

## Ceremonia de Ciudadanía en Lawrence



Photo by City Councilor Marc Laplante

Algunas oficinas locales y oficinas de asilo de USCIS reanudarán los servicios en persona que no sean de emergencia. Los centros de asistencia en solicitudes reanudarán los servicios más tarde. USCIS ha tomado las siguientes precauciones para evitar la propagación del COVID-19 en instalaciones que han reabierto:

Los visitantes no podrán entrar a una instalación de USCIS si:

Tienen síntomas de COVID-19, entre éstos tos, fiebre, o dificultad para respirar;

Han tenido contacto cercano dentro de los últimos 14 días con una persona que se sabe o se sospecha que tenga COVID-19;

Un proveedor de cuidado médico o autoridad de salud pública le ha ordenado aislarse o ponerse en cuarentena durante los últimos 14 días

Los visitantes no pueden entrar a la instalación con más de 15 minutos de anticipación a su cita (30 minutos para las ceremonias de naturalización).

Se les proporcionará gel antiséptico a los visitantes en los puntos de entrada.

Las personas del público deben tener cubiertas faciales que cubran su boca y nariz cuando entren a las instalaciones. Si no tienen,

USCIS podría proporcionarles una o se le pedirá al visitante que re programe su cita.

Habrán marcas y barreras físicas en la instalación; los visitantes deben prestar atención a estos letreros para asegurarse de que siguen las medidas de distanciamiento social.

Las personas también tienen que responder a preguntas de verificación de salud antes entrar a la instalación.

Se les exhorta a las personas a traer sus propios bolígrafos de tinta negra o azul.

Las notificaciones de citas incluirán instrucciones adicionales acerca de las visitas a las instalaciones de USCIS. Para más información, vea nuestras páginas Políticas de Visitantes de USCIS y Estatus de Nuestras Oficinas.

“Recuerdo cuando celebraron una en Lawrence History Center en el 2009, la primera en Lawrence. Fue increíblemente emocionante estar presente,” dijo Amita Kiley del LHC.

“Nosotros enseñamos Ciudadanía en Notre Dame Education Center y sabemos lo que requiere obtener la ciudadanía y cuán emocionados ellos están cuando llegan a esa meta,” dijeron Anne y Ray Benedix.

## Merrimack Valley Credit Union otorga \$15,000 en becas



Kacya Polanco, de Lawrence, Massachusetts, es uno de los 15 estudiantes sobresalientes de secundaria que recibió una beca de \$ 1,000 de Merrimack Valley Credit Union. Polanco se graduó de Lawrence High School y asistirá al Massachusetts College of Art and Design para estudiar diseño de moda. Pg. 8

## MVCU Awards \$15,000 in College Scholarships

Kacya Polanco, from Lawrence, Mass., is one of the 15 outstanding high school students to receive a \$1,000 scholarship from Merrimack Valley Credit Union. Polanco graduated from Lawrence High School and will attend the Massachusetts College of Art and Design to study fashion design. Pg. 8

## Recreación al aire libre expandida Outdoor recreation expanded

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## Citizenship Ceremony in Lawrence

Certain USCIS field offices and asylum offices will resume non-emergency face-to-face services to the public. Application support centers will resume services later. USCIS has enacted precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in reopened facilities:

Visitors may not enter a USCIS facility if they:

Have any symptoms of COVID-19, including cough, fever or difficulty breathing;

Have been in close contact with anyone known or suspected to have COVID-19 in the last 14 days; or

Have been individually directed to self-quarantine or self-isolate by a health care

provider or public health official within the last 14 days.

Visitors may not enter the facility more than 15 minutes prior to their appointment (30 minutes for naturalization ceremonies). Hand sanitizer will be provided for visitors at entry points.

Members of the public must wear facial coverings that cover both the mouth and nose when entering facilities. If they do not have one, USCIS may provide one or the visitor will be asked to reschedule their appointment.

There will be markings and physical barriers in the facility; visitors should pay close attention to these signs to ensure they follow social distancing guidelines.

Individuals may also have to answer health screening questions before entering a facility.

Individuals are encouraged to bring their own black or blue ink pens.

Appointment notices will include further instructions for visiting USCIS facilities. Please note that USCIS locations are not accepting walk-in visits at this time. You must have a scheduled appointment with USCIS before arriving at a USCIS office. For more information, see our USCIS Visitor Policy and USCIS Office Closings pages.

“I remember the one at LHC back in 2009, the first one held in Lawrence. It was so beautiful and incredibly moving to witness,” said Amita Kiley of LHC.

“Having tutored Citizenship classes during my stint as ESOL tutor for Notre Dame Education Center, I know how hard they work to attain citizenship and how excited and thrilled they are when they finally reach their goal,” said Anne and Ray Benedix.

## Consejos de verano del Dept. de Salud

## Health Dept. offers summer guidance

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# El Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts ofrece orientación de seguridad sobre el verano COVID-19

Con la llegada del clima de verano, y a medida que las restricciones relacionadas con COVID-19 en las actividades diarias comienzan a levantarse, el Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts (DPH) recuerda a los residentes las precauciones recomendadas para mantener a las familias, incluidos los niños pequeños, a salvo este verano.

## Prevenir las picaduras de garrapatas

Las garrapatas pueden enfermarte cuando te muerden. Se encuentran más comúnmente en áreas cubiertas de hierba, arbustos o bosques. Solo se unen cuando entran en contacto directo con ellos; no pueden saltar ni volar. Siga estos pasos si vive, trabaja o pasa tiempo en áreas donde hay garrapatas:

- Verifíquese si hay garrapatas una vez al día: es lo más importante que puede hacer.
- Use repelentes que contengan DEET en su piel expuesta y aquellos que contengan permethrina en su ropa.
- Al caminar o caminar, si puede, quédese en los senderos principales y en el centro de los senderos. Cepillarse contra hierba alta y arbustos aumentará su exposición a las garrapatas.
- Si el clima lo permite, use camisas de manga larga de colores claros y pantalones largos metidos en calcetines. Esto ayudará a mantener las garrapatas alejadas de su piel y facilitará la detección de garrapatas en su ropa.

Debido a que los perros y los caballos son particularmente susceptibles, hable con su veterinario sobre las mejores formas de proteger a sus animales de las enfermedades transmitidas por garrapatas.

## Prevenir las picaduras de mosquitos

La temporada de mosquitos de 2019 fue una temporada activa para la encefalitis equina del este (EEE) en Massachusetts. Esta enfermedad transmitida por mosquitos aparece generalmente en ciclos de 2-3 años, que tradicionalmente alcanzan su punto máximo durante agosto.

Si bien el riesgo de infección humana por EEE o Virus del Nilo Occidental no ocurrirá hasta más adelante este verano, las personas tienen un papel importante que desempeñar para protegerse de estas enfermedades que pueden ser muy graves. Para prepararse para la temporada de mosquitos:

- Drene el agua estancada dentro y alrededor de su casa o jardín para evitar la reproducción de mosquitos.
- Repare las pantallas de ventanas y puertas para mantener a los mosquitos fuera de su hogar.
- Use un repelente de mosquitos con un ingrediente registrado por la EPA de acuerdo con las instrucciones en la etiqueta.
- Use ropa para reducir la piel expuesta cuando el clima lo permita.

Para obtener más información, mire este video de 3 minutos narrado por la epidemióloga estatal Dra. Catherine Brown sobre el virus transmitido por mosquitos y cómo protegerse a sí mismo y a su familia. Para obtener más información sobre cómo prevenir las enfermedades transmitidas por mosquitos y garrapatas, visite [www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks](http://www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks).

## Seguridad de agua y piscina

El ahogamiento es una de las principales causas de muerte entre los niños pequeños, tanto a nivel nacional como en Massachusetts, con piscinas en el patio trasero que representan el mayor riesgo para los niños menores de 5 años.

- Los niños deben ser supervisados dentro y alrededor del agua en todo momento.
- Siempre que los bebés y niños pequeños estén en el agua o cerca de ella, incluida la bañera, un adulto debe estar a un brazo de distancia en todo momento proporcionando "supervisión táctil".
- Separe completamente la casa y el área de juegos del patio del área de la piscina con una cerca. Considere cerraduras automáticas o alarmas para evitar el acceso.
- Retire los flotadores, pelotas y otros juguetes de la piscina después de usarlos para que los niños no sientan la tentación de alcanzarlos. Después de que los niños terminen de nadar, asegure la piscina para que no puedan volver a entrar.
- Mantenga el equipo de rescate (como un gancho de pastor o salvavidas) y un teléfono junto a la piscina.
- Para los niños que no pueden nadar, use un chaleco salvavidas aprobado por la Guardia Costera de los Estados Unidos. No use juguetes como "alas de agua" o "fideos" en lugar de chalecos salvavidas. Estos no están diseñados para mantener a los nadadores seguros.

## En zonas públicas de baño:

- Asegúrese de practicar el distanciamiento social de los demás antes y después de nadar y use una máscara o una máscara de tela cuando no pueda mantenerse a 6 pies de distancia de los demás.
- Seleccione sitios de natación que tengan salvavidas siempre que sea posible, y nade solo en áreas designadas para nadar.
- Siempre nade con un amigo.

## Seguridad de la ventana

Las caídas son la principal causa de lesiones en los niños, y las caídas desde ventanas que involucran a niños pequeños son especialmente graves. Las caídas de ventanas son prevenibles. Las pantallas no son lo suficientemente fuertes como para evitar que los niños se caigan de las ventanas. Para evitar caídas de ventanas, los padres y cuidadores deben:

- Mantenga los muebles, y todo lo que un niño pueda subirse, lejos de las ventanas.
- Abra las ventanas desde arriba, no desde abajo, cuando sea posible y cierre todas las puertas y ventanas sin abrir.
- Asegúrese de que los niños estén siempre supervisados.
- Instale protectores de ventana de liberación rápida que se pueden encontrar en la mayoría de las ferreterías.

En el sitio web de prevención de caídas de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades de EE. UU. Se pueden encontrar consejos adicionales para prevenir las caídas entre los niños.

Para obtener más información sobre la prevención de lesiones infantiles, visite el sitio web del programa de prevención y control de lesiones DPH.

# Massachusetts Department of Public Health Offers Summertime COVID Safety Guidance

With the arrival of summer weather, and as COVID-19 related restrictions on daily activities begin to lift, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) reminds residents of the recommended precautions to keep families, including young children, safe this summer.

## Prevent Tick Bites

Ticks can make you sick when they bite you. They are most commonly found in grassy, brushy, or wooded areas. They only attach when you come into direct contact with them — they cannot jump or fly. Follow these steps if you live, work, or spend time in areas where ticks are present:

- Check yourself for ticks once a day — it's the single most important thing you can do.
- Use repellents that contain DEET on your exposed skin and those that contain permethrin on your clothes.
- When walking or hiking, stick to main pathways and the center of trails if you can. Brushing against tall grass and bushes will increase your exposure to ticks.
- Weather permitting, wear long-sleeved, light-colored shirts and long pants tucked into socks. This will help keep ticks away from your skin and make it easier to spot ticks on your clothing.

Because dogs and horses are particularly susceptible, talk to your veterinarian about the best ways to protect your animals from tick-borne disease.

## Prevent Mosquito Bites

The 2019 mosquito season was an active season for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Massachusetts. This mosquito-borne illness appears generally in 2-3 year cycles, traditionally peaking during August.

While the risk for human infection of EEE or West Nile Virus won't happen until later this summer, people have an important role to play in protecting themselves from these illnesses which can be very serious. To prepare for mosquito season:

- Drain standing water in and around your house or yard to prevent mosquito breeding.
- Repair window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Use a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient according to the directions on the label.
- Wear clothing to reduce exposed skin when weather permits.

To learn more, watch this 3-minute video narrated by State Epidemiologist Dr. Catherine Brown about the mosquito-borne virus and how to protect yourself and your family. For more information about preventing mosquito and tickborne illness, visit [www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks](http://www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks).

## Water and Pool Safety

Drowning is a leading cause of death among young children, both nationally and in Massachusetts, with backyard pools posing the highest risk for children under the age of 5. To help prevent water-related injury and drowning:

- Children should be supervised in and around water at all times.
- Whenever infants and toddlers are in or around water, including the bathtub, an adult should be within an arm's length at all times providing "touch supervision."
- Completely separate the house and play area of the yard from the pool area with a fence. Consider automatic door locks or alarms to prevent access.
- Remove floats, balls, and other toys from the pool after use so that children are not tempted to reach for them. After the children are done swimming, secure the pool so they cannot get back in.
- Keep rescue equipment (such as a shepherd's hook or life preserver) and a phone by the pool.
- For children who cannot swim, use a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket. Do not use toys such as "water wings" or "noodles" in place of life jackets. These are not designed to keep swimmers safe.

## In public swimming areas:

- Be sure to practice social distancing from others before and after you swim and wear a cloth face covering or mask when you cannot maintain 6 feet of distance from others.
- Select swimming sites that have lifeguards whenever possible, and swim only in designated swimming areas.
- Always swim with a buddy.

## Window Safety

Falls are the leading cause of injury to children, and falls from windows involving young children are especially serious. Window falls are preventable. Screens are not strong enough to protect children from falling out of windows. In order to prevent window falls, parents and caregivers should:

- Keep furniture – and anything a child can climb on – away from windows.
- Open windows from the top, not the bottom, when possible and lock all unopened doors and windows.
- Be sure children are always supervised.
- Install quick-release window guards which can be found in most hardware stores.

Additional tips on preventing falls among children can be found on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention fall prevention website.

To learn more about childhood injury prevention, visit the DPH injury prevention and control program website.

# Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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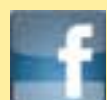
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# NOW HIRING

## 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.

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- 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
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POR DALIA DÍAZ  
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READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

# Desde Mi Esquina



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.

## Protestas y cámaras - BLM

Hace algún tiempo, Rumbo escribió varios artículos sobre las cámaras de vigilancia que estaban apareciendo en la Ciudad de Lawrence y los alrededores.

Rumbo decidió volver a tomar este tema debido a la naturaleza de la reciente protesta de Black Lives Matter que ocurrió en la Ciudad de Lawrence. Además, también estamos volviendo a visitar las cámaras de Lawrence debido a que los concejales de Boston también están volviendo a prohibir el uso del reconocimiento facial y Rumbo quería ver cómo se usan las cámaras.

Para Boston, la prohibición evitaría que cualquier agencia de la ciudad use software de vigilancia facial y garantizaría que las personas no estén sujetas a vigilancia masiva no regulada en espacios públicos. ¿Pero la gente de Lawrence sabe cómo les afecta? La última vez que escribimos sobre este tema proporcionamos varios ejemplos. Pero tenemos un par de ejemplos nuevos de cómo se usan las cámaras.

En Lawrence y otras ciudades, (como en protestas como las que han sacudido a Boston y otras ciudades desde el asesinato del mes pasado de George Floyd, un hombre negro desarmado, a manos de un oficial de policía blanco de Minneapolis) han sido bastante caóticas. Si se encontró en Lawrence durante la reciente protesta que tuvo lugar del 4 al 8 de junio, debe saber que su rostro fue capturado por cámaras de la policía en y alrededor de las áreas donde tuvieron lugar estas protestas, así como en cualquier otra área de la ciudad, que visitó inmediatamente después.

Además, Rumbo ha recibido información no oficial de que las cámaras se están utilizando para capturar lugares donde las personas no cumplen con las reglas de máscara facial de la Ciudad de Lawrence. Ciertamente, no es un problema de alta criminalidad usar las cámaras, pero los videos capturan características faciales que se comparten con otras agencias policiales.

Existe la idea de que estas cámaras se usan para resolver crímenes, pero también son un poco flojas en el trabajo o las llamadas de la policía. LPD realizó un arresto reciente contra dos personas por usar fuegos artificiales ilegales en la ciudad usando estas cámaras. Aunque estoy a favor de perseguir a las personas que violan la ley, cuestionamos la forma en que se realizan estos arrestos. Después de todo, en una era de Black Lives Matter, deberíamos buscar sistemas de inequidad racial.

El lunes, 8 de junio de 2020, International Business Machine (IBM) anunció que eliminaría el negocio de reconocimiento facial por la preocupación sobre cómo se puede usar para la vigilancia masiva y la discriminación racial. "No venderemos

tecnología de reconocimiento facial a los departamentos de policía en los Estados Unidos hasta que tengamos una ley nacional, basada en los derechos humanos, que regirá esta tecnología", dijo el Presidente de Microsoft, Brad Smith, según un artículo en Washington.

Además, los empleados de Amazon han expresado sus inquietudes al propietario sobre el reconocimiento facial y la inequidad racial lo cual obligó a Amazon a colocar una moratoria de un año para permitir que la policía use su tecnología de reconocimiento facial, pidiendo regulaciones gubernamentales fuertes para su uso ético.

El uso de la tecnología por parte de funcionarios gubernamentales ha sido controvertido debido a su inexactitud, especialmente cuando se trata de personas de color, informó el MIT Technology Review en diciembre.

En febrero de 2020, el Congreso celebró audiencias sobre el uso del reconocimiento facial después de un informe del gobierno federal que descubrió que la tecnología tiene más dificultades para leer con precisión las caras, según la raza, el género y la edad. Rumbo está de acuerdo en que tales errores podrían resultar fácilmente en prejuicio. El Comité de Seguridad Nacional de la Cámara de Representantes escuchará el testimonio del informe federal, que encontró que, dependiendo del algoritmo utilizado, el software de reconocimiento facial conduce a "falsos positivos", particularmente entre los nativos americanos, asiáticos y afroamericanos, incluidas las mujeres de color.

Así que Rumbo quiere saber de usted, especialmente de un nuevo grupo llamado Black Lawrence Activist Collective o de cualquier representante oficial de BLM cercano, sobre el uso de reconocimientos faciales y cámaras de vigilancia.

## Hablado de COVID-19

En una publicación reciente de Richard Russell on Facebook (que está haciendo un seguimiento de los números COVID-19), declaró que los números reportados para el Condado de Essex fueron 31 víctimas, para Lawrence fueron 8 víctimas. Si bien los números están disminuyendo, Lawrence aún representa el 25% de las víctimas del Condado de Essex. Lawrence solo tiene alrededor del 11% de la población del Condado de Essex.

¿Cuándo van a comenzar las personas a hacer las preguntas obvias? El problema es que la mayoría de las personas no siguen esas estadísticas y no las entienden.

Dicho claramente: Lawrence representa el 11% de toda la población del Condado de Essex, pero el 25% de las víctimas de todo el condado están aquí. ¡Tiene que haber algo de lógica y nadie lo explica!



This is how you stop racism!

An innocent ~~black~~ man was murdered by a corrupt ~~white~~ cop.

## Como combatir el racismo

Esta foto fue publicada en mi cuenta de Facebook porque es Denzel Washington, alguien a quien admiro mucho y me gusta el mensaje: "¡Así es como se detiene el racismo! Un negro inocente fue asesinado por un policía blanco corrupto.

Observe que las palabras "negro" y "blanco" se tacharon. ¿Por qué no podemos decir lo mismo sin mencionar sus razas? Un crimen es el mismo sin importar quién lo cometa.

La razón para traerlo aquí es porque eso me dio en el blanco. ¿Cuántas veces hemos visto periódicos que mencionan la nacionalidad de los delincuentes detenidos? Aparentemente, nos hemos acostumbrado tanto a ver impresas cosas como: "Dominicano arrestado...", "Extranjero ilegal de la República Dominicana usando documentos falsos...", "Dominicano arrestado en Boston que solía vivir en Lawrence..." y así sucesivamente.

¿Ha visto publicado en algún otro reporte noticioso la nacionalidad de alguien que comete un crimen?

Sí, tenemos un problema de drogas en esta ciudad y muchas personas sin las credenciales adecuadas para estar en

este país, pero los medios contribuyen en gran medida a la reputación negativa de Lawrence. Las personas dan por sentado lo que leen y, lo que es peor, a veces ni siquiera leen los artículos y juzgan por los titulares o las imágenes adjuntas a la historia.

Eso sucedió cuando publiqué esa foto originalmente. Alguien escribió:

"Rumbo es el periódico más racista que el Lowell Sun. Estas publicaciones son basura absoluta. ¿El primer paso para detener el racismo es ignorar que la violencia de la policía blanca se dirige principalmente contra los negros? ¿Es cierto?"

No me molesté en responder porque esta es obviamente una de esas personas cuya mente está decidida (contra Rumbo, yo, los latinos, lo que sea) y será un desperdicio de mi precioso aliento. No se molestó en leer que las razas estaban tachadas.

Respecto a ser llamado "racistas", es tan ignorante después de 24 años defendiendo a esta comunidad, que eso solo da fe al hecho de que nunca ha visto una edición de Rumbo para emitir tal juicio.

Como decimos en Cuba: "Con esos bueyes hay que arar".

"Los peores lugares del infierno están reservados para aquellos que se mantienen neutrales en tiempos de crisis."

"The darkest places in hell are reserved for those who maintain their neutrality in times of moral crisis."

— Dante Alighieri



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

— Voltaire

AZ QUOTES



# Respondiendo al Censo este año

Por Dalia Diaz

Si cree que este es otro artículo de Rumbo estimulándolo para que complete su censo del 2020, está equivocado.

Esta es una historia de una persona que quiere usurpar, no solo el trabajo sino los elogios de otra al interferir en la tarea operativa del trabajo del gobierno federal.

El trabajo del gobierno federal es completar un censo cada diez años en aquellos años que terminan en cero, como lo exige la Constitución de los Estados Unidos. Esto no debe confundirse con el censo de la ciudad que se realiza cada año.

A lo largo de los años, varias agencias federales han tenido la responsabilidad de llevar a cabo el conteo. Este censo actual es operado por el Departamento de Comercio. Contratan a miles de personas en todo el país para llegar y contar a cada residente en cada rincón de esta nación. Esto incluye a todas las personas de cualquier edad (incluso bebés) y de cualquier estado legal en el país. Como no se hacen preguntas sobre la residencia o la ciudadanía, las personas no tienen nada que temer.

Se necesitarán más de 750,000 empleados temporales y permanentes para realizar el Censo 2020. Cada estado tiene un gerente, que a su vez tiene supervisores regionales e innumerables empleados temporales en el campo. Conocido como sondeo de direcciones en el campo, este es el proceso de hacer que el personal de campo visite áreas geográficas específicas para identificar cada lugar donde la gente vive o podría vivir. Luego, el personal compara lo que ven en el terreno con la lista de direcciones del censo existente. Verifican, corrigen o agregan información de dirección y ubicación.

Durante la primavera y el verano de 2020, los trabajadores del censo llaman a las puertas para entrevistar a las personas que no responden al censo por teléfono o en línea. Entonces, ¿por qué es que el Alcalde Dan Rivera está tomando fondos de las arcas de la ciudad para pagar a los empleados que llamen a los residentes de Lawrence para recordarles el censo? Después de todo, no es su trabajo.

Entiendo por qué cree que es importante lograr que todas, si no la mayoría, respondan a su censo. Pero también está enviando al Presidente del Concejo de la Ciudad, Kendrys Vásquez, y al coordinador de reciclaje Carlos Morel con su amigable concejala del vecindario, Celina Reyes (también conocida como Lina Montesino) para discutir el censo en la radio durante las horas de trabajo.

Las personas de dos departamentos principales están haciendo llamadas a los residentes para recordarles la importancia de completar el censo.

El año pasado se sabía que el Departamento de Comercio contrató al ex

alcalde de Lawrence William Lantigua como gerente regional de reclutamiento del censo y que tiene nueve asistentes de reclutamiento. Hay miles de enumeradores: estas son las personas que van de casa en casa reuniendo la información de personas que no han respondido al censo.

En una conversación reciente con Lantigua, me explicó la razón de la demora en aumentar los números en Lawrence. "Con la pandemia de COVID-19, los trabajadores del censo, incluyendo los enumeradores, no pueden visitar hogares y se limitan a hacer llamadas telefónicas. Una vez que todo se abra y volvamos a la normalidad, visitarán a quienes no cumplan", dijo. "En las ciudades más ricas, hay residentes con un estilo de vida diferente que han sido rápidos para responder al censo y, por lo tanto, sus números son más altos".

En Lawrence, nuestra comunidad es diferente y tenemos que insistir para que cumplan con su obligación. Hay mucho en juego dependiendo del número total de residentes. Muchos servicios del gobierno federal dependen de esos resultados; por eso es importante que todos cumplan.

Este es el mismo alcalde que comenzó a hacer presupuestos balanceados para la Ciudad de Lawrence y sacó a Lawrence del abismo de la bancarrota. Entonces, ¿por qué Danny no permite que William Lantigua haga su trabajo? Estoy segura de que William agradece la asistencia, ya que lo hará lucir bien con los datos y estamos seguros de que Dan dirá que quiere ayudar a comunicarse con los residentes para garantizar un conteo adecuado y fondos futuros.

Sin embargo, una vez que se conozcan los números, Dan le quitará el mérito a William, como siempre lo ha hecho.

No hay ninguna razón por la cual Dan deba usar los fondos de las arcas de la ciudad en proyectos que no son proyectos de la ciudad. Es lo mismo para el sitio de prueba COVID-19. ¿Por qué insistió en pagar más de \$1 millón de impuestos de los residentes de Lawrence para pagar las pruebas de COVID-19? ¿No sabe que la Ciudad todavía está tratando de escapar de toda la deuda que le tomó para retirarse de la bancarrota? ¿No sabe que debe ir y buscar fondos para nuevas escuelas, refinanciar deudas y otros proyectos de la ciudad que no estén relacionados con el estado o el gobierno federal? No hay razón, excepto que al final de todo, él puede darse una palmadita en su espalda y decir "¡Buen trabajo!"

Por otro lado, puede continuar usando el dinero de los contribuyentes para limpiar la ciudad de lotes de terrenos y hacer que sean mucho más fáciles de otorgar a sus amigos.

El Concejal Jeovanny Rodríguez ha puesto en la agenda para la reunión del 16 de junio, una Resolución en apoyo a las acciones del alcalde con el censo.



## Answering to the Census this year

By Dalia Diaz

If you think this is another article with Rumbo encouragement to complete your census for 2020, you are wrong.

This is a story of one person wanting to usurp, not only the work but the accolades of another by interfering in the operational task of the federal government's job.

The federal government's job is to complete a census every ten years on those years ending in zero as required by the Constitution of the United States. This is not to be confused with the city census that takes place every single year.

Over the years several different federal agencies have had the responsibility of carrying out the count. This current census is operated by the Department of Commerce. They hire thousands of people throughout the nation to outreach and count every single resident in every corner of this nation. This includes every person of any age (even babies) and legal status in the country. Since no questions are asked about residency or citizenship, people have nothing to fear.

It will take over 750,000 temporary and permanent employees to conduct the 2020 Census. Every state has a manager, which in turn has regional supervisors and countless temporary employees out in the field. Known as In-Field Address Canvassing, this is the process of having field staff visit specific geographic areas to identify every place where people live or could live. The staff then compares what they see on the ground to the existing census address list. They verify, correct, or add address and location information.

During the spring and summer of 2020 census workers knock on doors to interview people who don't respond to the census by telephone or online. Then why it is that Mayor Dan Rivera is taking cash from the City coffers to pay for employees to call Lawrence residents to remind them of the census. After all, it's not his job.

I understand why he believes it's important to get all, if not most, people to respond to their census. But he is also sending the City Council President Kendrys Vasquez and the recycling coordinator Carlos Morel with his friendly neighborhood City Councilor Celina Reyes (aka Lina Montesino) to discuss the census on the radio during work hours.

People of two leading departments are making calls to residents reminding them of the importance of completing the census.

Last year it was known that the Department of Commerce hired Former Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua as a Regional Census Recruiter Manager and

he has nine Recruiting Assistants. There are thousands of enumerators – they are the people going house to house gathering the information from people who have not responded to the census.

In a recent conversation with Lantigua, he explained the reason for the delay in growing the numbers in Lawrence. "With the COVID-19 pandemic, Census workers including enumerators, are not allowed to visit homes and are limited to making telephone calls. Once everything opens and we go back to normal, they will visit those in non-compliance," he said. "In more affluent cities, there are residents with a different lifestyle who have been prompt to respond to the census, and thus, their numbers are higher."

In Lawrence, our community is different and we have to insist on them to fulfill their obligation. There's a lot at stake depending on the total number of residents. Many services from the federal government depend on those results; that is why everyone needs to comply.

This is the same mayor that began doing balance budgets for the City of Lawrence and took Lawrence out of the abyss from bankruptcy. So why does Danny not allow William Lantigua to do his job? I am sure that William is appreciative of the assistance because it will make him look good on the data and we are sure that Dan will say that he wants to help reach out to the residents to ensure proper count and future funding.

Nonetheless, once the great numbers are known, Dan will take credit away from William, as he has always done.

There is no reason why Dan should use the funding from city coffers on projects that are not city projects. It's the same for the COVID-19 testing site. Why did he insist on paying more than \$1 million of Lawrence residents' taxes to pay for COVID-19 testing? Does he not know that the City is still trying to get away from all the debt it took to remove itself from bankruptcy? Does he not know that he must go and seek funding for new schools, refinance debts, and other city projects that are not state or federal related? There is no reason except that at the end of it all he can pat his back and say "attaboy!"

On the other hand, he can continue to use taxpayers' money to clean up and make city lots easier to award to his friends for housing.

City Councilor Jeovanny Rodríguez has placed on the agenda for the June 16th meeting, a Resolution to support the mayor's actions with the census.

### Political corruption

Political corruption is the use of powers by government officials or their network contacts for illegitimate private gain. An illegal act by an officeholder constitutes political corruption only if the act is directly related to their official duties, is done under color of law or involves trading in influence.

### Corrupción política

La corrupción política es el uso de poderes por parte de funcionarios del gobierno o sus contactos de la red para obtener ganancias privadas ilegítimas. Un acto ilegal cometido por un funcionario público constituye corrupción política solo si el acto está directamente relacionado con sus funciones oficiales, se realiza bajo la ley o implica un intercambio de influencias.



# Baker-Polito Administration Announces Availability of \$41 Million in Support for Food Security Programs

## Administration Launches New Grant Program and Releases Opportunity for More Agricultural Vendors to Participate in Healthy Incentives Program

BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration today announced \$41 million to address urgent food insecurity for Massachusetts residents as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding implements the recommendations of the Food Security Task Force, which was convened by the Massachusetts COVID-19 Command Center in response to increased demands for food assistance. The task force is comprised of a broad group of public and private members charged with ensuring food insecurity and food supply needs are addressed during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The Administration today opened applications for the new \$36 million Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program to ensure that individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth have access to fresh, local food. The Request for Responses for project proposals is available [here](#).

The Administration also released a Notice of Opportunity to strategically onboard new agricultural vendors for the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP), which will allow the Administration to leverage federal SNAP funding and \$5 million in new state funding for the program.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has made clear the urgent needs and food

supply chain issues for communities across Massachusetts, which is why our Administration is taking significant steps to strengthen food security in the Commonwealth,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “By supporting projects that increase the resilience of the Commonwealth’s food supply chain, we can ensure that families across the Commonwealth, especially vulnerable populations, have greater access to important nutritional resources.”

“It is critical that we strengthen our food security infrastructure to ensure that Massachusetts families continue to have access to fresh, local food,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “Building on the recommendations of the Food Security Task Force, this program will lead to crucial investments that will help the farmers, fishermen and food producers that are helping our Commonwealth meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

The Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program was announced on May 17 as part of a \$56 million investment to combat food insecurity for Massachusetts families and individuals. In addition to expanding access to healthy local food, the program seeks to ensure that farmers, fishermen and other local food producers are better connected to a strong, resilient food system to help

mitigate future food supply disruption.

“As we work to support individuals, families, and communities severely impacted by COVID-19, one of the most immediate needs we’ve focused on is food security because every resident of the Commonwealth should be able to access nutritious food,” said COVID-19 Command Center Director and Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders. “I commend the work of the Food Security Task Force and its focus on vulnerable communities to rapidly develop practical solutions to food insecurity and bring resources where they are needed, by both infusing funds into the local food system, and maximizing federally funded food assistance programs like SNAP and WIC, that support vulnerable populations.”

“Increasing food security is critical to protecting the health of Massachusetts residents, and this program will support important projects that connect our local food production and distribution system to communities and residents facing food insecurity, alleviating immediate needs and ensuring stronger long-term access to food for all residents,” said Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Kathleen Theoharides. “The ongoing COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the importance of reinforcing our local food supply chain, and this significant investment will strengthen the role our farmers, fishermen, and food distributors play in the Commonwealth’s overall food system.”

Eligible grantees include entities that are part of the Massachusetts local food system including production, processing and distribution, the emergency food distribution network, Buy Local, community and food organizations, school meal programming (including summer meal sponsors), urban farms and community gardens, non-profits, and organizations that provide business planning, technical assistance and information technology services. Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis through September 15, 2020.

Eligible proposals include, but are not limited to, projects seeking to:

- Increase capacity for food direct delivery;
- Increase capacity of food banks and food pantries;
- Increase capacity of local food distribution partners;
- Offer innovative solutions to enable those receiving SNAP and WIC benefits to receive food more easily;
- Offer innovative solutions for urban farming and;
- Help farms, retailers, fisheries and other food system businesses adapt to the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to allow them to provide greater access to local food.

In addition to the Food Security

Infrastructure Grant Program, the Administration also announced \$5 million in new funding for the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP). To leverage this state funding, a Notice of Opportunity has been released to allow new agricultural vendors to apply to participate as HIP vendors. Eligible vendors include farmers’ markets, farm stands, mobile markets, and community-supported agriculture farm share programs. Applicants will be evaluated on their ability to respond to the needs of communities and populations impacted by COVID-19, establish HIP access points in areas with limited existing HIP access points or other food access barriers, distribute food in ways that limit the transmission of the novel coronavirus while reaching vulnerable populations, and a demonstrated capacity and commitment to serve SNAP clients in culturally appropriate ways. Applications can be submitted through Wednesday, July 1, 2020.

“The Healthy Incentives Program is a powerful tool in our work to address food security issues across the state. The program not only increases access to fresh, locally-grown food for SNAP clients but also brings critical economic support to our local farms and communities,” said Department of Transitional Assistance Commissioner Amy Kershaw. “This additional funding will allow us to extend the reach of this impactful program to communities that have been significantly affected by COVID-19 or face structural barriers to food access.”

“During the COVID-19 pandemic, farmers throughout Massachusetts have faced significant supply chain disruptions and are challenged in planning for the growing season in these uncertain times,” said Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux. “The new Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program and the expansion of the Healthy Incentives Program will help support the Commonwealth’s agricultural community while expanding access to healthy, local food to those who need it most.”

“Massachusetts fishermen have been hard at work helping the Commonwealth respond to the impacts of the COVID-19 emergency by providing healthy, locally-caught seafood,” said Department of Fish and Game Commissioner Ronald Amidon. “The Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program offers an opportunity to strengthen our historic fishing community and ensure that our fisheries are able to adapt to the challenges created by this unprecedented pandemic and continue to provide fresh, nutritious seafood to families across the Commonwealth.”

The work of the Food Security Task Force builds on Massachusetts’ initiatives to increase access to food, including establishing emergency food distribution sites and school meal sites for food distribution, implementing Pandemic EBT to provide food to 500,000 youth who usually receive free or reduced priced lunch, distributing additional SNAP benefits to households, requesting online EBT purchasing approval from the federal government, and streamlining food benefit program administration.

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# Funcionarios de bomberos instan a las personas a mantener seguros a los niños este 4 de julio

Los niños menores de 15 años representan un tercio de las lesiones por fuegos artificiales



"Diviértase pero manténgase seguro este cuatro de julio y dale a los socorristas la noche libre", dijo el Jefe de Bomberos del Estado Peter J. Ostroskey. "Mantenga a sus hijos seguros. Los niños menores de 15 años representan un tercio de las quemaduras graves que requieren visitas a la sala de emergencias", agregó.

## 4 de julio No hay vacaciones para bomberos

El jefe de bomberos de Saugus, Michael Newbury, presidente de la Asociación de Jefes de Bomberos de Massachusetts, dijo: "El feriado del 4 de julio es un momento muy ocupado para los bomberos. Estamos ocupados respondiendo a todo tipo de incendios y emergencias médicas. De hecho, la semana del 4 de julio es una de las épocas más ocupadas del año para incendios. Así que por favor dejen los fuegos artificiales a los profesionales". Este año, debido a la pandemia, muchos espectáculos de fuegos artificiales profesionales se posponen hasta el fin de semana del Día del Trabajo.

El Jefe de Bomberos del Estado, Peter J. Ostroskey, dijo: "Recuerde, los fuegos artificiales son ilegales para transportar a Massachusetts, incluso si se compraron legalmente en otro lugar. Este 4 de julio, celebre con seguridad y encuentre alternativas a los fuegos artificiales. Evite las multitudes, pero disfrute de estar en compañía de familiares y amigos". Añadió: "Los fuegos artificiales ilegales son riesgosos, especialmente alrededor de los niños. Mantengamos a nuestros hijos seguros".

## Los fuegos artificiales causan muchos incendios peligrosos

El verano pasado, hubo muchos incendios, amputaciones y quemaduras por fuegos artificiales ilegales en Massachusetts. En la última década (2010-2019), se han producido 858 incendios y explosiones importantes con fuegos artificiales ilegales en Massachusetts. Estos incidentes resultaron en 12 heridos civiles, 40 heridos en el servicio de bomberos y una pérdida estimada en dólares de \$2.9 millones.

- El 22 de junio de 2019, el Departamento de Bomberos de Plainville respondió al incendio de un edificio en un compactador de basura. Alguien arrojó fuegos artificiales por el vertedero de basura y dentro del compactador. Los fuegos artificiales encendieron la basura.

- El 2 de julio de 2019, el Departamento de Bomberos de Taunton fue llamado a un incendio en una casa unifamiliar. El incendio comenzó mientras el propietario construía bastidores de madera para lanzar fuegos artificiales ilegales desde su cubierta. Los bastidores lo rodeaban en la cubierta. Uno de los fuegos artificiales explotó y

provocó muchos otros fuegos artificiales. Las detonaciones encendieron la cubierta.

- El 4 de julio de 2019, el Departamento de Bomberos de Boston fue llamado a un incendio en un edificio de apartamentos de 3 unidades. El fuego fue iniciado por fuegos artificiales en el porche delantero.

- El 5 de julio de 2019, el Departamento de Bomberos de Boston fue llamado a un incendio en un edificio de apartamentos de 3 unidades. Los vecinos informaron que el fuego fue iniciado por fuegos artificiales. El incendio comenzó en la parte posterior de un edificio y se extendió a otro edificio de apartamentos de 3 unidades al lado. Veinte personas fueron desplazadas de sus hogares por los incendios y los daños superaron los \$700,000.

- El 5 de julio, el Departamento de Bomberos de Salem respondió a un incendio en un muelle independiente causado por fuegos artificiales.

## Lesiones de fuegos artificiales

En la última década (2010-2019), 37 personas han sido tratadas en las salas de emergencias de Massachusetts por lesiones graves causadas por fuegos artificiales, quemaduras que cubren el 5% de más del cuerpo. El 33% eran niños de 14 años o menos. Un 22% adicional eran jóvenes de 15 a 24 años. La víctima más joven era un niño de siete meses. Estas víctimas están marcadas de por vida.

Algunos ejemplos del año pasado incluyen:

- Una niña de Boston de 4 años agarró una bengala "encendida" que alguien más sostenía y recibió quemaduras en la mano izquierda.

- Un joven de 16 años de Dartmouth recibió quemaduras de primer y segundo grado en partes inferiores de su cuerpo debido a una explosión de fuegos artificiales.

- Un hombre de 20 años de Kingston, NH, recibió tratamiento en un hospital de Massachusetts por quemaduras graves en la mano izquierda por fuegos artificiales.

- Un hombre de 28 años de Lynn se quemó ambas manos mientras encendía fuegos artificiales.

- Un hombre de Charlton de 29 años recibió quemaduras en el 9% de su cuerpo y heridas punzantes en la espalda por una explosión de fuegos artificiales. La policía estatal confiscó una gran cantidad de fuegos artificiales ilegales de su casa.

- Un hombre de Rutland de 29 años recibió quemaduras en las extremidades superiores por fuegos artificiales.

## Todos los fuegos artificiales son ilegales en Massachusetts

La posesión y uso de todos los fuegos artificiales por ciudadanos privados es ilegal en Massachusetts. Esto incluye

fuegos artificiales de clase C, que a veces se denominan falsamente fuegos artificiales "seguros y sanos". Los fuegos artificiales de clase C incluyen bengalas, poppers de fiesta, pargos, petardos, hilanderos, bombas de cereza y más. Las bengalas se queman a 1800°F o más. Es ilegal transportar fuegos artificiales a Massachusetts, incluso si

se compraron legalmente en otro lugar. Los fuegos artificiales ilegales deben ser confiscados en el acto.

Para obtener más información sobre los peligros de los fuegos artificiales, visite la página web del Departamento de Servicios contra Incendios. Deje los fuegos artificiales a los profesionales.

## Fire Officials Urge People to Keep Children Safe this 4th of July

Children Under 15 Account for One-Third of Fireworks Injuries

"Have fun but be safe this Fourth of July and give first responders the night off," said State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey. "Keep your children safe. Kids under 15 account for one-third of the severe burn injuries requiring emergency room visits," he added.

## 4th of July No Holiday for Firefighters

Saugus Fire Chief Michael Newbury, president of the Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts, said, "The Fourth of July holiday is a busy time for firefighters. We are busy responding to all types of fires and medical emergencies. In fact, the week of July 4 is one of the busiest times of the year for fires. So please leave the fireworks to the professionals." This year, because of the pandemic, many professional fireworks displays are postponed until Labor Day weekend.

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey said, "Remember, fireworks are illegal to transport into Massachusetts, even if they were purchased legally elsewhere. This 4th of July, celebrate safely and find alternatives to fireworks. Avoid crowds but enjoy being in the company of family and friends." He added, "Illegal fireworks are risky, especially around children. Let's keep our children safe."

## Fireworks Cause Many Dangerous Fires

Last summer, there were many fires, amputations and burn injuries from illegal fireworks in Massachusetts. In the past decade (2010-2019), there have been 858 major fires and explosions involving illegal fireworks in Massachusetts. These incidents resulted in 12 civilian injuries, 40 fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of \$2.9 million.

- On June 22, 2019, the Plainville Fire Department responded to a building fire in a trash compactor. Someone put fireworks down the trash chute and into the compactor. The fireworks ignited the trash.

- On July 2, 2019, the Taunton Fire Department was called to a fire in a single-family home. The fire began while the homeowner was building wooden racks to launch illegal fireworks from his deck. The racks surrounded him on the deck. One of the fireworks exploded and set off many other fireworks. The detonations ignited the deck.

- On July 4, 2019, the Boston Fire Department was called to a fire in a 3-unit apartment building. The fire was started by fireworks on the front porch.

- On July 5, 2019, the Boston Fire

Department was called to a fire in a 3-unit apartment building. Neighbors reported that fire was started by fireworks. The fire began on the back of one building and extended to another 3-unit apartment building next door. Twenty people were displaced from their homes by the fires and damages were over \$700,000.

- On July 5, the Salem Fire Department responded to a fire on a standalone dock caused by fireworks.

## Fireworks Injuries

In the past decade (2010-2019), 37 people have been treated at Massachusetts emergency rooms for severe burn injuries from fireworks – burns covering 5% of more of the body. Thirty-three percent were children age 14 or younger. An additional 22% were youth aged 15-24. The youngest victim was a seven-month old boy. These victims are scarred for life.

Some examples from the past year include:

- A 4-year old Boston girl grabbed a 'lit' sparkler that someone else was holding and received burns to her left hand.

- A 16-year old from Dartmouth received 1st- & 2nd-degree burns to lower portions of his body from a fireworks explosion.

- A 20-year old man from Kingston, NH was treated in a Massachusetts hospital for severe burns to his left hand from a firework.

- A 28-year old Lynn man burned both of his hands while lighting fireworks.

- A 29-year old Charlton man received burns to 9% of his body and puncture wounds to his back from a fireworks explosion. State Police confiscated a large cache of illegal fireworks from his home.

- A 29-year old Rutland man received burns to his upper extremities from fireworks.

## All Fireworks Are Illegal in Massachusetts

The possession and use of all fireworks by private citizens is illegal in Massachusetts. This includes Class C fireworks, which are sometimes falsely called "safe and sane" fireworks. Class C fireworks include sparklers, party poppers, snappers, firecrackers, spinners, cherry bombs and more. Sparklers burn at 1800°F or higher. It is illegal to transport fireworks into Massachusetts, even if they were purchased legally elsewhere. Illegal fireworks must be confiscated on the spot.

For more information on the dangers of fireworks, go to the Department of Fire Services webpage Leave the Fireworks to the Professionals.



# Merrimack Valley Credit Union otorga \$15,000 en becas universitarias

La organización reconoció a 15 estudiantes de secundaria por su éxito académico y participación comunitaria en la ceremonia virtual el 8 de junio

Merrimack Valley Credit Union otorgó \$15,000 en becas universitarias a principios de esta semana, reconociendo a 15 estudiantes destacados de secundaria de su campo de membresía tanto al norte como al sur de Boston. Los estudiantes fueron honrados durante una ceremonia virtual el 8 de junio, donde celebraron con familiares y miembros del equipo de alta gerencia de Merrimack Valley Credit Union. En los últimos cuatro años, Merrimack Valley Credit Union ha otorgado a 36 estudiantes con casi \$45,000 en becas para cursar estudios superiores.

"La elección de los 15 beneficiarios de las becas fue especialmente difícil este año, ya que tuvimos tantos solicitantes impresionantes", dijo John Howard, presidente y director ejecutivo de Merrimack Valley Credit Union. "Los beneficiarios de las becas fueron seleccionados por su compromiso con la educación y con su comunidad, tanto dentro como fuera de la escuela. Si bien muchos tuvieron que modificar la forma en que demostraron ese compromiso en los últimos meses, a través del aprendizaje remoto y la búsqueda de otras formas de ayudar en la comunidad, confiamos en que la flexibilidad y la resistencia que han demostrado en estos últimos meses resultarán útiles no solo en universidad, pero también en sus carreras".

La organización recibió 178 solicitudes de estudiantes de 66 escuelas secundarias diferentes ubicadas en las dos regiones. Los estudiantes fueron calificados por su desempeño académico, participación escolar y comunitaria, experiencia laboral, cartas de recomendación y sus ensayos sobre lo que harían si dirigieran Merrimack Valley Credit Union.

Cada uno de los destinatarios de 2020 recibirá una beca de \$1,000 para cursar estudios superiores:

- Grace Baker, de Hampton, N.H., se graduó de Winnacunnet High School y asistirá a la Universidad de Fairfield para estudiar enfermería.
- Shane Grant, de Walpole, Massachusetts, se graduó de Walpole High School y asistirá a la Northeastern University para estudiar economía ambiental.
- Sydney Gregory, de Andover, Massachusetts, se graduó de Andover High School y asistirá a la Universidad Johns Hopkins para estudiar química.
- Amy Guggenberger, de North Andover, Massachusetts, se graduó de North Andover High School y asistirá a Boston College para estudiar psicología aplicada y desarrollo humano.
- El miembro de Merrimack Valley Credit

Union, Anoshey Ikhlas, de Bridgewater, Massachusetts, se graduó de la escuela secundaria Bridgewater-Raynham High y asistirá a la Universidad de Tufts para estudiar biopsicología.

- El miembro de Merrimack Valley Credit Union, Samuel Kierstead, de Plymouth, Massachusetts, se graduó de Plymouth South High School y asistirá al Instituto Politécnico de Worcester para estudiar ingeniería mecánica.

- El miembro de Merrimack Valley Credit Union Alexander McDougall, de Newburyport, Massachusetts, se graduó de la Newburyport High School y asistirá al Instituto de Tecnología de Rochester para estudiar ingeniería eléctrica.

- Jack Mumley, de Boxford, Massachusetts, se graduó de Masconomet Regional High School y asistirá al Instituto de Tecnología de Rochester para estudiar ciencias de la computación.

- Kaila Nelson, de Haverhill, Massachusetts, se graduó de la Haverhill High School y asistirá a la Universidad de Massachusetts en Amherst para estudiar economía.

- Angela Patric, de Newburyport, Massachusetts, se graduó de Newburyport High School y asistirá a la Universidad Clark para estudiar Psicología.

- La miembro de Merrimack Valley Credit Union Kacya Polanco, de Lawrence, Massachusetts, se graduó de Lawrence High School y asistirá al Massachusetts College of Art and Design para estudiar diseño de moda.

- Patrick Rak, de Quincy, Massachusetts, se graduó de Quincy High School y asistirá a la Universidad de Harvard para estudiar economía y matemáticas.

- Jaden Ryan, de Norwood, Massachusetts, se graduó de Norwood High School y asistirá a la Universidad de Elon para estudiar economía.

- Dorothee Surprenant, de Fairhaven, Mass., Se graduó de Fairhaven High School y asistirá al College of Charleston para estudios internacionales.

- Julia Tardugno, de Methuen, Massachusetts, se graduó de la preparatoria Methuen High School y asistirá a Assumption College para estudiar educación secundaria.

Para obtener más información sobre Merrimack Valley Credit Union, visite <https://www.mvcu.com/>.



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Anoshey Ikhlas, from Bridgewater, Mass., graduated from Bridgewater-Raynham High school and will attend Tufts University to study biopsychology.



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Jaden Ryan, from Norwood, Mass., graduated from Norwood High School and will attend Elon University to study economics.

## MVCU Awards \$15,000 in College Scholarships

Organization recognized 15 high school students for academic success and community involvement in virtual ceremony on June 8

Merrimack Valley Credit Union awarded \$15,000 in college scholarships earlier this week, recognizing 15 outstanding high school students from its field of membership both north and south of Boston. The students were honored during a virtual ceremony on June 8, where they celebrated with family and members of Merrimack Valley Credit Union's senior management team. Over the past four years, Merrimack Valley Credit Union has awarded 36 students with nearly \$45,000 in scholarships to pursue higher education.

"Choosing the 15 scholarship recipients was especially difficult this year, as we had so many impressive applicants," said John Howard, President & CEO, Merrimack Valley Credit Union. "The scholarship recipients were selected because of their commitment to education and to their community both in and out of school. While many had to modify how they demonstrated that commitment in the past few months – through remote learning and finding other ways to help in the community – we are confident that the flexibility and resiliency they have shown these past few months will prove useful not only in college, but also in their careers."

The organization received 178 applications from students at 66 different high schools located across the two regions. Students were scored on their academic performance, school and community

involvement, work experience, letters of recommendation and their essays about what they would do if they ran Merrimack Valley Credit Union.

Each of the 2020 recipients will receive \$1,000 scholarship to pursue higher education:

- Grace Baker, from Hampton, N.H., graduated from Winnacunnet High School and will attend Fairfield University to study nursing.
- Shane Grant, from Walpole, Mass., graduated from Walpole High School and will attend Northeastern University to study environmental economics.
- Sydney Gregory, from Andover, Mass., graduated from Andover High School and will attend Johns Hopkins University to study chemistry.
- Amy Guggenberger, from North Andover, Mass., graduated from North Andover High School and will attend Boston College to study applied psychology and human development.
- Merrimack Valley Credit Union member Anoshey Ikhlas, from Bridgewater, Mass.,

### The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center

The former Asian Center at 439 South Union St., building 2, Level B, Lawrence, MA 01843 is enrolling students for an intensive ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes.

The classes will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays either from 9 AM to 11:30 AM or 6 M to 8:30 PM.

Class fee is \$50. Call 978-683-7316 for more information.

PLEASE SEE **MVCU**

CONTINUES ON PAGE 9



# Future Nurse is New Student Trustee at NECC

An Amesbury woman, who works full time and is the single parent to four children, 12 and under, is the new student-elected member of the Northern Essex Community College Board of Trustees.

As the top vote-getter in a field of seven candidates, Samantha McLaughlin will serve on the college's Board of Trustees for one year, beginning, July 1 of this year.

McLaughlin decided to run for trustee because she thought it would be a great way to get involved with the college. "I want to be the voice and ears for other students," she says. "I'm so happy to be able to represent the Northern Essex student body."

A 1999 graduate of Franklin High School, McLaughlin earned a Communications degree from Curry College in 2013. She enrolled at Northern Essex in the fall of 2018 with the intention of pursuing a career in nursing. Since then, she has been taking her nursing prerequisites, gen ed and science courses, earning a 3.72 GPA, and she will begin the two-year nursing program this fall.

McLaughlin has worked in home health care since she was 17, most recently caring full time for a patient while finishing up her nursing prerequisites. She has been interested in pursuing her nursing degree for a long time, and, when her four children, 7, 8, 11, and 12 entered school full time the timing was right.

"I've always loved helping people and working in health care," says McLaughlin. "I had been accepted to a nursing program a few years ago but I couldn't afford child care and college tuition. I knew now was my opportunity."

A runner, who has completed five marathons, McLaughlin has an identical twin sister who is a nurse.

This year's field of seven candidates was exceptionally large, according to Stephanie Haskell, coordinator of student activities for



leadership and social justice initiatives. "We typically have one to three candidates each year and this year that more than doubled."

Haskell attributes the increase to new methods of outreach and she credits Janel D'Agata Lynch, coordinator of civic engagement, service-learning and community resources, for helping with that.

Also running for student trustee were Timothy Dodier, Hampstead, NH, Chemistry, Physics, and Environmental Science; Noelle DiVeglia, East Kingston, NH, Biology; Mebra Lubukha, Derry, NH, General Studies: Health Specialization; Luis Raudales, Lowell, Liberal Arts: Writing; Felipe Sencion, Lawrence, Business Transfer; and Alanna Stafford, Haverhill, Criminal Justice.

The NECC Board of Trustees includes nine members who are appointed by the governor of the state to a maximum of two five-year terms as well as an alumni-elected member, who also serves a maximum of ten years, and a student trustee who serves for two semesters. McLaughlin, whose term begins July 1, will serve for 2020-2021.

# La Feria Internacional Del Libro en Lawrence pospone la Feria de 2020

La XV Edición de 2020 a celebrarse en el 2021 será dedicada a República Dominicana y celebrará una versión virtual de la Feria Del Libro en el otoño 2020.

A nombre de la Junta de Directores de la Feria Internacional del Libro de Lawrence, MA, anunciamos que la celebración regular de la Feria se ha pospuesto para el 2021 y dedicada a la República Dominicana. Por muchos años este evento atrae cientos de personas, de diferentes instituciones académicas, estudiantes, poetas, escritores y compañías editoriales. Ha sido una decisión difícil el posponer el evento tradicional pero nuestra mayor preocupación es que protejamos el bienestar de la comunidad. Al mismo tiempo estamos apoyando la decisión del Alcalde Rivera de cancelar todos los eventos este año en la Ciudad de Lawrence.

Continuaremos compartiendo la cultura

y destacando el talento local literario y es por eso que estamos planificando una "Edición Especial Virtual" de la Feria que se llevará a cabo el primer viernes del mes de octubre y el primer viernes de noviembre 2020.

Por favor continúen visitando nuestra página de la Internet: [www.lawrenceibf.com](http://www.lawrenceibf.com) como al igual que la página de Facebook bajo "Feria Internacional del Libro en Lawrence" para conocer y participar de nuestras lecturas y eventos literarios al corriente y lo que estaremos planificando para el goce de toda la comunidad.

Mantengámonos seguros, saludables y sigamos los protocolos de reapertura del Departamento de Salud.

Atentamente,

Carmenza Bruff  
Presidenta

Dolores C. Calaf  
Consultant

# Substance Use Affects All of Us

## Amoskeag Health to bring conversation about substance use epidemic in NH to a virtual platform

(Manchester 6/04/2020) - Amoskeag Health will host its 13th Annual Morning Matters Breakfast virtually at 8:00 AM, June 25, 2020. Morning Matters, traditionally a complimentary breakfast fundraiser at the DoubleTree Hotel, will be conducted via Zoom this year to accommodate social distancing and congregating regulations set by Governor Sununu.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) is a disease that affects a person's brain and behavior and leads to an inability to control the use of a legal or illegal drug or medication. Substance use may include alcohol, marijuana, and nicotine, as well as opioids, narcotics, and prescription medications. Among pregnant women, these substances may have long-term physical and/or emotional effects on their children and families. Across New Hampshire, collaboration for programs and initiatives are changing the tide for moms and their families.

During the COVID pandemic, people who experience substance use disorder are further challenged with technology-dependent access to help. The homeless community lacks consistent lines of communication with services. Everyone is experiencing elevated stress levels that only worsens SUD. When a woman with SUD becomes pregnant, during a pandemic or not, her and her child's health are at risk.

Amoskeag Health's Perinatal SUD Program assists these moms with comprehensive physical, mental, and prenatal care throughout their pregnancy. Patients receive free pregnancy testing, counseling, medication assisted treatment, contraception options, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, Medicaid enrollment assistance, and case management.

The Keynote Speaker at this year's virtual Morning Matters, is Daisy Goodman, DNP, MPH, CNM, Director of Integrated Women's Health Services, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Moms in Recovery Program. Dr. Goodman has over 20 years of experience providing clinical care and developing programs to reduce the impact of substance use on pregnant women and parenting families. She will be joined by a panel of NH experts who will address the complex factors of substance use prevention, treatment and recovery for women during and after childbirth in New Hampshire.

The Perinatal SUD Panel will consist of the following experts from across NH:

- Gary Kaufman, MD, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Elliot Health System;
- Molly Rossignol, DO, Medical Director, Substance Use Disorders, NH Healthy Families;
- Mary Cullen, DO, Family Practice/Obstetrical Medicine, Amoskeag Health;
- Meaghan Smith, MSN, RN, Director of Pediatrics, Women's and Children's Services, Elliot Health System; and
- Nina DeMarco, LICSW, MLADC, Substance Use Disorder Program Manager, Amoskeag Health

Funds raised at Morning Matters support the pediatric services at Amoskeag Health's Dr. Selma Deitch Center for Children and Teens (Formerly Child Health Services) that remove barriers to care and provide physical, mental, and social support services.

This event is open to the public thanks to Keynote Sponsor People's United Bank and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health. A reservation is required in order to receive a link to the event. For more information and to register for Morning Matters, please visit: [www.amoskeaghealth.org/morning-matters-2020](http://www.amoskeaghealth.org/morning-matters-2020).

## MVCU CONTINUES FROM PAGE 8

graduated from Bridgewater-Raynham High school and will attend Tufts University to study biopsychology.

- Merrimack Valley Credit Union member Samuel Kierstead, from Plymouth, Mass., graduated from Plymouth South High School and will attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute to study mechanical engineering.

- Merrimack Valley Credit Union member Alexander McDougall, from Newburyport, Mass., graduated from Newburyport High School and will attend Rochester Institute of Technology to study electrical engineering.

- Jack Mumley, from Boxford, Mass., graduated from Masconomet Regional High School and will attend Rochester Institute of Technology to study computer science.

- Kaila Nelson, from Haverhill, Mass., graduated from Haverhill High School and will attend the University of Massachusetts at Amherst to study economics.

- Angela Patric, from Newburyport, Mass., graduated from Newburyport High School and will attend Clark University to study Psychology.

- Merrimack Valley Credit Union member Kacya Polanco, from Lawrence, Mass., graduated from Lawrence High School and will attend the Massachusetts College of Art and Design to study fashion design.

- Patrick Rak, from Quincy, Mass., graduated from Quincy High School and will attend Harvard University to study economics and mathematics.

- Jaden Ryan, from Norwood, Mass., graduated from Norwood High School and will attend Elon University to study economics.

- Dorothee Surprenant, from Fairhaven, Mass., graduated from Fairhaven High School and will attend the College of Charleston for international studies.

- Julia Tardugno, from Methuen, Mass., graduated from Methuen High School and will attend Assumption College to study secondary education.

For more information about Merrimack Valley Credit Union, visit <https://www.mvcu.com/>.



# La recreación al aire libre se expande el 12 de junio

## Se reanudan las actividades sin contacto

El Alcalde Dan Rivera con el director del Departamento de Obras Públicas, Brian Peña y la Junta de Salud de Lawrence, anuncian la expansión de espacios recreativos pasivos, que incluye el estacionamiento Den Rock Park y todas las canchas de tenis en toda la ciudad, a partir del viernes, 12 de junio de 2020. De acuerdo con la orientación proporcionada por el gobernador en la Fase II del plan de reapertura, se espera que los visitantes de Den Rock Park y las canchas de tenis practiquen la distancia social y usen una máscara o cubierta facial para evitar la propagación del virus.

La salud pública es la prioridad y el motivador detrás de las fechas de reapertura. A partir del 6/9/2020, la ciudad de Lawrence ha registrado 3,290 casos confirmados de coronavirus y 123 muertes a manos del virus. La propagación total es desconocida incluso en esta fecha tardía. La ciudad continúa ocupando el tercer lugar en casos per cápita y el quinto en infecciones totales. A pesar de nuestros esfuerzos, la tasa de pruebas es baja. Aún menos de 200 personas son evaluadas por día. El porcentaje de personas que dieron positivo en la ciudad fue del 16%, mientras que la tasa positiva de la Commonwealth fue un poco inferior al 5%. "Ampliar las opciones de recreación pasiva para los residentes es importante a medida que el clima se calienta, pero debemos recordar que todavía estamos en un estado nacional de emergencia debido al Coronavirus", dijo el Alcalde Dan Rivera. "En Lawrence, seguimos siendo un punto clave, y nuestros números de pruebas siguen siendo bajos. Es absolutamente vital que los residentes practiquen el distanciamiento social, se cubran la cara o se pongan una máscara y se abstengan de reunirse en grupos mientras utilizan áreas recreativas en nuestra comunidad".

Espacios recreativos pasivos abrirán a partir del 12 de junio:

- Canchas de tenis Sullivan Park, North Parish Road, Lawrence
- Estacionamiento en Den Rock Park (Den Rock Park continúa abierto)

• La recreación pasiva individual y en grupos pequeños continúa abierta

Tenga en cuenta que las canchas de tenis son SOLO PARA TENIS, no para otros deportes de contacto.

### Áreas recreativas aún cerradas:

• Los parques infantiles y las fuentes (splash parks) permanecen CERRADOS.

• Todos los campos deportivos de contacto y los servicios recreativos de alto contacto permanecen CERRADOS, incluyendo, entre otros:

- Campos de béisbol
- Canchas de baloncesto
- Campos de fútbol
- Campos de futbol

### Área de gimnasio al aire libre

• No se permitirán deportes de contacto durante la Fase II a menos que limiten la actividad a ejercicios y prácticas sin contacto. En estos casos, los grupos deben cumplir con las restricciones de tamaño del grupo (no más de 10), incluidos los entrenadores, el personal y los participantes.

• No se permiten juegos, torneos organizados y torneos para deportes de contacto en la Fase II. Los deportes de contacto incluyen, entre otros, baloncesto, fútbol, béisbol, fútbol, hockey sobre césped y lacrosse. Mejores prácticas para espacios recreativos:

- Los visitantes deben practicar el distanciamiento social al permanecer a 6 pies de distancia de los demás y cumplir con todas las reglas y regulaciones específicas del sitio, incluido el uso de una máscara facial o cobertura facial cuando no sea posible el distanciamiento social.
- En los senderos, los caminantes y excursionistas deben moverse a un lado y dejar espacio para que otros pasen.

• Después de visitar los espacios públicos, los usuarios deben lavarse las manos o usar desinfectante para manos.

• Los usuarios que esperan utilizar las canchas de tenis deben esperar fuera de las canchas hasta que los usuarios anteriores hayan desocupado para garantizar un distanciamiento social adecuado.

• El tamaño de los grupos debe limitarse a no más de 10 participantes a la vez para evitar el hacinamiento.

• Las personas no deben congregarse en estacionamientos o entradas a la corte para evitar hacinamiento.

Si tiene preguntas sobre la reapertura, llame al 978-620-3140.

## Outdoor Recreation Expands 6/12 No-Contact Activities to Resume

Mayor Dan Rivera with Department of Public Works Director, Brian Pena, and the Lawrence Board of Health, announce the expansion of passive recreational spaces, that includes the Den Rock Park Parking Lot and all Tennis Courts across the city, starting Friday, June 12, 2020. In line with the guidance provided by the Governor in Phase II of the reopening plan, visitors of Den Rock Park and tennis courts will still be expected to practice social distance and wear a mask or facial covering to avoid the spread of the virus.

Public health is the priority and motivator behind the reopening dates. As of 6/9/2020, the City of Lawrence has recorded 3,290 confirmed cases of coronavirus and 123 deaths at the hand of the virus. The total spread is unknown even in this late date. The city continues to rank 3rd in cases per capita and 5th in total infections. Despite our efforts, the rate of testing is low. Still less than 200 people are tested per day. The City's percentage of people testing positive was at 16%, while the Commonwealth's positive rate was a little under 5%. "Expanding passive recreation options for residents is important as the weather gets warmer, but we must remember that we are still in a national state of emergency due to the Coronavirus," said Mayor Dan Rivera. "In Lawrence, we are still very much a hotspot, and our

testing numbers remain low. It is absolutely vital that residents practice social distancing, wear face coverings or a mask and refrain from gathering in groups while utilizing recreational areas in our community."

Passive Recreational Spaces Open 6/12:

- Sullivan Park Tennis Courts, North Parish Road, Lawrence
  - Parking at Den Rock Park (Den Rock Park Continues Open)
  - Individual and Small Group Passive Recreation Continues Open
- \*\*Please note that Tennis Courts are for TENNIS ONLY, no other Contact Sports. \*\*


### Recreational Areas Still Closed:

- Playgrounds and Splash Pads remain CLOSED.
- All contact sport fields and high contact recreational amenities remain CLOSED, including but not limited to: Baseball Fields, Basketball Courts, Soccer Fields, Football Fields


### Outdoor Fitness Area

- No contact sports will be allowed during Phase II unless they are limiting activity to no-contact drills and practices. In these cases, groups should adhere to group size restrictions (no more than 10) including coaches, staff and participants.
- Scrimmages, organized games and tournaments are NOT ALLOWED for contact sports in Phase II. Contact sports include, but are not limited to, basketball, football, baseball, soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse.
- Best Practices for Recreational Spaces:
  - Visitors must practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from others and adhering to all site-specific rules and regulations including wearing a face mask or facial covering when social distancing is not possible.
  - On trails, walkers and hikers should move aside and leave room for others to pass.
  - After visiting public spaces, users should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
  - Users waiting to utilize the tennis courts should wait outside the courts until previous users have vacated to ensure proper social distancing.
  - Group sizes should be limited to no more than 10 participants at one time to avoid overcrowding.
  - Individuals should not congregate in parking lots or court entrances as to avoid overcrowding.

For questions regarding the reopening call 978-620-3140.



**Quest for Connections**



Peer2Peer Resources for  
People with Disabilities

**A Virtual Scavenger Hunt**  
July 6 – August 30

*Let's build community together!*

**Sponsor the Quest and help increase Engagements, Donations, Curbside Pickups, and Online Purchases in our local community, while supporting people with disabilities in the Greater Merrimack Valley.**

**More than one way to sponsor!**

- **Traditional sponsorship:** Get on our task list each week and receive additional benefits. Create your own tasks or we'll come up with something creative!
- **Donate a gift card:** Get on our task list and participants will be encouraged to purchase something from your business for at least \$25.
- **Recruit 5-15 people:** Help us get participants and receive sponsorship benefits.

**Your sponsorship or gift card donation could bring you double or triple the return in revenue as we drive new business to your organization!**

Sponsorships are tax-deductible. For more information, contact Sheila Hegarty at shegarty@nilp.org or (978) 687-4288 ext. 162 or visit [www.nilp.org/quest](http://www.nilp.org/quest).



# DiZoglio Small Business Bills avanzan fuera de Comité

Dos proyectos de ley presentados por la Senadora Estatal Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen), ambos destinados a ayudar a las pequeñas empresas durante la emergencia COVID-19, han sido votados favorablemente por el Comité Conjunto de Desarrollo Comunitario y Pequeñas Empresas de la legislatura y avanzaron a El Senado para su consideración.

Un proyecto de ley, S. 2643, una Ley que establece un Programa de Protección de Cheques de Pago de Massachusetts (PPP) para las empresas que no son elegibles para el PPP federal comparable, está diseñado para ayudar a las pequeñas empresas que no son elegibles para el PPP federal.

No todas las pequeñas empresas que no pueden realizar negocios a través de la emergencia COVID-19 son elegibles para préstamos federales y oportunidades de subvenciones como el PPP, establecido en la reciente Ley CARES. El PPP federal crea un tipo de préstamo de emergencia que efectivamente se convierte en una subvención cuando se utiliza para mantener la nómina hasta junio y expande la red más allá de la SBA para que los bancos, las cooperativas de crédito y los prestamistas locales puedan emitir los préstamos. La creación de un programa comparable de préstamo y concesión de PPP de Massachusetts está diseñada para abordar esta inequidad al incentivar a las pequeñas empresas de MA que no son elegibles a nivel federal para que no despidan a los trabajadores y vuelvan a contratar a los trabajadores despedidos que perdieron sus empleos debido a las interrupciones de COVID-19.

"Insto a la Administración del Gobernador a que establezca un plan para permitir que estas pequeñas empresas vuelvan a operar con estrictas medidas de seguridad", dijo DiZoglio. "Finalmente presenté este proyecto de ley como último recurso para las muchas empresas que permanecen cerradas y no son elegibles para cualquier tipo de préstamo o asistencia del gobierno federal. Estas son familias locales que pagan impuestos y emplean a nuestros vecinos. Se están hundiendo y necesitamos hacer todo lo posible para mantenerlos a flote".

El segundo proyecto de ley, S. 2564, una ley para apoyar a MassMakers, es una legislación integral que DiZoglio escribió luego de un año de diálogo con empresarios, dueños de negocios y líderes empresariales y comunitarios. Toca una variedad de temas, incluido el establecimiento de una Oficina de Calles Principales de Massachusetts, un portal web MassMakers para ayudar a las nuevas empresas y escalas, microempresas y el empoderamiento de la Oficina de Diversidad de Proveedores del estado. Ha sido respaldado por la Asociación de Minoristas de Massachusetts y el Consejo Económico Negro de Massachusetts, así como por varias Cámaras de Comercio locales.

"No se puede exagerar la importancia de una economía saludable de pequeñas empresas para la creación de empleo y el crecimiento en Massachusetts", dijo DiZoglio. "Nuestra comunidad de pequeñas empresas nos ha dicho lo que necesitan: mayor conectividad, regulación simplificada y prestación de servicios, acceso al conocimiento y la oportunidad y

empoderamiento para tener éxito. Este proyecto de ley es un paso significativo en la dirección correcta con respecto a estos temas".

De particular interés durante la emergencia de COVID-19 son las disposiciones del proyecto de ley que establecen un portal web MassMakers de ventanilla única en línea para pequeñas empresas de Massachusetts.

Este portal web:

1. Proporcionar acceso a información y kits de herramientas para apoyar y ayudar a las pequeñas empresas, durante no solo la pandemia sino también nuestra recuperación económica y en los años venideros.
2. Identifique las pequeñas empresas de Massachusetts con el logotipo de "MassMakers" y sus productos y servicios locales como "MassMade".
3. Ayude a conectar las pequeñas empresas locales de MassMaker con los consumidores locales al proporcionar una base de datos de búsqueda interactiva "Proporcione Mass, Compre Mass" para que los compradores encuentren lo que necesitan, localmente, en lugar de tener que confiar en gigantes como Walmart y Amazon.

"Debido al cierre y la necesidad de distanciamiento social, las personas están acudiendo en línea a la mayor parte de sus compras y los gigantes en línea como Amazon están prosperando", dijo DiZoglio. "Sin embargo, muchas de estas ventas en línea están enviando nuestros dólares



de compra de Massachusetts a compañías de otros estados que están establecidas o conectadas lo suficiente como para tener acceso a publicidad y la capacidad de ventas en línea. Durante un momento en que gran parte de nuestra comunidad de pequeñas empresas tiene literalmente prohibido realizar ventas en persona, los gigantes minoristas como Walmart continúan siendo capaces de realizar ventas tanto en persona como en línea".

Después de su informe favorable del comité, ambos proyectos de ley avanzarán ahora al Comité del Senado de Medios y Arbitrios para una revisión adicional.

# DiZoglio Small Business Bills Advance Out of Committee

Two bills filed by State Senator Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen), both aimed at helping small businesses during the COVID-19 emergency, have been voted favorably out of the legislature's Joint Committee on Community Development and Small Businesses and advanced to the Senate for consideration.

One bill, S. 2643, An Act establishing a Massachusetts Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) for businesses ineligible for the comparable federal PPP, is designed to assist small businesses ineligible for the federal PPP.

Not all small businesses who are unable to conduct business through the COVID-19 emergency are eligible for federal loan and grant opportunities like the PPP, established in the recent CARES Act. The federal PPP creates a type of emergency loan that effectively turns into a grant when used to maintain payroll through June and expands the network beyond SBA so that banks, credit unions and local lenders can issue the loans. The creation of a comparable Massachusetts PPP loan to grant program is designed to address this inequity by incentivizing federally ineligible MA small businesses to not lay off workers and to rehire laid-off workers that lost jobs due to COVID-19 disruptions.

"I urge the Governor's Administration to put a plan in place to allow these small businesses to operate again with strict safety measures," said DiZoglio. "I ultimately filed this bill as a last resort for the many businesses who remain closed and entirely ineligible for any type of loan or grant assistance from the federal government.

These are local families who pay taxes and employ our neighbors. They're going under and we need to do all we can to keep them afloat."

The second bill, S. 2564, An Act to support MassMakers, is comprehensive legislation DiZoglio wrote following over a year's worth of dialogue with entrepreneurs, business owners, and business and community leaders. It touches upon a variety of issues, including the establishment of a Massachusetts Main Streets Office, a MassMakers web portal to assist aspiring start-ups and scale-ups, microbusinesses, and the empowerment of the state's Supplier Diversity Office. It has been endorsed by the Retailers Association of Massachusetts and the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts, as well as several local Chambers of Commerce.

"The importance of a healthy small business economy to job creation and growth in Massachusetts cannot be overstated," said DiZoglio. "Our small business community has told us what they need - increased connectivity, streamlined regulation and service delivery, access to knowledge and opportunity, and empowerment to succeed. This bill is a significant step in the right direction regarding these issues."

Of particular note during the COVID-19 emergency are provisions in the bill that establish an online, one-stop shop MassMakers web portal for Massachusetts small businesses.

This web portal would:

1. Provide access to information and toolkits to support and assist small businesses,

during not only the pandemic but also our economic recovery and in the years to come.

2. Identify Massachusetts small businesses with a "MassMakers" logo and their local products and services as "MassMade."

3. Help connect local, small MassMaker businesses with local consumers by providing a "Supply Mass, Buy Mass" interactive searchable database for shoppers to find what they need - locally - instead of having to rely on giants like Walmart and Amazon.

"Due to the shutdown and need for social distancing, people are flocking

online for the bulk of their purchases and the online giants like Amazon are thriving," said DiZoglio. "Many of these online sales, however, are sending our Massachusetts purchasing dollars to out-of-state companies who happen to be established or connected enough to have access to advertising and the ability for online sales. During a time when much of our small business community is literally prohibited from making in-person sales, retail giants like Walmart continue to be able to make both in-person and online sales."

Following their favorable committee report, both bills will now advance to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means for further review.



**CONSEJEROS DE LOS PEQUEÑOS NEGOCIOS DE AMÉRICA**

**¿Comenzando un Negocio? ¿Comprando un Negocio?**  
**¿Haciendo Crecer su Negocio?**

**CONSEJOS GRATIS Y CONFIDENCIALES SOBRE NEGOCIOS POR UNA ORGANIZACIÓN SIN ÁNIMO DE LUCRO**

**Sesiones de Consejerías jueves de 10:00 AM a 2:30 PM**  
Excepto el 3<sup>er</sup> jueves de cada mes

**Por favor, llame al 978-686-0900 para una cita con Lawrence SCORE**

**MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
264 ESSEX ST.  
LAWRENCE, MA 01840-1516



# Grateful for you



Dear NILP Golf Community,

Today would've been our Annual Golf Tournament for Independence. Although we're sad we had to cancel the event this year, we're also grateful as we reminisce on your incredible support over the years and how much it means to us. Thank you!

Your support helps us meet a critical mission: full community inclusion for people with disabilities. In recent months, the importance of our mission is growing in urgency.

First and foremost, NILP is a community of peers who represent communities of color, communities of economic

disadvantage, and communities of long-standing marginalized and stigma related injustice.

We want you to know that NILP stands in solidarity with the Black community and we will continue to advocate for necessary systems change. As Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Thank you again for your continued support of our mission. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you're looking for resources and ways to engage.

Sincerely,

June C. Sauvageau, CEO

## NECC Presents Third Annual Golf Tournament

Northern Essex Community College is accepting registrations for its Third Annual Golf Tournament to benefit the 12 varsity athletic programs. It will be held August 31, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. at Renaissance Golf Club on 377 Kenoza St., Haverhill.

This event is open to the public. Registrations placed before July 31 are \$175 per person. After that, registration is \$200 per person. There are \$100 sponsorships available for purchase. Registration includes green fees, 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch, an awards dinner, a golf gift bag, and an Under Armour gift.

This four-player scramble, best ball tournament includes breakfast. Registration and breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start and scramble at 9 a.m. The awards luncheon and silent auction begins at 2 p.m.

Last year's tournament raised more than \$16,000 with over 100 golfers of all ages participating. There were 25 teams and 43 sponsors.

Proceeds benefit the NECC Athletic Program, which recently reintroduced its

intercollegiate golf program for both men and women. The last time NECC had a golf program was 20 years ago.

For the 2019-20 academic year NECC saw the return of both the men's soccer and women's basketball programs, along with a new Esport program, which won two national awards this spring. Other spring sports were sidelined by the Covid-19 pandemic. Proceeds from the golf tournament will be used for athletic facility improvements, continued sports expansion, and for students athletics support programs to help them reach their academic and athletic goals.

For more information, visit the golf tournament site at <https://www.necc.mass.edu/engage/community-events/golf-tournament/>

Numerous options for sponsorship and registration are available at <https://www.necc.mass.edu/engage/community-events/golf-tournament/golf-tournament-sponsorship-and-registration/>

For additional information contact Dan Blair, director of athletics at [dblair@necc.mass.edu](mailto:dblair@necc.mass.edu) or call 978-556-3820.

## GLCF anuncia nuevo fondo de acción de equidad racial en la reunión anual



Más de 100 residentes, líderes empresariales y profesionales sin fines de lucro asistieron a la reunión anual virtual de la Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) 2020 el 10 de junio, donde se anunció que la fundación había establecido un nuevo Fondo de Acción de Equidad Racial.

Aprobado por unanimidad por la Junta de GLCF, justo antes de la Reunión Anual, este fondo fue creado para promover la justicia racial y la creación de equidad en Greater Lowell. La Fundación cree firmemente que abordar las disparidades raciales es el primer paso esencial hacia nuestra misión de construir una comunidad más justa y para todos.

"Es importante para Greater Lowell invertir para asegurarse de que somos una comunidad inclusiva y equitativa", dijo el Presidente y CEO de GLCF, Jay Linnehan. "El Fondo de Acción para la Equidad Racial brindará apoyo a las organizaciones que trabajan para abordar las disparidades raciales sistémicas".

"Los tiempos difíciles pueden convertirse en momentos de filantropía para inspirar a las personas a actuar y construir comunidades mejores y más fuertes", dijo

el miembro de la Junta de GLCF Brian L. Chapman. "Eso es lo que hace el GLCF, sigue brillando como un faro de esperanza en el Valle de Merrimack".

El Presidente de la Junta de GLCF, Chet Szablak, inauguró el evento señalando el impacto y el crecimiento de las donaciones caritativas a nivel local, citando la distribución de becas y becas de \$2.5 millones de la Fundación en 2019, un 28% más que en 2018.

Jeffrey Poulos, el CEO, de Philanthropy MA, pronunció el discurso de apertura sobre las tendencias de la filantropía en Massachusetts y compartió datos de una encuesta reciente. "Lo más importante es escuchar a la comunidad, los miembros de la comunidad son las voces más confiables para representar a los necesitados", dijo Jeffrey Poulos, "confiamos en ellos y los escuchamos e invertimos en ellos como organización. La equidad está en el centro de todo".

Las donaciones al Fondo de Acción de Equidad Racial de GLCF se pueden hacer en línea en [www.glcfoundation.org](http://www.glcfoundation.org) o por correo al Fondo de Acción de Equidad Racial de GLCF c/o GLCF, 100 Merrimack Street, Suite 202, Lowell, MA 01852.

## Greater Lowell Community Foundation announces new Racial Equity Action Fund at Annual Meeting

Over 100 residents, business leaders, and nonprofit professionals attended the virtual Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF)'s 2020 annual meeting on June 10th where it was announced that a new Racial Equity Action Fund has been established by the foundation.

Unanimously approved by the GLCF Board, just prior to the Annual Meeting, this fund was created to advance racial justice and equity building in Greater Lowell. The Foundation strongly believes that addressing racial disparities is the first essential step towards our mission of building a more fair and just community for everyone.

"It's important for Greater Lowell to invest in making sure we are an inclusive and equitable community," said GLCF President & CEO Jay Linnehan. "The Racial Equity Action Fund will provide support to organizations that are working to address systemic racial disparities."

"Challenging times can become moments for philanthropy to inspire people to act and build better stronger

communities," said GLCF Board Member Brian L. Chapman. "That is what the GLCF does, it continues to shine as a beacon of hope in the Merrimack Valley."

GLCF Board Chair Chet Szablak opened the event noting the impact and growth of charitable giving on the local level - citing the Foundation's \$2.5 million in grant and scholarship distribution in 2019, up 28% from 2018.

Jeffrey Poulos, the CEO, of Philanthropy MA, gave the keynote address on the trends of philanthropy in Massachusetts and shared data from a recent survey. "The most important thing is to listen to the community, community members are the most trusted voices in representing those that are in need," said Jeffrey Poulos, "We trust them and we listen to them and invest in them as an organization. Equity is at the center of everything."

Donations to the GLCF Racial Equity Action Fund can be made online at [www.glcfoundation.org](http://www.glcfoundation.org) or by mail to the GLCF Racial Equity Action Fund c/o GLCF, 100 Merrimack Street, Suite 202, Lowell, MA 01852.

### 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>



# Keep Kids Engaged This Summer with MCC's Virtual College for Kids



Summer is around the corner and Middlesex Community College wants to help bring back a sense of normalcy, learning and routine. MCC's College for Kids will be virtual this summer. Enrollment is now open. Abby Noel, of Lowell, lines up a shot of a flower with her digital camera.

Summer is around the corner and Middlesex Community College wants to help bring back a sense of normalcy, learning and routine. Middlesex has transitioned College for Kids to virtual platforms for this summer's programming. Enrollment is now open.

College for Kids offers one- and three-week, full- and half-day summer programs for children and teens ages 8 to 17. The program runs July 6 to August 13. Classes will either run on ZOOM, Google Classroom or Google Meet. Formatting classes to these virtual platforms ensures kids remain safe and healthy as they learn.

These fun and engaging summer programs provide children and youth with unique opportunities to explore careers, learn new skills, meet new friends and boost self-confidence. Programs are taught by public-school teachers or professionals who are experts in their field.

"Self-inspiration, easy-to-access, adaptability, easy access to experts and diverse students – this is what remote learning looks like with College for Kids at MCC," said Lauren Ellis, MCC's Program Manager for Community Education and Training. "Enjoy our online classes and you will see that we are not just learning in a remote environment, but having fun in an online world of learning. I am so very thankful that I have such a wonderful team of educators who have been able to jump right in and transition to remote learning."

This summer, explore topics such as photography, Dungeons & Dragons,

decorating baked goods, arts and crafts, Minecraft, science, graphic design, writing, dancing and nutrition.

Instructor Tory Wesnofske is a photographer who will teach Digital Photography and Traditional Film Photography. She's planning to teach on ZOOM from her studio and community darkroom.

"We will be getting down to the basics in both classes by learning to shoot manually, which is a great foundation for anyone interested in taking better pictures," she said. "In film photography, we'll be learning about all types of films and cameras, how to use them and how to make sun prints from negatives."

Most College for Kids full-day offerings run Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Half-day programs run from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m.

For the complete 2020 online College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/) or call 781-280-3663.

MCC and other local Mass. community colleges are also partnering with Black Rocket for more virtual programming that includes high-quality content at an affordable price. Classes start as early as June 8 and as late as August 24. Visit [http://hcc.3dcartstores.com/Summer-Youth-Programs\\_c\\_2132.html](http://hcc.3dcartstores.com/Summer-Youth-Programs_c_2132.html) for more information. Please note the link goes to Holyoke Community College's website. All classes taken with Black Rocket will still be associated with Middlesex.

# Workforce Training Fund Grants Virtual Info Session Offered by MCC



Middlesex Community College will host a virtual info session for businesses seeking WFTF grants from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, June 24. Before COVID-19, students took a Workforce Training Fund info session in-person.

Middlesex Community College will host a virtual Information Session for businesses seeking Workforce Training Fund (WFTF) grants from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, June 24. The deadline to register is Monday, June 22.

"Middlesex has helped 30+ companies receive over \$4 million in WFTF grants," said Lisa Tuzzolo, MCC's Director of Corporate Education and Training. "MCC is proud of the many relationships the college has formed with local businesses and organizations as a community partner. We work directly with our employers to train employees based on their specific needs and help them to grow in their individual roles, as well as part of the overall team."

The Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund, administered by Commonwealth Corporation, provides resources to businesses to train current and newly hired employees. The goal is to help

improve employee skills and maintain the economic strength of the Commonwealth's businesses.

At the virtual info session, an WFTF representative will present an overview of the grant options and answer questions in an informational setting.

WFTF provides training grants to Massachusetts employers up to \$250,000 per application. MCC's Corporate and Community Education & Training Program has helped many businesses secure and implement these grants.

Visit the Commonwealth Corporation website at [www.commcorp.org/wtff](http://www.commcorp.org/wtff) for more information on specific Workforce Training Fund programs.

To register for MCC's WFTF session, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/workforce-training-fund-information-session-this-session-will-be-virtual-registration-80875026381>

## 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.



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# MVCC & Harrows Chicken Pies Donate Food to Heroes



The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce was honored to partner with Harrows Chicken Pies coordinating Harrows donation of complete Chicken Pie dinners to both Holy Family Hospital in Haverhill and Lawrence General Hospital

Thank you to our essential worker heroes who continue to keep us safe and to Wally and Dan owners of Harrows for their donation. Make sure to stop by and say hello to them in their Methuen location!

# BBB Business Tip: Filing insurance claims, scheduling repairs after damage or looting



Many business owners have recently sustained damage due to vandalism; others have had property go missing due to looting. Some have been forced to close down due to street closures, curfews, or safety precautions. Merchants may be wondering what steps to take in order to repair property and collect on insurance. Before filing any claim, contact your insurance agent to discuss your options.

The Insurance Information Institute has provided advice for business owners seeking assistance, and for those wanting to purchase additional coverage.

For damage to a physical building, damage caused by fire, riots, or vandalism is covered under a Business Owner's Policy (BOP), which combines property, liability, and business interruption coverage. Check your policy. Windows are often covered under a separate policy, sold separately, so check to see if that is part of your options.

If your business has been forced to close or limit hours, you may have coverage under business income insurance, often called business interruption - if there has been direct physical damage to the premises. There is also something called a "civil authority provision" for lost income and expenses, if the area where the business is located is closed off by the authorities due to concerns of danger, from civil unrest or from flooding or fire.

For personal property, such as furniture, office supplies, and machinery, those should qualify for coverage under the owner's personal property policy. Check with your insurer.

For damage to cars, look under the comprehensive portion of your auto policy. That covers damage from fire, falling objects and vandalism or riot. In addition, the comprehensive coverage is what kicks in if your windshield is cracked or broken.

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**Volunteer**

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!





## 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

# Una nueva dimensión de vida

Hace dos o tres artículos, comencé con esta frase: "Victor Hugo dijo: 'Nada es más poderoso que una idea cuyo tiempo ha llegado'". Esta vez quiero volver a visitar el tema desde otro ángulo... o Punto de Vista.

A finales de la década de los noventa terminé la tesis requerida para recibir un doctorado en Educación Informática. En ese momento ya estaba enseñando cursos universitarios de tecnología. Usábamos Blackboard, una plataforma de enseñanza reconocida. Este producto de software nos dio la capacidad de crear o tomar prestadas presentaciones de PowerPoint para nuestro trabajo en el aula. También proporcionó asignaciones de clase y depositarios de clase donde los estudiantes podían entregar su propio trabajo. Creo que la plataforma todavía está en uso. Mi nieto, graduado universitario desde 2019, está familiarizado con ella. Tal vez usted lo está igualmente.

Mi título de tesis fue "Efecto de las evaluaciones electrónicas de portafolio sobre la motivación y el interés informático de estudiantes de cuarto y quinto grado en una escuela suburbana de Massachusetts". Se trataba de maestros y estudiantes de primaria que estaban usando el software de evaluación de los estudiantes en su escuela por primera vez y estaban dispuestos a participar, con el permiso de sus padres y del Comité Escolar, en mi investigación.

Dos llamadas "construcciones", o sujetos en el lenguaje de la investigación, eran la motivación de los niños y las niñas y, en el caso de las niñas, el interés por las computadoras. Este último había sido sugerido por las maestras de la escuela. En ese momento había cierta preocupación por la falta de mujeres profesionales de la informática y si la accesibilidad a la tecnología informática era la razón más importante. Los profesores querían saber si más exposición generaría más interés. La exposición previa y posterior a mi proyecto de investigación informática demostró que, de hecho, su experiencia había aumentado el interés de las niñas. De todos los libros que he publicado, esa disertación en la base de datos de mi Alma Mater, ha sido la más exitosa, y ha sido utilizada por muchos investigadores en negocios y academia en todo el mundo.

La mayor parte del trabajo que hice con mi universidad durante ese tiempo de proyecto de tesis se hizo en línea, lo que técnicamente se llama "aprendizaje a distancia". Con sede en Fort Lauderdale, FL, se me requirió estar físicamente presente sólo varias semanas al año, cuando me reunía con la Facultad y mis compañeros estudiantes de "aprendizaje a distancia" que vivían en varios de los Estados Unidos. Nos llamábamos "pioneros", porque sabíamos que estábamos entrando en un nuevo

dominio educativo con la enseñanza y el aprendizaje de los requisitos en línea nunca practicados.

"Nunca", como en "hasta que un virus golpeó y nos obligaría a todos a vivir remotamente en línea". No tengo que decir que ese momento acaba de llegar. Hoy practicamos trabajando en línea en la oficina; visitamos a nuestros médicos en línea y rezamos en línea también. Nuestros empleadores usan el agua y la electricidad de nuestra casa, y el enfriador de agua permanece tan vacío como las conversaciones que ya no llevamos allí. Y por último, pero no menos importante, nuestra visión del aprendizaje a distancia de los estudiantes se ha convertido en una realidad y ha desafiado nuestra estabilidad. Si escucha atentamente puede escuchar los argumentos a favor o en contra.

No podemos, por ejemplo, practicar la jardinería a distancia. Tenemos que plantar una semilla que crecerá, y el suelo debe ser cuidado para evitar hiedra venenosa, roble venenoso, hierbas malas y otras amenazas ambientales para las plantas. Pero hay otro elemento que se necesita y debe ser considerado: la voluntad de aprender, la receptividad y la participación del alumno.

Típicamente, cuando debemos elegir entre dos o más opciones terminamos sólo con una, pero el aprendizaje a distancia es

una nueva idea que debe adaptarse a ambas, no a una u otra. Todos estamos familiarizados con los comentarios anecdóticos sobre los maestros que deben suministrar sus propios lápices y libros para ayudar a sus estudiantes, y cómo sus propios ojos y sentimientos pueden sentir si un estudiante "está aprendiendo". Eso es más difícil con el aprendizaje/enseñanza a distancia, no sólo porque es difícil de notar, sino también difícil de responder. Y no debemos ignorar la falta de tecnología por parte de los estudiantes aislados física o económicamente, incluso culturalmente, y aquellos cuyos padres son incapaces de proporcionar el apoyo que necesitan sus hijos.

Volviendo a mi primera frase sobre la oportunidad de una idea me hace preguntarme si estamos listos para cuidar de lo distante, ya sean niños o adultos. La sociedad tiene que hacer una gran inversión en la infraestructura que necesita una dimensión mundial en línea. Y debe estar preparada para ofrecernos la oportunidad de permanecer cerca el uno del otro a medida que nos alejamos el uno del otro. No podemos perder nuestro calor humano porque nos convertimos en alambre frío. La humanidad está a punto de pasar por otra evolución, una que nunca soñamos. El resultado es una suposición de cualquiera de ustedes.

Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy.



## A POINT OF VIEW © 1996

By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, ICCP

# A new life dimension

A couple or three articles ago, I started with this sentence: "Victor Hugo said: 'Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come.'" This time I want to revisit the issue from another angle... or Point of View.

In the late nineteen nineties I completed the dissertation required to receive a doctoral degree in Computer Education. At the time I was already teaching technology university courses. We used a teaching platform named Blackboard. This software product gave us the ability to create or borrow PowerPoint presentations for our classroom work. It also provided class assignments and class depositories where students could deliver their own work. I believe the platform is still in use. My grandson, a college graduate since 2019, is familiar with it. Perhaps you are as well.

My dissertation title was "Effect of Electronic Portfolio Assessments On The Motivation And Computer Interest of Fourth And Fifth Grade Students In A Massachusetts Suburban School." It involved teachers and elementary students who were using student's assessment software in their school for the first time and were willing to participate, with their parents' and School Committee permission, in my research.

Two so-called "constructs", or subjects in research parlance, were motivation of boys and girls and, in the case of girls, interest in computers. The latter had been

suggested by the school teachers. At the time there was some preoccupation about the lack of women computer professionals and whether accessibility to computer technology was the most important reason. The teachers wanted to know if more exposure would generate more interest. Pre and post exposure to my computer research project showed that indeed their experience had increased interest on the part of the girls. Of all the books I've published, that dissertation at my Alma Mater's database, has been the most successful, and has been used by many researchers in business and academia all over the world.

Most of the work I did with my university during that dissertation project time was done online, what is technically called "distance learning". Based in Fort Lauderdale, FL, I was required to be physically present only several weeks a year, when I would meet with Faculty and my fellow "distance learning" students who lived all over the United States. We called ourselves "pioneers," because we knew we were entering a new educational domain with teaching and learning online requirements never practiced.

"Never," like in "until a virus hit and would force all of us to live remotely online." I don't have to tell you that moment just arrived. Today we practice online working at the office; we visit our doctors online and worship online as well. Our

employers use our water and electricity at home, and the water cooler remains as empty as the conversations that we no longer carry on there. And last, but not least, our vision of students' distance learning has become a reality and challenged our stability. If you listen closely you can hear the arguments in favor or against.

We cannot, for instance, practice distant gardening. You have to plant a seed that will grow, and the soil must be cared for to avoid poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac, weed grass and other environmental threats to the plants. But there is another element that is needed and must be considered: the willingness to learn, the receptivity and participation of the learner.

Typically, when we must choose between two or more options we end only with one, but distance learning is a new idea that must adapt to both, not to either or. We are all too familiar with the anecdotal comments about teachers who must supply their own pencils and books to help their

students, and how their own eyes and feelings can sense if a student "is getting it." That is more difficult with distance learning/teaching, not only because is hard to notice, but also difficult to respond. And never mind the lack of technology by the isolated physically or economically, even culturally, students and those whose parents are unable to provide the support needed by their children.

Going back to my first sentence about the timeliness of an idea makes me wonder if we are ready to care for the distant, whether children or adult. Society has to make a huge investment in the infrastructure needed by an online world dimension. And it must be prepared to offer us an opportunity to remain close to each other as we move away from each other. We cannot lose our human warmth because we become wire cold. Humanity is about to go through another evolution, one we never dreamed. The result is anyone's guess.

And that's my point of view today.

# Rumbo

"The Bilingual Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley"

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BY DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

# From My Corner



## 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.

## Protest and Cameras – BLM

Some time ago, Rumbo wrote several articles in regards to the surveillance cameras that were popping up in and around the City of Lawrence.

Rumbo decided to revisit this topic due to the nature of the recent *Black Lives Matter* protest that occurred in the City of Lawrence. Additionally, we are also revisiting the cameras of Lawrence because the City Councilors of Boston are also currently revisiting banning the use of facial recognition and Rumbo wanted to see how the cameras are used for that purpose.

For Boston, the ban would prevent any city agency from using face surveillance software and ensure that people are not subject to unregulated, mass surveillance in public spaces. But do people of Lawrence know how it affects them? The last time we wrote about this topic we provided several examples. But we have a couple of new examples of how the cameras are being used.

In Lawrence, and other cities, (such as at protests like the ones that have shaken Boston and other cities since last month's killing of George Floyd, an unarmed black man, at the hands of a white Minneapolis police officer) have been pretty chaotic. If you found yourself in Lawrence during the recent protest that occurred June 4-8, you should know that your face was captured by police cameras in and around the areas that these protests took place as well as in any other areas, of the city, that you immediately visited afterward.

Furthermore, Rumbo has received unofficial information that the cameras are being used to capture places where people are not complying with facial mask rules of the City of Lawrence. This is certainly not a high crime issue to use the cameras, but the videos capture facial features that are shared with other law enforcement agencies.

There is a notion that these cameras are used to solve crimes, but also they are used to be a bit lazy in police work or calls. A recent arrest was made by LPD on two individuals for using illegal fireworks in the city by using these cameras. Although I am all for going after individuals who break the law, we question the manner that these arrests are being made. After all, in an era of Black Lives Matter, we should be looking for systems of racial inequity.

On Monday, June 8, 2020, International Business Machine (IBM) announced that it was removing the company out of the

facial-recognition business over concern about how it can be used for mass surveillance and racial profiling. "We will not sell facial-recognition technology to police departments in the United States until we have a national law in place, grounded in human rights, that will govern this technology," Microsoft President Brad Smith said, according to an article on the Washington Post.

Moreover, employees of Amazon have made their concerns to the owner over facial recognition and racial inequity which forced Amazon to place a one-year moratorium on letting police use its facial recognition technology, calling for strong government regulations for its ethical use.

The technology's use by government officials has been controversial due to its inaccuracy, especially when it comes to people of color, the MIT Technology Review reported in December.

In February 2020, Congress held hearings on the use of facial recognition following a federal government report that found the technology has more difficulty accurately reading faces, based on race, gender, and age. Rumbo agrees that such errors could easily result in bias. The House of Representatives Homeland Security Committee will hear testimony from the federal report, that found depending on the algorithm used, facial recognition software lead to "false positives," particularly among Native Americans, Asians, and African Americans, including women of color.

So Rumbo wants to hear from you, especially from a new group called Black Lawrence Activist Collective or any nearby BLM official representative, on the use of facial recognition and surveillance cameras.

## Speaking of COVID-19

In a recent posting of Richard Russell (who is keeping track of the COVID-19 numbers) he stated that the numbers reported for Essex County were 31 victims, for Lawrence it was 8 victims. While the numbers are decreasing, Lawrence still 25% of Essex County's victims. Lawrence only has about 11% of Essex County's population.

When are people going to start asking the obvious questions? The problem is that most people do not follow those statistics and don't understand them.

Clearly put: Lawrence represents 11% of the entire Essex County population but 25% of the victims of the entire county are here. There has to be some logic and no one explains!



**This is how you stop racism!**

**An innocent ~~black~~ man was murdered by a corrupt ~~white~~ cop.**

## How to combat racism

This picture was posted on my Facebook account because it's Denzel Washington, someone I greatly admire and I like the message: "This is how you stop racism! An innocent black man was murdered by a corrupt white cop."

Notice that the words "black" and "white" were crossed out. Why can't we just say the same without mentioning their races? A crime is the same no matter who commits it.

The reason for bringing it up here is because that hit home with me. How many times have we seen newspapers mentioning the nationality of criminals taken into custody? We have become so used to seeing in print things like, "Dominican arrested...", "Illegal alien from the Dominican Republic using false documents...", "Dominican arrested in Boston who used to live in Lawrence..." and so on.

Have you seen a news item mentioning the nationality of someone committing a crime?

Yes, we have a drug problem in this city and many people without the proper credentials to be in this country but, the media contributes greatly to the negative

reputation of Lawrence. People take for granted what they read and worse than that, at times they don't even read the articles and judge by the headlines or the pictures attached to the story.

That happened when I posted that picture originally. Someone wrote:

"The Rumbo is the most racist paper since the Lowell Sun. These posts are absolute garbage. The first step in stopping racism is to ignore that white police violence is primarily directed against black people? Really?"

I didn't bother responding because this is one of those people whose mind is made up (against Rumbo, me, Latinos, whatever) and it will be a waste of my precious breath. He didn't bother to read that the races were crossed out.

Regarding being called "racists," that is so ignorant after 24 years defending this community, that it only attests to the fact that he has never seen a Rumbo issue to pass such judgment.

Like we say in Cuba: "We must plow with those oxen."

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

— Voltaire

AZ QUOTES

"The darkest places in hell are reserved for those who maintain their neutrality in times of moral crisis."

— Dante Alighieri



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Haverhill –Thursday, June 18. The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission will hold a virtual online monthly meeting on Thursday, June 18 at 11:00 am. The agenda includes updates of the Commission's activities. For details to join this meeting email Nancy Lavalley at [nlavalley@mvpc.org](mailto:nlavalley@mvpc.org)



# Men's Tennis Receives #20 Mid-Major Recruiting Class Ranking by Tennis Recruiting Network



The Merrimack College men's tennis team's Class of 2020 recruiting class has been named the No. 20 mid-major recruiting class nationwide, as announced by Tennis Recruiting Network this week.

Tennis Recruiting Network has been publishing its recruiting class rankings for 14 years, beginning in 2006. The mid-major rankings include programs in all divisions except the ACC, Big 10, Big 12, Pac-12 SEC and the Ivy League, which is 900 programs in total including 193 at the Division I level.

Merrimack's No. 20 ranking is the highest ever for a Northeast Conference (NEC) program and only the second time ever that a NEC team has made the top-25 (Fairleigh Dickinson in 2017).

"We're honored to be ranked alongside so many other great programs. It's definitely an exciting time for Merrimack tennis as we look to continue competing at a high level against some very strong Division One programs," commented head coach Alex Loyer. "We're excited to see what Aryaan and Jan can help us achieve when they arrive on campus!"

As announced last month, Merrimack will bring in a pair of student-athletes that will be freshman this upcoming fall. Incoming first-year students Aryaan Bhatia

(Mumbai, India) and Jan Semerak (Teplice nad Metuji, Czech Republic) will comprise Merrimack's freshmen class.

TRN Top Men's Mid-Major Classes

- 1) Charlotte
- 2) San Diego
- 3) Louisiana
- 4) Denver
- 5) UC Santa Barbara
- 6) East Tennessee State University
- 7) Pepperdine
- 8) BYU
- 9) Sacramento State
- 10) Gonzaga
- 11) Fresno State
- 12) Tulane
- 13) Northern Arizona
- 14) UNCW
- 15) Cal Poly
- 16) Florida Atlantic
- 17) George Washington
- 18) Western Michigan
- 19) Dayton
- 20) Merrimack
- 21) Toledo
- 22) Johns Hopkins
- 23) Saint Louis
- 24) Santa Clara
- 25) Wofford

# Fidelity House CRC awarded Cummings Grant

Lawrence nonprofit receives Cummings Foundation grant



Fidelity House CRC is one of 130 local nonprofits to receive grants of \$100,000 to \$500,000 each through Cummings Foundation's \$20 Million Grant Program. The Lawrence-based organization was chosen from a total of 738 applicants during a competitive review process.

Fidelity House CRC (FHCRC) is a human services organization supporting adults and children with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities; brain injuries; and mental health diagnoses. In recent years, FHCRC has supported a growing population of adults with acquired brain injury, created new services for military veterans, and developed an innovative technology to provide respite for family members who care 24/7 for someone with disabilities or dementia. With more than 30 locations and 20 different service types, Fidelity House CRC, supports more than 1200 people across Massachusetts. FHCRC's mission is to support people with disabilities and/or significant challenges to pursue goals and live fulfilled lives.

Brad Howell, President & CEO, had this to say upon receiving the news, "We are very proud to continue our partnership with the Cummings Foundation as a second time recipient of the \$20 Million Grant Program. We look forward to supporting more Veterans to find work meaningful careers. Having the ability to partner with The Cummings Foundation, shows their commitment to invest in local organizations to improve the quality of life for all people. This is a highly effective partnership model."

Fidelity House CRC will use the awarded funds to sustain and strengthen one-to-one job placement services for military veterans with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

The Cummings \$20 Million Grant Program supports Massachusetts nonprofits that are based in and primarily serve Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties. Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation aims to give back in the area where it owns commercial buildings, all of which are managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by its affiliate, Cummings Properties. Founded in 1970 by Bill Cummings, the Woburn-based commercial real estate firm leases and manages 10 million square feet of debt-free space, the majority of which exclusively benefits the Foundation.

"We have been impressed, but not

surprised, by the myriad ways in which these 130 grant winners are serving their communities, despite the challenges presented by COVID-19," said Joel Swets, Cummings Foundation's executive director. "Their ability to adapt and work with their constituents in new and meaningful ways has an enormous impact in the communities where our colleagues and leasing clients live and work."

Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than \$280 million to greater Boston nonprofits.

Social distancing requirements will prevent Foundation and grant winner representatives from convening for a reception at Trade Center 128 in Woburn, as planned, to celebrate the \$20 million infusion into greater Boston's nonprofit sector. Instead, Cummings Foundation expects hundreds of individuals to gather virtually for a modified celebration in mid-June.

The Cummings \$20 Million Grant Program resulted from a merger of the Foundation's two flagship grant programs, \$100K for 100 and Sustaining Grants.

The Foundation and its volunteers first identified 130 organizations to receive grants of at least \$100,000 each. Among the winners are first-time recipients as well as nonprofits that have previously received Cummings Foundation grants. A limited number of this latter group of repeat recipients will be invited to make in-person presentations in the fall, when public health related circumstances allow, proposing that their grants be elevated to long-term awards. Thirty such requests will be granted in the form of 10-year awards ranging from \$200,000 to \$500,000 each.

This year's diverse group of grant recipients represents a wide variety of causes, including homelessness prevention, affordable housing, education, violence prevention, and food insecurity. The nonprofits are spread across 40 different cities and towns, and most will receive their grants over two to five years.

The complete list of 130 grant winners is available at [www.CummingsFoundation.org](http://www.CummingsFoundation.org).

A great deal more information about Cummings Foundation is detailed in Bill Cummings' self-written business book, "Starting Small and Making It Big: Hands-On Lessons in Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy." The brand-new, and significantly updated, 6th edition is available on Amazon or [cummings.com/book](http://cummings.com/book).

*"We ENCOURAGE other youth to join the program it help you get a better UNDERSTANDING of important skills needed in the real world, it also helps you UNITE with the community"*

*Yaritza Guillen & Nayeli Liriano, 2019 Youth Leadership Program Graduates*

PLEASE DONATE!

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- Learn Resume + Interview Skills
- Build Work Ethic

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## Three Ways to Help Your Gardens Thrive with Minimal Care



By **Melinda Myers**

So, you filled your shopping cart and gardens with lots of new shrubs, flowers, and vegetables. Now what? Keep your plants looking their best with minimal effort so you can enjoy them and your summer even more.

Watering is one task where I find even experienced gardeners struggle. Proper watering is key. Too much or not enough water can result in yellow, wilting and even death of plants.

Check container plantings daily. Stick your finger into the soil and water whenever the top few inches of soil is starting to dry. Water thoroughly so the excess runs out of the pot and away from the planter.

New plantings need special attention the first few weeks. Water thoroughly and often enough to keep the roots and surrounding soil slightly moist. Gradually reduce frequency and only water thoroughly when the top few inches are crumbly, but slightly moist.

Continue giving perennials, trees, and shrubs regular care the first two years. It takes this long for them to establish a robust root system. Water thoroughly, but only as needed.

Water early in the day to reduce water lost to evaporation. Avoid watering at night. Wet foliage at night is more susceptible to disease.

Use soaker hoses, drip irrigation or watering wands to apply water to the soil. Less water is wasted plus you'll help decrease the risk of disease by avoiding wet foliage.

Mulch gardens to conserve moisture, suppress weeds and improve the soil as it decomposes.

Spread a two- to three-inch layer of organic mulch such as shredded leaves, evergreen needles, wood chips or shredded bark on the soil surface surrounding your plants. The courser the mulch used, the thicker the layer.

Do not bury the base of your plants or pile mulch against the trunks of trees. This can lead to a decline of your plants. I like to use wood-based mulches for permanent plantings and pathways.

Consider using shredded leaves, evergreen needles or even a thin layer of chemical-free grass clippings for annual plantings. These mulches break down more quickly than wood and do not cause nutrient deficiencies if worked into the soil.

Fertilization provides the nutrients plants need to grow and thrive, but too much of a good thing can be detrimental. Over fertilization can result in lots of green leafy growth, but no flowers or fruit. Lush succulent growth from over fertilization is more susceptible to insect and disease problems.

Select a fertilizer labeled for the plants you are growing and your gardening goals. Organic and slow release fertilizers provide a slow, steady supply of nutrients over a longer period of time. You'll need to make fewer applications throughout the growing season.

Do not apply more than the recommended rate. Not only are you wasting fertilizer and money, but an overdose of fertilizer can damage and even kill plants.

Consider taking a soil test in the future. The results tell you how much and what type of fertilizer to apply. Contact your local Extension office for tips on how to take a soil test and where to send the sample for testing.

Visit your gardens regularly. Pick a few flowers to enjoy in a vase indoors and harvest vegetables when they are mature. Regular harvests of ripe vegetables and herbs keeps them producing.

So, enjoy your summer and gardening adventures. Each year brings new successes, plants to try, and lessons to learn from our gardens. As you experience the joy and benefits of this season's garden, you will be looking for more opportunities to expand your plantings next year.

Melinda Myers has written numerous books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## Methuen Youth Innovation Project in the Works

The City of Methuen is among the few communities in the Merrimack Valley that is not home to a formal youth center or agency exclusively dedicated to providing services to its young people.

In response, State Senator Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen) recently secured \$200,000 in state funding toward a Youth Innovation Project in Methuen. The funds have been allocated to Inspirational Ones, a local nonprofit which, in collaboration with Methuen Public Schools and other partners, will initiate the pilot program, creating and implementing a curriculum model to identify and expand outside-the-box learning experiences and career opportunities, with a focus on engaging underserved youth. An essential component of the project is participation by a Youth Advisory Committee, whose members have been nominated by teachers and school staff and include representatives of that underserved population.

Originally, in addition to hiring an executive director and staff to provide programming, the goal was to utilize the funds in part to secure a physical facility in the City of Methuen. As the COVID-19 emergency reframes the way services can be delivered, the focus of the pilot phase has pivoted to embrace the new environment by finding partners with platforms that can provide effective online resources and intriguing virtual programming to introduce local youth to education and workforce paths that were previously inaccessible.

"We are excited to be a member of this partnership and have selected nine Methuen High School students with varying backgrounds, experiences, and interests to serve on the Youth Advisory Committee," said Brandi Kwong, superintendent of Methuen Public Schools. "It is critical to have the student voices as a part of the decision making as they are the ones who will benefit from the programs. The Youth Advisory Committee will help guide the work to serve our youth. As a school district, we work to provide a wide breadth of experiences for all of our students, but it is wonderful to have community partners who want to work with our students and expand their experiences outside of school. We are looking forward to a positive and long-lasting partnership."

"When we founded Inspirational Ones, it was to create impact at the community level through youth engagement," said Susan Leger-Ferraro, founder of Inspirational Ones. "We are committed to bringing innovations for school to career opportunities back to my hometown of Methuen, in collaboration with Superintendent Kwong. It was in the early childhood program at Methuen High that I did my first internship in education. It



is an honor to give back, as I believe it is all of our responsibility to strengthen our youth, who are our workforce for tomorrow."

"Now more than ever during this COVID-19 emergency, youth in our community who are stuck at home, separated from their peers, are in need of vital services to keep them connected," said DiZoglio. "The goal of this project is to provide them with that connectivity, as well as the mentorship opportunities and social and emotional learning to inspire them to pursue their unique talents and reach their goals."

"I am so excited to be a part of this youth innovation project that will give the youth the opportunity to expose themselves to a variety of careers and experiences as well as explore their interests with others," said Brooke Tardugno, a Methuen High freshman.

"I believe this project is exactly what our community needs," said Natalie Harkins, a Methuen High sophomore. "It is a great opportunity to bring people together and truly connect with one another. I've already reached out to people to see if they'd be interested in participating and they all agree it's an amazing opportunity."

"I'm excited to introduce a new way to engage youth in our community," said Molly Beeley, a Methuen High junior. "I think the Methuen Youth Innovation Project will offer our generation a unique and personal connection and will open a new door of opportunities for all of Methuen's youth."

"It is truly a blessing to be a part of this project," said Lukas Karagiorgos, a Methuen High junior. "The Methuen Youth Innovation Project is not only a great way for students and kids from our community to hang out and connect, but also an opportunity to give them the tools and resources they need to succeed in the future. One of our main goals as a student led board is to give all students a voice and allow them to have representation in their education and community issues."

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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**JOIN OUR VIRTUAL CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

**VIRTUAL CAREGIVER SUPPORT SESSION  
VIA ZOOM PLATFORM  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 | 1:00 P.M.**



*Open Forum & Discussion with Alicia Seaver, Vice President of Memory Care Operations and Certified Memory Impairment Specialist*

We know that caring for a loved one with memory loss comes with unique challenges, some of which may be heightened by today's unprecedented times. We invite you to join us for our Caregiver Support Group with dementia expert Alicia Seaver, as well as other caregivers and Bridges® families.

We'll discuss tips and strategies to help ease your frustrations, guilt and uncertainties to make this trying time less stressful and more enjoyable for both you and your loved one.

**All Support Group attendees must register. We will be using the Zoom platform.**

[Register for Online Support Group](#)



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## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is Hereby given by Sheehan's Towing L.L.C. of 26 Lawrence St Methuen, MA, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after June 23, 2020 beginning at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and lien fees. Vehicles are being stored at Sheehan's Towing and may be viewed by appointment only.

1. 2007 Ford F-150 VIN 1FTPW14507FB74957
2. 2008 Chevrolet HHR VIN 3GNDA23D58S565185
3. 2000 Mercedes ML430 VIN 4JGAB72E8YA192897
4. 2008 Nissan Pathfinder VIN 5N1AR18B08C642651
5. 2013 Landrover Range Rover VIN SALVP2BG2DH782065
6. 2007 BMW X5 VIN 5UXFE83567LZ46774
7. 2008 Subaru Impreza VIN JF1GE61698G521278

Robert Sheehan  
Owner, Sheehan's Towing L.L.C.  
6/8, 6/15, 6/22

## City of Lawrence Notice of Availability Substantial Amendment to the City's Annual Action Plan FY2020 HUD Program Year 2019

In accordance with the requirements of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), notice is hereby given that the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts has prepared a substantial amendment to the FY2020 Annual Action Plan. The City is anticipating receiving approximately \$1,011,001 in CDBG-CV funds and \$1,664,754 in ESG-CV funds and under the CARES Act. These funds will be used to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and facilitate assistance to eligible communities, households and person economically impacted by COVID-19.

Copies of the plan will be available for a 5 day citizen comment period beginning June 16, 2020 and ending June 20, 2020 on the City website, [www.cityoflawrence.com](http://www.cityoflawrence.com). Written comments will be included in the final plan submitted to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on or about June 23, 2020.

Daniel Rivera, Mayor

## Ciudad de Lawrence Aviso de Disponibilidad Sustancial Enmienda al Plan de Acción Anual de la Ciudad para el año 2020 Año del Programa HUD 2019

De acuerdo con los requisitos de la Ley de Ayuda, Alivio y Seguridad Económica Coronavirus (Ley CARES por sus siglas en inglés), se notifica que la ciudad de Lawrence, Massachusetts, ha preparado una enmienda sustancial al Plan de Acción Anual para el año fiscal 2020. La ciudad está anticipando recibir aproximadamente \$1,011,001 en fondos CDBG-CV y \$1,664,754 en fondos ESG-CV bajo la Ley CARES. Estos fondos se utilizarán para prevenir la propagación del coronavirus (COVID-19) y facilitar la asistencia a las comunidades, hogares y personas elegibles afectadas económicamente por COVID-19.

Las copias del plan estarán disponibles para un período de comentarios ciudadanos de 5 días a partir del 16 de junio de 2020 y que finalizará el 20 de junio de 2020 en el sitio web de la ciudad, [www.cityoflawrence.com](http://www.cityoflawrence.com). Los comentarios escritos se incluirán en el plan final presentado al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos a más tardar el día 23 de junio de 2020.

Daniel Rivera, Alcalde

## ¡La Fundación Big Brother Big Sister necesita tu ayuda!



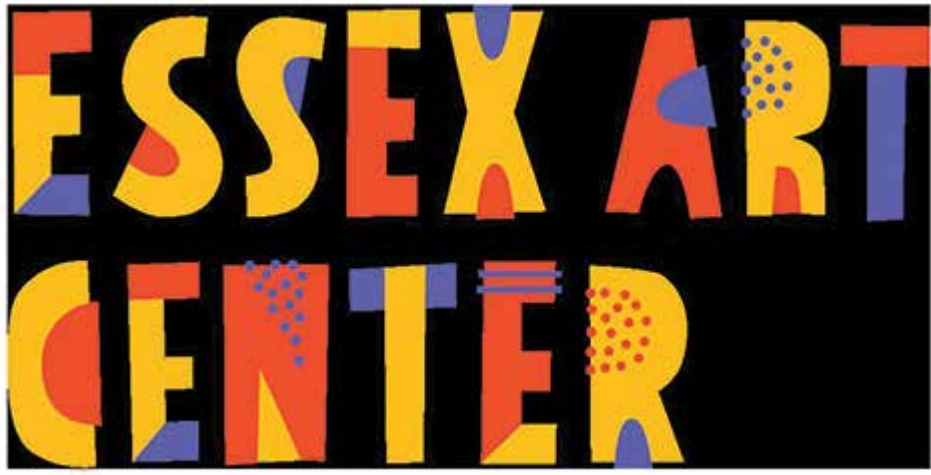
Si tienes ropa usada y pequeños artículos del hogar que ya no usas, dónalos para quienes si los necesitan. Llegaremos a tu puerta para recibir lo que puedas entregar.

Para programar una cita, llama al 1.800.483.5503 o visítanos en nuestra página web en internet: [www.bbbsfoundation.org](http://www.bbbsfoundation.org).

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

¡Gracias por tu apoyo!





## Classes filling up, new classes added!

Half of our classes are now either full or close to full, so don't delay!

The classes below still have some space, and we've added a few new ones, so be sure to visit our registration webpage to sign up today!

Also, remember that we have two new free classes for youth and families, available on YouTube! The first is a watercolor painting class, and the other is a graphite drawing class. In case you missed it, these can be found on our YouTube page, along with five other free video series we uploaded in May!

Finally, see below for a great series of

drawings by one of our youth artists, made to inspire her mom and other healthcare workers!

### Master Class Series for Adults

We now have two master classes scheduled for July! These are for artists with some experience in painting or digital art who want to learn more intermediate / advanced techniques from very experienced artists. Details at <https://www.essexartcenter.org/masterclasses>.

## Mayor Announces Lottery for Gerson Veterans Housing

Mayor James J. Fiorentini has announced that applications for a lottery for 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom apartments in the new 44-unit Gerson affordable housing development at the western end of downtown Haverhill are now available.

At least 70 percent of the units are reserved for veterans and veterans' households. All veterans seeking housing are encouraged to apply.

"There is a tremendous need for veterans housing in Haverhill and the Merrimack Valley and this project helps fill that gap," Mayor Fiorentini said. "Our goal is that no veteran should be homeless.

Amenities include air-conditioning, on-site parking, laundry, and 24/7 maintenance. Heat, electricity and water are included in rent. Most rents range from \$1,047 to \$1,453 per month.

Lottery applications are available in the Mayor's Office or can be downloaded along with additional information including rental prices and income guidelines at [www.thegersonbuilding.com](http://www.thegersonbuilding.com). Interested parties may also call Maloney Properties at 617-209-5429 to request an application by mail or email.

The deadline for submitting an application is Aug. 3. The lottery will be held Aug. 11 at 11 a.m. at Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, 10 Reed St.

"The demolition of the former vacant and blighted furniture building and the rise of this new modern building has been a big lift to this neighborhood," Mayor Fiorentini

said. "I am very pleased how it turned out and that they are ready to start filling these homes with veterans and their families."

The apartments feature modern designs and are within easy walking distance to downtown restaurants and shops and the Haverhill Amtrak/MBTA Commuter rail station.

The City of Haverhill is one of many public and private funders of the redevelopment project, which was built by Coalition For A Better Acre of Lowell and Veterans Northeast Outreach Center.



# American Red Cross

## COVID-19: Red Cross offers virtual care for families who have lost loved ones

Virtual Family Assistance Center provides resources to those struggling with loss and grief due to the pandemic

The American Red Cross of Massachusetts is launching a Virtual Family Assistance Center to support families struggling with loss and grief due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Families and organizations in need can use this link to access a support hub with special virtual programs, information, referrals and support services. The hub will also connect people to other community resources provided by the Red Cross of Massachusetts and other partners. Those without internet access can call 833-492-0094 for help.

"Losing a loved one due to COVID-19 is devastating," said Holly Grant, Massachusetts Regional Chief Executive Officer. "Not only have these families experienced the unexpected passing of a loved one, but they are also facing additional challenges caused by this public health emergency. We want them to know that the Red Cross is here to provide compassion and support as they grieve."

Many families have experienced a disrupted bereavement and grief process due to restrictions related to COVID-19. To help, the Red Cross has set up a virtual team of specially trained mental health, spiritual care and health services volunteers who are:

- Connecting with families over the phone to offer condolences, support and access to resources that may be available
- Providing support for virtual memorial services for families, including connecting

with local faith-based community partners

- Hosting online classes to foster resilience and facilitate coping skills
- Sharing information and referrals to state and local agencies as well as other community organizations including legal resources for estate, custody, immigration or other issues

All Family Assistance Center support will be provided virtually and is completely confidential and free of charge.

About the American Red Cross  
The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission.

For more information, please visit [redcross.org/ma](http://redcross.org/ma) or [cruzrojaamericana.org](http://cruzrojaamericana.org), or visit us on Twitter at @RedCrossMA.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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America Awake!



# Creative Haverhill

Greenbelt's Art in the Barn is Online June 8 – 17th



Essex, MA: Essex County Greenbelt's Art in the Barn is recognized as one of the North Shore's premier showcases and sales featuring work from more than 100 of the most-talented artists in the region. Artwork in this juried show includes fine art paintings, sculpture, jewelry, pottery, woodworking and photography.

For 30 years, Art in the Barn was held at Greenbelt's Cox Reservation in Essex. This year, due to public health concerns, the Art in the Barn Exhibit and Sale will be held online for 10 days from Monday, June 8th through Wednesday, June 17th.

An online Silent Auction featuring work

from renowned artists George Sherwood, Dorothy Monnelly, Ann Jones and Kris Francis will run from 10 AM Friday, June 12th through 3 PM Sunday, June 14th.

Participating artists generously donate 50% or more of their proceeds to Greenbelt. Every purchase supports Greenbelt's land conservation work.

A live concert by the Tree House Charlatans will be streamed online on June 8 starting at 6:30 PM.

Visit [ecga.org/artinthebarn](http://ecga.org/artinthebarn) to learn more and for the link to the online Exhibit and Sale. Contact [ecga@ecga.org](mailto:ecga@ecga.org) for questions.

## Join us on Zoom this Friday!

Blaine Hebbel is our guest poet for our virtual poetry and open mic night this Friday from 7-8 pm. Poet, activist, and Ipswich native, Hebbel has been fascinated by the "American Voice" for over 40 years and has been fighting social injustice since the '60s. He is a member of the OccuPoets who read at Occupy Boston, and his poetry has been featured all around New England. He has also published 5 Chapbooks: Poems From the Shore, The

Occupy Poems, Cracking Up, Poems of Resistance, and Poems Rising Up From the Cellar. He founded his own publishing house, Ring of Bone Press, in 2013, with a mission to bring "The American Voice" to the reader by publishing the work of local under-discovered poets and writers.

This is a free program, but please make sure to register!

We hope to see you on zoom!

# Nashua Reads Title to Be Revealed June 26

The Nashua Public Library will announce the title of the 2020 Nashua Reads: One City, One Book selection on Friday, June 26. Beginning that day, library cardholders can reserve the book to check out for curbside pickup. They can also download electronic copies of the book. Book clubs will be able to reserve multiple copies to check out a few weeks before they discuss the book.

The book will be available as a paperback, e-book, downloadable audiobook, or audiobook on CD.

The goal of the One City, One Book program is to get as many Nashuans as possible to read the same book and talk about it with

friends, co-workers, and neighbors. Thanks to funding from the Friends of the Nashua Public Library and the Ella Anderson Trust, the book's author will hold a virtual event for the library on October 11.

To be sure you are one of the first to hear what the title is, subscribe to "This week @ your library," the library's e-newsletter, by going to [nashualibrary.org](http://nashualibrary.org) and clicking Subscribe to our eNewsletter on the Connect menu. Or you can follow the library on Facebook.

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

# Essex Art Center

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

## Registration is now open for Summer 2020!

We are trying a unique format for this summer session of classes and workshops. We will have two sessions, each 4 weeks in length. The first begins Monday, June 22, and we have classes for kids, teens, and adults!

We also have two free classes for youth and families, starting this Saturday, which you'll find on our YouTube page on June 6th. The first is a watercolor painting class, and the other is a graphite drawing class. Stay tuned!

Also, if you took a spring class with us, please consider filling out our evaluation form so we can keep improving our programs. Thanks!

Floral Painting + Digital Collage  
Masterclass with Marisol Ortega  
Saturday, July 11, 1-4 PM  
Marisol Ortega | \$75  
Adults (16+)

We are proud to announce our first summer masterclass, with Seattle-based painter, illustrator, muralist, and designer Marisol Ortega! Marisol uses a unique analog-to-digital painting process, in which she paints floral forms with watercolor and ink, then digitally scans, colorizes, and collages them to become finished compositions. Her images can be printed, used in client commissions, or projected at large scale to become murals.

Learn more and register here!

Classes for Kids + Teens  
Sculpting the World Around Me  
Age 6-10  
July 13, 15, 17, 10-11 AM  
Maria Sanchez Kouassi

Fashion Illustration  
Age 11-18  
Mondays, June 22-July 15, 4-5 PM  
Luba Shapiro Grenader

Traditional Cartooning  
Age 11-18  
Tue + Thu, June 23-July 16, 3-4 PM,  
Mariana Martins  
Digital Art with Procreate  
Age 11-18  
Tue + Thu, June 23-July 16, 5-6:30 PM  
Mariana Martins

Digital Photography  
Age 12 to Adult

Mondays, June 22-July 13, 4:30-6 PM,  
Peter Morse

Workshops + Classes for Adults (16+)  
Clay and Other Materials  
Thu, June 25, 10-11 AM  
Larry Elardo

Collage In The Time Of Surrealism  
Tue, July 7 + 14 | 7-8 PM  
Paco Colom

Fun with Watercolor  
Mondays, June 22-July 8, 7-8 PM,  
Rahat Mama

The Fun Fundamentals of Drawing  
Thu, June 4-18, 1-2:30 PM  
Mary Ann McCarthy McArdle

The Natural World Revealed Through Pencil and Paper  
Tue + Thu, June 23-July 9, 1-2:30 PM,  
Mary Ann McCarthy McArdle

Painting Abstraction with Acrylics  
Tuesdays, June 23-July 14, 4-6:15 PM  
Jenn Wood

Expressions in Portraiture  
Thursdays, June 25-July 16, 6-8 PM  
Luba Shapiro Grenader

Working Artists Discussion Group  
Tuesdays, June 23-July 14, 10-11:30 AM  
Paul Endres Jr.

Satirical Illustration  
Mon + Wed, Jun 22-Jul 15, 5-6:30 PM  
Sam Aman

Contemporary Practice (Group 1)  
Wed, June 24-July 15, 10-11:30 AM  
Cathy McLaurin + Peter Morse

Contemporary Practice (Group 2)  
Wed, June 24-July 15, 10-11:30 AM  
Cathy McLaurin + Peter Morse  
Both sections of Contemporary Practice will be co-taught by Cathy McLaurin and Peter Morse, who will share assignments and lead the discussion in alternating weeks. You may sign up for either section, as the content and format are the same. You can coordinate with friends to sign up for the same section, if you like.

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



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