

Concurso decorando su casa para el 4 de julio

El Parque Estatal Friends of Lawrence Heritage, 1 Jackson Street at Canal, anuncia un concurso de "la mejor casa/patio decorados patrióticamente" para el próximo día feriado del 4 de julio.

Este concurso está limitado a los residentes de Lawrence, pero puede expandirse en el futuro. Los residentes que deseen mostrar su espíritu patriótico están invitados a decorar el frente de sus casas y/o sus patios delanteros con decoraciones patrióticas rojas, blancas y azules.

Los residentes participantes deben enviar por correo electrónico fotografías de las decoraciones antes del viernes, 3 de julio a friendsoflhsp@hotmail.com y asegurarse de incluir su nombre y dirección.

Los miembros del grupo de Amigos



juzgarán y los ganadores serán notificados por correo electrónico. Se otorgarán premios. Las preguntas deben dirigirse al grupo de amigos en friendsoflhsp@hotmail.com o al 978-794-1655. Feliz decoración!

Decorating your home for July 4th contest

The Friends of Lawrence Heritage State Park, 1 Jackson Street at Canal, announce a "best patriotically decorated house/yard" contest for the upcoming 4th of July holiday.

This contest is limited to the residents of Lawrence but may expand in the future. Residents who would like to display their patriotic spirit are invited to decorate the front of their houses and/or their front yards with red, white and blue patriotic decorations.

Participating residents must then e-mail photographs of the decorations by Friday, July 3rd to friendsoflhsp@hotmail.com and be sure to include their name and address.

Judging will be done by members of the Friends group and winners will be notified by e-mail. Prizes will be awarded. Questions should be directed to the Friends group at friendsoflhsp@hotmail.com or 978-794-1655. Happy decorating!

Recuerde: Los fuegos artificiales son ilegales en Mass. No se arriesgue a una multa o arresto



Remember: Fireworks are illegal in Mass. Do not risk a hefty fine or arrest

Lawrenciano recibe beca de Berklee City Music



Originario de Lawrence, Massachusetts, Helpy Castano asistirá al curso *Five-Week* para estudiar percusión.

Ya él ha participado en Berklee City Music Boston durante un año. "Esta experiencia me ha cambiado de muchas maneras: me ha dado esperanza y fortaleza y me ha enseñado cosas que nunca supe", dijo Castano.

Este año, Berklee otorgó Becas de Verano de City Music a 60 jóvenes músicos destacados de los Estados Unidos y Canadá. Estos estudiantes, que deben ser nominados por un miembro de la facultad de Berklee

City Music, han recibido becas de matrícula completa valoradas en \$4,345 para *Aspire*: programa intensivo de cinco semanas de rendimiento musical (cinco semanas) de Berklee, que tendrá lugar prácticamente del 11 de julio al 14 de agosto. *Five-Week* es uno de los programas de rendimiento de verano más completos del mundo, brinda a los estudiantes instrucción individualizada de la facultad de Berklee e invitados especiales, incluyendo Esperanza Spalding BM '05, Jacob Collier, Terri Lyne Carrington y Victor Wooten, entre otros.

Scholarship from Berklee City Music to Lawrencian

A native of Lawrence, Massachusetts, Helpy Castano will be attending *Five-Week* to study percussion.

He has participated in Berklee City Music Boston for one year. "This experience has changed me in many ways—it has given me hope and strength and taught me things I never knew," said Castano.

This year, Berklee awarded City Music Summer Scholarships to 60 outstanding young musicians from the United States and Canada. These students, who must be nominated by a Berklee City Music full-

member site, have received full-tuition scholarships valued at \$4,345 to Berklee's *Aspire: Five-Week Music Performance Intensive (Five-Week)* program, taking place virtually from July 11 through August 14. *Five-Week* is one of the world's most comprehensive summer performance programs, providing students with one-on-one instruction from Berklee faculty and special guests, including Esperanza Spalding B.M. '05, Jacob Collier, Terri Lyne Carrington, and Victor Wooten, among others.

Blanco y negro no como el día y la noche White and black not like day and night

By Paul Montesino - Pg. 15

MCC to Host Virtual Open Forum for Fall Semester

The mission at Middlesex Community College is to ensure the academic and personal success of every student. Middlesex has the resources and 20+ year history of award-winning online education to help students who are new to online learning. The college also understands the need to detail plans for the upcoming semester for students who want to take classes in the Fall. MCC's Office of Admissions is offering a Virtual Fall Semester Open Forum to answer questions that students and their families may have about taking college classes this September.

"At Middlesex, it's more important now than ever that we stay in contact with our prospective students and their families," said Jillian Freitas-Haley, MCC's Assistant Dean of Admissions. "Our Virtual Open Forum is an opportunity to check-in with new students and members of our community about all that MCC can offer them, and to answer their questions about the semester. Although there are a lot of unknowns in our current climate, MCC has a plan in place to ensure that students remain healthy, safe and on track with their educational goals."

MCC's Virtual Open Forum will cover the college's plans for online and on-campus learning options for Fall, as well as Middlesex's plans to keep students healthy and safe. Students and their families will then have an opportunity to engage in a question and answer session with Admissions staff, academic advisors, enrollment counselors and college leadership.

The open forum will start at 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 9 on Zoom. To register, or for more information, contact admissions@middlesex.mass.edu or 1-800-818-3434.

To register for the Fall semester, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/ or call



Middlesex Community College's Office of Admissions is offering a Virtual Fall Semester Open Forum at 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 9 to answer questions that students and their families may have about taking college classes this September. Attendees can speak to representatives of the college, such as Jeffrey Tejada MCC's Director of Diversity Outreach and Recruitment.

1-800-818-3434. Classes begin September 9.

Discover your path at Middlesex Community College. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in Massachusetts, MCC has been a proven leader in online education for more than 20 years. We educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners, offering more than 80 degree and certificate programs – plus hundreds of noncredit courses. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!

MCC and Black Rocket Offer Virtual Summer Classes for Kids

It's not too late to sign up for College for Kids at Middlesex Community College. Middlesex understands the challenges the community is facing, and the college continues to support students and keep them on their path with online learning. As summer approaches, MCC has transitioned the College for Kids Program to virtual online platforms for students to have the chance to explore careers, learn new skills, meet new friends and boost self-confidence.

"We are excited about all of the ways MCC is providing fun and informative learning opportunities to the kids in our communities this summer," said Judy Burke, MCC's Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. "We are partnering with Black Rocket and other community colleges in Massachusetts to offer online Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) classes, in addition to our virtual College for Kids Program. There are so many options for students to enjoy an entertaining and productive summer!"

Middlesex's partnership with Black Rocket and other local Mass. community colleges allows the college to offer more online class options that includes high-quality content at an affordable price. Classes start as early as June 8 and as late as August 24. Each class is \$149 for a week of classes – five sessions – and runs Monday through Friday. Black Rocket helps kids explore STEM

in creative ways. Their website lists "six pillars of learning" that their classes follow – creativity, technology, make it yourself, peer learning, 21st century skills and project based.

Class options include designing video games, building 3D models, creating video game animations, becoming a streamer and gamer, coding for interactive storytelling, and more – using familiar and popular gaming systems for inspiration.

MCC's College for Kids also 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. Having classes in a virtual format ensures kids stay safe and healthy while learning.

Programs are taught by public-school teachers or professionals who are experts in their field. Topics include photography, Dungeons & Dragons, decorating baked goods, arts and crafts, Minecraft, science, graphic design, writing, dancing and nutrition.

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 College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/ or call 781-280-3663.

El Representante Frank A. Moran Asegura \$950,000 para el 17° Distrito de Essex en el Presupuesto Suplementario COVID-19 del estado

El Representante Estatal Frank A. Morán (D - Lawrence, Andover y Methuen) se unió a sus colegas en la Cámara de Representantes para aprobar un presupuesto suplementario de \$1.1 mil millones para reforzar la respuesta del Commonwealth al COVID-19 pandemia. Este presupuesto suplementario incluye \$350 millones para equipos de protección personal (PPE), \$85 millones para hospitales y refugios de campaña, \$44 millones para la búsqueda de contactos comunitarios, \$36 millones para cuidado infantil de emergencia para trabajadores esenciales y \$2 millones para continuar con las pruebas COVID-19 para enfermería Residentes de hogar y personal.

El Representante Estatal Morán aseguró \$950,000 para las comunidades del Distrito 17 de Essex a través de tres enmiendas presentadas al Proyecto de Ley 4802 de la Cámara de Representantes, una ley que hace las asignaciones para el año fiscal 2020 para autorizar ciertos gastos COVID-19 en anticipación del reembolso federal.

Las enmiendas presentadas por el Representante Morán proporcionan \$600,000 para que la Ciudad de Lawrence amplíe sus esfuerzos rápidos de reubicación y estabilización de viviendas para ayudar a las familias que han perdido sus empleos

debido a la pandemia y su impacto económico, \$300,000 para que la Ciudad de Andover brinde servicios adecuados y apropiados con adaptaciones para operar y celebrar reuniones públicas de manera coherente con los protocolos de seguridad necesarios para mitigar la propagación de COVID-19 y \$50,000 para los Servicios internacionales de atención a veteranos en la Ciudad de Lawrence para mitigar la inseguridad alimentaria y proporcionar ayuda para la vivienda a los miembros del comunidad de veteranos que han sido afectados financieramente por COVID-19.

"Esta legislación proporciona fondos críticos para proteger a nuestros trabajadores de primera línea, ampliar el acceso médico, mejorar nuestra capacidad de rastrear y evaluar a aquellos que pueden haber estado expuestos a COVID-19 y abordar las necesidades individuales de nuestras comunidades", dijo el Representante Estatal Frank A. Morán "Me enorgulleció presentar tres enmiendas a este presupuesto suplementario para aumentar la capacidad de nuestra comunidad de proporcionar servicios esenciales a aquellos que se han visto afectados negativamente por esta pandemia y continuaré trabajando con mis colegas para guiarnos a través de estos tiempos sin precedentes".

Representative Frank A. Moran Secures \$950,000 For The 17th Essex District In State's Covid-19 Supplemental Budget

State Representative Frank A. Moran (D – Lawrence, Andover, and Methuen) joined his colleagues in the House of Representatives to pass a \$1.1 billion supplemental budget to bolster the Commonwealth's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This supplemental budget includes \$350 million for personal protective equipment (PPE), \$85 million for field hospitals and shelters, \$44 million for community contact tracing, \$36 million for emergency childcare for essential workers, and \$2 million to have continued COVID-19 testing for nursing home residents and staff.

State Representative Moran secured \$950,000 for the communities of the 17th Essex District through three amendments filed to House Bill 4802, An Act making appropriations for the fiscal year 2020 to authorize certain COVID-19 spending in anticipation of federal reimbursement.

The amendments filed by Representative Moran provide \$600,000 for the City of Lawrence to expand its rapid rehousing and housing stabilization efforts to assist families who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic

and its economic impact, \$300,000 for the Town of Andover to provide adequate and appropriate accommodations to operate and hold public meetings in a manner that is consistent with the safety protocols necessary to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and \$50,000 for International Veteran Care Services in the City of Lawrence to mitigate food insecurity and provide housing relief to members of the veteran community who have been financially impacted by COVID-19.

"This legislation provides critical funding to protect our frontline workers, expand medical access, enhance our ability to track and test those who may have been exposed to COVID-19, and address the individual needs of our communities," said State Representative Frank A. Moran. "I was proud to file three amendments to this supplemental budget to increase our community's capacity to provide essential services to those who have been adversely impacted by this pandemic and will continue working with my colleagues to guide us all through these unprecedented times."

Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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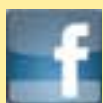
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Publicación de SUDA, Inc.

315 Mt. Vernon Street Lawrence, MA 01843-3206

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Published on the 1st 8th 15th and 22nd of Every Month

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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.

Llevarse bien juntos

La semana pasada publicamos un anuncio del Alcalde Dan Rivera y el Jefe de Policía Roy Vasque explicando cómo utilizarán \$600,000 con los jóvenes de nuestra comunidad. Algunas personas me preguntaron por qué fui tan amable con ellos, pero no entienden que era un comunicado de prensa que traduje sin editorializar. Ese no era el momento para mi opinión. Ahora lo es.

El propósito es fortalecer las relaciones entre jóvenes y oficiales, algo que debería ser parte del día de trabajo. No entiendo la necesidad de más dinero; lo llaman entrenamiento pero creo que es más como sentido común.

Quizás van a hacer su "conexión" con los jóvenes trabajando horas extras. Tal vez se trate de salarios para "consultores" para enseñarles la forma correcta de hablar con los niños.

Las buenas relaciones con la comunidad SON parte de su trabajo.

El cuento de 3 ciudades

Bienvenido al 1 de julio, el comienzo del Año Fiscal 21.

Quiero mostrarle la diferencia entre Haverhill, Methuen y Lawrence y cómo manejan sus problemas financieros. Esta responsabilidad recae directamente en el Concejo Municipal de cada ciudad, lo que demuestra su preocupación por los residentes, al tiempo que proporciona servicios adecuados a todos.

En Haverhill, no pudieron llegar a un acuerdo y decidieron votar por un presupuesto de 1/12, dando a la ciudad fondos suficientes para ejecutar y pagar facturas, en lugar de cerrar. Ahora, tienen todo el mes de julio para estudiar alternativas para aprobar todo el presupuesto para el Año Fiscal 21.

El Alcalde Neil Perry vino en el peor momento al Ayuntamiento de Methuen. Su ciudad está luchando con un déficit de \$7 millones y está preparando una lista de despidos que tendrá lugar el 1 de agosto.

Mientras continúan trabajando juntos por una solución durante el mes de julio, el Concejo Municipal votó 9-0 por un presupuesto de 1/12 que permite que la ciudad siga funcionando.

Pero en Lawrence, ¡Ay Dios, Lawrence! Hablaron mucho, pelearon un poco, no mucho, escucharon a Danny y la votación final fue de 6-3 aprobando el presupuesto sin un solo cambio.

La gran diferencia es que Haverhill y Methuen están buscando formas de proteger

a los contribuyentes y, en Lawrence, aumentaron los impuestos a la propiedad en un 2.5%. Aumentaron un presupuesto cargado de aumentos salariales para los jefes de departamento y otros amigos y nadie sugirió retener esos aumentos.

Votando SÍ: Celina Reyes, María De La Cruz, Estela Reyes, Kendrys Vásquez, David Abdo y Marc Laplante.

Votando NO: Ana Levy, Pavel Payano y Jeovanny Rodriguez.

El Concejo Municipal necesita un aumento

En la reunión del Concejo Municipal del 22 de junio, cuando se aprobó el aumento de impuestos del 2.5% sin ninguna reducción, sucedió algo escandaloso que probablemente pocos de ustedes saben.

La Concejala del Distrito A, María De La Cruz, mencionó que el concejo debería recibir un aumento. ¡La peor de los concejales en esa junta pidiendo más dinero! Esta mujer dice las cosas más necias y recientemente tuvieron que decirle que se callara porque empezó a hablar de algo que no se estaba discutiendo.

Ella no sabe lo que sucede en las reuniones la mitad de las veces. Recuerdo que una noche, cuando terminaron de votar sobre algo, ella fue al siguiente tema de la agenda y le dijeron: "Eso es lo que acabamos de votar".

Cuando se trata de votar, vota por lo que quiera el Maestro Dan sin siquiera pensar en las consecuencias.

Ella mantiene su número de teléfono en secreto y finalmente lo encontré cuando se publicó en Facebook (978-303-7243) en la lista de todos los concejales y sus números de teléfono.

La Concejala De La Cruz afirma ser activa en su comunidad, pero si lo comprobamos, ella solo está activa con su asociación de vecinos y se aparece a tiempo para una sesión de fotos.

Bueno, pensó que ahora la ciudad tendrá mucho dinero para gastar con el aumento de impuestos y se siente merecedora de una parte de ese dinero. ¡Qué valor!

Votación por correo

Durante algunas semanas, he estado advirtiendo sobre los peligros involucrados en la votación por correo. Ahora que el proyecto de ley del Senado S2755 fue aprobado por la Legislatura de Massachusetts, según tengo entendido, cualquiera puede solicitar una boleta en ausencia y no se usará una boleta por separado.

Francisco Ureña, el chivo expiatorio



Esta foto fue tomada durante las inundaciones del Día de las Madres de 2007, el día después de que Francisco regresara del servicio militar. Quería estar al servicio y se convirtió en un activo para la ciudad entrevistando a víctimas de las inundaciones, políticos y funcionarios municipales. Lo podemos ver aquí con el Senador Edward Kennedy y el Alcalde Michael Sullivan detrás.

Todos hemos escuchado la noticia de que Francisco tuvo que renunciar a su trabajo como Secretario de Servicios a Veteranos. Alberto y yo quisiéramos agregarnos a la lista de personas que están horrorizadas por esta acción del Gobernador Charlie Baker.

Tómese el tiempo para leer el artículo de

opinión publicado por The Lowell Sun y que reproducimos en la página 5.

Como tiene un plazo limitado y no puede volver a postularse, el gobernador está otorgando favores y posiciones a sus amigos. Esperemos que algo bueno para Lawrence salga de esta decisión.

Mientras tanto, en los estados donde ha sido aprobado, ha habido varios casos de personas arrestadas por hacer trampa con esas boletas. Robándolas, llenándolas y firmando por aquellas personas a quienes fueron enviadas por correo. Varias personas han sido arrestadas en todo el país por alterar las papeletas, lo cual es un delito federal.

Una gran historia sobre las relaciones raciales

Eche un vistazo a mi página de Facebook y vea el anuncio de servicio público titulado **P&G: The Look**. Es un video mudo sobre un hombre negro en diferentes situaciones

donde la gente lo "mira" con un final sorprendente. ¡Poderoso!

Eso me recordó a una película apropiada para los tiempos que vivimos. Permítanme recomendarlo como una gran película porque está muy en sintonía con los problemas raciales actuales en este país. Encontrar a Forrester (Finding Forrester) protagonizada por Sean Connery interpreta a un autor solitario que se convierte en mentor de un joven prodigio Negro. Rob Brown interpreta al joven lucha en su Universidad de Manhattan para impresionar a un maestro amargo y la interacción entre los dos se siente con honestidad y autenticidad.

Tenga una experiencia estimulante y vea que hay esperanza en este mundo.

JAPONE RD produce su segunda grabación

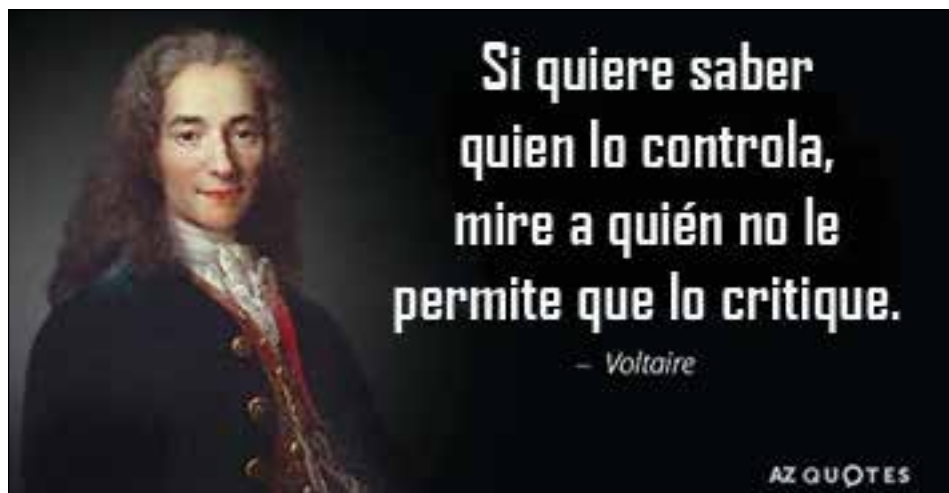
¡Hola amigos!

Espero que sea de su agrado mi segundo sencillos y contar con su apoyo.

JAPONE RD - HELLO MY LADY (El Marron)

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OPINIÓN

Es hora de que el Gobernador Baker renuncie

Por John Macdonald

28 de junio de 2020

¿Cuántos fracasos puede soportar la gente de Massachusetts del Gobernador Charlie Baker?

Exigir la renuncia de Francisco Ureña, ex Secretario de Servicios a Veteranos, es la gota que colmó el vaso en una serie de malas acciones del gobernador. Baker aceptó la renuncia de Ureña para encubrir su nombramiento de un amigo político en el Hogar de Soldados Holyoke, en lugar de una persona calificada para dirigir la instalación, lo que resultó en más de 100 muertes de veteranos de edad avanzada. Usó a Ureña, un héroe de guerra estadounidense condecorado como su chivo expiatorio, para encubrir el pobre juicio y las deficiencias del propio gobernador como administrador.

La desgracia máxima como funcionario público es echar la culpa de un escándalo a alguien que no merecía ser culpado, como Ureña. Francisco es muy conocido por los veteranos, especialmente en el Valle de Merrimack, en particular Lawrence, donde comenzó la ambición de su vida al servicio de sus compañeros veteranos.

Ureña, un infante de marina, veterano de la guerra de Irak, un receptor del Corazón Púrpura, un hombre de carácter impecable, honor y gracia fue utilizado como un pedazo de papel higiénico y desechado para proteger la carrera política de un gobernador indigno. Baker usó a Ureña... y los veteranos en Massachusetts nunca lo olvidarán.

El gobernador aún no ha mostrado ningún remordimiento real por su ausencia de liderazgo durante el escándalo del RMV que resultó en la muerte de veteranos de la Marina de los EE.UU. en su camino a un evento de caridad. Se dio un pase sobre eso.

Hace años, cuando era candidato Baker, el candidato se paró frente a cientos de veteranos en Mottolo VFW Post en Revere y prometió que construiría viviendas prioritarias para veteranos. Se paró frente al fallecido ganador de la Medalla de Honor Thomas J. Hudner Jr., e hizo una promesa

de apoyar a nuestros veteranos y convertirlos en una prioridad. Baker ha incumplido esa promesa y los veteranos en Massachusetts deben reconocer y recordar eso.

El Gobernador Baker manejó mal la recuperación de COVID 19 en el estado, lo que resultó en una de las tasas de desempleo más altas del país. Él solo ha obligado a la mayoría de los clubes de veteranos como las Legiones Americanas y los VFW a cerrar permanentemente, o considerarlo, porque no pueden abrir sus negocios. Los veteranos una vez más están recibiendo la peor parte de alguien que nunca sirvió al país en uniforme. Supongo que como dice el adagio; los que no sirvieron no saben y los que no saben, no les importa. Es una vieja expresión que parece encajar muy bien con Baker.

Amigos, no quedan más excusas para Baker. Una vez el gobernador más popular del país, ha hecho poco para demostrar a los veteranos, y mucho menos al pueblo de Massachusetts, que alguna vez mereció la popularidad de la que disfrutó.

En pocas palabras, Baker a través de una serie de malas decisiones, mal juicio y promesas vacías ha fallado a los veteranos en Massachusetts. Le está fallando al pueblo de Massachusetts, a menos que, por supuesto, usted sea un alcalde liberal progresista que espera desafiar potencialmente a Baker como gobernador en las próximas elecciones para gobernador.

Cualquiera puede liderar cuando los tiempos son buenos, pero cuando los tiempos se ponen difíciles, el verdadero personaje se muestra y el personaje de Baker es débil en el mejor de los casos. Es hora de que la gente de Massachusetts solicite la renuncia del gobernador. Claro, esta puede ser la primera vez que la gente lea tal solicitud, pero que ahora quede en un registro permanente.

Baker, a través de su juicio deteriorado, es un fracaso y un cobarde político que debería haber defendido al héroe de guerra estadounidense Ureña, en lugar de pedir su renuncia.

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OPINION

It's time for Gov. Baker to resign

By John Macdonald

June 28, 2020

Just how many failures can the people of Massachusetts endure from Gov. Charlie Baker?

Demanding the resignation of Francisco Urena, now the former Secretary of Veterans Services is the last straw in a series of bad moves from the governor. Baker accepted the resignation of Urena to cover up his appointment of a political friend at the Holyoke Soldiers Home, rather than a qualified person to lead the facility which resulted in over 100 deaths of aged veterans. He used Urena, a decorated American war hero as his scapegoat, to cover up the governor's own poor judgment and inadequacies as an administrator.

The ultimate disgrace as a public official is to lay the blame for a scandal on someone who didn't deserve to be blamed, such as Urena. Francisco is well known to veterans, especially in the Merrimack Valley, in particular Lawrence where he started his life's ambition in service of his fellow veterans.

Urena, a Marine, Iraq War Veteran, a Purple Heart recipient, a man of impeccable character, honor and grace was used like a piece of toilet paper and discarded to protect the political career of an unworthy governor. Baker used Urena... and veterans in Massachusetts will never forget.

The governor has yet to show any real remorse for his absent leadership during the RMV scandal that resulted in the deaths of U.S. Marine veterans on their way to a charity event. He gave himself a pass on that.

Years ago, when it was candidate Baker, the candidate stood in front of hundreds of veterans at the Mottolo VFW Post in Revere and promised that he would build priority housing for veterans. He stood in front of the late Medal of Honor recipient Thomas J. Hudner Jr., and made a promise

to stand by our veterans and to make them a priority. Baker has reneged on that promise and veterans in Massachusetts need to acknowledge and remember that.

Gov. Baker has mismanaged the COVID 19 recovery in the state, resulting in one of the highest unemployment rates in the country. He has singlehandedly forced most veterans' clubs such as the American Legions and VFW's to close permanently, and or consider it, because they can't open for business. Veterans once again are taking the brunt from someone who never served the country in uniform. I guess as the adage goes; those who did not serve don't know and those who don't know, don't care. It is an old expression that seems to fit Baker nicely.

Folks, there are no more excuses left for Baker. Once the most popular governor in the country has done little to prove to veterans, let alone the people of Massachusetts that he ever deserved the popularity he once enjoyed.

Bottom line, Baker through a series of bad decisions, poor judgement and empty promises has failed veterans in Massachusetts. He is failing the people of Massachusetts, unless of course you are a progressive liberal mayor waiting to potentially challenge Baker for governor in the next gubernatorial election.

Anyone can lead when times are good, but when times get tough, one's true character shows and Baker's character is weak at best. It is time for the people of Massachusetts to ask for the governor to resign. Sure, this maybe the first-time people may read such a request, but let it now be on permanent record.

Baker, through his impaired judgement, is a failure, and a political coward who should have stood up for American war hero Urena, rather than asking for his resignation.

Statement from Massachusetts Democratic Party Chair Gus Bickford on Baker Administration Failings Outlined in Horrific Report on Holyoke Soldiers' Home Tragedy.

"Today's report reveals that there is plenty of blame to go around within the Baker administration for the tragedy that took place at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home. This administration installed and left in place as Superintendent an individual that was not qualified and was looked upon with caution by one top Baker official. Over the four years the Superintendent was in place, multiple red flags were raised as to his suitability, yet the Baker administration did nothing. Who knows how many veterans would still be alive if the Baker administration demonstrated basic leadership and management skills."

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

<http://heallawrence.org/>

heallawrence@aol.com

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

Declaración del presidente del Partido Demócrata de Massachusetts, Gus Bickford, sobre las fallas de la Administración de Baker descritas en un informe horrible sobre la tragedia del Hogar de Soldados de Holyoke.

"El informe de hoy revela que hay mucha culpa en la Administración de Baker por la tragedia que tuvo lugar en el Hogar de Soldados de Holyoke. Esta administración instaló y dejó como Superintendente a una persona que no estaba calificada y fue vista con precaución por un alto funcionario de Baker. Durante los cuatro años que el Superintendente estuvo en su lugar, se levantaron varias señales de alerta en cuanto a su idoneidad, sin embargo, la Administración de Baker no hizo nada. Quién sabe cuántos veteranos seguirían vivos si la Administración de Baker demostrara un liderazgo básico y habilidades de misión".

Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names.

Perdone a sus enemigos, pero nunca olvide sus nombres.

- President John F. Kennedy

Centro comunitario de pruebas para la detección del virus COVID-19 en Lawrence

70 General Street, Lawrence, MA 01841

Las pruebas que se realizan para detectar el virus COVID-19, ya sea sin salir de su auto o sin tener una cita, están disponibles para todos los residentes de Lawrence que cumplan los siguientes requisitos:



Haber estado expuesto a cualquier persona que tenga el virus COVID-19

O

Estar experimentando síntomas del virus COVID-19

- Fiebre o escalofríos (temperatura mayor a 99,5° F)
- Tos
- Falta de aire o dificultad para respirar
- Fatiga
- Dolores musculares o en todo el cuerpo
- Dolor de cabeza
- Pérdida nueva del sentido del gusto o del olfato
- Dolor de garganta
- Congestión nasal o secreción nasal
- Náuseas, vómitos o diarrea

Unidad móvil de pruebas

7-6-20

1 pm – 4:30 pm
Mary Immaculate
193 Maple Street

7-7-20

1 pm – 4:30 pm
Elm Towers
353 Elm Street

7-9-20

1 pm – 4:30 pm
Valebrook
11 Summer Street

No es necesario tener una cita

- Llame a la línea directa de evaluación comunitaria al 978-946-8409 para ser rápidamente registrado o para solicitar ayuda con su orden médica.
- Puede conducir o caminar hasta el centro de pruebas, de lunes a viernes entre las 9 am y las 4 pm.
- Estas pruebas están totalmente cubiertas por el seguro médico.

El esfuerzo por ampliar el centro comunitario de pruebas y el método de rastreo de contactos, representan una colaboración exclusiva, en asociación con:



City of Lawrence



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AND MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL



Lawrence Community COVID-19 Testing Center

70 General Street, Lawrence, MA 01841

Drive-up/walk-in COVID-19 testing is available for any Lawrence resident with:

Exposure to Someone with COVID-19

OR

Experiencing COVID-19 Symptoms

- Fever or chills (temperature more than 99.5°F)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea



Mobile Testing Unit

7-6-20
1 pm – 4:30 pm
Mary Immaculate
193 Maple Street

7-7-20
1 pm – 4:30 pm
Elm Towers
353 Elm Street

7-9-20
1 pm – 4:30 pm
Valebrook
11 Summer Street

No Appointment Necessary

- Call Community Screening Hotline at 978-946-8409 to be fast-tracked or to get help obtaining a doctor's order.
- Drive up or walk up to the testing center between 9 am and 4 pm, Monday – Friday.
- Testing fully covered by insurance.

Expanded community testing and contact tracing effort represents a unique partnership:



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First Lawrence Promise Grad se está transfiriendo de NECC a BU o UMass Amherst

Emeli Díaz, graduada de Lawrence High School (LHS) en 2019, estudió biología universitaria en la secundaria y descubrió que estaba fascinada con el cerebro humano. Ese autoconocimiento la llevó a Anatomía y Fisiología, lo que solo alimentó aún más su interés.

Este mayo, Díaz, de 18 años, se graduó con altos honores y un título asociado en Artes Liberales del Northern Essex Community College. Su objetivo es ser psiquiatra, y ha sido aceptada como estudiante transferida en la Universidad de Boston y en la Universidad de Massachusetts Amherst.

Gracias al Programa Early College, que brinda a los estudiantes de secundaria la oportunidad de obtener créditos universitarios mientras estaban en la escuela secundaria, Díaz obtuvo su título de asociado solo un año después de graduarse de LHS. Acumuló 30 créditos de Northern Essex mientras estaba en la escuela secundaria, lo que le permitió graduarse con su título de asociado un año antes.

Lo mejor de todo es que el título de asociado de Díaz, que incluye matrícula y cuotas, libros y suministros, y una computadora portátil, era completamente gratuito. Ella es la primera estudiante en graduarse del Programa de Becas Lawrence Promise, que proporciona la finalización del título de asociado gratuito para los estudiantes de LHS Early College que transfieren sus créditos a Northern Essex y se inscriben directamente después de graduarse

del Programa Early College.

El programa de becas Lawrence Promise es posible gracias al apoyo privado y de la fundación.

"No hubiera podido asistir a la universidad si no fuera por Lawrence Promise", dijo Díaz.

Díaz llegó a este país con su madre y su hermano hace cinco años, sin hablar inglés. Se matriculó como estudiante de noveno grado en el programa Enlace (Engaging Newcomers in Language and Content Education) de Lawrence High School y, con su fuerte motivación para aprender, progresó rápidamente.

Está claro que Díaz toma en serio su educación y cuando se le pregunta qué la motiva, responde que es "su familia". "Mi mamá vino aquí para darnos a mi hermano y a mí un futuro mejor. Tuvo que renunciar a muchas cosas, y aprecio lo que hizo por nosotros".

Northern Essex reconoció recientemente a los 47 graduados de LHS de 2020 que participaron en el Programa Early College, graduándose con hasta 42 créditos universitarios. Dieciséis de ellos continuarán su educación en Northern Essex como parte del Programa de Becas Lawrence Promise.

Para obtener más información sobre el Programa Early College, visite el sitio web.

Para obtener más información acerca de la Beca del Programa Lawrence Promise, comuníquese con Northern Essex PK-12 Partnerships, pk12@necc.mass.edu



First Lawrence Promise Grad is Transferring from NECC to BU or UMass Amherst

Emeli Diaz, a 2019 Lawrence High School (LHS) grad, took college biology as a junior in high school, and discovered she was fascinated with the human brain. That self-knowledge led her to Anatomy & Physiology, which only further fueled her interest.

This May, 18-year old Diaz graduated with high honors and an associate degree in Liberal Arts from Northern Essex Community College. Her goal is to be a psychiatrist, and she has been accepted as a transfer student at both Boston University and UMass Amherst.

Thanks to the Early College Program, which gives high school students the opportunity to earn college credits while in high school, Diaz earned her associate degree just one year after graduating from LHS. She accumulated 30 Northern Essex credits while in high school, which allowed her to graduate with her associate degree a year early.

Best of all, Diaz's associate degree, including tuition and fees, books and supplies, and a laptop, was completely free. She is the first student to graduate from the Lawrence Promise Scholarship Program, which provides free associate degree completion for LHS Early College students who transfer their credits to Northern Essex and enroll directly after graduating from the Early College Program.

The Lawrence Promise Scholarship Program is made possible by private and foundation support.

"I wouldn't have been able to attend college if it weren't for Lawrence Promise," said Diaz.

Diaz came to this country with her mother and brother five years ago, speaking no English. She enrolled as a 9th grader in Lawrence High School's Enlace (Engaging Newcomers in Language and Content Education) program, and, with her strong motivation to learn, progressed quickly.

It's clear Diaz is serious about her education and when asked what motivates her she answers that it's "her family". "My mom came here to give my brother and me a better future. She had to give up a lot of things, and I appreciate what she did for us."

Northern Essex recently recognized the 47 2020 LHS graduates who participated in the Early College Program, graduating with up to 42 college credits. Sixteen of them will continue their education at Northern Essex as part of the Lawrence Promise Scholarship Program.

To learn more about the Early College Program, visit the website.

For more information about the Lawrence Promise Program Scholarship, contact Northern Essex PK-12 Partnerships, pk12@necc.mass.edu

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Massachusetts es el sexto peor estado para la igualdad racial en la educación - Estudio de WalletHub

Con protestas en todo el país por la desigualdad racial que provocó un discurso público sobre las prioridades de financiación del gobierno, y los distritos escolares predominantemente no Blancos que reciben \$23 mil millones menos de fondos por año que los distritos predominantemente Blancos, WalletHub publicó su informe sobre los Mejores Estados para la Igualdad Racial en Educación, junto con videos de acompañamiento y archivos de audio.

Para determinar qué estados tienen la mayor igualdad racial en la educación, WalletHub comparó los 50 estados en seis métricas clave. Nuestros datos comparan la diferencia entre los estadounidenses Blancos y Negros en áreas tales como títulos de secundaria y universidad, puntajes de exámenes y tasas de graduación. A continuación, puede ver los aspectos más destacados del informe, junto con las preguntas y respuestas de WalletHub.

Preguntas y respuestas de WalletHub

¿Cuáles son los mejores pasos que podemos tomar para reducir la desigualdad educativa?

“Una de las mejores maneras de ayudar a reducir la desigualdad educativa es asegurarse de que todos los distritos escolares reciban fondos similares, independientemente de la clase económica o la composición racial de sus estudiantes. Actualmente, los distritos con altas concentraciones de minorías a menudo carecen de fondos suficientes”, dijo Jill González, analista de WalletHub. “Además de promover la igualdad de fondos en la educación pública, deberíamos trabajar para aumentar el acceso a la educación superior para las minorías en comunidades marginadas y de bajos ingresos al simplificar el proceso de solicitud de ayuda, aumentar la ayuda basada en las necesidades y crear programas especiales de ahorro para familias de bajos ingresos”.

¿Qué impacto tiene la creación de más igualdad en la educación en la igualdad en su conjunto?

“Si las oportunidades educativas son iguales para las personas de todas las

razas, esto creará más oportunidades para que las minorías avancen en áreas en las que actualmente no están debidamente representadas, tales como puestos ejecutivos en empresas y política. La igualdad de oportunidades para la educación superior puede proporcionar más acceso a los puntajes de las carreras que también requieren títulos avanzados”, dijo Jill González, analista de WalletHub. “La igualdad en la educación no solo impacta el potencial profesional, sino que también puede contribuir a una mejor salud, una mayor participación política e innumerables beneficios adicionales. Quizás lo más importante, una igualdad de condiciones en el aula puede ayudar a reducir la brecha de ingresos entre los estadounidenses Blancos y Negros, siempre que también abordemos la discriminación salarial en el lugar de trabajo”.

¿Por qué es Wyoming el mejor estado para la igualdad racial en la educación?

“Una de las razones por las que Wyoming es el mejor estado para la igualdad racial en la educación es que solo hay una diferencia de alrededor del uno por ciento entre la proporción de personas Blancas y Negras que tienen al menos un título de secundaria, y una diferencia de menos del cuatro por ciento en compartir que tengan al menos una licenciatura”, dijo Jill González, analista de WalletHub. “Además de un alto nivel de igualdad en la obtención de títulos, Wyoming tiene una de las diferencias más pequeñas entre las tasas de graduación de estudiantes Blancos y estudiantes Negros en la nación”.

¿Por qué Wisconsin se clasifica como el peor estado para la igualdad racial en la educación?

“Wisconsin se ubica como el peor estado para la igualdad racial en la educación, en parte porque tiene algunas de las mayores discrepancias en los puntajes de los exámenes entre estudiantes Blancos y estudiantes Negros, con estudiantes Blancos con puntajes mucho más altos”, dijo Jill González, analista de WalletHub. “Hay una diferencia del 24 por ciento en las tasas de graduación de estudiantes Blancos y estudiantes Negros en Wisconsin, favoreciendo también a los estudiantes Blancos”.

Igualdad racial en la educación en Massachusetts (1 = mayor igualdad; 25 = promedio):

- 39° - Porcentaje de adultos con al menos un título de secundaria
- 49° - Porcentaje de adultos con al menos un título universitario
- 16° - Puntajes de prueba estandarizados
- 23 - Puntaje SAT promedio
- 34° - Tasa de graduación de la escuela secundaria pública

Para ver el informe completo y el rango de su estado, visite: <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-education-racial-equality/75962/>

Massachusetts Is the 6th Worst State for Racial Equality in Education – WalletHub Study

With nationwide protests over racial inequality sparking public discourse about government funding priorities, and predominantly non-white school districts receiving \$23 billion less funding per year than predominantly white districts, WalletHub released its report on the Best States for Racial Equality in Education, along with accompanying videos and audio files.

In order to determine which states have the most racial equality in education, WalletHub compared the 50 states across six key metrics. Our data compares the difference between white and black Americans in areas such as high school and college degrees, test scores and graduation rates. Below, you can see highlights from the report, along with a WalletHub Q&A.

WalletHub Q&A

What are the best steps we can take to reduce educational inequality?

“One of the best ways to help reduce educational inequality is to make sure that all school districts receive similar funding regardless of the economic class or racial composition of their students. Currently, districts with high concentrations of minorities are often underfunded,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “In addition to promoting equal funding in public education, we should work on increasing access to higher education for minorities in underserved, low-income communities by simplifying the application process for aid, increasing need-based aid and creating special savings programs for low-income families.”

What impact does creating more equality in education have on equality as a whole?

“If educational opportunities are equal for people of all races, this will create more opportunities for minorities to advance

into areas in which they are currently underrepresented, such as executive positions in companies and politics. Equal opportunity for higher education can provide more access to the scores of careers that require advanced degrees, too,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “Equality in education not only impacts career potential, but it also can contribute to better health, greater political participation and countless other benefits. Perhaps most importantly, a level playing field in the classroom may help reduce the income gap between white and black Americans, provided that we also address pay discrimination in the workplace head on.”

Why is Wyoming the best state for racial equality in education?

“One reason Wyoming is the best state for racial equality in education is that there is only around a one percent difference between the share of white people and black people who have at least a high school degree, and less than a four percent difference in the share that have at least a bachelor’s degree,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “In addition to a high level of equality in degree earning, Wyoming has one of the smallest differences between the graduation rates of white students and black students in the nation.”

Why does Wisconsin rank as the worst state for racial equality in education?

“Wisconsin ranks as the worst state for racial equality in education in part because it has some of the biggest discrepancies in test scores between white students and black students, with white students scoring much higher,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “There is a 24 percent difference in the graduation rates of white students and black students in Wisconsin, favoring white students, too.”

Racial Equality in Education in Massachusetts (1=Most Equality; 25=Avg.):

- 39th – Share of Adults with at Least a High School Degree
- 49th – Share of Adults with at Least a Bachelor’s Degree
- 16th – Standardized-Test Scores
- 23rd – Mean SAT Score
- 34th – Public High School Graduation Rate

To view the full report and your state’s rank, please visit: <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-education-racial-equality/75962/>

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Pandemia: el desempleo afectó a las minorías, los trabajadores jóvenes, las ciudades urbanas de bajos ingresos con más fuerza

Por **Dalia Diaz**

Está sucediendo algo que creará un estado de confusión caótico en nuestra ciudad y en las escuelas locales. Todos leemos acerca de cómo los datos muestran que la ciudad de las minorías está siendo afectada peor por este COVID-19. Las disparidades en el desempleo, las enfermedades y las escuelas son los principales problemas, hasta ahora, para Lawrence. Las disparidades socioeconómicas son abrumadoramente amplias.

Décadas de disparidades en la educación, la vivienda, el empleo y los niveles de estrés han contribuido a un exceso de riesgo de enfermedades crónicas en función de la raza, el origen étnico y los ingresos. Y esos mismos problemas están exacerbando la crisis de COVID-19. Uno solo tiene que buscar en la Internet y encontrar cientos de datos o informes, lo que indica que las minorías se ven afectadas de tres a cinco veces más que las personas no pertenecientes a minorías durante esta pandemia.

Tres áreas que Rumbo ha estado monitoreando son nuestras escuelas, el desempleo y las tasas positivas de COVID-19 según lo informado por el estado y/o el Departamento de Salud Pública de la Ciudad.

Escuelas

Recientemente, el Departamento de Educación Primaria y Secundaria presentó una nueva forma de abrir escuelas en septiembre. En pocas palabras, requiere que el distrito escolar de Massachusetts mantenga a diez estudiantes en el salón e implemente el distanciamiento social dentro y alrededor de las aulas y edificios.

Esta carga es especialmente importante para Lawrence, un distrito escolar urbano con pocos recursos que no tiene ni el espacio ni el presupuesto para acomodar nuevos protocolos de salud. El costo del equipo de protección, la financiación del personal para clases más pequeñas y el dinero para el transporte adicional para mantener a los estudiantes dispersos en los viajes en autobús necesitarían ser el doble del presupuesto escolar actual. Según la Asociación de Superintendentes Escolares, se necesitarían cerca de \$2 millones para hacer posible el distanciamiento social.

La semana pasada, la Administración de Baker-Polito anunció la asignación de aproximadamente \$200 millones del Fondo de Alivio del Coronavirus que el estado recibió del gobierno federal para los costos relacionados con la reapertura de las escuelas públicas. Las escuelas son elegibles para recibir hasta \$225 por estudiante para los costos elegibles incurridos debido a la emergencia de salud pública de COVID-19, como capacitación para el personal escolar, servicios sociales y académicos complementarios, reconfiguración de espacios escolares, alquiler de instalaciones temporales y adquisición de suministros de salud e higiene.

Los municipios, los distritos escolares y las escuelas autónomas pueden solicitar estos fondos en las próximas semanas, y estos fondos están destinados a complementar otros recursos que la Administración está proporcionando a las ciudades y pueblos

locales para los esfuerzos de respuesta de COVID-19. Otras posibles fuentes de financiamiento para apoyar la reapertura de la escuela incluyen \$502 millones del Fondo de alivio de coronavirus que previamente había sido asignado por el Gobernador Charlie Baker a ciudades y pueblos, así como \$194 millones en subvenciones federales de fondos de emergencia de escuelas primarias y secundarias.

En asociación con el liderazgo legislativo, la Administración también está comprometiendo \$25 millones en fondos federales para un programa de subvención equivalente para ayudar a los distritos escolares y las escuelas autónomas a cerrar las brechas tecnológicas que han inhibido el aprendizaje remoto para los estudiantes y las familias que no tienen acceso a computadoras o conexiones a Internet.

"Mientras el Departamento está trabajando para lograr el regreso de todos los estudiantes en persona a la escuela, los distritos escolares deben estar preparados para trabajar en un continuo de tres amplias opciones para la reapertura", dijo el Comisionado de Educación Primaria y Secundaria Jeffrey C. Riley. "Creemos que esto les da a los distritos escolares la preparación que necesitan para educar a los estudiantes en persona y la flexibilidad para adaptarse si la situación de salud cambia".

Solo podemos esperar que nuestros representantes electos exijan al estado un fondo grande para que Lawrence pueda seguir y completar la orden DESE de regreso a la escuela. De lo contrario, todos podemos estar de acuerdo en que una segunda ola se producirá entre septiembre y octubre y será un desastre aún mayor que la ola en curso.

Por órdenes de la Superintendente de LPS ya han cancelado futuras negociaciones de contratos y la líder de LPS (junto con la Junta de la Alianza para la Educación) suspendió la contratación de muchos puestos. Los sindicatos han sido notificados. No se llevaron a cabo negociaciones, solo una orden que indica que LPS podría hacerlo bajo los "otros asuntos" del plan de reestructuración. Este es un plan que han obligado a los funcionarios electos de la escuela y los votantes de Lawrence a tragarse.

Desempleo

Para agregar a esto, la Ciudad de Lawrence es la segunda más alta en cifras de desempleo publicada por el Commonwealth de Massachusetts, a principios de mayo de 2020, con un 32.6%. El mayor desempleo en Massachusetts se produce en Provincetown con un 33.8%. Amherst, Truro y Holyoke completan el tercer, cuarto y quinto lugar en la lista de desempleo más alto. Lawrence, como todos sabemos, tiene datos elevados de residentes y minorías de bajos ingresos. Recientemente, los funcionarios del centro de carreras estatales proporcionaron una cifra que tiene a Lawrence en una tasa de desempleo del 16.3%. Las áreas de trabajo de Información, Ocio y Hospitalidad han sido las más afectadas en Lawrence.

Una noticia que recientemente salió del Ayuntamiento es que la ciudad recibirá \$600K para fortalecer las relaciones entre jóvenes y oficiales. Lo que descubrí es que

es simplemente dinero para los salarios y la capacitación de los oficiales de policía. ¿Cuánto dinero necesitan para conocer y proteger a los jóvenes de su ciudad? ¿Necesitan dinero para hacer eso? Es un hecho que deben tener buenas relaciones con todos en su comunidad. Esto no hace nada para proporcionar dinero a los jóvenes afectados por la pérdida de empleos, pero el comunicado de prensa parece bonito.

La Junta de Inversión en la Fuerza Laboral no tiene respuestas, excepto para proporcionar datos de desempleados. No han brindado (junto con el Centro de Carreras de Northern Essex Community College) ninguna asistencia cara a cara a los desempleados masivos en Lawrence o Merrimack Valley para el caso. Al ver que ahora caen bajo el estado, es posible que no sepamos cuándo volverán a abrir para dar servicio real.

Para agregar insulto a la lesión (sin juego de palabras), la ciudad ni siquiera tiene un Director de Desarrollo Económico Empresarial, por lo que las empresas no tienen idea de con quién comunicarse en relación al desarrollo empresarial, la asistencia o la financiación. Las únicas oficinas que se comunican con las empresas son el Departamento de Servicios de Inspección (inspectores) y DPW para acomodar las barreras de las aceras para restaurantes con mesas al aire libre. Nada ayuda a las empresas que no pueden hacer actividades al aire libre pero que tienen mucho personal sin ganar un salario debido a los cierres.

(Read it in English on page 11)

COVID-19 Positivo

Para agregar a esta historia e informar a nuestros lectores sobre cómo comenzó todo (no es que alguien necesite un recordatorio), la pandemia ha causado que Lawrence alcance y mantenga el número dos en la lista de COVID más alto. 19 tasa de infección a 1858.78 por 100,000.

Los residentes de Lawrence de 20 a 49 años han sido el mayor número de positivos de COVID-19 en la Ciudad de Lawrence por varios problemas: tener que trabajar en industrias de servicios o no respetar las normas de distanciamiento social, como lo evidencia la orden obligatoria de máscara facial del Alcalde Rivera. Sin embargo, los números serios son que los residentes entre las edades de 70-90 son los más afectados por el conteo de muertes (más de 100 personas).

Una cosa que viene a la mente es que las pruebas voluntarias (por cualquier motivo) deberían haberse producido desde el principio. Muchos de nuestros jóvenes trabajan como CNA y en su mayor parte les va bien en su trabajo y son responsables. Luego, tiene los pocos que no están preocupados con quién se congregan, no respetaron (y aún no lo hacen) la solicitud de quedarse en casa, y aun así trabajan ayudando a los ancianos, una de las razones por las cuales entre 70-90 años de edad son los que más han sufrido por COVID-19.

Rumbo continuará escribiendo sobre nuestras observaciones y la falta de políticas y acciones concretas de los funcionarios de la Ciudad.

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

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

Pandemic - unemployment hit minorities, young workers, low-income urban cities the hardest

(Léalo en español en la página 10)

By **Dalia Diaz**

Something is happening further to create a confused and chaotic state of affairs in our city and local schools. We all read about how data is showing that minorities city is getting affected worse of this COVID-19. Disparities in unemployment, illness, and schools are the top issues, so far, for Lawrence. The socio and economic disparities are overwhelming wide.

Decades of disparities in education, housing, jobs, and stress levels have contributed to an excess risk of chronic disease based on race, ethnicity, and income. And those same issues are exacerbating the COVID-19 crisis. One only has to search the internet and find hundreds of data, or reports, indicating that minorities are affected three to five times more than non-minority individuals during this pandemic.

Three areas that Rumbo has been monitoring are our schools, unemployment, and positive rates of COVID-19 as reported by the Commonwealth and/or the City's Department of Public Health.

Schools

Recently, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education came out with a demanded new way of opening schools in September. In a nutshell, it requires that the Massachusetts school district maintain ten students to a class and implement social distancing in and around the classrooms and buildings.

This burden looms large in particular for Lawrence, an urban under-resourced school district that has neither the space nor the budget to accommodate new health protocols. The cost for protective equipment, funding staff for smaller classes, and monies for additional transportation to keep students spread out on bus rides would need to be double of the current school budget. According to the School Superintendents Association, it would take close to \$2 million to make social distancing a possibility.

Last week, the Baker-Polito Administration announced the allocation of approximately \$200 million from the Commonwealth's federal Coronavirus Relief Fund for costs related to reopening public schools. Schools are eligible to receive up to \$225 per student for eligible costs incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, such as training for school staff, supplemental social and academic services, reconfiguration of school spaces, leasing of temporary facilities, and acquisition of health and hygiene supplies.

Municipalities, school districts, and charter schools may apply for these funds

in the next few weeks, and this funding is intended to supplement other resources the Administration is providing to local cities and towns for COVID-19 response efforts. Other potential funding sources to support school reopening include \$502 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund that had previously been allocated by Governor Charlie Baker to cities and towns, as well as \$194 million in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund grants.

In partnership with legislative leadership, the Administration is also committing \$25 million in federal funds for a matching grant program to help school districts and charter schools close technology gaps that have inhibited remote learning for students and families who lack access to computers or internet connections.

"While the Department is working toward the full in-person return to school of all students, school districts must be prepared to work on a continuum of three broad options for reopening," said Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley. "We feel this gives school districts the readiness they need to educate students in person and the flexibility to adapt if the health situation changes."

We can only hope that our elected representatives demand the Commonwealth to heavy fund so that Lawrence can follow and complete DESE back-to-school order. If not, we can all agree that a second wave will come around September-October and will be even more of a disaster than the ongoing wave.

Orders from the LPS Superintendent have already canceled future negotiations for contracts and the LPS leader (along with the Alliance for Education Board) placed a hiring freeze of many positions. Unions have been notified. No negotiations took place, only an order stating that the LPS could do so under the "other business" of the turnaround plan. A plan that has been trusted down the throats of school elected officials and voters of Lawrence.

Unemployment

To add to this, the City of Lawrence is the second-highest in unemployment figures released by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the beginning of May 2020, with a 32.6%. The highest unemployment in Massachusetts is occurring in Provincetown at a 33.8%. Amherst, Truro, and Holyoke round out with 3rd, 4th, and 5th on the list of highest unemployment. Lawrence, as we all know, has elevated data of low-income residents and minorities. Just recently release state career center officials provided a figure that has Lawrence at 16.3% unemployment rate. The Information,

Leisure, and Hospitality work areas have been affected the most in Lawrence.

One piece of news that recently came out of City Hall is that the city will receive \$600K to Strengthen Youth-Officer Relations. What I came to find out is that it isn't much more than money for police officers' salaries and training. How much money do you need to know and protect your city's youth? Do you need money to do that? Is a given that they must have good relations with everyone in the community. This does nothing to provide money, for the youth, who have been affected by the loss of jobs - but the press release looks pretty.

The Workforce Investment Board has no answers except to provide data of unemployed. They haven't (along with Northern Essex Community College Career Center) provided any face to face assistance to the massive unemployed in Lawrence or the Merrimack Valley for that matter. Seeing that they now fall under the state, we may not know when they will reopen for actual business.

To add insult to injury (no pun intended), the city does not even have a Business Economic Development Director, so businesses have no idea who to communicate in regards to business development, assistance, or funding. The only offices communicating with business is the inspectional Services Department (inspectors) and DPW to accommodate sidewalk barriers for outdoor seating restaurants. Nothing helps those businesses

that can't do outdoor but that have many staff without earning a salary due to closures.

COVID-19 Positive

To add to this story, and to inform our readers on how it all began (not that anyone needs a reminder), the pandemic has caused Lawrence to reach and maintain the number two spot on the list of highest COVID-19 infection rate at 1858.78 per 100,000.

Lawrence residents ages 20-49 have been the highest number of COVID-19 positives in the City of Lawrence for several issues: having to work in service industries or not respecting the social distancing norms as was evident by Mayor Rivera's mandatory facial mask order. However, the serious numbers are that residents between the ages of 70-90 are hardest hit by the death count (over 100 people).

One thing that comes to mind is that voluntary testing (for any reason) should have occurred from the start. Many of our youth work as CNAs and for the most part do well in their jobs and are responsible. Then you have the few who are not concerned with whom they congregate, did not (and still don't) respect the stay at home request, and still go to work assisting the elderly - one of the reasons why 70-90 are the hardest hit by COVID-19.

Rumbo will continue writing about our observations and the lack of concrete policies and actions from City officials.

La organización MPU se reunió con el Comisionado Riley

DESE publica nota de orientación para la reapertura de la escuela de otoño

Massachusetts Parents United, un grupo de defensa estatal dirigido y operado por padres, celebró una reunión virtual con el Comisionado del Departamento de Educación Primaria y Secundaria (DESE por sus siglas en inglés) Jeffrey Riley. El mismo día que DESE lanzó su Memorando de orientación de reapertura de la escuela de otoño, más de 150 padres participaron en la reunión. Tuvieron la oportunidad de escuchar más sobre el memorando de orientación y cómo se tomaron las decisiones.

También presentaron al Comisionado su Declaración de Derechos de los Padres recientemente ratificada, enumerando sus demandas de un regreso seguro y equitativo a las escuelas de Massachusetts en el otoño, algunas de las cuales están incluidas en el memo.

“Una y otra vez, se toman decisiones sobre nuestros estudiantes y nuestras escuelas sin la voz de los padres en la mesa. Massachusetts Parents United se enorgullece de que cinco de nuestros padres miembros participaron en el Grupo de Trabajo de Regreso a la Escuela para ayudar a traer a la mesa la importante perspectiva de los padres en Boston y otras ciudades”, dijo Keri Rodrigues, MPU Mom-in-Chief. “Agradecemos al Comisionado

por venir a la mesa con nuestros padres para escuchar sus inquietudes y responder sus preguntas. Si bien las recomendaciones emitidas por el Departamento de Educación Primaria y Secundaria (DESE por sus siglas en inglés) no abordaron todas las necesidades e inquietudes de los padres y las familias, creemos que se han logrado algunos avances. Estamos agradecidos de que la perspectiva de las familias de color, las familias que aprenden inglés y las familias de color con niños con necesidades especiales se incluyan en estas conversaciones donde exigimos que estas pautas se basen en la equidad para todos los niños”.

El mes pasado, 96 padres de todo el estado, incluidos representantes de cada uno de los siete capítulos de la organización se reunieron para discutir sus temores y preocupaciones sobre la reapertura de las escuelas en el otoño. Ratificaron una Declaración de Derechos de los Padres que describe sus demandas de un retorno seguro y equitativo.

Con cada una de las demandas publicadas diariamente antes de la reunión, MPU continuará usando este documento para abogar por sus estudiantes en los distritos escolares de todo el estado.

Declaración de derechos de los padres de Massachusetts Parents United:

- Requerir que los estudiantes y miembros del personal que hayan estado expuestos a alguien que haya dado positivo por COVID-19 permanezcan en casa durante 14 días antes de regresar a la escuela.
- Enviar avisos a los padres de estudiantes que puedan haber estado expuestos a un estudiante o miembro del personal que haya dado positivo por COVID-19.
- Tener una enfermera a tiempo completo o un trabajador de salud en la escuela.
- Proporcionar a todos los estudiantes la tecnología necesaria para el aprendizaje en línea a principios de año en caso de que se enfermen o las escuelas cierren nuevamente, incluidas computadoras portátiles o tabletas y acceso a internet.
- Proporcionar máscaras faciales a todos los estudiantes y al personal y reemplace las máscaras regularmente.
- Limite la cantidad de estudiantes que

se encuentran en áreas comunes como el pasillo, la biblioteca, la cafetería o el patio de recreo al mismo tiempo para mantener el distanciamiento social.

- Continuar ofreciendo programas gratuitos de desayuno y almuerzo para estudiantes necesitados incluso cuando las escuelas estén cerradas
- Proporcionar un plan de educación individualizado para cada estudiante basado en una evaluación de sus necesidades académicas y de salud mental, así como en la opinión de sus padres o tutores.
- Brindar asesoramiento y evaluaciones de salud mental y emocional para estudiantes y personal.
- Escalonar los horarios para que haya menos estudiantes en las aulas y los escritorios se puedan separar a seis pies de distancia
- Adoptar protocolos estrictos para todos los modos de transporte de estudiantes.
- Proporcionar capacitación multilingüe para padres que son educadores primarios para sus alumnos.

La población de 65 años o más crece rápidamente a medida que los “baby boomers” envejecen

La Oficina del Censo publica estimados de población 2019 por características demográficas



“Desde entonces, ha habido un rápido aumento en el tamaño de la población de 65 años de edad o más, que creció en más de un tercio desde 2010. Ningún otro grupo de edad vio un aumento tan rápido. De hecho, la población menor de 18 años fue más pequeña en 2019 que en 2010, en parte debido a la baja de fertilidad en los Estados Unidos”.

Una nación cambiante

A medida que la nación sigue envejeciendo, también está cambiando por raza y etnicidad. Las referencias a continuación a las composiciones de raza y etnicidad son para grupos de raza sola o combinados o hispanos de cualquier raza a menos que se especifique lo contrario.

La población negra o afroamericana

La población nacional negra o afroamericana fue de 48,221,139 personas en 2019, lo que representa un aumento de 5,004,079 (11.6%) desde 2010.

El tamaño promedio de la población negra o afroamericana para los condados en 2019 fue 1,208 personas.

En 2019, la edad mediana para la población negra o afroamericana era 32.3 años de edad, en comparación con 30.6 años de edad en 2010.

La población blanca

La población blanca era de 258,646,488 personas en 2019, un aumento de 10,570,492 (4.3%) desde 2010.

El tamaño promedio de la población blanca para los condados en 2019 fue 22,417 personas.

En 2019, la edad mediana de la población blanca aumentó a 39.5 años de edad, en comparación con 38.4 años de edad en 2010.

La población hispana (cualquier raza)

La población hispana era de 60,572,237 personas en 2019, un aumento de 20% o 10,093,626 desde 2010.

El tamaño promedio de la población hispana para los condados en 2019 fue de 1.133

Para obtener información adicional sobre los cambios de población por edad y para cada grupo racial o de origen hispano, consulte nuestras tablas detalladas. Este es el último de los estimados de población para el año 2019.

Estimados de la población estadounidense previamente publicados fueron por estimados de población del país, por condado y área metropolitana, por ciudad y pueblos y por componentes de cambio.

Para obtener información sobre cómo se proyecta que el país cambie hasta el año 2060 consulte las proyecciones de población.

A menos que se especifique otra cosa, las estadísticas se refieren a la población que reportó una raza solamente o en combinación con una o más razas. Los censos y las encuestas permiten a los participantes seleccionar más de una raza; por consiguiente, las personas pueden ser de una sola raza o de una combinación de razas. Las tablas detalladas muestran estadísticas de la población residente por "raza solamente" y por "raza solamente o en combinación". La suma de las poblaciones de los cinco grupos de "raza sola o en combinación" se suma a más de la población total porque los individuos pueden reportar más de una raza.

El gobierno federal trata la raza y el origen hispano como conceptos separados y distintos. En encuestas y censos, se hacen preguntas separadas sobre el origen hispano y la raza. En la pregunta sobre el origen hispano se pide a los encuestados que digan si son de origen hispano, latino o español.

A partir del Censo de 2000, en la pregunta sobre la raza se pedía a los encuestados que indicaran la raza o las razas a las que ellos consideraban que pertenecían. Los hispanos pueden ser de cualquier raza.

Las respuestas de "otra raza" en el Censo de 2010 están modificadas en estos estimados. Esto da lugar a diferencias entre la población por categorías específicas de raza mostradas para la población del Censo de 2010 en este comunicado frente a las de los datos originales del Censo de 2010.

25 de junio 2020 — La Oficina del Censo de los Estados Unidos publicó hoy estimados que muestran que la población de 65 años y más de edad de la nación ha crecido rápidamente desde 2010, impulsada por el envejecimiento de los baby boomers nacidos entre 1946 y 1964. La población de 65 años de edad o más creció en más de un tercio (34.2% ó 13,787,044) durante la última década, y en un 3.2% (1,688,924) de 2018 a 2019. El crecimiento de esta población contribuyó a un aumento en la edad mediana nacional de 37.2 años en 2010 a 38.4 en 2019, según los Estimados de Población 2019 de la Oficina del Censo.

“Los primeros baby boomers alcanzaron la edad de 65 años en 2011”, dijo el Dr. Luke Rogers, jefe de la rama de estimados de población de la Oficina del Censo.

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

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

— George F. Will

NHTSA Ofrece Consejos De Seguridad Vial Para El Verano

A medida que la nación comienza a reabrir, la Administración Nacional de Seguridad del Tráfico en Carreteras (NHTSA) ofrece Consejos de Seguridad al Manejar para ayudar a todos a viajar de manera segura este verano.

Siempre Recuerde: ¡Los conductores deben evitar distracciones, mantenerse sobrios, usar siempre el cinturón de seguridad y asegurarse de que los niños estén en el asiento de seguridad o en el asiento elevado correcto!

Consejos de NHTSA para viajes seguros de verano:

Haga Que Su Vehículo Sea Inspeccionado

El mantenimiento regular, como los ajustes, los cambios de aceite, las comprobaciones de la batería y las rotaciones de los neumáticos, contribuyen en gran medida a evitar averías.

Si su vehículo ha sido inspeccionado de acuerdo con las recomendaciones del fabricante, debe estar en buenas condiciones para viajar.

Si su vehículo no ha sido inspeccionado, o si no conoce el historial de servicio del vehículo que planea conducir, programe un chequeo de mantenimiento preventivo con su mecánico de inmediato.

Verifique Retiros/Recalls

Es posible que los propietarios no siempre sepan que su vehículo ha sido retirado del mercado y debe repararse.

La herramienta de búsqueda vía VIN de NHTSA le permite ingresar un Número de Identificación del Vehículo (VIN) para saber rápidamente si un vehículo específico tiene un retiro de seguridad sobresaliente en los últimos 15 años.

Busque retiros del mercado en su vehículo buscando ahora: NHTSA.gov/Retiros y regístrese para recibir alertas de retiro por correo electrónico en NHTSA.gov/Alerts.

Si su vehículo tiene un retiro de seguridad sobresaliente, comuníquese con el concesionario local de automóviles nuevos de la marca de su vehículo para obtener una reparación gratuita.

Presión de Aire, Desgaste de la Banda de Rodadura, Llantas de Repuesto

Verifique la presión de inflado de las llantas de su vehículo al menos una vez al mes y cuando sus llantas estén frías (cuando el automóvil no haya sido conducido por tres horas o más), y no olvide revisar su repuesto, si su vehículo está equipado con uno.

La presión correcta para sus neumáticos está indicada en una etiqueta en el pilar o

marco de la puerta del conductor o en el manual del propietario del vehículo.

Tómese cinco minutos para inspeccionar sus neumáticos en busca de signos de desgaste excesivo o desigual. Si la banda de rodadura se desgasta hasta 2/32 de pulgada, es hora de reemplazar sus neumáticos.

Use la "prueba del centavo" para determinar cuándo es el momento de reemplazar sus neumáticos. Coloque un centavo en la banda de rodadura con la cabeza de Lincoln boca abajo. Si puede ver la parte superior de la cabeza de Lincoln, su vehículo necesita neumáticos nuevos. Para obtener más información sobre la seguridad de las llantas, visite NHTSA.gov/Llantas.

Empaque un Kit de Emergencia para la Carretera

Incluso un vehículo bien mantenido puede averiarse, por lo que es bueno tener un kit de emergencia para llevarlo con usted. Contenido sugerido del kit de emergencia:

- Teléfono celular y cargador
- Botiquín de primeros auxilios
- Linterna
- Bengalas y una bandera blanca
- Cables de salto
- Manómetro de neumáticos
- Gato (y tapete) para cambiar una llanta
- Herramientas básicas de reparación
- Alimentos no perecederos, agua potable y medicamentos
- Mapas
- Mantas de emergencia, toallas y abrigos

Comparta la Carretera

El clima cálido atrae a muchos tipos de usuarios de la carretera, incluidos motociclistas, ciclistas y peatones.

Si bien tienen los mismos derechos, privilegios y responsabilidades que todos los conductores, estos usuarios de la carretera son más vulnerables porque no tienen la protección de un vehículo.

Cosas para recordar como conductor:

- Deje más distancia entre usted y una motocicleta: tres o cuatro segundos.
- Mantenga los ojos abiertos para los peatones distraídos.
- Deténgase para los peatones y ciclistas que se encuentran en un cruce peatonal, incluso si no está marcado.
- Los automóviles que se detienen en la calle pueden detenerse para permitir el paso de peatones y ciclistas. No pase si tiene alguna duda.
- Cuando esté girando y esperando una brecha en el tráfico, esté atento a los peatones y ciclistas que puedan haberse movido en su camino previsto.
- Esté especialmente atento en las escuelas y en los vecindarios donde los niños están activos.



NHTSA Offers Summer Safety Road Tips

As the nation begins to re-open, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offers Summer Driving Tips to help everyone travel safely this summer.

Please remember: Drivers should avoid distractions, stay sober, always wear a seat belt, and make sure that children are in the correct car seat or booster seat!

Tips from NHTSA for safe summer travel:

Get Your Car Serviced

Regular maintenance such as tune-ups, oil changes, battery checks, and tire rotations go a long way toward preventing breakdowns.

If your vehicle has been serviced according to the manufacturer's recommendations, it should be in good condition to travel.

If your vehicle hasn't been serviced—or you don't know the service history of the vehicle you plan to drive—schedule a preventive maintenance checkup with your mechanic right away.

Check for Recalls

Owners may not always know that their vehicle has been recalled and needs to be repaired. NHTSA's VIN look-up tool lets you enter a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) to quickly learn if a specific vehicle has an outstanding safety recall in the last 15 years. Check for recalls on your vehicle by searching now: NHTSA.gov/Recalls, and sign up for email recall alerts at NHTSA.gov/Alerts. If your vehicle has an outstanding safety recall, contact the local new car dealer of your vehicle's brand for your free repair.

Air Pressure, Tread Wear, Spare

Check your vehicle's tire inflation pressure at least once a month and when your tires are cold (when the car hasn't been driven for three hours or more)—and don't forget to check your spare, if your vehicle is equipped with one. The correct pressure for your tires is listed on a label on the driver's door pillar or doorframe or in the vehicle owner's manual. Take five minutes to inspect your tires for signs of excessive or uneven wear. If the tread is worn down to 2/32 of an inch, it's time to replace your tires.

Use the "penny test" to determine when it's time to replace your tires. Place a penny in the tread with Lincoln's head upside down. If you can see the top of Lincoln's head, your vehicle needs new tires. For more information on tire safety, visit NHTSA.gov/Tires.

Pack an Emergency Roadside Kit

Even a well-maintained vehicle can break down, so it's good to put together an emergency roadside kit to carry with you. Suggested emergency roadside kit contents:

- Cell phone and charger
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Flares and a white flag
- Jumper cables
- Tire pressure gauge
- Jack (and ground mat) for changing a tire
- Basic repair tools
- Nonperishable food, drinking water, and medicines
- Maps
- Emergency blankets, towels and coats.

Share the Road

Warmer weather attracts many types of road users, including motorcyclists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

While they have the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as every driver, these road users are more vulnerable because they do not have the protection of a car or truck.

Things to remember as a driver:

- Leave more distance between you and a motorcycle—three or four seconds worth.
- Keep your eyes open for distracted pedestrians.
- Stop for pedestrians and bicyclists who are in a crosswalk, even if it's not marked.
- Cars stopped in the street may be stopped to allow pedestrians and bicyclists to cross. Do not pass if there is any doubt.
- When you are turning and waiting for a gap in traffic, watch for pedestrians and bicyclists who may have moved into your intended path.
- Be especially attentive around schools and in neighborhoods where children are active.

For more information, please visit [Summer Driving Tips](http://SummerDrivingTips).

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

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

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

Newburyport Sailor Performs Haru No Umi on Flute



Petty Officer 3rd Class Victoria Santospago, a musician in the U.S. 7th Fleet band and native of Newburyport, Massachusetts, played flute during the performance of "Haru No Umi." Santospago represents the dedicated men and women around the world serving in the Navy our nation needs.

The U.S. 7th Fleet Band was created in 1943 with the establishment of the United States 7th Fleet. Comprised of professional Navy Musicians, the Seventh Fleet Band is forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, and embarked on board the United States 7th Fleet flagship, USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19).

Santospago's favorite part of being in the Navy is performing.

"I get to play music with other great Navy musicians, and because 7th Fleet Band creates musical friendships, collaborate with bands from Japan and other countries," said Santospago. "Another favorite part of my job is getting to play for the communities schools and the hospital in Yokosuka."

"U.S. 7th Fleet Band has a lot of amazing history, and it's great to have the opportunity through music, a universal language, to be part of a 75-year-long peaceful partnership with Japan," added Santospago.

The performance can be viewed and shared at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/7thFleetBand/posts/10158170163422556>

On America's Birthday, It's Time to Ask: Where Do We Want to Go from Here?

By Quint Studer

Independence Day is here and this year we celebrate our country's 244th birthday. America is in a time of major transition and transformation right now. We are facing a public health crisis, along with challenges in our economy and a powerful social justice movement. Together these events have shaken our nation's foundations. We have no doubt lost a lot during this difficult time. But because birthdays are a time to look back and reflect on what has gone well and what has not, this 4th of July I have been asking the question: Where do we go from here?

The good news is, we get to decide on the answer. We have great opportunity as we rebuild. As I continue working with cities and towns across the nation, I see so many reasons to believe that America will rise stronger than before.

What I have seen is that we are taking charge of our future one community at a time. Instead of waiting for government to "fix" things for us, we are working locally to find solutions and reinvent ourselves. I am continually inspired by the energy of everyone working together to make this happen.

The impact of all of us pulling together keeps local economies strong. I've seen business leaders sharing their wisdom and resources with one another. (Chambers of Commerce certainly play an important role in sharing information.) When the pandemic disrupted the normal flow of commerce, small businesses got creative and figured out how to keep afloat. And citizens did their part by ramping up their support of stores, restaurants, and local mom-and-pop enterprises.

During this time, we have also fully embraced the greatness of our small towns and communities. This Kia ad celebrating the Great American Road Trip is a touching reminder of how a reset forces a shift in our priorities. No doubt that taking a drive with your family gives you a chance to connect with those who matter most.

Important transformations are happening at the national level too. Out of necessity, entire industries are disrupting themselves. Education is working on new, better ways to use digital platforms to teach. Healthcare is moving to a promising telemedicine model. Yes, these changes bring their share of challenges, but we are also seeing lots of positives that remind us of the power of human ingenuity. We know we can always adapt and keep moving forward.

Some of the most meaningful shifts we have made are cultural and social conscience-driven shifts. We are finally getting real about race relations. Our nation is doing a lot of important soul-searching and having the hard conversations. We are taking down monuments of leaders connected to times in history when values were out of alignment with what we now know is right.

These national conversations have



created real action. We are rethinking law enforcement policies and the role of police. We're improving training and doing a better job of holding accountable those who break the rules and/or use excessive force. We're putting funds into other community sources like mental health. These shifts are making us a better nation.

My great hope as a community builder is that we will see a groundswell of interest in minority entrepreneurship. We can find creative ways to invest in women and people of color. I regularly see many thriving businesses emerge when we practice economic inclusion on a local level. They add great richness to our communities.

My hope is that this July 4th, we will see more Americans putting self-interest on the back burner. When we start looking at the world as if every child were our own child, every neighborhood were our neighborhood, and every community were our community great things can happen.

All of us can strive to be part of the solution, not part of the problem. We can all start working in our own communities to educate ourselves, engage ourselves and promote civic engagement, and reach out to others and connect them as well. Together we can work toward justice.

Gandhi asked us to be the change we wish to see in the world. He was speaking of a personal internal revolution that I hope we are all ready to make. Instead of waiting on government mandates or policies to compel us to act, let us make changes now because they are right and because they matter. There is no stronger power than communities all across America doing what they know is right.

Quint Studer is the author of Building a Vibrant Community: How Citizen-Powered Change Is Reshaping America and founder of Pensacola's Studer Community Institute. For more information, visit www.vibrantcommunityblueprint.com and www.studer.org.

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

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The spirit of resistance to government is so valuable on certain occasions, that I wish it always to be kept alive. It will often be exercised when wrong, but better so than not to be exercised at all.
- Thomas Jefferson



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

Blanco y negro no como el día y la noche

Hoy quiero escribir sobre un tema difícil, uno que me saque del círculo de la comodidad en estos tiempos: nuestra división racial y frecuentes controversias raciales, disputas que se vuelven a menudo violentas. ¿Qué hay de nuevo? Nos preguntamos.

Antes de empezar, quiero hacer varios descargos de responsabilidad importantes: mi piel, por falta de una palabra mejor, es lo que la mayoría de la gente describiría como blanca. Gran cosa, diría usted, y yo estaría de acuerdo. No soy un experto en relaciones raciales y carezco de las calificaciones filosóficas, intelectuales, morales o éticas necesarias para analizar, evaluar, no importa ofrecer, las soluciones a conflictos raciales o hablar de cualquier raza específica o su comportamiento, incluyendo la mía. No soy reportero; Soy simplemente un observador y un columnista que comenta lo que ve.

A menos que usted haya estado viviendo en el planeta Marte durante el siglo pasado o así, y no tuviera un receptor de radio o televisión o una conexión a Internet, probablemente ha presenciado, leído u oído hablar de la violencia inspirada racialmente por algunas personas que parecen conocer no sólo la fuente de los problemas, sino también las soluciones, y están dispuestos a ser extremadamente vocales y violentos.

Un proyecto de ADN Microcondrial genealógico bien documentado publicado hace unas décadas, encontró e informó que hace más o menos setenta y siete mil años vivía en lo que conocemos como el este de África, un hombre que era Negro y tenía prole. Esos descendientes Negros crecieron y se dispersaron a través de áreas geográficas adyacentes, creando una diáspora biológica.

Durante ese largo tiempo, sus pieles, sus pelos, el color de sus ojos e incluso sus idiomas y creencias en un más allá que justificaba su adoración, evolucionaron como resultado de muchas causas que los expertos han especulado pero no puedo enumerar porque no estaba allí, no soy una autoridad y de todos modos no serviría ningún propósito práctico en estos días.

De una cosa si estamos de acuerdo biológico: todos los vivos hoy en día, usted, yo, los europeos, los asiáticos, los estadounidenses del norte, el centro y el sur, los grupos indígenas, los árabes, en otras palabras, toda la humanidad, somos descendientes evolucionados de ese mismo hombre Negro del este africano del que hablaba hace unas pocas frases. Si no cree que somos iguales, pregúntele al virus pandémico si busca diferencias de color o nacionalidad entre las víctimas a las que ataca.

Si ese hombre hubiera sido un multimillonario, usted y yo estaríamos luchando por su herencia financiera, pero desafortunadamente todo lo que tenemos es el derecho de llamarlo tatarabuelo. Sí, es el abuelo común muchos pasos genealógicos atrás.

Circa 2020.

Después de innumerables guerras, invasiones, colonización, movimientos de migración voluntaria o forzada de un continente a otro, nos atacamos o criticamos

porque hemos creado diferencias entre nosotros que consideramos naturales pero que en realidad son resultados accidentales de varios miles de años de decisiones evolutivas sociales. Lo que hace que esa situación sea trágica son las constantes batallas entre nosotros tratando de justificar por qué tenemos razón y los que consideramos diferentes están equivocados y estamos dispuestos a matarnos unos a otros para probarlo.

Mucha sangre, mucha lágrima, mucho abuso ha sido el resultado y la causa de ese comportamiento, el resultado cuando ha sido la dolorosa aplicación de nuestro odio, la causa cuando lo usamos para excusar nuestros propios prejuicios. Que las consecuencias de ese comportamiento persistan no lo hace correcto, lo hace despilfarro criminal.

Tenemos una imagen clara de las olas de conflicto al llegar a las costas

del entendimiento humano, pero esa no es la cuestión, ¿no? La pregunta es qué hacer para protegernos de lo que es obviamente una inundación destructiva. Necesitamos educación y legislación, pero sobre todo respeto y empatía. Tenemos que identificarnos y aceptar cuando nuestros propios prejuicios nos ciegan a una realidad que dice muy poco sobre nuestra humanidad. La historia no debe validar el pasado, sólo debe describirlo, y ciertamente no debe justificar el presente, o el futuro. Cuando nos despertamos todos los días debemos preguntarnos: ¿qué podemos hacer hoy para hacer del mundo un lugar mejor para vivir en armonía para todos, no sólo para algunos? Las críticas, los señalamientos con los dedos, los chistes insípidos o la grandiosidad no lo harán. Eso es sólo una distracción para patear la lata más lejos una vez más.

Y no deberíamos ir a la cama por la

noche hasta que sepamos lo que hicimos ese día para encontrar una respuesta que nos haga dormir tranquilamente y esperar un nuevo amanecer a la mañana siguiente. Ese sol, por si no se ha dado cuenta, se levanta para que a todos nos dé luz y calor todos los días sin recordar si el día anterior estaba nublado.

Abra las ventanas y salude a sus vecinos. Ellos comparten sus vidas con usted y tenemos solamente una vida, esta. Todos somos del mismo color básico de alma. Desafortunadamente, nuestros ojos están entrenados sólo para ver sus reflejos bajo las nubes de confusión y malentendidos. Nuestro viaje a través de este valle de lágrimas es breve y debemos hacer un esfuerzo para llevarnos bien con nuestros compañeros de viaje recordando que no es el destino lo que cuenta, sino el viaje.

Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy.



A POINT OF VIEW © 1996

By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, CCP

White and black not like day and night

Today I want to write about a difficult subject, one that brings me out of the circle of comfort in these times: our racial divide and frequent racial controversies, those disputes becoming often violent. What else is new, we ask.

Before I start, I want to make several important disclaimers: my skin, for lack of a better word, is what most folks would describe as white. Big deal, you'd say, and I'd agree. I am not an expert in race relations and I don't have the philosophical, intellectual, moral or ethical qualifications required to analyze, evaluate, never mind offer the solutions to racial conflicts or speak about any specific race or its behavior, including mine. I am not a reporter; I am simply an observer and a columnist who comments about what he sees.

Unless you've been living on planet Mars for the past century or so, and didn't have a radio or TV receiver or an Internet connection, you have probably witnessed, read, or heard about racially inspired violence by some people who seemed to know not only the source of the problems, but also the solutions, and were willing to be extremely vocal and violent.

A well-documented genealogical Microcondrial DNA project published a few decades ago, found and reported that seventy seven thousand years or so ago, lived in what we know as East Africa, a man who was black and had offspring. Those black descendants grew up, "left home", and dispersed through adjacent geographic areas, creating a biological diaspora.

During that long time, their skins, their hairs, the color of their eyes and even their languages and beliefs in an after-life that justified their worship, evolved as a result of many causes that the experts have

speculated but I cannot enumerate because I wasn't there, I am not an authority and It wouldn't serve any practical purpose these days anyway.

Of one thing we are all in biological agreement: everybody alive today, you, I, Europeans, Asians, Americans of the north, center and south, indigenous groups, Arabs, in other words, the whole of humanity, are evolved descendants of that same East African black man I was talking about a few sentences ago. If you don't think we are equals, ask the pandemic virus if it differentiates by color or nationality between the victims it attacks.

If that man had been a billionaire, you and I would be fighting for his financial inheritance, but unfortunately all we have is the right to call him great-great-grandpa. Yes, he is the common grandpa many genealogical steps back.

Circa 2020.

After countless wars, invasions, colonization, voluntary or forced migration moves from one continent to another, we attack or criticize each other because we have created differences from each other that we consider natural but are actually accidental results of several thousand years of social evolutionary decisions. What makes that situation tragic are our constant battles against each other trying to justify why we are right and those we consider different are wrong and are willing to kill each other to prove it.

A lot of blood, a lot of tears, a lot of abuse has been the result and cause of that behavior, the result when they have been the painful application of our hate, the cause when we use them to excuse our own prejudice. That the consequences of that

behavior persist doesn't make it right, it makes it wastefully criminal.

We have a clear picture of the waves of conflict as they hit the shores of human understanding, but that is not the question, isn't it? The question is what to do to protect us from what is an obvious destructive flood. We need education and legislation, but above all else respect and empathy. We have to identify and accept when our own prejudices blind us to a reality that says very little about our humanity. History shouldn't validate the past, it should only describe it, and it certainly shouldn't justify the present, never mind the future. When we wake up every day we should ask ourselves: what can we do today to make the world a better place to live in harmony with everybody, not just somebody? Criticism, finger pointing, tasteless jokes or grandstanding won't do it. That's only a distraction intended to kick the can further some more.

And we shouldn't go to bed at night until we know what we did that day to find a response that would make us sleep peacefully and look forward to a new sunrise the following morning. That sun, in case you haven't noticed, rises for all to give us light and warmth every day without remembering if the day before was cloudy. Open your windows and wave to your neighbors. They share life with you and there is only one life, this one.

We are all of the same basic soul color. Unfortunately our eyes are trained only to see their reflections under the clouds of confusion and misunderstanding. Our trip through this valley of tears is brief and we should make an effort to get along with our fellow travelers remembering that it isn't the destination what counts, it is the journey.

And that is my point of view today.

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO

315 Mt. Vernon St.
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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.

Getting along together

Last week we published an announcement from Mayor Dan Rivera and Police Chief Roy Vasque explaining how they will be using \$600,000 with the youth of our community. Some people asked me why I was so nice to them but they don't understand that it was a press release that I translated without editorializing.

That was not the time for my opinion. Now, it is.

The purpose is to Strengthen Youth-Officer Relations, something that should be part of a day's work. I don't understand the need for more money; they call it training but I believe it's more like common sense.

Perhaps they are going to do their "connecting" with the youth by working overtime. Maybe it's going to salaries for "consultants" to teach them the proper way to talk to kids.

Good community relations IS part of their job.

The Tale of 3 cities

Welcome to July 1st, the beginning of FY21.

I want to show you the difference between Haverhill, Methuen and Lawrence and how they handle their financial woes. This responsibility falls directly on the City Council of each city demonstrating their concern for the residents while providing adequate services to everyone.

In Haverhill, they could not agree and decided to vote for a 1/12 budget, giving the city sufficient funding to run and pay bills, instead of shutting down. Now, they have the entire month of July to study alternatives to pass the entire budget for Fiscal Year '21.

Mayor Neil Perry could not have come at a worst time to Methuen City Hall. His city is struggling with a \$7 million deficit and he's preparing a list of layoffs that will take place on August 1.

While they continue to work together for a solution during July, the City council voted 9-0 for a 1/12 budget allowing the city to keep functioning.

But in Lawrence, (Oh God, Lawrence!) they did a lot of talking, fought a little not a lot, listen to Danny and the final vote was 6-3 approving the budget without a single change.

The big difference is that Haverhill and Methuen are looking for ways to protect the taxpayers and in Lawrence, they increased property taxes by 2.5%.

Increasing a budget loaded with pay

increases for department heads and other friends and no one suggested holding back those raises.

Voting YES: Celina Reyes, Maria De La Cruz, Estela Reyes, Kendrys Vasquez, David Abdo and Marc Laplante.

Voting NO: Ana Levy, Pavel Payano and Jeovanny Rodriguez.

City Council needs a raise

At the June 22nd City Council meeting, when the 2.5% tax increase was approved without any reductions, there was something outrageous going on that probably few of you know about.

District A City Councilor Maria De La Cruz mentioned that the council should get a raise.

Talk about the worse councilor on that board asking for more money! This woman says the most ridiculous things and just recently she had to be told to shut up because she started talking about something that was not being discussed.

She doesn't know what's going on at the meetings half the times. I remember one night they just finished voting about something when she went to the next item on the agenda and she was told, "That's what we just voted on."

When it comes to voting, she votes for whatever the Master Dan wants without even thinking about consequences.

She keeps her telephone number secret and I finally found it when it was posted on Facebook (978-303-7243) in the list of all councilors and their phone numbers.

Councilor De La Cruz claims to be active in her community but if we check, she is only active with her neighborhood association and appears only in time for a photo op.

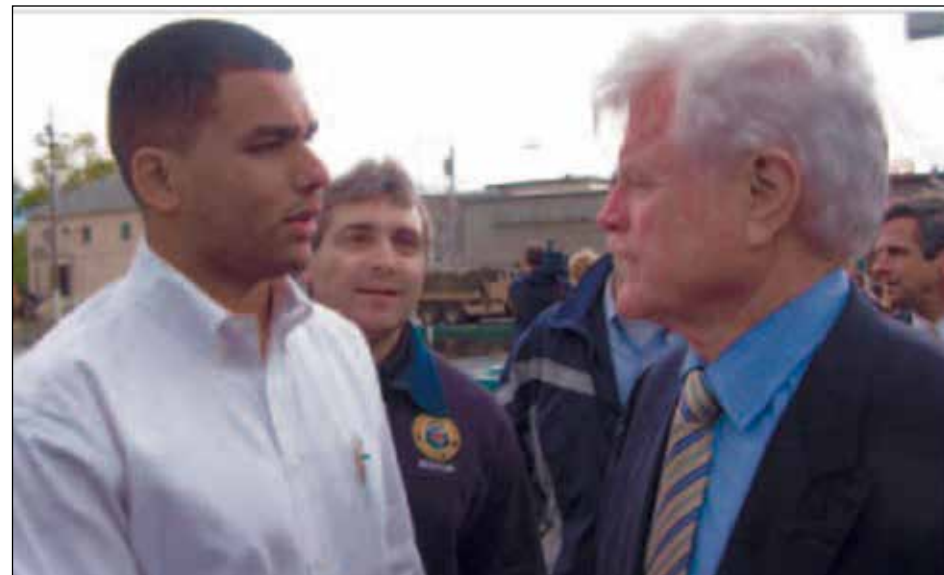
Well, she figured that now the city will have lots of money to spend with the tax increase and feel deserving of a portion of that money. What a nerve!

Mail-in Voting

For a few weeks, I have been warning about the perils involved in mail-in voting. Now that Senate Bill S2755 was approved by the Massachusetts Legislature, as I understand it, anyone can request an absentee ballot and there will not be a separate ballot to be mailed.

Meanwhile, in states where it has been approved, there have been several cases of people arrested for cheating on those ballots. Stealing them, filling them out and signing for those people to whom they were mailed.

Francisco Ureña, the scapegoat



This photo was taken during the Mothers' Day floods of 2007, the day after Francisco returned from the service. He wanted to be of service and became an asset interviewing flood victims, politicians and city officials. He can be seen here with Senator Edward Kennedy and Mayor Michael Sullivan behind.

We have all heard the news about Francisco having to resign from his job as Secretary of Veterans Services. Alberto and I would like to add to the list of people who are appalled about this action from Governor Charlie Baker.

Please take the time to read the opinion

piece published by The Lowell Sun and which we reproduced on page 5.

Since he is term-limited and cannot run again, the governor is granting favors and positions to his friends. Let's hope that something good for Lawrence will come out of this decision.

Several people have been arrested all over the country for tampering with the ballots, which is a federal offense.

A great story on race relations

Please take a look at my Facebook page and see the public service announcement entitled **P&G: The Look**. It's a silent video about a Black man in different situations where people "look" at him with a surprising ending. Powerful!

That reminded me of a movie appropriate

for the times we are living.

Allow me to recommend it as a great movie because is very in-tune with the current racial problems in this country.

Finding Forrester starring Sean Connery plays a reclusive author who becomes a mentor to a young Black prodigy.

Rob Brown plays the young man's struggles at his Manhattan University to impress a bitter teacher and the interplay between the two rings with honesty and authenticity.

Have an uplifting experience and see that there's hope in this world.

OSHA requires employers to investigate whether COVID-19 illness was contacted at work

The Occupational Health and Safety Administration has issued guidance regarding the investigation and recording of a COVID-19 illness of an employee. Most employers are covered by OSHA.

"Under OSHA's recordkeeping requirements, COVID-19 is a recordable illness, and thus employers are responsible for recording cases of COVID-19, if:

1. The case is a confirmed case of COVID-19, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC);
2. The case is work-related as defined by 29 CFR § 1904.5; and
3. The case involves one or more of the general recording criteria set forth in 29 CFR § 1904.7."

Determining how and where an employee contracted COVID-19 will take a little investigation and it is advisable that employers be mindful of employee's right to privacy and to steer clear of potential

unlawful inquires.

An article from Society for Human Resource Management suggests the following could be reasonable efforts to determine if the COVID-19 exposure is work related.

- "Asking the employee limited questions about how he or she believes COVID-19 was contracted.
- Making inquiries about the employee's work and nonwork activities, and possible exposure, leading up to the diagnosis.
- Investigating the employee's work environment to determine whether COVID-19 exposure was possible. This might include considering whether other employees in the work area have tested positive, the employee's job duties and exposure to the public, and whether the work areas are crowded and do not facilitate social distancing."

For more information: OSHA COVID-19 OSHA Memo Recording COVID-19 Cases HRM- OSHA RECORDING



NECC announces expansion of esports program



On the heels of two national championships, NECC is expanding its Esports offerings this fall. David Arivella, left in photo, is the coach.

By Daniel Blair

The Northern Essex Community College varsity esports program has announced it will expand to seven game offerings beginning with the fall 2020 semester. Five game titles will be featured for PC play, while Super Smash Bros. Ultimate will continue on Switch and Madden will be added for PS4 play. FIFA is also expected to join the mix in the spring 2021 semester.

The Knights esports program, which captured national championships in Rocket League and Super Smash Bros Ultimate during the spring 2020 semester will look to continue its upward trajectory as the premiere community college esports program in New England.

For PC beginning this fall, NECC will see the addition of CS:GO, Hearthstone and Rainbow Six: Siege join the existing titles Rocket League and Overwatch.

Madden will be added as a fall semester game on the PS4 while FIFA is expected to be a spring semester game on the PS4 as well.

Super Smash Bros Ultimate will continue on Switch with both singles and doubles competition.

“We’re excited to be expanding our offerings in esports and increase participation and championship opportunities for students while at the same time returning to competition in other programs as well following the COVID-19 pandemic,” stated NECC Athletic Director Dan Blair.

Esports competition is open to students at the college who are enrolled full time in a minimum of 12 credits per semester.

NECC will be releasing further information on the return of sports competition in the coming days for the remainder of its intercollegiate program.

For additional information please contact Director of Athletics Dan Blair dblair@necc.mass.edu or esports coach David Arivella darivella@necc.mass.edu

Northern Essex Community College competes as a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and sponsors 12 varsity intercollegiate sports including baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, softball, women's volleyball, men's and women's cross country, men's soccer, Esports and men's and women's track and field. For more information on Northern Essex Community College Athletics please visit the official website of Northern Essex Athletics (www.neccknights.com)

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

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

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

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ECCF anuncia la sexta ronda de subvenciones de respuesta COVID-19

Con el apoyo del Fondo de Ayuda MA COVID-19, \$ 753,000 otorgados a organizaciones sin fines de lucro del Condado de Essex

La Fundación Comunitaria del Condado de Essex (ECCF) anunció que ha otorgado una sexta ronda de subvenciones de su Fondo de Respuesta COVID-19 del Condado de Essex, establecido en marzo para apoyar a organizaciones sin fines de lucro en la primera línea de la respuesta pandémica en Essex Condado.

Esta ronda de subvenciones, que totaliza \$753,000, incluye \$675,000 del Fondo de Ayuda COVID-19 de Massachusetts,

el fondo estatal iniciado por la Primera Dama Lauren Baker y la Fundación One8 para apoyar a las personas del Estado más afectadas por COVID-19. Este fondo trabaja en concierto con las fundaciones comunitarias regionales para llenar estratégicamente dónde se manifiestan las brechas.

"El Fondo de Ayuda COVID-19 de Massachusetts una vez más ha respaldado nuestros esfuerzos para ayudar a aliviar

algunos de los muchos desafíos sin precedentes que enfrentan los residentes más vulnerables del Condado de Essex", dijo la presidenta y directora ejecutiva de ECCF, Beth Francis. "Estamos extremadamente agradecidos por su continuo apoyo mientras nos recuperamos de esta crisis de salud global".

Los fondos anunciados se dirigen a los Programas de Acción Comunitaria del Condado de Essex, en asociación con organizaciones comunitarias que apoyan el trabajo, para ayudar a satisfacer las necesidades básicas, como asistencia alimentaria y de alquiler, para los residentes económicamente desfavorecidos, sin hogar, inmigrantes y refugiados del Condado de Essex. Además, se otorgaron subvenciones a Northern Essex Community College y North Shore Community College en apoyo de sus fondos de asistencia estudiantil, que ayudan a los estudiantes económicamente vulnerables con necesidades básicas

como alimentos, alquiler y asistencia de combustible.

"Si bien la economía puede estar volviendo a funcionar lentamente, miles de residentes vulnerables del Condado de Essex, personas que ya estaban luchando antes de COVID-19, continúan luchando", dijo Carol Lavoie Schuster, vicepresidenta de subvenciones, organizaciones sin fines de lucro y servicios para donantes de ECCF. "Estamos entrando en nuestro cuarto mes desde que comenzó la pandemia, y nuestro apoyo a las organizaciones sin fines de lucro que brindan servicios básicos a muchos de nuestros amigos y vecinos es más importante que nunca a medida que las personas continúan enfrentando tiempos económicos inciertos".

Hasta la fecha, ECCF ha otorgado casi \$3.5 millones a través de 192 subvenciones a organizaciones sin fines de lucro que luchan contra COVID-19 y las consecuencias del virus.

ECCF Announces Sixth Round of COVID-19 Response Grants

With MA COVID-19 Relief Fund support, \$753,000 awarded to Essex County nonprofits

Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF) announced that it has awarded a sixth round of grants from its Essex County COVID-19 Response Fund, established in March to support nonprofit organizations on the frontlines of the pandemic response in Essex County.

This round of grants – which totals \$753,000 – includes \$675,000 of funding from the Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund, the statewide fund initiated by First Lady Lauren Baker and the One8 Foundation to support those across the Commonwealth most impacted by COVID-19. This fund works in concert with regional community foundations to strategically fill in where gaps are pronounced.

"The Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund has once again supported our efforts to help ease some of the many unprecedented challenges faced by Essex County's most vulnerable residents," said ECCF President and CEO Beth Francis. "We are extremely grateful for their continued support as we recover and rebuild from this global health crisis."

The funding announced is being directed towards Essex County's Community Action Programs – in partnership with community-

based organizations that support the work – to help provide basic necessities, like food and rental assistance, to economically disadvantaged, homeless, immigrant and refugee residents of Essex County. In addition, grants were awarded to Northern Essex Community College and North Shore Community College in support of their student assistance funds, which help economically vulnerable students with basic needs such as food, rental and fuel assistance.

"While the economy may be slowly coming back online, thousands of vulnerable Essex County residents – people who were already struggling before COVID-19 – continue to struggle," said ECCF's Vice President for Grants, Nonprofits and Donor Services Carol Lavoie Schuster. "We're entering our fourth month since the pandemic began, and our support of nonprofit organizations that provide basic services to so many of our friends and neighbors is more important than ever as people continue to face uncertain economic times."

To date, ECCF has awarded nearly \$3.5 million through 192 grants to nonprofits battling COVID-19 and the resulting fallout from the virus.

Redescubriendo la Familia

Por Domingo Martínez Madrid

En algún periódico se ha dado la noticia de que en este ir superando los meses de encerramiento familiar, habían aumentado la petición de divorcios y separaciones matrimoniales. Todo es posible, sin la menor duda.

No he visto, sin embargo, recogida, salvo en correos digitales, la reacción de tantas familias que han ido re-descubriendo viviendo día a día el confinamiento al que hemos estado sometidos, ese "gran don de Dios", y que han renovado unos lazos afectivos humanos y divinos que Dios bendijo en el Sacramento del Matrimonio, y en el engendrarse de la familia, con o sin hijos, y que se habían quedado algo dormidos en el transcurrir de cada día. Las situaciones son muy variadas, pero todas tienen un revivir de la luz en las bodas de Caná: el agua convertida en vino.

Horarios de trabajo de padres y de madres que no les permitían compartir

mucho tiempo con sus hijos, y al darse más a ellos han saboreado el gozo de sentarse a la mesa, de bendecir los alimentos preparados con amor.

La madre que se echa a llorar porque oye a su hija más pequeña llamar mamá a la mujer que le cuida todo el día; y cambia la mirada con la que contemplaba a su marido y a sus hijos al volver a casa de un trabajo muy comprometido y brillante: adelanta en tres horas su vuelta a casa.

El padre que descubre la dificultad de sus hijos para concentrarse y estudiar con fruto, y decide emplearse a fondo para ayudarles, acompañarles, en vez de enviarlos al psicólogo como tenía pensado.

El abuelo que se queda embobado y conmovido al ver correr por los pasillos de su casa a un nieto de tres años, y abrazarle llamándole abu.

El marido que redescubre a la mujer a la que ya se había acostumbrado un poco, se quedaba sólo con sus defectos y ahora llega a contemplarla como un "regalo de Dios"; y la mujer que redescubre al marido al que ya le prestaba poca atención y reverdece en su corazón el amor que le llevó al altar: los sentimientos se convierten en acoger de verdad al hombre con el que Dios quiere que sea santa.

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

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

- Henry Ford

<p>9:47 pm</p> <p>DANGER OF FACEMASK*</p> <p>Mask is supposed to be used for a limited time. If you wear it for a long time:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oxygen in the blood reduces. 2. Oxygen to the brain reduces. 3. You start feeling weak. 4. May lead to death. <p>ADVICE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pull it off when you are alone. I see a lot of people in their car with AC on still wearing face MASK. Ignorance or illiteracy? b. Do not use it at home. c. Only use it in a crowded place and when in close contact with one or more persons. d. Reduce the use of it while isolating yourself most times. 	<p>Stay Safe!!!</p> <p>Medicines that are taken in isolation hospitals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vitamin C-1000 2. Vitamin E (E) 3. From (10 to 11) hours, sitting in the sunshine for 15-20 minutes. 4. Egg meal once .. 5. We take a rest / sleep a minimum of 7-8 hours 6. We drink 1.5 liters of water daily 7. All meals should be warm (not cold). <p>And that's all we do in the hospital to strengthen the immune system</p> <p>Note that the pH of coronavirus varies from 5.5 to 8.5</p> <p>Therefore, all we have to do to eliminate the virus is to consume more alkaline foods above the acidity level of the virus.</p> <p>Such as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green lemon – 9.9 pH Yellow Lemon – 8.2 pH Avocado – 15.6 pH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Garlic – 13.2 pH * Mango – 8.7 pH * Tangerine – 8.5 pH * Pineapple – 12.7 pH * Watercress – 22.7 pH * Oranges – 9.2 pH <p>How to know that you are infected with corona virus?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Itchy throat 2. Dry throat 3. Dry cough 4. High temperature 5. Shortness of breath 6. Loss of smell <p>And lemon with warm water eliminates the virus at the beginning before reaching the lungs ...</p> <p>Do not keep this information to yourself. Provide it to all your family and friends.</p> <p>I wish you good health and longevity .</p> <p>9:39 pm</p>
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"Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" Is the Choice for Nashua Reads

The 2020 title for the Nashua Public Library's annual Nashua Reads: One City, One Book program is "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie Ford.

With support from the Friends of the Nashua Public Library and the Ella Anderson Trust, Jamie Ford will meet virtually with library patrons to talk about the book. The event will be held on Sunday, October 11, at 2 p.m. It is free, but registration is required. Go to tinyurl.com/nashuareads.

About the book

During World War II in Seattle, Henry Lee, a Chinese American boy, meets Keiko Okabe, a Japanese American girl. Amid the chaos of blackouts, curfew, and FBI raids, Henry and Keiko forge a bond of friendship—and innocent love—that transcends the long-standing prejudices of their Old World ancestors.

After Keiko and her family are swept up in the evacuations to internment camps, she and Henry are only left with hope that the war will end and that their promise to each other will be kept.

Set during one of the most conflicted and volatile times in American history, "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" is

an extraordinary story of commitment and enduring hope.

This book, a national bestseller, was named the #1 Book Club Pick in 2010 by the American Booksellers Association. It has been translated into 35 languages.

Get your copy now

The library has nearly 100 copies of "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet," including paperback, audio and e-book versions. In addition, multiple copies are available for borrowing by book groups.

So reserve your copy; read it; talk about it with your friends, coworkers and neighbors; and then join the virtual event with the author this fall.

About One City, One Book

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, coworkers and neighbors. The program is now in its 18th year.

The idea of community reading programs originated in 1998 when the Washington Center for the Book sponsored "If All of Seattle Read the Same Book." In the years since, similar programs, under names like "One City, One Book," "The Big Read" and others, have been held throughout the US.

About the Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Nashua Public Library encourage public support of the library, including gifts, endowments, memorials and the donation of time and assistance by Nashuans to the library.

The Friends provide special programs and services that expand and enrich the library's regular budget. These include concerts, film series, speakers, children's programs, museum passes, materials, equipment, videogames and more.

For more information about the Nashua Reads program, contact Carol Luers Eyman at (603) 589-4610 or carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org, or visit nashuareads.com.

About the author

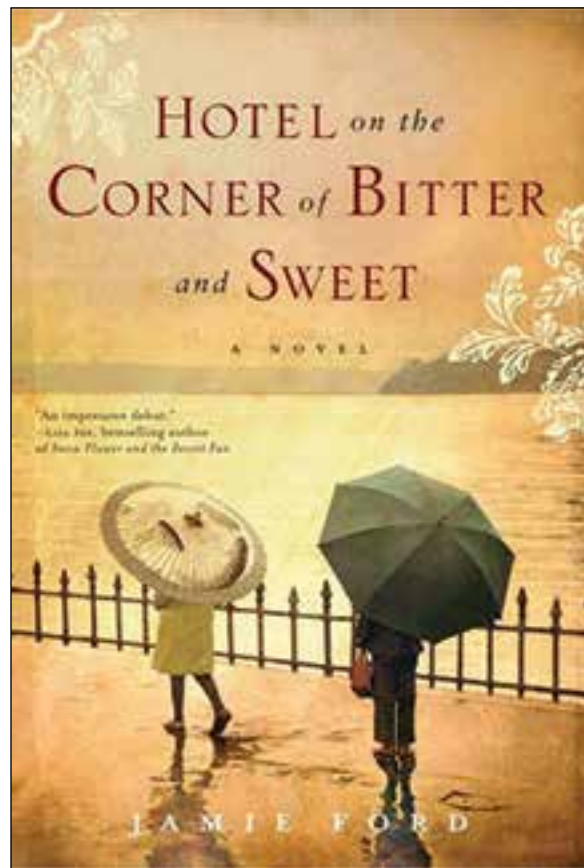
Jamie Ford is the great-grandson of Nevada mining pioneer Min Chung, who emigrated from China to San Francisco in 1865, where he adopted the western name "Ford," thus confusing countless generations.

Jamie Ford's debut novel, "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet," spent two years on the New York Times bestseller list and won the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature. His second book, "Songs of Willow Frost," was also a national bestseller.

Ford's work has been translated into 35 languages. (He's still holding out for Klingon, because that's when you know you've made it). His latest novel is "Love and Other Consolation Prizes."



Jamie Ford, author of "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet," will hold a virtual event for the Nashua Public Library, as part of the Nashua Reads: One City, One Book program. CREDIT: Allen Alabastro



"Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" book jacket

Win prizes in library summer reading challenge

No matter how old you are, you can join a Nashua Public Library summer reading program.

The theme of this year's program is "Imagine Your Story." Readers can challenge themselves to earn raffle tickets and prizes as they read.

The summer reading program will help motivate your children to read every day and maintain their skills. With programs for babies, children, teens and adults, you can make reading a family affair.

You can log the amount of time you read from June 20 to August 15 at nashualibrary.beanstack.org, or by downloading the Beanstack app, for Android or iPhone. If you have questions, call the library at 603-589-4600.



Virtual events

The library building is still closed to the public, but weekly summer reading events will be held virtually. Some will be online; others will offer curbside pickup of all the supplies you need to complete an activity at home. Find out more on the library's events calendar at tinyurl.com/nplevents.

Free Food for Children at Nashua Library

Kids under age 18 can pick up a free bag lunch at the Nashua Public Library this summer. Bags of nonperishable foods will also be available.

The bag lunches are sponsored by the USDA Summer Food Service Program and Southern New Hampshire Services. The nonperishable foods are provided by 68 Hours of Hunger.

Lunches are available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nonperishable food bags are available

Monday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

How to pick up food

To pick up food, go to the library parking lot and look for a parking space with a curbside pickup sign. Call 603-589-4600 or use the intercom at the end of the fence to request food. No ID or registration is required.

The library is an equal opportunity provider.



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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 vehicle on or after July 16, 2020 beginning at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and lien fees. Vehicle is being stored at Sheehan's Towing and may be viewed by appointment only.

1. 2012 Chevrolet Traverse VIN 1GNKRGED2CJ126871

Robert Sheehan
 Owner, Sheehan's Towing L.L.C.
 7/1, 7/8, 7/15

Mothers Out Front is looking for a Lawrence Climate Organizer in Lawrence

Mothers Out Front is a dynamic social impact organization dedicated to building the power of mothers to ensure a livable climate for all children. We are building a diverse national movement of mothers, grandmothers, and caregivers -- dedicated to convincing elected officials and business leaders to work for a swift, complete, and just transition away from fossil fuels to clean and renewable energy.

We know that mothers have an important role to play in the climate change movement, and when it comes to protecting their children, mothers are an unstoppable force for change! Our goal is simple: To enable mothers to take active leadership by providing the structure, training, and tools for them to work together on campaigns in their communities and statewide. We are a member-led, national organization that is growing quickly. Founded in 2013, we now have staff working in eight states. We are a fast-growing organization with no plans of slowing down.

As the Lawrence Climate Organizer, you will build one or more volunteer-led teams of mothers and caregivers to advocate for climate and energy justice in the wake of the horrific gas explosions in 2018. You

will recruit mothers and caregivers and strengthen their leadership to become a strong, unified voice, centering the needs of Lawrence's children and families in debates over the city's energy future.

This is a full time position. You will work from a home office and must be based in Lawrence, Methuen, Dracut, or North Andover. During the pandemic and while the stay-at-home requirements are in place, our staff will not be doing any in-person meetings or travel. This a full-time position.

The salary range is \$41,200 to \$56,650, depending on experience. Benefits include health and dental benefits, a 401(k) plan, flexible spending plan, paid vacation, holidays, sick days, and support for remote work set-up. We offer ongoing training opportunities, a fast-paced, dynamic, supportive, and collaborative setting and we are proudly women-led!

To apply or request more information, please apply through the Mothers Out Front website, https://www.mothersoutfront.org/job_opportunities. Include a resume and cover letter and let us know where you heard about the job. The job will be posted and applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Keep Your Landscape Looking Good with Less Effort



By Melinda Myers

Keep your garden looking its best and reduce your workload by enlisting practices that provide multiple benefits. Your garden will flourish and you'll have more time to enjoy its beauty.

Put your yard waste to work in your garden. You'll save time hauling plant debris to the recycling center and money spent buying bagged material. Use shredded leaves, evergreen needles, herbicide-free grass clippings or other pest- and weed-free organic material as mulch. Spread a one to two-inch layer of these materials over the soil around annual and perennial flowers and vegetables.

Use woodchips and shredded bark to mulch pathways, trees, and shrubs. Consider joining forces with your neighbors, renting a chipper, and turning brush into mulch for your landscape. Maintain a two- to three-inch layer of mulch around these plants. And keep the mulch away from tree trunks and the crowns of the plants.

Organic mulch helps conserve moisture, reduce weeds, and improve the soil as it breaks down. So, you get multiple benefits from this one task while burning a few calories and strengthening your muscles.

Water plants thoroughly and less frequently whenever you irrigate the garden. This encourages deep roots, making your plants more drought tolerant and pest resistant. Water early in the day to reduce water lost to evaporation. And consider using drip irrigation or soaker hoses to deliver water right to the plant roots where it is needed.

Check container gardens daily. Water thoroughly until the excess water runs out the bottom. Or enlist the help of one of the many container irrigation systems. Consider using a slow release fertilizer when needed to keep plants thriving with less effort. These types of fertilizers provide a slow, steady release of nutrients for balanced growth without sacrificing flowers

or burning drought stressed plants.

Don't forget your trees and shrubs. Proper watering will also improve their health. Water new plantings and moisture lovers whenever the top few inches of soil are dry. Even established trees and shrubs need a helping hand during extended periods of drought. Always water thoroughly to encourage deep, drought-resistant roots.

Keep mowing your lawn as long as your grass is actively growing. Mow high since taller grass is better able to out compete the weeds and forms deeper roots, making it more drought tolerant. Minimize the stress by removing no more than a third of the total grass height each time you mow.

Always use a sharp mower blade. Sharp blades cut more efficiently, saving you time whenever you mow. You'll consume 22% less fuel and the lawn will use up to 30% less water when using sharp blades. Plus, the clean cut will be less noticeable and the wound will close quickly, helping you grow a healthy, better-looking lawn.

Be sure to leave grass clippings on the lawn. They add nutrients, moisture, and organic matter to the soil. A season's worth of clippings is equal to one fertilizer application. So every time you mow you are fertilizing the lawn and improving the soil.

Finish every garden chore with a bit of cleanup. Sweep clippings, plant debris and fertilizer off walks, drives and patios, so it won't wash into storm sewers. Keeping plant debris out of our waterways is good for us and the environment.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening 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.

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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.

The Switchboard announces July artist-in-residence

Haverhill, MA- The Switchboard, an art space located at 43 Washington St in downtown Haverhill, is pleased to announce our second Artist in Residence, Tina S. Gagnon, who begins her 4-week stay on July 1st, 2020.

Tina is a self-described “hyper-realistic” artist. Using colored pencil as her preferred medium, Tina’s drawings are exercises in intense observation and large measures of patience. Her subject matter, nature and nostalgia, ranging from flowers and animals to marbles and skeleton keys, all of which come alive after hundreds of hours of work building up layers of color. She has been honored by various juried shows around New England and is passionate about sharing

her love of working with colored pencils with enthusiastic children and adults alike.

Throughout her stay at The Switchboard, Tina will be offering a variety of free workshops and classes for both children and adults. She will also be hosting “Tina Talks,” unique, personalized artist talks via Zoom where attendees can ask questions about her work and process. The public is invited to a reception of the Artists’ work on Saturday, July 18th from 6-8pm. All programming will follow state-mandated COVID19-prevention protocols.

A full listing of events can be found at www.theswitchboardhaverhill.com/events. Questions can be directed to theswitchboardhaverhill@gmail.com, or (802) 999-5506.

African American blood donors critically needed to support sickle cell patients during coronavirus outbreak

Community event to build awareness for blood needs in communities of color

DEDHAM, Mass. (June 22) — Right now, African American blood donors are critically needed to help patients battling sickle cell disease amid this coronavirus outbreak. The American Red Cross has teamed up with Devin and Jason McCourty, the Massachusetts Health Council, the Reverend Liz Walker of Roxbury Presbyterian Church, Clappazzola Partners and other community groups for a blood drive June 30 at Northeastern University that will also serve to raise awareness of the unique health concerns facing communities of color in Boston and beyond.

Since mid-March, the number of African Americans donating blood with the Red Cross has dropped by more than half. This low donor turnout is largely due to blood drive cancellations at businesses, churches and schools and the disproportionate COVID-19 infection rates for African Americans compared to other ethnicities.

African American blood donors are vital for many patients with rare blood types, like those with sickle cell disease, who depend on blood that must be matched very closely – beyond the A, B, O and AB blood types – to reduce the risk of complications.

“Sickle cell has affected our family and watching our family fight inspired us to get involved, said Devin McCourty, New England Patriots safety. His twin brother Jason added, “We know the importance of blood donations and want to continue to advocate for sickle cell patients. Happy to be a part of an event that will help so many people.”

“Blood transfusion helps patients with sickle cell disease – the most common genetic blood disease in the U.S. – and African American donors play an important role in their treatment,” said Dr. Yvette Miller, executive medical officer, Red Cross Blood Services. “We want to assure donors that their health and safety is a top priority for the Red Cross. By adding safeguards to our drives in response to this coronavirus, we hope individuals will roll up a sleeve to help those counting on their donation.”

“The Massachusetts Health Council is proud to partner with the Red Cross, Devin and Jason McCourty, Rev Liz Walker and

Northeastern University to hold this blood drive to help sickle cell patients,” said David Martin, CEO. “The Health Council’s members are always ready to come forward in times of need and work together to enable everyone to live healthy, thriving lives.”

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to ensure the health of all those in attendance.

How blood donations help patients with sickle cell disease

In the U.S., about 100,000 people of various racial and ethnic backgrounds are living with sickle cell disease, most of whom are of African or Latino descent. Blood transfusion is a common treatment patients with rare blood types, like those with sickle cell disease, but blood must be matched very closely – beyond the A, B, O and AB blood types – to reduce the risk of complications.

Despite the decline in blood donations from African American donors, the need for blood products for patients with sickle cell disease has remained steady. Without a readily available blood supply, sickle cell patients can experience severe pain, tissue and organ damage, acute anemia and even strokes. Furthermore, sickle cell patients are at high risk of serious complications from coronavirus infection, and blood transfusion can be a lifesaving treatment for these patients.

Make an appointment

Healthy individuals who are feeling well are asked to make an appointment to donate this May by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

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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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!