

Lowell Sailor Serves in the Philippine Sea



PHILIPPINE SEA (Mar. 2, 2020) Boatswain's Mate Seaman Jackson Parsons, left, from Springville, Ala. and Seaman Richards Byron, from Lowell, Mass., stand lookout watch on the bridge wing aboard the Arleigh-Burke class guided-missile destroyer USS Mustin (DDG 89) during the U.S.-Japan Bilateral Advanced Warfighting Training exercise. BAWT improves interoperability between the U.S. and Japanese forces. This exercise enhances the ability of the U.S. Navy and JMSDF to work together to confront any contingency. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Askia Collins)

Columbia Gas comenzará pagos a mediados de mayo

El plazo de reclamo se extendió hasta el 27 de marzo

La primera ronda de pagos del acuerdo de demanda colectiva en las explosiones de Merrimack Valley se enviará a los residentes de Lawrence, Andover y N. Andover a mediados de mayo. Los abogados que representan a la clase presentaron una moción ante el Tribunal para acelerar los pagos a la luz del sufrimiento económico provocado por la crisis de coronavirus, que el juez rápidamente concedió.

Según el abogado de los demandantes co-líderes, John Roddy, "Queremos poner el dinero en manos de estos residentes lo más rápido posible. Es particularmente importante porque ahora tenemos un problema adicional que acaba de comenzar haciendo frente al coronavirus con el cierre de todo nuevamente. Cada dólar cuenta aquí".

Roddy también dijo: "Para ayudar a más residentes y dueños de negocios a obtener dinero, hemos extendido la fecha límite de reclamos hasta el 27 de marzo de 2020. Se estima que la familia promedio de cuatro (4) podría recibir aproximadamente \$8,000".

Los residentes y dueños de negocios que fueron afectados por las explosiones de gas y los incendios del 13 de septiembre de 2018

que devastaron las ciudades de Lawrence, Andover o North Andover pueden presentar reclamos por pérdidas económicas y no económicas, incluidos daños a bienes inmuebles, daños a bienes personales, gastos de desplazamiento, pérdida de salarios y pérdida de ingresos comerciales, angustia emocional, interrupción, inconveniencia, pérdida de uso y disfrute de la propiedad y pérdida de buena voluntad. Los afectados también pueden solicitar una compensación detallada de pérdidas o gastos extraordinarios incurridos como resultado del incidente, incluyendo entre otras cosas: daños a la propiedad, gastos de evacuación, gastos de calefacción, salarios perdidos, ingresos comerciales perdidos y angustia emocional.

La única forma de calificar para un pago es enviar un Formulario de reclamo antes del 27 de marzo de 2020. También puede obtener un formulario de reclamo en el sitio web a continuación, llamando al 1-833-927-0819, o escribiendo a Columbia Gas Settlement, c/o Administrador del Acuerdo, PO Box 58729, Filadelfia, PA 19102-8729.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame al 1-833-927-0819 o visite ColumbiaGasExplosionSettlement.com.

Columbia Gas Payments Going Out Mid-May

The Claim Deadline Extended to March 27

The first round of "Lump Sum Payments" from the class-action settlement in the Merrimack Valley explosions will be sent out to residents of Lawrence, Andover and N. Andover in mid-May. Attorneys representing the class filed a motion with the Court to expedite the payments in light of the economic suffering brought on by the coronavirus crisis, which the judge quickly granted.

According to co-lead plaintiffs' counsel, John Roddy, "We want to get money into the hands of these residents as quickly as possible. It's particularly important because we now have a double-whammy—businesses just starting to get back on their feet now have to cope with coronavirus shutting everything down again. Every dollar counts here."

Roddy also said, "To help more residents and business owners get money, we have extended the claim deadline to March 27, 2020. It is estimated that the average family of four (4) could get approximately \$8,000."

Residents and business owners who were affected by the September 13, 2018

gas explosions and fires that devastated the towns of Lawrence, Andover or North Andover can file claims for economic and non-economic losses including real property damage, personal property damage, displacement expenses, lost wages and loss of business income, emotional distress, disruption, inconvenience, loss of use and enjoyment of property and loss of goodwill. Those affected can also apply for itemized compensation of extraordinary losses or expenses incurred as a result of the Incident, including among other things: property damage, evacuation expenses, heating expenses, lost wages, lost business income, and emotional distress.

The only way to qualify for a payment is submit a Claim Form by March 27, 2020. You can also obtain a claim form on the website below, by calling 1-833-927-0819, or writing to Columbia Gas Settlement, c/o Settlement Administrator, PO Box 58729, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8729.

If you have any questions please call 1-833-927-0819 or visit ColumbiaGasExplosionSettlement.com.

¿Puede su negocio sobrevivir cuando los empleados trabajan desde casa?

Can Your Business Survive When Employees Work from Home?

Pg. 20

GLFHC coronavirus al día

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center anunció hoy que un miembro del personal en el Sitio Clínico Sur en 73D Winthrop Ave. en Lawrence resultó positivo con el virus de COVID-19, conocido como el coronavirus.

El miembro del personal ha sido puesto en cuarentena y otros miembros de ese equipo ahora también están en cuarentena y se someten a pruebas. GLFHC está tomando esta situación muy en serio y tomando

todas las precauciones necesarias para todo el personal y pacientes. El sitio en 73D Winthrop Ave. permanecerá cerrado hasta que una empresa de limpieza autorizada por el Departamento de Salud lo haya limpiado profesionalmente.

GLFHC está pidiendo a los pacientes y miembros de la comunidad que los llamen primero al (978) 686-0090. Haremos citas para que hable con un médico, y nuestros clínicos lo ayudarán por teléfono.

GLFHC coronavirus update

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center learned today that a member of our staff from our South Clinical Site at 73D Winthrop Ave. in Lawrence has tested positive for COVID-19, known as the coronavirus.

The staff member has been quarantined and other members of that team are now also quarantined and undergoing testing. GLFHC is taking this situation very seriously and taking all necessary

precautions for our entire staff and patients. The site at 73D Winthrop Ave. has been closed and will remain closed until it has been professionally cleaned by a Department of Health sanctioned cleaning company.

GLFHC is asking patients and members of the community to CALL US first at (978) 686-0090. We will make appointments for you to talk to a doctor, and our clinicians will help you by phone.



Many voices joined for justice

Declaración de MIRA sobre la reducción de ICE de la aplicación de la inmigración y las detenciones

Los informes de los medios de comunicación indican que el Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) reducirá las operaciones de cumplimiento durante la emergencia de COVID-19 y también liberará al menos a algunos detenidos. En respuesta, la ejecutiva de MIRA Eva A. Millona tiene la siguiente declaración:

“Esta es una noticia muy bienvenida: tanto la liberación de detenidos como una moratoria sobre la aplicación de la ley de inmigración son muy necesarias en esta urgente crisis de salud pública.

“En este momento, no podemos permitirnos tener miedo de que la aplicación de la ley de inmigración impida que nadie busque atención médica, y antes de este anuncio, era una preocupación importante para nosotros y nuestras organizaciones miembros. Es tranquilizador saber que ICE se compromete a no llevar a cabo operaciones de aplicación de la ley "en o cerca de" las instalaciones de atención médica, y tomamos la palabra de los líderes de la agencia de

que solo se harán excepciones "en las circunstancias más extraordinarias".

“Lo que no está claro en este momento es cuánta aplicación general se reducirá; Hemos escuchado durante mucho tiempo que los agentes se dirigen principalmente a inmigrantes que han cometido delitos, pero a menudo los objetivos han sido acusados pero no condenados, o han cometido delitos menores, como conducir sin una licencia. Una aclaración adicional sería muy útil para aliviar los temores de los inmigrantes vulnerables.

“Del mismo modo, esperamos ver a tantos inmigrantes como sea posible liberados de la detención, no solo aquellos sin cargos penales o condenas, sino todos los que no presentan riesgos de seguridad pública, lo que sería una gran mayoría. Las cárceles deberían retener a la menor cantidad de personas posible en este momento, por el bien de los reclusos y el personal. Sabemos que las condiciones en muchas instalaciones necesitan una mejora significativa para garantizar la salud y el bienestar de todos”.

MIRA statement on reported ICE scale-down of immigration enforcement and detentions

Media reports indicate that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will scale down enforcement operations during the COVID-19 emergency and will also release at least some detainees. In response, MIRA Executive Eva A. Millona has the following statement:

“This is very welcome news – both the release of detainees and a moratorium on immigration enforcement are sorely needed in this urgent public-health crisis.

“Right now we cannot afford to have fear of immigration enforcement keep anyone from seeking medical care – and before this announcement, it was a major concern for us and our member organizations. It is reassuring to know that ICE is committed to not carrying out enforcement operations ‘at or near’ health care facilities, and we take agency leaders at their word that exceptions will only be made ‘in the most extraordinary of circumstances.’

“What is unclear at this point is how much overall enforcement will be scaled down; we have long heard that agents target mainly immigrants who have committed crimes, but often those targeted have been charged but not convicted, or they have committed minor offenses, including driving without a license. Further clarification would be very helpful in easing the fears of vulnerable immigrants.

“Similarly, we look forward to seeing as many immigrants as possible released from detention – not just those with no criminal charges or convictions, but all who pose no public-safety risk, which would be a large majority. Jails should be holding as few people as possible right now, for the sake of both inmates and staff. We know conditions in many facilities need significant improvement to ensure everyone’s health and well-being.”



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EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

No me busques en el estante

En vista de la situación que rodea la epidemia de COVID-19, hemos decidido no imprimir nuestra edición del 22 de marzo. A partir de ahora, varios de nuestros anunciantes hicieron una pausa o cancelaron sus compromisos.

No solo eso, tuvimos dificultades para entregar la edición impresa del día 15 ya que muchos de los lugares para su distribución están cerrados.

Para esta edición del 22, planeamos una edición en Internet, sin papel, que aparecerá en nuestro sitio web como cada semana mientras esto dure.

Esta es una situación que tenemos que considerar una semana a la vez. Dado que la epidemia de COVID-19 parece cada vez más fuerte y peligrosa, tiene sentido para nuestra propia seguridad, permanecer "trabajando desde la casa" hasta que logremos el control de este siniestro asesino.

Mientras podamos, seguiremos brindando las noticias locales a nuestros lectores con la esperanza y la ayuda de nuestro Creador.

Deseamos lo mejor para todos, especialmente a nuestros lectores, que todos podamos despertar de esta pesadilla y que podamos vivir nuestras vidas en paz.

Don't look for me in the stand

In light of the situation surrounding the COVID-19 epidemic, we have decided not to print our March 22nd edition. As of now, several of our advertisers had put a pause or cancelled their commitments.

And not only that, we had a hard time delivering the printed edition of the 15th since places for its distribution are closed.

For this edition of the 22nd, we planned an Internet edition, no paper that will appear in our website as every week while this is taking place.

This is a situation that we have to consider a week at a time. Since the COVID-19 epidemic seems to get stronger and more dangerous every day, makes sense for our own safety to remain “working from home” until we see the control of this sinister killer.

As long as we can, we will keep bringing the local news to our readers with the hope and the help of our Creator.

We wish the best for all, specially our readers that we all can wake up from this nightmare and we can live our lives in peace.

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

<http://heallawrence.org/> heallawrence@aol.com
<https://www.facebook.com/heallawrence.mass>

Please contact Heal Lawrence if you want to help. A fire can happen at any time.

Si desea ofrecer sus servicios póngase en contacto con Heal Lawrence. Un incendio puede ocurrir en cualquier momento.

Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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POR DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Desde Mi Esquina



Rumbo también se ha visto afectado

Esta edición actual se está produciendo en línea en lugar de una versión impresa porque hemos tenido cancelaciones de anuncios y no podremos distribuirla como de costumbre ya que la mayoría de los lugares están cerrados.

Por lo tanto, les pedimos a todos los que reciben una copia digital del 22 de marzo de 2020 que la envíen a sus contactos. Hay buena información para familias, empresas, comunidades y cualquier persona que pueda correr el riesgo de contaminación que debería ser vista por todos.

Bienvenida soledad

Bueno... por unos días podríamos estar disfrutando de estar en casa, limpiar los armarios o disfrutar jugando con nuestras mascotas, pero, eventualmente, nos pondrá nerviosos. Ya escucho de personas que estaban felices de poder trabajar desde casa y ahora dicen que extrañan socializar con sus compañeros de trabajo.

Esta situación con el coronavirus seguramente traerá cambios culturales en todo el mundo. Si bien muchos empleados han descubierto la conveniencia en su caso particular de trabajar en casa, las empresas también podrían encontrar beneficios en esta nueva tendencia.

También me pregunto si el crimen en Lawrence REALMENTE disminuirá durante este tiempo. ¡Eso es algo positivo! Las familias están en casa, los bares y clubes están cerrados, casi no hay tráfico en

las calles. Olvidé que, para algunos, tener esposos en casa es suficiente para acabar con nuestros nervios provocando un consumo excesivo de alcohol y violencia. ¡LOL!

Si tiene hijos, recuerde que hay muchas cosas que puede hacer para mantenerlos ocupados y cansados por la noche. Además de muy buena programación en televisión (no todo está relacionado con el coronavirus) adecuado para niños y buenas películas para adultos también. Lean libros juntos y háganlo como una obra de teatro para divertirse más.

Mientras mantenga el "distanciamiento social", puede ir a un parque y correr, andar en bicicleta o hacer ejercicio. Intente mantener su vida lo más normal posible por el bien de ellos y el tuyo. En Italia prohibieron las actividades externas, pero no ha llegado a eso aquí.

Tenga cuidado, manténgase saludable y esto también pasará.

Me encanta saber de usted

En los correos electrónicos y mensajes de texto, generalmente recibo quejas y cumplidos y todos son apreciados. Hace poco recibí un correo electrónico que decía en parte: "Su edición del 8 de marzo Desde mi Esquina fue pura realidad. Buen material. Gracias por revelar la verdad."

Eso fue sobre Corrupción y Tráfico de Influencia en esta ciudad. Si no lo ha visto, siempre puede encontrarlo en nuestra página web rumbonews.com

En este momento, mi trabajo se ha interrumpido debido a que el Ayuntamiento está cerrado al público, pero estoy esperando muchos materiales solicitados en virtud

de la Ley de Libertad de Información. Este material abrirá los ojos de la gente sobre cómo se manejan las cosas en la clandestinidad del gobierno de esta ciudad, y créanme, cubre a muchas personas, no solo al alcalde.

Como Enoch Powell dijo una vez, "Para un político quejarse de la prensa es como el capitán de un barco quejándose del mar".

Reunión del concejo en YouTube

Las reuniones del Concejo Municipal no están en el Canal 22. El alcalde y el presidente del concejo se están luciendo experimentando con la tecnología y no saben lo que están haciendo. El resultado final es que solo 18, 23, 25... y así sucesivamente,

CARTAS AL EDITOR RUMBO

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

están mirando en la internet.

No hay razón para que esa reunión no se celebre en la Cámara del Ayuntamiento. Con frecuencia, no asisten todos los 9 concejales y si el alcalde quiere participar, puede pedirle a uno de ellos que se quede en casa. De esa manera, no violarán el requisito máximo. El conserje y el operador de la cámara no están en la sala de todos modos. Tal como están las cosas, hay más de 10 empleados del ayuntamiento que van a trabajar todos los días, solo que no están juntos.

Están excluyendo a la mayoría de las personas poniéndolo en YouTube usando sus teléfonos desde su casa y solo muestra a 4 personas mirando a la vez y no se ve a través de su página de Facebook.

Están tomando decisiones y se mantiene al público al margen.

El Departamento de Trabajo de EE.UU. anuncia inversiones para apoyar el reingreso exitoso de ex delincuentes a la fuerza laboral

Aproximadamente \$ 65 millones en subvenciones disponibles

WASHINGTON, DC - El Departamento de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos anunció hoy su intención de poner a disposición aproximadamente \$65 millones en fondos para subvenciones del Proyecto de reentrada dirigidas a adultos que han estado involucrados en el sistema de justicia. Las subvenciones son administradas por la Administración de Empleo y Capacitación (ETA) del departamento.

Firmado en ley el 21 de diciembre de 2018, la Ley del Primer Paso reforma el sistema de justicia penal y toma medidas para reducir la reincidencia. Un objetivo clave de la legislación es garantizar el reingreso exitoso de ex delincuentes a la comunidad. En su discurso sobre el Estado de la Unión de 2020, el Presidente Donald J. Trump expresó su compromiso continuo de avanzar en los esfuerzos de reforma para prevenir el crimen, mejorar el reingreso y reducir la reincidencia.

"Cuando el Presidente Trump habla de sacar a los estadounidenses del margen, está hablando de todos los estadounidenses, incluidos hombres y mujeres que vuelven a ingresar a la fuerza laboral después de pasar un tiempo en el sistema de justicia", dijo el secretario de Trabajo, Eugene Scalia. "Esta oportunidad de financiamiento ofrece una segunda oportunidad a los estadounidenses que han estado en el sistema de justicia y ahora están entrando en una nueva fase de sus vidas".

En los últimos dos años, el departamento ha otorgado más de \$170 millones en subvenciones para proyectos de reentrada en todo el país que brindan un nuevo comienzo y una segunda oportunidad para las personas anteriormente encarceladas.

La disponibilidad de fondos anunciada hoy es Pathway Home, una subvención enfocada en adultos para proporcionar \$65 millones en fondos para que las organizaciones brinden servicios de fuerza laboral a personas encarceladas antes de salir

de un centro correccional. La subvención continúa con los servicios después de su liberación mediante la transición de los participantes a programas de reingreso en las comunidades a las que regresarán. Las subvenciones servirán a adultos de 18 años o más que serán liberados de un centro correccional estatal o una cárcel local o del condado dentro de los 20 a 180 días posteriores a la inscripción en el programa. Este anuncio de subvención está actualmente abierto.

"Sabemos que el 95 por ciento de todos los que están actualmente en prisión serán liberados en algún momento de regreso a nuestros vecindarios y comunidades. La reducción de la reincidencia está vinculada a un trabajo significativo. La Administración de Empleo y Capacitación del Departamento de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos reconoce la dignidad del trabajo, especialmente para los hombres y mujeres olvidados de Estados Unidos", dijo el subsecretario de Empleo y Capacitación John Pallasch.

El Anuncio de Oportunidad de Financiamiento, que incluye información sobre cómo solicitarlo, está disponible en <http://www.grants.gov>.

ETA administra la capacitación laboral del gobierno federal y los programas para trabajadores desplazados, subvenciones federales a los estados para programas de servicios públicos de empleo y beneficios de seguro de desempleo. Estos servicios se proporcionan principalmente a través de sistemas de desarrollo de la fuerza laboral estatal y local.

La misión del Departamento de Trabajo es fomentar, promover y desarrollar el bienestar de los asalariados, solicitantes de empleo y jubilados de los Estados Unidos; mejorar las condiciones de trabajo; oportunidades avanzadas para empleo rentable; y asegurar beneficios y derechos relacionados con el trabajo.

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Si quiere saber
quien lo controla,
mire a quién no le
permite que lo critique.

— Voltaire

La Ciudad de Methuen declara estado de emergencia debido a COVID-19

El Alcalde Neil Perry anuncia hoy que un estado de emergencia local está en efecto inmediato para Methuen en respuesta al nuevo coronavirus (COVID-19).

COVID-19, la enfermedad asociada con el nuevo coronavirus, fue declarada una pandemia global por la Organización Mundial de la Salud y ha llevado al gobernador Charlie Baker a declarar un estado de emergencia en Massachusetts y al presidente Donald Trump a declarar una emergencia nacional.

Hasta el viernes 20 de marzo, actualmente no hay casos confirmados o presuntos del virus en Methuen.

"Mi prioridad número uno es la salud y la seguridad de todos los residentes de la ciudad de Methuen", dijo Perry. "La declaración de hoy no pretende reflejar

ningún cambio significativo en la amenaza para los residentes de Methuen, es un paso administrativo que estamos tomando para promover nuestra capacidad de proteger la salud y la seguridad de nuestra comunidad. Continuamos recopilando información y estamos tomando decisiones diseñadas para minimizar la propagación de COVID-19 dentro de nuestra comunidad. Como todos sabemos, la situación es fluida: nuestras acciones continuarán ajustándose a medida que cambien las circunstancias".

Según el alcalde, su objetivo es mantener los servicios municipales esenciales al tiempo que protege la salud pública mediante la emisión de recomendaciones y directivas a la comunidad para ayudar a contener la propagación de COVID-19. La Declaración de emergencia es una

herramienta administrativa que permite al gobierno municipal acceder a recursos estatales y federales para servir mejor a la comunidad a medida que COVID-19 evoluciona.

El alcalde estableció previamente un equipo de planificación COVID-19 para organizar y planificar de manera efectiva la respuesta de la ciudad a esta emergencia de salud pública. Como parte de su trabajo, los miembros del grupo han participado en discusiones periódicas con funcionarios de salud pública locales, estatales y federales sobre los protocolos recomendados y las medidas de protección.

En un esfuerzo por mantener informada a la comunidad, el alcalde ha comenzado a organizar segmentos regulares en Methuen Community Television. El próximo segmento será el lunes, 23 de marzo a las 4:30 p.m. Visite la página de Facebook de MCTV para acceder a la presentación.

Además de anunciar esta declaración de emergencia, el Alcalde Perry les recuerda a los residentes de Methuen lo siguiente:

- El Ayuntamiento ahora está abierto solo con cita previa. Los residentes deben visitar cityofmethuen.net para acceder a la información, descargar formularios y documentos y realizar la mayoría de los pagos municipales. Si necesita algo en el Ayuntamiento, debe llamar al departamento correspondiente y hacer una cita.

- Los parques de la ciudad están actualmente abiertos para recreación pasiva. Los residentes deben abstenerse de congregarse en los parques y deben continuar el distanciamiento social responsable. La ciudad tiene la intención de monitorear el uso de los parques y puede verse obligada a cerrarlos si se determina que están siendo utilizados de manera contraria a estas pautas.

- Se recuerda a los residentes que el Departamento Escolar de Methuen continúa brindando desayunos y almuerzos empacados de lunes a viernes de 9:00 a.m. al mediodía en la escuela Tenney Grammar School, escuela superior, y de 11:00 a.m. a 1:00 p.m. en el vecindario de Methuen Arlington (M.A.N.), 141 Tenney Street.

- También se les pide a los residentes que se abstengan de tirar cualquier cosa que no sea papel higiénico en los baños. Otros productos de papel corren el riesgo de dañar el sistema de alcantarillado de la ciudad y las instalaciones de tratamiento de agua.

- Los departamentos de policía y bomberos de Methuen cuentan con personal completo y están preparados para responder a cualquier emergencia. Los residentes que experimentan síntomas relacionados con el coronavirus deben comunicarse con su proveedor de atención primaria antes de llamar al 911.

Los funcionarios monitorean constantemente la orientación estatal y federal con respecto a la situación COVID-19 y proporcionarán actualizaciones a medida que haya nueva información disponible.

City of Methuen Declares State of Emergency Due to COVID-19

Mayor Neil Perry announces today that a local state of emergency is in immediate effect for Methuen in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

COVID-19, the illness associated with the novel coronavirus, was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization and it has moved Governor Charlie Baker to declare a State of Emergency in Massachusetts and President Donald Trump to declare a national emergency.

As of Friday, March 20, there are currently no confirmed or presumptive cases of the virus in Methuen.

"My number one priority is the health and safety of every resident of the City of Methuen," Perry said. "Today's declaration is not intended to reflect any significant change in the threat to Methuen residents, it's an administrative step we're taking to further our ability to protect the health and safety of our community. We are continuing to collect information and are making decisions designed to minimize the spread of COVID-19 within our community. As we all know, the situation is fluid – our actions will continue to be adjusted as circumstances change."

According to the Mayor, his goal is to maintain essential municipal services while protecting public health by issuing recommendations and directives to the community to help contain the spread of COVID-19. The Emergency Declaration is an administrative tool that allows municipal government to access state and federal resources to better serve the community as COVID-19 evolves.

The Mayor previously established a COVID-19 Planning Team to effectively organize and plan the city's response to this public health emergency. As part of its work, members of the group have participated in regular discussions with local, state, and federal public health officials on recommended protocols and protective measures.

In an effort to keep the community informed, the Mayor has begun hosting

regular segments on Methuen Community Television. The next segment will be on Monday, March 23 at 4:30 p.m. Visit the MCTV Facebook page to access the presentation.

In addition to announcing this emergency declaration, Mayor Perry is reminding Methuen residents of the following:

- City Hall is now open on an appointment-only basis. Residents should visit cityofmethuen.net to access information, to download forms and documents, and to make most municipal payments. If you need something at City Hall, you should call the appropriate department and make an appointment.

- City parks are currently open for passive recreation. Residents should refrain from congregating in the parks and must continue responsible social distancing. The city intends to monitor the use of parks and may be forced to shut them down if it's determined they're being used in a manner contrary to these guidelines.

- Residents are reminded the Methuen School Department is continuing to provide bagged breakfast and lunches Monday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Tenney Grammar School, Upper School Site, and from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Methuen Arlington Neighborhood (M.A.N.), 141 Tenney Street.

- Residents are also asked to refrain from flushing anything other than toilet paper in toilets. Other paper products risk damage to the city sewer system and water treatment facilities.

- The Methuen Police and Fire Departments are fully staffed and prepared to respond to any emergency. Residents, who are experiencing any symptoms related to the coronavirus, should contact their primary care provider before calling 911.

Officials are constantly monitoring state and federal guidance regarding the COVID-19 situation and will provide updates as new information becomes available.



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Approved 2/11/2020



La SBA aprueba la declaración de desastre de Massachusetts

Se proporcionará asistencia a las empresas de Massachusetts y sin fines de lucro afectados por COVID-19

La Administración Baker-Polito anunció que la Administración de Pequeñas Empresas de EE. UU. (SBA) ofrecerá préstamos federales por desastre a bajo interés para capital de trabajo a pequeñas empresas de Massachusetts que sufren daños económicos sustanciales como resultado del Coronavirus (COVID-19). La declaración de desastre pone a disposición la asistencia de la SBA a raíz de una solicitud recibida del gobernador Charlie Baker el 17 de marzo de 2020.

La declaración de desastre hace que la asistencia de la SBA esté disponible en todo el estado de Massachusetts; y los condados contiguos en estados vecinos.

“Las pequeñas empresas, las organizaciones privadas sin fines de lucro de cualquier tamaño, las pequeñas cooperativas agrícolas y las pequeñas empresas de acuicultura que se han visto afectadas financieramente como resultado directo del Coronavirus (COVID-19) desde el 31 de enero de 2020, pueden calificar para Préstamos por Desastres por Lesiones Económicas de hasta \$2 millones para ayudar a cumplir con las obligaciones financieras y los gastos operativos que podrían haberse cumplido si el desastre no hubiera ocurrido”, dijo la administradora de SBA, Jovita Carranza.

La elegibilidad para préstamos por desastre por daños económicos se basa en el impacto financiero del coronavirus

(COVID-19). La tasa de interés es del 3.75 por ciento para las pequeñas empresas. La tasa de interés para las organizaciones privadas sin fines de lucro es de 2.75 por ciento. La SBA ofrece préstamos con pagos a largo plazo para mantener los pagos asequibles, hasta un máximo de 30 años, y están disponibles para entidades sin la capacidad financiera para compensar el impacto adverso sin dificultades.

Los solicitantes pueden presentar una solicitud en línea, recibir información adicional sobre asistencia por desastre y descargar aplicaciones en <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Los solicitantes también pueden llamar al Centro de Servicio al Cliente de la SBA al (800) 659-2955 o enviar un correo electrónico a desastrecustomerservice@sba.gov para obtener más información sobre la asistencia por desastre de la SBA. Las personas sordas o con problemas de audición pueden llamar al (800) 877-8339. Las solicitudes completas deben enviarse por correo al Centro de Administración, Procesamiento y Desembolso de Pequeñas Empresas de EE. UU., 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

La fecha límite para solicitar un préstamo por desastre por lesiones económicas es el 18 de diciembre de 2020.

El 16 de marzo de 2020, la Administración Baker-Polito anunció un Fondo de Préstamo para Recuperación de

Pequeñas Empresas de \$10 millones, y la administración continúa en conversaciones en curso en todo el gobierno estatal y con socios federales para determinar qué recursos pueden estar disponibles para pequeñas empresas y empresas no ganancias ya que lidian con los efectos negativos de esta emergencia de salud pública.

La administración continuará actualizando al público sobre nuevos desarrollos y se alienta a las personas a consultar tanto el Departamento de

Salud Pública como los sitios web de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades de EE. UU. Para obtener la información más actualizada.

La última información y orientación sobre COVID-19 siempre está disponible en mass.gov/COVID19.

Para más información sobre el Coronavirus, por favor visite: Coronavirus.gov.

Para más información sobre los recursos y servicios disponibles de SBA, por favor visite: SBA.gov/coronavirus



SBA Approves Massachusetts Disaster Declaration

Assistance Will be Provided to Massachusetts Businesses and Non-Profits Impacted by COVID-19

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will offer low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to Massachusetts small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The disaster declaration makes SBA assistance available following a request received from Governor Charlie Baker on March 17, 2020.

The disaster declaration makes SBA assistance available in the entire state of Massachusetts; and the contiguous counties in neighboring states.

“Small businesses, private non-profit organizations of any size, small agricultural cooperatives and small aquaculture enterprises that have been financially impacted as a direct result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) since Jan. 31, 2020, may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred,” said Administrator Jovita Carranza.

Eligibility for Economic Injury Disaster Loans is based on the financial impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The interest rate is 3.75 percent for small businesses. The interest rate for private non-profit organizations is 2.75 percent. SBA offers loans with long-term repayments in order to keep payments affordable, up to a maximum of 30 years, and are available to entities without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information

and download applications at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastrecustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan is Dec. 18, 2020.

On March 16, 2020, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a \$10 Million Small Business Recovery Loan Fund, and the administration remains in ongoing discussions across state government and with federal partners to determine what resources can be made available to small businesses and non-profits as they contend with the negative effects of this public health emergency.

The administration will continue to update the public on further developments and individuals are encouraged to consult both the Department of Public Health and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention websites for the most up to date information.

The latest information and guidance regarding COVID-19 is always available at mass.gov/COVID19.

For more information about Coronavirus, please visit: Coronavirus.gov.

For more information about available SBA resources and services, please visit: SBA.gov/coronavirus.

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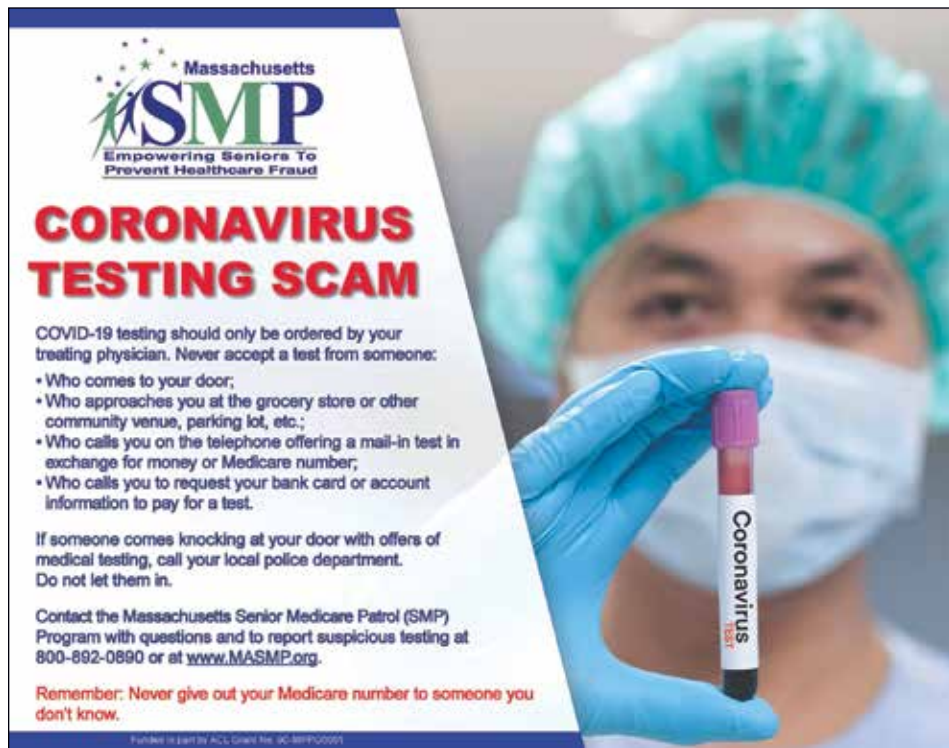
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Pensar es el trabajo más difícil que existe. Quizá esa sea la razón por la que haya tan pocas personas que lo practiquen.

Thinking is the hardest work there is. Perhaps that is why there are so few people who practice it.

- Henry Ford

Tenga cuidado con las ofertas fraudulentas para las pruebas COVID-19 de puerta a puerta, tienda de abarrotes, ofertas de pedidos por teléfono y por correo. ¡Probablemente sea una estafa!



El Programa Massachusetts Senior Medicare Patrol (MA SMP) advierte al público que tenga cuidado con cualquier otra persona que no sea un médico tratante que le ofrezca pruebas de coronavirus. Sospeche particularmente de cualquier persona que ofrezca la prueba COVID-19 a cambio de su número de Medicare, dinero o para acceder a su hogar. ¡Tenga cuidado!

"Lamentablemente, las estafas en torno a las pruebas de coronavirus se están extendiendo casi tan rápido como el virus en sí", dijo Lucilia Prates-Ramos, directora estatal del programa MA SMP. "Las pruebas solo pueden ser ordenadas por un médico tratante. Hemos oído hablar de equipos de bata blanca que van de puerta en puerta ofreciendo pruebas de virus. Esta NO es una oferta válida. Lo que realmente les interesa es robar al anciano o robar su identidad. Hemos escuchado informes de personas que llaman haciéndose pasar por una enfermera que ofrece resultados de las pruebas una vez que obtienen un número de tarjeta de crédito. Este tipo de llamadas tampoco son reales".

Nunca acepte una prueba de coronavirus de alguien:

- Que viene a su puerta;
- Que se le acerca en la tienda de comestibles u otro lugar de la comunidad, estacionamiento, etc.;
- Que llama ofreciendo una prueba por correo a cambio de dinero o número de Medicare;
- Que llama para solicitar su tarjeta bancaria o información de cuenta para pagar una prueba;

"Si alguien llama a su puerta para

ofrecerle pruebas médicas, no lo deje entrar", dijo Prates-Ramos. "En cambio, llame a la policía de inmediato. Recuerde: nunca le dé su número de Medicare a alguien que no conoce".

Si se le envía por correo un kit de prueba, no lo acepte ni lo devuelva al remitente, aconseja Prates-Ramos.

"Mantenga un registro del nombre del remitente y la fecha en que devolvió los artículos", dijo Prates-Ramos. "Luego, tome nota para verificar su Resumen de Medicare, si tiene Medicare tradicional, o su Explicación de beneficios, si tiene un plan Medicare Advantage, para asegurarse de que Medicare no pagó el kit de prueba. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor llámenos."

Para obtener detalles sobre estafas relacionadas con las pruebas de coronavirus, llame al Programa MA SMP al 800-892-0890 o visite el sitio web de la Comisión Federal de Comercio en: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/02/coronavirusscamers-follow-> titulares

Para más información sobre la visita del coronavirus:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

<https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/CurrentEmergencies-page>

El Programa Massachusetts Senior Medicare (MA SMP) es una asociación estatal con los Centros de Servicios de Medicare y Medicaid, el Departamento

de Salud y Servicios Humanos de los EE.UU., La Oficina Ejecutiva de Asuntos de Ancianos, la Oficina del Fiscal General de Massachusetts y las fuerzas del orden locales para llegar y educar a los beneficiarios y fomentar la participación en sus experiencias de atención médica e informar la facturación cuestionable, los posibles casos de comercialización ilegal y otras tácticas de venta engañosas. Obtenga más información sobre el Programa MA SMP en www.MASMP.org.

Elder Services de Merrimack Valley-North Shore (ESMV / NS) es una agencia privada sin fines de lucro con la misión

de garantizar la salud, la seguridad y la independencia de los adultos mayores y las personas con discapacidad. Ofrecemos opciones para adultos mayores que les permiten elegir ser independientes en el hogar. Elder Services es una Agencia de Área sobre Envejecimiento designada a nivel federal y una Agencia de Servicios de Protección y Puntos de Acceso para Servicios de Envejecimiento designada por el estado que presta servicios a 28 comunidades. Obtenga más información sobre Elder Services en nuestro sitio web en www.ESMV.org.

Beware of fraudulent offers for COVID-19 testing from door-to-door, grocery store, telephone and mail order offerings It is probably a scam!

The Massachusetts Senior Medicare Patrol (MA SMP) Program warns the public to be wary of anyone other than a treating physician who is offering you coronavirus testing. Be particularly suspicious of anyone offering COVID-19 testing in exchange for your Medicare number, money, or to gain access into your home. Be careful!

"Sadly, the scams around coronavirus testing are spreading almost as fast as the virus itself," said Lucilia Prates-Ramos, the statewide director of the MA SMP program. "Testing can only be ordered by a treating physician. We have heard about teams in white coats are going door-to-door offering virus testing. This is NOT a valid offer. What they are really interested in is robbing the elder or stealing their identity. We have heard reports of callers pretending to be a nurse offering test results once they get a credit card number. These kinds of calls are also not for real."

Never accept a coronavirus test from someone:

- Who comes to your door;
- Who approaches you at the grocery store or other community venue, parking lot, etc.;
- Who calls offering a mail-in test in exchange for money or Medicare number;
- Who calls to request your bank card or account information to pay for a test.

"If someone knocks at your door to offer medical testing, do not let them in," Prates-Ramos said. "Instead, call the police immediately. Remember: Never give your Medicare number to someone you don't know."

If a testing kit is mailed to you, do not accept it or return it to the sender, Prates-Ramos advises.

"Keep a record of the sender's name and the date you returned the items," Prates-Ramos said. "Then make a note to check your Medicare Summary Notice, if you are on traditional Medicare, or your

Explanation of Benefits statement, if you have a Medicare Advantage plan, to make sure Medicare did not pay for the test kit. If you have any questions, please call us."

For details about scams related to coronavirus testing call the MA SMP Program at 800-892-0890 or visit the Federal Trade Commission website at: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/02/coronavirusscamers-follow-headlines>

For more information on the coronavirus visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

<https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/CurrentEmergencies-page>

The Massachusetts Senior Medicare (MASMP) Program is a statewide partnership with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and local law enforcement to reach and educate beneficiaries and encourage engagement in their healthcare experiences and report questionable billing, potential cases of illegal marketing, and other deceptive sales tactics. Learn more about the MA SMP Program at www.MASMP.org.

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley-North Shore (ESMV/NS) is a private, non-profit agency with a mission to ensure the health, safety and independence of older adults and persons with disabilities. We provide options for older adults that allow them the choice to remain independent at home. Elder Services is a federally designated Area Agency on Aging and state designated Aging Service Access Point and Protective Service Agency serving 28 communities. Learn more about Elder Services on our website at www.ESMV.org.



GLCAC Announces Program Changes

The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc. is making several operational changes in an effort to keep our clients, staff, their families and the community safe in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

GLCAC staff has stopped serving clients in person. Clients are encouraged to contact programs phone or email. All classes and gatherings are canceled, including preschool and adult education.

GLCAC employees are working remotely from their homes to serve clients. Only a small number of employees are onsite.

There are limited reasons the public can visit GLCAC:

- To drop off forms and paperwork on weekdays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- To receive assistance filing a claim for unemployment insurance on weekdays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- To go to the food pantry, open to the public, Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

“We will continue to provide services primarily over the phone and by email, however the health and wellbeing of the community and our staff is of upmost importance,” said Evelyn Friedman, GLCAC’s executive director. “We appreciate your patience and support during this unprecedented and challenging time.” Please check back daily for updates

at www.glcac.org and on GLCAC’s social media pages.

PROGRAMS OPEN BY PHONE OR EMAIL ONLY (paperwork can be dropped off at 305 Essex St.):

- Consumer Protection: 978-620-4990 or Rebecca Lange rlange@glcac.org
- HEARTWAP/Weatherization: 681-495-5556 or Luz Ramos eramos@glcac.org
- Housing services: 978-620-4987 or Luz DE LA Cruz ldelacruz@glcac.org
- LIHEAP (fuel assistance): 978-681-4950 or Gerald Walsh gwash@glcac.org or Ada Figueroa afigueroa@glcac.org W.I.C. (Methuen and North. Andover offices

closed): 978-681-4960 or Natasha Ramirez-Estrella nramirez-estrella@glcac.org

- Immigration services: 978-620-4988 or Queyron Nolberto qnolberto@glcac.org
- Health Connector Navigator Program: 978-620-4784 or Kesia Moreta kmoreta@glcac.org
- Community and Family Support Center: 978-770-7173 or Annmary Connor aconnor@glcac.org
- Workforce development: 978-620-4736 or Lisa Crothers lcrothers@glcac.org

PROGRAMS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

- VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) (this is being evaluated)
- Financial literacy course
- ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- R.A.F.T. (Residential Assistance for Families in Transition) orientations waived, but accepting drop-off applications and phone and email inquires.
- Weatherization home audits and contractor work
- Head Start (including home visits)
- Lead poisoning prevention
- Child care

GLCAC encourages all clients to act responsibly, pay attention, and follow guidelines to limit the spread of the virus. If you have questions or need more information, please refer to reputable sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

If you are experiencing symptoms and/or think you may have come in contact with an infected person, please use Lawrence General Hospital’s Community Screening assessment at 978-946-8409 or <https://www.lawrencegeneral.org/about-us/covid-19.aspx>.

GLCAC is a multi-faceted social services agency that assisted 32,648 individuals in 2018 through a range of programs including early childhood education, fuel assistance, WIC nutrition assistance, immigration services, lead poisoning prevention, child abuse prevention, English-language lessons, and consumer protection.

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

<http://heallawrence.org/>
heallawrence@aol.com
<https://www.facebook.com/heallawrence.mass>



Lawrence Public Schools • Post Office Box 1498 • Lawrence, MA 01842

Cynthia Paris
 Superintendent of Schools
 March 13, 2020

Hello Lawrence Public Schools families.

I am writing to inform you that Lawrence Public Schools, in coordination with neighboring school districts, will be closed for two weeks beginning this Monday. Currently, our anticipated return is Monday, March 30th.

While as of this morning we have not had any confirmed or presumed cases of COVID-19 in our area, this decision was made in response to the virus’s extensive regional impacts and for the long-term health and safety of all our families and employees.

We know this will have a tremendous impact on our community, and will be sharing additional resources and details on this closure in the coming days and weeks. At this time, I would like to highlight the following key items:

- Throughout the closure, grab ‘n go meals will be available for all Lawrence Public Schools students Monday through Friday, 11:00am – 1:00pm, at the Arlington complex, Parthum complex, Guilmette complex and the Lawrence High School campus. Nursing and counseling staff will also be available for health- and wellness-related questions at the same times and sites.
- We have been sanitizing buildings throughout the past several weeks, and will use this time to continue a district-wide deep cleaning.
- Good hygiene and health practices remain the best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including frequent handwashing; coughing and sneezing into the crook of the elbow; staying home when sick; and limiting contact with people who are ill. People with fever, cough or shortness of breath should stay home from school, and are encouraged to call their healthcare provider (before visiting) and closely follow their guidance. Lawrence General Hospital has also established a COVID-19 screening line at (978) 946-8409.
- You will be find updates and resources at our website, Lawrence.k12.ma.us, and are encouraged to follow the district’s social media accounts on Twitter (@LPS_Education) and Facebook (Lawrence Public Schools).

Thank you for your support and understanding throughout this unprecedented and constantly evolving challenge. We will continue to communicate with you throughout this closure, providing frequent updates and connections to any new resources as they become available.


 Cynthia Paris
 Superintendent of Schools

(Phone) 978-975-5905 • (Fax) 978-722-8541 • (Email) cynthia.paris@lawrence.k12.ma.us

GLCAC anuncia cambios en sus programas

El Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc. está haciendo varios cambios operativos para mantener a nuestros clientes, al personal, a sus familias y a la comunidad seguros en vista de la pandemia del COVID-19.

El personal de GLCAC ha dejado de atender a clientes en persona. Los animamos a comunicarse con sus programas por teléfono o por correo electrónico. Todas las clases y reuniones están canceladas, incluso los programas de educación preescolar y para adultos.

Los empleados de GLCAC están trabajando desde sus casas para prestarles servicios a los clientes. Sólo un grupo reducido de empleados trabaja en nuestras oficinas.

Las únicas razones para venir a GLCAC en persona son:

- Para dejar formularios y documentos, de lunes a viernes entre 10 a. m. y 3 p. m.
- Para recibir ayuda para presentar una solicitud de seguro de desempleo, de lunes a viernes entre 10 a. m. y 3 p. m.
- Para ir a la despensa de alimentos, que está abierta al público los martes de 4:30 a 5:30 p. m.

“Seguiremos brindando servicios principalmente por teléfono y correo electrónico. Sin embargo, la salud y el bienestar de la comunidad y nuestro personal son de máxima importancia”, dijo Evelyn Friedman, la directora ejecutiva de GLCAC. “Le damos las gracias por su paciencia y apoyo durante este período difícil y sin precedentes”.

Publicaremos actualizaciones diariamente en el sitio web y las redes sociales de GLCAC, www.glcac.org.

PROGRAMAS QUE ATIENDEN SÓLO POR TELÉFONO O CORREO ELECTRÓNICO (el papeleo se puede dejar en 305 Essex St.):

- Protección del consumidor: 978-620-4990 o Rebecca Lange rlange@glcac.org
- HEARTWAP/Climatización: 681-495-5556 o Luz Ramos eramos@glcac.org
- Servicios de vivienda: 978-620-4987 o Luz de la Cruz ldelacruz@glcac.org
- LIHEAP (asistencia de calefacción): 978-681-4950 o Gerald Walsh gwalsh@glcac.org o Ada Figueroa afigueroa@glcac.org
- W.I.C. (las oficinas de Methuen y North Andover están cerradas): 978-681-4960 o Natasha Ramírez-Estrella nramirez-estrella@glcac.org
- Servicios de inmigración: 978-620-4988 o Queyron Nolberto qnolberto@glcac.org
- Programa de navegación del Conector de Salud (“Health Connector”): 978-620-4784 o Kesia Moreta kmoreta@glcac.org
- Centro de Apoyo a la Comunidad y la Familia: 978-770-7173 o Annmary Connor aconnor@glcac.org
- Desarrollo laboral: 978-620-4736 o Lisa Crothers lcrothers@glcac.org

PROGRAMAS CANCELADOS HASTA PRÓXIMO AVISO:

- VITA (ayuda para preparar la declaración de impuestos): Estamos evaluando qué hacer con este programa
- Curso de alfabetización financiera
- ESOL (Inglés para hablantes de otros idiomas)
- Las sesiones de orientación de R.A.F.T. (Asistencia residencial para familias en transición) están suspendidas, pero pueden pasar a dejar solicitudes y nos pueden consultar por teléfono o correo electrónico.
- Auditorías de climatización del hogar y trabajo de contratistas
- Head Start (incluidas las visitas a

domicilio)


- Prevención del envenenamiento con plomo
- Guardería

GLCAC anima a sus clientes a actuar responsablemente, a prestar atención y a seguir las recomendaciones para limitar la propagación del virus. Si tiene preguntas o necesita más información, refiérase a fuentes de confianza como los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>, y el Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Si tiene síntomas o cree que puede

haber estado en contacto con una persona infectada, siga las recomendaciones de pruebas de detección de Lawrence General Hospital. Llame al 978-946-8409 o visite <https://www.lawrencegeneral.org/about-us/covid-19.aspx>.

GLCAC es una agencia de servicios sociales multifacética que en 2019 asistió a 32.648 personas mediante una variedad de programas, entre ellos, de educación para la primera infancia, asistencia de combustible, asistencia nutricional de WIC, servicios de inmigración, prevención del envenenamiento con plomo, prevención del maltrato infantil, clases de inglés y protección al consumidor.



Lawrence Public Schools • Post Office Box 1498 • Lawrence, MA 01842

Cynthia Paris
Superintendent of Schools

Hola Familias de las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence,

Les escribo para informarles que las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence, en coordinación con los distritos escolares vecinos, estarán cerradas durante dos semanas a partir de este lunes. Anticipamos que el regreso a la escuela será el lunes 30 de marzo.


Aunque hasta el momento no hemos tenido ningún caso confirmado o presunto de COVID-19 en nuestra área, esta decisión fue tomada en respuesta a los extensos impactos regionales del virus y por la salud y seguridad de todas nuestras familias y empleados.

Sabemos que esto tendrá un tremendo impacto en nuestra comunidad, y estaremos compartiendo recursos adicionales y detalles sobre el cierre de nuestras escuelas en los próximos días y semanas.

En este momento, me gustaría destacar los siguientes puntos cruciales:

- Durante el cierre de escuelas tendremos almuerzo “grab ‘n go” disponible para todos los estudiantes de lunes a viernes, 11am-1pm, en el complejo Arlington, complejo Parthum, complejo Guilmette, y la escuela superior de Lawrence. Servicios de enfermería y consejería estarán disponible durante esas horas para preguntas relacionadas de salud física y mental.
- Hemos estado desinfectando las escuelas durante las últimas semanas, y usaremos este tiempo para continuar con la limpieza profunda en todo el distrito.
- Buenas prácticas de higiene y salud siguen siendo la mejor manera de prevenir la propagación de COVID-19, incluyendo lavarse las manos frecuentemente; toser y estornudar en el interior del codo; permaneciendo en casa si está enfermo; y limitando el contacto con personas enfermas. Las personas con fiebre, tos o dificultad para respirar deben quedarse en casa y no ir a la escuela, y se les recomienda que llamen a su médico (antes de visitarlo) y seguir de cerca su recomendación. El Hospital General de Lawrence ha establecido una línea de detección para el COVID-19 (978) 946-8409.
- A lo largo del cierre de escuelas podrá encontrar actualizaciones y recursos en nuestra página web, Lawrence.k12.ma.us, y se les anima a seguir las páginas de las redes sociales del distrito – Twitter (@LPS_Education) y Facebook (Lawrence Public Schools.)

Les damos las gracias por su entendimiento durante este periodo tan difícil. Seguiremos informándoles durante el cierre y comunicándoles recursos que estén disponibles.


Cynthia Paris
Superintendente de Escuelas

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This event has been postponed. Keep watching for the new date



U.S. Sen. Ed Markey to give keynote at health center Gala

Lawrence Partnership to be presented with the Making a Difference Award

U.S. Sen. Edward Markey will give the keynote address at Greater Lawrence Family Health Center's 15th Annual Making a Difference Gala on Thur., April 16 at 5:30 p.m. at Andover Country Club.

John Silva, President & Chief Executive Officer, said, "We are thrilled that United States Senator Ed Markey has agreed to be our keynote speaker for our 15th Making a Difference Gala. Sen. Markey has been serving the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in Washington, D.C. since 1976, and has always been a champion for Community Health Centers like GLFHC, and our nationally recognized teaching health center, the Lawrence Family Medicine Residency program."

Also during the event, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) will honor Lawrence Partnership with the 2020 Making a Difference Award. Formed in 2014, the partnership is a private/public sector collaboration for the economic development and general improvement of the City of Lawrence. Members include business leaders, nonprofit executives and elected officials working together to support a shared vision for the community.

Lawrence Partnership works to create lasting employment opportunities and upward mobility for the residents of Lawrence. It serves as an advocate and a voice for the city, communicating the success stories of the Lawrence community and creating a vision for the future of Lawrence.

"If there has ever been a coalition that has made an immediate impact in such a short period of time for our city,

it's the Lawrence Partnership," Silva said. "The partnership, its board, and executive committee truly personify what the Making a Difference Award is all about – whether it be the establishment of the Venture Fund for small business development, the focus on workforce development or the focus on cross-sectoral collaboration and developing new leaders, the Lawrence Partnership has made a difference for so many and will continue to well into the future."

The Making a Difference Gala is GLFHC's signature fundraising event, featuring raffles, a silent auction, dinner, and a near-capacity crowd of 500. Tickets are \$150 per person and may be purchased at <https://glfhc.org/gala2020>.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available and those interested in being a sponsor may contact Director of Community Relations Mary Lyman at mary.lyman@glfhc.org.

Lawrence Family Health Center is to improve and maintain the health of individuals and families in the Merrimack Valley by providing a network of high quality, comprehensive health care services and by training health care professionals to respond to the needs of a culturally diverse population. More than 62,000 patients depend on GLFHC for their primary health care needs at locations in Lawrence and Methuen. For more information, visit <https://glfhc.org>.



John Silva
President & CEO

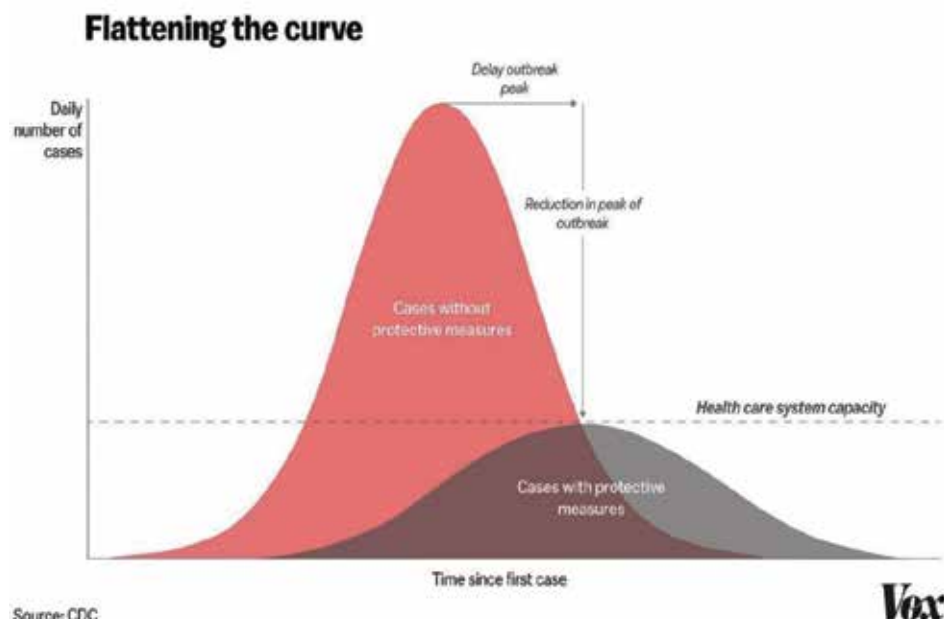
Earlier this week Governor Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency for the Commonwealth due to COVID-19 - the coronavirus. As we have seen from news reports the rate of infection has taken off exponentially. I want to assure you that our staff and clinicians are on the ready to deal with this fast-moving and ever-changing pandemic. As many of you know our staff is among the best and the brightest in the Commonwealth and are rallying together as they always do. Our team is also in constant contact with our health care partners in the community and working with our local hospitals – Lawrence General Hospital and Holy Family Hospital in both Haverhill and

Methuen.

To this point in the crisis, we are not aware of any GLFHC patients that have tested positive for COVID-19, however as we know, this is a fluid situation and screening is being conducted at all of our sites in order to take all necessary precautions, and separate those people who are ill from those who are not to help limit the spread of the virus.

For more information about COVID-19 and taking personal, safety precautions please go to our homepage <https://glfhc.org/> where you can access information from the Centers for Disease Control (in Spanish and English) as well as the Massachusetts Health Department.

Please consider as much social distancing as possible. As this helpful graph shows us, flattening the curve will go a long way to helping us slow down the spread of the virus.



Also, we want you to know the following has been put in place at the health center by our management team:

1. If you or a loved one are a patient of GLFHC and have traveled abroad or to an affected area or if you or a loved one have a respiratory illness, we ask you to follow all CDC guidelines and activities to limit exposure to the virus. We also have protocols in place to isolate and treat those symptomatic patients who do present at the health center.
2. We have suspended hosting all outside groups at the health center until further notice and no meetings or gatherings at the health center with more than 10 people in the room. Zoom conferencing is our new best friend and will be used extensively both internally as well as for attendance at

external meetings whenever possible.

3. Also until further notice, we are suspending all work-related travel to conferences, events, and meetings. To that end, we have postponed our Making a Difference Gala and changed the date to June 18, 2020. More information will be forthcoming from our Office of External Relations. We realize that these actions might impact our community partners and stakeholders. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Rich Napolitano, Senior Vice President of External Relations, at (978) 722-2870 or rnapolitano@glfhc.org.

Sincerely,

John M. Silva
President & CEO



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"El éxito no es el fin, el fracaso no es mortal. Es el valor de continuar lo que cuenta."

- Winston Churchill

AMERICAN PICKERS to Film in New England

Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz, and their team are excited to return to Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont! They plan to film episodes of the hit series American Pickers throughout your area at the end of May 2020.

AMERICAN PICKERS is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique “picking” on History.

The hit show follows Mike and Frank, two of the most skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America’s most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find sizeable, unique collections and learn the interesting stories behind them.

As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, Mike and Frank are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, the Pickers want to meet characters with remarkable and exceptional items. The

pair hopes to give historically significant objects a new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America’s past along the way.

Mike and Frank have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they’ve never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

AMERICAN PICKERS is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better part of the day looking through, send us your name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cineflix.com or call 855-OLD-RUST. facebook: @GotAPickAMERICAN PICKERS



GLFHC coronavirus update

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center learned today that a member of our staff from our South Clinical Site at 73D Winthrop Ave. in Lawrence has tested positive for COVID-19, known as the coronavirus.

The staff member has been quarantined and other members of that team are now also quarantined and undergoing testing. GLFHC is taking this situation very seriously and taking all necessary precautions for our entire staff and patients. The site at 73D Winthrop Ave. has been closed and will remain closed until it has been professionally cleaned by a Department of Health sanctioned cleaning company.

GLFHC is asking patients and members of the community to CALL US first at (978) 686-0090. We will make appointments for you to talk to a doctor, and our clinicians will help you by phone.

GLFHC coronavirus al día

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center anunció hoy que un miembro del personal en el Sitio Clínico Sur en 73D Winthrop Ave. en Lawrence resultó positivo con el virus de COVID-19, conocido como el coronavirus.

El miembro del personal ha sido puesto en cuarentena y otros miembros de ese equipo ahora también están en cuarentena y se someten a pruebas. GLFHC está tomando esta situación muy en serio y tomando todas las precauciones necesarias para todo el personal y pacientes. El sitio en 73D Winthrop Ave. permanecerá cerrado hasta que una empresa de limpieza autorizada por el Departamento de Salud lo haya limpiado profesionalmente.

GLFHC está pidiendo a los pacientes y miembros de la comunidad que los llamen primero al (978) 686-0090. Haremos citas para que hable con un médico, y nuestros clínicos lo ayudarán por teléfono.

AMERICAN PICKERS

MIKE AND FRANK ARE LOOKING FOR LARGE, RARE COLLECTIONS & THINGS THEY’VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE. TELL US THE INTERESTING STORY BEHIND YOUR STUFF! **TO BE CONSIDERED, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:**

AMERICANPICKERS@CINEFLIX.COM
or leave a voicemail at 1-855-OLD-RUST
or on facebook: @GotAPick

PLEASE LET US KNOW:

- YOUR NAME, TOWN & STATE
- PHONE NUMBER
- WHERE YOUR COLLECTION IS LOCATED
- A DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ITEMS

Mapa preliminar de la tasa de respuesta al Censo del 2020 ya disponible

La Oficina del Censo de los EE. UU. publicó hoy un nuevo mapa por internet como parte del Desafío de la Tasa de Respuesta al Censo del 2020 —en donde líderes estatales, locales y de la comunidad trabajan juntos para promover un conteo completo y preciso al incrementar la tasa de autorrespuesta en su comunidad. El mapa preliminar actualmente muestra las tasas de autorrespuesta al Censo del 2010 como punto de referencia para estados, condados, ciudades y sectores censales en todo el país. Los usuarios podrán usar el mapa para estar al tanto del progreso de sus comunidades en lo que respecta a las respuestas al Censo del 2020.

A medida que las personas comiencen a responder al Censo del 2020 por internet, por teléfono o por correo a mediados de marzo, la Oficina del Censo actualizará el mapa todos los días para reflejar el porcentaje de hogares que autorresponden por internet, por teléfono o por correo luego de que se los invite a hacerlo. (Se proporcionará la tasa para los tres modos combinados y para la autorrespuesta por internet solamente.)

“El Mapa de la Tasa de Autorrespuesta al Censo del 2020 es una herramienta importante para los líderes de la comunidad, especialmente para funcionarios electos nacionales, estatales y locales, que están realizando campañas de extensión comunitaria acerca del Censo del 2020”, dijo el Dr. Steven Dillingham, director de la Oficina del Censo. “Las actualizaciones diarias al mapa ayudarán a los líderes de la comunidad a motivar a sus residentes a responder”.

Los puntos destacados del mapa incluyen:

- Actualizaciones diarias a las tasas de autorrespuesta para los hogares que hayan autorrespondido al Censo del 2020 (por internet, por teléfono o por correo) comenzando a mediados de marzo.
- La habilidad de buscar tasas de respuesta para estados, condados, ciudades y sectores censales del Censo del 2010 inicialmente y, a medida que la información de la tasa de respuesta actual esté disponible el 20 de marzo, del Censo del 2020.
- Tasas de autorrespuesta totales actuales del 2020 y tasas de respuesta por internet en comparación con las tasas de respuesta al Censo del 2010 y previas tasas de respuesta diarias del 2020.
- Un widget insertable que permitirá a los participantes del Desafío de la Tasa de Respuesta incluir el mapa en sus propios sitios web.
- Disponibilidad de los datos de la tasa de respuesta al Censo del 2020 en la interfaz pública de programación de aplicaciones (API, por sus siglas en inglés).
- Otra información e instrucciones acerca de cómo usar el mapa y los datos presentados, incluyendo ejemplos de Desafíos de la Tasa de Respuesta.

Las tasas de autorrespuesta del 2010 no incluyen a aquellas personas que hayan sido contadas durante la fase

de seguimiento en persona. El mapa de la Tasa de Respuesta al Censo del 2020 no incluirá respuestas obtenidas durante las operaciones de Alojamientos de Grupo y de Lugares Transitorios, y otras operaciones de enumeración especial, tal como aquellas realizadas en zonas remotas o en determinadas zonas tribales. Además, no incluye las respuestas obtenidas durante la operación de Seguimiento por Falta de Respuesta, en la que un censista visita hogares que no hayan respondido aún por internet, por teléfono o por correo.

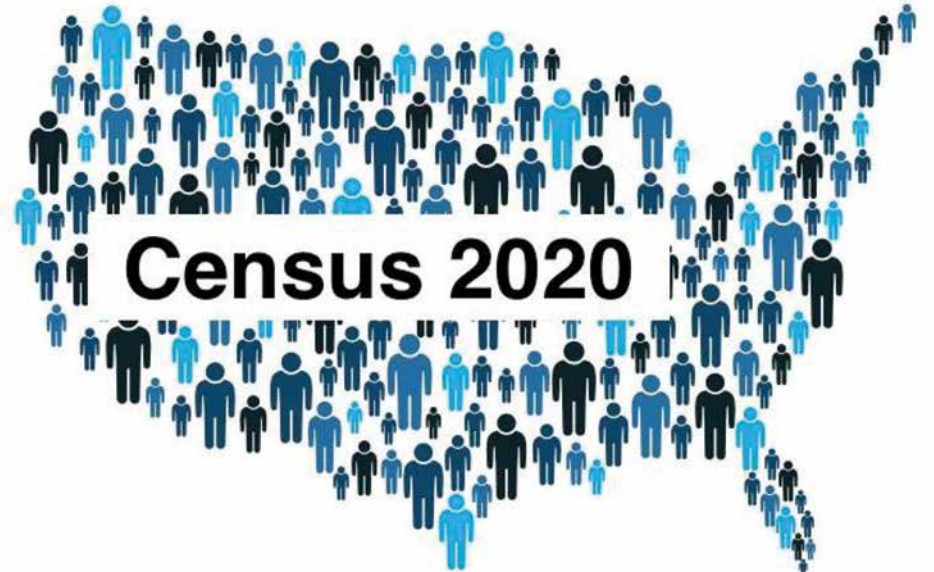
Debido a cambios en los límites geográficos y la edición de direcciones en el archivo de direcciones actualizado de la Oficina del Censo, las tasas de autorrespuesta al Censo del 2010 que se muestran en este mapa podrían no coincidir con las tasas de autorrespuesta del estado, condado y sector censal previamente publicadas después del Censo del 2010. Las tasas publicadas después del Censo del 2010 son consideradas las tasas de autorrespuesta “oficiales”.

Recursos para el desafío de la tasa de respuesta

Para aumentar la participación en el Censo del 2020 en todo el país, la Oficina del Censo está desafiando a las comunidades en toda la nación a completar sus formularios del censo por internet, por teléfono o por correo. La Oficina del Censo ha creado un recurso por internet con ideas que pueden usar las comunidades para alentar a sus residentes a mejorar su tasa de respuesta. La aplicación web Mapeador de Respuestas en Áreas de Extensión Comunitaria (ROAM) tiene un mapa interactivo que puede usarse para identificar áreas que típicamente tienen tasas de respuesta bajas en los censos y en las encuestas. Las actualizaciones recientes al recurso incluyen materiales de extensión comunitaria para los medios de comunicación, la comunidad y los colaboradores.

Como lo requiere la Constitución de los EE. UU., el objetivo del censo decenal es contar a todas las personas que viven en los Estados Unidos. Los datos del Censo son la base para nuestro sistema democrático de gobierno, al asegurar que la representación en el gobierno sea distribuida de manera equitativa. Los resultados del Censo dan forma al futuro de las comunidades, ya que informan cómo son distribuidos miles de millones de dólares en fondos federales para clínicas de salud, programas de almuerzo escolar, iniciativas de recuperación por desastres y otros programas y servicios fundamentales para los próximos 10 años.

Comparta información en los canales de medios sociales acerca del próximo censo y de por qué es importante responder. Los colaboradores y partes interesadas del Censo del 2020, los miembros de los medios de comunicación, los funcionarios del gobierno y otras personas pueden tener un rol en asegurar que todas las personas sean contadas una vez, solo una vez, y en el lugar correcto.



2020 Census Response Rate Map Preview Now Available

The U.S. Census Bureau launched a new online map today as part of its 2020 Census Response Rate Challenge — where state, local and community leaders work together to promote a complete and accurate count by increasing the self-response rate in their community. The preview map currently displays 2010 Census self-response rates as a reference point for states, counties, cities and census tracts around the country. Users will be able to use the map to track their community’s progress in responding to the 2020 Census.

As people begin responding to the 2020 Census online, by phone or by mail in mid-March, the Census Bureau will update the map daily to reflect the percentage of households that self-respond online, by phone or by mail after being invited to do so. (The rate will be provided for the three modes combined and for online alone.)

“The 2020 Census Self-Response Rate Map is an important tool for community leaders, especially national, state and local elected officials, who are conducting public outreach campaigns about the 2020 Census,” said Dr. Steven Dillingham, director of the Census Bureau. “The daily updates to the map will help community leaders motivate their residents to respond.”

Highlights of the map include:

- Daily updates to self-response rates for households that have self-responded to the 2020 Census (online, by phone or by mail) beginning mid-March.
- The ability to search for response rates for states, counties, cities and census tracts from the 2010 Census initially and, as current response rate information becomes available March 20, for the 2020 Census.
- Current 2020 total self-response rates and internet response rates in comparison to final 2010 Census response rates and previous day-by-day 2020 response rates.
- An embeddable widget that will allow Response Rate Challenge participants to include the map on their own websites.
- 2020 Census response rate data available in the public application programming interface (API).
- Background information and instructions for how to use the map and the data presented, including examples of Response Rate Challenges.

The 2010 self-response rates do not include those who were counted during the in-person follow-up phase. The 2020

Census Response Rate map will not include responses obtained during Group Quarters and Transitory Locations operations, and other special enumeration operations such as those conducted in remote or certain tribal areas. In addition, it does not include responses obtained during the Nonresponse Followup operation, where a census taker visits households that have not yet responded online, by phone or by mail.

Due to changes in geographic boundaries and the editing of addresses in the Census Bureau’s updated address file, the 2010 Census self-response rates displayed in this map may not match state, county and census tract self-response rates previously released following the 2010 Census. Rates released following the 2010 Census are considered the “official” self-response rates.

Response Rate Challenge Toolkit

To increase participation in the 2020 Census across the country, the Census Bureau is challenging communities nationwide to complete their census forms online, by phone or by mail. The Census Bureau has created an online toolkit with ideas communities can use to encourage their residents to improve their response rate. The Response Outreach Area Mapper (ROAM) web application has an interactive map that can be used to identify areas that typically have low response rates for censuses and surveys. Recent updates to the toolkit include media, community and partner outreach materials.

As required by the U.S. Constitution, the goal of the once-a-decade census is to count every person living in the United States. Census data are the basis for our democratic system of government, ensuring that representation in government is equally distributed. Census results shape the future of communities, as census data informs how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funds are distributed for health clinics, school lunch programs, disaster recovery initiatives, and other critical programs and services for the next 10 years.

Share information on social media channels about the upcoming census and why it’s important to respond. 2020 Census partners and stakeholders, media members, government officials and others can all play a role in ensuring that everyone is counted once, only once, and in the right place.

“Success is not final, failing is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.”

“El éxito no es el fin, el fracaso no es mortal. Es el valor de continuar lo que cuenta.”

- Winston Churchill

Consejo del BBB: Cómo apoyar a las pequeñas empresas durante el coronavirus

Por Better Business Bureau

No sabemos cuánto durará la situación de COVID-19 (coronavirus), con sus cierres y "distanciamiento social", pero las pequeñas empresas necesitan su apoyo para superar estos tiempos inciertos. Estos son los consejos de Better Business Bureau sobre cómo todos pueden apoyar a las pequeñas empresas, con o sin gastar dinero.

Todos los tipos de pequeñas empresas se ven afectadas

Esta crisis está afectando a todos los tipos de pequeñas empresas. Esto incluye los lugares que usa todos los días, como su cafetería local o su lugar favorito para almorzar, pero también negocios que tal vez no se le ocurran de inmediato. Los cierres y cancelaciones perjudican servicios como contratistas de mejoras para el hogar, proveedores de guarderías, tintorerías y mecánicos de automóviles, así como negocios de atención médica, como su dentista o quiropráctico. Incluso los campos de empresa a empresa, como el diseñador gráfico que diseña los folletos de su oficina o la empresa de contabilidad que hace los libros, están sintiendo el impacto.

Al cerrar sus puertas temporalmente, las pequeñas empresas están ayudando a mantener saludables a sus clientes y empleados. Pero la pérdida de ingresos hace que sea difícil cubrir los gastos corrientes, como alquileres y salarios. Estos consejos ayudan a garantizar que sus negocios favoritos tengan el efectivo que necesitan para superar estos tiempos difíciles.

Formas prácticas de apoyar a las pequeñas empresas:

- Compre una tarjeta de regalo para más tarde: muchas pequeñas empresas que han tenido que cerrar están ofreciendo certificados de regalo a precios reducidos para cuando vuelven a abrir. Busque en los sitios web y cuentas sociales de la empresa.

- Omítalo y tome un crédito para el futuro: si pagó por adelantado por un evento, como boletos de teatro o conciertos, una clase o un servicio, considere solicitar un crédito para el futuro en lugar de solicitar un reembolso. Estas empresas apreciarán no tener que emitir tantos reembolsos en este momento.

- Comprométase con el trabajo futuro: si bien en este momento puede no ser el mejor momento para comenzar el proyecto de renovación de su hogar, su contratista le agradecerá que se comprometa con proyectos futuros cuando el negocio vuelva a funcionar. Lo mismo aplica para cualquier evento o proyecto futuro. Consulte los consejos de BBB para contratar a un contratista.

- Compre en línea (local): las tiendas y vendedores locales pueden haber cerrado sus puertas (físicas), pero muchos todavía tienen tiendas en línea. Búsquelos en las redes sociales o visite el sitio web de la empresa para obtener enlaces a su mercado en línea.

- Busque clases virtuales: las personas que trabajan en capacitación o desarrollo profesional, puede ser cualquier persona, desde su entrenador personal hasta la persona que imparte el taller de oratoria en su oficina, están encontrando formas creativas de trasladar su instrucción en línea. A pesar de que su gimnasio local está cerrado, su maestro de yoga favorito puede organizar una clase en vivo en línea. Lo mismo ocurre con las personas que ofrecen capacitaciones profesionales. Ahora puede ser un buen momento para repasar sus habilidades a través de un curso en línea.

- Obtenga comida para llevar o entrega: muchos restaurantes y cervecerías ahora ofrecen comida para llevar incluso cuando cierran sus comedores. Apoye a estas instituciones locales llevando su comida o bebida para llevar y disfrutándola en casa.

No todos tienen los recursos financieros para pagar por adelantado. Entonces, si su billetera se siente apretada, aquí hay algunas formas gratuitas de apoyar a las pequeñas empresas.

- Escriba una reseña en línea: este es un buen momento para finalmente revisar su negocio local favorito. Estas reseñas de cinco estrellas ayudan a las empresas a posicionarse bien en los motores de búsqueda y en otros servicios de listado. Esta es una manera fácil y gratuita de mostrar a sus pequeñas empresas favoritas que las apoya. Escriba una reseña en BBB.org ahora.

- Haga clic en 'Me Gusta' y comparta en redes sociales: ayude a su empresa favorita a llegar a un público más amplio al dar me gusta y compartir su información en las redes sociales. Esto los ayudará a llegar a futuros clientes y ganar más exposición.

- Dígame a sus negocios que aprecia su trabajo: ¡estos son tiempos difíciles! Mantenga la moral al comunicarse con las empresas de su comunidad y hágalas saber que aprecia su arduo trabajo.

Para más información

Para obtener más consejos e información sobre el coronavirus, consulte BBB.org/coronavirus. Empresas, miren estos consejos para navegar la crisis del coronavirus.



BBB Tip: How to Support Small Businesses during Coronavirus

By Better Business Bureau

We don't know how long COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation, with its shutdowns and "social distancing," will last, but small businesses need your support to make it through these uncertain times. Here are the Better Business Bureau's tips on how everyone can support small businesses – with or without spending money.

All Types of Small Businesses are Impacted

This crisis is affecting all types of small business. This includes places you use every day, such as your local coffee shop or favorite lunch place, but also businesses that might not immediately come to mind. The closures and cancellations hurt services like home improvement contractors, daycare providers, dry cleaners, and car mechanics, as well as healthcare business, such as your dentist or chiropractor. Even business-to-business fields, such as the graphic designer who designs your office's brochures or the accounting firm who does the books, are feeling the impact. By closing their doors temporarily, small businesses are helping to keep their customers and employees healthy. But the loss of income makes it tough to cover on-going expenses like rent and salaries. These tips help ensure your favorite businesses have the cash they need to make it through these lean times.

Practical Ways to Support Small Business:

- Buy a gift card for later: Many small businesses that have had to close are offering gift certificates at discounted rates for when they open back up. Look on business's websites and social accounts.

- Skip the refund and take a rain check: If you paid in advance for an event, such as theater or concert tickets, a class, or a service, consider taking a credit for the future instead of asking for a refund. These businesses will appreciate not needing to issue so many refunds right now.

- Commit to future work: While right now may not be the best time to start that home renovation project, your contractor will appreciate you committing to future projects when business opens back up. The same goes for any future event or project.

See BBB's tips for hiring a contractor.

- Shop (local) online: Local shops and vendors may have closed their (physical) doors, but many still run online shops. Look for them on social media or check the business's website for links to their online marketplace.

- Look for virtual classes: People who work in training or professional development – this can be anyone from your personal trainer to the person teaching your office's public speaking workshop -- are finding creative ways to move their instruction online. Even though your local gym is closed, your favorite yoga teacher may be hosting a live class online. Same goes for people who offer professional trainings. Now may be a good time to brush up on your skills through an online course.

- Get take-out or delivery: Many restaurants and breweries are now offering takeout even as they close their dining rooms. Support these local institutions by getting your food or drinks to-go and enjoying it at home.

Not everyone has the financial resources to pay in advance. So if your own wallet is feeling the pinch, here are some free ways to support small businesses.

- Write an online review: This is a good time to finally get around to reviewing your favorite local business. These five-star reviews do help companies rank well in search engines and on other listing services, this is an easy, free way to show your favorite small businesses that you support them. Write a review on BBB.org now.

- Like and share on social: Help your favorite business reach a broader audience by liking and sharing their information on social media. This will help them reach future customers and gain more exposure.

- Tell your businesses that you appreciate their work: These are tough times! Keep moral up by reaching out to the businesses in your community and letting them know that you appreciate their hard work.

For more tips and information about coronavirus, see BBB.org/coronavirus. Businesses, check out this advice for navigating the coronavirus crisis.

No hay mal que por bien no venga

Queridos lectores de Rumbo:

En un momento tan difícil como el que todos estamos viviendo, quiero aprovechar este medio para invitarlos a la reflexión. Soy el Padre Marcos Tulio Peña, originario de El Salvador y recién llegado de mi país a la comunidad de Haverhill y estoy colaborando en la Parroquia de Todos los Santos en Haverhill.

Ante la posibilidad de enfermarnos o que se enfermen personas cercanas a nosotros que corren más riesgo, pueden venir a nuestro espíritu momentos de angustia y desesperación. Y si eso es así, debemos tener la suficiente humildad de salir de nosotros mismos y buscar ayuda. A veces basta una palabra de consuelo de parte de un ser querido, para saber que no estamos solos y que podemos seguir adelante. Pero en ocasiones, eso no es suficiente. Si ese es el caso, recordemos que siempre podemos levantar la mirada y pedir a Dios que nos ayude.

Este es el tiempo para darnos cuenta que esta enfermedad está mostrando cuán vulnerables somos ante cualquier peligro; está demostrando la fragilidad humana, no solo del punto de vista físico, porque nuestro cuerpo se ve afectado por un virus, sino también y más importante, del punto de vista psicológico y espiritual. Esta crisis está demostrando por ejemplo cuán egoísta es el corazón humano que acapara para sí mismo todos los víveres y productos de primera necesidad, sin importarle que pasará con el otro.

Pero también esta enfermedad está llevando a muchos a su interior. Estamos viendo calles vacías, pero menos contaminación; quizá no

estamos disfrutando de nuestras actividades diarias pero más de alguno ha prestado mayor atención a su vida y a compartido más con su familia; probablemente esta crisis nos está dando tiempo para rezar. Más de alguno también ha tenido la brillante iniciativa de llevar alimentos a personas que conoce y sabe que se les hace más difícil conseguirlos. Con los hermanos de nuestra parroquia estamos iniciando el proyecto de comunidades virtuales, es decir, por lo menos por medio del teléfono estar pendientes de los demás, llamarles, hablar con ellos, preguntarles como están. Quiero que sepan que si alguno de ustedes necesita aunque sea hablar con alguien, que pueden llamarme, pueden contactarse conmigo al 978 994 3398, o escribirme al correo electrónico mtpena.21@gmail.com. Precisamente a veces lo único que necesitamos es que alguien nos escuche. Pero quiero también invitarles a tener esas iniciativas con los demás. Es tiempo de salir de nosotros mismos y darnos cuenta que solo colaborando podemos salir adelante ante esta crisis. Es tiempo de revisar nuestras prioridades y poner en primer lugar lo que más vale, que por cierto no son las cosas materiales. Así como este virus está afectando a todo el mundo, debemos unirnos para enfrentar nuestros miedos y para superarnos a nosotros mismos. Es característica del ser humano que la crisis lo fortalece y saca lo mejor de él, pues éste es precisamente el tiempo para salir fortalecidos. Recuerden que sin Dios esto es imposible por eso le pido a Él que les bendiga y nos ayude a todos a salir adelante ante esta crisis. Dios les bendiga a todos.

¿Buscas misa y adoración? EWTN está ahí para ti



Como el brote de coronavirus afecta a un número creciente de personas en todo el mundo, muchas diócesis y parroquias han tomado la medida extraordinaria de cancelar la celebración de misas públicas. En otros casos, han dispensado a los ancianos y las personas con problemas de salud de su obligación dominical.

"Durante este tiempo extraordinario en el que las personas en todo el mundo están experimentando tanto miedo y ansiedad, invitamos a católicos y personas de todo el mundo a sintonizar EWTN para transmisiones en vivo de la Misa a las 8 am ET todos los días desde la Capilla de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles en Irondale, Alabama ", dijo el presidente y director ejecutivo de EWTN, Michael P. Warsaw. [Emite aire al mediodía ET, 7 p.m. ET y medianoche ET]. "La misión de EWTN es llevar la luz de Cristo a un mundo hambriento de verdad. Mi oración es que, durante estos días oscuros, las personas puedan encontrar esperanza a través de nuestra programación."

Para mirar la misa en la televisión o por su computadora en vivo entre aquí. ¿Te perdiste la transmisión en vivo? Obtenga las lecturas diarias y la homilía de hoy en este enlace.

La misa también se puede escuchar a través de las afiliadas de radio de EWTN, en el canal SIRIUS / XM 130, en línea en este enlace, y en vivo en la página de Facebook de EWTN a las 8 a.m. ET.

Haga clic aquí para descubrir rápidamente el canal en el que puede encontrar EWTN en su proveedor local de cable o satélite, y aquí para encontrar el horario de televisión. Nota: Mientras se encuentre en el enlace de programación de televisión mencionado anteriormente, los espectadores fuera de los EE. UU. Deben hacer clic en "EWTN España, Latinoamérica" para ver un menú desplegable de las programaciones de televisión de EWTN a través de satélites de todo el mundo. Haga clic aquí para encontrar el horario de EWTN Radio.

Además de la Misa, EWTN ha comenzado a ofrecer a los televidentes la oportunidad de Adorar a Nuestro Señor, tanto en el aire como en las redes sociales, a través de una transmisión en vivo de la Capilla de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles en Irondale. En los Estados Unidos, la adoración seguirá inmediatamente la Corona de la Divina Misericordia

aproximadamente a las 3:20 p.m. ET y permanecer en el aire durante unos 10 minutos. Sin embargo, los espectadores pueden adorar a Nuestro Señor desde las 8 a.m. ET (justo después de la misa diaria) hasta las 5 p.m. ET, de lunes a viernes, a través de la página de Facebook de EWTN en www.facebook.com/ewtnonline o <https://www.facebook.com/ewtnespanol> o en el sitio <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/adoration>.

Para todas las innumerables formas de acceder a EWTN, vaya a EWTN Everywhere. Nuestra familia de sitios de noticias y redes sociales incluye la página de Facebook de EWTN, que con frecuencia transmite varios programas, incluyendo la misa y otros devocionales, así como enlaces a otros recursos útiles.

Nota del editor: Las diócesis o parroquias que deseen compartir la misa diaria de EWTN en su página de Facebook pueden enviar un correo electrónico con esta solicitud a dcowden@ewtn.com. Estaremos encantados de establecer una relación de publicación cruzada. Los directores de comunicaciones diocesanos que deseen incorporar un reproductor EWTN en sus sitios web para transmitir la misa diaria deben comunicarse con su respectivo gerente de marketing de EWTN o twenzel@ewtn.com. Este reproductor integrado también está disponible para los Directores de Comunicaciones Diocesanas en español. Póngase en contacto con wcordova@ewtn.com para más detalles.

EWTN Global Catholic Network, en su 38° año, es la red de medios religiosos más grande del mundo. Los 11 canales de televisión globales de EWTN se transmiten en varios idiomas las 24 horas del día, los siete días de la semana a más de 300 millones de hogares con televisión en más de 145 países y territorios.

Las plataformas EWTN también incluyen servicios de radio transmitidos a través de SIRIUS/XM, iHeart Radio y más de 500 afiliadas de radio AM y FM nacionales e internacionales; un servicio mundial de radio de onda corta; uno de los sitios web católicos más grandes en los EE. UU.; servicios de noticias electrónicas e impresas, que incluyen la Agencia de Noticias Católicas, el periódico "The National Catholic Register" y varios servicios mundiales de transmisión de noticias; así como EWTN Publishing, su división de publicación de libros.

BREAKING:

GETTING OUTDOORS NOT CANCELLED

MUSIC NOT CANCELLED

FAMILY NOT CANCELLED

READING NOT CANCELLED

SINGING NOT CANCELLED

LAUGHING NOT CANCELLED

HOPE NOT CANCELLED

LET'S EMBRACE WHAT WE HAVE.

unsinkable.

Pensar es el trabajo más difícil que existe. Quizá esa sea la razón por la que haya tan pocas personas que lo practiquen.

Thinking is the hardest work there is. Perhaps that is why there are so few people who practice it.

- Henry Ford

Alarmismo y daños económicos por el coronavirus

Por Jesús Martínez Madrid

La responsabilidad política e informativa es clave para frenar cuanto antes los efectos económicos negativos de esta enfermedad, coronavirus, en el marco de una economía globalizada.

Estas últimas semanas se han convertido en las peores de las Bolsas desde el año 2011, con resultados aún más negativos que los producidos por el Brexit. Una primera consecuencia es la decapitalización de las empresas, acompañada de una cadena

de cancelaciones de viajes de negocios, encuentros y proyectos en el contexto del mercado global. El sector del turismo se está viendo especialmente afectado.

Mientras mantenemos la calma y la racionalidad en nuestra vida cotidiana, es hora también de que los organismos reguladores, como los bancos centrales, tomen cartas en el asunto para aminorar los efectos de la epidemia.

Alarmism and economic damage from the coronavirus

By Jesús Martínez Madrid

Political and informative responsibility is key to curbing the negative economic effects of this disease, coronavirus, as soon as possible in the context of a globalized economy.

These last weeks have become the worst of the Stock Exchanges since 2011, with even more negative results than those produced by Brexit. A first consequence is the decapitalization of companies,

accompanied by a chain of cancellations of business trips, meetings and projects in the context of the global market. The tourism sector is being particularly affected.

While maintaining calm and rationality in our daily lives, it is also time for regulatory agencies, such as central banks, to take action on the matter to lessen the effects of the epidemic.

EEOC anuncia que toda la agencia teletrabaja

WASHINGTON. – En respuesta a la actual pandemia del coronavirus, la Comisión Para La Igualdad de Oportunidades en el Empleo (EEOC) de EE. UU. Está implementando el teletrabajo (trabajo remotamente) en toda la agencia. Efectivo de inmediato, todos los empleados, aparte del personal mínimo necesario para manejar el correo, deben trabajar remotamente hasta nuevo aviso.

Este paso permite que la EEOC continúe aplicando las leyes antidiscriminatorias laborales nacionales mientras toma medidas para mantener seguros a sus empleados y al público. Antes de esta nueva política, la EEOC ya había implementado el teletrabajo ampliado en varias de sus 53 oficinas en todo el país. La EEOC había anunciado previamente que su oficina de campo y sede en Washington, D.C., habían pasado a teletrabajar al 100% debido a la posible exposición al coronavirus.

El 12 de marzo, todas las oficinas de la EEOC comenzaron a recibir quejas de discriminación laboral por teléfono, minimizando los riesgos para la salud de los empleados de la agencia y el público, a la vez garantizando que ningún empleado o solicitante perderá sus derechos según las leyes que aplicamos. Preservar el acceso para poder presentar una queja de discriminación es importante porque las leyes que impone la EEOC tienen plazos dentro de los cuales los empleados y los

solicitantes deben presentar quejas de discriminación.

Si desea comenzar el proceso de presentar una queja de discriminación, le recomendamos que visite el portal público de la EEOC (<https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/>) para programar una cita de admisión por teléfono. También se puede acceder al sistema yendo directamente a nuestro sitio web en www.eeoc.gov. Más información sobre cómo llegar a una oficina de campo de EEOC está disponible en <https://www.eeoc.gov/field/index.cfm>.

Cualquier persona que no pueda usar el portal puede llamar a la EEOC al 1-800-669-4000 para comenzar el proceso de presentar una queja.

La EEOC también está alentando a los empleados federales en el proceso de igualdad de oportunidades laborales (EEO) del sector federal a presentar solicitudes de audiencias y apelaciones electrónicamente a través del portal público de la EEOC.

Las personas sordas o con problemas de audición pueden comunicarse con la EEOC por videoteléfono al 1-844-234-5122. Si tiene una discapacidad que le impide acceder al portal público o tiene dificultades para acceder al portal, llame al 1-800-669-4000.

El liderazgo de la agencia continuará monitoreando esta situación en evolución y proporcionará información adicional a medida que esté disponible.

EEOC Announces Agency-Wide Telework

In response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is implementing agency-wide telework. Effective immediately all employees, other than the minimal staffing needed to handle mail, will be encouraged to telework until further notice.

This step allows the EEOC to continue to enforce the nation's employment anti-discrimination laws while taking measures to keep its employees and the public safe. Prior to this new policy, the EEOC had already implemented expanded telework in several of its 53 field offices nationwide. The EEOC had previously announced that its Washington, D.C. field office and headquarters had moved to 100 percent telework because of potential coronavirus exposure.

On March 12 all EEOC offices began conducting charge intake over the phone, minimizing the health risks to agency employees and the public while ensuring that no employee or applicant would lose their rights under the laws we enforce. Preserving access to being able to file a charge of discrimination is important because the laws the EEOC enforces have deadlines within which employees and

applicants must file discrimination charges.

If you would like to begin the process of filing a charge of discrimination you are encouraged to visit the EEOC Public Portal (<https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/>) to schedule an intake appointment by telephone. The system can also be accessed by going directly to our website at www.eeoc.gov. More information about reaching an EEOC field office is available at <https://www.eeoc.gov/field/index.cfm>.

Anyone who cannot use the portal can call the EEOC at 1-800-669-4000 to begin the process of filing a charge.

The EEOC is also encouraging federal employees in the federal sector EEO process to file requests for hearings and appeals electronically through the EEOC Public Portal.

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing can reach the EEOC by videophone at 1-844-234-5122. If you have a disability which prevents you from accessing the Public Portal or you otherwise have difficulty with accessing the portal, please call 1-800-669-4000.

Agency leadership will continue to monitor this evolving situation and will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Pensar es el trabajo más difícil que existe. Quizá esa sea la razón por la que haya tan pocas personas que lo practiquen.

Thinking is the hardest work there is. Perhaps that is why there are so few people who practice it.

- Henry Ford

“Su tiempo es limitado, así que no lo desperdicie viviendo la vida de otra persona. No te dejes atrapar por la creencia, que es vivir con los resultados del pensamiento de otras personas”.

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma – which is living with the results of other people's thinking."

— Steve Jobs

¡AHORA 1 SUBASTA SEMANAL!



SUBASTA PUBLICA DE AUTOS

¡VENGA A LA SUBASTA SEMANAL!

SÁBADOS A LAS 11 AM

INSPECCIONES 2 HORAS ANTES DE LA SUBASTA

EL ÚNICO LUGAR EN TODO EL ÁREA CON SUBASTAS DE AUTOS ABIERTAS AL PÚBLICO

¡COMPRA DONDE LOS VENEDORES COMPRAN!

CIENTOS DE VEHÍCULOS: ¡NO HAY OFERTA MÍNIMA!
PRECIOS MUY REDUCIDOS: LA MAYORÍA DE LOS AUTOS SE VENDEN POR \$500 Ó MENOS.

CAPITAL AUTO AUCTION

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190 Londonderry Turnpike (28 Bypass)
Manchester, NH 03104
Salida 1 de la Rt. 101 Este
(603) 622-9058

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner



Rumbo has been impacted, too

This current edition is being produced online instead of a printed version because we have had cancellations of ads and we won't be able to distribute it as usual since most places are closed.

So, we are asking everyone who receives a digital copy of the March 22, 2020, to please forward it to their contacts. There's good information for families, businesses, communities and anyone who may be running the risk of contamination that should be seen by everyone.

Welcome solitude

Well, for a few days we might be enjoying being at home, cleaning the closets or enjoying playing with our pets but, eventually, it will get on our nerves. I'm already hearing from people who were happy to be able to work from home and they are now saying they miss socializing with their coworkers.

This situation with the coronavirus will surely bring cultural changes to the

entire world. While many employees have discovered the convenience in their particular case of working at home, companies could also find benefits in this new trend.

I'm also wondering if crime in Lawrence will REALLY go down during this time. That's something positive! Families are at home, bars and clubs are closed, there's almost no traffic on the streets. I forgot that, for some, having husbands at home is enough to fry on our nerves inducing heavy drinking and violence – LOL!

If you have children, remember that there are many things you can do to keep them busy and tired at night. Besides lots of good programming on television (not everything is coronavirus-related) suitable for children and good movies for adults, as well. Read books together and act them out for more fun.

As long as you maintain "social distancing," you can go to a park and run around, ride a bike or exercise. Try to keep your life as normal as possible for their sake and your own. In Italy they forbade outside activities but it has not come to that here.

Be careful, stay healthy and this too shall pass.

I love hearing from you

In emails and text messages, I usually get complains and compliments and they are all appreciated. I recently received an email reading in part, "Your March 8th From my Corner was pure facts. Good stuff. Thank you for putting the truth out."

That was about Corruption and Traffic of Influence in this city. If you have not seen it, you can always find it on our webpage rumbonews.com

At this time, my work has been interrupted with City Hall being closed to the public but I am awaiting lots of material requested under the Freedom of Information Act. This material will open people's eyes to how things are maneuvered in the underground of this city's government – and trust me, it covers many people, not just the mayor.

Like Enoch Powell once said, "For a politician to complain about the press is like a ship's captain complaining about the sea."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO

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

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

Council meeting on YouTube

The Mayor and Council President are grandstanding experimenting with technology, not on Channel 22 and they don't know what they are doing. The end result is that only 18, 23, 25... and so on, are watching online.

There's no reason for that meeting not being held in the City Council Chamber. Frequently, not all 9 councilors attend and if the mayor wants to participate, they can ask one of them to stay home. That way, they will not be in violation of the maximum requirement. The janitor and the camera operator are not in the room anyway. As it is, there are more than 10 city hall employees going to work every day, just that they are not together.

They are excluding most people showing it on YouTube using their telephones from home and it shows only 4 people watching at a time and it's not being shown on their Facebook page.

Decisions are being made and the public is kept out.

READ PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF RUMBO ON OUR WEBSITE

RUMBONEWS.COM

U.S. Department of Labor Announces Investments to Support Former Offenders' Successful Reentry into Workforce

Approximately \$65 Million in Grants Available

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor today announced its intent to make available approximately \$65 million in funding for Reentry Project grants geared toward adults who have been involved in the justice system. The grants are administered by the department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

Signed into law on Dec. 21, 2018, the First Step Act reforms the criminal justice system and takes steps to reduce recidivism. A key goal of the legislation is to ensure successful reentry of ex-offenders into the community. In his 2020 State of the Union Address, President Donald J. Trump expressed his continued commitment to advancing reform efforts to prevent crime, improve reentry, and reduce recidivism.

"When President Trump talks about bringing Americans off the sidelines, he's talking about all Americans, including men and women who are reentering the workforce after serving time in the justice system," said Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia. "This funding opportunity offers a second chance to Americans who have been in the justice system and are now entering a new phase of their lives."

In the past two years, the department has awarded more than \$170 million in Reentry Projects grants nationwide that provide a fresh start and a second chance for formerly incarcerated individuals.

The funding availability announced today is Pathway Home, an adult-focused grant to provide \$65 million in funding for organizations to provide workforce services to incarcerated individuals prior to release from a correctional facility. The

grant continues services after release by transitioning the participants into reentry programs in the communities to which they will return. The grants will serve adults ages 18 or older who will be released from a state correctional facility or county or local jail within 20 to 180 days of enrollment into the program. This grant announcement is currently open.

"We know that 95 percent of everyone currently in prison will be released at some point back into our neighborhoods and communities. Reducing recidivism is tied to a meaningful job. The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration recognizes the dignity of work, especially for the forgotten men and women of America," said Assistant Secretary of Employment and Training John Pallasch.

The Funding Opportunity Announcement, which includes information about how to apply, is available at <http://www.grants.gov>.

ETA administers federal government job training and dislocated worker programs, federal grants to states for public employment service programs and unemployment insurance benefits. These services are provided primarily through state and local workforce development systems.

The mission of the Department of Labor is to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.



City of Methuen Confirms First Cases of COVID-19 in City

Mayor Neil Perry today confirmed that the City of Methuen has been notified by Massachusetts Department of Public Health officials of two confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Methuen. The patients have been isolated and are being supported and monitored according to public health guidelines. Under State and Federal privacy laws no further information is available about the individuals.

Mayor Perry also announced plans to issue a daily report of Methuen residents impacted by the COVID-19 virus. The data, which will be released by the Methuen Board of Health at approximately 5 p.m. each day, will be based on the official reporting of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

"A confirmed case of COVID-19 was inevitable and more should be expected. As the situation escalates nationwide and here in Methuen, I want to make the latest information available to residents in the interests of full transparency," Perry said. "My goal is not to create panic in our community but to provide information that will hopefully encourage vigilance and preparedness throughout the city."

Mayor Perry stressed that this remains a very fluid and rapidly evolving situation. It is important to understand the Methuen Board of Health will only be officially notified of individuals who are residents of Methuen. The Board will actively monitor those individuals and will include that data in the daily report. Although the process is improving rapidly, it can take anywhere from 36 hours to several days to receive the results of a test performed by a lab, hospital or doctor's office. Those results are submitted to the Department of Public Health; positive results on any Methuen resident are then provided to the Methuen Board of Health. The Board will then remain in contact with that person throughout their illness.

The City of Methuen will update these data on a daily basis. In the meantime, all residents are encouraged to continue to practice aggressive social distancing and appropriate personal hygiene. More information about this reporting, ongoing municipal services, additional information regarding the COVID-19 Virus is available on the city's website at cityofmethuen.net.

La Cruz Roja Americana tiene una grave escasez de sangre

Se han cancelado casi 2,700 recaudaciones de sangre de la Cruz Roja en todo el país debido a preocupaciones de coronavirus, lo que ha resultado en unas 86,000 donaciones de sangre menos.

La Cruz Roja Americana ahora enfrenta una grave escasez de sangre debido a un número sin precedentes de cancelaciones de recaudaciones de sangre en respuesta al brote de coronavirus. Ahora se necesitan individuos sanos para donar para ayudar a los pacientes que cuentan con sangre que salva vidas.

Las personas pueden programar una cita para donar sangre con la Cruz Roja visitando RedCrossBlood.org, utilizando la aplicación de donante de sangre de la Cruz Roja, llamando al 1-800-RED-CROSS o a través de cualquier dispositivo Alexa Echo.

A medida que la pandemia de coronavirus ha crecido aquí en los EE.UU., las cancelaciones de recaudaciones de sangre han crecido a un ritmo alarmante. Hasta la fecha, se han cancelado casi 2,700 lugares para recaudar sangre de la Cruz Roja en todo el país debido a la preocupación de congregarse en lugares de trabajo, campus universitarios y escuelas en medio del brote de coronavirus. Estas cancelaciones han resultado en unas 86,000 donaciones de sangre menos. Más del 80% de la sangre que recolecta la Cruz Roja proviene de unidades que se llevan a cabo en lugares de este tipo.

Aquí en Massachusetts, se han cancelado 115 donaciones de sangre, lo que resulta en 3,130 menos donaciones de sangre. La Cruz Roja está agregando espacios para citas en los centros de donación y ampliando la capacidad en muchas campañas de donación de sangre de la comunidad en todo el país durante las próximas semanas para garantizar amplias oportunidades para que los donantes den.

Los donantes voluntarios son la única fuente de sangre para los necesitados.

La Cruz Roja espera que el número de cancelaciones continúe aumentando, lo que está causando una mayor preocupación para las organizaciones de recolección de sangre y los hospitales de todo el país. Esta escasez de sangre podría afectar a pacientes que necesitan cirugía, víctimas de accidentes automovilísticos y otras emergencias, o pacientes que padecen cáncer.

"Estoy mirando el refrigerador que contiene el suministro de sangre de un solo día para el hospital", dijo el Dr. Robertson Davenport, director de medicina de transfusiones de Michigan Medicine en Ann Arbor. "El hospital está lleno. Hay pacientes que necesitan sangre y no pueden esperar".

"En nuestra experiencia, el público estadounidense se une para apoyar a los necesitados en tiempos de escasez y ese apoyo se necesita ahora más que nunca durante esta crisis de salud pública sin precedentes", dijo Chris Hrouda, presidente de los Servicios Biomédicos de la Cruz Roja. "Desafortunadamente, cuando la gente deja de donar sangre, obliga a los médicos a tomar decisiones difíciles sobre la atención al paciente, por eso necesitamos que aquellos que están sanos y bien se remanguen la manga y den el regalo de la vida".

La Cruz Roja está comprometida con la seguridad del manejo de la sangre.

"Sabemos que las personas quieren ayudar, pero pueden dudar en visitar un aporte de sangre durante este tiempo. Queremos asegurar al público que la

donación de sangre es un proceso seguro, y hemos puesto precauciones adicionales en nuestros centros de donación y donación de sangre para proteger a todos los que salen", dijo Hrouda.

La Cruz Roja ha implementado nuevas medidas para garantizar que las donaciones de sangre y los centros de donación sean aún más seguros para nuestros donantes y personal, que incluyen:

- Verificar la temperatura del personal y los donantes antes de ingresar a una unidad para asegurarse de que estén saludables.
- Proporcionar desinfectante de manos para usar antes del viaje, así como durante todo el proceso de donación.
- Espaciar las camas, cuando sea posible, para seguir las prácticas de distanciamiento social entre los donantes de sangre.
- Aumento de la desinfección mejorada de superficies y equipos.

En cada centro de donación y donación de sangre, los empleados de la Cruz Roja ya siguen protocolos de seguridad exhaustivos para ayudar a prevenir la propagación de cualquier tipo de infección, que incluye:

- Usar guantes y cambiarse los guantes con cada donante.
- Limpiar rutinariamente las áreas tocadas por los donantes.
- Usar juegos de recolección estériles para cada donación.
- Preparación del brazo para la donación con un exfoliante aséptico.

No hay datos o evidencia de que

este coronavirus se pueda transmitir por transfusión de sangre, y no se han reportado casos de transmisión de transfusiones por ningún virus respiratorio, incluido este coronavirus en todo el mundo.

"Los donantes voluntarios son los héroes anónimos para pacientes que necesitan transfusiones de sangre que salvan vidas. Si está sano, se siente bien y es elegible para dar, programe una cita para dar ahora", agregó Hrouda.

Proceso de donación de sangre

Para donar sangre, las personas deben traer una tarjeta de donante de sangre o una licencia de conducir u otras dos formas de identificación que se requieren en el check-in. Las personas que tienen 17 años de edad en la mayoría de los estados (16 con el consentimiento de los padres cuando lo permite la ley estatal), pesan al menos 110 libras y en general gozan de buena salud pueden ser elegibles para donar sangre. Los estudiantes de secundaria y otros donantes de 18 años de edad y menores también deben cumplir con ciertos requisitos de altura y peso.

Los donantes también pueden ahorrar hasta 15 minutos en la extracción de sangre completando un RapidPass®. Con RapidPass®, los donantes completan el cuestionario de lectura previa e historial de salud en línea, el día de la donación, desde un dispositivo móvil o computadora. Para completar un RapidPass®, siga las instrucciones en RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass o use la aplicación de donación de sangre de la Cruz Roja.

American Red Cross faces severe blood shortage

Nearly 2,700 Red Cross blood drives have been canceled across the country due to coronavirus concerns, resulting in some 86,000 fewer blood donations.

The American Red Cross now faces a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Healthy individuals are needed now to donate to help patients counting on lifesaving blood.

Individuals can schedule an appointment to give blood with the Red Cross by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

As the coronavirus pandemic has grown here in the U.S., blood drive cancellations have grown at an alarming rate. To date, nearly 2,700 Red Cross blood drives have been canceled across the country due to concerns about congregating at workplaces, college campuses and schools amidst the coronavirus outbreak. These cancellations have resulted in some 86,000 fewer blood donations. More than 80% of the blood the Red Cross collects comes from drives held at locations of this type.

Here in Massachusetts, 115 blood drives have been canceled, resulting in 3130 fewer blood donations. The Red Cross is adding appointment slots at donation centers and expanding capacity at many community blood drives across the country over the next few weeks to ensure ample opportunities for donors to give.

Volunteer donors are the only source of blood for those in need

The Red Cross expects the number of cancellations to continue to increase, which is causing heightened concern for blood collection organizations and hospitals across the country. This blood shortage could impact patients who need surgery, victims of car accidents and other emergencies, or patients suffering from cancer.

"I am looking at the refrigerator that contains only one day's supply of blood for the hospital," said Dr. Robertson Davenport, director of transfusion medicine at Michigan Medicine in Ann Arbor. "The hospital is full. There are patients who need blood and cannot wait."

"In our experience, the American public comes together to support those in need during times of shortage and that support is needed now more than ever during this unprecedented public health crisis," said Chris Hrouda, president, Red Cross Biomedical Services. "Unfortunately, when people stop donating blood, it forces doctors to make hard choices about patient care, which is why we need those who are healthy and well to roll up a sleeve and give the gift of life."

The Red Cross is committed to blood drive safety

"We know that people want to help, but they may be hesitant to visit a blood drive during this time. We want to assure the public

that blood donation is a safe process, and we have put additional precautions in place at our blood drives and donation centers to protect all who come out," said Hrouda.

The Red Cross has implemented new measures to ensure blood drives and donation centers are even safer for our donors and staff, including:

- Checking the temperature of staff and donors before entering a drive to make sure they are healthy.
- Providing hand sanitizer for use before the drive, as well as throughout the donation process.
- Spacing beds, where possible, to follow social distancing practices between blood donors.
- Increasing enhanced disinfecting of surfaces and equipment.

At each blood drive and donation center, Red Cross employees already follow thorough safety protocols to help prevent the spread of any type of infection, including:

- Wearing gloves and changing gloves with each donor.
- Routinely wiping down donor-touched areas.
- Using sterile collection sets for every donation.
- Preparing the arm for donation with

an aseptic scrub.

There is no data or evidence that this coronavirus can be transmitted by blood transfusion, and there have been no reported cases of transfusion transmission for any respiratory virus including this coronavirus worldwide.

"Volunteer donors are the unsung heroes for patients in need of lifesaving blood transfusions. If you are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give, please schedule an appointment to give now," added Hrouda.

Blood donation process

To donate blood, individuals need to bring a blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification that are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

Donors can also save up to 15 minutes at the blood drive by completing a RapidPass®. With RapidPass®, donors complete the pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of donation, from a mobile device or computer. To complete a RapidPass®, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App.



Dear Esperanza Community:

First, we sang. Yesterday, March 12, we brought our students together to tell them that we love them, that we are healthy, and that we would close school on March 13th so that our faculty/staff could have a planning day, in case we were to shut down. At the end of that announcement, our brilliant Music Therapist, Cynthia Koskela, led the entire school in a student-written rendition of Alicia Keys' "No One," which the community sang beautifully. Then we closed with "Lean on Me" which was far less beautiful, a bit chaotic, and yet, it spread a tremendous amount of joy throughout Parish Hall. Our job at Esperanza is to infuse joy in our students every day. Spreading joy is an act of resistance against their daily internalization of systemic circumstances. Every day we teach our kids. Every day we love our kids. And every day our community is filled with joy.

Then we took a breath. Today, March 13th, our full faculty and staff gathered bright and early to take on the challenge of designing an alternative education and support plan for our students and families. As our invaluable English teacher Kristina Dolce led us through a breathing exercise, she reminded us that in stressful moments the brain's amygdala, which is responsible for emotional processing, gets hijacked, leaving one less capable to be compassionate and empathetic. We all took breaths together so that we could come up with a plan for our students that was coated in compassion and empathy. During this process, we took into consideration many of the complex realities of our students and families: food insecurity, lack of internet, the lingering effects of Adverse Childhood

Experiences (A.C.E), responsibilities at home with younger siblings, parents who cannot afford to leave work. At Esperanza, we are at our best when we take into account the whole picture. In my heart, I believe that this school is truly student-centric and I'm grateful that I am surrounded by a team of educators who do this work because they believe and protect the role of humanity in education.

And now we will pray. Not out of fear, but out of deep confidence that there is an abundance of love and care in this world. Through our response plan, we will continue to support our students' social emotional health, and academic learning and we have also developed a food pick up system for our families. At Esperanza, we will continue to model that abundance of love and care for our families, throughout our time away, and when we return to our campus. As a precaution, we have decided to close school for two weeks starting March 16th, 2020. Needless to say, we will be canceling all public events and we have postponed our Breakfast at Fenway event until June 2nd.

I'm grateful for you all. At the risk of seeming selfish, I ask you to keep thinking of us and the other non-profits that you support. There are many organizations like Esperanza that are doing critical work in our communities and we all depend deeply on your support. During times like these, there are immediate concerns that rightfully require most of our attention. It is important that these concerns don't completely eclipse the longer-term security of the missions that we value. As you know, the strength of our social fabric depends on mission-based work and Esperanza, like many others, depends on your continued support during unsettling times. There are no words to express the gratitude that I feel towards you, the Esperanza family. Thank you.

Yours in the work,

Jadi Taveras
Head of School



I know this has been a challenging week for all of us as we are bombarded by new information related to the coronavirus pandemic.

As this situation continues to evolve, I want you to know NILP is following information provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health as well as the National Council on Independent Living regarding the specific needs of ILC's. We are also following preventative measures recommended by the Executive Office of Human Services, who have been providing guidance to agencies across the Commonwealth.

Please be aware of the following information as it impacts NILP's operations and events.

- Visitor access to our offices will be limited. Essential and prearranged visits between consumers and staff will continue in our office. All other non-essential consumer work will be done over the phone or by electronic means in order to

limit potential coronavirus spread. If you or a household member have had a fever, shortness of breath, or coughing, please do not come to the office for everyone's safety.

- The Housing Workshop scheduled for March 25 has been cancelled. We will keep you updated about future workshops.

I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. These measures are being taken out of an abundance of caution for the health and safety of our consumers, staff and community members.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. I want you to know we remain committed to meeting the needs of our community during this time and we will continue to provide updates as new information becomes available.

Sincerely,
June Sauvageau, CEO

P.S. For COVID-19 information from the state of Massachusetts, please click here.

We're here for you!

Dear NILP Community,

We understand that these are stressful times for all of us. We want to assure you that NILP staff is here for you.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Coronavirus) and in accordance with recommendations from the CDC, NILP is updating our community services to protect the well-being of our consumers and staff.

The following updates are in effect until April 6th:

- Both our Lawrence and Lowell offices are closed until April 6th at which time we will reassess the situation. No appointments, scheduled or un-scheduled (Walk in), are taking place at our offices during this time. NILP staff are working remotely from outside of the office with access to phone video and email messaging. We continue to provide services to meet the needs of our consumers. The communication, outreach and problem solving together will be our highest priority to ensure the well-being of our consumers.

- We will continue to work with you via telephone, email, Zoom, Skype, Face time or other remote means until it is deemed safe to return to in-person meetings. We apologize for any inconvenience and will do everything we can to help you during this time.

- Face to face meetings with staff will occur only when essential and only after staff have called you to ask a few screening questions before visiting you. Please contact your Primary Care physician for any urgent health issues.

Specific Program Updates will be communicated directly to you from your NILP program staff.

Consumers/PCAs are encouraged to complete and submit their timesheets to STAVROS online.

- Our Recovery Learning Community is hosting some peer support groups every week on Tue, March 24 until May 5, 2020 via Zoom. For more information, please see

our website: <https://www.nilp.org/northeast-recovery-learning-community-nerlc/>.

- Our Youth Services Program is continuing to provide their Young Women's and Young Men's Clubs peer groups via Zoom. For more information, please see our website: <https://www.nilp.org/nilp-events/nilp-youth-clubs/>.

- Our Community Supports team is still available by phone or email to assist you with housing, MassHealth, Social Security, etc. Call 978-687-4288 extensions 323, 326, 151, or 129

- During normal business hours, from 9am to 5pm, you may call us:

--For information & referral-978-687-4288 and press extension 125.

--For PCA calls--978-687-4288 you can use the directory to reach a specific person or press 191.

--For other questions--978-687-4288 you can press extension 300.

You may need to leave a message, however, please be patient as we will do everything to ensure your call is answered within 2 business days. All staff have access to email outside of the office so please consider contacting them that way.

NOTE: Staff may return calls from a number you are not familiar with or an unlisted private phone number so please consider answering your phone from an unlisted number if you are expecting a return phone call from us.

- If you are having difficulty reaching someone and require additional assistance, please email help@NILP.org.

This is a very challenging time for our community and NILP is here to assist you while doing everything we can to protect the health of our consumers and staff.

THE MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

THE PREMIER SPRING BUSINESS EXPO, TRADE SHOW, HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR!

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www.merrimackvalleychamber.com

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In tandem with Lawrence Public Schools' decision to close all schools for two weeks and out of an abundance of caution, the Lawrence History Center will close to the public through March, 2020, effective immediately.

How this decision will impact our community:

- All in person research requests, tours, and school visits will be suspended.
- Volunteers will be asked to remain home.
- Staff will continue to work remotely.
- Facilities and collection conditions will be monitored both on site and remotely via surveillance cameras.

What services will be available to all during this temporary closing:

Digital & Teacher Resources (<http://www.lawrencehistory.org/resources>)

- LHC Photograph Collection (partial collection) on Digital Commonwealth
- Lawrence History Curriculum Unit Plans
- Maps of Lawrence Throughout the Years
- Interactive Tour: The Path | Fall of the Pemberton Mill, 1860
- Research, videos, online exhibits about the Great Lawrence Textile Strike of 1912 (Bread and Roses)
- Oral History Projects (Blog: "We, the People: Voices of the Immigrant City"; Explorations in Oral History: Post Second World War Immigrant Voices Lawrence, Massachusetts)
- Etc.!

Research Services

We will continue to field questions through email. Simply send an email to research@lawrencehistory.org and we will begin the inquiry process online.

Collection Searches

Our extensive collection repository may be searched online at www.lawrencehistory.org/search/

Social Media

Please 'Like Us' on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/lawrencehistory>) and 'Follow Us' on Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/lawrence_history_center/)

Upcoming Events and Programs that will still be held as of this writing:

- On April 23, 2020, we will honor Armand M. Hyatt with the 2020 Eartha Dengler History Award. For more information please visit www.lawrencehistory.org/dengler/2020
- From June 29 – July 17, 2020, we will hold the Lawrence Student Writers Workshop: The Rising Loaves, now in its sixth year and serving 45–50 Lawrence middle school students and youth writing leaders. For more information, please visit www.lawrencehistory.org/education/summer
- On Saturday, September 19, 2020, please join us for the LHC Annual Meeting & Open House. The date marks the 175th anniversary of the first stone being laid for the Great Stone Dam and the year the Essex Company was chartered in 1845. Blacksmith Richard Wright will be demonstrating in the Essex Company Forge and other activities will be also be planned!

During the closing, we will continue to heed the recommendations of the CDC and state and local authorities regarding controlling the spread of the novel coronavirus. We will communicate any updates through our website, social media, and e-mail.

Our resilient community has a history of coming together in times of crisis to support each other. We see this unity in action already. Please direct questions you may have to Susan Grabski at director@lawrencehistory.org

Be well,

Kathleen Curry
LHC Board President

Susan Grabski
LHC Executive Director

"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Linking arms...from a distance

Measures to control COVID-19 are becoming more drastic. Along with you, I worry about friends and family who have an elevated risk of complications from the virus. With you, I experience the inconvenience and isolation of "social distancing." With you, I feel the economic impact of this disease. And with you, I live in the uncertainty of what tomorrow will bring; we've never seen anything like this!

**But we must continue our work.
We must continue to feed and safely house our Guests.**

We are currently focusing all of our energy on the care of Guests in our Shelter, Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen. Our leadership team understands the situation and is daily monitoring fluid plans for delivering essential food and shelter to the most vulnerable in our community. For the protection of all, we suspended our volunteer program, cancelled classes, and have asked our administrative staff to work from home. In addition to serving our Guests as we always do, Lazarus House is committed to paying our employees through this crisis because many are economically fragile, and a non-paid furlough would be catastrophic for their families and futures.

In this time of crisis, I am bold to invite your family to stand with Lazarus House as a beacon of faith, hope, and light for our Guests in these days of threat and fear.

Lazarus House is well-positioned to serve the most vulnerable in greater Lawrence. I ask for your generous financial support now, so that we can deliver vital services without interruption. If you are able, please consider **"linking arms ... from a distance"** with us to meet the needs of our cherished Guests in the months to come.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership. **THANK YOU!**

A few weeks ago, we selected Jeremiah 29:11 as the theme of our meditations for Lent within Lazarus House; we had no idea how much we would need these words of hope: **"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."**

May the Lord bless you and keep you,

Reverend Jeff Hassel
Executive Director

P.S. Going forward, we will keep you updated throughout this crisis on our [website](http://www.lazarushouse.org), on Facebook and through email. I invite you to reach out to me directly at jeff@lazarushouse.org.

Essex Art Center
56 Island St, Lawrence, MA
978-685-2343

Due to the update that Lawrence Public Schools will be closed for two weeks, we have decided to cancel all classes starting today, Friday, March 13, through Friday, March 27. Our galleries and offices will be closed to the public during this time. Despite the fact that we have had no reports of students, teachers, or staff with COVID-19, we want to ensure that our community stays safe and feels comfortable during an uncertain time.

We hope to be able to resume winter session programming on Saturday, March 28, and we intend to reschedule cancelled classes, if possible. Please keep an eye out for further emails from us about rescheduling of winter classes and potential refunds.

Spring Session

During these upcoming weeks we will continue to clean our facilities and plan for our spring session classes, for which you can register here. Please register for classes as you normally would, knowing that we will extend a relaxed cancellation / refund

policy for the spring session. If you register for the spring but later decide you do not want to attend, you will be able to call us for a refund, minus a \$15 processing fee, up to 5 days before your class is scheduled to begin. And, as always, if we must cancel further classes and cannot reschedule, we will offer a full refund to affected students.

Supporting EAC

A crisis such as the one caused by COVID-19 heavily impacts smaller non-profits like Essex Art Center, as we depend on class registrations, local school groups, and individual contributions. We are already feeling the effects and would be incredibly grateful for any support you can give during this time. As you are able*, please consider making a donation at www.essexartcenter.org/donate. Thank you!

We want to be sensitive to all those in our community who are similarly affected financially by the virus, so please only give if you feel able to do so!

Mi abuelo me dijo una vez que hay dos tipos de personas: los que hacen todo el trabajo y los que se llevan el mérito. También me dijo que debo estar en el primer grupo; hay menos competencia.

My grandfather once told me that there were two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition.

— Indira Gandhi

¿Puede su negocio sobrevivir cuando los empleados trabajan desde casa?

El distanciamiento social masivo sin precedentes en la humanidad moderna está arrasando en todo el mundo debido al Coronavirus. Como resultado, los empleadores están tratando de descubrir cómo proteger a los empleados mientras se mantiene la continuidad del negocio. Esto ha requerido un cambio inmediato para trabajar desde casa, teletrabajando y telecomunicando. Decenas de miles de empresas estaban poco preparadas para estos cambios radicales.

Inicialmente, muchos líderes de la compañía anticiparon que el trabajo desde casa duraría días o semanas. Pero, con base en información nueva y en desarrollo, es cada vez más probable que los trabajadores estén obligados a trabajar desde casa por hasta un año. "Si bien nuestra respuesta a COVID-19 ya está vigente, tomará muchos meses para que los empleadores puedan garantizar un ambiente de trabajo seguro", afirmó Lief Larson de Workface, un proveedor de software de productividad utilizado por los empleados para trabajar desde casa.

Larson dice que los factores clave que determinan el regreso a la normalidad en el lugar de trabajo incluyen la salud y la seguridad, las proyecciones de exposición y la mitigación a través del acceso apropiado al tratamiento de COVID-19. Hasta entonces, hay algunas cosas que su empresa puede hacer para ayudar a los empleados. Larson recomienda que brinde a los empleados una solución sólida de videoconferencia

que permita el chat de texto, la celebración de reuniones con colegas y clientes a través de audio y video, la capacidad de compartir pantalla y la capacidad de tener un directorio digital de empresas tipo LDAP para que los empleados puedan ver quién está en línea y tiene un método fácil para comunicarse con ellos.

Las formas adicionales de apoyar a los empleados durante el próximo año incluyen proporcionar un estipendio para que los empleados mantengan una conexión sólida a Internet, lo que puede requerir la actualización de su servicio residencial de fibra o DSL, y un estipendio o reembolso potencial para su teléfono móvil personal si es necesario para ser utilizado para realizar su trabajo desde casa. "Si los empleados están orientados al cliente, también es una muy buena idea que los aliente a comunicarse con los clientes y hacerles saber cómo comunicarse durante la pandemia", dijo Larson.

Workface es una aplicación de trabajo desde casa que cuenta con chat de texto, audio y videoconferencia para celebrar reuniones, compartir pantalla, un directorio de la empresa para ver quién está en línea/fuera de línea, y una forma para que los miembros del equipo se comuniquen por SMS/texto. Workface ayuda a los empleados a trabajar desde casa, pero a mantenerse conectados y productivos durante todo el día. Obtenga más información visitando <https://workface.com>



Can Your Business Survive When Employees Work from Home?

Massive social distancing unprecedented in modern humanity is sweeping across the world due to Coronavirus. As a result, employers are trying to figure out how to protect employees while maintaining continuity of business. This has required an immediate shift to work from home, telework and telecommuting. Tens of thousands of companies were underprepared for these radical changes.

Initially many company leaders anticipated that work from home would last days or weeks. But, based on new and developing information, it is increasingly probable workers will be obligated to work from home for up to one year. "While our response to COVID-19 is already in effect, it will take many months for employers to be able to ensure a safe work environment," stated Lief Larson of Workface, a provider of productivity software used by employees to work from home.

Larson says key factors determining a return to workplace normalcy include health and safety, projections for exposure, and mitigation through appropriate access to treatment of COVID-19. Until then, there are some things your business can do to help employees. Larson recommends that you give employees a solid video

conferencing solution that allows for text chat, holding meetings with colleagues and customers via audio and video, the ability to do screensharing, and the ability to have a digital LDAP-type company directory so employees can see who's online and have an easy method to reach out to them.

Additional ways to support employees over the next year include potentially providing a stipend for employees to maintain a strong connection to the Internet, which may require upgrading their residential fiber or DSL service, and a potential stipend or reimbursement for their personal mobile phone if that needs to be used to conduct business from home. "If the employees are customer-facing it's also a really good idea that you encourage them to reach out to customers and let them know how to communicate during the pandemic," said Larson.

Workface is a work-from-home app that features text chat, audio and video conferencing for holding meetings, screensharing, a company directory to see who is online/offline, and a way for team members to communicate via SMS/text. Workface helps employees work from home, but stay connected and productive throughout the day.



We have been incredibly humbled by the outpouring support of our local community – so many businesses and individuals have reached out to us on how they can support our dedicated nurses, physicians and healthcare professionals as we respond to the growing COVID-19 pandemic. We cannot thank you enough; it means so much to us!

We have received several offers to donate needed medical supplies as we plan for a potential surge of patients. Supplies most needed at hospitals across the country include personal protective equipment, primarily N95 masks, protective gowns, procedure and surgical masks, and hand sanitizer.

While we are unable to receive outside meal and beverage deliveries at the hospital locations due to visitor restrictions and the

need to reduce volume into our locations at this time to decrease the spread of the virus, we encourage those restaurants and other businesses that are interested in supporting our employees and providers to consider providing free or discounted purchases options. Some are now offering free meals or coffee to our hospital staff if they show their hospital ID badge at the time of pick up. Others are providing gift cards or discounts that we have been able to distribute to our staff for use at local establishments.

If you are interested in supporting Lowell General Hospital in either of these ways, please email philanthropy@lowellgeneral.org and a member of our team will follow up as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support during this challenging time!

La Libertad de Prensa, si significa algo, es la libertad de criticar y oponerse.

Freedom of the Press, if it means anything at all, means the freedom to criticize and oppose.

— George Orwell



Nonprofits across Essex County are struggling to meet the dramatic increase in community needs due to the COVID-19 health crisis. Our frontline, social service nonprofits are being asked to do more than ever before, without the funding they need to do it. They need financial resources – and they need them now.

In response, ECCF is launching a new Essex County COVID-19 Response Fund. Seeded with \$200,000 from ECCF,

the fund will provide financial resources to nonprofit organizations working with communities that are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and the economic consequences of the outbreak.

These are truly unprecedented times, and a relief effort of this size requires collective action. Essex County nonprofits are stepping up to meet this moment and they need you, and all of us, to step up with them.

CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MCC to Host "Whose Line is it Anyway?" Comedians at Spring Fundraiser

Join Middlesex Community College for an interactive night of laugh-out-loud hijinks and quick-thinking humor – all for a good cause! The Middlesex Community College Foundation will welcome "Whose Line is it Anyway?" comedians Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 29 at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium for a performance of their two-man improv show, "Scared Scriptless."

Proceeds from "Scared Scriptless" support scholarships for Middlesex students. Since 2004, the MCC Foundation has awarded 140 student scholarships, totaling \$343,500.

"The student experience is our number one priority," said Sherri McCormack, MCC's Dean of Advancement.

"Our 'Scared Scriptless' event seeks to raise funds to support student scholarships providing educational opportunities that would otherwise be unavailable. We hope you will join us!"

Tickets to "Scared Scriptless" are \$39 to \$69 and are on sale at www.lowellauditorium.com or by calling 1-800-514-3849.

Presenting Sponsor of "Scared Scriptless" is The TJX Companies, Inc., which for 22 years in a row has been presenting sponsor of MCCF scholarship-fundraising events.

"We are thrilled to partner with Spectacle Management and the team at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium once again for our spring fundraiser," said Judy Burke, MCC's Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. "We are grateful to our Presenting Sponsor TJX for continuing this journey with us for 22 years! This



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year's event with Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood will delight our donor partners and the community."

Sponsorship opportunities – which include a private dinner reception before the concert – are available at a variety of donation levels. For information about "Scared Scriptless" sponsorships, please visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/events/scriptless or contact Sherri McCormack at 978-656-3034.

Discover your path at Middlesex Community College. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in Massachusetts, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 80 degree and certificate programs – plus hundreds of noncredit courses – on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!

Update on the 2020 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony & COVID-19

The Lawrence History Center is aware of the current health concerns and uncertainty associated with the spread of COVID-19. In turn, we are monitoring the situation very carefully and keeping up to date with all the directives from state and federal authorities.

With the Dengler History Award Ceremony 6 weeks from today, we are still planning on hosting it at its scheduled time, Thursday, April 23, 2020, 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm. The event is important to LHC as a fundraiser, but, most importantly, as a time

for our community to come together to honor a very deserving community member -- Armand M. Hyatt. Should the situation change, however, we are also considering contingency plans with the safety of our honoree, his family, and our guests at the forefront of our decision making.

Please contact Susan Grabski, Executive Director, at director@lawrencehistory.org / 978-686-9230, with any questions you may have. Thank you.

the lawrence history center invites you and your guests to the

2020 EARTH A DENGLER HISTORY AWARD CEREMONY

in honor of

ARMAND M. HYATT

the way. april 23, 2020

gala reception

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

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\$65.00 / \$40.00 *

* Young Historian rate for those 30 years old and under

the lawrence history center board of directors proudly present

ARMAND M. HYATT

RECIPIENT OF THE 2020 EARTH DENGLER HISTORY AWARD

faith - family - service

Son of the founder of Lazarus House, Armand Hyatt is at once an attorney, community advocate, musician, coach, mentor, and surfer. And he is, above all, a leader who has used his prodigious talents to bring Lawrence CommunityWorks into existence, and to benefit Lawrence and nearby communities in countless other ways for decades. Armand's love of family is unmistakable. So are his generous spirit, his infectious optimism, and his powerful faith in God. These qualities are there for all to see and learn from, be they pro bono clients of his law firm, young people he coaches and mentors, fellow musicians with the *Wobblies*, residents of Heritage Common, or the many others across all walks of life who are blessed by his daily civic and faith-driven life of service.



Lawrence High School Graduates of 2010 through 2012

The Library received a large amount of LHS yearbooks (2010 and 2012) from the high school. They are giving them away.

If interested, please contact Louise Sandberg in the Main Library, at 51 Lawrence St.

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

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CALENDARIO | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Groups/Events at Nashua Library

The library is located at 2 Court Street. Visit nashualibrary.org/visit/ for directions and parking information. For other information, contact the Reference Department at 589-4611 or via email at reference@nashualibrary.org.

Spanish Class at Nashua Library

Adults are welcome to join the Tuesday morning Spanish class at the Nashua Public Library.

The group meets year-round from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. Instruction is at the intermediate level; the class is not appropriate for beginners.

What Technology Training Do You Need?

The Nashua Public Library wants to find out what type of free technology training you need to help you in your professional and personal life. Please complete a five-minute survey at tinyurl.com/nplsurvey2020, where you can indicate the types of classes you would like to take and the days and times you are available. The survey will be available until March 25.

Edible Book Contest

Use your imagination to create an entirely edible, literature-based concoction and then enter it into the Nashua Public Library's Edible Book Contest. It could look like a book, be inspired by the content of a book, or resemble a character in a book, but it must be made entirely of edible ingredients.

Everyone is welcome to participate; children, adults, groups and families.

Entries must be delivered to the Art Gallery in the library on Sunday, March 29, between 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. Patrons who visit the library from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. that day will vote for their favorite entry. The winners will receive gift cards to a craft store. The results will be announced at 4 p.m., following the Josee Vachon concert at the library that day.

Details and rules are available at tinyurl.com/nplediblebook. Preregistration is not required to enter the contest.

Contact Carol at 603-589-4610 or carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org if you have questions.

Join a Library Book Group

Book lovers have a choice of joining a daytime or evening book group at the Nashua Public Library.

The Nashua Novel Readers usually meet on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room. Members of the group rotate leading the discussion each month. Upcoming selections are:

4/9 "The Residence" by Kate Andersen Brower

5/14 "Educated" by Tara Westover

The Downtown Book Group, led by a reference librarian, meets monthly on Fridays at 3 p.m. in the Large Meeting Room. This spring they're talking about:

4/10 "The Woman in Cabin 10" by Ruth Ware
5/8 "The Truffle Underground" by Ryan Jacobs

If you need copies of the books, call 603-589-4611 or email information@nashualibrary.org.

Buon Giorno Good Morning Buenas Tardes

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Workplace English Classes Forming at the Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center

Registrations are now being taken for Workplace English classes at the Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center (the former Asian Center), 439 S. Union Street, building 2, Level B, Lawrence, MA 01843. These classes are free to Lawrence residents but students must have a high beginner level of English.

Anyone interested in signing up for morning or evening classes should call MVIEC, The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center at 978-683-7316. Check out the MVIEC's website at www.mviec.org for directions and more details.

2020 Lawrence Central Little League & Babe Ruth Registration

All boys and girls ages 4 to 18 who wish to play baseball and softball, or T-ball, must register on the following dates and registration sites below:
Take \$10.00 off your fee when you register on the 1st weekend.

Where: Elaine's Pizza, 234 Hampshire Street, Lawrence

***Get a free slice of pizza for every boy and girl that pays their registration fee at Elaine's Pizza.

When:	Friday	March 27	from 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
	Saturday	March 28	from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

T-Ball Teams	Boys & Girls	Ages 4 to 7	Registration Fee	\$60.00
Cal Ripken & L.L.	Boys & Girls	Ages 8 to 12	Registration Fee	\$85.00
Babe Ruth Teams	Girls	Ages 13 to 18	Registration Fee	\$95.00
Babe Ruth Teams	Boys	Ages 13 to 16	Registration Fee	\$95.00
Family Plan				\$190.00

All players must buy their \$10.00 raffle ticket book at the time of registering. When you sell the tickets, you keep the money, then turn the tickets in. (Volunteers are needed).

All returning players and coaches must register on the dates above.

All Players must be accompanied by their parents. Bring a copy of your Birth Certificate and Registration Fees.

For more information please call in English 978-685-0232 or Spanish 978-479-0244.

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

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<http://heallawrence.org/> heallawrence@aol.com

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

The River Bards Spring Poetry Series & Open Mic starts next month!

Zara Raab is our featured poet on Friday, April 3rd! Raab grew up in rural Mendocino County as a 5th generation Californian and attended Mills College and the University of Michigan. She worked as a writer and editor in Washington, D.C. for New Republic Books, the National Endowment, and the National Geographic Society. Raab's books are Fracas & Asylum, Swimming the Eel, The Book of Gretel, and Rumpelstiltskin. Her poems and book reviews appear in The Hudson Review, Verse Daily, New Verse News, Stand (UK), Poet Lore, The Dark Horse, and else ware. She's currently completing an MFA from Lesley University in Boston and lives in Amesbury.

We're looking forward to hearing Raab's poetry and we hope to see you there!

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