



Haverhill/Plaistow YMCA premiada con Distinción de Negocio del Mes



La YMCA de Haverhill ha sido una institución de larga data en la comunidad local. Fundada inicialmente en 1855, la YMCA ha brindado recreación y educación a los residentes locales durante la mayor parte de dos siglos. La YMCA, durante su larga historia, se ha mantenido comprometida con los valores de cuidado, honestidad, respeto y responsabilidad.

Chamber Awards Haverhill/Plaistow YMCA With Business of The Month Distinction

The Haverhill YMCA has been a longstanding institution in the local community. Initially founded in 1855, the YMCA has provided recreation and education to local residents for the better part of two centuries. The YMCA has, for its long history remained committed to the values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

Massachusetts Health Connector continúa el período de Inscripción abierta hasta el 23 de marzo

Massachusetts Health Connector continues Open Enrollment through March 23

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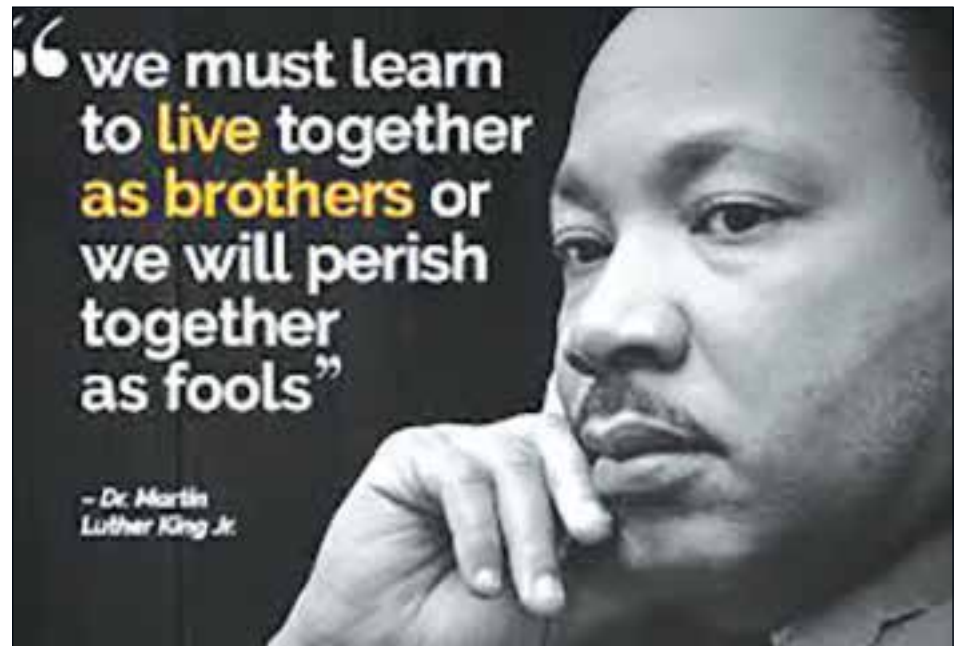
"Nuestra libertad depende de la libertad de prensa y no puede ser limitada pues la perderemos."

"Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost."

- Thomas Jefferson

Living the Dream Partners Honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy

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MCC to Host Several Virtual Events Celebrating Black History Month



Although the majority of courses, student services and events remain online due to the pandemic, Middlesex Community College will host several online events throughout February to commemorate Black History Month.

Dr. James Dottin is a member of MCC's Black History Month Steering Committee. Pg. 9



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Puertas giratorias del Ayuntamiento

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Por/By Della Diaz
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From My Corner



Acting Mayor Vasquez started with the right foot

Revolving doors at City Hall Page 16

Massachusetts Health Connector continúa el período de Inscripción abierta hasta el 23 de marzo

Massachusetts Health Connector anunció hoy que continuará con la Inscripción Abierta hasta el 23 de marzo, lo que brinda tiempo adicional para que los residentes del estado accedan a un seguro médico asequible y de calidad, particularmente aquellos afectados por el impacto económico del COVID-19.

Con la inscripción abierta en curso, los residentes de Massachusetts que no tienen seguro médico tienen una nueva oportunidad de obtener cobertura a través del Health Connector. Esto incluye planes comerciales a través del programa ConnectorCare, que brinda ayuda para pagar las primas mensuales y también ofrece copagos bajos y sin deducibles.

"Tener seguro médico significa tener la tranquilidad de que si está enfermo o lesionado, el acceso a la atención médica y los servicios está disponible", dijo Louis Gutiérrez, director ejecutivo de Massachusetts Health Connector. "Ojalá quienes no tienen cobertura puedan aprovechar esta oportunidad para inscribirse y disfrutar de la tranquilidad que conlleva estar asegurado". Concluyó Gutiérrez.

Al igual que las personas que no tienen seguro médico, las personas que actualmente tienen cobertura COBRA después de haber perdido sus trabajos, pueden cambiarse a un plan Health Connector durante este período. Para las personas que actualmente pagan las primas completas de los planes COBRA, calificar para ConnectorCare representaría ahorros significativos. Es probable que los participantes de COBRA puedan encontrar

planes de menor costo disponibles sin subsidio.

Muchas personas necesitan ayuda para solicitar cobertura o para elegir un plan, y Health Connector tiene 18 organizaciones navegadoras disponibles en todo el estado, muchas de ellas con capacidad recientemente agregada, incluidas las horas de la tarde y los fines de semana, para ayudar a quienes tengan preguntas. Las personas que necesitan ayuda pueden encontrar un Navegador local en www.MAhealthconnector.org/navigators. Decenas de miles de solicitantes miembros de Health Connector permanecen cubiertos o reciben cobertura durante la Inscripción Abierta, y se alienta a las personas a comunicarse con un Navegador lo antes posible para conseguir el apoyo necesario para y obtener cobertura.

Massachusetts Health Connector es el intercambio de seguros de salud del estado de Massachusetts y actualmente brinda servicios a más de 300,000 personas individualmente o a través de pequeños empleadores con seguro médico y dental. Los residentes de Massachusetts que no tienen seguro médico de un empleador u otra entidad pueden usar el intercambio para obtener cobertura. A través del programa ConnectorCare, los residentes que califican por ingresos pueden acceder a una cobertura que incluye primas y copagos a bajo costo, y sin deducibles. El acceso a la cobertura de salud para individuos y pequeñas empresas se puede encontrar en el sitio web de Health Connector, MAhealthconnector.org/

find lower-cost plans available without subsidy.

Many people need help applying for coverage or picking plan, and the Health Connector has 18 Navigator organizations available around the state, many with newly added capacity – including evening and weekend hours – to help those with questions. People who need help can find a local Navigator at www.MAhealthconnector.org/navigators. Tens of thousands of Health Connector members applicants are staying covered or getting covered during Open Enrollment, and people are encouraged to reach out to a Navigator as soon as possible to get the support needed to get coverage.

The Massachusetts Health Connector is the Commonwealth's health insurance exchange, and currently serves more than 300,000 individuals and small-employer members with health and dental insurance. Massachusetts residents who do not have health insurance from an employer or other entity can use the exchange to gain coverage. Through the ConnectorCare program, income-qualifying residents can access coverage that includes low-cost premiums and co-pays, and no deductibles. Access to health coverage for individuals and small businesses can be found at the Health Connector's website, MAhealthconnector.org.

Massachusetts Health Connector continues Open Enrollment through March 23

The Massachusetts Health Connector announced today it is continuing Open Enrollment until March 23, providing additional time for state residents to access affordable, quality health insurance, particularly those hurt by the economic impacts of COVID-19.

With Open Enrollment ongoing, Massachusetts residents who do not have health insurance have a new opportunity to get coverage through the Health Connector. This includes commercial plans through the ConnectorCare program, which provides help paying monthly premiums, and also offers low co-pays and no deductibles.

"Having health insurance means having the peace of mind that if sick or injured, access to health care and services is readily available," said Louis Gutierrez, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Connector. "Hopefully those who don't have coverage can take advantage of this opportunity to enroll and enjoy that peace of mind that comes with being insured."

Along with people who do not have health insurance, people who are currently in COBRA coverage after losing their jobs can switch to a Health Connector plan during this period. For people who are current paying full premiums for COBRA plans, qualifying for ConnectorCare would represent significant savings. It is likely that for COBRA participants could also

Haley Takes Over as Greater Haverhill Chamber President

By Kate Martin \Posted January 8, 2021 In Chamber News

The Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce announced today its board of directors has selected Irene Haley as the organization's next chief executive officer. Haley will assume the role of Greater Haverhill Chamber President and CEO on January 11, 2021.

"I am thrilled to be joining this amazing team and vibrant, diverse community. I bring more than 20 years of leadership experience and a passion to serve others to this role and to this critical moment. I look forward to partnering with other local leaders to serve our members and our community," said Haley.

An initial prospect pool of more than 150 applicants was narrowed to a final group who interviewed with the board's search committee during December. "After an extensive search for a new President & CEO of the Greater Haverhill Chamber, we are pleased to have selected Irene Haley," said Matthew Juros, Chair of the Greater Haverhill Chamber Board of Directors. "The board is energized and excited by the



opportunity to work with Irene to build on the foundation that Dougan created during the past 2 ½ years," Juros said.

Haley brings over 20 years of experience in corporate management at both Exxon Mobil and Starbucks. She has a Master of Business Administration degree from Boston University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from UMass Lowell.

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>

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Para programar una cita, llama al 1.800.483.5503 o visítanos en nuestra página web en internet: www.bbbsfoundation.org.

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

¡Gracias por tu apoyo!

Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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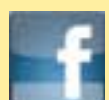
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POR DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

■ 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.

Alcalde Interino Vasquez comenzó con el pie derecho

Durante varios años he estado escribiendo sobre juntas y comisiones municipales que no pueden reunirse por falta de quórum.

Mis críticas a Dan Rivera han sido abundantes durante ese tiempo por no llenar esos puestos. Es en esas reuniones donde verdaderamente se resuelven los asuntos del pueblo.

La gente suele quejarse de que se trata de puestos voluntarios sin estipendio, pero la verdad es que hay muchas personas deseosas de motivar el cambio.

Cualquiera que esté interesado en contribuir a la ciudad siendo miembro de una junta o comisión en particular, normalmente consultaría el sitio web de la ciudad y se inscribiría desde ahí. El problema con la falta de transparencia en Lawrence es que en este momento solo hay 3 vacantes publicadas desde marzo de 2014.

Con suerte, solo invitamos a personas honorables a participar porque es posible que allí escuche sobre los planes futuros de la ciudad que, si juega bien sus cartas (de una manera depravada, por supuesto), puede comprar propiedades de la ciudad que saldrán a licitación antes que el público en general se entere. Hemos encontrado a muchas personas carentes de integridad que comenzaron en las juntas de la ciudad y terminaron siendo millonarios. Es hora de que la gente trabajadora de Lawrence se levante y trabaje por el bien común.

Pero me complace mucho anunciar que el Alcalde Interino Kendrys Vásquez ha hecho lo que faltaba durante tanto tiempo. El martes por la noche presentará al Concejo Municipal 12 nombres de candidatos para tres juntas. Todavía tiene muchos más nombramientos por hacer, pero este es un buen comienzo.

Al hacer referencia a que es en estas juntas y comisiones donde se hacen los negocios de los ciudadanos, le sugiero que eche un vistazo a la lista y verá qué decisiones manejan. Al no tener juntas y comisiones efectivas, la administración puede tomar decisiones que afecten a la ciudad y los residentes, a menudo en violación de la ley.

Sus reuniones son el mecanismo que tenemos para desahogar nuestras frustraciones u obtener respuestas que los concejales no pueden dar.

Siempre sospeché que Rivera nunca hizo un esfuerzo por mantener funcionando la Comisión de Derechos Humanos porque la mayoría de las quejas eran sobre el departamento de policía y él era muy protector con ellos. En sus últimos años, la Comisión de Derechos Humanos se transformó en una rama de relaciones públicas de la policía con la participación semanal del jefe de policía John Romero. Luego, cuando se jubiló, fue honrado con una placa del HRC por su buen trabajo. Resultó que la junta trabajaba para el departamento de policía.

Reinstalar la Comisión de Derechos Humanos es una ventaja para nosotros, no solo acusar a la policía, sino también abusos

de propietarios, problemas con compañías de seguros, servicios de inspección, etc.

Veamos si en su tiempo limitado en el cargo el Alcalde Interino Kendrys Vásquez regresará a un gobierno real del pueblo y seguirá llenando esos puestos.

Lista de juntas y comisiones

- Aeropuerto
- Junta de Salubridad
- Comisión de Discapacidad
- Comisión de Conservación
- Concejo Cultural
- Distrito Sanitario del Gran Lawrence
- Comisión Histórica
- Junta Directiva de la Biblioteca
- Junta de licencias
- Comisión del Distrito Histórico de Prospect Hill
- Autoridad de Redesarrollo
- Junta de Jubilación
- Comisión de Construcción Escolar

Puede encontrar información sobre cada una de estas organizaciones en el sitio web de la ciudad, aunque es antigua y algunos de esos miembros han muerto hace mucho tiempo. Al menos, puede obtener más información sobre los requisitos para inscribirse.

Puertas giratorias del Ayuntamiento

Ahora que el Director de DPW, Brian Peña, se fue a trabajar en Andover, ¿quién cree que se convertirá en el director "interino"? ¿Podría haberlo adivinado!

Franklin Miguel ha sido ascendido a ese puesto de forma interina (sé que es solo una fachada) a pesar de que no tiene experiencia en eso. Si la ciudad iba a anunciar el puesto en busca de un verdadero ingeniero, deberían haber llamado a Lance Hamill. Lance trabaja para el departamento y se desempeñó como director interino durante mucho tiempo cuando John Isensee se fue. John estaba bien informado aunque no era ingeniero, era agradable y nunca causó grandes problemas o escándalos para la ciudad. Sigo pensando que Lance no tiene derecho a llevarse un vehículo de la ciudad a su casa en New Hampshire por la noche, pero esa no es mi decisión.

Aunque la lógica me dice que Lance debería haber estado dirigiendo ese departamento, en el fondo sabía que Franklin sería designado permanentemente porque está atado a la cintura del alcalde interino. Son como hermanos y nunca se van de vacaciones solos. No, nadie me lo dijo; tienen la audacia de publicar las fotos de sus vacaciones en las redes sociales.

¿Cree que alguna vez habrá justicia para los contribuyentes de Lawrence con todos los favores políticos, nepotismo, etc.? Los candidatos calificados no necesitan solicitar.

Un buen ejemplo de cómo se contrata a amigos y familiares aquí fue cuando María De La Cruz insistió a los concejales que quería ser la nueva secretaria municipal. ¡Tenía tanto miedo de que termináramos con ella allí! Ella no sabe lo que implica el trabajo porque ni siquiera puede escribir en inglés o español para manejar ese trabajo. Lo sé; solía recibir comunicados de prensa de ella. Tuvo que conformarse con un premio de consolación en el hospital.

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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.



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

— Voltaire

Premios de Cámara Haverhill/ Plaistow YMCA con Distinción de Negocio del Mes

La Cámara de Comercio de Greater Haverhill nombró a la YMCA de Haverhill /Plaistow como su negocio del mes de enero de 2021.

La YMCA de Haverhill ha sido una institución de larga data en la comunidad local. Fundada inicialmente en 1855, la YMCA ha brindado recreación y educación a los residentes locales durante la mayor parte de dos siglos. La YMCA, durante su larga historia, se ha mantenido comprometida con los valores de cuidado, honestidad, respeto y responsabilidad.

Hoy en día, los residentes confían en Haverhill YMCA para una gran variedad de servicios. Los miembros pueden disfrutar de equipos de fitness de última generación, cientos de clases de ejercicio en grupo, oportunidades de voluntariado y servicios para niños, incluidos gimnasia, deportes y campamentos de verano.

Este año, la YMCA ha hecho una contribución cada vez mayor a la comunidad proporcionando cuidado de niños para los socorristas en medio de la pandemia mundial. Sus servicios de cuidado infantil han hecho posible que los

padres que trabajan en campos críticos, como la policía y los bomberos, continúen desempeñando sus funciones esenciales.

“La YMCA de Haverhill es un pilar de nuestra comunidad”, dijo la presidenta y directora ejecutiva de la Cámara, Irene Haley. “El compromiso del personal de mantener excelentes servicios, a pesar de los desafíos que presenta la pandemia, es un testimonio de su ingenio, compasión y determinación. Estamos orgullosos de nombrar a Haverhill YMCA como nuestro negocio del mes”.

Acerca de la Cámara de Comercio de Haverhill

Justo al norte de Boston en Merrimack Valley, The Greater Haverhill Chamber sirve a una comunidad local de pequeñas empresas maravillosamente diversa. La conectividad entre las personas y las empresas de nuestra Cámara es lo que realmente importa. Nuestra Cámara respalda a más de 400 empresas y trabajamos para ampliar nuestro alcance y valor todos los días. Visitenos en www.haverhillchamber.com.

Chamber Awards Haverhill/ Plaistow YMCA With Business of The Month Distinction

The Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce has named the Haverhill/ Plaistow YMCA as its business of the month for January 2021.

The Haverhill YMCA has been a longstanding institution in the local community. Initially founded in 1855, the YMCA has provided recreation and education to local residents for the better part of two centuries. The YMCA has, for its long history remained committed to the values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

Today, residents rely on the Haverhill YMCA for a myriad of services. Members can enjoy state-of-the-art fitness equipment, hundreds of group exercise classes, volunteer opportunities, and services for children including gymnastics, sports, and summer camp.

This year, the YMCA has made an ever-greater contribution to the community by providing childcare for first responders in the midst of the global pandemic. Their childcare services have made it possible

for parents working in critical fields, like police and fire, to continue performing their essential roles.

“The Haverhill YMCA is a pillar of our community,” said Chamber President and CEO Irene Haley. “The staff’s commitment to maintain excellent services, despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, is a testament to their ingenuity, compassion, and resolve. We are proud to name the Haverhill YMCA our business of the month.”

About the Haverhill Chamber of Commerce

Just north of Boston in the Merrimack Valley, The Greater Haverhill Chamber serves a wonderfully diverse, local, small business community. The connectivity between the people and the businesses in our Chamber is what really matters. Our Chamber supports more than 400 businesses, and we work to extend our reach and value every day. Visit us at www.haverhillchamber.com.

“Dicen que si una mentira es repetida con mucha frecuencia, se convierte en verdad. En realidad, no sucede así. Lo que pasa es que la gente simplemente comienza a creer que es verdad.”

“There's an old saying that if a lie is told often enough, it becomes the truth. Actually, it doesn't. What happens is that people simply start believing that it's true.”

— Bailey Jackson



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Rumbo
“The Bilingual Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley”
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Department of Fire Services
Peter J. Ostroskey, State Fire Marshal

Prevención y tratamiento de tuberías congeladas

STOW □ El Jefe de Bomberos del Estado Peter J. Ostroskey dijo: “Estamos a punto de tener un clima muy frío que trae el riesgo de tuberías congeladas. Es importante evitar que una mala situación empeore; mucha gente provoca incendios al intentar descongelar tuberías congeladas”.

Consejos para prevenir tuberías congeladas

- Cuando el clima es muy frío afuera, deje que el agua gotee de los grifos con tuberías en las paredes exteriores. Hacer correr agua a través de la tubería, incluso con un chorrito, ayuda a evitar que las tuberías se congelen. La temperatura del agua corriente está por encima del punto de congelación.
- Abra las puertas de los gabinetes de la cocina y el baño para permitir que el aire más cálido circule alrededor de las tuberías. Asegúrese de mover los limpiadores y productos químicos domésticos dañinos fuera del alcance de los niños.
- Mantenga el termostato ajustado a la misma temperatura de día y de noche. No baje la temperatura por la noche durante la ola de frío. Puede aumentar un poco la factura de la calefacción, pero puede evitar un trabajo de reparación mucho más costoso si las tuberías se congelan y explotan.
- Si se va a ir durante el clima frío, deje la calefacción encendida en su hogar o negocio a una temperatura no inferior a 55°F.
- Cierre el agua exterior.

Para descongelar tuberías congeladas

- Si abre un grifo y solo sale un hilo, sospeche que se trata de una tubería congelada. Localice el área de la tubería de agua que podría estar congelada. Los lugares más probables son las tuberías que corren contra las paredes exteriores o donde el servicio de agua ingresa a su hogar.
- Mantenga el grifo abierto. A medida que trate la tubería congelada y el área congelada comience a derretirse, el

agua comenzará a fluir a través de la tubería congelada. Hacer correr agua por la tubería ayudará a derretir más hielo en la tubería.

- Aplique calor a la sección de la tubería usando una almohadilla térmica eléctrica envuelta alrededor de la tubería, un secador de pelo eléctrico o envolviendo las tuberías con toallas empapadas en agua caliente. No use un soplete, calentador de queroseno o propano, estufa de carbón u otros dispositivos de llama abierta. Un soplete puede hacer hervir el agua de una tubería congelada y hacer que la tubería explote. Todas las llamas abiertas en los hogares presentan un grave peligro de incendio, así como un grave riesgo de exposición al monóxido de carbono letal.
- Aplique calor hasta que se restablezca la presión total del agua. Si no puede ubicar el área congelada, si el área congelada no es accesible o si no puede descongelar la tubería, llame a un plomero autorizado.
- Revise todos los demás grifos de su casa para averiguar si tiene tuberías congeladas adicionales. Si una tubería se congela, es posible que otras también se congelen.
- Tenga cuidado al usar calefactores portátiles para calentar áreas cercanas a las tuberías. No sobrecargue los circuitos. Enchufe calentadores portátiles directamente en los tomacorrientes de pared. Trate de no usar cables de extensión, pero si debe hacerlo, asegúrese de que esté calificado para el aparato y use solo uno. Los electrodomésticos que producen calor necesitan cables de extensión más fuertes que las lámparas.
- Recuerde no dejar abierta la puerta de un horno a gas; producirá grandes cantidades de monóxido de carbono.
- Asegúrese de que haya alarmas de humo y monóxido de carbono que funcionen en todos los niveles de la casa.

"Afortunadamente, el clima se calentará en los próximos días, lo que ayudará a que las tuberías congeladas se descongelen y evitará que se congelen otras tuberías", dijo Ostroskey.

Proteja los sistemas de rociadores

Para proteger los sistemas de rociadores, controle su edificio durante la ola de frío, especialmente si no tiene una alarma de baja temperatura. Asegúrese de que todas las partes del edificio

permanezcan calentadas por lo menos a 40 ° F y no estén expuestas a condiciones de congelación. Ajustar el termostato más alto por lo menos 50-60 ° F durante esta ola de frío ayudará a asegurar que las tuberías en áreas ocultas se mantengan calientes.

Preventing and Dealing with Frozen Pipes

STOW - State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey said, “We’re about to get some bitter cold weather which brings the risk of frozen pipes. It is important keep a bad situation from getting any worse; many people cause fires trying to thaw frozen pipes.”

Tips for Preventing Frozen Pipes

- When the weather is very cold outside, let the water drip from faucets with pipes in outside walls. Running water through the pipe – even at a trickle – helps prevent pipes from freezing. The temperature of the running water is above freezing.
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals up out of the reach of children.
- Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature day and at night. Don’t lower the temperature at night during the cold spell. It might raise the heating bill a little bit, but can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home or business set to a temperature no lower than 55°F.
- Shut off outside water.

To Thaw Frozen Pipes

- If you turn on a faucet and only a trickle comes out, suspect a frozen pipe. Locate the area of the water pipe that might be frozen. The most likely places are pipes running against exterior walls or where

your water service enters your home.

- Keep the faucet open. As you treat the frozen pipe and the frozen area begins to melt, water will begin to flow through the frozen area. Running water through the pipe will help melt more ice in the pipe.
- Apply heat to the section of pipe using an electric heating pad wrapped around the pipe, an electric hair dryer, or wrapping pipes with towels soaked in hot water. Do not use a blowtorch, kerosene or propane heater, charcoal stove, or other open flame devices. A blowtorch can make water in a frozen pipe boil and cause the pipe to explode. All open flames in homes present a serious fire danger, as well as a severe risk of exposure to lethal carbon monoxide.
- Apply heat until full water pressure is restored. If you are unable to locate the frozen area, if the frozen area is not accessible, or if you cannot thaw the pipe, call a licensed plumber.
- Check all other faucets in your home to find out if you have additional frozen pipes. If one pipe freezes, others may freeze, too.
- Be careful using space heaters to warm up areas near pipes. Don’t overload circuits. Plug space heaters directly into wall outlets. Try not to use extension cords but if you must, make sure it is rated for the appliance, and only use one. Heat producing appliances need stronger extension cords than lamps.
- Remember not to leave the door of a gas oven open; it will produce large amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Be sure there are working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on every level of the home.

“Fortunately the weather will warm up in the next few days which will help frozen pipes thaw and prevent additional pipes from freezing,” said Ostroskey.

Protect Sprinklers Systems

In order to protect sprinkler systems, check on your building during the cold snap, especially if you don’t have a low temperature alarm. Make sure that all portions of the building remain heated to at least 40°F and not exposed to freezing conditions. Setting the thermostat higher at least 50-60 °F during this cold snap will help make sure pipes in concealed areas stay warm.

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2021-2022

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Sesión de información
JWang@lccps.org

Lowell Community Charter Public School 200 Jackson St. Lowell, MA 01852 www.lccps.org (978) 323-0000

Living the Dream Partners Honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy

On Monday, January 18, 2021, the Living the Dream Partners co-sponsored “Where Do We Go From Here?” – a virtual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration that aired online by Lowell Telemedia Center. The event raised \$13,640 in support of students from both Middlesex Community College and UMass Lowell.

During the event, the Partners recognized two community members – one individual and one organization – who have dedicated their professional and personal lives to supporting citizens of Greater Lowell inspired by Dr. King’s beliefs. The 2021 Living the Dream Partners Award recipients included Carmen Bermudez and the Merrimack Valley Food Bank (MVFB).

Bermudez – who serves as pastor at Iglesia Trono Celestial and is the founder of Hope Dove Inc., both in Lowell – is dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities and those living in extreme poverty have a better quality of life. Calling the award an honor, Bermudez asks the community to commit to answering “life’s most persistent and urgent question” posed by Dr. King’s – “what are you doing for others?”

“I am deeply humbled to be recognized as a recipient of the Living the Dream Partners Award,” Bermudez said. “Dr. King tirelessly worked for a more equitable future for all – and this is the reason many of us are able to stand here today. Though we may have different backgrounds and experiences, we are united by our commitment to serve the community around us.”

The MVFB is a nonprofit that seeks to provide nutritious food and essential personal care items to emergency feeding programs for the low-income, homeless and hungry within the community. Their mission is to not only meet but satisfy people’s basic human needs in order to help individuals gain “freedom from hunger” – especially during the pandemic.

“Those food pantries, meal programs, senior centers and schools are on the frontlines and are providing not only food, but a sympathetic ear as well as other

services including rental assistance and advice, healthcare, fuel assistance and referrals to help our neighbors navigate this uncharted territory,” a spokesperson for the MVFB said. “Thanks to our local, state and federal representatives, corporate, faith-based and academic partners, families currently seeking food can maintain their health through nutrition.”

Reginald Nichols, MCC’s Assistant Director of Human Resources, acted as emcee and emphasized the relevancy of the annual event started by Lura Smith and family 23 years ago.

“The events of 2020 – as well as the hate-filled attack on the capitol – have left the country divided and have shone a light on equity, civil rights and institutional racism,” Nichols said. “As we look towards the future, and begin this new year, it is more important than ever to reflect on and honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy.”

The event featured a video message from Congresswoman Lori Trahan, a blessing from Rev. Heather Prince Doss from Eliot Presbyterian Church in Lowell, and a community reading of Dr. King’s speech “Where Do We Go From Here?”

Dancers from Donna Miceli Dance – with compliments of Lisa Pilato Dance Center – performed to “Glory” by John Legend and Common. The Free Soil Arts Collective partnered with MCC’s Performing Arts Chair Karen Oster to present “Act Free,” a short play in a series entitled “Towards An Anti-Racist Tomorrow.”

New Living the Dream Partner Enterprise Bank was also the Vision Maker sponsor of the event. The Dreamer sponsor was George and Carol Duncan, while Community Teamwork, Inc., Nancy L. Donahue, James C. and Judith G. Mabry, The Leap Network, Lowell Sun Charities, George and Nancy Robb and Trinity EMS were all Partner sponsors. The Center for Hope and Healing was also a new partner organization and sponsor participating this year.

Visit www.livingthedreampartners.org



On Monday, January 18, 2021, the Living the Dream Partners co-sponsored “Where Do We Go From Here?” – a virtual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration that aired online by Lowell Telemedia Center. The event raised \$13,640 in support of students from both Middlesex Community College and UMass Lowell. Photo of special guest emcee Reggie Nichols was taken at the 2020 event before COVID-19.

for more information about the Living the Dream Partners, volunteer opportunities in the community, sponsorship opportunities to go towards supporting student success, and next year’s MLK Event.

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!

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Las escuelas CDCPS son escuelas públicas gratuitas desde Jardín de Infantes hasta el Octavo grado, conocidas por sus estrictas normas académicas. Las escuelas ofrecen un horario de 8:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m. con programas de cuidado disponible antes y después del horario escolar (por una tarifa) y ofrecen curso de verano gratuito (para las estudiantes que califican).

Aceptando Solicitudes para el Año Escolar 2021-2022

Los estudiantes deben cumplir 4 años de edad en o antes del 1ro. de septiembre del 2021 para ser elegibles para el Kindergarten I. Las solicitudes en Internet están disponibles en las páginas electrónicas de las escuelas: www.cdcpa.org, www.cdcpgateway.org y www.cdcpwebster.org.

La admisión para cada escuela se hace en una lotería pública que se realiza en Marzo 2021 para el próximo año escolar.

Usted debe completar una solicitud en Internet en o antes del 5 de febrero del 2021 a las 5 p.m. para que su hijo/a pueda ser incluido/a en la lotería de esa escuela.

Vacancias en Kindergarten I (para estudiantes de 4 años) en las tres escuelas; vacancias limitadas en otros grados

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Grados K1-8 - 2021-2022	Grados K1-8 - 2021-2022	Grados K1-8 - 2021-2022
Casa Abierta Virtual: 26 de enero del 2021 6-7 p.m.	Casa Abierta Virtual: 27 de enero del 2021 6-7 p.m.	Casa Abierta Virtual: 28 de enero del 2021 6-7 p.m.
Lotería Virtual: 3 de marzo del 2021, 9 a.m.	Lotería Virtual: 3 de marzo del 2021, 9 a.m.	Lotería Virtual: 3 de marzo del 2021, 9 a.m.
Contactar: www.cdcpgateway.org 978.688.4283 jortin@cdcpgateway.org	Contactar: www.cdcpa.org 978.722.2583 kenneth-base@cdcpa.org	Contactar: www.cdcpwebster.org 978.688.4243 lpantano@cdcpwebster.org

Las escuelas Community Day Charter Public Schools no discriminan por raza, color, nacionalidad, credo, sexo, identidad de género, orientación sexual, discapacidad mental o física, edad, ascendencia, rendimiento académico, necesidad especial, dominio del idioma inglés o de una lengua extranjera, o logro académico antes del reclutamiento o admisión de los estudiantes.

Eversource Now Accepting Applications for Highly Successful Career Training Program

Electric Power Utility Technology Program has 98% job placement success rate

Eversource is actively seeking applicants for its career-focused Electric Power Utility Technology (EPUT) Program, which is offered in partnership with Bunker Hill Community College, Local 369 Utilities Workers Union of America and Local 12004 United Steelworkers Union. Hundreds of individuals who completed the program are now employed at the energy company. In addition to the career benefits, graduates can earn an Associate of Science degree and a certificate in Natural Gas Technology from the largest community college in Massachusetts.

“Our students range from those who recently graduated high school to men and women who are refocusing their careers, and all of them are committed to learning the skills they need to succeed in their futures,” said Eversource Supervisor of Technical Training Marion Jones. “Now more than ever, we recognize many individuals are seeking jobs that are both secure and rewarding, and we’re able to provide that here at Eversource.”

With the pandemic forcing many to work and learn from home, Eversource and BHCC have temporarily adapted the program to an online format to help ensure safety of students and staff. The program offers a combination of hands-on training, classroom learning, and real-

world experience, providing students with the tools they need to excel in the electric or natural gas field.

“Students thrive in this program because of the strong connection between academics and career,” said Dean of Professional Studies at BHCC Austin Gilliland. “We’re proud to partner with Eversource to support students in a program that furthers their education and leads to a fulfilling career.”

Most graduates go on to have successful careers at Eversource, like Jared Ciriello who graduated from the program in 2009 and works as a Troubleshooter in Underground Operations. Interested candidates can learn more about Jared’s career and his experience in the EPUT program in this video.

The EPUT program is currently accepting applications through March 21, 2021 for classes that start in the fall. For more information on how to apply, visit jobs.eversource.com or bhcc.edu/eput, email eput@eversource.com, or register for an upcoming virtual information session:

Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021 – 11:00 a.m. (Female Career Panel)
Thursday, February 4th, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.



CONTACT:
Eversource:
Reid Lamberty
617-424-2108
reid.lamberty@eversource.com

Bunker Hill Community College:
Karen M. Norton
617-228-2177
kmnorton@bhcc.mass.edu

Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names.

Perdone a sus enemigos, pero nunca olvide sus nombres.

- President John F. Kennedy

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MCC to Host Several Virtual Events Celebrating Black History Month



Although the majority of courses, student services and events remain online due to the pandemic, Middlesex Community College will host several online events throughout February to commemorate Black History Month. Dr. James Dottin is a member of MCC's Black History Month Steering Committee.

As an institution serving a diverse population of learners, Middlesex Community College strives to celebrate the histories, art, music and cultures of the college's students. Although the majority of courses, student services and events remain online due to the pandemic, Middlesex will host several online events throughout February to commemorate Black History Month.

"In the face of the many challenges

our nation is facing, celebrating Black History causes the MCC community to reflect on the ideals that this country upholds of liberty and justices for all," said Dr. James Dottin, MCC's Department Chair of Business Administration & Economics and President/Chair of Faculty Staff Association. "We – the MCC community – play a part of making this world a better place for all people to live in peace and harmony no matter their color, gender, economic status or sexual identity."

Many of the events are hosted by MCC's Black History Month Steering Committee in partnership with the Office of Multicultural Affairs. With these events, the committee recognizes and celebrates the many achievements that African Americans have contributed to the country. By offering virtual platforms, they hope "many participate and learn with open hearts and minds."

"At MCC, we want people to understand that Black lives are about more than marches and martyrs," the Steering Committee said. "Black lives are not just heroic and tragic figures that we read about in the news or in history. There's a joyous complexity and diversity of everyday Black lives and communities that many people may not have heard of before, and MCC's Black History Month Steering Committee

strives to introduce people to those stories from our own community and beyond."

Follow the Leader: Recognizing Our Ancestors, Forging Our Own Paths will take place from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, February 1. The online presentation and discussion will look back on significant leaders of the past in African American history, their path to the present day, and the implications of identity politics and social structures in the African American community.

MCC will welcome guest lecturer Dr. Thomas L. Doughton, Senior Lecturer from the College of the Holy Cross Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 3. Dr. Doughton will present and lead a discussion that recognizes the history, diversity and multiplicity of "Strength in Diversity: New England People of Color."

Dr. Doughton specializes in the Holocaust, comparative genocide, Native American studies, local history and African American history. A former resident of Paris where he did graduate work, he takes Holy Cross students to Europe for a six-week summer course on alternate years and has led tours on New England's African American history for adults.

The event MLK & The Strength of Shared Dreams will take place from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10. Presenter Ron Jones for Dialogue on Diversity will lead a live character portrayal and video to highlight how Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Poor Peoples Campaign" was a turning point in intersectional advocacy.

An event featuring song, dance, spoken

word, poetry readings and Black history trivia entitled, Black Talent Showcase: The Journey will take place from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 17.

In celebration of MCC's 50 years as an institution, there will be an opportunity for Middlesex Black alumni, faculty and staff to discuss their experiences in shaping the college over the past 50 years. During the event – that will take place from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24 – they will also talk about where they see the college going in the next 50 years.

"Celebrating Black History Month 2021 as part of the college's 50th year anniversary is so fitting," Dr. Dottin said. "The many contributions that MCC African American faculty, staff and students have made – and continue to make – enrich the legacy of the college in striving for equity and inclusion for all."

To kick off the Spring 2021 season of "A World of Music Concert Series," faculty members from MCC's Music department will perform "Celebrating Black Composers from Europe, Africa, United States and South America." The concert – recorded at MCC's Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center – will air online at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, February 26.

Throughout the month, the podcast The Liturgists will offer a daily episode of "Black History is American History," highlighting Black public figures.

Visit <https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/internationalstudents/blackhistory.aspx> for more information on MCC events celebrating Black History Month throughout February.

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Lauren Brousseau Promoted to Director of Development and Corporate Communications at Home Health Foundation

Lauren Brousseau has been promoted to director of development and corporate communications at Home Health Foundation, a Lawrence-based nonprofit organization under the Wellforce health system which provides home health, palliative and hospice care in all the places patients call home.

In her new role, Brousseau will play a key strategic role in creating and executing the organization's philanthropy and overall communications strategies.

Home Health Foundation President and CEO Karen Gomes praised Brousseau's leadership and dedicated commitment.

"While our organization has been fortunate to benefit from Lauren's expertise for the past decade, she especially stepped up during the pandemic and led her team through some of the most challenging times that Home Health Foundation has ever faced," Gomes said. "They have supported our employees and patients with ever-evolving health and safety guidelines and successfully pivoted from large, in-person fundraisers to very successful virtual events. I am proud to support Lauren's continued professional development with this well-deserved promotion."

Brousseau joined Home Health Foundation in 2010 as development associate, responsible for connecting donors with ways of giving back including the Tribute Walkway, vehicle donation program, annual giving, gifts-in-kind and planned giving. During her subsequent five-year tenure as special events coordinator, Brousseau created the annual Spring Has Sprung and Legacy of Leading fundraising events while enhancing Candles of Remembrance and the Food, Wine and Beer Tasting and Silent Auction.

As development officer from 2016 to 2019, Brousseau established the Friends of Merrimack Valley Hospice auxiliary group and Corporate Partner Program, forging key relationships with corporate and individual donors. She also implemented the Grateful Patient program and Doorways, an employee-giving initiative which reached 53 percent participation prior to the pandemic.

In 2019, Brousseau was promoted to development and communications manager, supervising efforts to increase support from individuals, foundations, corporations and other sources. Now as director of the department, she oversees and assists in activities including external advertising campaigns, internal messaging



Lauren Brousseau has been promoted to director of development and corporate communications at Home Health Foundation, a Lawrence-based nonprofit organization which provides home health, palliative and hospice care in all the places patients call home. (Photo by Eric Redard Images/Capturing the Spirit)

and recruitment efforts while keeping board members and donors apprised and engaged in the agencies' activities and accomplishments.

Brousseau holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from UMass Lowell. She is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration from Fitchburg State University.

Brousseau said she is so dedicated to the healthcare profession because of the expert, compassionate care her own mother received before succumbing to cancer when Brousseau was a teenager. With donations raised from her wedding in 2014, Brousseau installed a brick in Anne Galimi's memory in the Tribute Walkway at High Pointe House, the hospice and palliative care residence in Haverhill operated by Merrimack Valley Hospice, which reads, "A true love story never ends."

"Through my work in philanthropy and communications, families tell me time and again how they wished they called hospice sooner because it gave them more quality time when their loved one was comfortable and at peace," Brousseau said. "That's why I'm doing my part to build awareness, so we can help more families benefit from hospice which has such a special place in my heart."

Brousseau lives in Dracut, Mass.

To learn more about Home Health Foundation services, or to arrange for care, contact the referral team at 800-333-4799 or visit homehealthfoundation.org.

Questions About Medicare?

Are you new to Medicare? On Thursday, February 11, at 10 a.m., learn the basics at "Medicare 101," presented virtually by the Nashua Public Library. Michelle Magarian will explain how it works: what it costs; when to enroll; the differences among Parts A, B, C, and D; and how to get help in choosing plans. She will also empower seniors to prevent health-care fraud.

Michelle is the Medicare coordinator for Hillsborough County ServiceLink

and is a certified state health insurance assistance counselor.

You must register to get an invitation to the virtual Zoom event. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/npllectures>. If you can't make it to the program at 10 a.m. on February 11, register anyway, and you'll receive a link to a recording of it.

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

Register Now for Nature Exploration Program for Kids

Are you a kid between the ages of 8 and 14? Are you also a nature lover? Then you'll want to join Nature Quest, a joint program between the Nashua Public Library and the Nashua River Watershed Association.

At Nature Quest, you'll study natural habitats, try out science experiments at home and visit local parks. You'll learn how water, land, plants and animals are related.

Nature Quest will be held on five Saturdays: February 6, March 6, April 3 and May 1. From 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. we'll meet virtually and then from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. we'll go on a guided adventure in a Nashua park. Together the group will create "Discover Nashua's Nature," a guide to be displayed in the library and online.

Registration is open now. Email stacey@nashuariverwatershed.org

"La ignorancia mata a los pueblos, y es preciso matar a la ignorancia"

"Ignorance kills people, and it is necessary to kill ignorance"

José Martí.

THIS WINTER, GET EDUCATION & SUPPORT
DURING OUR ZOOM SESSIONS WITH DEMENTIA EXPERT ALICIA SEAVER

Have You Heard How Our Virtual Education Sessions Can Help?

Join us on Zoom for virtual education with Alicia Seaver, Certified Memory Impairment Specialist, that can help ease the challenges of caring for a loved one with memory loss.

SAVE THE DATES

Winter Woes
Thursday, February 4 | 11 a.m.

Caring for the Caregiver
Thursday, February 18 | 11 a.m. or 7 p.m.

Dementia and Depression
Thursday, January 21 | 11 a.m. or 7 p.m.
Depression can be a common issue among people with dementia, and it can be worse in the winter season when days are colder and darker. Learn potential causes and ways to cope with your loved one's depression.

BridgesbyEPOCH.com

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.

CLASIFICADOS | CLASSIFIEDS

Aviso de Desarrollo del Programa de Mejoramiento del Transporte (AF) 2022 -2026 y el Programa de Trabajo de Planificación Unificado (AF) 2022 de la Organización de Planificación Metropolitana del Valle de Merrimack

La Comisión de Planificación del Valle de Merrimack está preparando las versiones preliminares del Programa de Mejoramiento del Transporte (TIP) año fiscal 2022-2026 y el Programa de Trabajo de Planificación Unificado (UPWP) (AF) 2022 de la Organización de Planificación Metropolitana del Valle de Merrimack (MVMPO).

El TIP es un documento del gobierno federal que programa la financiación de la construcción de transporte federal en la región. El TIP proporciona una breve descripción de cada proyecto de carreteras o tránsito, junto con estimaciones de costo y el año en que probablemente se anunciará para la construcción. Cualquier proyecto de transporte que utilice fondos de transporte federal debe estar en el TIP.

El UPWP presenta información sobre las actividades de planificación de transporte que se llevarán a cabo en la región de la MVMPO durante el próximo año fiscal federal (1 de Octubre del 2021 a 30 de Septiembre del 2022). La mayoría de estos análisis y estudios serán realizados por el personal de planificación de transporte de la Comisión de Planificación del Valle de Merrimack. Sin embargo, también se identifican y se describen brevemente otros estudios importantes que afectan a la región, incluyendo estudios realizados por otras organizaciones.

Las versiones preliminares de los documentos anteriores se publicarán para revisión pública y comentarios a finales de este año. Si tiene alguna sugerencia para proyectos/ estudios que se incluirán en el TIP o en el UPWP, comuníquese con Anthony Komornick, Gerente del Programa de Transporte de MVPC, al correo electrónico AKomornick@mvpc.org o al numero (978) 374-0519 antes del 1 de Marzo de 2021.

Este Aviso, esta preparado de acuerdo con el Plan de Participación Pública de la MPO del Valle de Merrimack, también cumple con los criterios del proceso de participación pública de la Autoridad de Tránsito Regional del Valle de Merrimack para el desarrollo de su Programa de Proyectos.

Las copias de las versiones anteriores de estos documentos se pueden encontrar en la página web de la MVPC: MVMPO 2021 - 2025 **Transportation Improvement Program; FFY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program;** o en las oficinas de la MVPC.

Notificación de Audiencias Públicas / Disponibilidad para Revisión y Comentarios

Por medio de este aviso se notifica la disponibilidad del siguiente enmiendas preliminar para revisión y comentarios del público:

• Proyecto de Enmiendas # 8 a # 15 a la MVMPO (AF) 2021-2025 Programa de Mejoramiento del Transporte (TIP) Febrero 2021

El TIP es un documento del gobierno federal que programa la financiación de transporte federal en la región. El TIP proporciona una breve descripción de cada proyecto de carreteras o tránsito, junto con estimaciones de costo y el año en que probablemente se anunciará para la construcción. Cualquier proyecto de transporte que utilice fondos de transporte federal debe estar en el TIP. Además, el Plan de Participación Pública de la MVMPO cumple con los criterios del proceso de participación pública de la Autoridad Regional del Tránsito del Valle de Merrimack para el desarrollo de su Programa de Proyectos.

Los documentos mencionados arriba están disponibles para revisión en la página web de la MVPC (www.mvpc.org) para el período de revisión de veintidós días (21) empezando el 3 de febrero del 2021 y finalizando el 23 de febrero del 2021.

El personal de la MVMPO aceptará comentarios por correo electrónico sobre los proyectos hasta el 23 de febrero del 2021. Los comentarios públicos deben ser enviados a: akomornick@mvpc.org.

Dos (2) Audiencias Públicas virtuales (VIRTUAL) sobre estos documentos se llevarán a cabo, uno en la tarde y otra por la noche:

Audiencias Públicas

Fecha: miércoles, febrero 17, 2021
 Horario: 1:00 pm a 2:00 pm Y 6:00 pm a 7:00 pm
 Lugar: En línea solamente a través de acceso virtual (VIRTUAL)

Consulte www.mvpc.org/news para instrucciones acerca de cómo participar en la reunión virtualmente

La MVMPO espera tomar medidas sobre los documentos anteriormente mencionados en su reunión a finales de febrero (consulte la página web www.mvpc.org hacia el final del período de revisión para ver las noticias recientes sobre la fecha de la reunión virtual (VIRTUAL) de la MPO. Invitamos a los miembros del público a acompañarnos en la reunión virtual (VIRTUAL). Las observaciones al documento preliminar también serán aceptadas por escrito o de forma oral en esta reunión. En el caso de que se recomienden nuevas enmiendas al documento, el mismo se publicará para revisión pública de acuerdo con el Plan de Participación Pública de la MVMPO. Después de su adopción por la MVMPO, el TIP será considerado como el programa final de los proyectos de la MVMPO.

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Happy Birthday Anthony ; Feliz Cumpleaños!

Este es Anthony Benjamin Rincon y recientemente cumplió 3 años. Sus padres son Ana Isabel Levy y Jaime Rincón.


Como ellos viven en Londres, sus abuelos Benjamin Levy y la Concejala de Lawrence, Ana Levy, no pudieron ir a celebrar con ellos, pero quieren hacerle saber cuánto lo extrañan.

This is Anthony Benjamin Rincon and he recently turned 3 years old. His parents are Ana Isabel Levy and Jaime Rincón.

Since they live in London, his grandparents Benjamin Levy and Lawrence City Councilor Ana Levy could not go and celebrate with them but they want to let him know how much they miss him.




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LEALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR RUMBO

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

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

Acting Mayor Vasquez is starting with the right foot

For several years I've been writing about city boards and commissions that are not able to meet lacking a quorum.

My criticisms of Dan Rivera have been plentiful through that time for not filling those posts. It is at those meetings where the real city business gets done.

People would often complain that these are voluntary positions without a stipend but the truth is that there are many individuals eager to be motivators of change.

Anyone interested in contributing to the city by being a member of a particular board or commission, would normally check on the city website and apply from there. The problem with the lack of transparency in Lawrence is that right now there are only 3 posted openings since March 2014.

Hopefully, we invite only honorable people to participate because you may hear about future city plans that, if you play your cards right (in a devious way, of course) you may pick up city properties that will be going out for bids before the general public finds out. We have found many people lacking integrity that started out on city boards and ended up millionaires. It's time for hard-working people in Lawrence to stand up and work for the common good.

But, I am very pleased to announce that Acting Mayor Kendrys Vasquez has done what was lacking for so long. He will be presenting to the City Council on Tuesday night, 12 names of candidates for three boards. He still has many more appointments to do but this is a good start.

When referencing that it is at these boards and commissions where the citizens' business is done, I suggest you take a look at the list and you'll see which decisions they handle. By not having effective boards and commissions the administration may make decisions affecting the city and residents, often in violation of the law.

Their meetings are the mechanism we have to vent our frustrations or get answers that councilors cannot provide.

I always suspected Rivera never made an effort to keep the Human Rights Commission functioning because most complaints were about the police department and he was very protective of them. In its latest years, the Human Rights Commission turned into a public relations branch of the police with Police Chief John Romero participating every week. Then, when he retired, he was honored with a plaque from the HRC for his good work. It turned out that the board was working for the police department.

Reinstating the Human Rights Commission is to our advantage, not just pointing fingers at cops, but landlord abuses, problems with insurance companies, inspectional services, etc.

Let's see if in his limited time in office Acting Mayor Kendrys Vasquez will bring back real government by the people and completes filling those posts.

List of Boards and Commissions

- Airport
- Board of Health
- Commission on Disability
- Conservation Commission
- Cultural Council
- Greater Lawrence Sanitary District
- Historical Commission
- Library Board of Trustees
- Licensing Board
- Prospect Hill Historical District Commission
- Redevelopment Authority
- Retirement Board
- School Building Commission

You can find information about each one of these organizations on the city's website, although it is ancient and some of those members have died long ago. At least, you can find out more about the requirements to apply.

You can find information about each one of these organizations on the city's website, although it is ancient and some of those members have died long ago. At least, you can find out more about the requirements to apply.

City Hall's revolving doors

Now that DPW Director Brian Peña left for a job in Andover, Who do you think will become the "Acting" director? I could have guessed it!

Franklin Miguel has been promoted to that position on an interim basis (you know that's only a front) even though he has no experience at it. If the city was really going to advertise the position in search of a real engineer, they should have named Lance Hamill. Lance works for the department and served as acting director for a long time when John Isensee left. John, although he was not an engineer, was knowledgeable, pleasant and never caused major problems or scandals for the city. I still think that Lance is not entitled to take a city vehicle home to New Hampshire at night but that's not my decision.

Even though logic tells me that Lance should have been leading that department, deep inside I knew that Franklin will be permanently appointed because he is tied to the waist of the acting mayor. They are like brothers and never go on vacation alone. No, nobody told me; they have the audacity of posting their vacation pictures on social media.

Do you think there will ever be justice for Lawrence taxpayers with all the political favors, nepotisms, etc? Qualified candidates need not apply.

A good example of how friends and relatives are hired here was when Maria De La Cruz insisted to the councilors that she wanted to be the new city clerk. I was so afraid that we would end up with her there! She doesn't even know what the job entails because she can't even write in English or Spanish to handle such a job. I know; I used to get press releases from her. She had to settle for a consolation prize at the hospital.

Former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich in Library Event

Millions of Americans have lost confidence in our political and economic system. With the characteristic clarity and passion that has made him a central civil voice, Robert B. Reich shows how wealth and power have interacted to install an elite oligarchy, eviscerate the middle class, and undermine democracy.

Join the Nashua Public and Newton Free Libraries on Thursday, February 11, at 7 p.m. for a conversation with Mr. Reich on his latest book, "The System: Who Rigged It, How We Fix It." Christopher Lydon, host of the original podcast, "Open Source," heard in Boston on WBUR, will moderate.



Photo Credit: Delaney Inamine

About Robert Reich

Reich is the chancellor's professor of public policy at the University of California at Berkeley and a senior fellow at the Blum Center. In the Clinton administration, he served as secretary of labor, for which Time named him one of the 10 most effective cabinet secretaries of the 20th century. He has written 18 books and is a founding editor of American Prospect, founder of Inequality Media, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a co-creator of award-winning documentaries.

Register for the event

Space in this virtual event is limited; register at tinyurl.com/npllectures. Login information will be sent on February 11,

Author and former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich

and registration will close at 5 p.m. that day.

Get the book

If you'd like to borrow "The System" from the library, reserve it at by going to nashualibrary.org and clicking catalog. If you would like to purchase a copy, email orders@newtonvillebooks.com and Newtonville Books will send you one with a bookplate signed by Robert Reich.

This program is made possible in partnership with the Newton Free Library.

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

When a fire occurs in Lawrence, usually many families are left homeless and in need of everything. Please contact Heal Lawrence if you wish to make a contribution to the victims. The website has a list of items and things that are needed as well as victims' names, ages, sizes, etc. but they suggest giving them gift cards to grocery stores and department stores in any denomination.

Quando un incendio ocurre en Lawrence, por lo regular muchas familias se quedan sin hogar y necesitados de todo. Favor de ponerse en contacto con Heal Lawrence si desea hacer una contribución a las víctimas. El sitio en la internet tiene una lista de artículos que necesitan así como nombres, edades, tallas, etc. de las víctimas pero ellos sugieren que les compren tarjetas de mercados o tiendas por departamentos de cualquier denominación.

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