink, our new site, is the perfect way for employers to reach Northern Essex students and alumni."

In addition to having benefits for employers, the site also addresses the needs of students and alumni, who can create profiles, build resumes and cover letters, research careers and industries, apply

for jobs and volunteer opportunities, and network with employers. Students can also connect their NECClink account with LinkedIn and other social media.

Deborah Andrews, of Opportunity Works, and a member of the college's Occupational Advisory Board, was one of the first to create a NECClink account, and she describes the process as "easy."

"NECClink is a convenient way to advertise jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities, as it is available at your convenience, 24/7. The best part is the confidence we can feel knowing that these are NECC students and alumni, people who work hard and persevere to accomplish their goals," said Andrews.

To open an account or for more information, visit <http://www.necc.mass.edu/necclink-employers>

If you have questions, contact Ashley Bragger at 978 556-3946 or abragger@necc.mass.edu.

Register Now for MCC's Summer College for Kids



It's not too early to start planning your summer! Middlesex Community College will begin enrollment for College for Kids 2014 beginning Monday, Feb. 17. College for Kids 2014 (formerly MCC Summer Camps) offers one-, two- and three-week summer programs for children ages 8 to 15 that run July 14 through Aug. 21 on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

"College for Kids offers fun and engaging summer programs to provide

children with unique opportunities to explore careers, learn new skills, and boost self-confidence," said Marci Barnes, MCC Program Manager of Community Education and Training. All programs are taught by public-school teachers or by professionals who are experts in their field, Barnes added.

Most College for Kids programs run Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This year, programs explore such topics as film production, aviation, public speaking, science, veterinary medicine, technology, culinary arts, fashion design, digital photography, graphic design, LegoMindstorms, fitness, and more. For the complete MCC College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit <https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/> or call 1-800-818-3434.

NECC Announces Campus Classic 5K and Fun Run on May 3

Northern Essex Community College is pleased to announce the Second Annual Campus Classic 5K and Fun Run on Saturday, May 3.

The USATF certified 5K race will begin at 10 a.m. on the college's Haverhill Campus, 100 Elliott St., and wind through the beautiful rural campus and the surrounding residential neighborhood. Competitive runners-as well as novices and walkers-are invited to participate. Registration for the 5K is \$25 before April 5; \$30 after that date. Online registration will remain open until April 30.

Children ages 12 and under are invited to participate in the Fun Run which is organized by age group with the first race beginning at 9 a.m. Registration for the Fun Run is \$10. Following the race, there will be children's activities including face

painting and an obstacle course.

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

Since this is a Campus Classic, participants are encouraged to wear apparel from their own college as they run or walk. Proceeds from the race will benefit the NECC Annual Fund, which provides support for student scholarships and academic programs.

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

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Lawrence YMCA Zumba Party

Supporting our Lawrence YMCA Annual Campaign

Friday, February 21, 2014
6:00 - 7:15pm
\$10 per person*

Come party with the Lawrence Zumba instructors! Child watch provided for children ages 5-12 years old.

It's not a workout, it's a party!

*Proceeds benefit Lawrence YMCA's Annual Campaign, allowing the YMCA to be accessible to all in our community.

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Making Healthier Lives Achievable for Everyone.

CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Bellesini Academy aceptando solicitudes de admisión para el Año Escolar 2014-2015

Bellesini Academy está aceptando solicitudes para los estudiantes que ingresan a quinto grado este otoño. Un número limitado de plazas también están disponibles en los grados seis y siete.

Admisión Pruebas y Tours:

Jueves, 6 de marzo 2014 y Lunes, 14 de abril 2014

3:00-15:30 School Tour

3:30-5:15 p.m. Prueba de Admisión

Bellesini Academy es una escuela privada con matrícula gratis sirviendo niños en los grados 5to a 8vo de familias de bajos ingresos en la Ciudad de Lawrence. Bellesini cree que la educación es la clave para romper el ciclo de pobreza. El objetivo principal de la Academia es preparar a todos los estudiantes a asistir a una escuela secundaria de preparatoria privada. Con este fin, Bellesini requiere que todos los estudiantes participen en un día escolar de doce horas que incluye el currículo académico riguroso enseñado en clases pequeñas, un programa después de la escuela que funciona de 3:00 pm a 5:00 pm, y un programa de estudios de la tarde de 6:30 a 8:30pm. Además, todos los estudiantes asisten a un programa de cuatro semanas de verano que sigue la instrucción académica en un ambiente como de campamento.

Ex alumnos de Bellesini asisten a Austin Prep, Brooks School, Central Catholic High School, Groton School, Noble y Greenough, Notre Dame High School, Phillips Andover, Pingree School y St. John Prep. Nuestros estudiantes han recibido más de \$11 millones en becas de la escuela secundaria, por lo que es posible que asistan a estas escuelas, virtualmente sin costo alguno para sus familias. 100% de nuestros alumnos se han graduado de la escuela secundaria.

Se anima a los padres interesados a llamar a la escuela al (978) 989-0004 para inscribirse para el examen gira y admisiones. Solicitudes de admisión se pueden obtener en línea en www.bellesiniacademy.org, o visitando Bellesini a 94 Bradford St. en Lawrence. Las solicitudes deben presentarse el 11 de abril de 2014.

Bellesini Academy Accepting Applications for Admission for 2014-2015 School Year

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

Admissions Testing and Tours:

Thursday, March 06, 2014 & Monday, April 14, 2014

3:00-3:30 p.m. School Tour

3:30-5:15 p.m. Admissions Test

Bellesini Academy is a tuition-free private school serving boys in grades 5-8 from low-income families in the City of Lawrence. Bellesini believes that education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty. The primary goal of the Academy is to prepare all students to attend a private preparatory high school. To this end, Bellesini requires all students to participate in a twelve hour school day that includes rigorous academic curriculum taught in small classes, an after-school program that runs from 3:00 PM-5:00 PM, and an evening study program from 6:30-8:30 PM. In addition, all students attend a four-week summer program that continues academic instruction in a camp like setting.

Bellesini alumni attend Austin Prep, Brooks School, Central Catholic High School, Groton School, Noble & Greenough, Notre Dame High School, Phillips Andover, Pingree School, and St. John's Prep. Our students have been offered more than \$11 million in high school scholarship money, making it possible for them to attend these schools at virtually no cost to their families. 100% of our alumni have graduated from high school.

Interested parents are encouraged to call the school at (978) 989-0004 to register for the tour and admissions test. Admissions applications may be obtained online at www.bellesiniacademy.org, or by visiting Bellesini at 94 Bradford St. in Lawrence. Applications are due by April 11, 2014.

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 7

GARCIA

by mere perception.

For those humble and caring citizens who love this city so much, but at the same time hate it but with some tenderness, these desert hawks, teachers in the arts of fishing in troubled waters without getting their shoes wet, these street sharks capable of diving into the mud without spoiling their attire, these lofty champions of honesty and decency, I congratulate and acknowledge their audacity.

We Latinos have the power to transform ourselves and adapt to the idea that we are exemplary and successful citizens with equal opportunities, but at the same time, we refuse go on and stop to savor the

pleasant feeling of eating our plantains with salami, yelling or screaming rather than talking when we are among people, or celebrate for no apparent reason with a few drinks to the rhythm of merengue ripiao. These habits, visible factors of our daily lives, although significant, are not enough reasons to allow putting us all in the same bag considering us as common thieves, liars, thieves, drug addicts, rapists, gangsters, illegal and corrupt. Well, as my old mother used to say and I hope God always keeps in glory: "I don't care" or "The warmth is not on the sheets." I shall continue to live in Lawrence and eating up my plantain. How about you?

→ REGISTER NOW ←

THE MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Women in Business Series

Presents

ATTORNEY GENERAL MARTHA COAKLEY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

→ ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ←

This Very Special Luncheon Program



Friday, February 28, 2014

12:00 to 1:15 p.m.

Wyndham Andover Hotel
123 Old River Road, Andover, MA



Members \$20.00

Includes a Full Hot Plated Lunch Non-Members \$40.00

Lowell Lead Paint Abatement Program Atención propietarios, dueños de casas e inquilinos

¡El Programa de Reducción de la Pintura de Plomo de Lowell da la bienvenida a nuevos clientes! Ofreciendo 0% de interés, préstamos diferidos para la eliminación del plomo viviendas para familias de bajos a moderados ingresos con niños menores de 6 años de edad.

- préstamos con intereses de hasta \$15,000 0% para las viviendas unifamiliares
- préstamos con intereses de hasta \$12,000 0%, por unidad, para viviendas multifamiliares
- inspección de plomo y administración del proyecto GRATIS
- análisis del terreno GRATIS

Attention Homeowners, Landlords and Tenants

The Lowell Lead Paint Abatement Program Welcomes New Clients! Offering 0% interest, deferred loans for deleading homes for low-to-moderate income families with children under age 6.

- Up to \$15,000 0% interest loans for single family homes
- Up to \$12,000 0% interest loans, per unit, for multi-family homes
- FREE lead inspection and Project Management
- FREE soil testing

Contact: Toni Snow, Program Manager, 978-674-1409 - tsnow@lowellma.gov



CASTING CALL!

The Vagina

Monologues are back!

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS, PERFORMERS, ARTISTS, ACTIVISTS,
MEN & WOMEN WHO WANT TO INCREASE AWARENESS ON
ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & CHILDREN!

Join the V-Day Lawrence Movement!

**1st Info Meeting: Sunday, Feb. 23rd @ 3pm
at Q Space - 50 Island Street (2nd Fl.) Lawrence**

The 2014 Campaign runs from Feb. 14 - April 30th, this season will include:

- THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES - All female cast to perform educational play
- V-MEN PRE-SHOW - All men welcome to recite poetry, perform a skit, etc.

V-Day is a global activist movement to stop violence against women and girls.
V-Day is a catalyst that promotes creative events to increase awareness,
raise money and revitalize the spirit of existing anti-violence organizations.

V-Day generates broader attention for the fight to stop violence against women and girls, including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sex slavery.

www.vday.org

FOR MORE INFO on Auditions, Rehearsals &
Show dates: Join us Feb. 23rd at 3pm!

Questions, Comments or rants:

CONTACT: vdaylawrence@gmail.com
Natalie Frometa, Director - 978-390-2014

OR join us on Facebook:
Search: V-Day Lawrence

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 17

PUBLIC LETTER

Your administration overflowed in a rare pragmatism, but novel, which you developed as bravely as determined when facing some snow removal companies caught throwing snow collected in other cities into the Merrimack River, thus polluting the Merrimack. Such boldness was an affront, and revealed that we were facing a Spanish administration, but not a subservient one.

Your administration had an open door policy as well as was traveling since people could talk to you even in the parking lot at City Hall. The lower and middle City Council posts were held by Hispanics, crime reportedly went down. Tax collection was increased and a city whose claim was being deficient, ended up being a city which cleaned up its budget. This was in contrast with the lifestyle that many Lawrencians wanted to see in their mayor.

In all honesty, it must be noted the respect your administration dispensed to various pastors and religious leaders of the city, all church leaders who were interested to submit a concern, were well considered. It is known the apprehensions of some evangelical pastors to be involved in any actions that are politically tinged, but in your case, some will come to pray for you

and show true signs of admiration.

But the Mayor was peppered with "mud" of sorts, was under the scrutiny of an investigation and as expected, the popular rumor fabricated all kinds of guesses and charges against you and your closest collaborators, such as embezzlement of funds, corruption, influence peddling, bribery, delivering to the State our education system, among others, and while all of this was on going, in many cases, your response was silence. Your voice was heard thundering only against the Recall Movement which was "calling for your head" through a popular plebiscite for you to vacate the mayor's office.

For some your silence on the atrocities, accusations and voices full of evil complaints that were going on against you was motivated by a spirit of arrogance, shrouded in vanity. I believe that there were misconceptions; it really was a true democratic spirit little understood that you showed. So the obvious question that arises is, how a man with leadership qualities and a faithful following that political scientists call the "tough votes" and a powerful electoral machine loses the election? This will be discussed in the final part of this letter next week.

Austin Prep hosts Middle School Open House

Austin Preparatory School is hosting an Open House for families of students interested in grades six through eight. The Middle School Open House is Tues., Feb. 25 at 9 a.m. at 101 Willow St., Reading.

Students will have the opportunity to meet Headmaster James Hickey, speak with middle school faculty members and take tours of the campus with current middle school students. Tours will include visits to our arts and music wings, classrooms and MultiPurpose Facility (gymnasium).

CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Family Fun Day
Ice Skating at the Common**

**Campagnone Park - Lawrence, MA
Saturday, February 15th, 2014
1:00pm - 4:00pm**

Join us as we kick off public ice skating for the community!
Free ice skate rentals available for opening day, Feb. 15th.
Pre-school through adult sizes available. Parents are welcome!

**Ice Skating
February School Vacation!**

**Ice Skating Rink will remain open to the public during February school vacation
Saturday, Feb. 15th - Sunday, Feb. 22nd.**

**Skate Rentals are available Feb. 15th ONLY. Please plan to provide your own skates for the remaining days.
Skate at your own risk.**

For more information contact: Elizabeth Delgado at 978-552-8399

City Hall Before Hours/Green Jobs event Economic Development Networking

Wednesday, 26th Feb. 2014

**Union Street Grill!
15 Union St. Lawrence, MA 01840
(978) 258-2169
UnionSt.Grill@yahoo.com**

City Hall after hours is an informal opportunity to bring together people to share ideas, make contacts, and talk about anything and everything the city can do to improve your business and the quality of life in Lawrence. City Hall after hours Lawrence meets each month. It is always a FREE event.

Please share this invitation with your neighbors, clients, colleagues and business contacts.

**Frank O'Connor, Jr.
Community Development Dept. / Office of Economic Devel.
225 Essex St., Lawrence, MA 01840
978-620-3517
www.CityofLawrence.com**

the Y

**Casa Dominicana, Inc.
Lawrence, Mass.**

DOMINICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

**Thursday, February 27, 2014 • 6pm - 8pm &
Friday, February 28, 2014 • 6pm - 9pm**

Join the Lawrence YMCA & Casa Dominicana on Thursday & Friday, February 27th & 28th as we celebrate Dominican Independence Day and honor the country's 170th year of independence.

**Part I:
Dominican Historic Film & Discussion
FREE**

Thursday, February 27th, 6pm-8pm.
Lawrence Public Library
51 Lawrence Street Lawrence, MA

**Part II:
Dominican Independence Day Celebration
\$2/person***

Friday, February 28th, 6pm-8pm
Lawrence YMCA
40 Lawrence Street Lawrence, MA

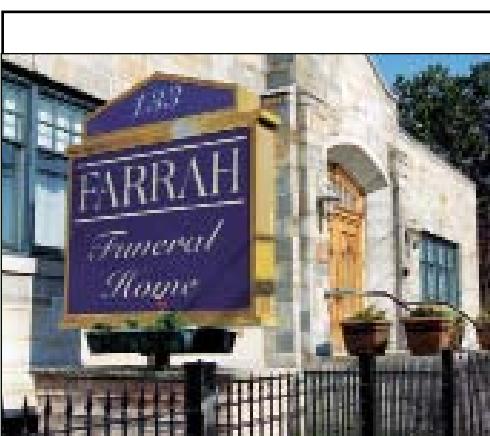
**Cultural Dance Performances by:
Batuferas Internacionales
Dynamic Kizomba
Lawrence Boys & Girls Club Dance Academy
Lawrence YMCA Dance Academy
Taller Boniquesto
& More!**

**Singing Performances
Music
Food
Contests
Crafts**

For more information please contact the Lawrence YMCA at: 978-686-6191.

Don't miss out on the very first Lawrence YMCA Dominos Tournament, Sunday, March 2, 2014 • \$5/person*
Call 978-686-6191 to learn more.

*Proceeds benefit the Lawrence YMCA Annual Campaign allowing the YMCA to be accessible to all in our community.



**137 Lawrence Street
Lawrence, MA 01841
(978)682.4060**

Somos expertos en precios módicos y servicio de alta calidad.

La Primera Funeraria hispana sirviendo con esmero y satisfacción a la comunidad latinoamericana.

Brindamos servicio de asistencia social y enviamos el cuerpo a cualquier lugar incluyendo a Puerto Rico, la República Dominicana, Centro y Suramérica. También ofrecemos planes pagados con anticipación y estampas de recordatorios.

CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEWS NASHUA, NH NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 COURT STREET
For directions and information on parking go to: www.nashualibrary.org/directions.htm
Phone 603-589-4610
Fax: 603-594-3457

OPEN STORYTIMES AND PUPPET SHOWS

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

BABIES AND BOOKS

STORYTIME

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

Activities for Teens at Nashua Public Library

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

Go on a Blind Date with a Book

This year for Valentine's Day, take a chance on love—with a book! Choose one (enclosed in a plain brown envelope) from the "Blind Date With a Book" display at the Nashua Public Library. No peeking! You'll have to trust your matchmaker librarians: each book is a staff pick. Take your book home and cuddle up with it on the couch. After your date, tell us how it went by posting on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/nashuapubliclibrary.

Film Group for 20-Somethings to Discuss "Blue Jasmine"

Are you in your twenties? Come to the Nashua Public Library to enjoy coffee from

Riverwalk Café, talk about movies, and meet new people your age. On Thursday, February 20, at 7 p.m. the group will discuss "Blue Jasmine." This Woody Allen film tells the story of a New York socialite, played by Cate Blanchette, whose life falls apart. She moves into her sister's humble apartment in San Francisco to pull herself back together again. Be sure to watch the film before the meeting. The library has it on DVD; go to www.nashualibrary.org to search for it in the catalog. The group will meet on March 27 to talk about another film, title to be announced.

For more information contact Carol at (603) 589-4610 or carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org.

**READ PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF RUMBO ON OUR WEBSITE
RUMBONEWS.COM**

Vacation Fun at Nashua Library

Something fun for kids is happening all week long at the Nashua Public Library during school vacation week, February 22 through March 1. Returning this year is the ever-popular Who's Your Baby Doll? Fashion Show. Once again, we'll celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday on Read Across America Day, this time with a visit from the tooth fairy courtesy of Dr. Anne Todd of Hudson. New events include an Indoor Winter Carnival and Win-A-Book Bingo.

For all the details and to register, go to tinyurl.com/nplkid. To see a list of upcoming children's films at the library go to tinyurl.com/nplfilm.

For more information about children's programs call (603) 589-4631

Exhibitors, authors needed for local history fair

The Nashua Public Library will hold a local history fair on Sunday, March 30, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Local history-related organizations are invited to set up exhibits at the event, with photos, informational materials, multimedia presentations, or giveaways.

Authors who have written about local history are welcome to have tables as well, where they can sign and sell their books and talk history with attendees.

There is no charge for exhibiting. For more information contact Carol at carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org or (603) 589-4610 by February 24.

Suicide prevention training offered for "gatekeepers" of older adults

The Samaritans of Merrimack Valley is offering a free, Department of Public Health-funded training focusing on suicide prevention among people ages 55 and older in the Merrimack Valley. The all day program is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm and will be held at Marguerite's House Assisted Living at Mary Immaculate located at 189 Maple Street in Lawrence. This program is offered free of charge.

This program is especially targeted for "gatekeepers," people who, through their personal, professional or volunteer activities, have regular contact with older adults. After the training, participants will be able to assess an older adult's suicide risk, intervene with an individual at risk, and connect older adults with ongoing

professional help.

A variety of educational credits may be earned including:

- 6.5 Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) for nurses, social workers and Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHCs)

- Certificates for 6.5 hours are also available for professionals (nurse's aides, food service workers, activities staff, transportation staff, administrative assistants, etc.) who are in need of training hours.

For more information or to sign up for the training, contact Kristine Madden by calling 978-620-1486 or by email at Kristine_Madden@mihcs.com.

ADOPT A PET

**MSPCA-METHUEN & RUMBO
COOPERATIVE EDUCATION COLUMN**

Pet of the week at Nevins**SPAZ**

Spaz is a 7 year old ferret. She is at the shelter because her owner could no longer care for her. Spaz loves to play and also to be chased. She is friendly, social and likes cats. She also likes to meet new people. Spaz had part of her tail removed because of a lump on the end of it. Spaz is looking for a forever home. She needs a hospice home. If you would like to meet Spaz you can inquire with one of the staff at the shelter.

**ARNOLD**

Arnold is a 15 yo potbellied pig. He came in with another adoptable pottbelly pig, Annie. Annie and Arnold were with the same owner for 15 years, but their family was forced to move and they couldn't take their pigs with them. This has been a very big change in their life, and they are continuing to adjust to life at Nevins Farm. Annie and Arnold are going to need a home that has experience with older pigs, and that will continue working on their diet and exercise. Because they have lived together and depended on each other for so long, we are looking for a home to adopt them together!

**BONES**

Hey y'all, the name is Bones. I am a cute little 8-11 month old Pit Bull. You could say I am bad to the bone, I mean I was found as a stray. Living the life on the road is no more. I have lost the bad to the bone attitude and have become a bouncy baby who adores people. So yes, I am a bouncy boy so I'm going to need training and a consult with our trainer. I have some possible guarding issues and occasionally will hump people but I am learning and I need a family that wants to help me shake that habit. So I have a weak spot I must admit...it is a good ole squeaky toy!! Oh they just make me so happy!! I am a super smart little man who has already learned sit from being at the shelter and I think clicker training is a blast! I am a super wiggly boy who is looking for my forever family. I am looking for a home with possibly older kids but adults would be best and maybe a dog on a case by case basis, no kitty cats for me though! So I suggest you come on down to meet me, we'll exchange a few kisses, a milk bone or two and BOOM I will forever be yours!

**SALLY**

Darlin Sally is a friendly 6 year old cat! She likes to rub against you often for attention and is very low key. Sally has a complex personality. Sally can have a diva mindset at times and would love to have a person that understands. If you are savvy to ever changing cat moves, Sally may be the girl for you!



Sally seems fascinated with the moving Cats Meow toy that goes round and round. It is her favorite game here at the adoption center. It is so fun to watch her play! Sally can make you laugh.

Sally would like to be the only pet in her home. She would do best with older, respectful and cat experienced children. Sally has always been an indoor kitty. Sally is looking for a family of her own that appreciates her unique self! Come and meet this lovely kitty to see if she is the match for you.

ANNIE OAKLEY

Annie Oakley is a wonderful ten-year-old, 46 lb pit bull. She would get along with other stable and mellow dogs, dog savvy cats and older kids who are not too boisterous. She has the sweetest face and perks up her ears when you talk to her; giving you her undivided attention.



If you want a mellow, sweet pit bull, come in and meet her. If you don't see her, check with staff as she is sometimes in a foster home. Or, email mkeiley@mspca.org for info.

SUNSHINE

If you can't find Sunshine when you visit the adoption center, be sure to ask for her by name! Cats are often moved around.



SAVE LIVES: get your pet spayed or neutered Reduced SNAP fees are made possible through generous donations of time and resources by participating veterinarians who believe in the importance of spaying and neutering as part of a complete pet health care program.

You Have No Excuse!

**Save your Child's Life at an Affordable Price
Learn to Swim TODAY!**

For more information call the Lawrence YMCA at 978-686-6191

**No Tienes más Excusas**

Salva la Vida de tu Hijo a un Precio Favorable

i Aprende a Nadar HOY!

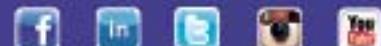
Para más información llama la YMCA de Lawrence al 978-686-6191

**Swim Lessons
starting at \$21
for 6 lessons**

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A Merrimack Valley YMCA branch

<http://lawrence.mvymca.org>



Receive up to \$100 for programs and fees when you join any Merrimack Valley YMCA branch.*

Members receive up to a 50% discount off all programs PLUS some freebies!

Registration begins January 26th for the Early Spring session at the Merrimack Valley YMCA. Locations include Andover/North Andover, Lawrence, and Methuen.

Programs start February 24th and run until April 19th.

Visit www.mvymca.org for more details.



*Offer valid until March 31st.

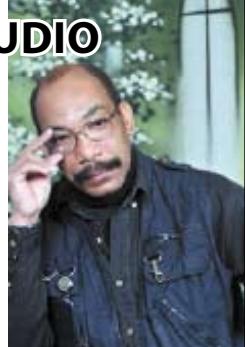
TRAINING FOSTERS NEEDED!

Are you living in the Methuen, MA area? Do you have experience with green horses, starting horses, or working through equine training issues? If you answered yes, please consider fostering for Nevins Farm and help a horse in need become more adoptable!

One of three MSPCA Animal Care and Adoption Centers statewide, the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen cared for more than 7,000 animals last year. The MSPCA does not receive state or federal funding and continues its work based solely on the generosity of its supporters. The Noble Family Animal Care & Adoption Center at Nevins Farm is located at 400 Broadway, Rte. 28 in Methuen and is open to the public from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays; 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays & Fridays; 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. To contact the MSPCA at Nevins Farm regarding adoptions and programs please call (978) 687-7453 x. 6101 or on the Web at: www.msPCA.org/nevins.

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CLASIFICADOS | CLASSIFIEDS**Se solicitan clínicos licenciados**

Arbour Counseling Services actualmente está buscando clínicos con licencia (LICSW, LMHC, PhD, etc.) para proporcionar servicios de salud mental a pacientes ambulatorios en nuestra Clínica de Lawrence. El horario es muy flexible, usted puede crear su propio horario. Día, tarde y algunas horas de fin de semana disponibles. Proporcionamos espacio de oficinas, apoyo administrativo y de facturación y el acceso a todos los paneles de seguros.

Solicitantes bilingües son un plus, todos son fuertemente alentados a aplicar.

Esta posición tiene el potencial de llegar a ser a tiempo completo elegibles a beneficio.

seeking licensed clinicians

Arbour Counseling Services is currently seeking licensed clinicians (LICSW, LMHC, PhD, etc.) to provide outpatient mental health services in our Lawrence Clinic. Hours are very flexible; you can create your own schedule. Day, evening and some weekend hours available. We provide office space, administrative and billing support and access to all insurance panels.

Bi-lingual applicants are a plus, all are strongly encouraged to apply.

This position has the potential of becoming full time benefit eligible.

ARBOUR
COUNSELING SERVICES
A Division Of Arbour Health System

Contact info Joseph Candler:
Recruitment Coordinator (781) 843-3853
joseph.candler@uhhsinc.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL****FOR ADVERTISING SALES ASSISTANCE**

The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority is requesting proposals from qualified and responsible firms for the sale of advertising space at the McGovern Transportation Center,

211 Merrimack St., Lawrence, MA – the MVRTA Parking Facility, Granite Street, Haverhill, MA – and the Nicholas Costello Transportation Center, 68 Elm Street, Amesbury, MA and on buses and vans owned and operated by the Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA).

The RFP is available through this email address: staff@mvrta.com
Proposals are due by Friday, March 7, 2014 no later than 11:00 a.m. Proposals received after the date and time specified above will be rejected and will not be considered.

This RFP and resulting contract will be administered in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. All proposers must certify that they are not ineligible contractors listed on the US Comptroller General's debarred bidders list. The successful proposer will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Opportunity laws and regulations. The MVRTA hereby notifies all proposers that it will affirmatively ensure that Disadvantaged and Women's Business Enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of gender, race, color or national origin in consideration of this award.

The MVRTA reserves the right to postpone, accept, or reject any and all proposals and to waive any informality in the RFP process as the MVRTA deems to be in its best interest.

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Hablamos Español

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