

## NECC celebrates graduates



### NECC celebra los graduados

In 2016, CJay DiPrima graduated from NECC with a degree in Art after beating lymphoma, a cancer that attacks the immune system. His mantra throughout his painful course of treatment was always, "Stay Positive," which he turned into a line of "Stay + Apparel" including tank tops, baseball caps, sweatshirts and t-shirts—about a dozen of which I shot out of a t-shirt cannon during commencement that year.

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## Lawrence invierte \$1M para pruebas de COVID-19



Foto/Photo: George Richardson

Carpas en el estacionamiento del Hospital General de Lawrence contienen 4 estaciones de prueba para detectar 1,000 residentes cada día por el Coronavirus.

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Tents in Lawrence General Hospital's parking lot with 4 stations to test 1,000 residents per day for Coronavirus.

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**this week at**  
**hc media**

May 22, 2020 Issue 66

**HC Media Commemorates Memorial Day**  
*Watch the new Memorial Day 2020 Virtual Parade, a special Haverhill Journal, new VFW Programming, and more*

*Memorial Day 2020*  
**MARATHON**  
All Day Monday, May 25

hc media

This year, due to the cancellation of the Haverhill Memorial Day Parade, HC Media joined with the VFW Post 29 and AMVETS Post 147 to put together a Virtual Memorial Day Ceremony, including speeches, the traditional gun salute, and more. This very special ceremony will play on Monday, May 25 at 9 am, 12 pm, 3 pm, 6 pm and 8 pm, followed by the Veterans Honor Roll program produced by the VFW Post 29. A new Haverhill Journal Memorial Day compilation will also air several times during the day. We round out the Memorial Day schedule with commemorative episodes of When I'm 64 and I Get Around, produced by Jay Cleary. Find the full schedule of programming posted on our website at [haverhillcommunitytv.org](http://haverhillcommunitytv.org).



### Lawrence Community Diary

Entry from Lawrence high school student Marlin, Age 17:

En estos días difíciles durante esta pandemia, mis experiencias no han sido las mejores que murió mi padre allí en la República Dominicana. No pude ir ni despedirme porque los vuelos están suspendidos debido a esta situación, pero aun así trato de compartir con mis otros familiares. También lo amo, pregúntele a todas las personas que si no es necesario salir de la casa, no se vayan, porque así evitaremos reunirnos con otras personas y, de ser así, esta pandemia no se extenderá más, por eso se ocupa de ustedes como así como las otras personas que nos rodean.

Translation:

On these difficult days during this pandemic, my experiences have not been the best that my father died there in the Dominican Republic. I could not go or say goodbye because the flights are suspended due to this situation, but I still try to share with my other relatives. I love him too, ask everyone that if it is not necessary to leave the house, do not leave, because this way we will avoid meeting other people and, if so, this pandemic will not spread anymore, that's why it cares about you as well as the other people around us.

Lawrence History Center invite you to make a diary entry (or daily entries!) about your experience living in Lawrence during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic. We will compile them, post/publish, and then add them to our archival collection for posterity.

Susan Grabski, Executive Director  
Lawrence History Center  
6 Essex Street  
Lawrence, MA 01840  
<http://www.lawrencehistory.org/covid-19>



## IRS añade operadores telefónicos para responder a preguntas acerca de pago de impacto económico

WASHINGTON — El Servicio de Impuestos Internos añadió hoy 3,500 representantes telefónicos para responder a algunas de las preguntas más comunes acerca de los pagos de impacto económico.

La asistencia telefónica del IRS y otros servicios seguirán siendo limitadas, y las respuestas para la mayoría de las preguntas comunes relacionadas con los pagos de impacto económico están disponibles en IRS.gov. El IRS anticipa traer de vuelta asistentes adicionales cuando avisos estatales y locales lo permitan.

Respuestas para la mayoría de las preguntas acerca del pago de impacto económico están disponibles en el mensaje automatizado para las personas que llaman al número de teléfono proporcionado en la carta (Aviso 1444). Aquellos que necesiten asistencia adicional al final del mensaje tendrán la opción de hablar con un representante telefónico.

### Se alienta a los estadounidenses a usar IRS.gov

El IRS publica regularmente respuestas nuevas y actualizadas a las preguntas más frecuentes acerca de los Pagos de impacto económico y la herramienta Obtener mi pago. Se les recuerda a aquellos que desean conocer el estado de su pago de impacto económico que visiten Obtener mi pago regularmente; la información se actualiza con frecuencia a medida que el IRS continúa procesando los pagos restantes para la entrega.

Para aquellos que son elegibles para un pago de impacto económico pero no están obligados a presentar una declaración de impuestos, el IRS les recuerda que la herramienta Non-Filers también permanece disponible en inglés o español para que se inscriban para un pago.

## IRS adds phone operators to answer Economic Impact Payment questions

WASHINGTON — Today, the Internal Revenue Service is starting to add 3,500 telephone representatives to answer some of the most common questions about Economic Impact Payments.

IRS telephone assistance and other services will remain limited, and answers for most of the common questions related to Economic Impact Payments are available on IRS.gov. The IRS anticipates bringing back additional assistants as state and local advisories permit.

Answers for most Economic Impact Payment questions are available on the automated message for people who call the phone number provided in the letter (Notice 1444). Those who need additional assistance at the conclusion of the message will have the option of talking to a telephone representative.

### Americans are encouraged to use IRS.gov

The IRS regularly posts new and updated answers to the most frequently asked questions about Economic Impact Payments and the Get My Payment tool. Those who wish to know the status of their Economic Impact Payment are reminded to check Get My Payment regularly; the information is frequently updated as the IRS continues to process the remaining payments for delivery.

For those who are eligible for an Economic Impact Payment but aren't required to file a tax return, the IRS reminds them the Non-Filers tool also remains available in English or Spanish for them to register for a payment.

## Una Ley que Actualiza el Control del Tabaco

Una nueva ley estatal actualiza donde las personas pueden comprar productos de tabaco. Los cambios están diseñados para reducir el vapeo (vaping) juvenil en Massachusetts y evitar que las compañías tabacaleras sigan apuntando y haciendo adictos a los jóvenes. Las industrias tabacaleras y del vapeo han dirigido sus letales productos a jóvenes, comunidades LGBTQ y de color causando terribles problemas para la salud del público.

A continuación encontrará un sencillo resumen de la ley:

- La nueva ley limita donde pueden venderse los cigarrillos electrónicos, productos con nicotina para vapeo y productos de tabaco con sabor.
- En Massachusetts, todos los productos para vapeo con nicotina y cigarrillos electrónicos con sabor solo se pueden vender en bares de fumadores autorizados solo para adultos para ser consumidos en esos lugares.
- Comenzando el 1° de junio del 2020 en Massachusetts, los cigarrillos mentolados y todos los demás productos de tabaco con sabor como cigarros y tabaco para mascar con sabor, ya no se venderán en las tiendas y solo se podrán vender en bares de fumadores autorizados solo para adultos para ser consumidos en esos lugares.

A partir del 1° de junio del 2020, los cigarrillos electrónicos y los productos con nicotina para vapeo aumentarán de precio debido a un impuesto sobre la venta al mayorista.

La nueva ley elimina los productos con nicotina y tabaco con sabor de las tiendas para proteger a los jóvenes ya que los sabores, incluyendo menta y mentol, son una de las razones principales por la cual los jóvenes comienzan a usar tabaco y vapear. Para más información sobre esta ley, visite [mass.gov/NewTobaccoLaw](http://mass.gov/NewTobaccoLaw).

Comuníquese con Ashley Hall, MS de la Asociación para Comunidades Libre de Tabaco a [ashley.hall@glfhc.org](mailto:ashley.hall@glfhc.org) o (978) 722-2864 para más información de cómo esta nueva ley protegerá a los jóvenes de la adicción a la nicotina y luchará contra las industrias tabacaleras que han hecho de los jóvenes, y de las comunidades LGBTQ y de color su objetivo.

Hay ayuda disponible GRATIS para quienes quieren dejar de fumar, vapear o usar productos del tabaco en 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) y [KeepTryingMA.org](http://KeepTryingMA.org). Las organizaciones que deseen apoyar a las personas a dejar de fumar pueden contactar a Ashley Hall para recibir información y orientación sobre las estrategias que pueden implementar.

## An Act Modernizing Tobacco Control

A new state tobacco law affects where people can buy tobacco and vaping products. These changes are designed to reduce youth vaping in Massachusetts and stop tobacco companies from targeting and addicting young people. The tobacco and vaping industries have targeted youth, LGBTQ populations and communities of color with their deadly products, causing terrible health consequences for the public.

Here's a simple summary of the law:

- The new law limits where e-cigarette and nicotine vaping products and flavored tobacco products can be sold.
- All flavored e-cigarettes and nicotine vaping products can only be sold for on-site consumption at licensed adult-only smoking bars in Massachusetts.
- Starting June 1, 2020, menthol cigarettes and all other flavored tobacco products like cigars and flavored chewing tobacco will no longer be sold in stores and can only be sold for on-site consumption at licensed adult-only smoking bars in Massachusetts.
- Starting June 1, 2020, e-cigarettes

and nicotine vaping products will increase in price because of an excise tax on the wholesale price.

The new law removes flavored tobacco and nicotine products from stores to protect youth since flavors, including mint and menthol, are a leading reason they start vaping and using tobacco. For more information about the law, visit [mass.gov/NewTobaccoLaw](http://mass.gov/NewTobaccoLaw).

Contact Ashley Hall, MS at the Northeast Tobacco-Free Community Partnership, [ashley.hall@glfhc.org](mailto:ashley.hall@glfhc.org) or (978) 722-2864 to learn more about how this new law will protect youth from nicotine addiction and fight the tobacco industry's targeting of youth, LGBTQ and communities of color.

Help for those who want to quit vaping, smoking or using other tobacco products is available for FREE at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) and [KeepTryingMA.org](http://KeepTryingMA.org). Organizations that want to support people in quitting can contact Ashley Hall for information and guidance on strategies they can implement.

El interés de los Estados Unidos no es el comercio. Tampoco lo es la guerra. El interés de los Estados Unidos es la justicia y asegurar la bendición de la libertad.

The business of America is not business. Neither is it war. The business of America is justice and securing the blessings of liberty.

— George F. Will



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## Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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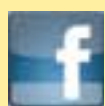
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# NOW HIRING

## Bilingual Medical Assistants & Nurses

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center is currently seeking bilingual (Spanish/English) Medical Assistants, Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses to provide the highest quality care to our patients.

Full-time positions are now available throughout our clinical sites in Lawrence and Methuen.

### MEDICAL ASSISTANT REQUIREMENTS:

- Fluent in English and Spanish
- Graduate of a medical assistant program
- Current BLS certification

### NURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Fluent in English and Spanish
- Must be a graduate of an accredited nursing program
- Current Massachusetts License in Registered or Licensed Practical Nursing
- Current BLS certification



# CONTRATANDO

## Asistentes médicos y enfermeras bilingües

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center está buscando asistentes médicos (MA) y enfermeras (RN/LPN) bilingües (Español/Inglés) para brindar atención de la más alta calidad a nuestros pacientes.

Tenemos disponibles posiciones a tiempo completo en nuestras clínicas de Lawrence y Methuen.

### Requisitos para los asistentes médicos:

- Hablar bien Inglés y Español
- Graduado de un programa de asistente médico
- Certificación vigente en BLS

### Requisitos para las enfermeras:

- Hablar bien Inglés y Español
- Graduado de un programa de enfermería acreditado
- Licencia de enfermera RN o LPN vigente en Massachusetts
- Certificación vigente en BLS



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POR DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

# Desde Mi Esquina



## Moratorio en desahucios

Cuando el Alcalde Dan Rivera anunció por primera vez la moratoria sobre los desalojos, fue inmediatamente malentendido. La gente llamaba a las estaciones de radio diciendo que no tenían que pagar el alquiler porque "el alcalde lo dijo". Incluso aquellos con Sección 8 dejaron de pagar su porción mínima de la renta.

Después de un par de meses, se dieron cuenta de que el Alcalde Rivera quería decir que los desalojos que ya estaban en progreso tendrían que esperar hasta que se resuelva la situación actual con COVID-19. Aun así, algunos propietarios y administradores de edificios tuvieron que ponerse duros con sus inquilinos. Si dependían de la Sección 8, tenían que ser amenazados con llamar al gobierno para suspender esos pagos si insistían en no pagar su parte.

Es difícil entender la razón de la falta de pago porque aquellos trabajadores que quedaron desempleados como resultado del cierre de empresas, ahora están cobrando desempleo más \$600 por encima. Los jubilados y las personas que reciben asistencia pública o SSI continuaron recibiendo sus beneficios mensuales más el estímulo del gobierno, por lo tanto, no hay razón para quedarse corto en esta obligación mensual.

Después de todo, hay un porcentaje de residentes que han visto su mundo derrumbarse hasta el punto de tener que depender de los bancos de alimentos y la generosidad de los demás. Esas son las personas invisibles que trabajan por debajo de la mesa o que carecen de los documentos necesarios para cobrar el desempleo, teniendo que recurrir a organizaciones benéficas.

## Desperdiciando nuestro dinero

Después de que el Concejo Municipal de Lawrence aprobó la Moratoria sobre los Desalojos, el alcalde decidió ingresar a un nuevo campo que me temo que será contraproducente. Después de mucha deliberación y votación, el 7 de abril, se "engavetó" (tabled) y no se volvió a mencionar. Como existe la posibilidad de que alguien en el concejo intente hacerlo, quiero darle mis ideas.

La ciudad recientemente asignó \$150,000 dedicados a crear un fondo de defensa legal para proporcionar asistencia legal a "inquilinos desalojados injustamente" de viviendas en Lawrence. Estoy segura de que los tres abogados de la ciudad probablemente no podrán mantener un calendario de litigios dedicado a acciones civiles ante el Distrito y los Tribunales de Vivienda para satisfacer seriamente la demanda o la especialidad.

El hecho es que algunas personas se han retrasado en sus alquileres y ahora, Lawrence

ha decidido ingresar al negocio de defensa de inquilinos. Merrimack Valley Legal Services todavía está en el 170 Common Street y Northeast Legal Services está en el 50 Island St.

Cuando escuché por primera vez que se discutía eso en la reunión del concejo, pensé que los fondos de los contribuyentes se estarían utilizando para eso. Entonces, al estar limitada en mi conocimiento legal, consulté con algunos amigos abogados y mi fiel compañera la Internet, y descubrí muchas cosas.

Una de las preocupaciones que no se ha considerado completamente es la exposición de responsabilidad civil y financiera que resulta de intervenir en un caso civil en el que la ciudad puede no tener la capacidad para ingresar. La respuesta de la ciudad es que una razón para la representación se establece por la relación que surge por la propiedad arrendada se encuentra en Lawrence.

Otras afirmaciones de la ciudad serán que la ciudad tiene un papel regulador e interés para asegurar que los propietarios cumplan con la ley de desalojo. Este argumento es una verdadera "pista falsa" porque ese no es el trabajo de la ciudad, ese es el trabajo de los tribunales.

Ambos argumentos fallan y son miopes principalmente porque una vez que la ciudad está involucrada en un litigio, su función ya no es "reguladora" porque la ciudad se convierte en una parte en todos los casos en que aparecen o intervienen del lado del inquilino como parte. El esquema somete a la ciudad y al dinero de los contribuyentes a reclamos de los propietarios contra la ciudad por acciones ilegales. Pueden incluir contrademandas por represalias de la ciudad que supuestamente están tomando medidas contra el dueño de una propiedad porque no cumplieron con las regulaciones de la ciudad. Podría ser que no obtuvieron un permiso de ocupación, no cumplieron con las regulaciones de la ciudad, no pagaron impuestos, no pagaron mejoras, o cualquier otra acusación que pueda afirmarse que muestra una intervención inadecuada.

Los propietarios más conocedores pueden incluso alegar que la ciudad está apuntando solo a ciertos propietarios como represalia política por otras razones que no tienen límites. Una pregunta que no ha sido pensada por la ciudad es: ¿Qué sucede cuando la ciudad es encontrada responsable y un juicio de dinero entra en contra de la ciudad por cualquier reclamo sostenido después del juicio?"

La primera defensa disponible para la ciudad [y que probablemente se reclame] es que la ciudad está exenta de juicio como entidad soberana del gobierno de Massachusetts. Esa defensa falla porque la ciudad no está exenta de las acciones que toma "fuera del alcance de su autoridad". El "alcance de la autoridad" en este caso no

está definido por la Ciudad de Lawrence, sino por la Ley del Estado, que tiene una serie de leyes de propietarios/inquilinos y casos que están disponibles para las partes en cualquier acción de propiedad civil, y no extiende esa autoridad a interventores voluntarios. En otras palabras, la ciudad "eligió" interponerse en un litigio entre propietarios e inquilinos sin ninguna base o autoridad legal.

Otro enigma más desconcertante es que la Ciudad de Lawrence está utilizando el dinero de los contribuyentes para defender a los inquilinos contra los propietarios que pagan impuestos por la propiedad y los utilizan en su contra. En otras palabras, los propietarios están pagando a la ciudad para defender al inquilino/oponente en una demanda contra ellos mismos. Como mínimo, esto crea no solo una "aparición de incorrección", sino un "conflicto de intereses" absoluto.

La Ciudad de Lawrence debe ser excluida de cualquier acción contra los propietarios de Lawrence con la premisa de que la ciudad está utilizando ilegalmente fondos de los contribuyentes para demandar a los mismos contribuyentes o propietarios en una causa de acción privada. Este problema probablemente se planteará ante el tribunal junto con un reclamo de costos y honorarios de abogados que se evaluarán contra la ciudad por un fallo negligente.

Este esquema crea una responsabilidad que abrirá los "bolsillos profundos" de los contribuyentes de la Ciudad de Lawrence, quienes serán "intervenidos" para pagar los "juicios" incurridos por la ciudad que pueden ser considerados "responsables" en un caso de propietario/inquilino donde el propietario/ dueño puede estar representado de manera competente y tener éxito al igual que el caso fallido contra el abogado DiAdamo, quien obtuvo un acuerdo de 3 millones de dólares contra el enjuiciamiento ilícito de la ciudad.

La ciudad quiere sumergirse nuevamente en el área de litigios entre propietarios e inquilinos. Una de las reglas de litigio que todos los abogados saben es que pierde más de lo que gana, y debido a que lo hace, debe tener suficiente dinero para pagar el costo del litigio que debe pagarse continuamente para poder ser "el último en pie". Los litigios requieren un compromiso interminable de tiempo y dinero dedicado a la experiencia legal, que requiere principalmente dinero que será necesario para pagar abogados, honorarios, sentencias, apelaciones y costos asociados con litigios civiles.

Aunque la ciudad puede argumentar que esta es una causa justa para intervenir en nombre de los "inquilinos inocentes" enredados contra los "propietarios malvados" que están utilizando desalojos de "autoayuda" y otros medios ilegales para sacar a los inquilinos de su propiedad durante circunstancias económicas severas causadas por COVID que pueden haber resultado en la pérdida de empleos, pérdida de ingresos, divorcio, lesiones, enfermedad, hospitalización de COVID-19 y muchas otras razones.

Todos los inquilinos afectados por estas graves repercusiones merecen la mejor defensa legal que se pueda proporcionar, razón por la cual se crearon los Servicios Legales de Merrimack Valley, los Servicios Legales del Nordeste y Massachusetts Bar Foundation y otras organizaciones similares financiadas con fondos públicos para

## 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.

proporcionar representación legal a inquilinos con un equipo de abogados extremadamente competentes y bien entrenados expertos en derecho de propietarios/inquilinos y su práctica y procedimientos ante los tribunales.

Las razones por las cuales cualquier municipio puede tratar de ayudar a los inquilinos a interponerse como un aliado de los inquilinos desalojados injustamente no es mucho más que una "señalización de virtud" oportunista durante una pandemia que tendrá serias consecuencias financieras, ninguna de las cuales será pagada por los funcionarios que crean el idea mal concebida, pero utilizará los fondos de los contribuyentes para rescatarlos cuando falle.

Estas preguntas deben considerarse: "¿Qué casos serán seleccionados para la intervención de la ciudad?" "¿Qué criterios se utilizarán en la selección de casos?" "¿Los casos serán 'referencias' y 'quién está revisando las referencias'? Las agencias de defensa pública dedican más que tiempo y esfuerzo significativos para asegurar que haya un amplio apoyo de oficina para los abogados y clientes del personal para asegurar que se proporcione una representación legal que exceda el mero mínimo de "representación competente".

El costo de proporcionar el asesoramiento, el personal, los materiales, el equipo de oficina, la capacitación y muchos otros elementos necesarios para operar una firma de abogados que ofrece representación en un área legal especializada requiere mucho tiempo y es costoso y requiere un nivel de dedicación que la Ciudad de Lawrence es no está equipada para proporcionar sin expandir su personal legal actual o externalizar todos los litigios de propietarios/inquilinos a una firma externa. Esto solo aumentará los costos de las operaciones utilizando el dinero de los contribuyentes para litigar contra los propietarios de Lawrence.

Siempre me parece interesante cuando alguien en los servicios públicos se ofrece a "ayudar" cuando en realidad solo se está "ayudando a sí mismo". El año que viene votaremos por un nuevo alcalde y alguien obtendrá "ventaja" gracias a nuestro dinero.

## Hablando del mal uso de nuestro dinero...

Carlos Morel, el Coordinador de Reciclaje, tiene un camión de la ciudad para su uso personal. A veces está estacionado frente a su casa; otras, lo han visto cabalgando alrededor de Methuen. La peor infracción fue ir a Lowe's en Salem, New Hampshire a devolver una mesa que la Concejala Celina Reyes había comprado, ¡y ella estaba en el camión con él!

Las reglas son muy claras con respecto a los vehículos de la ciudad. Nadie que no sea un empleado de la ciudad debe estar en ellos. Los empleados se han visto en problemas por eso en el pasado, pero este tipo es inmune. Recoge la basura en algún lugar y la bota en el patio del Departamento de Obras Públicas.

Él no es el único; Dan Mackland Rivera, el hermano de Dan hace lo mismo. Él también está protegido.

## Memorial Day

La Conmemoración de Memorial Day será a través del Canal 8. ¡Qué desperdicio! Déjenme saber si lo ven y lo que piensan.

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



# SBA y Dept. del Tesoro lanzan la solicitud de perdón de préstamos del Program de Protección de Cheques

La Administración de Pequeñas Empresas (SBA), en consulta con el Departamento del Tesoro, lanzó la Solicitud de Perdón de Préstamo del Programa de Protección de Cheques (PPP) e instrucciones detalladas para la solicitud.

El formulario y las instrucciones informan a los prestatarios cómo solicitar el perdón de sus préstamos PPP, de conformidad con la Ley de Ayuda, Alivio y Seguridad Económica de Coronavirus (Ley CARES). La SBA también emitirá pronto reglamentos y orientación para ayudar aún más a los prestatarios a medida que completen sus solicitudes y para proporcionarles a los prestamistas orientación sobre sus responsabilidades.

El formulario y las instrucciones incluyen varias medidas para reducir las cargas de cumplimiento y simplificar el proceso para los prestatarios, que incluyen:

- Opciones para que los prestatarios calculen los costos de la nómina utilizando un "período cubierto de nómina alternativo" que se alinea con los ciclos regulares de nómina de los prestatarios
- Flexibilidad para incluir los gastos elegibles de nómina y no nómina pagados

o incurridos durante el periodo de ocho semanas después de recibir su préstamo PPP

- Instrucciones paso a paso sobre cómo realizar los cálculos requeridos por la Ley CARES para confirmar la elegibilidad para la condonación de préstamos
- Implementación amigable para el prestatario de exenciones legales de la reducción de la condonación de préstamos basada en la recontractación antes del 30 de junio
- Adición de una nueva exención de la reducción de la condonación de préstamos para prestatarios que hayan hecho una oferta escrita de buena fe para recontractar trabajadores que fue rechazada.

El PPP fue creado por la Ley CARES para proporcionar préstamos perdonables a pequeñas empresas elegibles para mantener a los trabajadores estadounidenses en la nómina durante la pandemia COVID-19. Los documentos publicados hoy ayudarán a las pequeñas empresas a buscar el perdón al final del período cubierto de ocho semanas, que comienza con el desembolso de sus préstamos.

# SBA and Treasury Release Paycheck Protection Program Loan Forgiveness Application

The U.S. Small Business Administration, in consultation with the U.S Department of the Treasury, released the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Application and detailed instructions for the application.

The form and instructions inform borrowers how to apply for forgiveness of their PPP loans, consistent with the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). SBA will also soon issue regulations and guidance to further assist borrowers as they complete their applications, and to provide lenders with guidance on their responsibilities.

The form and instructions include several measures to reduce compliance burdens and simplify the process for borrowers, including:

- Options for borrowers to calculate payroll costs using an "alternative payroll covered period" that aligns with borrowers' regular payroll cycles
- Flexibility to include eligible payroll and non-payroll expenses paid or incurred

during the eight-week period after receiving their PPP loan

- Step-by-step instructions on how to perform the calculations required by the CARES Act to confirm eligibility for loan forgiveness
- Borrower-friendly implementation of statutory exemptions from loan forgiveness reduction based on rehiring by June 30
- Addition of a new exemption from the loan forgiveness reduction for borrowers who have made a good-faith, written offer to rehire workers that was declined

The PPP was created by the CARES Act to provide forgivable loans to eligible small businesses to keep American workers on the payroll during the COVID-19 pandemic. The documents released today will help small businesses seek forgiveness at the conclusion of the eight-week covered period, which begins with the disbursement of their loans.

"Whoever said, 'It's not whether you win or lose that counts' probably lost."  
 "Quien dijo que, 'Lo que importa no es si ganó o perdió' probablemente perdió."  
 - Martina Navratilova



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# Escribí estas letras para mi amigo, Manuel Matos

Lawrence MA 18 de Mayo, 2020

Por Luis E. Piñeyro

Cuando un amigo se va, ¿Qué se lleva? Y ¿qué nos deja?

Se lleva el amor y el cariño que le dimos, los consejos, nuestra amistad, nuestra sinceridad!

Nos deja: Su ejemplo, su sonrisa, su amabilidad y testimonio.

Manuel, siempre te recordaremos, tu decías siempre, "Amigo es el que me visita."

Yo frecuentaba su casa, muchas veces le visitaba solo, compartía sobre temas bíblicos, sociales y sobre el comportamiento de los hermanos, algo que siempre le preocupaba.

Recuerdo que le invitamos a nuestro hogar en Andover, en el mes de Febrero. Nos comimos un chivo guisado con un moro de guandules, ensalada y postres.

Reímos, charlamos los cuatro, Manuel, Ana su esposa, Mirian y yo.

Cuando estábamos esperando el apartamento de Andover, nos permitió vivir en el sótano de su casa y así pudimos compartir cada día como una familia.

Compañero de programa de radio en la 1490AM, luego me acompañaba los jueves en la \*VOZ DE DIOS\* por Facebook desde el 284 de la High St donde instalamos una emisora para transmitir.

Como predicador: Me gustaba tanto que le asignamos el último domingo de cada mes en la iglesia Templo Bíblico de Lawrence.

Como amigo: Sincero y colaborador.



Como padre: Entregado, y sus hijos son las pruebas, son profesionales gracias a su padre.

Como esposo: Fiel colaborador, ayuda idónea.

Como trabajador: Ingeniero eléctrico de profesión y como jefe, no aceptó la corrupción cuando fue un gran jefe en la CDE en la región norte de R.D

Como cristiano: Buen testimonio.

Como ciudadano: Su voz siempre disponible para defender al pueblo por los medios que disponía.

Se apago una voz en la 1490AM, La Casa Del Alfarero hoy está de luto.

El locutor Manuel Matos, ya no hablará tampoco por La Voz De Dios. También está de luto.

Manuel Matos deja un gran vacío en su hogar, entre sus amigos y la comunidad de Lawrence.

Paraiso, Barahona, su lugar de nacimiento, también esta triste este día.

El cielo es el único lugar que no está triste. Hoy hay una fiesta, le dieron un gran recibimiento y le explicaron que su padre Dios le llevó al cielo para evitarle sufrimientos en este valle de lagrimas y porque su padre le ama y le tiene una asignación para el reino que muy pronto será establecido en este mundo, y él, Manuel Matos, ocupará una buena posición

en el milenio, porque en vida tarabajó para el reino de Dios.

Tristes por su partida, pero alegres por su gozo eterno en el cielo.

Mensaje y textos bíblicos citados muy frecuentes por mi amigo, Manuel Matos, Ira Tesalonicenses 4:16-18 Cristo viene pronto por su iglesia.

Manuel, no te digo descansa en paz, porque eso lo tengo por seguro. No te digo que el Señor te tenga en un buen lugar, porque estás hoy en el cielo, Dios te dió la ciudadanía cuando le aceptaste como tu Salvador.

Manuel, nos vemos pronto, buscaré a tus hijos, seré su consejero y daré aliento a tu esposa y compañera Ana Altagracia.

Tu amigo y hermano.

## NECC Career Services Expands to Include Micro-Internships



Northern Essex Community College's Career Services is now offering a service for micro-internships, short term, paid professional assignments that are carried out remotely over 15 to 40-hours.

"These micro-internships will give students supplemental income and valuable skills quickly, while providing local and national employers with help on special projects," said Ashley Moore, director of career services.

The college is partnering with three local chambers—Merrimack Valley, Greater Haverhill, and Greater Newburyport—to expand opportunities for students, and with Parker Dewey, a micro-internship consulting company to offer this service.

Companies who are interested in learning more about micro-internships and how to post assignments can attend a virtual information session hosted by Parker Dewey founder Jeffrey Moss and Moore on June 2 at 12:30 pm. Employers

can register here <http://info.parkerdewey.com/necc-micro-internship-webinar> or by contacting Moore at [amoore@necc.mass.edu](mailto:amoore@necc.mass.edu) or 978 556-3946.

Moore said this new opportunity will add to the more traditional semester-long internships which the college currently offers, and also provide a safe alternative during the pandemic since all micro-internships are offered remotely.

All Northern Essex students and alumni will have access to the website and be eligible to apply for micro-internships. When posted, the micro-internships will include details as well as the pay for the project. Students and alumni can open an account now at <http://info.parkerdewey.com/necc.mass>

Ten colleges and universities in Massachusetts are currently partnering with Parker Dewey, including Merrimack College.

To learn more, visit NECC Career Services or NECC micro-internships.

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# Dear Joe Scarborough and Brian Kilmeade (A Publisher’s Opinion)

Reprinted with permission from Editors & Publishers

By Mike Blinder May 21, 2020

If there is one thing I’m certain of, it is that 253 years ago, a group of very imperfect men crafted a perfect document. And within those amazing mass of words that has survived so many tests and challenges, is a simple First Amendment that grants the freedoms of speech and the press.

## All Media is Bias

Most agree that inherent in our freedom as news publishers is a job critical to a democracy that is making government accountable to the people they serve, or as some say: “Speak truth to power.” The challenge with that concept is that the news which influences a reader or viewer is generated from a person, not an algorithm. And people are always bias. It’s a fact that each of us perceives the world around us in a different light, so when we engage others with our perceptions and thoughts on any concept, those thoughts are biased to our upbringing, religious beliefs, family influencers and the general ecosystem a person inhabits day-to-day.

It is for this reason that I am proud to be the publisher of this magazine with its 140+ years of monitoring and reporting on the news publishing industry. E&P’s roots are not in cable news; they are in newspapers, a media that has always strived to separate news from opinion. My last (and first) editorial “Shep, Say It Ain’t So! –A Publisher’s Opinion” (Oct. 13, 2019) was

on this very topic, yet it lost me a major advertiser since he perceived that I was focusing my angst on Fox News, which was not the case. I was editorializing on how all cable news has blurred the lines of facts and opinion so much, that the average viewer is having trouble separating them.

However, sometimes the bias in news is not political. It is simply a reporter’s need to “fan the flames” of a story so much that it takes on a life of its own. I experienced this myself when I managed a local news-based radio station in Lewiston, Maine during the flood of 1987. Water rose in several neighborhoods due to 4 inches of rain, combining with runoff from melting snow. Our radio station building was actually surrounded by water. But, as I look back on the excitement of our 24/7 live coverage, I remember that when there was no news to report, we just kept “fanning the flames” of the story over and over in hopes to get our audience as excited as we were. Or when I managed a Bangor TV station, I would watch our weatherman exude so much excitement over approaching storms, that the local mall manager would call and say, “You know, some people have 4-wheel drive and can still shop this weekend.” Perhaps sometimes, everyone in news media should dust off our copies of Tom Wolfe’s “Bonfire of the Vanities.”

But what I think upsets me the most about today’s free press is not the bias, but

that it has morphed into a “tribal press” that continues to fan the flames to the narrow, niche reader and viewer it appeals to. I miss the days of Chet Huntley and Walter Cronkite, who albeit were human (ergo biased), took their jobs seriously in order to try to not mix opinion and news, rather to present facts first to all their viewers. The truth is, in today’s news culture what we see is a mass amount of “preaching to the choir.”

## Where is Aaron Sorkin When We Need Him?

Okay, I’ll admit it, I’m not comfortable seeing people kneel during our national anthem. Conversely, I’m not comfortable seeing protesters standing on the steps of a state capitol holding an assault weapon with a confederate flag. But at the same time if no laws are broken, I can respect those same people’s right to do it. Isn’t that what America has fought for since that fateful day in 1776 when we started this amazing experiment of a people led government?

Perhaps we the news publishers (and even our news consumers) should all take a quick breath, count to 10, and then watch the ending of Aaron Sorkin’s 1995 film “The American President,” where Michael Douglas (playing the president) says in an impromptu speech to the press: “America isn’t easy. America is advanced citizenship. You’ve gotta want it bad, ’cause it’s gonna put up a fight! It’s gonna say, ‘You want free speech? Let’s see you acknowledge a man

whose words make your blood boil, who’s standing center stage and advocating at the top of his lungs that which you would spend a lifetime opposing at the top of yours... Now show me that, defend that, celebrate that in your classrooms. Then you can stand up and sing about the land of the free.”

Wouldn’t it be refreshing to see our cable news brethren stop “fanning the flames” as they “preach to their choirs?” Perhaps Joe Scarborough could invite more of the opposition’s most vocal pundits (like Lindsey Graham or Mitch McConnell) on Morning Joe, not pepper them with “gotcha questions,” but rather have a rational dialogue about their opinions and why they should be heard by their opposition.

And wouldn’t it be amazing if Brian Kilmeade sat down with a vocal democratic leader (like Barack Obama or Nancy Pelosi) and perform an intelligent, balanced interview in hopes to offer opposing opinions to the “Fox and Friends” viewer? Yeah, I know that the president will go ballistic, tweeting away with hatred of the concept, but would that not be a better use of their platform to serve our democracy and calm us all down?

Come on, let’s take a breath and count to 10 and see if we can just stop fanning those flames for a bit, especially now so we can let those “bonfires” cool down for a bit.

Mike Blinder is Publisher of Editor and Publisher Magazine



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# MCC Nursing Alums Work on the Frontlines of COVID-19

Middlesex Community College is proud to prepare nurses. Although the effects of COVID-19 have required the college's Nursing Program and faculty to be creative in their teaching styles, the program's mission of student success remains the same. For Middlesex alumni – Lauren Dominguez, Jennie Lim and Rachel Williams – who are now battling on the frontlines of the pandemic as nurses, they believe their education served them well for the workforce.

“Nursing is a practice profession and every pre-licensure nursing program requires hours of practice to ensure graduates are prepared to transition safely into the workforce,” said Dr. Sandra Shapiro, MCC's Program Director of Nurse Education. “This is important work, educating nurses has never been so vitally important to our local and global communities than it is now!”

Dominguez calls her experience at MCC “life changing.” She has wanted to be a nurse since she was a child and came to Middlesex as an adult-learner looking to pursue her dream. Now she works in the Emergency Room at Emerson Hospital.

“Middlesex prepared us to be good nurses,” she said. “They know what they're doing. The level of expertise with the professors is unbelievable. I really respect that they helped and taught me.”

Lim believes that because of MCC, she feels prepared to do her job. As a nurse at Lowell General Hospital on D4 – an intermediate care unit – she provides care for both COVID and non-COVID patients. Although this is challenging, she remembers the persistence she learned at school.

“I loved my time at MCC and I'm so glad I went there for nursing,” Lim said. “It was tough, but no one ever said nursing school was going to be easy. If you put forth the effort, you will get through it and be successful. I never gave up.”

For Williams, nursing is a rewarding experience and she cannot picture herself



Lauren Dominguez, Jennie Lim and Rachel Williams are alums of the Middlesex Community College Nursing Program working on the frontlines of COVID-19 at local hospitals.



working in any other profession. Having worked as a nurse for almost a year in the ICU, she now fully realizes the value of her education from Middlesex.

“It wasn't like Middlesex was preparing me to take a test or get my license,” she said. “In all of my practice and lectures, they really prepared me to be a nurse and brought together the full picture of what it means and what your goal is. I felt that way in the program, but now that I'm a nurse, I can vouch for that.”

Dominguez, Lim and Williams all keep in touch with their professors and classmates. Most recently, people have been checking in to see how everyone is holding up or asking how each hospital is handling COVID-19 treatments.

This support from faculty was a fixture throughout their academic journeys – learning how to transfer the skills and theoretical approach they learned in school to the real world of nursing.

Dominguez says she grew a “thick skin” thanks to her professors, which helps in all of the challenging parts of nursing every day.

“They really need to prepare you because this is a tough job,” she said. “I remember one of my professors telling me, ‘you need to know the things that you don't know.’ It means that when you don't know something, be ready to learn and receive constructive criticism, correction and direction.”

Lim credits several of her professors for their influence, including Professors Bradley, Small and Lavallee. Each of them brought different strengths and assistance when she needed it.

“I loved all of the professors, but there were a few who stood out to me,” she said. “My professors were always available whenever I had questions or struggled with a topic and my classmates were always very supportive.”

Williams gained a lot from each of her professors for a number of reasons, but it is their understanding and passion for their subjects that stands out.

“The nursing faculty was super supportive of us and really wanted us to succeed,” Williams said. “All the professors were passionate about the areas of their focus and about teaching. They were really helpful in building those foundational skills and the values I've taken with me in my nursing practice.”

Having a network of support – whether with former faculty, classmates or current co-workers – helps them endure. The biggest challenge through this pandemic is not something that could be taught, but learned in the moment. Having to witness the isolation their patients feel in the wake of families not being allowed into the room is a struggle they all face.

“I can only do so much with a mask and a shield and these big gowns,” Dominguez said. “They can't see my face, they can't see me smile, they can't see me cry. They might feel the emotion, but they can't see it and that is really difficult. That has really changed how I treat my patients. It's sobering and it's sad and I'm trying to be a little bit more verbal on my plan for them.”

Lim finds it challenging to leave a patient's room because of how lonely and afraid they feel.

“These individuals are fighting for their lives alone,” she said. “Families are depending on us to support and advocate for their loved ones. Through it all, my

colleagues and I are rolling with the punches – doing the best we can while still providing quality care for our patients.”

Williams has helped be creative in allowing patients to connect with their families.

“It's been hard not letting family members in,” she said. “But they've been using technology to be creative – an iPad to connect to Zoom for families to be present with them, and I can give them privacy to be together.”

Despite these challenges, their hard work and determination has shown their resiliency.

As she works through the pandemic and sees how it changes every day, Dominguez believes Middlesex prepared her for how to respond to it.

“We need to adapt and change and be willing to learn in order to do our job effectively,” she said. “It changes the way I look at my colleagues. We are so in this together. I could not be prouder of the people I work with and the management who's leading us. We'll learn from this and we'll learn together.”

COVID-19 has created new stressors to an already demanding job, according to Lim – especially the fear of the unknown and a heavier workload. Now a primary nurse, she delegates tasks to a team. When they work on a patient, there is always another right behind with little time to process what is happening in the moment.

“Despite everything that's being thrown at us, we still remain resilient and hopeful,” Lim said. “We have our good days and days when we feel absolutely defeated. But regardless of the circumstances, we will show up for our next shift, whether it be for 8 or 12 hours, ready to work as a team.”

In the beginning, Williams said it was hardest with there being so many unanswered questions and having to figure out new plans to deal with COVID-19. But the goal to treat patients above all, remains the same.

“The core nursing practice hasn't changed,” Williams said. “We've definitely had to make a lot of adjustments to the way we do things.” It has reinforced how vital our role is and how resilient we are. How much we make a difference in the outcome of these patients is an important role.”

Visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/nursing/](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/nursing/) for more information on MCC's Nursing Program. Registration for MCC's Summer and Fall Programs are now open. To register, visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration) or call 1-800-818-3434.

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# Los residentes del Valle de Merrimack recibirán los primeros pagos en el acuerdo por desastres de gas

\$70 millones en pagos, los primeros que se enviarán, se enviarán por correo este viernes

Los primeros \$70 millones en pagos acelerados del acuerdo a los residentes afectados por el desastre del 13 de septiembre de 2018, Columbia Gas, se enviarán por correo el viernes, 22 de mayo al administrador de reclamos del acuerdo. Para aquellos residentes que presentaron un

reclamo ante el administrador que busca un pago de suma global, el pago promedio por hogar será de más de \$8,000.

Cuando la pandemia de COVID-19 cerró gran parte de la economía, los abogados de la clase le pidieron al Juez James Lang que les permitiera acelerar los pagos a los residentes

de Merrimack Valley que ahora lidian con las consecuencias financieras del coronavirus además de los devastadores incendios y explosiones de 2018. La aprobación del Juez Lang del envío acelerado de cheques de esta semana distribuye \$70 millones en pagos a familias en el Valle aproximadamente seis semanas antes de lo previsto originalmente.

"Obtener esta primera ronda de cheques ahora en lugar de a fines de junio dará una línea de vida desesperadamente necesaria a miles de familias durante el cierre de COVID-19", dijo John Roddy de Bailey & Glasser, Frank Petosa de Morgan & Morgan, y Elizabeth Graham de Grant & Eisenhofer, la abogada co-líder de los demandantes que dirigió las negociaciones del acuerdo. "Las explosiones de gas aplastaron la economía local en Merrimack Valley, y estos pagos son una parte fundamental para que la comunidad vuelva a estar completa".

En junio se enviará un pago de suma global para aquellos reclamantes que presentaron un reclamo en busca de un pago de suma global pero aún no han proporcionado pruebas de que vivieron en Lawrence, Andover o North Andover en septiembre de 2018. Estos reclamantes han sido notificados por el administrador del acuerdo que necesitan proporcionar tal prueba. Los abogados de la clase

enfataron que para evitar el fraude, el administrador del acuerdo debe recibir un documento que acredite la residencia, como una factura de servicios públicos, un contrato de arrendamiento, una tarjeta de crédito o un extracto bancario. Las personas así notificadas pueden obtener ayuda de EN Business Solutions en Andover sin cargo.

Los cheques para reclamantes personales y comerciales detallados se enviarán en septiembre, ya que esos reclamos tardan mucho más en revisarse. Los pagos posteriores de junio y septiembre agregarán aproximadamente otros \$47 millones a la economía de Merrimack Valley además de los \$70 millones que se distribuirán el viernes.

Evan Schouten, un economista que asesoró al Fondo de Compensación de Víctimas del 11 de septiembre, le dio al juez Lang su opinión experta de que la infusión de efectivo de \$100M+ del acuerdo le daría a la economía de Merrimack Valley un impulso de entre \$37 millones y \$119 millones.

El acuerdo fue negociado en el transcurso de 2019 por cinco abogados que lideraron la demanda colectiva: John Roddy de Bailey Glasser, Elizabeth Graham de Grant & Eisenhofer, Frank Petosa de Morgan & Morgan, Brad Henry y Leo Boyle de la firma de juicio de Boston. Meehan Boyle.

## Merrimack Valley residents to receive first payments in gas disaster class action settlement

\$70 Million in payments, the first to be sent out, will be mailed this Friday

The first \$70 million in expedited settlement payments to residents affected by the September 13, 2018 Columbia Gas disaster will be mailed Friday, May 22 from the settlement claims administrator. For those residents who filed a claim with the administrator seeking a lump-sum payment, the average per-household payment will be more than \$8,000.

When the COVID-19 pandemic shut down large parts of the economy, lawyers for the class asked Judge James Lang to allow them to fast track payments to Merrimack Valley residents now dealing with the financial fallout of the coronavirus on top of the devastating fires and explosions of 2018. Judge Lang's approval of this week's expedited check mailing distributes \$70 million in lump sum payments to families in the Valley about six weeks sooner than originally anticipated.

"Getting this first round of checks out now rather than at the end of June will give a desperately needed lifeline to thousands of families during the Covid-19 shutdown," said John Roddy of Bailey & Glasser, Frank Petosa of Morgan & Morgan, and Elizabeth Graham of Grant & Eisenhofer, the plaintiffs' co-lead counsel who led the settlement negotiations. "The gas explosions crushed the local economy in Merrimack Valley, and these payments are a critical part of making the community whole again."

A follow-up lump sum payment will go out in June for those claimants who

filed a claim seeking a lump sum payment but have not yet provided proof they lived in Lawrence, Andover or North Andover in September 2018. These claimants have been notified by the settlement administrator that they need to provide such proof. Lawyers for the class emphasized that to prevent fraud, the settlement administrator must receive a document proving residency, like a utility bill, lease, credit card or bank statement. Those so notified can get help from EN Business Solutions in Andover for no charge.

Checks for itemized personal and business claimants will go out in September, as those claims take much longer to review. The subsequent June and September payments will add approximately another \$47 million into the Merrimack Valley economy on top of the \$70 million being distributed Friday.

Evan Schouten, an economist who advised the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund, provided Judge Lang her expert opinion that the settlement's \$100M+ cash infusion would give the Merrimack Valley economy a boost of between \$37 million to \$119 million.

The settlement was negotiated over the course of 2019 by five lawyers who led the class action lawsuit: John Roddy of Bailey Glasser, Elizabeth Graham of Grant & Eisenhofer, Frank Petosa of Morgan & Morgan, Brad Henry and Leo Boyle of the Boston trial firm Meehan Boyle.



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## NECC Business Transfer Major Receives Outstanding Student Award

Haverhill resident Vasil Zisi is the latest recipient of the Outstanding Student Award, a selective honor granted to one high-achieving NECC student each year. Zisi was named for the award following several nominations and a selection of approval by members of the NECC Alumni Board.

A business transfer student, Zisi began his academic journey at NECC in the fall of 2018, after migrating to the U.S. from Albania. Since that time, he has won various accolades for his scholastic achievements and involvement in college service activities. He previously received an NECC merit scholarship award in the spring of 2019 and was nominated for the “29 Who Shine” award, a program that recognizes outstanding graduates from the commonwealth’s public higher education system. In addition, Zisi is a Student of the Month award winner, a nominated member of the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS), and a member of Alpha Beta Gamma. He will be graduating with high honors — and a near-perfect GPA — this spring.

In a letter of recommendation, Patricia Machado, professor of economics, lauded his academic prowess.

“He is an excellent student with an exceptional work ethic,” she wrote. “Vasil was always prepared for class, contributed valuable discussion points regarding current events in economics, and was one of the top students in the class.”

Zisi will continue his studies at a four-year institution this fall, at which time he will pursue a bachelor’s degree in business with the ultimate goal of one day operating his own company. He has applied to a range of colleges and universities to date, including Suffolk, UMass Lowell, Babson, and Bentley, and has already received acceptances from several. Earlier this spring, he also got a head-start on his career journey through an accounting internship at



Vasil Zisi, recipient of the 2020 Outstanding Student Award, poses with his new Dell laptop, courtesy of the Alumni Association.

Aphios Corporation, where he continues to work.

Upon receiving word of his win, Zisi was quick to express his gratitude.

“This award means a lot to me,” he said. “Coming from a small country like Albania and going to college in the United States was a different experience for me... Despite the difficulties that I had in the beginning with my English, the staff was very accepting of me and helpful when I had questions. This award means so much to me and my family because my hard work is being recognized.”

The Outstanding Student Award is distributed annually to one graduating NECC student who has exemplified exceptional commitment to community services initiatives and/or high academic achievement. The recipient must be nominated for the award and selected for approval by the NECC Alumni Board on behalf of the Alumni Association. The selected student receives a Dell laptop and an award certificate.

## Merrimack Valley Hospice ahora ofrece grupos de apoyo virtuales gratuitos para el duelo

Los grupos de apoyo de duelo ofrecen a las personas que han perdido a un ser querido un espacio seguro y un ambiente de apoyo para expresar sentimientos y compartir recuerdos con otros que entienden por lo que están pasando. Dado que las reuniones en persona no son posibles durante esta crisis de salud, Merrimack Valley Hospice está ofreciendo sesiones virtuales para que aquellos que están de duelo puedan continuar encontrando consuelo y aprendiendo habilidades de afrontamiento para ayudarlos a aceptar su pérdida.

Los grupos se ofrecen cada dos semanas en Zoom, y cada sesión es dirigida por un facilitador del personal de duelo autorizado y acreditado de Merrimack Valley Hospice. Los grupos tienen lugar los miércoles de 12 a 1 p.m. y de 6 a 7:30 p.m., y los jueves, de 10 a 11 a.m. y de 5 a 6 p.m. Las sesiones

se adaptan para satisfacer las necesidades del grupo, con temas que incluyen el proceso de duelo, la pérdida general y la curación.

Todos los grupos son gratuitos y abiertos al público. Para obtener más información o registrarse, llame al (978) 552-4510.

Merrimack Valley Hospice es una agencia sin fines de lucro que brinda atención de confort y servicios de apoyo a pacientes que se acercan al final de la vida y servicios de duelo a sus familias y seres queridos. Junto con Home Health VNA y HomeCare, Inc., las agencias brindan una gama completa de atención de salud en el hogar y cuidados paliativos en más de 110 comunidades en todo el Valle de Merrimack, el noreste de Massachusetts y el sur de New Hampshire. Merrimack Valley Hospice también sirve a la región del sur de Maine como York Hospital Hospice. Para obtener más información, visite [MerrimackValleyHospice.org](http://MerrimackValleyHospice.org).

## Merrimack Valley Hospice Now Offering Free Virtual Grief Support Groups

Grief support groups offer individuals who have lost a loved one with a safe space and supportive environment to express feelings and share memories with others who understand what they are going through. Since in-person meetings are not possible during this health crisis, Merrimack Valley Hospice is offering virtual sessions so those who are grieving may continue to find comfort and learn coping skills to help them come to terms with their loss.

Groups are offered on a biweekly basis on Zoom, with each session led by a facilitator from Merrimack Valley Hospice’s licensed, credentialed bereavement staff. Groups take place Wednesdays, 12 to 1 p.m. and 6 to 7:30 p.m., and Thursdays, 10 to 11 a.m. and 5 to 6 p.m. Sessions are tailored to meet the group’s needs, with topics including the grief process, general

loss and healing.

All groups are free of charge and open to the public. To learn more or register, call (978) 552-4510.

Merrimack Valley Hospice is a not-for-profit agency providing comfort care and supportive services to patients nearing the end of life and bereavement services to their families and loved ones. Together with Home Health VNA and HomeCare, Inc., the agencies provide a full continuum of home health and hospice care in more than 110 communities throughout the Merrimack Valley, Northeastern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. Merrimack Valley Hospice also serves the Southern Maine region as York Hospital Hospice. For more information, visit [MerrimackValleyHospice.org](http://MerrimackValleyHospice.org).

**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.**

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¡Gracias por tu apoyo!



# State Fire Marshal Urges Springing Safely into Summer

“The Memorial Day barbecue may be smaller this year,” said State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey, “but we still need to practice safe grilling as we celebrate the unofficial start of the summer season.” “Take a few minutes for a safety check and inspect grills for leaks and cracks, and teach children to stay three feet away from any grill in use,” said Ostroskey. “Follow the Governor’s guidelines for social distancing and have a safe Memorial Day,” he added.

## Grill Fire Facts

In 2019, there were 81 fire and explosion incidents reported to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) involving open fired grills. These incidents caused five civilian injuries, one fire service injury and an estimated dollar loss of \$1.4 million. Of the 81 grill fires, 71, or 88%, were gas grills. Solid fuels such as charcoal briquettes were involved in eight, or 10% of these fires.

On September 11, 2019, at 11:21 p.m., the Canton Fire Department was called to a fire in a single-family home. A gas grill on the rear deck of the house started the fire. Alarms were present and alerted the occupants; there were no injuries. The building had no fire sprinklers and damages from the blaze were estimated to be \$1.15 million.

## Check for Leaks

“Check to make sure all the connections are tight and secure before firing up the gas grill for the first time this season,” said Fire Marshal Ostroskey. “Using a brush, apply a soapy solution made of one part dish liquid and one part water to the tank connection. If the solution bubbles, you have a leak that needs repair,” said Ostroskey. He

recommended checking for and replacing any cracked hoses.

## Rules for Grills on Porches, Decks and Patios

“Grills can only be used on first floor porches, decks, or patios if there is an outdoor stairway to the ground, or the porch is at ground level. Grills are prohibited on any porch, balcony or deck that has a roof, or overhang,” said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. For more information, contact your local fire prevention office.

## Safety First

Over the past five years (2015-2019), there were 449 fires involving grills, hibachis and barbecues. These fires caused 20 civilian injuries, five firefighter injuries and \$3.8 million in estimated property damages.

- Read and follow the owner’s manual for any cooking appliance.
- Always grill outdoors.
- Keep children and pets three feet away from the grill area. Create a circle of safety.
- Place grills 10-feet away from the house. Make sure they are not under eaves, overhanging branches or against the side of the building. Keep them away from deck railings.
- Grills can be used on open (no roof) first floor porches, decks or patios if there is an exterior stairway to the ground, or it is at ground level.
- Grills should never be used indoors or on fire escapes.

- Never leave a grill burning unattended.
- Keep the grill clean by removing grease or fat build-up from the grills and trays below the grill.
- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.
- If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait 15 minutes before relighting.
- Never use gasoline on any grill!

## Shut Off the Gas at the Tank

After each use, and before disconnecting the propane tank, be sure to shut off the gas at the tank.

## Charcoal Grill Safety

State Fire Marshal Ostroskey also said, “Practice safety around charcoal grills.” Once the coals have been lit, never add lighter fluid to the fire – flames may travel up the stream of lighter fluid resulting in serious burns. Charcoal briquettes give off carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly. “Make sure to always use charcoal grills outside in a well-ventilated area.” He added, “Let the coals cool completely before disposing in a metal container.” Charcoal grills cannot be used on decks, balconies, or fire escape stairways.

## Smoking Fire Safety

There have been so many fires this spring from improperly discarded smoking materials on porches and in backyards.

These fires can smolder undetected for a long time and when they erupt into flames, travel fast. If you smoke, put it out all the way, every time. Extinguish smoking materials in a can with sand or water, not in the mulch, leaves grass, a potted plant or other container that can catch fire. Don’t snub them out on the porch railing or stairs.

On May 9, 2020, one woman was hospitalized with burns suffered escaping a fire in her 2-family home. The improper disposal of smoking materials ignited the porch fire.

A 58-year old woman died in a May 4, 2020 fire in her home in Hanson when improperly discarded smoking materials ignited a fire on the porch of the 1-family home.

## Gasoline and Lawn Mowers

Ostroskey said, “If your older children are learning to mow the lawn, be sure to teach them about gasoline safety at the same time.” Gasoline vapors are highly flammable. They stay on your clothing and can ignite if you light a match.

- Store gasoline only in approved containers, outside.
- Keep gasoline away from all heat sources, such as smoking materials, pilot lights, campfires, and grills.
- Fill a cooled lawn mower. Never refill while it is hot.
- Keep hands and feet away from a mower while it’s running.
- Never use gasoline to start a campfire.

## La Oficina del Censo de los EE. UU. reanudará la recopilación de datos de campo en las áreas insulares

La Oficina del Censo de los EE. UU. reabrirá sus oficinas en Samoa Americana, la Mancomunidad de las Islas Marianas del Norte, Guam y las Islas Vírgenes de los EE. UU. en preparación para la reanudación de las operaciones de los Censos del 2020 de las Áreas Insulares. El personal de las Áreas Insulares está listo para reanudar el contacto con cada hogar o alojamiento para realizar una entrevista en persona alrededor del 1 de junio.

La reapertura tendrá lugar tras la suspensión de las actividades de recopilación de datos en el campo en cumplimiento de las directivas de los gobernadores de cada Área Insular, lo que ocurrió el 16 de marzo para la Mancomunidad de las Islas Marianas del Norte y Guam, el 18 de marzo para las Islas Vírgenes de los EE. UU., y el 23 de marzo en Samoa Americana, en respuesta a la pandemia del COVID-19. Antes de la suspensión, los Censos del 2020 de las Áreas Insulares comenzaron a contar la población a principios de marzo.

La Oficina del Censo coordinó con sus representantes en las Áreas Insulares para evaluar si estaban listos para reabrir cada oficina y si era factible reanudar las operaciones de campo. Todo el trabajo del censo incorporará las directrices más actualizadas para promover la salud y la seguridad del personal del censo y del público.

Materiales impresos y entrevistas en

persona para las Áreas Insulares

Los Censos del 2020 de las Áreas Insulares usan materiales impresos, y el personal de censo realiza entrevistas en persona. Las Áreas Insulares usan un cuestionario más largo y detallado que el cuestionario del resto de los Estados Unidos. El propósito de este “formulario largo” es recopilar características detalladas de los datos sociales, económicos y de vivienda en las Áreas Insulares. Por lo tanto, el “formulario corto” por internet que se usa en operaciones en el resto de los Estados Unidos no es de uso viable para las Áreas Insulares.

Los Censos del 2020 de las Áreas Insulares recopilan características socioeconómicas y demográficas de la población y la vivienda de Samoa Americana, la Mancomunidad de las Islas Marianas del Norte, Guam y las Islas Vírgenes de los EE. UU. Estos censos son requeridos por la Constitución de los EE. UU. (Artículo I, Sección 2) y se llevan a cabo cada 10 años.

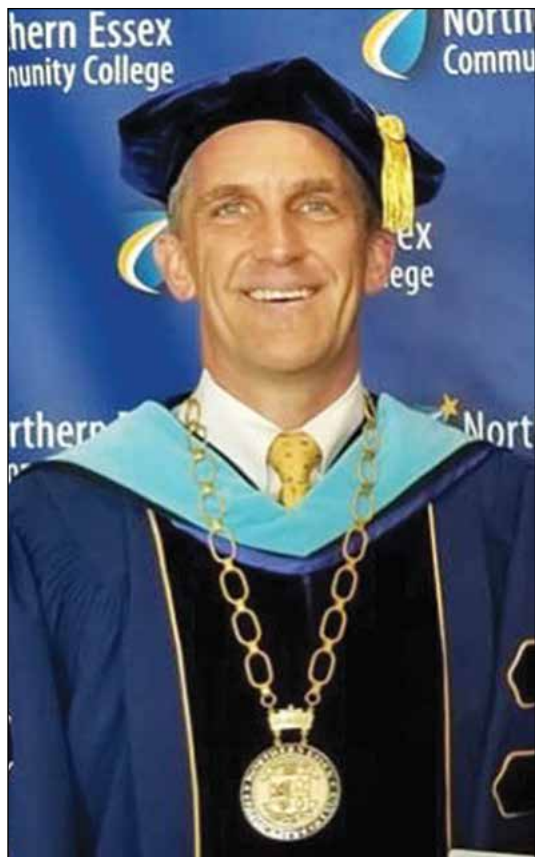
Las respuestas al Censo del 2020 son confidenciales e informan decisiones sobre fondos para servicios y recursos públicos, tales como hospitales, escuelas, respuesta a emergencias y carreteras. Para obtener más información, visite <https://2020census.gov/es/conducting-the-count/island-areas.html>.

No hay un comunicado de prensa asociado con este anuncio. Hoja de Novedades solamente.





# Running the Campus: A Special Message for the NECC Class of 2020



Lane Glenn, President of Northern Essex Community College.

Today, Saturday, May 16th, was scheduled to be Northern Essex Community College's 58th Annual Commencement ceremony.

Like every other feature of our lives right now—work, school, shopping, travel, socializing—our commencement plans have changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Class of 2020 is going to celebrate, and be celebrated, later this summer, in a virtual ceremony on August 8, and into 2021, when this year's graduates will be invited back to walk the stage under that enormous white tent out on the quad.

Meanwhile, graduates will be receiving special celebration packages in June that include caps and diplomas, signs, and special gifts from the college, and they will have the opportunity to share videos and pictures to be included in our virtual ceremony.

All of the details are being sent to graduates, and will be available on our commencement web site. I hope that every member of the NECC community will join in with our graduates and their families on August 8 to celebrate at a distance, and again next year when hopefully we can be together again.

## A Special Message for the NECC Class of 2020

Every commencement I have ever attended has had its unique, memorable moments—especially graduation ceremonies here at Northern Essex Community College.

For most of us at NECC, commencement is our favorite day of the year, filled with celebration, tradition, occasionally some silliness and, yes, “pomp and circumstance.”

Those few seconds it takes for the newly minted graduate to walk across the stage and accept that degree may not take long, but they are filled with vivid images that last forever.

Back in 2013, I wrote “Shake on It,” for Inside Higher Ed, my observations

about the wild range of graduate handshakes I experienced while doling out diplomas.

A couple years later, in “Pomp and Pumps,” I described the creative footwear to be found among all the bagpipers piping, professors processing, and commencement speakers speechifying.

But far more important than the readings and the regalia are the stories behind each and every one of the more than a thousand NECC degrees and certificates awarded each year.

## Stay Positive

In 2016, CJay DiPrima graduated from NECC with a degree in Art after beating lymphoma, a cancer that attacks the immune system. His mantra throughout his painful course of treatment was always, “Stay Positive,” which he turned into a line of “Stay + Apparel” including tank tops, baseball caps, sweatshirts and t-shirts—about a dozen of which I shot out of a t-shirt cannon during commencement that year.

## Support Each Other

Just last year, our student commencement speaker was Yexis Hechavarria. Raised in Cuba without a computer or internet access by parents earning less than \$22 a month, Yexis emigrated to America when she was 17, learned English at Lawrence High School, studied Biology at NECC, and plans to become a doctor.



As amazing as Yexis herself is, she had a strong message for the Class of 2019: “You cannot accomplish much of anything alone. You need people to support you.”

## Finish What You Start

Perhaps the most memorable degree I have ever presented was during my first commencement ceremony as NECC's president, in 2012, when I had the privilege of shaking hands with Pat Lundin, a 64-year-old graduate who took her first class with us in 1967—the year I was born.

As this article in the Boston Globe explains, Pat took classes when she could over the years, stopping out to raise children, go to work after her husband's heart attack, struggle through her own health crises, and other challenges she encountered along the way.



Through it all, Pat remembered hearing her father's advice to her as she was growing up: “If you're going to start something, finish it.”

And she did.

Yes, if this was a normal Northern Essex Community College Commencement day, we would all be together under that big white tent, surrounded by family, friends, professors, and supporters (and a handful of bagpipers).

I'd be wearing a funny hat:

You would all be lining up—a sea of black robes, blue hoods, and gold tassels, to walk across the stage and receive your diplomas.

But this is not a normal Northern Essex Community College Commencement day—we all know that—and you are not a normal class of Northern Essex Community College graduating students.

This is an extraordinary time, and you are a group of extraordinary graduates.

Unique among all of NECC's nearly 60 commencement classes, and chosen by history to complete your education here during a global pandemic, when the world has been kept apart, your classes have been at a distance, and there is tremendous fear and uncertainty all around, you have persevered.

You are strong.

You are resilient.


You have followed CJay DiPrima's ('16) advice and stayed positive.

You have listened to Yexis Hechavarria ('19) and supported each other.

Mostly importantly, the words of Pat Lundin ('12) and her dad have echoed in your mind, and you have finished what you started.

The road ahead may be challenging for all of us, but you have proven that you are ready for it, and I congratulate you.

We may not be together under that big, white tent today, Northern Essex Community College Class of 2020, but this is your invitation to start the celebration anyway—you've earned it—and let it carry all of us to our virtual Commencement on August 8, into 2021, and beyond.




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During this ongoing crisis, hyperlocal news is more important than ever. To keep our community informed, HC Media brings you special LIVE Haverhill Journal interview broadcasts weekly on Monday nights at 7 pm. Each week, we meet guests who are making a difference right now in the city. Tune into the Haverhill Journal Live stream Monday night at 7 pm, on HC Media's Facebook page, on Comcast Channel 22, or at our website at [haverhillcommunitytv.org/video/channel-22-live-stream](http://haverhillcommunitytv.org/video/channel-22-live-stream), and stay up to date with what's happening right now in Haverhill.

The Haverhill High School Class of 2020

Video Graduation Ceremony

Watch the premiere on Friday, June 5 at 6 PM  
on HC Media Channels 22 & 99 and streaming online





# Ciudad: \$1 millón para pruebas COVID-19 1,000 residentes de Lawrence por día

(Read it in English on page 18)

22 de mayo de 2020, Lawrence, MA- El Alcalde Daniel Rivera, con el Gobernador Charlie Baker, la Vice Gobernadora Karyn Polito, la Secretaria de Salud y Servicios Humanos Marylou Sudders, Deborah Wilson, presidenta y directora ejecutiva del Lawrence General Hospital y socios de salud comunitarios, anunciaron la apertura del Centro de Pruebas COVID-19 de la Comunidad Lawrence, un sitio de prueba de Coronavirus (COVID-19) para residentes de Lawrence en una conferencia de prensa el día de hoy. La Ciudad de Lawrence invertirá \$1M para evaluar diariamente a 1,000 residentes de Lawrence y ha contratado al Hospital General de Lawrence para poner en funcionamiento el Centro de Pruebas.

“Lawrence es en la actualidad un punto de acceso para los casos de coronavirus, quinto en el estado para el total de personas afectadas y cuarto per cápita. Para detener la propagación y mantener a todos seguros, las pruebas son un factor importante en el menú de estrategias que debemos estar haciendo”, dijo el Alcalde Rivera. “No desde la Guerra Civil hemos tenido este nivel de crisis en toda nuestra nación. Hasta que no defendimos este sitio de pruebas, se realizaron aproximadamente 180 pruebas por día en los residentes de Lawrence. Las pruebas de 1,000 residentes por día aseguran que nuestra comunidad tenga un amplio acceso a las pruebas”.

Según la “Presentación de la planificación del regreso al trabajo” del Consejo de Alta Tecnología de Massachusetts de abril de 2020, existe una gran variedad de posibles estrategias para ayudar a reducir la propagación del virus; entre ellos, máscaras y cubiertas faciales, higiene personal y distanciamiento social, todo lo cual el Gobernador y la Ciudad han implementado como efectivo y de menor costo. Sin embargo, también necesitamos costos más altos y medidas más efectivas, como pruebas y rastreo. Las estrategias de prueba y rastreo pueden más que duplicar el impacto solo en la propagación del virus del autoaislamiento. Eso es más de dos veces la efectividad del autoaislamiento solo.

Tres factores importantes para una estrategia de prueba y rastreo incluyen:

(1) cuántos infectados se identifican y aíslan, (2) cuántos contactos se rastrean y se ponen en cuarentena, y (3) qué tan rápido se realiza cada uno. Los países que han contenido la pandemia solo encuentran 1-3% de casos positivos durante las pruebas. A partir del 18 de mayo, el 9.9% de los casos de Massachusetts son positivos; para Lawrence, el 12 de mayo, fue el 33%, lo que significa que debemos aumentar significativamente el nivel de pruebas. Para hacer esto, necesitamos expandir a quién evaluar hoy y hacer que la prueba sea lo más eficiente posible. Sé que será difícil y costoso, pero estoy de acuerdo en que deberíamos tener un objetivo de prueba de 100 mil por día en Massachusetts. En teoría, cada grupo de políticas podría reducir la propagación del virus lo suficiente por sí solo para reabrir la economía.

El Hospital General Lawrence operará el sitio de pruebas, con socios comunitarios de atención médica, incluido el Centro de Salud Familiar Greater Lawrence, que dirigirá los esfuerzos de búsqueda de contactos lanzados esta semana con Partners In Health y Mass General Brigham. “Nuestro objetivo es evaluar a los residentes de Lawrence para que podamos detener el progreso de esta pandemia, mantener a nuestra comunidad saludable y, en última instancia, volver a brindar toda la atención preventiva y electiva que esta comunidad necesita para vivir vidas largas y saludables”, dijo Deborah J. Wilson, presidente y directora ejecutiva de Lawrence General Hospital.

“Este nuevo sitio de pruebas es un gran ejemplo de cómo los socios comunitarios y de atención médica pueden trabajar juntos para aumentar las pruebas de COVID-19, y estamos agradecidos al Alcalde Rivera, el Hospital General Lawrence, el Centro de Salud Familiar de Greater Lawrence y otros por hacer que esta iniciativa suceda”, dijo el Gobernador Charlie Baker. “A medida que comencemos nuestra reapertura por fases, el aumento de las pruebas seguirá siendo una prioridad importante, y nuestra Administración se compromete a aumentar la capacidad de prueba y el acceso para los residentes de todo el Estado”.

Lynn Stofer, Presidenta de la



Foto: George Richardson

Cerca de seguridad con la inscripción "Policía de Lawrence" en inglés. La cerca está colocada, a la salida donde se hallan instaladas 3 carpas blancas conteniendo 8 estaciones de prueba para detectar el Coronavirus.

Organización de Médicos Comunitarios de Mass General Brigham, dijo: “Nuestro sistema de salud está comprometido a brindar todos los recursos posibles para combatir la crisis de COVID-19, especialmente en comunidades como Lawrence que han estado entre las más afectadas. Esfuerzos como esta asociación son crucialmente importantes. Como todos sabemos, las pruebas son una herramienta esencial en la batalla contra COVID-19 y creemos que esta iniciativa contribuirá en gran medida a ayudarnos a aplanar la curva en Lawrence y finalmente a derrotar este virus”.

John Silva, presidente del Centro de Salud Familiar de Greater Lawrence, dijo: “El Centro de Salud Familiar de Greater Lawrence se enorgullece de ser parte de

este esfuerzo ampliado de pruebas para los residentes de Lawrence en colaboración con el Hospital General de Lawrence, la Ciudad y el Mass General Brigham. Estamos especialmente orgullosos de estar desempeñando un papel activo en liderar los esfuerzos de búsqueda de contactos lanzados esta semana por el Estado y los socios en salud, que ayudarán a identificar a aquellos que pueden haber estado expuestos al COVID-19 en algún momento y que necesitan ponerse en cuarentena o someterse a pruebas en el nuevo sitio de pruebas en Lawrence. Estos esfuerzos colectivos con suerte ayudarán a aplanar la curva aquí en Lawrence y disminuir el número de casos positivos entre nuestros pacientes y la comunidad de Lawrence.”

## The Details

### Testing Site Hours:

- Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm (Symptomatic residents only. This includes symptomatic children of all ages that reside in Lawrence.). Appointments will be provided to ensure easy access and minimize wait times.
- Saturdays and Sundays from 10am-2pm: Testing for first responders. A confirmed appointment is still required.
- Asymptomatic Testing Coming Soon

### Testing Requirements:

- All City of Lawrence residents with symptoms.
- All City of Lawrence residents regardless of symptoms identified through official contact tracing.
- Any individuals requiring a test will need to contact their primary care physician to have an order submitted to the Lawrence General testing operations center. Physicians are asked to submit the patient's order for testing by calling Lawrence General Hospital's COVID-19 testing team at 978-946-8409.
- Individuals who are identified through contact tracing will receive a call to schedule an appointment for testing.
- Individuals may also call the COVID-19 Community Screening Line at 978-946-8409 to request information on testing.

## Testing Procedure

The Lawrence Community COVID-19 Testing Center will permit patients to stay in their vehicle as they are directed through a swab test collection lane. Tests will be collected by a clinical team with members from both Lawrence General Hospital and Pentucket Medical Associates.

The Lawrence General Hospital Laboratory team will have samples with results transmitted directly to the ordering provider. Greater Lawrence Family Health Center will notify their respective patients and nurses from Lawrence General Hospital will call all other patients with all positive and negative results once received about three days after testing.

Each individual being tested will also receive a Care Kit, supplied by Mass General Brigham, consisting of several masks, hand sanitizer, soap, bottle of water, and educational materials about COVID-19 infections, isolation of infected individuals, social distancing, handwashing, and available local support services, all in both English and Spanish.

PCR testing and nasopharyngeal swabs will be used for sample collection, assistance in acquiring adequate testing materials will be provided by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services.



Foto: George Richardson

Interior de estación una de las 8 estaciones en forma de "Drive-Through" o tunel de servicio, para suministrar la prueba del Coronavirus. Esta prueba se realizará tomando una muestra de saliva, desde el mismo automóvil. Se requiere inscripción. La prueba es opcional. La población aun no ha sido informada debidamente que su teléfono podría ser usado, para monitorear a las personas con las cuales entra en contacto.



# UndocuFund de Massachusetts alcanza la mitad de la meta de financiación de \$1 millón para el alivio del COVID-19

Ayuda recibida por 322 trabajadores de MA y sus familias no elegibles para ayuda estatal y federal

El UndocuFund de Massachusetts para el alivio del COVID-19 ha recaudado \$500,000 de su meta de financiamiento inicial de \$ 1 millón. El Fondo fue creado para atender las necesidades de aquellos trabajadores de Massachusetts y sus familias que son ignorados por los esfuerzos de la ayuda federal. Un total de 322 personas se beneficiaron desde que comenzó la distribución de fondos el 14 de abril. Más de la mitad de ese número son padres con hijos en nuestra comunidad.

El número de trabajadores indocumentados que viven y trabajan en Massachusetts se estima ser 250,000. [Fuente: Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts] Según el UndocuFund de Massachusetts, las solicitudes de ayuda se originaron en 32 ciudades y pueblos del estado, que representan a todos menos a los dos condados con los casos menos reportados por persona. Los beneficiarios viven en ciudades y pueblos a través del estado, como Springfield, Chicopee, Northampton, Greenfield, Turner Falls, Ashland, Worcester, Westborough, Grafton, Shrewsbury, Leicester, Leominster, Clinton, Framingham, Lowell, Revere, Lynn, Salem, Malden, Billerica, Brockton, New Bedford,

Falmouth, Boston, Watertown, Malden, Revere, Winthrop y Chelsea.

Es muy probable que los inmigrantes indocumentados y sus familias se encuentren entre los más afectados financieramente por la pandemia. Los tipos más comunes de empleo para personas indocumentadas en Massachusetts incluyen trabajo de día, hospitalidad, cuidado de niños y cuidado de adultos mayores. Estos trabajadores enfrentan una pérdida significativa de ingresos ya que la demanda se ha reducido para empleos en esos sectores. [Fuente: Pew Research Center] Mientras que \$184.6 millones en impuestos estatales y locales (además de los impuestos federales) se recaudan anualmente de inmigrantes indocumentados en Massachusetts, estos trabajadores no pueden acceder a muchos de los beneficios respaldados por sus contribuciones fiscales.

Los inmigrantes indocumentados, a diferencia de otras víctimas de la pandemia, pueden ser excluidos de los esfuerzos de ayuda estatales y federales, como los beneficios de desempleo. El miedo a la deportación, la falta de familiaridad con las instituciones oficiales y la falta de dominio del inglés pueden evitar que las personas

indocumentadas busquen beneficios incluso en circunstancias en las que calificarían para ellos.

Un destinatario, Nelson de Framingham, escribió después de recibir su cheque: "“Hola mi nombre es Nelson, Estoy muy contento y feliz, Por la ayuda que Nos están brindando, Mass Undocufund, y las compras de supermercado [que fueron donados a él y su familia por el grupo de respuesta Framingham Coronavirus y la Red de solidaridad de inmigrantes de Metrowest]. " Mass UndocuFund está conectando a inmigrantes con centros de trabajadores locales, organizaciones comunitarias y grupos de ayuda mutua.

El Mass UndocuFund es un proyecto de organizaciones de inmigrantes de base con sede en Massachusetts y centros de trabajadores que incluyen socios fundadores, Jobs with Justice, Matahari Women Workers

Centre y la campaña nacional One Fair Wage. Su misión es apoyar a los niños, familias y comunidades indocumentados en la recuperación y reconstrucción de sus vidas. Las organizaciones asociadas del Fondo, que sirven a las comunidades de inmigrantes en todo el Commonwealth, colaboran para difundir información sobre el Fondo y conectarse con personas y familias elegibles.

Además de los 322 residentes de Massachusetts que han asistido hasta ahora, Mass UndocuFund anticipa que los fondos actuales proporcionarán ayuda a 1.100 personas y familias adicionales. Se podrían atender un total de 3,333 solicitudes de ayuda si se cumple el objetivo de recaudación de fondos de \$ 1 millón.

Los miembros del público pueden donar en línea y encontrar más información en [www.massundocufund.org](http://www.massundocufund.org).

## Massachusetts UndocuFund reaches halfway mark to \$1 million funding goal for COVID-19 relief

Aid received by 322 MA workers and families ineligible for state and federal relief

The Massachusetts UndocuFund for COVID-19 Relief has raised \$500,000 of its \$1 Million initial funding goal. The Fund was created to address the needs of those Massachusetts workers and their families who are overlooked by federal relief efforts. A total of 322 people benefited since the distribution of funds began on April 14th. Over half of that number are parents with children in our Commonwealth.

The number of undocumented workers living and working in Massachusetts is estimated at 250,000. [Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health] According to the Massachusetts UndocuFund, requests for aid have originated from 32 cities and towns across the Commonwealth, representing all but the two counties with the least reported cases per capita. Recipients live in cities and towns across the Commonwealth, such as Springfield, Chicopee, Northampton, Greenfield, Turner Falls, Ashland, Worcester, Westborough, Grafton, Shrewsbury, Leicester, Leominster, Clinton, Framingham, Lowell, Revere, Lynn, Salem, Malden, Billerica, Brockton, New Bedford, Falmouth, Boston, Watertown, Malden, Revere, Winthrop, and Chelsea.

Undocumented immigrants and their families are likely to be among those hardest hit financially by the pandemic. The most common types of employment for undocumented individuals in Massachusetts include day labor, hospitality, childcare, and eldercare. These workers face significant lost income as demand has reduced for jobs in those sectors. [Source: Pew Research Center] While \$184.6 million in state and local taxes (in addition to federal taxes) is collected annually from undocumented immigrants in Massachusetts, these workers are not able to access many of the benefits supported by their tax contributions.

Undocumented immigrants, unlike other victims of the pandemic, may be

barred from state and federal relief efforts such as Unemployment benefits. Fear of deportation, unfamiliarity with official institutions, and lack of English proficiency can keep undocumented individuals from pursuing benefits even under circumstances in which they would qualify for them.

One recipient, Nelson of Framingham, wrote after he received his check, "Hola mi nombre es Nelson, Estoy muy contento y feliz, Por la ayuda que Nos están brindando, Mass Undocufund, y las compras de supermercado//Hello my name is Nelson, I'm so content and happy, for the help that you have given us, Mass Undocufund, and the groceries [that were donated to him and his family from Framingham Coronavirus Response group and Metrowest Immigrant Solidarity Network.]." Mass UndocuFund is connecting immigrants to local worker centers, community organizations, and mutual aid groups.

The Mass UndocuFund is a project of Massachusetts-based grassroots immigrant organizations and worker's centers including founding partners Jobs with Justice, Matahari Women Workers' Center, and One Fair Wage. Its mission is to support undocumented children, families, and communities in recovering and rebuilding their lives. The Fund's partner organizations, which serve immigrant communities across the Commonwealth, collaborate to spread the word about the Fund and to connect to eligible individuals and families.

In addition to the 322 Massachusetts residents assisted so far, the Mass UndocuFund anticipates that the current funds will provide relief to an additional 1,100 individuals and families. A total of 3,333 requests for aid could be accommodated if the \$1 million fundraising goal is met.

Members of the public can donate online and find more information at [www.massundocufund.org](http://www.massundocufund.org).

### BBB Scam Alert:

## Easy money via "Blessing Loom"? Nope, it's a social media pyramid scheme

By Better Business Bureau

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to high unemployment and an uncertain economy, making money tight for many people. Who wouldn't be tempted by an opportunity to make several thousand dollars with only a small investment? No matter how much extra cash could be had, it's a wise idea to ignore social media invitations to join a "Blessing Loom." This pyramid scheme is causing many people to lose their hard-earned money. This is similar to the "Secret Sister" pyramid scheme that makes its rounds during the holidays. It has also been called a "Money Board" in some localities.

### How the Scam Works

A direct message arrives through social media – most often Instagram or Facebook – by a friend, family member, or possibly a stranger. They invite you to join a "Blessing Loom." The message explains that it's an excellent opportunity to earn money while also "blessing others."

With a small investment of about \$100 paid through PayPal, Venmo, or another digital payment service, you can spread the wealth and see a huge return on the money you put in. All you need to do is recruit a few other people to invest. They will recruit even more people, and, as the circle widens, everyone makes loads of cash.

Sounds great, right? The trouble is that this is a pyramid scheme. It relies on recruiting new individuals to keep the scam afloat. Once people stop participating, the money supply stops as well. That leaves lots of disappointed people who lose the cash they initially invested.

### How to Avoid Social Media Scams

Social media is a great place to connect

with friends and family, but it is also a place where scammers and con artists lurk. Always stay informed and exercise caution.

### Stay alert to pyramid schemes.

Pyramid schemes promise quick profits for recruiting others. Scammers prey on the desire to make a lot of money with very little effort. But remember, pyramid schemes are illegal in the United States and Canada.

**Be skeptical:** Before you accept any offer on social media, do your research. Just because something appears to be fun and was shared by a friend, doesn't mean there isn't an inherent risk. Many of these offers include extravagant promises that aren't kept.

### Monitor Friend Requests.

Don't accept friend requests from people you don't know. Also be wary of a second friend request from someone you are already connected with; the second profile may be an imposter trying to access your data and your friends list.

### Ask questions and research the offer before joining any business venture.

What appears to be a legitimate investment could still be a pyramid scheme. Check business ratings and reviews on BBB.org and other search engines before agreeing to work with or invest in any company or individual.

To learn more about pyramid scams, how they work, and how to spot them, see the BBB Tip: Avoiding Pyramid Schemes. You can also find general tips at [BBB.org/AvoidScams](http://BBB.org/AvoidScams) and the Top 10 Ways to Avoid a Scam.





## UN PUNTO DE VISTA © 1996

Por Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, ICCP

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

# Cómo las metáforas se hacen realidad

Víctor Hugo dijo: "Nada es más poderoso que una idea cuyo tiempo ha llegado". La declaración es más profunda de lo que parece a primera vista. Propone la posibilidad de que las ideas tengan vida propia. Me suscribo a la definición de Hugo porque he visto las pruebas. Pensar, "idealizar", es crear

Vivimos en un mundo físico rodeado de cosas físicas. Sólo algunos ejemplos: casa, muebles, carruajes, utensilios, automóviles, computadoras. Lo que no nos damos cuenta es que hubo un tiempo antes de que esas ideas fueran... Ideas. Muchas ni siquiera fueron consideradas, pensadas, durante mucho tiempo, no cosas reales. Y podríamos agregar miles a la lista, pero no necesitamos más ahora para probar mi punto final, el punto final. Sólo tengo una página para hacerlo.

Pensemos en "casa" primero. Antes de construir las primeras cuatro paredes y un techo, vivíamos desprotegidos de las fuerzas de la naturaleza, tanto climáticas como animales. La lluvia, el viento y el frío, incluso el calor del sol, nos atacaban sin previo aviso, al igual que los leones, los tigres y otras criaturas más fuertes que nosotros. Las ramas y hojas de los árboles nos dieron cierta protección mientras vagamos por el mundo como nómadas y pensamos que alguna protección construida, ¿"una casa" tal vez? Podría ayudar. Así que la idea de "una casa" se hizo realidad. No importa si esa "casa" era una cabaña, una

casa de campo, un castillo, un templo o un edificio, todas versiones diferentes del concepto de "casa"; simplemente ideas cuyo tiempo había llegado.

Pero vamos con el resto. Mirar lo que estoy tratando de usar con mi primer ejemplo los hará más fáciles. ¿Cómo calificarían los muebles? Obviamente, no lo harían durante nuestros años nómadas. ¿Quién quiere llevar una silla o un sofá a través de una montaña, pero muy útil cuando nos convertimos en colonizadores sedentarios. Tan pronto como cerramos nuestras vidas con cuatro paredes y decidimos sentarnos o dormir, hacerlo en el suelo se hacía incómodo y decidimos talar los árboles que nos habían dado refugio para construir muebles con su madera. Habla de ser mal agradecido.

Carruajes, utensilios, automóviles, computadoras, se convirtieron en ideas cuando surgieron las necesidades para beneficiarse de ellos e incluso entonces algunas personas han tenido dificultades para adaptarse. Muchos nunca han utilizado carruajes o automóviles a pesar de que la idea se les había cruzado por la cabeza. Pero dejan que otros lo acepten. Los utensilios fueron añadidos por la civilización; ¿Alguna vez has comido una rebanada de pizza sin utensilios, con las manos? Será mejor que no contestes a esa. Fueron los buenos modales los que los crearon. Y en cuanto a las computadoras, bueno tienes la idea. Conocí a un hombre

que se negó a aprender a usar computadoras a pesar de que prometieron pagar por sus clases y darle un aumento de sueldo.

He cubierto el mundo físico para apoyar mi punto de vista sobre la naturaleza física de las ideas, pero no es sólo en el mundo físico que las ideas generan objetos. El mundo psicológico y moral también lo hace. Todos los instrumentos de odio fueron una vez ideas que se hicieron realidad. Las armas, básicas y sofisticadas por igual, eran los sueños de soldados y guerreros. Durante siglos hemos descubierto nuevas formas de matar a nuestros enemigos y odiar a esos enemigos fue la fuerza que los creó.

Ahora, cuando por enésima vez en nuestra historia humana somos atacados por bacterias que parecen decididas a

destruimos, pregunto, ¿odiamos lo suficiente como para que nuestra metáfora de odio asuma una vida propia? ¿Es este nuevo virus alguna idea de odio crecido a la edad adulta criminal? ¿Es el amor hacia los demás la única vacuna que salvará a la humanidad? ¿Y quién quiere detener el miedo y empezar el amor? Dímelo tú.

A Bertrand Russell, el famoso filósofo británico, se le preguntó cómo íbamos a hacer una vida satisfactoria. "Haz que tus intereses sean cada vez más amplios e impersonales, hasta que poco a poco las paredes del ego retrocedan, y tu vida se fusione cada vez más en la vida universal", respondió. ¿Cuándo vamos a empezar? Agregó.

Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy.



## A POINT OF VIEW © 1996

By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, ICCP

# How metaphors become physical realities

Victor Hugo said: "Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come." The statement is deeper than it looks at first sight. It proposes the possibility that ideas have a life of their own. I subscribe to Hugo's definition because I've seen the evidence. To think, to "idealize," is to create

We live in a physical world surrounded by physical things. Just a few examples: houses, furniture, carriages, utensils, automobiles, computers. What we fail to realize is that there was a time before those ideas were... ideas. Many were not even considered, thought, for a long time, not real things. And we could add thousands to the list, but don't need more now to prove my final point, the end point. I only have a page to make it.

Let's think about "houses" first. Before we built the first four walls and a roof, we lived unprotected of the forces of nature, both climatic and animal. Rain, wind and cold, even the heat of the sun, attacked us without warning, and so did lions, tigers and other creatures stronger than we. The branches and leaves of trees gave us some protection while we roamed around the world as nomads and we thought that some built protection, "a house" perhaps? could help. So the idea of "a house" became a reality. It makes no difference if that "house" was a hut, a cottage, a castle, a temple or a building, all different versions of the "house" concept; simply ideas whose time had come.

But let's move with the rest. Looking at what I am trying to use with my first example will make those easier. How would furniture qualify? Obviously, they wouldn't during our nomadic years. Who wants to carry a chair or a couch through a mountain? But it was quite helpful when we became sedentary colonizers. As soon as we enclosed our lives with four walls and decided to sit or sleep, doing it on the floor became uncomfortable and we decided to cut down the trees that had given us refuge to build furniture with their wood. Talk about being ungrateful.

Carriages, utensils, automobiles, computers, became ideas when the necessities arose to benefit from them and even then some folks have had a hard time adapting. Many have never used carriages or automobiles although the idea had crossed their minds. But they let others accept them. Utensils were added by civilization; have you ever eaten a slice of pizza without utensils, with your hands? You'd better don't answer that one. It was good manners that created them. And as for computers, well you get the idea. I met a man who refused to learn how to use computers even though they promised to pay for the classes and give him a salary increase.

I have covered the physical world to support my point of view about the physical nature of ideas, but it is not only in the physical world that ideas generate objects. The psychological and moral world does as well. All instruments of hate were once ideas that became reality. Weapons, basic and sophisticated alike, were the dreams of soldiers and warriors. For centuries we have figured out new ways to kill our enemies and hate against those enemies was the force that created them.

Now, when for the hundredth time in our human history we are attacked by bacteria that seem intent in destroying us, I ask, did we hate hard enough that our hate took on a life of its own? Is this new virus some metaphor grown to reach criminal adulthood? Is love towards others the only vaccine that will save humankind? And who wants to stop the fear and start the loving? You tell me.

Bertrand Russell, the famous British philosopher, was asked how we were to make a fulfilling life. "Make your interests gradually wider and more impersonal, until bit by bit the walls of the ego recede, and your life becomes increasingly merged in the universal life," he answered. When are we going to start? I add.

And that is my point of view today.

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BY DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

# From My Corner



## Moratorium on evictions

When Mayor Dan Rivera first announced the moratorium on evictions, it was immediately misunderstood. People would call the radio stations saying that they did not have to pay their rent because "the mayor said so." Even those with Section 8 stopped paying their minimal portion of the rent.

After a couple of months, they realized that Mayor Rivera meant those evictions already in progress would have to wait until the current situation with COVID-19 is settled. Still, some property owners and building managers had to get tough with their tenants. If they depended on Section 8, they had to be threatened with calling the government to stop those payments if they insisted in not paying their share.

It is difficult to understand the reason for the lack of payment because those workers, who became unemployed as a result of the shutting down of businesses, are now collecting unemployment plus \$600 on top. Retirees and people on public assistance or SSI continued getting their monthly benefits plus the government's stimulus so, there is no reason to be short on this monthly obligation.

There is, after all, a percentage of residents who have seen their world crumble to the point of having to depend on food banks and the generosity of others. Those are the invisible people working under the table or lacking the necessary documents to collect unemployment, having to resort to charities.

## Misusing our money

After the Lawrence City Council approved the Moratorium on Evictions, the mayor decided to get into a new field that I am afraid it will backfire. After much deliberation and voting, on April 7, it was "tabled" and it hasn't been brought up again. Since there is a chance that someone in the council will try to do it, I want to give you my thoughts.

The city recently appropriated \$150,000 dedicated to creating a legal defense fund for providing legal assistance to "tenants wrongfully evicted" from housing in Lawrence. I am quite certain the three city attorneys will probably not be able to maintain a litigation calendar dedicated to civil actions before the District and Housing Courts to seriously meet the demand or the specialty.

The fact remains that some people have fallen behind on their rents and now, Lawrence has decided to get into the tenant defense business. Merrimack Valley Legal

Services is still at 170 Common Street and Northeast Legal Services is at 50 Island St.

When I first heard that being discussed in the council meeting, my thought was that taxpayers' funds were being used for that. So, being limited to my legal knowledge, I consulted with some attorney friends and my faithful partner the internet, and I found out many things.

One of the concerns that haven't been fully considered is the civil and financial liability exposure resulting from intervening in a civil case in which the city may not have the standing to enter. The retort by the city is that a reason for representation is established by the relationship that arises from the fact that the property used for tenancy is located in Lawrence.

Other assertions by the city will be that the city has a regulatory role and interest to assure that landlords comply with eviction law. This argument is a true "red herring" because that is not the job of the city – that is the job of the courts.

Both of these arguments fail and are short-sighted primarily because once the city is involved with litigation its role is no longer "regulatory" because the city becomes a party in all cases they appear or intervene on the side of the tenant as a party. The scheme subjects the city and the money of the taxpayers to claims by landlords against the city for unlawful actions. They may include counterclaims for retaliation by the city that may be alleged to be taking action against a property owner because they failed to comply with city regulations. It could be that they failed to obtain an occupancy permit, failed to abide by city regulations, failed to pay taxes, failed to pay betterments – or any other allegation that may be asserted to show improper intervention.

More savvy landlords may even allege that the city is targeting only certain landlords as political retaliation for other reasons that have no limits. One question that has not been thought out by the city is: What happens when the city is found liable and a money judgment enters against the city for any claim sustained after trial?

The first defense available to the city [and likely to be claimed] is that the city is exempt from judgment as a sovereign entity of the Massachusetts government. That defense fails because the city is not exempt from actions it takes "outside the scope of its authority". The "scope of authority" in this instance is not defined by the city of Lawrence but by State Law which has an array of landlord/tenant laws and cases that are available to parties to any civil property action – and does not extend that authority

to voluntary intervenors. In other words, the city "chose" to interject itself into landlord/tenant litigation without any lawful basis or authority.

Another more perplexing conundrum is that the city of Lawrence is using taxpayer money to defend tenants against property owners who pay property and use taxes to the city. In other words, the property owners are paying for the city to defend the tenant/opponent in a lawsuit against themselves. At the very least this creates an "appearance of impropriety" if not an outright "conflict of interest". The city of Lawrence should be excluded from any action against Lawrence property owners on the premise that the city is unlawfully using taxpayer funds to sue the very taxpayers or property owners in a private cause of action. This issue will likely be raised before the court coupled with a claim for costs and attorney fees to be assessed against the city for a finding of negligence.

This scheme creates a liability that will open the "deep pockets" of the city of Lawrence taxpayer who will be "tapped" to pay for "judgments" incurred by the city who may be determined "liable" in a landlord/tenant case where the landlord/property owner may be competently represented and successful much like the failed case against Attorney DiAdamo who obtained a 3 million dollar settlement against the city's wrongful prosecution.

The city wants to take another dive into the landlord/tenant litigation arena. One of the rules of litigation that all lawyers know is that you lose more than you win – and because you do, you must have enough money to pay the cost of litigation which must be paid continuously to "be the last one standing". Litigation requires an unending commitment of time and money dedicated to the legal expertise – which takes mostly money that will be necessary to pay lawyers, fees, judgments, appeals, and costs associated with civil litigation.

Although it may be argued by the city that this is a just cause to intervene on behalf of the "innocent tenants" embroiled against "evil landlords" who are using "self-help" evictions and other unlawful means to remove tenants from their property during severe economic circumstances caused by COVID which may have resulted in the loss of jobs, loss of income, divorce, injury, illness, COVID-19 hospitalization, and many other reasons.

All tenants affected by these severe repercussions deserve the best legal defense that can be provided – which is the reason that Merrimack Valley Legal Services, Northeast Legal Services, and Massachusetts Bar Foundation and other similar publicly funded organizations were created and are funded to provide legal representation to tenants with a staff of extremely competent and well-trained attorneys expert in landlord/

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### RUMBO

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

tenant law and its practice and procedures before the courts.

The reasons that any municipality may seek to assist tenants to interject as an ally to wrongfully evicted tenants is not much more than opportunistic "virtue signaling" during a pandemic which will have serious financial consequences – none of which will be paid by the officials creating the ill-conceived idea but will use taxpayer funds to bail them out when it fails.

These questions must be considered: "What cases will be selected for intervention by the city?" "What criteria will be used in the selection of cases?" "Will cases be 'referrals' and 'who is screening the referrals'?" Public defense agencies spend more than significant time and effort to assure there is extensive office support to staff attorneys and clients to assure that legal representation is provided that exceeds the mere minimum of "competent representation".

The cost of providing necessary counsel, staff, materials, office equipment, training, and many other items to operate a law firm offering representation in a specialized area of law is time-consuming and expensive requiring a level of dedication that the city of Lawrence is not equipped to provide without expanding its current legal staff or outsourcing all landlord/tenant litigation to an outside firm. This alone will increase the costs of operations using taxpayer money to litigate against Lawrence property owners.

I always find it interesting whenever anyone in public services offers to "help" when in reality they are only "helping themselves." Next year we'll be voting for a new mayor and someone will be scoring "brownie points" thanks to our money.

## Speaking of misusing our money...

Carlos Morel, the Recycling Coordinator, has a city truck for his personal use. Sometimes it's parked in front of his house; others, he has been seen riding around Methuen. The worst infraction was going to Lowe's in Salem to return a table that City Councilor Celina Reyes had purchased – and she was in the truck with him!

Rules are very clear regarding city vehicles. No one who is not a city employee has any business riding around with them. Employees have gotten in trouble for that in the past but this guy is immune. He picks up trash someplace and drops it off at the City Yard.

He's not the only one; Dan Mackland Rivera, Dan's brother does the same things. He's protected, as well.

## Memorial Day

The Memorial Day Commemoration will be on Channel 8. What a waste! Let me know if you watch and what you think.



If you want to know  
who controls you,  
look at who you are  
not allowed to criticize.

– Voltaire

AZ QUOTES

"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



## Richard Russell's participation at Lawrence City Council Meeting of May 19, 2020

Good evening councilors. My name is Richard Russell and I reside at 34 Cross Street in the city.

Right off the bat, I must say that I seriously disagree with this form of a public hearing on such an important issue as mail-in voting. It is as if I am having one of my American rights stolen without the ability to face anyone of you that wish to steal one of my American rights.

A few quick facts about me, my 2nd cousin 7 times removed died on April 19, 1775. Jason Russell of Menotomy, now Arlington, MA, was shot twice and bayoneted 7 times by the bitter British troops under General Howe, who got their butts handed to them by a bunch of American colonists at Lexington and Concord.

I take my heritage very seriously. I am a veteran, one of almost 42 million Americans that have served in the military in various military operations starting with the Revolutionary War. Almost 1.2 million Americans died fighting to defend and support our American way of life.

One of our American ways of life is the right to vote. The right to see my ballot inserted into a ballot box with no intermediaries between the time I fill out the ballot and the time my vote is counted; that means no USPS handling of my ballot or no election department clerks receiving my ballot and checking it off on a list before it is counted. Of all my rights as an American, this is probably the most important right that I have! There are too many examples of ballots getting lost at postal facilities only to turn up after the balloting process has concluded. I don't want my ballot to fall into an "Oops, it got misplaced in the mail; sorry!" category.

For various government officials to use the coronavirus outbreak as an excuse to hold teleconference public hearings is a total

slap in the face to all Americans. I equate a public hearing before a legislative body as being very similar to a court trial. I feel that I, no we the citizens, deserve the right to face those that want to steal my, no our, access to the ballot box away from me, no any voter that wishes to use a ballot box.

As I look at all of the elected officials in Lawrence, I can only count 2 as veterans and a 3rd. who came from a military family. The remaining 7 of you, with no disrespect to you and your upbringing, have no idea of what Americans have gone through to protect our rights including the right to vote. From the previously mentioned military numbers, 2.8% of those that served in the military have died defending our American rights.

The bottom line, for you or any government agency, to deny me the right to have direct access to a ballot box while allowing me the right to stand in line at Walmart or a 7-11 is totally ludicrous.

For you to want to implement this drastic change in the voting process with a major election coming up, an election that might have a serious impact on the future of America, with no testing or practicing with minor elections defies logic.

Basically, IMHO, various legislative bodies are attempting to add a 9th step to Saul Alinsky's process on "How to Create a Socialist State" by making it difficult to be able to vote. I hate to bring politics into this issue but I have a tendency to be able to see the storm behind the clouds. I see a lot of stormy weather in the future if this mail-in voting process passes.

Thank you for allowing me the time to express my thoughts on this very important issue!

Stay safe, wear your mask, practice social distancing, and be sure to wash your hands!

## Participación de Richard Russell en la reunión del Concejo Municipal de Lawrence del 19 de mayo 2020

Buenas noches, concejales. Mi nombre es Richard Russell y resido en el 34 Cross Street en la ciudad.

De inmediato, debo decir que estoy en total desacuerdo con esta forma de audiencia pública sobre un tema tan importante como la votación por correo. Es como si me robaran uno de mis derechos estadounidenses sin la capacidad de enfrentar a cualquiera de ustedes que desee robar uno de mis derechos estadounidenses.

Algunos datos breves sobre mí, mi primo segundo retirado 7 veces murió el 19 de abril de 1775. Jason Russell de Menotomy, ahora Arlington, MA, recibió dos disparos y fue herido con bayoneta 7 veces por las amargas tropas británicas bajo el mando del general Howe, que les dieron una paliza un grupo de colonos estadounidenses en Lexington y Concord.

Me tomo mi herencia muy en serio. Soy un veterano, uno de los casi 42 millones de estadounidenses que han servido en el ejército en varias operaciones militares, comenzando con la Guerra Revolucionaria. Casi 1.2 millones de estadounidenses murieron luchando para defender y apoyar nuestro estilo de vida estadounidense.

Una de nuestras formas de vida estadounidenses es el derecho al voto. El derecho a ver mi boleta electoral insertada en una urna sin intermediarios entre el momento en que llene la boleta y el momento en que se cuenta mi voto; eso significa que el Servicio Postal no puede manejar mi boleta o que ningún empleado del departamento de elecciones recibe mi boleta y la marca en una lista antes de contarla. De todos mis derechos como estadounidense, ¿este es probablemente el derecho más importante que tengo! Hay demasiados ejemplos de boletas que se pierden en las instalaciones postales solo para aparecer después de que el proceso de votación haya concluido. No quiero que mi boleta caiga en la categoría de "¡Uy, se perdió en el correo; lo siento!"

Para varios funcionarios del gobierno, usar el brote de coronavirus como una excusa para celebrar audiencias públicas

de teleconferencia es una bofetada total para todos los estadounidenses. Considero que una audiencia pública ante un cuerpo legislativo es muy similar a un juicio en la corte. Siento que yo, no nosotros los ciudadanos, merezco el derecho de enfrentar a aquellos que quieren robarme mi acceso a la urna, no nuestro, ningún votante que desee usar una urna.

Cuando miro a todos los funcionarios electos en Lawrence, solo puedo contar 2 como veteranos y un tercero quien vino de una familia militar. Los 7 restantes, sin faltarle el respeto a usted y su educación, no tienen idea de lo que los estadounidenses han pasado para proteger nuestros derechos, incluido el derecho al voto. De los números militares mencionados anteriormente, el 2.8% de los que sirvieron en el ejército han muerto defendiendo nuestros derechos estadounidenses.

La conclusión, para que usted o cualquier agencia gubernamental, me niegue el derecho de tener acceso directo a una urna mientras me permite el derecho de hacer cola en Walmart o un 7-11 es totalmente ridículo.

Para que desee implementar este cambio drástico en el proceso de votación con una elección importante próxima, una elección que podría tener un grave impacto en el futuro de Estados Unidos, sin pruebas o prácticas con elecciones menores desafía la lógica.

Básicamente, en mi humilde opinión, varios cuerpos legislativos están intentando agregar un noveno paso al proceso de Saul Alinsky sobre "Cómo crear un Estado socialista" al dificultar la posibilidad de votar. Odio llevar la política a este tema, pero tengo la tendencia de poder ver la tormenta detrás de las nubes. Veo mucho clima tormentoso en el futuro si este proceso de votación por correo pasa.

¡Gracias por darme el tiempo para expresar mis pensamientos sobre este tema tan importante!

¡Manténgase seguro, use su máscara, practique el distanciamiento social y asegúrese de lavarse las manos!

### How To Create A Socialist State

By Saul Alinsky

There are eight levels of control that must be obtained before you are able to create a socialist state. The first is the most important.

- 1) Healthcare - Control healthcare and you control the people.
- 2) Poverty - Increase the Poverty level as high as possible, poor people are easier to control and will not fight back if you are providing everything for them to live.
- 3) Debt - Increase the debt to an unsustainable level. That way you are able to increase taxes, and this will produce more poverty.
- 4) Gun Control - Remove people's ability to defend themselves from the Government. That way you are able to create a police state.
- 5) Welfare - Take control of every aspect of their lives (Food, Housing, and Income.)
- 6) Education - Take control of what people read and listen to take control of what children learn in school. Think: "Common Core."
- 7) Religion - Remove the belief in God from the Government and schools.
- 8) Class Warfare - Divide the people into the wealthy and the poor. This will cause more discontent and it will be easier to take (Tax) the wealthy with the support of the poor.

### Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

<http://heallawrence.org/> [heallawrence@aol.com](mailto:heallawrence@aol.com)

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

### Cómo Crear Un Estado Socialista

Por Saul Alinsky

Hay ocho niveles de control que deben obtenerse antes de poder crear un estado socialista. El primero es el más importante.

- 1) Atención médica: Controle la atención médica y usted controla a las personas.
- 2) Pobreza: Aumente el nivel de pobreza lo más alto posible, las personas pobres son más fáciles de controlar y no lucharán si les proporciona todo para que vivan.
- 3) Deuda: Aumente la deuda a un nivel insostenible. De esa manera, puede aumentar los impuestos, y esto producirá más pobreza.
- 4) Control de armas: Eliminar la capacidad de las personas para defenderse del gobierno. De esa manera puedes crear un estado policial.
- 5) Bienestar: Tome el control de todos los aspectos de sus vidas (alimentación, vivienda e ingresos.)
- 6) Educación: Tome el control de lo que la gente lee y escucha para controlar lo que los niños aprenden en la escuela. Piense: "Common Core."
- 7) Religión: - Eliminar la creencia en Dios del gobierno y las escuelas.
- 8) Guerra de clases: Divide a las personas en ricos y pobres. Esto causará más descontento y será más fácil tomar (aumentar impuestos) a los ricos con el apoyo de los pobres.

**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



# City: \$1M for COVID-19 Testing 1,000 Lawrence Residents Per Day

(Léalo en español en la página 13)

May 22, 2020, Lawrence, MA- Mayor Daniel Rivera, with Governor Charlie Baker, Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders, Deborah Wilson, President and CEO of Lawrence General Hospital and community healthcare partners, announced the opening of the Lawrence Community COVID-19 Testing Center, a Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing site for Lawrence residents at a press conference earlier today. The City of Lawrence will invest \$1M to test 1,000 Lawrence residents daily and has contracted with Lawrence General Hospital to operationalize the Testing Center.

"Lawrence is currently a hotspot for Coronavirus cases, 5th in the state for total people affected and 4th per-capita. In order to stop the spread and keep everyone safe, testing is a major factor in the menu of strategies we must be doing," said Mayor Rivera. "Not since the Civil War have we had this level of crisis across our nation. Until we stood up this testing site, roughly 180 tests per day were being conducted on Lawrence residents. Testing 1,000 residents per day ensures our community has ample access to testing."

According to the Massachusetts High Technology Council's April 2020 "Back to Work Planning Presentation", there are a large variety of possible strategies to help reduce the spread of the virus; amongst them, masks and face coverings, personal hygiene, and social distancing, all which the Governor and the City have implemented as effective and lowest cost. However, we need higher cost and more effective measures

such as testing and tracing as well. Testing and tracing strategies can more than double the impact on the spread of the virus of self-isolation alone. That is more than two times the effectiveness of self-isolation alone.

Three important factors to a testing and tracing strategy include: (1) how many infected are identified and isolated, (2) how many contacts are traced and quarantined, and (3) how quickly each is done. The countries that have contained the pandemic only find 1-3% positive cases during testing. As of May 18th, 9.9% of Massachusetts cases come back positive; for Lawrence, as of May 12th, it was 33%, which means we need to significantly increase the level of testing. In order to do this, we need to expand who to test today and make testing as efficient as possible. I know it will be hard and expensive but I agree that we should have a goal of 100K test per day in Massachusetts. Each group of policies could theoretically reduce the spread of the virus enough on their own to reopen the economy.

Lawrence General Hospital will operationalize the testing site, with community healthcare partners including Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, who will lead the contact-tracing efforts launched this week with Partners In Health, and Mass General Brigham. "Our objective is to test residents of Lawrence so that we can stop this pandemic's progress, keep our community healthy and ultimately get back to providing all of the preventative and elective care this community needs to live long, healthy lives", said Deborah J. Wilson, President and CEO of Lawrence General Hospital.

"This new testing site is a great example



Photo: George Richardson

Un paciente es ingresado al Hospital Lawrence General, a través del área de entrada reservada para paciente con COVID-19.

of how community and health care partners can work together to increase COVID-19 testing, and we're grateful to Mayor Rivera, Lawrence General Hospital, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center and others for making this initiative happen," said Governor Charlie Baker. "As we begin our phased reopening, increased testing will remain an important priority, and our Administration is committed to boosting testing capacity and access for residents across the Commonwealth."

Lynn Stofer, President of Mass General Brigham Community Physicians Organization said: "Our health system is committed to bringing every resource possible to combat the COVID-19 crisis, especially in communities like Lawrence that have been among the hardest hit. Efforts like this partnership are crucially important. As we all know, testing is an essential tool in the battle against COVID-19 and we

believe that this initiative will go a long way in helping us to flatten the curve in Lawrence and ultimately in defeating this virus."

John Silva, President of Greater Lawrence Family Health Center said: "Greater Lawrence Family Health Center is proud to be part of this expanded testing effort for the residents of Lawrence in collaboration with Lawrence General Hospital, the City, and Mass General Brigham. We are especially proud to be taking an active role in leading the contact tracing efforts launched this week by the State and Partners in Health, that will help identify those who may have been exposed to COVID-19 at some point and either need to quarantine or be tested at the new testing site in Lawrence. These collective efforts will hopefully help to flatten the curve here in Lawrence and decrease the number of positive cases amongst our patient population and the Lawrence community."

**Office of Mayor Rivera**

**Veteran's Services**  
Presents  
**Virtual Memorial Day Commemoration**  
Monday - May 25, 2020  
9AM  
Lawrence Community Access TV  
Channel 8

**Never Forget Their Service**

**Neighbors in Need is looking for you!**

**Volunteers needed at our Andover Dundee Park Warehouse to pack food bags for distribution. We need 2 volunteers, Thursday (May 21) from 9:30 am - 1 pm and 1 volunteer Friday (May 22) from 9:30 am until 1 pm. Additional warehouse volunteers needed on an ongoing basis. Please email us to sign up!**

Have questions? Contact us at [volunteer@needfood.org](mailto:volunteer@needfood.org) or 978.685.8321 for more information!



## Freedom Trail® Offers New Distance Learning Opportunities

Freedom Trail Official Historic Sites, Museum of African American History, and Freedom Trail Foundation Distance Learning Resources

The Freedom Trail® and Black Heritage Trail® have plenty of opportunities for everyone to keep learning and experiencing Boston's history remotely. To serve the public while spending time away from schools and work places, the Freedom Trail® official historic sites, Museum of African American History, and Freedom Trail® Foundation will continue to provide existing and have created new on-line distance learning resources to bring history into homes. The Freedom Trail® and historic official sites are offering over a dozen new online opportunities starting this month.

Boston's historic sites are committed to assisting people at home by providing free engaging materials for learners of all ages, including webseries, virtual tours, teacher and student resources, history blogs, and more. In addition, the Freedom Trail® Foundation's This Day in History videos provides mini-history lessons 365 days per year and is offering the Hear History: Audio Guide of the Freedom Trail MP3 download, free for a limited time, for people to enjoy at home.

History organizations along Boston's iconic Freedom Trail and Black Heritage

Trail will post daily about content and activities via their social media channels using Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram while their websites provide constant valuable resources. Additionally, the Freedom Trail Foundation has created a special website page with a list of distance learning resources to help teachers and parents teach their students and for those interested in knowing more about Boston's historic treasures and our country's history.

The Freedom Trail® Foundation's new Classrooms Live! offers teachers the opportunity to invite a historian into their virtual classrooms to help students learn about major Revolutionary-events such as the Boston Tea Party, Boston Massacre or Paul Revere's Midnight Ride. The 30-minute program includes an interactive question and answer session. In addition, the Foundation's Guide to Teaching the American Revolution is a new comprehensive at-home guide for elementary school teachers and parents teaching from home, and includes articles, primary sources, activities, and more.

For more information and complete list of new distance learning opportunities, please visit [TheFreedomTrail.org/distance-learning-resources](http://TheFreedomTrail.org/distance-learning-resources).

## U.S. Department of Labor offers new video and poster on proper workplace use of respirators

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor announced that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has released a new video and poster for employers and workers on how to properly wear and remove a respirator.

For workers who may need to use respirators to protect themselves from coronavirus exposure, a properly worn respirator can help reduce the wearer's risk of viral exposure and help prevent its spread to others.

The video and poster – in English and Spanish – demonstrate and describe seven steps every worker should follow when putting on and taking off a respirator.

1. Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60 percent alcohol before putting on and after removing the respirator;
2. Inspect the respirator for damage;
3. Cover mouth and nose with the respirator and pull strap over the head so that it rests at the back of the head. A second strap should rest at the back of the neck. Use the metal nose clips to mold the respirator to the shape of the nose;
4. Adjust the respirator by placing both hands over it and inhaling and exhaling. Readjust the straps if air leaks from the respirator's edges;
5. Avoid touching the respirator while wearing it;
6. Remove the respirator by grabbing the

strap(s) from behind. Do not touch the front; and

7. If the respirator does not need to be reused because of supply shortages, discard it in a closed-bin waste receptacle.

Visit OSHA's Publications webpage for other useful workplace safety information.

The video and poster are the latest efforts by OSHA to educate and protect America's workers and employers during the coronavirus pandemic. OSHA has also published Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, a document aimed at helping workers and employers learn about ways to protect themselves and their workplaces during the ongoing pandemic.

Visit OSHA's COVID-19 webpage frequently for updates. For further information about coronavirus, please visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to help ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

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.

# Essex Art Center

56 Island St, Lawrence, MA  
978-685-2343

**Thank you to all our donors who helped us raise \$32,000 in just one week!**

**Thanks to you, we did it!**

Last week we set an ambitious goal for our first-ever online Spring Fundraiser — raise \$15,000 to support EAC and keep us going strong.

I'm thrilled to report that we raised \$17,000, plus we received the full \$15,000 matching gift from the Garth Family Foundation!

We are beyond grateful to everyone who helped us bring in this \$32,000 total. More than 100 individuals made donations or purchased artwork, with gifts ranging from \$5 to \$1,000. We sold 60 works of art and are proud to be sharing the profits with the artists, who are EAC students, teachers, staff, and board members. Your generosity allows us to provide affordable and even free classes to students like Caleb, whose artwork was just shared on Boston.com. (See below!)

We cannot wait to share with you our plans for the upcoming weeks and months. We will be announcing even more new programming very soon! Even though our physical location remains closed, we are working as hard as ever to produce quality art classes and build a community of artists.

If you had intended to make a contribution, there is still time to purchase artwork or an EAC t-shirt! And, of course, we will continue to need additional monthly donors to support us throughout the closure and beyond.

### Special Thanks

We heard from many of you that the matching gift was an important component of the fundraiser, knowing that your gift would have twice its normal impact. So, we want especially to thank the Garth Family Foundation for making such a significant commitment to the EAC community. The Garth family has supported us before, but this additional gift came at just the right time and provided a crucial spark for our spring fundraising.

Thank you!

### Young EAC Artist on Boston.com

Boston.com featured a coffee watercolor painting by EAC student Caleb D., which he made in one of our free online classes!

"I have been taking online art classes at Essex Art Center during this time. I am also painting and drawing a lot in my free time because art is my passion. My favorite thing to create is animals. I love big cats the most. I want to be an artist when I grow up like my great-grandpa was. Here is... a lion painted with brewed coffee."

Caleb also shared this message in our recent video:

"Thank you Essex Art Center for making art lesson videos for me to do at home. I love art!"

Send us photos of the artwork you and your family are making while stuck at home!

### FREE Classes and Daily EAC Storytime

In the midst of all of this, we want to reach as many artists as we can, so we have decided to make five of our weekly classes FREE. You can find all five at [www.essexartcenter.org/freeclasses](http://www.essexartcenter.org/freeclasses). Register via the links on that page, and share with anyone who would enjoy a creative, engaging art lesson! Video lessons will be uploaded on Monday.

Also starting Monday, visit our Instagram profile at 12 pm each weekday for live EAC Storytime! Our staff and teachers will take turns reading their favorite children's stories and illustrated books. Perfect for younger kids, these are classic and newer children's books, with a special emphasis on beautiful illustrations and artwork. Kids can listen and watch as we turn the pages or listen and draw, making their own illustrations inspired by what they hear! #eacstorytime

These programs are free not because we don't need the money (we do!) but because we want to give back to our community, so please donate if you're able!

**Buon Giorno**  
**Good Morning**  
**Buenas Tardes**

Every Sunday, beginning at 9AM to 11AM with Sicilian, Italian, English, Rock 'n Roll music and Así es Colombia.



**Now on WCCM 1490 AM**

*Celebrating 20 years bringing you two continuous hours of entertainment, news, interviews, music and fun.*



Seated, Nunzio DiMarca, standing Neal Perry, Pio Frittitta and Vincenzo Buonanno.