



Insista a los concejales que hagan sus reuniones en la Cámara.

Insist to councilors they should meet in the Chambers.

Mayo/May 15, 2021

EDICIÓN NO. 767

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

Fiorentini nombra a Doherty Jefe Diputado de policía



El Alcalde James J. Fiorentini ha designado al veterano detective de la policía de Haverhill, Capitán Stephen J. Doherty Jr., como nuevo subjefe de policía de la ciudad. Pg. 2

Fiorentini Promotes Doherty to Deputy Police Chief

Mayor James J. Fiorentini has appointed veteran Haverhill Police Detective Captain Stephen J. Doherty Jr. to be the city's new Deputy Police Chief. Pg. 2

Declaración conjunta: El mandato de máscara sobre el transporte público sigue en vigor

Los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC), la Administración de Seguridad en el Transporte (TSA) y el Departamento de Transporte de los EE.UU. recuerdan al público viajero que en este momento, si viaja, aún debe usar una máscara en aviones, autobuses y trenes y otras formas de transporte público que viajan

hacia, dentro o fuera de los Estados Unidos, y en centros de transporte de los Estados Unidos, como aeropuertos y estaciones.

La guía de los CDC es clara en cuanto a que las personas completamente vacunadas pueden viajar sin peligro y pueden reanudar el viaje.

Joint Statement: Mask Mandate On Public Transportation Remains in Effect

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and the U.S. Department of Transportation remind the traveling public that at this time if you travel, you are still required to wear a mask on planes, buses, trains,

and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.

CDC guidance is clear that fully vaccinated people are safe to travel and can resume travel.

Women Working Wonders Fund (WWWF) Seeks Request for Proposals



The Women Working Wonders (WW) Fund is accepting grants for 2021. In 2020, WW awarded a \$10,000 grant to Lowell General Hospital's Cancer Center's to be used toward the purchase of breast boards. These devices are used to provide a comfortable prone position for women undergoing radiation therapy for breast cancer, which can also ensure a more accurate dose of targeted radiation.

The Women Working Wonders Fund (WWWF), a permanently endowed fund of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, requests proposals for this year's grant cycle that opens on May 13. The Women Working Wonders Fund announced earlier this year that funding has been increased to award five grants at \$10,000 each to program/projects that impact the lives of women and girls while advancing your organization's mission.

"As we enter into our 17th year, we have been fortunate to continue to grow our endowment and increased grant support to our community," said Susan West Levine, Women Working Wonders Fund board president. "COVID-19 has increased the needs of the community, the WWWF has responded by increasing the number of grants in 2021 to area nonprofits to help during this public health crisis."

WWWF provides annual grants in three key areas: assist women in transition, provide leadership development as well as contribute to the beautification of the environment. Started in 2004 by a group of 72 women who each gave \$500, the WW Fund has now grown to \$1.3 million. The

fund has granted more than \$240,000 to nonprofits supporting women and girls in the Greater Lowell area.

To apply for the 2021 Women Working Wonders Fund grant, visit www.glcfoundation.org. The deadline to submit an application is Thursday, June 17, 2021 at noon. For more information on the Women Working Wonders Fund, visit womenworkingwondersfund.com or contact womenworkingwondersfund@gmail.com.

Established in 1997, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) is a philanthropic organization comprised of more than 390 funds dedicated to improving the quality of life in 21 neighboring cities and towns. With financial assets of more than \$50 million, GLCF annually awards grants and scholarships to hundreds of worthy nonprofits and students. It is powered by the winning combination of donor-directed giving, personal attention from Foundation staff, and an in-depth understanding of local needs. The generosity of our donors has enabled the Community Foundation to award more than \$25 million to the Greater Lowell community.

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Cancel culture and Section 230

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El alcalde asciende a Doherty a subdirector de policía de Haverhill



El Alcalde James J. Fiorentini ha designado al veterano detective de la policía de Haverhill, Capitán Stephen J. Doherty Jr., como nuevo subjefe de policía de la ciudad.

Doherty, un veterano de 26 años del Departamento de Policía de Haverhill que comenzó como oficial auxiliar en 1995, sucede al exdiputado Anthony Haugh, quien se retiró el 31 de enero de 2021.

Doherty, que vive en Haverhill, tomó juramento en su nuevo cargo en una ceremonia en el auditorio del Ayuntamiento el jueves, 13 de mayo por la mañana. Meaghan Pare también prestará juramento como Capitán permanente en la misma ceremonia.

Doherty, vicepresidente del Sindicato de Superiores de Policía de Haverhill desde el 2008, se ha desempeñado como supervisor o gerencial durante 16 de sus aproximadamente 26 años en la aplicación de la ley.

Ha dirigido la División de Investigaciones de la Policía de Haverhill desde el 2018. Esa división incluye investigaciones generales, narcóticos y pandillas, fiscal de la corte, unidad de pruebas/propiedad, análisis de TI/delitos y asuntos de los medios de comunicación.

Mayor Promotes Doherty to Haverhill Deputy Police Chief

Mayor James J. Fiorentini has appointed veteran Haverhill Police Detective Captain Stephen J. Doherty Jr. to be the city's new Deputy Police Chief.

Doherty, a 26-year veteran of the Haverhill Police Department who began as an auxiliary officer in 1995, succeeds former Deputy Anthony Haugh, who retired on January 31, 2021.

Doherty, who lives in Haverhill, was sworn-in to his new position at a ceremony in the City Hall auditorium Thursday, May 13 in the morning. Meaghan Pare will also take the oath as a permanent Captain at the same ceremony.

Doherty, vice-president of the Haverhill Police Superiors Union since 2008, has served in a supervisory or management capacity for 16 of his approximately 26 years in law enforcement.

He has headed Haverhill's Police Investigative Division since 2018. That division includes general investigations, narcotics and gangs, court prosecutor, evidence/property unit, IT/crime analysis, and media affairs. Before that, Doherty was

Antes de eso, Doherty fue oficial de patrulla de Haverhill de 1998 al 2004.

Doherty es también el principal oficial de información pública del Departamento de Haverhill.

En su currículum, Doherty enfatizó sus habilidades en la construcción de asociaciones comunitarias, liderazgo y relaciones laborales "para enfocarse en un punto de vista comprometido con el servicio orientado a la comunidad".

"Mi formación académica, junto con mi diversa experiencia laboral, me permite aplicar teorías y principios sólidos de liderazgo/gestión a situaciones laborales diarias de una manera eficaz y eficiente", dijo Doherty en su currículum.

Doherty tiene una licenciatura y una maestría en ciencias en aplicación de la ley y administración de justicia penal del Western New England College.

El Departamento de Policía de Haverhill es un departamento de policía acreditado que atiende a una población de más de 63,000 residentes en un área urbana y rural mixta de 36 millas. Hay 110 oficiales juramentados y 21 empleados civiles en el Departamento de Policía de Haverhill.

a Haverhill patrol officer from 1998 to 2004.

Doherty is also the Haverhill Department's primary Public Information Officer.

In his resume, Doherty stressed his skills in community partnership building, leadership, and labor relations "to focus on a point of view that is committed to community-oriented service."

"My educational background, along with my diverse work experience, affords me the ability to apply sound leadership/management theories and principles to daily work situations effectively and efficiently," Doherty said in his resume.

Doherty has a bachelor's and Masters of Science degrees in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Administration from Western New England College.

The Haverhill Police Department is an accredited police department that serves a population of more than 63,000 residents in a 36-mile, mixed urban and rural area. There are 110 sworn officers and 21 civilian employees in the Haverhill Police Department.

Laplante exige cambios en una intersección mortal

El presidente del Concejo Municipal, Marc Laplante, exige que la Ciudad de Lawrence acelere una revisión de seguridad en la intersección de South Lawrence conocida como "Five Corners". Un accidente automovilístico a primera hora de la mañana del 30 de abril de 2021 en la intersección de Winthrop Avenue y South Union Street, que incluía una alta velocidad, se cobró trágicamente la vida de Gabriela Hernández, una residente de Lawrence de 25 años.

"Lo que sucedió ese jueves por la mañana fue impactante", dijo Laplante, cuyo distrito (Distrito F) abarca la intersección de las 5 Esquinas. "Un estudio financiado por la ciudad ha comenzado a evaluar opciones para mejorar esta intersección", agregó. "Esta revisión debe ser una prioridad y debe colocarse en la parte superior de cualquier lista".

"No pueden continuar más pérdidas de vidas o lesiones", continuó el presidente del Consejo.

El Departamento de Policía de Lawrence ha realizado varias operaciones de tráfico de 5 Corners para tomar medidas

enérgicas contra el exceso de velocidad y otras infracciones de tráfico. Desde el 1 de enero hasta el 15 de abril, la policía emitió 155 citaciones por infracciones de tránsito y en movimiento en esa intersección. En las dos primeras semanas de abril se emitieron 45 citaciones por exceso de velocidad.

"Está claro que la policía está haciendo esfuerzos para cambiar los comportamientos peligrosos al conducir en la zona, pero no es suficiente", dijo el concejal de la ciudad de ocho mandatos. "Los residentes están legítimamente preocupados por 5 Corners, pero se necesitará más que la presencia de la policía. Estoy ansioso por revisar e implementar las recomendaciones estructurales hechas por los ingenieros de tráfico y otros expertos".

La intersección de las 5 esquinas está ubicada en la intersección de South Union Street, Winthrop Avenue y Exeter Street.

Laplante patrocina este tema en la agenda del Ayuntamiento de Lawrence. Es el Concejal de la Ciudad del Distrito F y el Presidente del Concejo Municipal.

Laplante Demands Changes at Deadly Intersection

City Council President Marc Laplante is demanding that the City of Lawrence accelerate a safety review at the South Lawrence intersection known as "Five Corners." An April 30, 2021 early morning car crash at the intersection of Winthrop Avenue and South Union Street, which included a high rate of speed, tragically took the life of 25 year old Lawrence resident, Gabriela Hernandez.

"What happened on that early Thursday morning was shocking," said Laplante, whose district (District F) encompasses the 5 Corners intersection. "A city-funded study has begun to evaluate options to improve this intersection," he added. "This review must be a priority and placed on top of any list."

"Further loss of life or injury cannot continue," continued the Council President.

The Lawrence Police Department has conducted several 5 Corners traffic

operations to crack down on speeding and other traffic violations. From January 1 to April 15, Police issued 155 traffic and moving violation citations at that intersection. In the first two weeks of April, 45 citations were issued for speeding.

"It is clear that the police are making efforts to change dangerous driving behaviors in the area, but it is not enough," said the eight term city councilor. "Residents are rightfully concerned about 5 Corners, but it will take more than police presence. I am eager to review and implement the structural recommendations made by traffic engineers and other experts."

The 5 Corners intersection is located at the intersection of South Union Street, Winthrop Avenue, and Exeter Street.

Laplante is sponsoring this item on Lawrence City Council agenda. He is the District F City Councilor and City Council President.

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.

Rumbo

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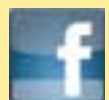
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POR DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Desde Mi Esquina



CARTAS AL EDITOR RUMBO

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Lawrence MA 01843
Email: Rumbo@rumbonews.com

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.

Anuncio importante

Tiro la toalla.

Hay momentos en los que perder una batalla es parte del proceso para planificar una estrategia diferente para seguir luchando, pero esta vez, ¡ya fue suficiente!

Durante los últimos 16 años, he estado escribiendo sobre Lawrence Community Access Television (LCAT) y que su estudio en Essex St. fue creado para el uso de cualquier lawrenciano interesado en producir programas locales. El propósito era llevar entretenimiento, noticias, información, educación, etc. a todos, pero prefieren mantener a nuestra comunidad ignorante.

Los suscriptores de Comcast y Verizon pagan en sus facturas mensuales de cable una cantidad que cubre los salarios y el equipo para administrar los canales de la comunidad local, el gobierno y las escuelas. LCAT no maneja las escuelas y su parte de lo que pagamos se destina por separado a las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence.

El martes realizaron una jornada invitando al público que Rumbo publicó mucho con la esperanza de que nuestros vecinos hicieran preguntas y, al parecer, ninguna de las personas que prometieron hacerlo, lo hizo esa noche.

Una cosa es obvia: a los lawrencianos les encanta el papel de víctimas. A lo largo de los años esperamos que el gobierno hiciera todo por nosotros y así obtener todo a cambio de nada. Está comprobado que los políticos no defienden nuestros derechos y no van a hacer nada al respecto, ni siquiera le preguntan a la junta directiva por qué no nos permiten usar el estudio. Lo peor de todo es que seguimos votando por ellos.

Se acercan las elecciones y, por primera vez, puede que deje mi boleta en blanco porque no veo a nadie que sea digno de mi voto. Mi conciencia estará tranquila sabiendo que tenía razón. Nunca hemos escuchado a ningún candidato mencionar LCAT y tampoco nadie les ha preguntado al respecto. Me acerqué a algunos de ellos solo para obtener promesas y no hacer nada; mientras tanto, seguimos pagando sin recibir lo que nos corresponde.

Entonces, en este día, 15 de mayo, en el 25 aniversario del establecimiento de Rumbo, puedo prometerles que renunciaré a mi lucha en LCAT porque esta comunidad no se lo merece.

Si a nadie le importa, a mí tampoco.

Cultura de cancelación y Sección 230

Para aquellos de nosotros que nos importa lo que sucede a nuestro alrededor, es muy preocupante lo que está sucediendo en este país. Hubo un tiempo en que nos enteramos de la cancelación de algo, resultó ser un programa de televisión y eso fue todo.

Hoy es todo; libros, películas, periódicos, redes sociales e incluso nuestros comentarios en vivo. Tenemos que vigilar atentamente lo que decimos porque podría resultar ofensivo o "hiriente" para otra persona. No puedo acostumbrarme a eso; Digo lo que pienso, nunca ofendo a nadie, pero está fuera de mi control lo que "ofende" a la gente hoy en día. Tengo mucho cuidado con lo que escribo en Facebook (la única red social que utilizo) porque depende de quién lo lea y cómo lo interpretarán los demás.

Una cosa es segura, quiero mi derecho

a decir lo que creo sin ser censurado por nadie más. Además, estamos protegidos por la Primera Enmienda de la Constitución que garantiza nuestro derecho a la libertad de expresión; por supuesto, hay límites.

También tenemos leyes que garantizan esos derechos y el Congreso está a cargo de eso, o solía estarlo.

Con la proliferación de las redes sociales, crearon la Sección 230 de la Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones (FCC) para proteger el libre intercambio de ideas y al mismo tiempo proteger a esas empresas de tecnología de ser demandadas por cualquier persona molesta por algo que se encuentra en esas plataformas. Esta protección estaba garantizada siempre y cuando no hubiera interferencia en el contenido, de lo contrario, el gobierno cancelaría ese acuerdo.

Durante los últimos años, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. (hay un millón de ellos) han eliminado entradas e incluso han cancelado personas debido a sus publicaciones. La gente pidió la eliminación

de la Sección 230, una parte de la ley estadounidense que protege a las empresas de tecnología de la responsabilidad legal. Esa medida permitirá a los usuarios demandar a esos sitios web.

El libre flujo de información es fundamental para la seguridad de nuestra República, como lo ilustra la libertad de expresión y de prensa en la 1ª Enmienda de nuestra Constitución. Censurar el habla y la expresión, distorsionar el habla, difundir desinformación por parte de funcionarios gubernamentales, entidades privadas y los medios de comunicación es un método para suprimir el libre flujo de información, una técnica tiránica utilizada en sociedades cerradas. Debemos contrarrestar esto en todos los frentes, comenzando por eliminar la protección de la Sección 230 de la gran tecnología.

Si a alguien no le gusta lo que tengo que decir, simplemente vaya a otro sitio. La cultura de la cancelación continuó su camino alegre sin cesar mientras el Congreso no tomaba ninguna medida.

“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

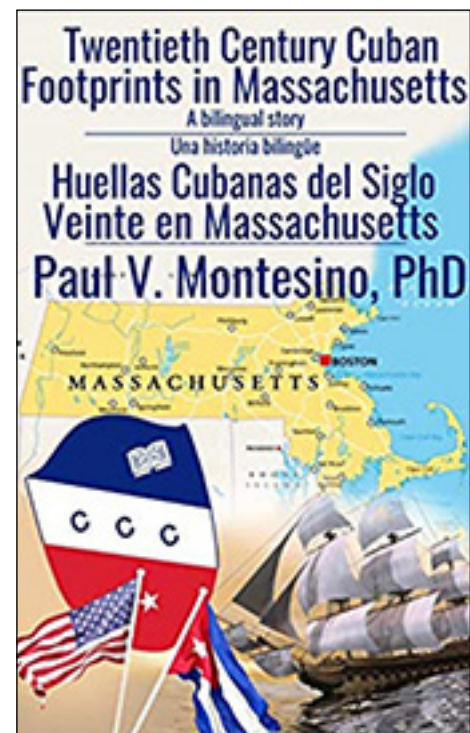
Nuevo libro sobre cubanos en Massachusetts

Paul V. Montesino, PhD. ha publicado la historia de cómo creció la población cubana en el estado en los años 60 y 70. Como resultado, creamos el Centro Cultural Cubano de Boston y, a principios de los ochenta, respondimos al éxodo del Mariel con ayudas a los arribos.

Su reciente publicación *Huellas Cubanas del Siglo Veinte en Massachusetts* es un libro electrónico Kindle bilingüe (inglés-español), un libro de bolsillo en letra normal y un libro de bolsillo en letra grande en Amazon.com que narra esos dos esfuerzos de nuestra comunidad.

Puede comprarlos a través de Amazon. La edición Kindle cuesta \$10; el libro de bolsillo impreso regular por \$15; y el libro de bolsillo impreso de gran tamaño por \$18.

El libro ha sido registrado en la Oficina de Derechos de Autor de la Biblioteca del Congreso y se han enviado copias a bibliotecas públicas de orientación cubana y en varias universidades.



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PUBLIC NOTICE – Virtual Meeting

Haverhill –Thursday, May 20 - The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission will hold its virtual online monthly meeting on Thursday, May 20 at 11:00 am. The agenda includes updates of the Commission's activities and is available at the MVPC website www.mvpc.org. For questions or details of this meeting contact Nancy Lavalley at nlavalley@mvpc.org.

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La destitución de la Jueza Abbe L. Ross

Entrevista con Pilar Maté

Por Dalia Díaz

En las últimas semanas cientos de personas en Massachusetts han visto circular la foto de esta madre en numerosas redes sociales. Ella es Pilar Maté quien, de la noche a la mañana, se ha convertido en el centro de atención mediático por hacer lo que hasta ahora nadie se había atrevido: Causar una auténtica revolución en el Probate & Family Court de Essex a través de su continuo apoyo al Proyecto de Ley presentado por el Representante Lenny Mirra para la destitución de la Jueza Abbe Ross.

Ross inicialmente fue nominada en 2014 por el entonces Gobernador Deval Patrick y comenzó a ejercer en el Condado de Suffolk.

Pilar Maté, nacida y criada en España, reside en EEUU desde 1993, es ciudadana americana desde el año 2012 y durante nuestra entrevista nos decía “siempre he confiado en el sistema judicial americano, pero después de mi experiencia, siento auténtica vergüenza de la inmensa falta de ética y de la completa desorganización que el estado de Massachusetts ejerce en las cortes de familia”.

Es sabido que en los últimos meses, numerosas quejas han surgido por parte de abogados que se han encontrado con continuos retrasos, impedimentos y comportamientos sospechosos al archivar documentación para sus clientes. “Es un problema sistémico, no hay una sola persona responsable de este circo, sino un conjunto de organismos y departamentos que se niegan a ejercer con transparencia y equidad. Si los juzgados funcionaran como un reloj y los jueces no cometieran atrocidades, habría menos necesidad de hacer uso de abogados, quienes son los primeros en presenciar las injusticias que acaecen en el juzgado de familia, así como el comportamiento abusivo de algunos jueces. Por miedo a ser desfavorecidos en futuros casos, prefieren agachar la cabeza y callar ante estas injusticias. La propia Comisión de Conducta Judicial decide mirar a otro lado cuando reciben continuas quejas de un juez; no les interesa reconocer que hay un problema porque al hacerlo estarían abiertamente admitiendo que el sistema no funciona, que no protege los derechos constitucionales y civiles de los ciudadanos. Es vergonzoso pero hay muchos intereses políticos y económicos de por medio”.

Rumbo publicó la historia de Pilar el 15 de Marzo este año y más de 1,500 personas lo han visto hasta la fecha.

La bomba estalló con la publicación de un artículo sobre el proyecto de ley en Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly que tiene por lo menos siete mil abogados y jueces suscritos. En respuesta y en absoluto estado de pánico, días después ha salido a la luz una carta iniciada y promulgada por la abogada Amy Hubbard, íntima amiga de Abbe Ross, recaudando firmas de otros abogados en apoyo a la jueza. No sabemos si la jueza pidió a estos abogados que firmasen o si la iniciativa salió de su amiga Mrs. Hubbard.

En cualquier caso es una violación de los cánones éticos de conducta judicial el mostrar favoritismo e imparcialidad en un caso como este.

La pregunta que todos nos hacemos es ¿qué sucederá con todos los casos que estén en manos de Abbe Ross y el abogado representante de una de las partes haya

firmado esa carta de apoyo?

“Creo que firmando esa carta de apoyo, han abierto la caja de Pandora para especular con que actos de favoritismo e imparcialidad, así como pactos por debajo de la mesa y corrupción, ocurren diariamente en nuestros juzgados de familia”, explica Pilar. “Éticamente, todos los abogados que han firmado dicha carta, deberían de haberse mantenido al margen, pero hay muchos intereses económicos de por medio y desgraciadamente el BBO (Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers) mira para otro lado y pretende no saber nada de lo que está ocurriendo”.

Maté tuvo custodia de su hija mayor hasta la edad de 8 años. El 11 de Agosto del 2017 fue asaltada por el padre de su hija en un estacionamiento mientras la perseguía con su celular grabando y provocando un incidente que resultó en el arresto de Maté. Inmediatamente, el padre utilizó esto en Octubre del 2017 para conseguir una orden temporal de custodia absoluta con la jueza Randy Kaplan, poniendo a la madre en visitas supervisadas por 2 horas a la semana.

Kaplan quería tener la seguridad de que la niña estaba bien con el padre debido a múltiples acusaciones de la menor de que el padre la forzaba a producir videos para luego usarlos en el juzgado. Citó a las dos partes 9 semanas más tarde para evaluar cómo la pequeña estaba con el padre, pero lamentablemente el caso había pasado a manos de Abbe Ross, quien optó por lo fácil manteniendo todo igual, en vez de familiarizarse con el caso y leerse el archivo de 8 años con más de 300 páginas.

Meses más tarde, durante el juicio criminal de la madre, el padre hizo uso de la Quinta Enmienda, básicamente admitiendo que aquel día 11 de Agosto del 2017 estaba cometiendo un crimen. Todos los cargos criminales de Pilar Maté fueron eliminados. Sin embargo, ella ya había perdido a su hija en el juzgado de familia.

Abbe Ross otorgó 4 días de juicio en 2019 a ambas partes para decidir la custodia de la pequeña. Durante el juicio, varios testigos participaron en apoyo de la madre: Una Guardian Ad Litem, que había hecho 2 investigaciones, la pediatra de la menor, junto con su terapeuta y 3 supervisores de las visitas. Así mismo se presentaron las declaraciones de la niña a través de DCF y un informe psiquiátrico de la niña. Todos concluían que la niña no quería vivir con su padre y que estaba traumatizada por los cientos de videos que el padre la forzaba a fabricar para poder acusar a la madre.

Algo importante de mencionar es el hecho de que Harvard Vanguard Atrius Health, la institución médica a la que asistía la niña para ver a su pediatra, se vio en la obligación de suspender el cuidado de la pequeña en cuanto el padre obtuvo custodia ya que el personal médico de pediatría empezó a recibir amenazas constantes por parte de él. Tras un primer aviso formal a través de una carta dirigida al padre, y viendo que las amenazas, en lugar de desaparecer, se hicieron más agresivas, la niña perdió al pediatra que la había tratado desde la edad de 2 años.

La terapeuta que trató a la niña por un período de dos años también fue eliminada en cuanto el padre obtuvo custodia.

“Lo primero que hace alguien cuando quiere manipularte, es aislarte”, me dijo. Eso es exactamente lo que el padre



hizo, eliminó el círculo completo de la pequeña donde tenía una voz y comenzó a borrar progresivamente la presencia de la madre en la vida de la niña, denegándole visitas supervisadas y no informándola de absolutamente nada de lo que ocurría en la vida de la niña durante todos estos años.

La sentencia del juicio salió en Mayo del 2019, acabando completamente con la figura de la madre en la vida de la niña y otorgando todos los derechos de custodia legal y física al padre. “Tenía dos opciones: rendirme, suicidarme, abandonar... O luchar con uñas y dientes por recuperar a mi hija y por obtener justicia. No lo dudé un minuto”.

Fue en dicho momento cuando Pilar Maté comenzó una insaciable búsqueda de otras víctimas del mal hacer de Abbe Ross. “No sé ni como no perdí mi trabajo, porque he de confesar que me pasaba al menos 15 horas al día investigando y contactando con posibles víctimas de Abbe Ross. Fue un proceso muy largo y de mucho esfuerzo emocional”, dijo enfáticamente.

Finalmente pudo reunir un grupo con múltiples similitudes en cuanto a cómo Abbe Ross había obviado por completo el testimonio de todos los testigos de una de las partes, de cómo había tergiversado y mentido en toda la sentencia, y de cómo

había eliminado por completo a uno de los dos bandos. El grupo presentó cientos de quejas con la Comisión de Conducta Judicial, algunas de las cuales llevaron a una investigación.

Contactaron a sus representantes estatales: “Hicimos ruido, mucho ruido... Y finalmente, con el apoyo del Representante Lenny Mirra obtuvimos un Bill of Address –o Proyecto de Ley– para la destitución de Abbe Ross. A partir de entonces, tanto Rep. Mirra como el grupo, no han parado de recibir constantes emails y llamadas de más víctimas. En parte es alentador, porque te das cuenta de que no estás sola, y que tendrás más personas testificando, pero por otro lado es triste el saber que tantas vidas han sido destrozadas, que tantos niños han sido apartados de sus padres o hermanos. Y no hay dinero en el mundo que pueda devolverte todos los momentos que has perdido junto a un hijo, jamás podré tener recompensa alguna que me devuelva lo que Ross nos quitó a mí y a mis hijas”.

Actualmente, la oficina del Representante Estatal Lenny Mirra continúa recolectando cientos de cartas diariamente en apoyo al Proyecto de Ley y en unos meses un comité será asignado al Proyecto de Ley para dar a las víctimas la oportunidad de testificar.

Si usted ha sido víctima de Abbe Ross o quiere apoyar esta causa, por favor escriba a: Victimsofabbeross@gmail.com

The removal of Judge Abbe L. Ross

An interview with Pilar Maté

By Dalia Diaz

In recent weeks hundreds of people in Massachusetts have seen the photo of this mother circulate on numerous social networks. She is Pilar Maté who, overnight, has become the center of media attention for doing what until now no one had dared: Cause a real revolution at Essex's Probate & Family Court through her ongoing support for the Bill presented by Representative Lenny Mirra for the removal of Judge Abbe Ross.

Ross was initially nominated in 2014 by then-Governor Deval Patrick and began practicing in Suffolk County.

Pilar Maté, born and raised in Spain, resides in the United States since 1993, has been an American citizen since 2012 and during our interview, she told us "I have always trusted the American judicial system, but after my experience, I am truly ashamed of the immense lack of ethics and of the complete disorganization that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts exercises in the family courts".

It is known that in recent months, numerous complaints have arisen from lawyers who have encountered continuous delays, impediments, and suspicious behavior in filing documentation for their clients. "It is a systemic problem, there is not a single person responsible for this circus, but a set of agencies and departments that refuse to exercise transparency and fairness. If the courts ran like clockwork and the judges did not commit atrocities, there would be less need for lawyers, who are the first to witness the injustices that occur in family court, as well as the abusive behavior of some judges. For fear of being disadvantaged in future cases, they prefer to bow their heads and remain silent in the face of these injustices. The Commission on Judicial Conduct itself decides to look the other way when they receive continuous complaints about a judge; they are not interested in recognizing that there is a problem because by doing so they would be openly admitting that the system does not work, that it does not protect the constitutional and civil rights of citizens. It is shameful but there are many political and economic interests involved".

Rumbo published Pilar's story on March 15 of this year and more than 1,500 people have seen it to date.

The bomb exploded with the publication of an article about the bill in the Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly with at least seven thousand subscribed lawyers and judges. In response and no state of panic, days later a letter initiated and promulgated by attorney Amy Hubbard, a close friend of Abbe Ross, has come to light, collecting signatures from other attorneys in support of the judge. We do not know if the judge asked these lawyers to sign or if the initiative came from her friend Mrs. Hubbard.

In any case, it is a violation of the ethical canons of judicial conduct to show favoritism and impartiality in a case like this.

The question we all ask ourselves is what will happen to all the cases that are in the hands of Abbe Ross and the lawyer representing one of the parties who has signed that letter of support?

"I believe that by signing that letter of support, they have opened a Pandora's Box to speculate that acts of favoritism

and impartiality, as well as pacts under the table and corruption, occur daily in our family courts," explains Pilar. "Ethically, all the lawyers who have signed this letter should have remained on the sidelines, but there are many economic interests involved and unfortunately the BBO (Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers) looks the other way and pretends not to know anything about what it's happening".

Maté had custody of her eldest daughter until the age of 8. On August 11, 2017, she was assaulted by the father of her daughter in a parking lot while he was chasing her with her cell phone recording and causing an incident that resulted in Maté's arrest. Immediately, he used this incident in October 2017 to secure a temporary full custody order with Judge Randy Kaplan, putting her mother on supervised visitation for 2 hours a week.

Kaplan wanted to make sure the girl was okay with the father due to multiple allegations by the minor that the father forced her to produce videos for later use in court. He called the two parties 9 weeks later to assess how the little girl was with the father, but unfortunately, the case had passed into the hands of Abbe Ross, who opted for the easy thing keeping everything the same, instead of familiarizing herself with the case and reading the 8-year archive with more than 300 pages.

Months later, during the criminal trial of her mother, the father made use of the Fifth Amendment, basically admitting that that day August 11, 2017, he was committing a crime. All of Pilar Maté's criminal charges were dropped. However, she had already lost her daughter in family court.

Abbe Ross granted 4 days of trial in 2019 to both parties to decide custody of the little girl. During the trial, several witnesses participated in support of the mother: a Guardian Ad Litem, who had done 2 investigations, the minor's pediatrician, together with her therapist, and 3 supervisors of the visits. Likewise, the girl's statements were presented through DCF and a psychiatric report on the girl. They all concluded that the girl did not want to live with her father and that she was traumatized by the hundreds of videos that her father forced her to make to accuse her mother.

Something important to mention is the fact that Harvard Vanguard Atrius Health, the medical institution that the girl attended to see her pediatrician, was forced to suspend the child's care as soon as the father obtained custody since the pediatric medical staff began to receive constant threats from him. After a first formal notice through a letter addressed to her father and seeing that the threats, instead of disappearing, became more aggressive, the girl lost the pediatrician who had treated her since the age of 2 years.

The therapist who treated the girl for two years was also removed as soon as her father obtained custody.

"The first thing someone does when he wants to manipulate you is to isolate you," she told me. That is exactly what the father did, he eliminated the complete circle of the little girl where she had a voice and began to progressively erase the presence of the mother in the life of the girl, denying her supervised visits and not informing her of



absolutely anything of what was happening in the girl's life for all these years.

The judgment of the trial came out in May 2019, completely ending the figure of the mother in the girl's life and granting all the rights of legal and physical custody to her father. "I had two options: surrender, commit suicide, abandon... Or fight tooth and nail to get my daughter back and to obtain justice. I didn't hesitate for a minute".

It was at that moment that Pilar Maté began an insatiable search for other victims of Abbe Ross's wrongdoing. "I don't even know how I didn't lose my job, because I have to confess that I spent at least 15 hours a day investigating and contacting possible victims of Abbe Ross. It was a very long process and a lot of emotional effort," she said emphatically.

She was finally able to assemble a group with multiple similarities as to how Abbe Ross had completely ignored the testimony of all the witnesses for one of the parties, how he had misrepresented and lied throughout the sentence, and how he had eliminated one of both sides. The group filed hundreds of complaints with the Judicial

Conduct Commission, some of which led to an investigation.

They contacted their state representatives: "We made noise, a lot of noise ... And finally, with the support of Representative Lenny Mirra, we obtained a Bill of Address - or Bill - for the removal of Abbe Ross. Since then, both Rep. Mirra and the group have not stopped receiving constant emails and calls from more victims. In part, it is encouraging, because you realize that you are not alone and that you will have more people testifying, but on the other hand, it is sad to know that so many lives have been shattered, that so many children have been taken away from their parents or siblings. And no money in the world can give you back all the moments you have lost with a child, I will never be able to have any reward that gives me back what Ross took from me and my daughters".

Currently, the office of State Representative Lenny Mirra continues to collect hundreds of letters daily in support of the Bill, and in a few months, a committee will be assigned to the Bill to allow victims to testify.

If you have been a victim of Abbe Ross or want to support this cause, please write to: Victimsofabbeross@gmail.com

"Obstáculos son las cosas que una persona ve cuando no sigue su meta."

"Obstacles are things a person sees when he takes his eyes off his goal."

- E. Joseph Cossman

The intimate and financial relationship between some attorneys and judges at the expense of their own clients purse and personal gain of their own

On April 29, 2021 a group of 62 Attorneys wrote a letter disputing an article in Lawyers Weekly published April 15, 2021 regarding a Bill of Address currently in the Massachusetts House of Representatives known as HD-2881, To Remove Judge Abbe L. Ross of the Salem Probate and Family Court and from the Bench completely in Massachusetts due to her extreme Bias and not being able to be impartial on countless of cases. Her actions from the Bench have harmed countless Families in the Commonwealth, placed Children in Danger and destroyed families forever.

Upon further review of this very strange support letter penned by 62 attorneys openly violating the Attorney's Code of Conduct SJC 3:07 and the Judicial Code of Conduct SJC 3:09, for Judges. The Attorneys who endorsed the open letter of Support not only have cases before Judge Ross currently, but are seeking Judicial Favoritism for Future Rulings by Openly Supporting Judge Ross who deliberately harmed their own clients to which Monies were exchanged in the tens of thousands of dollars. This is a Total Sellout of their own Clients who pay them hundreds of dollars per hour.

There is a direct connection to these attorneys and a monetary exchange not only between their own Clients who became second to their quest, evidenced

by the support letter and in violation of the S.J.C. Rule 3:07 Massachusetts Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys, but to Gain Judicial Favoritism with Judge Ross who they knowingly Chooses Sides in her Bias Rulings from the Bench. Some of the Named Attorneys served as Master Counsel's for Judge Ross at the expense of either the Plaintiff or Defendant in her cases. This Monetary payoff for being a Good Solder of Judge Ross of can amount to over \$10,000 per assignment, this could easily be over \$200,000.00 a year to any attorney in her Favor. (Evidence shows).

The mere fact that Attorneys are supposed to be an "Officer of the Court" and point out any corruption in the system, have now become part of It for personal and financial gain at the expense of the Public and their own clients purse. This also supports the Removal of Any Judge participating in such Corruption, in particular Judge Abbe L. Ross of the Salem Probate and Family Court and the Attorneys who condone this egregious behavior, as indicated in the letter of Support April 29, 2021 to Lawyers Weekly.

This is Corruption at the Highest Level and MUST be investigated by the SJC, BBO, CJC and the Attorney General of Massachusetts Immediately.

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT RULES

Rules of Professional Conduct
Supreme Judicial Court Rules
Rules of Professional Conduct:
Preamble: A lawyer's responsibilities

1. A lawyer is a representative of clients, an officer of the legal system, and a public citizen having special responsibility for the quality of justice.

5. As a public citizen, a lawyer should seek improvement of the law, the administration of justice, and the quality of service rendered by the legal profession. As a member of a learned profession, a lawyer should cultivate knowledge of the law beyond its use for clients, employ that knowledge in reform of the law, and work to strengthen legal education. A lawyer should be mindful of deficiencies in the administration of justice and of the fact that the poor, and sometimes persons who are not poor, cannot afford adequate legal assistance, and should therefore devote professional time and civic influence in their behalf. A lawyer should aid the legal profession in pursuing these objectives and should help the bar regulate itself in the public interest.

6. Many of a lawyer's professional

responsibilities are prescribed in the Rules of Professional Conduct, as well as in substantive and procedural law. However, a lawyer is also guided by personal conscience and the approbation of professional peers. A lawyer should strive to attain the highest level of skill, to improve the law and the legal profession, and to exemplify the legal profession's ideals of public service.

11. The legal profession's relative autonomy carries with it special responsibilities of self-government. The profession has a responsibility to assure that its regulations are conceived in the public interest and not in furtherance of parochial or self-interested concerns of the bar. Every lawyer is responsible for observance of the Rules of Professional Conduct. A lawyer should also aid in securing their observance by other lawyers. Neglect of these responsibilities compromises the independence of the profession and the public interest which it serves.

12. Lawyers play a vital role in the preservation of society. The fulfillment of this role requires an understanding by lawyers of their relationship to our legal system. The Rules of Professional Conduct, when properly applied, serve to define that relationship.

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La División de Salud Pública de Nashua ofrece pruebas de ETS, VIH y VHC.



MIÉRCOLES

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
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(2 Court St., Nashua)
No Necesitas Cita

JUEVES

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Lamprey Health Care
(22 Prospect St., Nashua)
¡Incluye examen con una Enfermera Practicante!
Registro: bit.ly/STD-HIV-HCV-Clinic

VIERNES*

*Cada Otro Viernes
Consulte nuestra pagina de internet para obtener actualizaciones.
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Laton House
(28 Railroad Sq., Nashua)
No Necesitas Cita

Haverhill News

Mayor Announces Second Weekend Vaccine Clinic Targeting Minorities, Young People

Following up on its successful first weekend vaccine clinic targeting the Hispanic community and high school students 16 and older, Haverhill will host a second, similar clinic May 23 from 11-3 at the AmVets function hall at 576 Primrose St., Mayor James J. Fiorentini has announced.

Led by the Haverhill Latino Coalition and organized by Mayor Fiorentini, community leaders and volunteers made hundreds of phone calls and knocked on doors in the city's densely packed Mount Washington and Arce neighborhoods to promote the first May 2 weekend clinic and educate residents about the safety and importance of the vaccine in ending the COVID-19 pandemic. The city also marketed the event with social media posts and videos.

"Our efforts led to a very successful Sunday clinic, serving over 80 people," Manny Matias, President of the Haverhill Latino Coalition, said of the May 2 clinic. "The Haverhill Latino Coalition and the Mayor understand that you have to get down to that very grassroots level, understand what communities need, listen to those local members and meet them where they are."

The clinic, run by the Curative health care company and overseen by the state Department of Public Health, had planned to offer second shots of the Pfizer vaccine May 23 to Haverhill residents and workers who received their first shot May 2. But due to the success of the first clinic, the site will also be offering first shots on a walk-in basis on May 23.

"This effort was a total success in serving people of color who continue to lag behind in vaccination rates," said Mayor Fiorentini, noting 86 Haverhill residents and workers were vaccinated at the May 2 clinic.

Curative also hosts a Vaccine clinic every weekday at the AmVets location from 10-2 through a mix of vouchers available at the mayor's office and walk-in appointments. Because the site offers the Pfizer vaccine, which is for anyone 16 and older, the city has also been promoting the site as the place for young people to get vaccinated.

The upcoming May 23 clinic was arranged on the heels of Gov. Baker's recent announcement that the state vaccine strategy is beginning a new phase with increased reliance on public outreach and smaller, local vaccination sites rather than massive state sites.

"We have successfully responded to the recent dip in demand for the vaccine by reaching out to the community, especially the Latino community, and vaccinating 86 people on Sunday May 2," Mayor Fiorentini said. "Especially encouraging was the number of young people including 16- and 17-year-olds who came to the event to be vaccinated."



By Jim Fiorentini
Mayor

In recognition of National Nurses Week, I treated our nurses at the Haverhill Citizen's Center Vaccine Clinic to pizza! Mary Connolly and her team do a great job. Thank you nurses!

Left to right: Mayor James Fiorentini, Pam Nolin, Mary Connolly, Cindy Guilbert, Roberta DelRosso.



¿Estas interesado en vacunarte contra el Covid19?

¡Ahora estamos más cerca de ti!

Domingo, Mayo 23, 2021

11:00AM- 3:00PM

576 Primrose Street, Haverhill

(Salón de Eventos de Amvets)

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No se requiere cita previa

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Moisés Sánchez

Un Soberano del Grammy al Galardón - A Sovereign Grammy Award

Por Sixto Bussi

El pianista, arreglista y productor musical Moisés Sánchez, fue reconocido por Premios El Galardón 2021, como el productor musical más influyente, en la categoría Galardón Internacional. Esta premiación es organizada por la Academia Cristiana de Cronistas de Arte (ACCRA). La estatuilla fue entregada por Bonny Cepeda y Danny Ramírez Fortunato, viceministro de cultura y presidente de Premios El Galardón, respectivamente.

Previo a esta premiación, Moisés Sánchez había sido galardonado con un Latin Grammy 2020, como Ingeniero de Mezcla y Mastering, por su participación en el álbum "Ahora", de Eddy Herrera, en el cual produjo cuatro temas, además de grabar y masterizar en el mismo. "Ahora", fue premiado por el Latin Grammy en la categoría Mejor Álbum de Merengue y/o Bachata.

El trabajo, calidad e innovación de Moisés Sánchez, también ha sido valorado por el más importante premio del espectáculo en República Dominicana, con una nominación a Premios Soberano 2021, como orquestador y/o arreglista del año.

Asimismo, Los Latin Show reconocieron a Moisés Sánchez por la producción del tema "Ganas Locas", interpretado por Eddy Herrera y Karen Lizarazo, el cual resultó ganador como



mejor canción tropical. Latin Show es la premiación más importante del espectáculo en Colombia. En su más reciente edición también estuvieron nominados Carlos Vives, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Gloria Estefan y Grupo Niche, entre otros.

By Sixto Bussi

The pianist, arranger, and music producer Moisés Sánchez was recognized by Premios El Galardón 2021, as the most influential music producer, in the

International Award category. This award is organized by the Christian Academy of Art Chroniclers (ACCRA). The statuette was presented by Bonny Cepeda and Danny Ramírez Fortunato, vice minister of culture and president of Premios El Galardón, respectively.

Before this award, Moisés Sánchez had been awarded a 2020 Latin Grammy, as Mixing and Mastering Engineer, for his participation in the album "Now", by Eddy Herrera, in which he produced four songs, in addition to recording and mastering in the same. "Now" was awarded by the Latin Grammy in the category Best Merengue and /or Bachata Album.

The work, quality, and innovation of Moisés Sánchez have also been valued by the most important show award in the Dominican Republic, with a nomination for Soberano Awards 2021, as orchestrator and /or arranger of the year.

Likewise, the Latin Show recognized Moisés Sánchez for the production of the song "Ganas Locas", performed by Eddy Herrera and Karen Lizarazo, which was the winner as the best tropical song. Latin Show is the most important show award in Colombia. In its most recent edition, Carlos Vives, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Gloria Estefan, and Grupo Niche, among others, were also nominated.



La mejor atención del cáncer en Nueva Inglaterra está ahora en Merrimack Valley.



Dana-Farber está aquí para usted.

El cáncer no es fácil. Pero puede ser más llevadero con la atención y el sistema de apoyo adecuados cerca de su hogar. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, el mejor centro de Nueva Inglaterra para el tratamiento del cáncer, tiene un nuevo centro oncológico de vanguardia en Merrimack Valley. Usted merece tener acceso a terapias de avanzada, a estudios clínicos y a la pericia de nuestros especialistas. Aproveche el renombre del líder en la atención del cáncer allí donde usted vive.



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Lawrence Partnership announces grant to help area food businesses meet digital demand

As part of state initiative, the Digital Optimization Program will provide businesses with digital expertise, new websites, social media support and food ordering technology



The Lawrence Partnership has been awarded a \$250,000 grant from the Baker-Polito Administration for a pilot program that will help area food service businesses increase their digital business capacity so that they survive the pandemic and are positioned for long-term success.

The Digital Optimization Program will provide businesses access to free or subsidized digital technology tools, including new or enhanced websites, social media programs, contactless technology, customer management systems (CMS), financial management systems, and online ordering systems. In addition, the businesses will have access to food-based industry workshops and individual consultations with digital experts.

Open to independently-owned food based businesses in Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, Andover, North Andover and Boston, the program is a collaboration of the Lawrence Partnership, Groundwork Lawrence, Commonwealth Kitchen, ReThink Restaurants, Essex County Community

Foundation, and Merrimack Valley Business Relief Coalition.

Its goals are to help businesses identify and leverage technologies that strengthen their financial and operational fundamentals; identify, attract and retain new markets and customers; and pivot their model to offer innovative products and services, while positioning themselves to be more profitable.

“As consumers, we turn to our phones and computers to find the hottest new restaurant, make reservations or order take-out. But not all businesses are equipped to take advantage of that online experience,” said Derek Mitchell, executive director of The Lawrence Partnership. “The Digital Optimization Program is meant to level the playing field by offering food entrepreneurs the insight and the tools to meet their customers where they are, and to achieve business success.”

“Small businesses are at the center of local economies and will be key to the Commonwealth’s recovery from this pandemic, and we are pleased to provide resources to regional solutions to short-term

challenges,” said Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kennealy. “The pandemic has forced many small business owners to be creative to continue serving customers, and this grant to the Lawrence Partnership will help food-based Merrimack Valley businesses gain digital knowledge and harness the power of technology.”

“In 2021 it is essential for businesses to set up their digital infrastructure,” said Lawrence Mayor Kendrys Vásquez. “This grant will give us the ability to do just that. We thank Mike Kennealy for visiting Lawrence and are looking forward to not only the grant but this collaboration between Housing and Business Development and the Lawrence Partnership.”

“Family-run, micro businesses are the backbone of the Merrimack Valley. As our restaurants were just finally recovering from the Columbia Gas crisis, they were hit with a second crisis, Covid,” said Representative Christina Minicucci. “Our community partners from all sectors came together to create innovative programming that allowed our businesses to keep their doors open, keep employees on staff, and support food

security initiatives across the region. As we begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel, this coalition is committed to usher our restaurants through recovery and build resiliency along the way.”

The Digital Optimization Program funding was one of more than 35 grants issued to cities, towns, and non-profit entities through the Regional Pilot Project Grant Program. This program was es-tablished to support recovery solutions based on the specific economic needs of individual regions of the Commonwealth and was designed to fund projects that uniquely address local concerns.

About The Lawrence Partnership

The Lawrence Partnership was launched in 2014 by leaders from local businesses, area banks, nonprofits, educational and healthcare institutions, and government, all committed to building a resilient, inclusive and equitable local economy. Always guided by a people-first strategy, the Partnership develops and implements initiatives that support small businesses, foster leadership and grow the workforce in Lawrence.

Vacuna contra el COVID-19: Segura y Eficaz

Únase a los millones de personas que ya se han vacunado.

La Vacuna contra el COVID-19 se desarrolló de forma segura.



- ✓ Para crear la vacuna contra el COVID, se siguieron las mismas medidas de seguridad que se usan para todas las otras vacunas.
- ✓ Miles de personas participaron en los ensayos clínicos para demostrar que la vacuna es segura y eficaz.

La Vacuna pudo desarrollarse rápidamente porque:

- ✓ Cuando comenzó la pandemia, los científicos ya habían estudiado otros virus similares durante más de 20 años, y eso les dio una ventaja inicial para crear esta vacuna.
- ✓ Las compañías comenzaron a producir la vacuna con anticipación para garantizar su distribución inmediata después de la aprobación.



PROGRAME SU CITA
mass.gov/CovidVaccine



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

La **VACUNA SALVA VIDAS**



Elder Services se adjudicó un contrato para aumentar el acceso a la vacuna COVID-19

Los Servicios para Personas Mayores de Merrimack Valley y North Shore fue una de las 25 organizaciones comunitarias que recibieron fondos como parte de la Iniciativa de Equidad de Vacunas de Massachusetts para aumentar la conciencia y el acceso a la vacuna COVID-19 en las 20 ciudades y pueblos más afectados por la pandemia.

Los contratos son parte de la inversión de la Administración Baker-Polito de \$27.4 millones en fondos federales anunciada en marzo.

“Con la llegada de las vacunas COVID-19, hemos albergado clínicas de vacunación y apoyamos a las clínicas de nuestros socios comunitarios para asegurarnos de que se vacunen tantas personas como sea posible”, dijo la directora ejecutiva de Elder Services, Joan Hatem-Roy. “Este contrato nos permite expandir ese trabajo en las áreas más afectadas por la pandemia”.

Según el contrato, Elder Services se centrará en las comunidades de Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell y Methuen para aumentar la confianza en la seguridad y eficacia de la

vacuna, especialmente en las comunidades de color; identificar y reducir las barreras para acceder a la vacuna; y aumentar el acceso a las vacunas a través de los lugares de vacunación existentes y las opciones móviles de vacunación.

“Nuestros servicios se brindarán en conjunto con los programas comunitarios de distribución de vacunas existentes y mediante nuevas iniciativas por parte del personal bilingüe y bicultural y los trabajadores de salud comunitarios, que tienen experiencia en atender a poblaciones prioritarias”, dijo Hatem-Roy. “Este enfoque permitirá un apoyo de vacunación individual más intensivo”.

Las ciudades y pueblos identificados cumplieron con la recomendación del Grupo Asesor de COVID-19 de Massachusetts para priorizar las comunidades y luego se clasificaron según las tasas diarias promedio de casos de COVID-19. A partir de esta lista por tasa de casos, se identificaron las principales ciudades y pueblos con el mayor porcentaje de personas de color.

Elder Services awarded a contract to increase access to the COVID-19 vaccine

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and North Shore was one of 25 community-based organizations to receive funding as part of the Massachusetts Vaccine Equity Initiative to increase awareness and access to the COVID-19 vaccine in the 20 cities and towns hardest hit by the pandemic.

The contracts are part of the Baker-Polito Administration’s investment of \$27.4 million in federal funds announced in March.

“With the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccines, we have hosted vaccination clinics and supported the clinics of our community partners to ensure as many people as possible are vaccinated,” said Elder Services’ CEO Joan Hatem-Roy. “This contract allows us to expand that work in the areas hardest hit by the pandemic.”

Under the contract, Elder Services will target the communities of Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell, and Methuen to increase trust in the vaccine’s safety and efficacy, especially in communities of color; identify and reduce barriers for accessing the vaccine, and increase vaccine access through existing vaccination locations and

mobile vaccination options.

“Our services will be delivered in concert with existing community vaccine distribution programs and through new initiatives by bilingual and bicultural staff and community health workers, who have experience serving priority populations,” said Hatem-Roy. “This approach will allow for a more intensive one-on-one vaccination support.”

The identified cities and towns met the Massachusetts COVID-19 Advisory Group recommendation to prioritize communities and then ranked by average daily COVID-19 case rates. From this list by case rate, the top cities, and towns with the highest percentage of people of color were identified.

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and North Shore is a private, nonprofit agency with a mission to ensure the health, safety, and independence of older adults and persons with disabilities. We are a federally designated Area Agency on Aging and a state-designated Aging Service Access Point and protective service agency serving 28 cities and towns in northeastern Massachusetts. Learn more at www.esmv.org

NECC is Enrolling Now for Summer

Northern Essex Community College is enrolling now for its three summer terms, running May 17-June 25, June 28-August 6, and May 17-August 6.

The college is offering over 100 courses in subjects such as business, science, math, English, psychology, sociology, computer science, and much more.

If you want to catch up on your credits from last semester or get ahead for next semester, a summer course is the perfect opportunity. Courses are offered 100% online, hybrid with online and on campus meetings, online with a required online meeting, and on campus.

A typical three-credit course at Northern Essex costs less than \$800 and credits can be transferred to four-year colleges and universities.

For a complete list of courses offered this summer, visit the <http://necc.mass.edu/summer>

For more information or to register for

summer courses, contact us at 978 556-3700 or registrarpublic@necc.mass.edu

Northern Essex Community College has campuses in both Haverhill and Lawrence. It offers approximately 60 associate degree and certificate programs as well as hundreds of noncredit courses designed for personal enrichment and career growth. Each year, 6,000 students are enrolled in credit associate degree and certificate programs on the Haverhill and Lawrence campuses; and another 2,000 take noncredit workforce development and community education classes on campus, and at businesses and community sites across the Merrimack Valley. For more information, visit the website at www.necc.mass.edu or call 978-556-3700.

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Frontline Worker is MCC's Representative for '29 Who Shine Student'



Micaela Rainha – a Middlesex Community College Nursing student and Lowell General Hospital Nurse Assistant – was named one of 2021's Mass. Department of Higher Education's 29 Who Shine.

Micaela Rainha has spent the past year working on the frontlines of the pandemic and preparing to graduate from Middlesex Community College's Nursing program. From both her time as a student at Middlesex and as a Nurse Assistant at Lowell General Hospital (LGH), Rainha has gained a strong foundation of experience and knowledge. She was also named one of the Mass. Department of Higher Education's 29 Who Shine for 2021.

The 29 Who Shine is an annual program

recognizing outstanding students who represent each of the state's 29 public colleges and universities – 15 community colleges, nine state universities and five University of Massachusetts campuses. Rainha – from Burlington – was nominated as MCC's student representative by her Nursing faculty.

About receiving the nomination for the 29 Who Shine recognition, Rainha said, "This means the absolute world to me. I am so honored and humbled. It really is such an achievement and validates everything I've been doing. The school has given so much to me."

Calling her entire experience "really wonderful," Rainha knows Middlesex was the right choice for her because of the small class sizes, accessible services and resources, individualized advising sessions, instant feedback from professors, and affordable tuition.

"I'm really engaged, I like to ask a lot of questions and go to every possible exam review, have meetings with my professors weekly – that's what helps me," she said. "Middlesex has that holistic approach to it and I just always felt that the culture at the school is really inclusive."

All of her clinical and work-related experiences have made an impact on Rainha. MCC's program allows students the use of the college's state-of-the-art simulation lab in addition to in-person clinicals at local hospitals and other sites. Rainha has been exposed to a variety of

specialties – including pediatrics, maternity, critical care, cardiac and post-operative surgery, among others – that have helped her better figure out what she wants to do in the future.

The COVID-19 pandemic struck in the middle of Rainha's second semester at Middlesex. Although this presented many challenges, the pandemic also offered her the opportunity to engage in historic learning opportunities and clinical experiences. As part of the Nursing program, she has helped community members by performing COVID-19 swab tests on MCC's Bedford campus and administering vaccinations at LGH's site.

"It feels good to be able to be there and to know that the school trusts us to be a part of something so big," she said. "It is the best thing ever just being able to make a difference in someone's life. That is unmeasurable."

Rainha heard about the job posting for her Nurse Assistant role at LGH while completing her clinicals for MCC. She believes she was hired because of her qualifications and the opportunity she had to network with employees. In this position, she has gained a better sense of how things run at the hospital, as well as valuable skills and practices she can use throughout her career.

One of her favorite aspects of working at her clinicals is educating her patients on ways to get better and live a healthier life. Her faculty mentor – and MCC Director of Nurse Education – Carolyn Walsh has helped mold her teaching style and bedside manner to be patient and flexible, while

making personal connections to what is being taught.

Rainha has also had experience teaching and helping her classmates as a Supplemental Instructor and tutor of Pharmacology and general nursing classes. A member of MCC's honors society Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), Rainha also participates in the Student Nurse Club where she has teamed up with classmates to volunteer with the VA to run fundraisers for veterans.

"Building connections with my peers has taught me how to become a part of a team, and also how to give good criticism and feedback," she said. "We all come from different backgrounds and collaborate together. Forming those relationships – as well as with my professors – has been my number one thing."

For three of her four semesters at Middlesex, Rainha has been the Student Representative for the Nursing program. In this role, she attends faculty meetings to be a liaison between students and professors, and has honed her confidence, communication and leadership skills.

"All of my professors have been influential to me, especially in the Nursing program," she said. "Every single person deserves recognition for my education and I'm so happy to have them. When you see someone who is so knowledgeable, it's almost intimidating to make a mistake or ask for help. But even in clinicals, a lot of

PLEASE SEE **RAINHA**

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

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MCC Fashion Major Named to All-Mass Academic Team



Middlesex Community College student Riana Willsie was named to the 2021 All-Massachusetts Academic Team for outstanding two-year college students. When Willsie was unsure of what she wanted to pursue in college and beyond, she turned to Middlesex to help her figure out her goals. Now a Fashion major, she is preparing to transfer to a four-year college in the Fall.

When Riana Willsie was unsure of what she wanted to pursue in college and beyond, she turned to Middlesex Community College to help her figure out her goals. Now a Fashion major and member of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) – the international honors society for two-year colleges – Willsie is preparing to transfer to a four-year college in the Fall.

MCC was an easy choice for the Groton-native. Willsie has been able to

make plans for her future while continuing to take high-quality classes and earn college credit. By attending Middlesex first, she is also saving money on tuition and getting used to the expectations of college.

“I realized I needed time to structure my life and figure out what I wanted my future to look like,” she said. “MCC gave me that time and resources to slowly prepare for college rather than me jumping right into the experience.”

Participating in PTK provides Willsie with even more opportunities for success. Through the society, she can give back to the community, take advantage of member benefits, and represent the mission through her work. Being named to the 2021 All-Massachusetts Academic Team for outstanding two-year college students is an added reward for her.

Every year, the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges (MAACC) honors the All-Massachusetts Academic

Team to showcase the best and brightest students in the 15-college system. PTK has recognized and encouraged scholarship among community college students for more than 100 years while promoting the academic integrity of the associate degree program.

Willsie is joined on the team by fellow MCC students Gianna Tringali and Hannah Ditmars.

“I am extremely honored to be

recognized as a team member,” Willsie said. “It feels great knowing that my hard work is paying off.”

Willsie is also enjoying success in the Fashion program at Middlesex. A member of MCC’s National Society for Leadership and Success (NSLS), she enjoys diving into interesting subjects in her classes and interacting with professors.

“The classes have been interesting and engaging,” Willsie said. “The professors are understanding and helpful, and I feel as though my experience with these classes have helped me prepare to transfer to a four-year school.”

With Associate Professor of Fashion Merchandising Ashli Ree as her academic advisor, Willsie has the ability to ask questions and learn more about the industry. Having now taken three of Ree’s classes, Willsie has appreciated Ree’s willingness to go “above and beyond” in helping prepare her for the future.

Willsie plans to major in Fashion and Business at her next college and hopes to one day work and live in Europe to pursue her dreams. MCC helped her see – and plan out – her goals more clearly.

“Attending MCC was the best decision I could have made,” she said. “I recommend it to anyone else who is looking for structure in their life.”

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Willsie and her classmates – as well as honorees of the other Mass. community colleges – were honored for their 2021 PTK All-Massachusetts Academic Team through a virtual “PTK Community

College Excellence Week” at the end of April 2021.

MAACC works on behalf of the Community College Presidents and their local Boards of Trustees to advocate, communicate and collaborate to strengthen community colleges for the benefit of students, communities and the Commonwealth. The community colleges currently represent more than 136,000 students in every region of Mass., educating nearly half of all students in the state’s public higher education system and serving the largest share of first-generation students, low-income students and students of color.

For more information about MCC’s All-Massachusetts Academic Team members, contact Steven Rossi, MCC’s Director of Student Engagement, at rossis@middlesex.mass.edu or 978-656-3789.

Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434 to register for the Summer and Fall 2021 semesters at Middlesex.

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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El Departamento de Educación lanza campaña sobre la oferta de Internet de banda ancha a precio reducido para millones de estudiantes K-12 y beneficiarios de la beca federal Pell

El Departamento de Educación de EE.UU. lanzó hoy una importante campaña dirigida a millones de estudiantes que ahora tienen derecho a recibir un descuento en su servicio mensual de Internet de banda ancha según un programa temporal administrado por la Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones (FCC). La campaña informará a millones de familias con niños que participan en el programa de desayuno escolar o almuerzo gratuito o a precio reducido, y a 6.5 millones de beneficiarios de la Beca Pell que ahora podrían tener derecho a un descuento de hasta \$50 por mes. Los hogares en tierras tribales pueden recibir un descuento de hasta \$75 por mes.

“La pandemia de COVID-19 ha magnificado los problemas de acceso a Internet y la asequibilidad tanto para los estudiantes K-12 como para los estudiantes universitarios, en particular los estudiantes de color, los estudiantes en comunidades rurales y tribales y los estudiantes de familias de bajos ingresos”, dijo Miguel Cardona, secretario de Educación de EE.UU. “Sabemos que la calidad de acceso a Internet en el hogar tiene un impacto en el éxito de los estudiantes y que los estudiantes sin buen acceso a Internet y dispositivos confiables tuvieron mayores dificultades con la transición al aprendizaje remoto el año pasado. Esta campaña no solo mantendrá a más de nuestros estudiantes conectados y aprendiendo, sino que también ayudará a eliminar las desigualdades exacerbadas por COVID-19. Según nos recuperamos de la pandemia, tenemos la oportunidad de reconstruir nuestro sistema educativo mejor que antes, y proporcionar acceso confiable y asequible de Internet para los estudiantes afectados desproporcionalmente por la pandemia, asegurando que estén preparados para el éxito”.

Los hogares con un niño que ha sido aprobado para recibir los beneficios del Programa Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares (NSLP) o el Programa de Desayuno Escolar (SBP), incluido un niño que asiste a una escuela que participa en la Disposición de Participación Comunitaria (CEP), del Departamento de Agricultura de EE.UU. (USDA) durante los años escolares 2019-2020 y 2020-2021 ahora tienen derecho al Programa Urgente de Beneficios de Banda Ancha (Programa EBB) de la FCC. Los beneficiarios de la Beca Pell, que generalmente son estudiantes universitarios con necesidades financieras excepcionales, también tienen derecho al Programa EBB de la FCC para que puedan obtener una educación postsecundaria si recibieron su beca durante el año de concesión 2020-2021.

Este programa temporal ofrece un descuento mensual de hasta \$50 por mes sobre el servicio de banda ancha y equipo de acceso (un módem, por ejemplo) y hasta \$75 por mes para hogares en tierras tribales. Dentro del programa, cada hogar también puede recibir un descuento de hasta \$100 para adquirir un dispositivo para conectarse al Internet (una computadora portátil, de escritorio o tableta) de un proveedor de banda ancha participante, siempre que el hogar contribuya entre \$10 y \$50 para la adquisición del aparato.

Las familias de estudiantes K-12 y beneficiarios de la Beca Pell con derecho pueden solicitar el descuento en línea, por correo o mediante un proveedor de servicios participante. También pueden encontrar proveedores de servicios de Internet participantes en su localidad ingresando su código postal en la herramienta Compañías cercanas a mí.

“Es más evidente que nunca que la banda ancha ya no es un lujo, sino una necesidad”, dijo la presidenta interina de la FCC, Jessica Rosenworcel. “Casi inmediatamente, la pandemia de COVID-19 requirió que millones de familias y estudiantes utilizaran el aprendizaje remoto. Estos estudiantes, sus familias y maestros se esforzaron para facilitar el aprendizaje remoto. Pero esta crisis mostró como nunca antes que millones de estudiantes no podían participar plenamente en la educación a distancia porque no tenían conexión adecuada a Internet en su casa, y los estudiantes de color y las familias de bajos ingresos eran los más afectados. Y eso es simplemente inaceptable. Con orgullo me uno al secretario Cardona y al Departamento de Educación para dar a conocer este nuevo programa de la FCC que ayuda a las familias a conectarse y brindarles el apoyo necesario para que lo hagan”.

El Departamento de Educación se ha comunicado directamente con aproximadamente 6.5 millones de beneficiarios de la Beca Pell para informarles sobre este nuevo programa de descuento. El Departamento también se ha comunicado con las escuelas y distritos de CEP para informarles sobre el programa de acceso a Internet y cómo los estudiantes y familias pueden solicitar este beneficio. Además, el Departamento colabora con la FCC para desarrollar materiales publicitarios para que las escuelas, distritos escolares e instituciones de educación superior puedan informar a sus estudiantes sobre este programa. Las escuelas, distritos escolares y las universidades son socios imprescindibles y confiables en esta campaña. Además de informar sobre el Programa EBB a los estudiantes y familias con derecho, las escuelas también pueden ayudar a los beneficiarios a navegar el proceso de inscripción, que incluye:

1. Usar los materiales publicitarios para informar a los estudiantes y familias sobre este nuevo beneficio urgente de banda ancha. Las herramientas publicitarias y otros materiales dirigidos al consumidor están disponibles en fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit.
2. Crear un equipo publicitario o asociarse con una organización comunitaria confiable para informar a los estudiantes y familias, y facilitar el proceso de inscripción.
3. Ayudar a los estudiantes y familias a utilizar la herramienta Compañías cercanas a mí para encontrar proveedores participantes.
4. Organizar una feria de proveedores para que los estudiantes y las familias puedan comparar y hacer preguntas sobre los planes de Internet disponibles. Si tiene preguntas sobre el programa

EBB, visite GetEmergencyBroadband.org, llame al 833-511-0311, o envíe un correo electrónico a EBBHelp@usac.org.

El anuncio de hoy es parte del proyecto general de la Administración Biden-Harris para brindar apoyo y recursos a los estudiantes y las comunidades afectadas por la pandemia de COVID-19, ampliar el acceso a la banda ancha y reconstruir mejor el país. El American Rescue Plan proporciona recursos que los estados y los distritos escolares pueden utilizar para cerrar la brecha digital, por ejemplo, mediante la compra de computadoras portátiles y puntos de acceso

Wi-Fi. El Departamento también ha brindado apoyo directo a los estudiantes mediante el American Rescue Plan para informar a más estudiantes sobre los beneficios adicionales del Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (SNAP) durante la pandemia. El presidente Biden también ha propuesto inversiones históricas en el American Jobs Plan para que el 100% de la población tengan acceso a la banda ancha confiable y de alta velocidad, y ha propuesto en el American Families Plan aumentar la concesión máxima de la subvención Pell de aproximadamente \$1,400.

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Department of Education Launches Outreach Campaign to Millions of K-12 Students and Federal Pell Grant Recipients Now Eligible for Monthly Discounts on Broadband Internet Service

The U.S. Department of Education today launched a major outreach campaign to millions of students who are now eligible for a monthly discount on broadband internet service under a temporary program administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The campaign will inform millions of families with children participating in the free or reduced-price lunch or school breakfast program, and 6.5 million Pell Grant recipients that they are now eligible for the discount of up to \$50 per month. Eligible households on qualifying Tribal lands can receive a discount of up to \$75 per month.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has magnified issues of internet access and affordability for both K-12 students and college students, particularly students of color, students in rural or tribal communities, and students from low-income families,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. “We know that the quality of home internet access has an impact on student success, and that students without robust internet access and reliable devices struggled more with the transition to remote learning this past year. This campaign will not only keep more of America’s students connected and learning, but will help address inequities exacerbated by COVID-19. As we

recover from the pandemic, we have an opportunity to rebuild our education system back better than it was before, and providing reliable, affordable internet access to more students disproportionately impacted by the pandemic is one way we can make sure all students are set up for success.”

Households with a child who has received approval for benefits under the under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or the School Breakfast Program (SBP), including a child that attends a school participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), during the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years are now eligible for the FCC’s Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB Program). Pell Grant recipients, who are usually undergraduates with exceptional financial need, also qualify for the FCC’s EBB Program to help pursue postsecondary education if they received their grant during the 2020-2021 award year.

The temporary program provides a monthly discount of up to \$50 per month on broadband service and associated equipment (a modem, for example) for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal

lands. Each participating household may also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 for one connected device—a laptop, desktop, or tablet computer—where available from a participating broadband provider, as long as the household contributes between \$10 and \$50 towards the cost of the device.

Eligible families of K-12 students and eligible Pell Grant recipients can apply for the discount online, via mail, or through a participating service provider. Eligible households can find participating internet service providers in their area by entering their zip code into the Companies Near Me tool.

“It’s more apparent than ever that broadband is no longer nice-to-have. It’s need-to-have. For everyone, everywhere,” said acting FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel. “Seemingly overnight, the COVID-19 pandemic required millions of families and students to shift to remote learning. These students, their families, and their teachers worked hard to make remote learning a reality. But this crisis highlighted like never before that the virtual classroom was closed to millions of students without reliable internet access at home – with students of color and low-income families hit the hardest. And that’s simply unacceptable. I’m proud to partner with Secretary Cardona and the Department of Education to help get the word out about the FCC’s newest program to help families struggling with digital disconnection and provide them support.”

The Education Department is reaching out directly to approximately 6.5 million Pell Grant recipients to inform them that they may be eligible for the discount. The Department is also reaching out to CEP schools and districts to inform them that they or their students may be eligible for the internet access program and share information on how to apply. Additionally, the Department is working with the FCC to develop materials to support schools, districts, and postsecondary schools in spreading the word about the program to eligible students and families. As trusted community members, schools, districts, and postsecondary schools are critical outreach partners. In addition to conducting EBB Program outreach to

eligible students and families, schools can take steps to help eligible students and families navigate the sign-up process, including:

1. Using the outreach toolkit materials to inform eligible students and families about the Emergency Broadband Benefit. The toolkit and other consumer materials can be found at fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit. Outreach resources for K-12 schools and districts can be found at <https://tech.ed.gov/broadband/ebb/>.
2. Creating an outreach team or partnering with a trusted community-based organization to spread the word and help eligible students and families navigate the sign-up process.
3. Helping eligible students and families use the Companies Near Me tool to identify participating providers.
4. Organizing a provider fair so that students and families can compare and ask questions about the available internet service plans offered by participating local providers.

For questions about the EBB Program please visit GetEmergencyBroadband.org, call 833-511-0311, or email EBBHelp@usac.org.

Today’s announcement is part of the Biden-Harris Administration’s broader commitment to providing support and resources to students and communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, expand access to broadband, and build back better. The American Rescue Plan provides resources states and schools districts can use to close the digital divide, for example by purchasing laptops and wi-fi hotspots. The Department has also provided direct support to students through the American Rescue Plan, including informing more students of expanded eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) during the pandemic. President Biden has also proposed historic investments in the American Jobs Plan to reach 100 coverage of high-speed, reliable, broadband internet, and he has proposed in the American Families Plan to increase the maximum Pell Grant award by about \$1,400.

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BY DALIA DÍAZ
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LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner



Important announcement

I'm giving up.

There are times when losing a battle is part of the process to plan a different strategy to keep fighting but, this time, I've had enough!

For the past 16 years, I have been writing about Lawrence Community Access Television (LCAT) and that their studio on Essex St. was created for the use of any Lawrencian interested in producing local programs. The purpose was to bring entertainment, news, information, education, etc. to everyone but they prefer keeping our community ignorant.

Comcast and Verizon subscribers pay in their monthly cable bills an amount covering the salaries and equipment to run the local community, government, and schools channels. LCAT does not handle the schools and their portion of what we pay goes separately to Lawrence Public Schools.

On Tuesday, they held an Open House which Rumbo publicized a lot in the hope of having our residents ask questions and apparently, none of the people who promised they would do so, made it that night.

One thing is obvious: Lawrencians love the victim role. Through the years we expected the government to do everything for us and get everything for nothing. It's proven that politicians don't defend our rights and we are not about to do anything about it, not even asking the board of directors why we are not allowed to use the studio. Worst of all, we keep voting them in.

Elections are coming and, for the first time, I may leave my ballot blank because I don't see anyone who is worthy of my vote. My conscience will be clear knowing that I was right. We have never heard any candidate mentioned LCAT and no one asking them about it, either. I approached some of them only to get promises and doing nothing; meanwhile, we continue paying without receiving what we are entitled to.

So, on this day, May 15th, on the 25th

anniversary of establishing Rumbo, I can promise you that I'm giving up my fight on LCAT because this community doesn't deserve it.

If no one cares, neither would I.

Cancel culture and Section 230

For those of us who care what goes on around us, is very concerning what's happening in this country. There was a time whenever we heard about something being canceled, it happened to be a television program and that was all.

Today, it's everything; books, movies, newspapers, social media, and even our live comments. We have to watch carefully what we are saying because it could be insulting or "hurtful" to someone else. I cannot get used to that; I speak my mind, never offending anyone but it's out of my control what "offends" people this day and age. I am very careful of what I write on Facebook (the only social media I used) because it depends on who reads it how it will be interpreted by others.

One thing is for sure, I want my right to say what I believe without being censored by anyone else. Besides, we are protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution that guarantees our right to free speech – of course, there are limits.

We also have laws that assure those rights and Congress is in charge of that – or used to be.

With the proliferation of social media, they created Section 230 of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to protect the free exchange of ideas while shielding those technology companies from being sued by anyone upset over something found in those platforms. This protection was guaranteed as long as there was no interference on the content, otherwise, the government would cancel that agreement.

During the past few years, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. (there are a million of them) have deleted entries and even

canceled individuals because of their postings. People called for the removal of Section 230, a part of US law that shields tech companies from legal liability. That move will allow users to sue those websites.

The free flow of information is critical to the security of our Republic, as illustrated by freedom of speech and the press being in the 1st Amendment of our Constitution. Censoring speech and expression, distorting speech, spreading disinformation by

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.

government officials, private entities, and the media is a method to suppress the free flow of information, a tyrannical technique used in closed societies. We must counter this on all fronts beginning with removing Section 230 protection from big tech.

If someone doesn't like what I have to say, simply go to another site. Cancel culture continued on its merry way unabated while Congress wouldn't take any action.

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 12 **RAINHA**

my professors know that you're learning and they create a safe space."

Before attending Middlesex, Rainha worked full-time as a bartender and waitress. She wanted to make sure she was financially, physically and psychologically ready to enter the field of Nursing before committing to her education. Once she made her decision and started MCC's program, she said "it felt right to jump in."

After she graduates from MCC, Rainha wants to start working as soon as she can as a Registered Nurse in Massachusetts. She also plans to start a bachelor's degree and go on to earn a master's in Nursing Education so she can one day become a professor to guide students like herself.

A quote by Florence Nightingale – a pioneer in the field of Nursing – reminds Rainha of her goals, as well as inspires her as she prepares to enter the field as a full-time nurse amid the pandemic. Nightingale said, "I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took any excuse."

"The pandemic is why I want to do work as a nurse even more," Rainha said. "People are scared and I think in any profession anywhere, when you have more knowledge about a topic and what you can

do, you feel more comfortable. That's why we live, to do things that make us happy and to benefit everyone as a whole. I'm happy to be there and I think it's exciting."

MCC's Nursing & Allied Health Division prepares students to go into exciting and rewarding careers, as well as to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. Students learn the knowledge and skills they need to help people, including practical and clinical hands-on experiences.

Visit <https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/healthcareersdiv/> for more information about the Nursing, Dental Programs, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Medical Assisting, Medical Lab Technician and Radiologic Technology programs at Middlesex.

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!

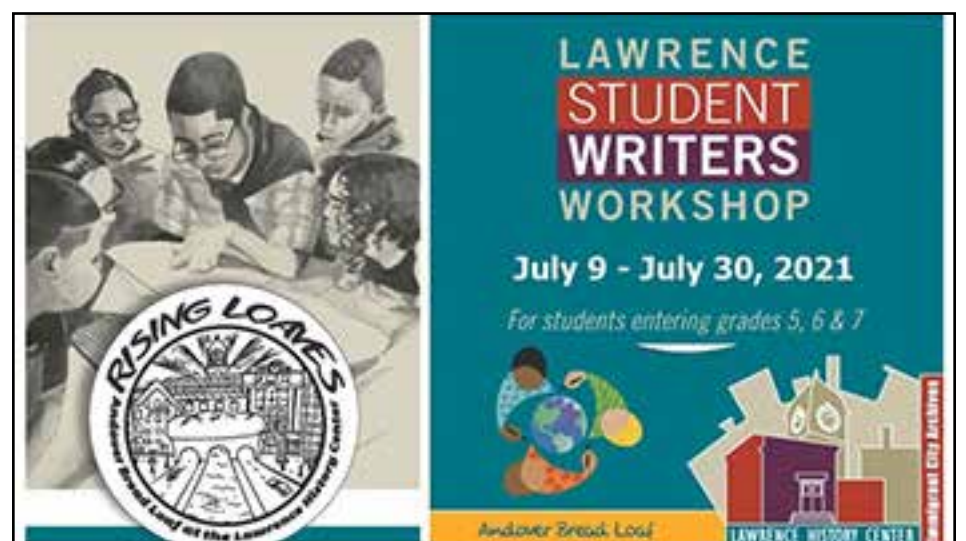
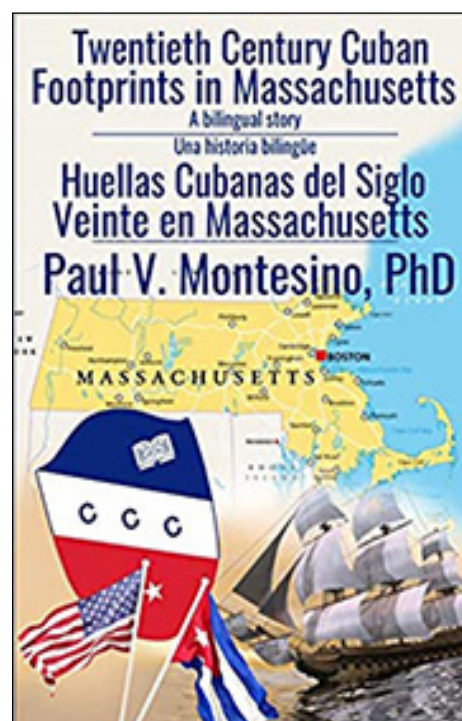
New book about Cubans in Massachusetts

Paul V. Montesino, PhD. has published the story of how the Cuban population grew in the state in the '60s and '70s. As a result, we created the Cuban Cultural Center of Boston and in the early eighties, we responded to the Mariel exodus with aid to the arrivals.

His recent publication *Twentieth-Century Cuban Footprints in Massachusetts* is a bilingual (English-Spanish) Kindle e-book, a paperback in regular print, and a paperback in large print at Amazon.com chronicling those two efforts of our community.

You may buy them through Amazon. The Kindle edition is \$10; the regular print paperback for \$15; and the large size print paperback for \$18.

The book has been registered with the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress and copies have been submitted to Cuban-oriented public libraries and at various universities.



ATTENTION LAWRENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Registration is now open for the
2021 Lawrence Student Writing Workshop: The Rising Loaves!

The 2021 Lawrence Student Writers Workshop will take place July 9 - July 30, 2021
and will be a hybrid of virtual and in-person sessions.

To see the Summer 2021 Program Schedule and to REGISTER, please visit:
<http://www.lawrencehistory.org/education/summer>

Questions? Please contact:

Susan Grabski, director@lawrencehistory.org
Jackeline Schieremberg, jschieremberg@gmail.com

Nashua Reads Titles Announced

The Nashua Public Library recently announced the 2021 titles for its annual Nashua Reads: One City, One Book program.

The book for adults is "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi. This year, Nashua Reads also includes two books for kids: "Clayton Byrd Goes Underground" and "One Crazy Summer," both by Rita Williams-Garcia.

An author visit with Yaa Gyasi will be held on Sunday, October 17, at 2 p.m. Tickets and registration will be available in August, once it's determined whether the event will be held virtually or in person.

Rita Williams-Garcia will pay a virtual visit to Nashua on Saturday, October 23, at 2 p.m. Registration for this free event is open now. Go to tinyurl.com/nashuareads and scroll down to October 23.

The author visits are sponsored by the Friends of the Nashua Public Library and the Ella Anderson Trust.

About the books

Homegoing: Born in Ghana in the 1700s, Effia and Esi are half-sisters, unknown to one another. Effia marries an Englishman and lives a life of luxury in his Ghanaian castle. Esi, captured in a tribal war, is shipped to America and sold into slavery. "Homegoing" follows the lives of these two women and of eight generations of their descendants. From the Gold Coast of Africa to Mississippi and Harlem, through the Civil War and the Great Migration, the novel illuminates the injustices of racism and slavery over the past 300 years.

Clayton Byrd Goes Underground: Clayton feels most alive when he's with his grandfather and the band of Bluesmen—he can't wait to join them, just as soon as he has a blues song of his own. But then the unthinkable happens. His grandfather dies, and Clayton's mother forbids Clayton from playing the blues. Clayton runs away from home in search of the Bluesmen, hoping he can join them on the road.

One Crazy Summer: Eleven-year-old Delphine is like a mother to her two younger sisters. She's had to be, ever since their mother, Cecile, left them seven years ago

for a radical new life in California. But when the sisters arrive from Brooklyn to spend the summer with her, Cecile is nothing like they imagined. While the girls hope to go to Disneyland, their mother sends them to a day camp run by the Black Panthers. Unexpectedly they learn much about their family, their country and themselves during one truly crazy summer.

About the authors

Yaa Gyasi: Yaa Gyasi's debut novel, "Homegoing," won the National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Prize for best first book, the PEN/Hemingway Award for a first book of fiction and an American Book Award. In 2016, Yaa received the National Book Foundation's 5 Under 35 Award. When her second novel, "Transcendent Kingdom," was released in 2020 it became an instant bestseller.

Born in Ghana and raised in Huntsville, Alabama, Yaa earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Stanford University and a Master of Fine Arts from the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

Rita Williams-Garcia: On her website, Rita Williams-Garcia says, "I always asked for a pencil and paper in kindergarten while my classmates colored pictures. By 12, I was sending short stories to magazines only to be politely rejected. My family had

just moved back to Jamaica, New York, after a short stint in Georgia, and before that, California. My sister, brother, and I weren't allowed to play outside in Queens, New York, so I entertained myself by writing stories. I sold my first short story to 'Highlights' magazine at 14, and sold another to 'Essence' magazine six years later while a student at Hofstra."

Get your copies now

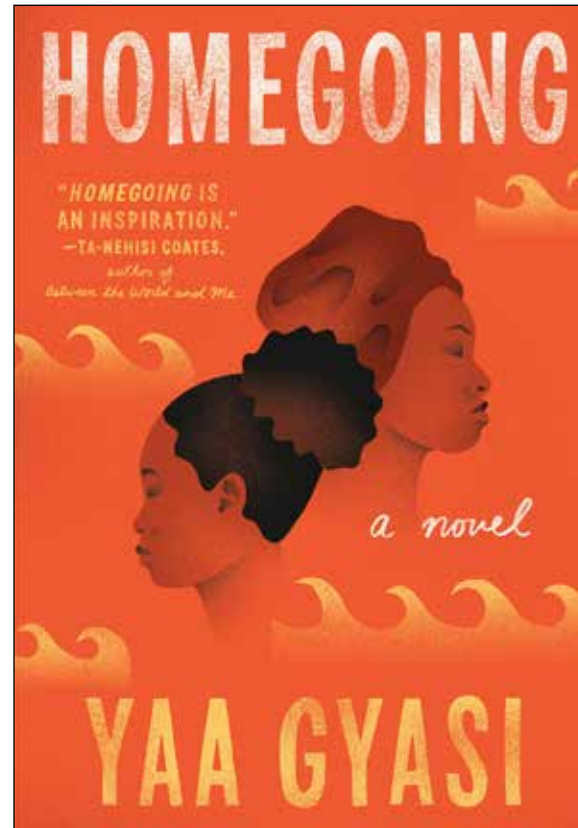
The Nashua Public Library has plenty of copies of the Nashua Reads books. So go to the library's catalog at nashualibrary.org to reserve your copies, read them, talk about them with your friends, family and colleagues and then join the virtual events with the authors this fall.

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 books and talk about them with friends, coworkers and neighbors. The program is now in its 19th 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.

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.



Yaa Gyasi, author of "Homegoing" CREDIT: Peter Hurley, Vilcek Foundation



Rita Williams-Garcia, author of "Clayton Byrd Goes Underground" and "One Crazy Summer"

Library Children's Room to Reopen May 17

On Monday, May 17, the Nashua Public Library Children's Room will reopen for limited hours, so families can browse the stacks and choose materials to check out.

The room will be open:

- Monday-Thursday:
 - 10 am-1 pm
 - 3 pm-6 pm
- Saturday:
 - 10 am-2 pm

These are the same hours that the adult and teen stacks are open to the public.

The play areas and computers in the Children's Room will still be closed, and story hours will still be held virtually.

The Teen Room is open for browsing whenever the library is open, but teen computers and seating are not yet available.

You can see more details about library hours by clicking Hours of Operation at the bottom of the library's home page, nashualibrary.org.

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

- Thomas Jefferson

Buon Giorno
Good Morning
Buenas Tardes

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



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Favor de no dejar donaciones después del horario

Traiga este anuncio a cualquiera de las tiendas (Lawrence o Billerica) y reciba un descuento de 10% en su compra

Donations / Donaciones
(please call ahead for large donations)

Tuesday-Friday: 10am-5:00pm
Saturday: 10am-4:30pm

Open to the public, shop-donate-volunteer

Please do not drop off items after store hours

Bring this ad to either store (Lawrence or Billerica) for a 10% discount on your purchase



SUMMER PUBLIC ART + TEACHING APPRENTISHIP



PAID COMMUNITY SERVICE WITH RELEVANT CURRICULUM AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Eight Lawrencians, ages 14-21, to participate

EAC's Summer Mural Program, which started in 2012, moves forward with a new vision.

ESSEX ART CENTER

WE'RE HIRING!

DO YOU LIKE ART / ARTISTS? ARE YOU PASSIONATE AND WANT TO DO MEANINGFUL WORK? ESSEX ART CENTER IS HIRING! CHECK OUT THE DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE: ESSEXARTCENTER.ORG/WORK AND APPLY BY MAY 21.

We're on a mission to make art accessible and spark positive change in our community. And we're looking for people who want to work hard and have a positive impact. Do you know someone, or *is that someone you?*

www.rumbonews.com

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

The recent fire at Bennington St. in Lawrence left 64 residents 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 donated items and things that are needed as well as names, ages, sizes, etc. but they suggest giving them gift cards to grocery stores and department stores in any denomination.

El reciente incendio de la calle Bennington en Lawrence ha dejado a 64 residentes 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 han sido donados y lo que necesitan así como nombres, edades, tallas, etc. pero ellos sugieren que les compren tarjetas de mercados o tiendas por departamentos de cualquier denominación.

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

Calling All Artists: Submit your best work to EAC's Grand Reopening Salon Show + Sale

We want to have a strong showing from our community for this special exhibition and art sale. We hope you'll participate!

SUBMISSIONS DUE MAY 30

GLCF's Annual Meeting to Highlight Community Strength in Times of Challenge

Open to all community members, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation is set to host its annual meeting virtually on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. The event will highlight the inspirational work and great strength exhibited by Greater Lowell nonprofit partners during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Our work this past year wouldn’t be possible without the collaborative relationships we have fostered in Greater Lowell, and we are so grateful,” said Jay Linnehan, “At this year’s Annual Meeting, we are honored to share stories of strength from four of our inspiring nonprofit partners.”

GLCF’s Annual Meeting will feature: Isa M. Woldegiorgis, Executive Director of The Center for Hope and Healing in Lowell; Sheila Och, Lowell Community Health Center’s Chief Public Policy and Equity Officer; Jean A. Goldsberry, CEO of Minute Man Arc in Concord and Tim Baker, president of The Westford Food Pantry.

Since March 2020, through grants from its GLCF COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, Massachusetts COVID Relief Fund, and Commonwealth COVID Grant Program,

the foundation has supported 125 local nonprofit organizations with 283 grants totaling over \$3.9 million.

The event is free but registration is required.

To learn more about this event or to register, visit: <https://www.glcfoundation.org/event/annual-meeting-2021/>

About Greater Lowell Community Foundation

The Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF), founded in 1997, is a philanthropic organization comprised of over 390 funds, now totaling over \$50 million, dedicated to improving the quality of life in 20 neighboring cities and towns. The Community Foundation annually awards grants and scholarships to hundreds of worthy nonprofits and students. GLCF is powered by the winning combination of donor-directed giving, personal attention from its staff, and an in-depth understanding of local needs. Our donors’ generosity has enabled GLCF to award more than \$25 million to the Greater Lowell community.

Summer Fun Roll Thru Donation Drop-off

We need your help to ensure foster kids have an active & joyful summer!

Saturday, May 22, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sponsored by:
 Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley, Inc.
 Sons of Italy Hall
 459 Merrimack Street
 Methuen, MA 01844

Examples of Items to Donate:
 Hula hoops, jump ropes, sand tables/boxes, water tables, splash pads, water sprinklers, lawn games, sports equipment, slip 'n slides, sidewalk chalk, bathing suits, towels, sunblock, garden tool sets, walkie talkies, stomp rockets & any other fun items!
Note: No water guns will be accepted

Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley, Inc will host a “Summer Fun Roll Thru Event” on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at the Sons of Italy Hall, 459 Merrimack St., Methuen from 10:00 AM -12:00 NOON.

Due to COVID restrictions, most of our children have been sitting in front of their computers taking part in their daily lessons. We at FKMV are hoping we can, with your help make this a fun, healthy and active summer vacation time for all our kids currently in the care of the Lawrence and Haverhill Dept. of Children and Families. We invite you to help by donating one (1) or more of these summer fun toys, games, etc. –suggestions include:

- Water tables
- Jump ropes
- Sand table, box
- Hula hoops
- Slip n slides
- Splash pad

- Splash sprinkler
- Sports equipment
- Walkie Talkies
- Sidewalk Chalk
- Garden tool sets
- Suntan Lotion
- Water spray sprinkler
- Kids cornhole or lawn games
- Capture the flag game
- Bathing suits for boys and girls
- Lawn games
- Bubble wand sets
- Flip Flops
- Sit n spin
- Stomp rockets
- Bath Towels

These are merely suggestions – use your imagination.

Please - no water guns of any kind will be accepted!

With your help, we can ensure a meaningful, fun and active vacation season for these kids and their foster families. Any questions can be directed to Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. 978-771-2150.

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.

Get help to quit.

mass.gov/vaping @GetTheVapeFacts

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

– Voltaire

AZ QUOTES

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