



**Insist that City Council meetings must take place in the Council Chamber with us present!**

## LHS Graduation 2021

## MassGOP hired Francisco Ureña



Lawrence High School held morning and afternoon ceremonies for 725 Seniors graduating from USA, ALA, HLC and RISE Class of 2021. In the above picture is proud graduate Alexander Nathanael Acevedo with his parents Victor and Marielis.



Francisco Ureña ha sido escogido por el Partido Republicano de Massachusetts, para ayudar a liderar la Coalición de Veteranos del partido. Pg. 4

Francisco Ureña has been chosen by the Republican Party of Massachusetts to help lead the party's Veterans Coalition. Pg. 16

## Lawrence Teachers' Union 1019 awards scholarships of \$1,500 each annually



2020-21 recipients include:

Angel O Pabon- (mother accepted his award on his behalf). He is the son of LHS teacher Angel Pabon. He graduated from Abbott Lawrence Academy/LHS and will attend NECC.

(President Kimberly Barry is next in the photo.)

Aliana Disla- She is the daughter of Carmen Liiano and Kiblin Pichardo. She graduated from Abbott Lawrence Academy and will attend Providence College.

Nicholas Lucas- He is the son of Frost Middle School teacher Rob Lucas. He graduated from Sanborn Regional High School and will attend UNH.

Cameron Lacroix- He is the son of Lawlor School teacher Jennifer Quinlan. He graduated from Salem, NH High School and will attend UNH.

Sophia Cruz- She is the daughter of Lawrence Public Schools Chief of Staff Maria Cruz. She graduated from Abbott Lawrence Academy/LHS and will attend UMA/Lowell.

Will O'Leary- (mother accepted his award on his behalf.) He is the son of South Lawrence East School Diane O'Leary. He graduated from N. Reading High School and will attend UNH.

## Hike for Hope 2021 Hike event raises \$130,000



Volunteers Steve Gendron, Adam Molda, Laurie Byron. See more pictures on page 9.

Por/By Dalia Diaz  
rumbonews.com/blogs



¡Oh, qué farsa!

Nada de politiquería aquí

Página 4

Por/By Dalia Diaz  
rumbonews.com/blogs



Oh, what a farce!

No politicking here!

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Desde Mi Esquina

From My Corner





*City of Lawrence*  
*Office of the City Clerk*  
*Election Division*  
 200 Common Street  
 Lawrence, Massachusetts 01840

DANIEL RIVERA  
 MAYOR  
 WILLIAM J. MALONEY  
 CITY CLERK  
 CAROLE MORIN  
 ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

**UN MENSAJE DE LA DIVISION DE ELECCIONES DE LAWRENCE**

La Ciudad de Lawrence ha terminado de procesar el Censo Anual del 2021 de los residentes de Lawrence. Las tarjetas Postales de Confirmación han sido enviadas en esta semana, para votantes registrados de quienes no hemos recibido el formulario del Censo de la Ciudad de Lawrence.

Si usted recibe la tarjeta postal de Confirmación, por favor complete la información requerida y corrija cualquier información si es necesario. Una vez que haya sido completada, firmela y envíela a la División de Elecciones. El envío postal para devolver dicha tarjeta postal ha sido pre-pagado para que usted pueda enviarla sin ningún costo postal adicional. Si usted prefiere, puede devolver la tarjeta de Confirmación personalmente a la División de Elecciones. Por favor asegurarse de devolver dicha tarjeta a la Oficina de la División de Elecciones para actualizar y confirmar su status como "Votante Inscrito Activo".

Si usted se ha mudado a otra ciudad o pueblo, favor de completar, firmar y devolver la tarjeta de Confirmación y su nombre será removido inmediatamente de la lista de votantes en la Ciudad de Lawrence. Para poder votar en la ciudad donde reside tiene que registrarse para votar en su nueva ciudad o pueblo.

Votantes Registrados de quienes la División de Elecciones no haya recibido el formulario del Censo del 2021 o la tarjeta postal de Confirmación será designado como un "Votante Inactivo". "Votantes designados como Inactivos permanecerán elegibles para votar", pero deberán actualizar su estado de votante lo más pronto posible.

Cualquier votante puede verificar y actualizar su inscripción de votante comunicándose con la División de Elecciones quienes les asistirán de inmediato.

Si usted necesita información adicional o asistencia, favor de ponerse en contacto con la División de Elecciones de Lawrence al número de teléfono (978) 620-3290.

La División de Elecciones está abierta de Lunes a Viernes de 8:30 a.m. a 4:30 p.m. y está localizada en el sótano de la Alcaldía, 200 Calle Common, Lawrence, MA.

Gracias anticipadas por su cooperación de parte del Personal de la División de Elecciones.



*City of Lawrence*  
*Office of the City Clerk*  
*Election Division*  
 200 Common Street  
 Lawrence, Massachusetts 01840

DANIEL RIVERA  
 MAYOR  
 WILLIAM J. MALONEY  
 CITY CLERK  
 CAROLE MORIN  
 ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

The City of Lawrence has completed processing the 2021 annual census forms for Lawrence residents. Confirmation Notice postcards were mailed out this week to registered voters from whom the Election Division has yet to receive a completed census form.

If you receive a Confirmation Notice postcard, please complete the information requested and correct any information if necessary. Once completed, sign it and return it to the Election Division. Postage on the return postcard is pre-paid, so you can mail it without any additional postage. If you prefer, you may return the completed Confirmation Notice postcard to Election Division Office in person at the address below. Returning the Confirmation Notice postcard to the Election Division Office will update and confirm your status as an "active" registered voter.

If you have moved to another city/town, please complete, sign, and return the Confirmation Notice postcard, and your name will be removed from the voter's list in the City of Lawrence. In order to vote in the city or town that you live in, you must register to vote in your new city/town.

Registered voters for whom the Election Division has not received a 2021 census form or a Confirmation Notice will be designated as an "inactive voter". Voters designated as "INACTIVE VOTERS REMAIN ELIGIBLE TO VOTE" but should update their voting status as soon as possible.

Any voter can verify and update their voter registration by contacting the Election Division, who will assist you. If you need additional information or assistance, please contact the Lawrence Election Division by telephone at 978-620-3290

The Election Division Office is open every business day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is located in City Hall, Basement Floor, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA.

Thank you from the City of Lawrence Election Division.

# Sin una licencia, los fuegos artificiales son ilegales en Mass.

El uso de fuegos artificiales por cualquier persona que no sea un profesional autorizado es ilegal en Massachusetts. La División de Seguridad contra Incendios tiene información para la industria de los fuegos artificiales y para los oficiales de prevención de incendios que hacen cumplir las leyes y regulaciones de fuegos artificiales. Los departamentos de bomberos se aseguran de que las exhibiciones de fuegos artificiales supervisadas sean seguras tanto para los espectadores como para los tiradores.

## Sea un buen ejemplo para los niños

Los niños representan un número significativo de lesiones por fuegos artificiales en Massachusetts cada año. Los niños imitan a los adultos. Si usa fuegos artificiales, los niños que lo vean no comprenderán los peligros de los fuegos artificiales. Y los niños saben dónde guarda los fuegos artificiales. Incluso las bengalas son peligrosas. Se queman a más de 1,200 grados Fahrenheit y fomentan el uso de fósforos y encendedores por parte de los niños. No compre ni use fuegos artificiales o bengalas. Lleve a su familia a un espectáculo de fuegos artificiales supervisado para disfrutar de los días festivos.



# Without a License, Fireworks are Illegal in Massachusetts

The use of fireworks by anyone who is not a licensed professional is against the law in Massachusetts. The Division of Fire Safety has information for the fireworks industry and for fire prevention officers enforcing fireworks laws and regulations. Fire departments make sure supervised fireworks displays are safe for both spectators and shooters.

## Set a Good Example for Children

Children account for a significant number of fireworks injuries in Massachusetts every year. Children imitate adults. If you use fireworks, children who see you will not understand the dangers of fireworks. And children know where you keep fireworks. Even sparklers are dangerous. They burn at more than 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, and encourage the use of matches and lighters by children. Don't

# Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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Published on the 1<sup>st</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of Every Month



# NOW HIRING

## Bilingual Medical Assistants & Nurses

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

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

### MEDICAL ASSISTANT REQUIREMENTS:

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

### NURSE REQUIREMENTS:

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



# CONTRATANDO

## Asistentes médicos y enfermeras bilingües

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

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

### Requisitos para los asistentes médicos:

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

### Requisitos para las enfermeras:

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



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POR DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

# Desde Mi Esquina



**CARTAS AL EDITOR**  
**RUMBO**

315 Mt. Vernon St.  
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.

## ¡Oh, qué farsa!

La reunión del Concejo Municipal de esta noche fue una sorpresa para muchos residentes cuando votaron para aprobar el presupuesto del año fiscal 22 sin discusiones, preguntas o nada, pero yo no soy tonta. Esperaba ese resultado cuando recibí esta foto de un amigo. Yo sabía que tenía los votos para aprobar el presupuesto.



Aunque los concejales David Abdo y Marc Laplante votaron a favor, los respeto más porque no mezclan sus responsabilidades con la política barata. Estos funcionarios electos festejaron con el alcalde interino y no tuvieron las agallas para hacer las preguntas que preocupan a muchos residentes.

Sé que Kendrys se reunió con algunos concejales (quizás todos) sobre por qué deberían aprobar el presupuesto. Uno de ellos me dijo que "fue muy amable durante la conversación, no arrogante como suele ser". ¡Bien, esa es una razón suficientemente buena para complacerlo!

La mayoría de nosotros ignoramos al Sr. Maali cuando habla durante la parte de Participación Pública de la reunión porque siempre es lo mismo con el superintendente escolar y la policía, pero Richard Russell fue desconectado y no pudo hacer su presentación. Según él, "Seguí marcando el número y la contraseña indicada y me rebotaban cada 5 minutos después diciéndome que la reunión no había comenzado".

Hubo más de 100 comentarios en Facebook durante la reunión y probablemente se fueron a casa, tomaron un vaso de leche y mañana será otro día. Pronto será olvidado. Y los políticos lo saben; ¡están apostando en ello!

Y está funcionando porque vemos esta prohibición con demasiada frecuencia. Eche un vistazo a la forma en que se administran las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence. Pocos padres saben algo sobre el funcionamiento del sistema escolar y los que lo saben, no tienen idea de cómo poder expresar sus puntos de vista.

Lenin Lorenzo Roa escribió en su página de Facebook lo siguiente: "No debería ser tan difícil permitir la participación pública; traté de participar en una reunión de LAE BOARD y no se me permitió. Pagamos impuestos y estos presupuestos se producen con nuestro dinero; se nos debería permitir hablar sin ninguna resistencia en estos procedimientos".

LAE significa Lawrence Education Alliance, la junta nombrada por el estado que controla las escuelas, ignorando por completo al comité escolar. La ley estipula que aunque el estado tomó el control de las escuelas hace más de diez años, el comité escolar seguirá existiendo. Son funcionarios electos que representan a las familias pero

no tienen voz en sus reuniones.

Otro logro de esta noche fue la votación para pedir prestado hasta \$58 millones para la nueva estación de policía. No hay disposiciones en este presupuesto para reemplazar algo de dinero en la cuenta de "efectivo libre" y no se menciona la deuda pendiente. Si lo desea, lea mi artículo El Presupuesto y la Deuda de \$69 millones en la edición de la semana pasada. Lawrence nunca saldrá de deudas y las cosas solo pueden empeorar.

"Deberíamos esperar por la oficina del Fiscal General de MA para ver si el Concejo Municipal de Lawrence violó alguna ley al cambiar 'REPENTINAMENTE' la audiencia del Presupuesto de la Ciudad de esta noche de una reunión abierta al público a una reunión ZOOM", declaró Russell.

## ¡Nada de politiquería aquí!

El Concejo Municipal tiene una regla para cualquier persona que hable durante la participación pública. Se supone que no deben mencionar a los políticos, particularmente durante la época de elecciones. Pero, como sabemos, las reglas están hechas para romperse. La semana pasada, la Directora de Desarrollo Comunitario utilizó sus dos minutos y medio para presentar las actividades de su departamento y los fondos disponibles para proyectos públicos.

Cuando terminó, varios miembros diferentes de esa oficina hicieron presentaciones similares utilizando los dos minutos y medio asignado a cada orador. No había ninguna explicación o razón para que estuvieran allí deleitándose por el maravilloso trabajo que están haciendo.

El Concejo permitió que este circo continuara porque ellos no pueden hacer preguntas o intervenir de ninguna manera. Pienso que el presidente debió decirle a la jefa del departamento que si tenía algo de importancia que traer, lo normal es que lo pusiera en la agenda.

Además, de esta forma, la encargada de los "homeless" no corría el riesgo de que le hicieran preguntas sobre su función en esta comunidad.

Tuve que reírme al verlo en casa por lo bajo que se rebajaron para conceder a un candidato unos minutos de exposición gratis. ¡VERGONZOSO!

## El ex secretario de Asuntos de Veteranos de Massachusetts, Francisco Ureña, ayudará a liderar la Coalición de Veteranos de MassGOP

WOBURN - El Presidente del Partido Republicano de Massachusetts, Jim Lyons, ha traído a bordo al ex secretario de Asuntos de Veteranos de Massachusetts, Francisco Ureña, para ayudar a liderar la Coalición de Veteranos del partido.



"Francisco es un veterano condecorado de Massachusetts y, francamente, un héroe de guerra, pero es el último que te lo dirá", dijo Lyons. "Ha servido honorablemente a nuestra comunidad, es un republicano orgulloso y tenemos suerte de que se una a nosotros".

Ureña se une a los copresidentes John MacDonald y Adam Hogue para liderar la Coalición de Veteranos MassGOP. Ureña, quien también se ha desempeñado anteriormente como oficial de servicio de veteranos para las ciudades de Lawrence y Boston, se desempeñó como comandante de tanque durante la Operación Libertad Iraquí. Fue galardonado con el Corazón Púrpura por las heridas sufridas durante el combate.

"Francisco ha pasado la mayor parte de su vida adulta sirviendo a otros veteranos, y no puedo pensar en una mejor persona para ayudar a liderar esta coalición", dijo MacDonald.

Ureña dijo que espera ayudar a más veteranos republicanos a postularse para cargos públicos.

"Los veteranos de Massachusetts saben de primera mano lo que es hacer sacrificios importantes y deben saber que tienen una voz importante en los asuntos públicos", dijo Ureña. "Estoy emocionado de ayudarlos a buscar oportunidades para servir en cargos públicos de cualquier manera que pueda".

[www.rumbonews.com](http://www.rumbonews.com)

### Family Lawyer – Law Office of Richard Rodriguez

We are devoted to the practice of Family Law in Lawrence and the Merrimack Valley area. Call Attorney Rodriguez if you have a matter in the following areas of Family Law:



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Nos dedicamos a la práctica de Leyes Familiares en Lawrence y el área de Merrimack Valley.

Llame al abogado Rodríguez si tiene un asunto en las siguientes áreas del derecho de familia:

Telephone 978-651-1798 - email [Richard@rodriguezlaw.com](mailto:Richard@rodriguezlaw.com)  
Website <https://www.rrodriguezlaw.com>

Attorney Richard Rodriguez was selected as the 2019 Hispanic Week Grand Marshall for his community work in the City of Lawrence as an advocate for the disability population.

El abogado Richard Rodríguez fue seleccionado como el Gran Mariscal de la Semana Hispana de 2019 por su trabajo comunitario en la ciudad de Lawrence como defensor de la población con discapacidad.

Rumbo presenta  
"Desde Mi Esquina" con Dalia Díaz  
los sábados 8 AM por WNNW  
800 AM y 102.9 FM



# El equipo de campo de Massachusetts DPH en Lawrence y Methuen difunde información vital sobre la vacuna de COVID-19

La Iniciativa de Equidad de Vacunas del Estado llega a poblaciones prioritarias en todo Massachusetts, con un enfoque en 20 ciudades y pueblos, incluido Lawrence, que han sido los más afectados por COVID-19.

Durante las últimas semanas, el equipo de campo del Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts (DPH) centró sus esfuerzos en Lawrence para difundir información sobre la vacuna COVID-19. Los encuestadores capacitados trabajaron con las empresas locales y viajaron de puerta en puerta para responder preguntas y entregar información para que los residentes se vacunen.

Estos esfuerzos son parte de la Iniciativa de Equidad de Vacunas más grande de DPH, que trabaja con poblaciones y comunidades que se ven afectadas de manera desproporcionada por COVID-19 para reducir las barreras a la vacunación, aumentar la conciencia sobre la seguridad y eficacia de las vacunas y, en última instancia, aumentar las vacunas. Dar prioridad al alcance de las vacunas en estas comunidades es clave para poner fin a la pandemia.

Los voluntarios capacitados del DPH continuaron las operaciones. El equipo, compuesto por residentes de Lawrence y Methuen, fue de puerta en puerta para repartir volantes, colgar aldabas y responder preguntas como "¿Cuándo puedo recibir la vacuna de COVID-19?" "¿Cómo sabré que es mi turno de vacunarme?" y "¿Es segura la vacunación?"

Esta estrategia de alcance comunitario enfocada es el producto de una colaboración entre DPH y Archipelago Strategies Group (ASG) y Health Care for All (HCFA), y es solo un componente de la Iniciativa de Equidad de Vacunas más grande de DPH.

La iniciativa prioriza 20 ciudades en todo el estado que fueron identificadas como afectadas de manera desproporcionada por COVID-19. Estas poblaciones prioritarias se determinaron utilizando datos de casos

y la Encuesta de Impacto Comunitario COVID-19, que el DPH realizó en el otoño de 2020. Para garantizar que la vacuna sea accesible para nuestras poblaciones más afectadas de manera desproporcionada, el Commonwealth prioriza la vacuna en cada uno de los 20 municipios cada semana, sujeto a las pautas de administración del programa.

Para obtener información adicional sobre la iniciativa, visite:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-equity-initiative-focused-grassroots-outreach>

## Acerca del Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts (DPH)

DPH promueve la salud y el bienestar de todos los residentes garantizando el acceso a servicios de salud y salud pública de alta calidad, y enfocándose en la prevención, el bienestar y la equidad en la salud de todas las personas.

## Acerca de Archipelago Strategies Group (ASG)

Archipelago Strategies Group (ASG) es una agencia de marketing de servicio completo. Nuestro enfoque es el marketing con propósito. La creación de una agencia de marketing multicultural fue un enfoque intencional para ayudar a todas las comunidades a obtener acceso a información y recursos críticos. ASG cree que la movilización de base es la clave para romper el ruido. Con nuestros clientes, hemos aumentado el acceso a la atención médica, la educación y las oportunidades económicas en Massachusetts y en todo el país. Para obtener más información, visite <http://discoverasg.com/>



Un equipo de embajadores del DPH en Methuen y Lawrence fueron de puerta en puerta llevando información sobre las vacunas. (Crédito: Archipelago Strategies Group)

## Mass. DPH Field Team in Lawrence and Methuen Spreads Vital Information about the COVID-19 Vaccine

The State's Vaccine Equity Initiative reaches priority populations across Massachusetts, with a focus on 20 cities and towns, including Lawrence, which have been most heavily impacted by COVID-19

Over the past few weeks, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) field team focused efforts in Lawrence to spread information about the COVID-19 vaccine. Trained canvassers worked with local businesses as well as traveled door-to-door to answer questions and hand out information for residents to get vaccinated. These efforts are part of DPH's larger Vaccine Equity Initiative, which works with populations and communities that are disproportionately affected by COVID-19 to reduce barriers to vaccination, increase awareness of vaccine safety and efficacy, and ultimately increase vaccinations. Prioritizing vaccine outreach to these communities is key to ending the pandemic.

DPH's trained canvassers continued field operations on the ground. The team, comprised of Lawrence and Methuen residents, traveled door-to-door to hand out flyers, hang doorknob knockers, and answered questions such as "When can I get the COVID-19 vaccine?" "How will I know it's my turn to get vaccinated?" and "Is vaccination safe?"

This focused grassroots outreach strategy is the product of a collaboration between DPH and Archipelago Strategies Group (ASG) and Health Care for All (HCFA), and is just one component of DPH's larger Vaccine Equity Initiative.

The initiative prioritizes 20 cities across the state that were identified as having been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. These priority populations were determined using case data and the COVID-19 Community Impact Survey,

which DPH conducted in the fall of 2020. To ensure the vaccine is accessible to our most disproportionately impacted populations, the Commonwealth prioritizes vaccine to each of the 20 municipalities every week, subject to program administration guidelines.

For additional information on the initiative, please visit:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-equity-initiative-focused-grassroots-outreach>

## About Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH)

DPH promotes the health and well-being of all residents by ensuring access to high-quality public health and healthcare services, and by focusing on prevention, wellness, and health equity in all people.

## About Archipelago Strategies Group (ASG)

Archipelago Strategies Group (ASG) is a full-service marketing agency. Our focus is Marketing with Purpose. Creating a multicultural marketing agency was an intentional approach to helping all communities gain access to critical information and resources. ASG believes that grassroots mobilization is the key to breaking through the noise. With our clients, we have increased access to health care, education and economic opportunities in Massachusetts and across the nation. For more information, please visit <http://discoverasg.com/>



A team of DPH ambassadors in Methuen and Lawrence went door-to-door carrying vaccine information. (Credit: Archipelago Strategies Group)





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**TEWKSBURY GOES PURPLE**

June is Alzheimer's and Brain awareness month! Check out these organizations going purple in Tewksbury who are raising awareness for the Alzheimer's Association and support the Walk to End Alzheimer's event!

- Town Gazebo lit purple 6/1-6/30
- Town Center Digital Sign lit purple 6/1-6/30
- Tewksbury Senior Center (175 Chandler St) decorated inside and out purple and displays of support resources. Pinwheel flower fundraiser call (978) 640-4480 to get yours and support the cause!

**Northeastern MA Walk to End Alzheimer's**

**Sunday, October 3,**  
Brickstone Square, Andover

Visit [act.alz.org/NEM](http://act.alz.org/NEM) for more info or to register today!

**24/7 Helpline**  
**800.272.3900**



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**#TewksburyGoesPurple**  
**#NEMgoesPurple**

# NECC has Funding Available to Help New and Returning Students

Northern Essex Community College (Haverhill and Lawrence, MA) Journalism/Communications major Bryan Fernandez of Lawrence was on track to graduate with his associate degree this summer, but, because of student debt incurred during the pandemic, it didn't look like he would be able to achieve that goal.

Thanks to an infusion of over \$2.58 million from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, which Northern Essex is directing toward student support, Fernandez is now on track to complete his degree—with high honors—by the end of August and transfer to UMass Lowell to continue his studies in the fall.

"It was a giant weight off my shoulders," says Fernandez, whose work as a professional photographer has slowed during COVID-19, "I felt like I was getting a break from the universe."

The funding Northern Essex has received will be used to help current students pay off college debt and cover educational expenses related to the disruption caused by COVID-19 and to assist both new and returning students with educational costs for the summer and fall semesters of 2021.

Applications for funding are being considered now, and students have until September 3 to apply.

"Many of our students have been hard hit by the pandemic," said Lane Glenn, Northern Essex President. "Our hope is that by dedicating these funds to them, we will alleviate some of the financial challenges and help them get back on track with their education."

The majority of the funding, \$1.63 million, is direct student aid, designated to help students with educational expenses, which include tuition and fees, books, course materials, Internet, food, living expenses, etc. This funding is available to students taking credit courses, including high school students in the Early College Program, as well as students taking noncredit courses through Pies de Latinos, the Center for Adult Basic Education, and Corporate and Community Education.

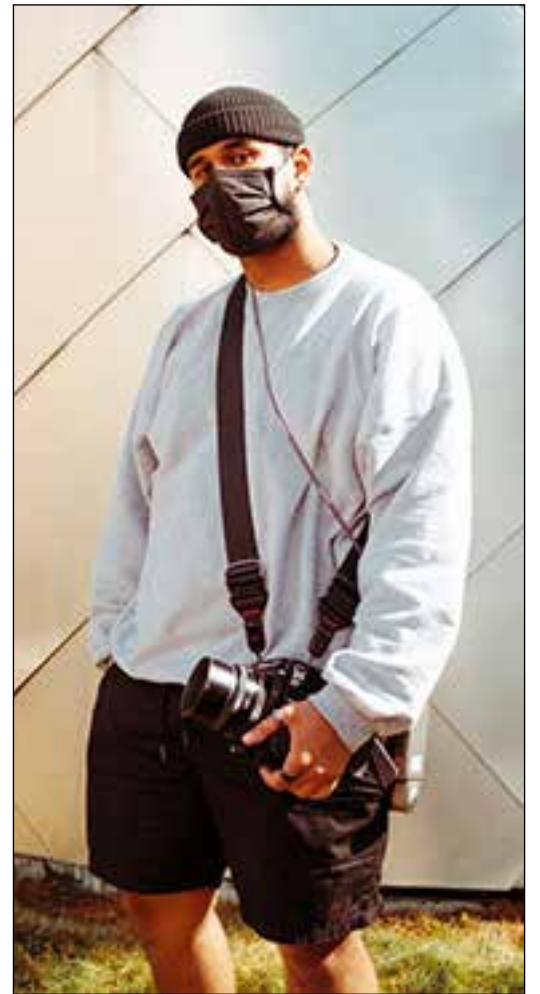
Northern Essex has also opted to use an additional \$957,000 of the institutional funds which it received through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, to support students. Here's how that funding is being allocated:

## Fall Laptop Bookstore Credit, \$250,000

New and returning students can apply for a bookstore credit to purchase a laptop that meets the requirements of their program.

## Start Right Grant for New Students, \$300,000

Six hundred grants of \$500 each will be awarded to students who are new to the college and enrolled in six credits or more. These grants will help pay for fall tuition and fees.



## Finish What You Started for Returning Students, \$407,788

These grants will help 522 returning students to pay off student debt from the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters and cover other educational expenses.

Jennifer Mezquita, vice president of student affairs, encourages students and prospective students to reach out. "The pandemic has presented many challenges for our students; the good news is that we have resources to help them with some of the financial obstacles they've faced."

Community College enrollments have dropped more dramatically than those in any other sector of higher education during the pandemic, according to stats recently released by the National Student Clearinghouse. Undergraduate enrollments across all sectors have decreased by 4.5%, compared to community colleges nationwide which were down 9.5% last fall and 11.3% this spring. Northern Essex is doing better than most, with a 5% decrease in the fall and a 7% decrease in the spring.

"Most of the students who did not arrive on campus this fall because of the pandemic were low-income, first generation, students of color—the students we need to serve now more than ever," said Glenn. "If fewer local residents are graduating from college, this will negatively impact our local economy."

For the past two semesters, 90% of classes at the college have been offered online with just 10% face to face. In the fall, at least 25% of classes will be face-to-face, with social distancing and extra safety measures.

To learn more about funding available to new and returning students or programs and courses available this fall, contact Enrollment Services, 978 556-3700 or [expectmore@necc.mass.edu](mailto:expectmore@necc.mass.edu)



# South Broadway railroad grade crossing

By David Abdoo  
District E City Councilor



, Route 28 South Lawrence, June 15: Great news for the long suffering motorists of Lawrence! Effective soon, you will begin to experience improvement to this long neglected railroad grade crossing. Today's site survey work began long necessary improvements.

Beginning soon, the rubber membranes that surround the railroad tracks will be removed, the potholes addressed and new asphalt seamlessly brought right up to the edge of the rail. This corrective action is a temporary "fix" until the grade crossing is completely replaced in the Spring '22. The necessary materials are in-hand, and the non-

city money committed. Recently, the City of Lawrence received a state MassDOT grant, as well as contributions from a private business owner of the South Lawrence industrial park, that will improve the entire length of this rail spur. The rail spur (currently owned, operated and maintained by Pan Am Railways) that goes from the railroad mainline across Route 28 /South Broadway out to the South Lawrence industrial park.

Rail Improvements will include replacement of rail, wooden ties and ballast. These will result in safer tracks for the railroad, and economic development opportunities in our industrial park. This

progress will create more jobs facilitated by more rail cars accessing the park, rail cars that will be able access tens of thousands of square feet of currently empty commercial-industrial space. This is long-overdue improvement for motorists and neighbors alike. The current state of those tracks are unacceptable, after a glacier slow response by the railroad.

These hard-fought-for improvements will certainly bring safer conditions for the tens of thousands of motorists who cross those tracks each day, and improved conditions for the abutters whose homes directly abut the Pan Am owned and

operated railroad tracks. Next year, when the construction improvements are completed, the result will be jobs creation, and broader commercial revenue for the City of Lawrence. #Safety #Improvement #Jobs

Thank you to our numerous partners in local, state and federal government as well as our Lawrence private sector stakeholder that has contributed their time, talent and resources that have made this first day of tangible solutions possible today.

I have attached photographs from this past weekend. "After" photos will be added in the coming days and weeks as the transitional improvements are completed.

## Protéjase a sí mismo Proteja a su familia

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- Personal de seguridad puede estar presente, pero solo está allí para mantenerlo sano y seguro.

### ES SEGURA

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necesita  
Identificación  
ni seguro.

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pueden recibir  
la vacuna contra el  
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# Mayor Names Police Chief Interview Panels

Mayor James J. Fiorentini has appointed nine people to interview panels to assist in hiring a new police chief to succeed retiring longtime Haverhill chief Alan DeNaro.

The interview panels are divided into two groups: a panel with experience in policing and police hiring, and a panel of community members to provide community input. The interview panels will assist in drafting questions and will advise the city on the hire.

A schedule for interviews and a timeline for the hiring process will be announced soon.

“We are dedicated to getting the best and most professional police chief, the person best suited for this city,” Mayor Fiorentini said. “I have established two panels of people to assist in the interviews. The first is a panel of people familiar with police hiring. This will be headed by Alan Gould, a former police chief who has been extensively involved in hiring police chiefs in many cities for many years.”

Also serving on the police experience panel is former Hampton police chief and Haverhill native William Wrenn. Chief Wrenn was on the original committee that assisted in hiring chief DeNaro 20 years ago.

The second panel consists of community members, including several members of the LatinX and African American communities. The mayor stressed that he will seek broad consensus for the next chief and that the next chief will be expected to expand community policing in Haverhill’s neighborhoods.

Chief DeNaro, who is set to officially retire at the end of this month, notified

the mayor in May that he was taking a permanent leave of absence for health reasons until his retirement.

On May 21, Mayor Fiorentini appointed former Deputy Chief Anthony Haugh to lead the Haverhill department on an acting basis until July 16 while the city continued its search for the new chief.

The city has hired New Hampshire-based Municipal Resources Inc. and its president Alan Gould to help recruit candidates and guide the city’s search.

Here are the members of the Mayor’s Police Chief Interview Committee.

## Interview committee appointees with policing or police hiring experience:

- Chief William Wrenn, Haverhill native. Chief Wrenn was the long-time police chief in Hampton, N.H. and the former head of the New Hampshire Department of Corrections. Chief Wrenn was on the original interview panel that chose Chief DeNaro 18 years ago.
- Richard MacDonald, Haverhill Health and Inspectional Services Director and a former Duxbury, Mass. town manager for many years with experience hiring police chiefs.
- Alan Gould, president of MRI, retired interim police chief in Salem, N.H. He has served all ranks in Salem and is a retired police chief in Rye, N.H. and a retired town manager in Rye, N.H. Chief Gould has extensive experience in recruiting and hiring police chiefs.

- William Cox, Haverhill City Solicitor. Attorney Cox has vast knowledge concerning police laws and procedures.

## Community input group:

- Kalister Green-Byrd, Haverhill resident who is active in the community. Ms. Green-Byrd has held many volunteer positions in the city over the decades.
- Lynda Brown, head of the Highlands Neighborhood Group and head of Haverhill Brightside, a community and neighborhood beautification group.
- Manuel Matias, Haverhill resident and representative of the Haverhill Latino Coalition.
- Irene Haley, CEO of the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, representing Haverhill’s business community.
- Eliza Espinal, Haverhill resident and volunteer assistant in the Lawrence Deputy

Police Chief’s office.

- A representative of the School Department will be named shortly.

The city’s job posting for the Haverhill Police Department’s top job closed June 1 and set salary in the low \$200,000s, based on qualifications. Approximately 27 applications were received.

The search for DeNaro’s replacement was open to internal applicants as well as applicants from Massachusetts and other states.

The candidate pool includes applicants from nine states, including 14 from Massachusetts. Additionally, there were three candidates each from Connecticut and Texas; two candidates from New York, and one each from Michigan, Washington, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Oregon.

Two candidates have a PhD; one has a Juris Doctorate and a Master’s degree; two have a Juris Doctorate and Bachelor’s degree; 16 have Master’s degrees, and five candidates have Bachelor’s degrees.

## MCC Debuts New Summer Non-credit Academies for Students 14+

High school-aged students can get a jumpstart on their college and career experiences with Middlesex Community College’s new Noncredit Career Exploration Summer Academies. Part of MCC’s College for Kids programming, the academies are taught by Middlesex faculty members. Students 14+ can have a productive summer by discovering their personality, skills, values and life goals through coursework, career mapping and research.

The academies match with MCC’s seven academic pathways—Arts and Humanities, Business, Education, Public Service, Social Science, Health and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

“We are so excited to debut our new noncredit academies this summer,” said Lauren Ellis, MCC’s Program Manager for Community Education & Training. “In addition to being taught by MCC faculty, students get hands-on exposure to college-level coursework and possible career options. This will help prepare them for choosing a college major that will one day lead to rewarding and successful career.”

Students in the Creative Writing Career Exploration academy are introduced to MCC’s creative writing concentration. Through journaling, fiction, nonfiction and poetry, students can improve their knowledge and skills and learn what it takes to get a job in the writing and publishing fields. The course will go from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays July 5 through July 16.

On the Lowell campus, students can participate in the 20th and 21st Century Music Career Exploration and learn more about MCC’s Performing Arts – Music concentration. From 10 a.m. to noon on



Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays July 6 through July 17, students will learn about job prospects and gain a better understanding of contemporary classical music and modern music theory concepts from the 1900s to today.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday July 12 through July 16, students can take the Engineering and CAD Career Exploration academy on MCC’s Bedford campus. Students will learn more about MCC’s Engineering and Computer Aided Design (CAD) concentrations by participating in hands-on circuit labs, 3-D printing, software programs and traditional lectures.

For more information and to register for a noncredit academy, call 1-800-818-3434 or email [collegeforkids@middlesex.mass.edu](mailto:collegeforkids@middlesex.mass.edu).

MCC’s College for Kids features seven weeks of half day programs from July 6 through August 19 that run from 8:30 a.m. to noon, or 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Students explore future careers, learn new skills, meet new friends, boost their self-confidence, and follow a regular routine.

For the complete 2021 online College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/) or call 781-280-3663.



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# El evento Hike for Hope 2021 Hike recaudó \$130,000 para ayudar a aliviar la inseguridad alimenticia

Lazarus House Ministries organizó su 22do HIKE for HOPE Challenge anual, una caminata/carrera virtual o en persona de 5 km, con el patrocinador Premier que regresa, New Balance Foundation, el fin de semana del 22 de mayo. Fue un desafío de 3 partes que incluyó la caminata, la recolección de alimentos y la recaudación de fondos. Fue una comunidad de 200 personas reunidas a través de la aplicación Charge Running para la mayoría de los cuales caminaron por la ruta Andover y se detuvieron en los puntos de control para ganar premios en Town Hall, Spark Fitness, A3 Fitness y Free Christian Church.

Marieinez Bernal, quien ganó el premio al individuo más social dijo “¡¡WOW!! Somos los campeones, y es una sensación increíble apoyar y ser apoyado”.

El maestro de ceremonias Kennedy Elsey de Mix 104.1 y el personal de primera línea de Lazarus House alentaron a los caminantes a seguir adelante para nuestros invitados.

Un agradecimiento especial para nuestros Copresidentes Amy Finegold, Adam Molda de Spark Fitness y Audra Palermo de A3 Fitness por su papel fundamental en la recaudación de este dinero para aliviar los crecientes niveles de inseguridad alimentaria de nuestros Huéspedes. Sabemos que Dios distribuyó de manera equitativa el talento y los dones, pero nuestro mundo no distribuye equitativamente las oportunidades; ahí es donde interviene Lazarus House.

La idea del Desafío es ayudar a promover el bienestar haciendo que otros caminen o corran juntos mientras se genera conciencia y se obtienen fondos críticos para ayudar a las familias que luchan con la inseguridad alimentaria a poner comida en la mesa. Durante los últimos 38 años, Lazarus House ha brindado programas y servicios para apoyar y empoderar a familias e individuos que luchan contra la inseguridad alimentaria, la pobreza y la falta de vivienda. A lo largo de la pandemia, Lazarus House se ha centrado en mantener la distribución de alimentos, el refugio y la vivienda para las familias.

La cantidad de invitados que vienen a nuestra despensa de alimentos y nuestro comedor de beneficencia ha aumentado exponencialmente, dijo Jeff Hassel, director ejecutivo de Lazarus House. "Agregamos personal y protocolos de seguridad para mantener abiertos nuestros programas vitales y nuestros huéspedes y personal seguros. El apoyo de nuestra generosa comunidad nos permitirá abrir las puertas a más de 25,000 familias cada año, un número que sigue creciendo a medida que nuestra comunidad se enfrenta a innumerables desafíos planteados por COVID-19. Somos extremadamente afortunados de tener copresidentes, voluntarios, personal y socios corporativos tan increíblemente generosos que nos apoyan. Este evento ejemplificó el apoyo que Lazarus House recibe de la comunidad".



Amy Finegold



Paul Miller.



Adam Molda



Michele Zambino



Audra Palermo



Steve Gendron, Adam Molda, Laurie Byron



Midori Ishizuka



Micki Leblanc

## Hike for Hope 2021 Hike event raises \$130,000 to help alleviate food insecurity

Lazarus House Ministries hosted its 22nd annual HIKE for HOPE Challenge, a virtual/in-person 5k walk/run, with returning Premier Sponsor, New Balance Foundation, on the May 22nd weekend. It was a 3-part challenge that included the hike, food collection, and fundraising. It was a 200-strong community gathered through the Charge Running APP for the greater good many of whom walked the Andover route and stopped at the checkpoints to win prizes at Town Hall, Spark Fitness, A3 Fitness and Free Christian Church.

Marieinez Bernal, who won the Most Social Individual prize said “Wow!! We are the champions, and this is an amazing feeling to support and to be supported”.

Emcee Kennedy Elsey from Mix 104.1 and Lazarus House front line staff encouraged the walkers to keep going for our Guests

Special thanks go out to our Co-chairs Amy Finegold, Adam Molda of Spark Fitness, and Audra Palermo of A3 Fitness for their pivotal role in raising this money to alleviate the increasing levels of food insecurity for our Guests. We know that God equitably distributed talent and gifts, but our world does not equitably distribute opportunity – That’s where Lazarus House steps in.

The idea of the Challenge is to help promote wellness by getting others to walk/run together while raising awareness and critical funds to support families who struggle with food insecurity to put food on the table. For the past 38 years, Lazarus House has provided programs and services to support and empower families and individuals struggling with food insecurity, poverty, and homelessness. Throughout the pandemic, Lazarus House has focused on maintaining food distribution, shelter, and housing for families.

The number of Guests coming to our food pantry and our soup kitchen has increased exponentially, said Jeff Hassel, Lazarus House's Executive Director. "We added staff and safety protocols to keep our vital programs open and our Guests and staff safe. The support of our generous community will allow us to open doors for more than 25,000 families every year, a number that keeps growing as our community grapples with myriad challenges posed by COVID-19. We are extremely fortunate to have such amazingly generous co-chairs, volunteers, staff, and corporate partners supporting us. This event exemplified the support Lazarus House receives from the community."



# MVPC da la bienvenida a Jerrard Whitten como director ejecutivo

Por Mikayla Minor

A medida que el nuevo crecimiento de la primavera da paso a los días soleados del verano, MVPC se complace en presentar a Jerrard Whitten, ex Gerente del Programa de Tecnología de la Información y GIS de MVPC como el nuevo Director Ejecutivo de la Comisión de Planificación de Merrimack Valley.

"Estamos muy contentos de promover al Sr. Whitten al puesto de Director Ejecutivo de la Comisión de Planificación de Merrimack Valley", dijo el presidente de la Comisión de Planificación de Merrimack Valley, Robert Snow. "Aporta una considerable experiencia en planificación y desarrollo económico junto con sólidas relaciones regionales.

Jerrard tiene un conocimiento y una comprensión importantes del trabajo de la Comisión de Planificación, ya que ha sido una parte integral de la organización desde 1995. Esperamos con gran confianza su mandato como Director Ejecutivo".

La Comisión de Planificación de Merrimack Valley contrató a Community Paradigm Associates y su director, el ex administrador de la ciudad de Lowell



Bernard F. Lynch, para buscar y reclutar candidatos para el puesto. El Sr. Whitten fue seleccionado para el puesto de un campo de 22 candidatos bien calificados.

"Es un honor ser designado como el próximo Director Ejecutivo", dijo el Sr. Whitten. "Durante años, he visto la extraordinaria calidad del trabajo realizado por mis colegas de la Comisión de

Planificación de Merrimack Valley y aprecio la forma en que adoptan el compromiso de la organización de ayudar a esta región a prosperar. Reconozco el privilegio que será servir como Director Ejecutivo y estoy emocionado de continuar trabajando con este equipo dedicado en nombre de todos los municipios a los que servimos".

Aunque muchos conocen al Sr. Whitten como un firme defensor de las comunidades y un miembro del personal dedicado a la Comisión de Planificación, ¡no todo es trabajo y nada de diversión! Cuando no está defendiendo a la agencia, mostrando las últimas tecnologías o generando soluciones para los desafíos municipales, el Sr. Whitten

es un ávido amante de la naturaleza y se lo puede encontrar disfrutando de la amplitud de los maravillosos recursos naturales que nuestra región tiene para ofrecer.

Actualmente reside en Newbury, MA, el Sr. Whitten se graduó de la Universidad de New Hampshire con una Maestría en Ciencias en Administración y Gestión de Recursos y una Licenciatura en Economía de Recursos.

La Comisión de Planificación de Merrimack Valley agradece a Jerrard por su continuo servicio y esperamos un nuevo y emocionante período bajo su dirección como nuestro Director Ejecutivo.

## MVPC Welcomes Jerrard Whitten as Executive Director

By Mikayla Minor

As the new growth of spring gives way to the sunny days of summer MVPC is delighted to introduce Jerrard Whitten, MVPC's former GIS and Information Technology Program Manager as the new Executive Director of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission.

"We are very pleased to promote Mr. Whitten to the position of Executive Director of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission," said Merrimack Valley Planning Commission Chairman Robert Snow. "He brings considerable planning and economic development experience along with strong regional relationships. Jerrard has significant knowledge and understanding of the Planning Commission's work as he has been an integral part of the organization since 1995. We look forward with great confidence to his tenure as Executive Director."

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission contracted with Community Paradigm Associates and its principal, former Lowell City Manager Bernard F. Lynch, to search for and recruit candidates for the position. Mr. Whitten was selected for the position from a field of 22 well-qualified applicants.

"It is an honor to be appointed as the next Executive Director," said Mr. Whitten. "For years I have seen the extraordinary

quality of work accomplished by my colleagues at the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission and appreciate how they embrace the organization's commitment to helping this region thrive. I recognize what a privilege it will be to serve as Executive Director and am excited to continue working with this dedicated team on behalf of all the municipalities we serve."

Though many know Mr. Whitten as a strong advocate for the communities and dedicated staff member to the Planning Commission, it isn't all work and no play! When he isn't advocating the agency, showcasing the latest technologies, or brainstorming solutions for municipal challenges, Mr. Whitten is an avid outdoorsman and can be found enjoying the breadth of the wonderful natural resources our region has to offer.

Currently residing in Newbury, MA, Mr. Whitten is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire with a Master of Science in Resource Administration and Management and a Bachelor of Science in Resource Economics.

The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission thanks Jerrard for his continued service and we look forward to an exciting new term under his direction as our Executive Director.

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## Home Health VNA Awards Memorial Scholarship to GLTS Graduate Rechelly Paula



Pictured, counterclockwise from bottom: Home Health Foundation President and CEO Karen Gomes, RN, MS, CPHQ awards the Lisa Santiago Ventura Memorial Scholarship to Greater Lawrence Technical School graduate Rechelly Paula as Lindsay Gangi, lead instructor in the school's Health Careers Department, looks on with pride. (Courtesy photo)

Home Health VNA has awarded a scholarship presented annually in memory of a former employee to Rechelly Paula, a Lawrence resident and graduate of the Health Careers Department at Greater Lawrence Technical School in Andover. Paula plans to study nursing at Barry University in Miami this fall with the goal of becoming a physician assistant.

"This scholarship is a big help," Paula said. "I'm very grateful and excited to receive it."

The \$500 scholarship was established in 1995 as a tribute to Lisa Santiago Ventura, who sustained fatal injuries after being struck during a high-speed police chase while driving to care for a patient. In her memory, Home Health VNA awards the Lisa Santiago Ventura Memorial Scholarship to a graduating senior of Greater Lawrence Technical School where she was once a student.

Lindsay Gangi, lead instructor in the Health Careers Department at Greater Lawrence Technical School, called Paula "a fantastic student and person."

"Rechelly is so well-rounded, and her naturally caring attributes are perfect for her career in health care," Gangi said. "She is a wonderfully compassionate person who is going to touch many, many lives."

At Greater Lawrence Technical School, Paula was vice president of the Class of 2021 and nominated as a 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholar in Career and Technical Education. A member of the National Honor Society with a 4.02 GPA, she gained work experience in nursing home and hospital settings and was a four-sport athlete

competing in softball, basketball, cross-country and swimming.

Paula said her interest in nursing was inspired by the excellent home health care which her grandfather received prior to his death in 2017.

"I still remember the nurses' kindness during what was an overwhelmingly stressful time for my family," she recalled. "I want to be the person that supports a family going through hard times by making sure that everyone is okay and knows what is going on."

Karen Gomes, RN, MS, CPHQ, president and chief executive officer of Home Health Foundation, said she is looking forward to following Paula's collegiate and health care careers.

"It is a sincere pleasure to present this scholarship to such a dedicated young healthcare professional," Gomes said. "We proudly welcome Rechelly into our agency's legacy of caring."

#### **About Home Health VNA**

Home Health VNA is a not-for-profit home care agency affiliated with Home Health Foundation, which also includes providers Circle Home, Commonwealth Nursing Services, Hallmark Health VNA, Home Health VNA of NH, Merrimack Valley Hospice and York Hospital Hospice as part of the Wellforce Health System. Together, these agencies are leading the development of a new era of innovation with a relentless focus on transforming home-based health and hospice care in all the places patients call home. For more information, visit [HomeHealthFoundation.org](http://HomeHealthFoundation.org).

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## La ciudad de Methuen publicará nuevo Código de Conducta

Una nueva declaración de Misión y Visión para actualizar la política

El Alcalde Neil Perry ha anunciado que la ciudad de Methuen está lanzando una nueva declaración de misión y visión. La Ciudad también actualizará su política de Código de Conducta para todos los empleados de la Ciudad. La oficina del alcalde elaboró una declaración de misión y visión que representa mejor la responsabilidad que tiene la ciudad para con sus residentes.

La Declaración de Misión establece que “La ciudad de Methuen brindará servicios y programas comunitarios de calidad a los residentes, apoyará una comunidad empresarial próspera, aumentará la innovación, invertirá en infraestructura, se comprometerá con la sostenibilidad y garantizará la seguridad financiera a través de una planificación adecuada y un gasto responsable. La ciudad de Methuen maximizará las oportunidades de desarrollo social y económico mientras se enfoca en las aspiraciones de la comunidad y el impacto ambiental. Los funcionarios y empleados electos de la Ciudad trabajarán

diligentemente para crear un entorno con integridad, responsabilidad, confianza, respeto, éxito en todos los esfuerzos y un compromiso general con la excelencia”.

“Es fundamental que la ciudad de Methuen tenga una declaración de Misión y Visión, así como una política actualizada del Código de Conducta”, afirmó Perry. “Estos documentos describirán las responsabilidades que nosotros, como servidores públicos, debemos a los residentes de Methuen. Dentro de las declaraciones de Misión y Visión también se enumeran Aspiraciones de la Comunidad, así como un Compromiso de Inclusión y Respeto”.

La Declaración de la Visión establece: “Proporcionar un gobierno local ético, eficiente y receptivo que sirva a todos los residentes, negocios y visitantes y hacerlo con un personal profesional y servicial que emplee ideas innovadoras y un liderazgo sólido para mejorar la calidad de vida de todos en nuestra comunidad, asegúrese de que todos los residentes estén seguros y sean respetados.

## City of Methuen to Release New Conduct Policy

New Mission and Vision Statement to Update policy

Mayor Neil Perry has announced that the City of Methuen is releasing a new Mission and Vision Statement. The City will also update its Code of Conduct policy for all City employees. The Mayor’s office crafted a Mission and Vision statement that best represents the responsibility the City has to its residents.

The Mission Statement states that “The City of Methuen will deliver quality community services and programs to residents, support a thriving business community, increase innovation, invest in infrastructure, commit to sustainability, and ensure financial security through proper planning and responsible spending. The City of Methuen will maximize opportunities for social and economic development while focusing on community aspirations and environmental impact. The City’s elected officials and employees will work diligently to create an

environment with integrity, accountability, trust, respect, success in all endeavors, and an overall commitment to excellence.”

“It is crucial that the City of Methuen have a Mission and Vision statement as well as an updated Code of Conduct policy” stated Perry. “These documents will outline the responsibilities that we as public servants owe to the residents of Methuen. Within the Mission and Vision statements there are also Community Aspirations listed as well as an Inclusion and Respect Pledge.”

The Vision Statement states “To provide an ethical, efficient, and responsive local government that serves all residents, businesses, and visitors and to do so with professional and helpful staff that employ innovative ideas and sound leadership to enhance the quality of life for all in our community, ensure that all residents are safe, and respected.

# Rumbo

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### The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center

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

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

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

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# State Fire Marshal Offers Summer Fire Safety Tips

El Jefe de Bomberos Estatal ofrece consejos de seguridad contra incendios de verano

## Cortacéspedes de gasolina y césped

El Jefe de Bomberos del Estado Ostroskey dijo: “¿Su hijo adolescente finalmente tiene la edad suficiente para cortar el césped? Entonces asegúrese de discutir la seguridad de la gasolina al mismo tiempo; hable sobre por qué es importante dejar que el motor se enfríe antes de repostar”.

Los vapores de gasolina son altamente inflamables y repostar un motor caliente puede encenderlos. La gasolina derramada sobre la ropa puede desprender vapores hasta que esté completamente seca y cualquier fuente de calor la encienda. Los vapores de gasolina pueden viajar una gran distancia para encontrar una fuente de ignición, por lo que la gasolina no se puede almacenar dentro de la casa.

En los últimos cinco años (2016-2020), 338 incendios de cortadoras de césped causaron la muerte de un civil, tres heridos de civiles, cuatro heridos en el servicio de bomberos y una pérdida estimada en dólares de \$ 1.6 millones.

- Almacene la gasolina en el exterior solo en recipientes aprobados.
- Mantenga la gasolina alejada de todas las fuentes de calor, como materiales para fumar, luces piloto, fogatas y parrillas.
- Reposte una cortadora de césped enfriada. Nunca vuelva a llenar mientras esté caliente.
- Mantenga las manos y los pies alejados de la podadora mientras esté en funcionamiento.

## Gasolina e incendios al aire libre

“Nunca use gasolina para encender una fogata ni la agregue a ningún fuego interior o exterior”, dijo Ostroskey. “Hemos tenido tantas lesiones este año por personas que manejan mal la gasolina y otros líquidos inflamables”. En los últimos cinco años (2016 - 2020), los hospitales de Massachusetts han informado [1] que han tratado a 137 personas con lesiones graves por quemaduras causadas por la gasolina.

## Seguridad al fumar

Fumar fue la principal causa de muerte por incendios en Massachusetts el año pasado, y ha habido muchos incendios esta primavera debido a materiales para fumar desechados incorrectamente en porches y patios traseros. Estos incendios pueden arder sin ser detectados durante mucho tiempo y cuando se convierten en llamas, viajan rápido. Si comienzan en el exterior del edificio, estos incendios pueden tener un fuerte control antes de que las alarmas de humo interiores comiencen a advertir a alguien del peligro.

“Si permite fumar en su propiedad, proporcione recipientes adecuados para desechar los materiales de fumar: un cenicero profundo, una lata con arena o agua. No permita que las personas arrojen materiales para fumar al mantillo, hojas, césped, plantas en macetas u otros recipientes que puedan incendiarse. No dejes que los golpeen en la barandilla del porche o en las escaleras”, dijo Ostroskey.

## Gasoline and Lawnmowers

State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said, “Is your teenager finally old enough to mow the lawn? Then be sure to discuss gasoline safety at the same time; talk about why it is important to let the engine cool before refueling.”

Gasoline vapors are highly flammable and refueling a hot motor can ignite them. Gasoline spilled onto clothing can give off vapors until completely dry and be ignited by any heat source. Gasoline vapors can travel a long distance to find an ignition source, which is why gasoline cannot be stored inside the house.

In the past five years (2016-2020), 338 lawn mower fires caused one civilian death, three civilian injuries, four fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of \$1.6 million.

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

## Gasoline and Outdoor Fires

“Never use gasoline to start a campfire or add it to any indoor or outdoor fire,” said Ostroskey. “We have had so many injuries this year from people mishandling gasoline and other flammable liquids.” In the past five years (2016 – 2020), Massachusetts hospitals have reported[1] treating 137 people with serious burn injuries from gasoline.

## Smoking Safety

Smoking was the leading cause of fire deaths in Massachusetts last year, and there have been many fires this spring from improperly discarded smoking materials on porches and in backyards. These fires can smolder undetected for a long time and when they erupt into flames, travel fast. If they start on the exterior of the building, these fires can get a strong hold before the interior smoke alarms start to warn anyone of the danger.

“If you allow smoking on your property, provide appropriate receptacles for discarding smoking materials: a deep ashtray, a can with sand or water. Don’t let people toss smoking materials into the mulch, leaves, grass, potted plants or other containers that can catch fire. Don’t let them stub them out on the porch railing or stairs,” said Ostroskey.

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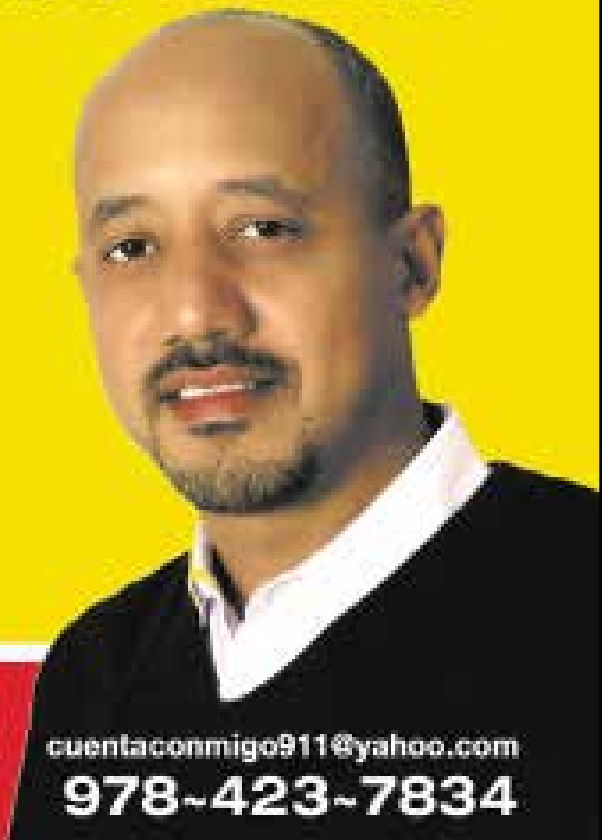
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# NECC se une al desafío COVID-19 del presidente Biden

Northern Essex Community College (Haverhill y Lawrence, MA) se ha unido al Desafío de Vacunas Universitarias COVID-19 de la Casa Blanca, junto con colegios y universidades de todo el país.

Anunciado por la Casa Blanca y el Departamento de Educación de EE. UU. A principios de este mes, el desafío es parte del objetivo del presidente Joe Biden de vacunar al 70% de los adultos de EE. UU. Con al menos una primera dosis para el 4 de julio.

Según los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades de EE.UU., El 44,4% de la población de EE. UU. Ha sido completamente vacunada, el 58% en Massachusetts. En el condado de Essex, el 54% de la población ha sido completamente vacunada, con algunas comunidades rezagadas, como Lawrence, donde el 37,9% de la población está vacunada.

“Creemos que cuantas más personas se vacunen, más seguros estaremos como comunidad”, dijo Lane Glenn, presidente de Northern Essex. “Es por eso que estamos haciendo todo lo posible, incluido unirnos al desafío del presidente, para que las vacunas estén disponibles para nuestra facultad, personal y estudiantes, y las comunidades a las que servimos”.

Las universidades participantes se comprometen a tres acciones: involucrar a todos los estudiantes, profesores y miembros del personal; organizar las comunidades del campus en torno a los esfuerzos de vacunación; y brindar acceso a las vacunas para todos.

Northern Essex ha hecho todo lo posible para que la vacuna sea accesible para la universidad y sus comunidades.

En abril, Greater Lawrence Family

Health Center (GLFHC) abrió una clínica de vacunas en el edificio Dimitry en el campus de Lawrence de la universidad. Esa clínica permanecerá abierta hasta el 30 de junio y se otorgarán citas prioritarias a los profesores, el personal y los estudiantes de Northern Essex.

Desde el 1 de marzo, estudiantes de enfermería y asistentes médicos han estado administrando vacunas como voluntarios en clínicas administradas por la ciudad de Lawrence, Pentucket Medical y GLFHC. El consultorio médico que ayuda a los estudiantes ha ayudado a registrar a los pacientes.

Además, la universidad ha llevado a cabo una campaña de comunicación para promover las vacunas. Rosanna Lara, administradora de casos de seguimiento por contrato de la universidad, está visitando las aulas y hablando con grupos de estudiantes en inglés y español para responder preguntas sobre la vacuna.

La universidad continúa manteniendo un sitio web COVID-19 con información y recursos, que se actualiza periódicamente.

Durante los últimos dos semestres, el 90% de las clases en la universidad se han ofrecido en línea con solo el 10% presenciales. En el otoño, al menos el 25% de las clases serán presenciales, con distanciamiento social y medidas de seguridad adicionales.

“La disponibilidad de vacunas promete volver pronto a la normalidad”, dijo Glenn. “Es probable que para el otoño, la mayor parte de la comunidad del norte de Essex esté vacunada, lo que nos brindará la oportunidad de una transición gradual y segura de regreso al aprendizaje en persona”.

Brenda Sicard de Lawrence recibió una vacuna de la estudiante de asistencia médica Jasmine Hong de Methuen en una clínica del Greater Lawrence Family Health Center que se llevó a cabo en la escuela secundaria Arlington Middle School en Lawrence.

Brenda Sicard of Lawrence received a vaccine from Medical Assisting Student Jasmine Hong of Methuen at a Greater Lawrence Family Health Center clinic held at the Arlington Middle School in Lawrence.



## Eversource's Zero Net Energy Services Create Pathway for Green Future

Energy company offers technical support, financial incentives to reduce commercial sector's emissions and energy use

With commercial buildings accounting for more than 28% of the commonwealth's carbon emissions, Eversource is offering developers and building owners a path to energy savings and carbon reduction through its new construction services for Zero Net Energy (ZNE) buildings. Building design is one of several sectors where Eversource is implementing innovative initiatives to help achieve aggressive carbon-reduction goals, and ZNE buildings are 50%-70% more efficient than a typical building – generating on- or off-site renewable energy, such as solar, that is greater than the total amount of energy the building consumes.

“Efficient design reduces energy usage and increases the value and comfort of a building over the course of its lifetime,” said Eversource Senior Energy Efficiency Consultant Kim Cullinane. “As a catalyst for clean energy, we're committed to bringing more clean, affordable energy to our customers and to helping reduce the region's carbon footprint. Zero Net Energy is an integral part of helping the commonwealth meet its ambitious climate goals and creating a sustainable future, providing valuable new opportunities for our customers to save money and energy.”

Aimed at reducing carbon emissions and helping developers reach their building energy efficiency objectives, Eversource – as a sponsor of Mass Save – has developed several new construction, energy efficiency offerings suited for a variety of building types and featuring a range of strategies and technologies. The energy company offers higher incentives and additional support to projects pursuing ZNE and those with low overall energy needs, including technical assistance and incentives through the first year of occupancy to ensure that the building is truly ZNE. Eversource's technical experts help project teams make design decisions that will enable them to reach their goals

for ultra-low energy use and provide incentive dollars that can buy down the cost of equipment and systems that will get them across the finish line. Purchasing green power or installing solar panels on site brings projects to full ZNE status by offsetting the already low energy needs with clean renewable power.

As an example of its ZNE work, the energy company worked with the City of Cambridge on highly efficient designs for the Martin Luther King Jr. School, and the King Open & Cambridge Street Upper Schools, and is also currently working with the city on the Tobin Montessori Vassal Lane School, which is set to finish construction in 2025. In addition, Eversource has worked with the city to interconnect and operate solar panels at five of the city's schools. Collectively, those solar panels have generated 1.67 Million kWh, one million kWh of which the district has used directly to power its school buildings while sending almost 700 kWh back to the grid. These efforts have resulted in a one-year cost savings of approximately \$238,000, with these five schools using more than 40% less energy than an average regional school.

“As part of our commitment to achieving carbon neutrality, we're working to increase renewable energy production and decrease carbon emissions from our municipal and school buildings,” said Cambridge Public Schools Net Zero Projects Manager Kris Weeks. “We anticipate working closely with Eversource on future ZNE building projects and solar installations, and we appreciate their commitment to supporting ZNE buildings and incorporating more renewable energy sources into the electrical infrastructure in our communities.”

For more information on Eversource's services to support ZNE buildings, visit the Save Money & Energy pages of Eversource.com.

## NECC Joins President Biden's COVID-19 Challenge

Northern Essex Community College (Haverhill and Lawrence, MA) has joined the White House COVID-19 College Vaccine Challenge, along with colleges and universities across the country.

Announced by the White House and U.S. Department of Education earlier this month, the challenge is part of President Joe Biden's goal to get 70% of U.S. adults vaccinated with at least a first dose by July 4.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 44.4% of the U.S. population has been fully vaccinated, 58% in Massachusetts. In Essex County 54% of the population has been fully vaccinated, with some communities lagging behind, such as Lawrence, where 37.9% of the population is vaccinated.

“We believe that the more people who are vaccinated, the safer we will be as a community,” said Lane Glenn, Northern Essex president. “That's why we are doing everything possible, including joining the President's challenge, to make the vaccines available to our faculty, staff, and students, and the communities we serve.”

Participating colleges commit to three actions: engaging every student, faculty, and staff member; organizing campus communities around vaccine efforts; and delivering vaccine access for all.

Northern Essex has made every effort to make the vaccine accessible to the college and its communities.

In April, Greater Lawrence Family

Health Center (GLFHC) opened a vaccine clinic in the Dimitry Building on the college's Lawrence Campus. That clinic will stay open through June 30 and priority appointments are being given to Northern Essex faculty, staff, and students.

Since March 1, nursing and medical assistant students have been administering vaccines as volunteers in clinics run by the city of Lawrence, Pentucket Medical, and GLFHC. Medical office assisting students have helped with registering patients.

Also, the college has waged a communications campaign to promote vaccinations. Rosanna Lara, the college's contract tracer case manager, is visiting classrooms and speaking with student groups in both English and Spanish to answer questions about the vaccine.

The college continues to maintain a COVID-19 website with information and resources, which is updated regularly.

For the past two semesters, 90% of classes at the college have been offered online with just 10% face-to-face. In the fall, at least 25% of classes will be face-to-face, with social distancing and extra safety measures.

“The availability of vaccines promises a return to some kind of normal again soon,” said Glenn. “It's likely that by the fall, most of the Northern Essex community will be vaccinated, providing us with the opportunity for a gradual, safe transition back to in-person learning.”



# Esperanza Academy graduation

## A year of triumph, joy, and success because of you



**By Jadi Taveras**

This past academic year we experienced pain, love, joy, loss, and triumph in ways we could have never imagined. As life normalizes and our community regains its footing, it is abundantly clear that Esperanza’s mission to end generational poverty through culturally responsive education is more urgent than ever. Everyday I am grateful that we are able to achieve the dream set out for us by the school’s founders in 2006, to support Lawrence families and to change lives, one incredible Esperanza girl at a time. It is because of the strength of our team and the commitment of our supporters that we are seeing these dreams realized.

We know that families with low-income backgrounds have faced the brunt of inequities caused by the global pandemic, social unrest, and policies that disproportionately hurt the poor. Recent research continues to reveal the stark inequities for school districts with a majority of students of color. Compared to districts with a majority of white students, low-income schools were more likely to have cut instructional minutes and to have learned remotely all year. As of midyear, the majority of Black, Hispanic and Asian-American fourth graders were learning fully remotely, compared to only a quarter of white fourth graders. While I will not

surmise that students of color have “fallen behind” or suffered from “learning loss” — complex and misleading terms — the truth is that low-income students simply have not had the same educational opportunities as their wealthier counterparts.

Amid this reality, however, Esperanza Academy has offered a counter-narrative. This year, we have witnessed the power of an independent school education rooted in love and trust, and how far such a school can go — did go — to ensure that students learn during the pandemic and remain poised for both success and self-love in high school, college, and life.

Our students have had the resources they need to succeed — including an extended day and year program with a challenging academic curriculum, an innovative music therapy program to address social emotional well-being, and a restorative-justice program aimed at infusing our school with the kind of trust that builds a strong, productive learning environment. Our students also have a group of adults wholeheartedly committed to them for a full 12 years — adults who will be there for each and every student in even the most difficult times.

Witnessing firsthand the stories of triumph, joy, and success within the school, our board also clearly recognizes the impact of our program. As a result, we have formed

a Strategic Planning Committee to plot the growth of the school over the coming years. This committee includes past and present board members and industry leaders, all coming together to think about the future of Esperanza. While we are still fine-tuning ideas, it is clear to everyone that we are ready to serve more students, move into a bigger space better suited for our population and program and expand the Esperanza family. In the fall of 2021, we will present our strategic plan to our constituents.

I’m looking forward to our work this summer. But first I want to share my gratitude for all that we’ve achieved this year. For one, I’m grateful for our broader Lawrence community. Our partnership with Northern Essex Community College, for one, enabled us to finish the school year in person on the Northern Essex campus. I’m grateful to our school principal, Delia Duran Clarke, who, in her first year, did an extraordinary job of caring for the well-being and success of our kids. I’m grateful for a board that has been incredibly supportive and wise throughout these complicated months. I’m grateful for a team of teachers who never cease to inspire me; who teach and mentor our students every day with academic acuity and their full hearts. I’m grateful for our development team, which both understands our mission

and works every day to ensure we stay financially strong so we can continue to serve our children well. And I’m grateful for all of you — the friends and community members who gently hold the dreams of our students in your hands.

In particular, I’m deeply grateful for the leadership of Sarah Bankson Newton during her time as our board chair. Without question, she was our biggest champion and a true advocate for equitable change in our society through access to education. We wouldn’t be where we are without Sarah’s vision, commitment, and love for the Esperanza girls.

Finally, I want to thank everyone involved in the school — students, parents, faculty, staff, board members and community friends — for making this a successful year in the lives of our girls. Nothing was certain last fall. But our community rose with a remarkable fearlessness to every challenge. At the beginning of the year, I told the faculty, “I’m not sure what this year will entail, but at the end, I want us to say that we lead with love and courage.” As we send off another cohort of graduates to their high school careers, I can’t help but be proud of the work we’ve done together — and look forward to the coming year as this remarkable team leads another group of brilliant girls towards their dreams.



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BY DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LEALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

# From My Corner



**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**  
**RUMBO**  
315 Mt. Vernon St.  
Lawrence MA 01843  
Email: Rumbo@rumbonews.com

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

## Oh, what a farce!

Tonight's City Council meeting was a shocker to many residents when they voted to approve the FY'22 budget without discussions, questions, or nothing – but I knew better. I was expecting that outcome when I received this picture from a friend. I knew he had the votes to pass the budget.



Even though Councilors David Abdo and Marc Laplante voted in favor, I have more respect for them because they don't mix their responsibilities with cheap politics. These elected officials partied with the interim mayor and didn't have the guts to ask any questions that concerned many residents.

I know Kendrys met with some councilors (maybe all of them) about why they should approve the budget. One of them told me that "he was very nice during the conversation, not arrogant as he tends to be." Right, that's a good enough reason to please him!

Most of us tune out Mr. Maali when he's speaking during the Public Participation portion of the meeting because it's always the same about the school superintendent and the police, but Richard Russell kept being disconnected and could not do his presentation. According to him, "I kept dialing the listed number and passcode and would get bounced out every 5 minutes after telling me that the meeting hadn't started."

There were over 100 comments on Facebook while the meeting was ongoing and they probably went home, had a glass of milk, and tomorrow will be another day. Soon it will be forgotten. And politicians know it; they are banking on it!

And it's working because we are seeing this prohibition too often. Take a look at the way the Lawrence Public Schools are being run. Few parents know anything about the workings of the school system and those that do, have no idea how to air their views.

Lenin Lorenzo Roa wrote on his Facebook page the following: "It should not

be so hard to allow for public participation to happen; I tried to participate at an LAE BOARD meeting and was not allowed to. We pay taxes, and these budgets are produced with our money; we should be permitted to speak without any resistance at these proceedings."

LEA stands for Lawrence Education Alliance, the state-appointed board that controls the schools, completely ignoring the school committee. The law stipulates that even though the state took control of the schools over ten years ago, that the school committee shall continue to exist. They are elected officials representing families but have no voice at their meetings.

Another accomplishment tonight was the vote to borrow up to \$58 million for the new police station. There are no provisions in this budget to replace some money in the 'free cash' account and no mention of the outstanding debt. You may want to read my article The Budget and the \$69 Million Debt in last week's edition. Lawrence will never be out of debt and it can only get worse.

"We should wait for the MA Attorney General's office to see if the Lawrence City Council violated any laws by 'SUDDENLY' changing tonight's City Budget hearing from an open to the public meeting to a ZOOM meeting," stated Russell.

## No politicking here!

The City Council has a rule for anyone speaking during public participation. They are not supposed to mention politicians, particularly during election time. But, as we know, rules are made to be broken.

## Former Massachusetts Veterans Affairs Secretary Francisco Ureña to help lead MassGOP Veterans Coalition

WOBURN -- Massachusetts Republican Party Chairman Jim Lyons has brought former Massachusetts Secretary for Veterans Affairs Francisco Ureña aboard to help lead the party's Veterans Coalition.



"Francisco is a decorated Massachusetts veteran and quite frankly a war hero, but he's the last guy who will tell you that," Lyons said. "He has honorably served our commonwealth, he's a proud Republican, and we're lucky to have him joining us."

Ureña joins fellow co-chairmen John MacDonald and Adam Hogue in leading the MassGOP Veterans Coalition. Ureña, who has also previously served as veterans service officer for the cities of Lawrence and Boston, served as a tank commander during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained during combat.

"Francisco has spent the better part of his adult life serving other veterans, and I can't think of a better individual to help lead this coalition," said MacDonald.

Ureña said he's looking forward to helping more Republican veterans run for public office.

"Massachusetts veterans know firsthand what it's like to make important sacrifices, and they should know they have an important voice in public affairs," Ureña said. "I'm excited to help them pursue opportunities to serve in public office in any way I can."

Last week, the Director of Community Development used her two and one-half minutes to present the activities of her department and the funding available for public projects.

When she was finished, several different members of that office made similar presentations using their two and one-half minutes allotted to each speaker. There was no explanation or reason for them to be there gloating about the wonderful work they are doing.

The council allowed this circus to go

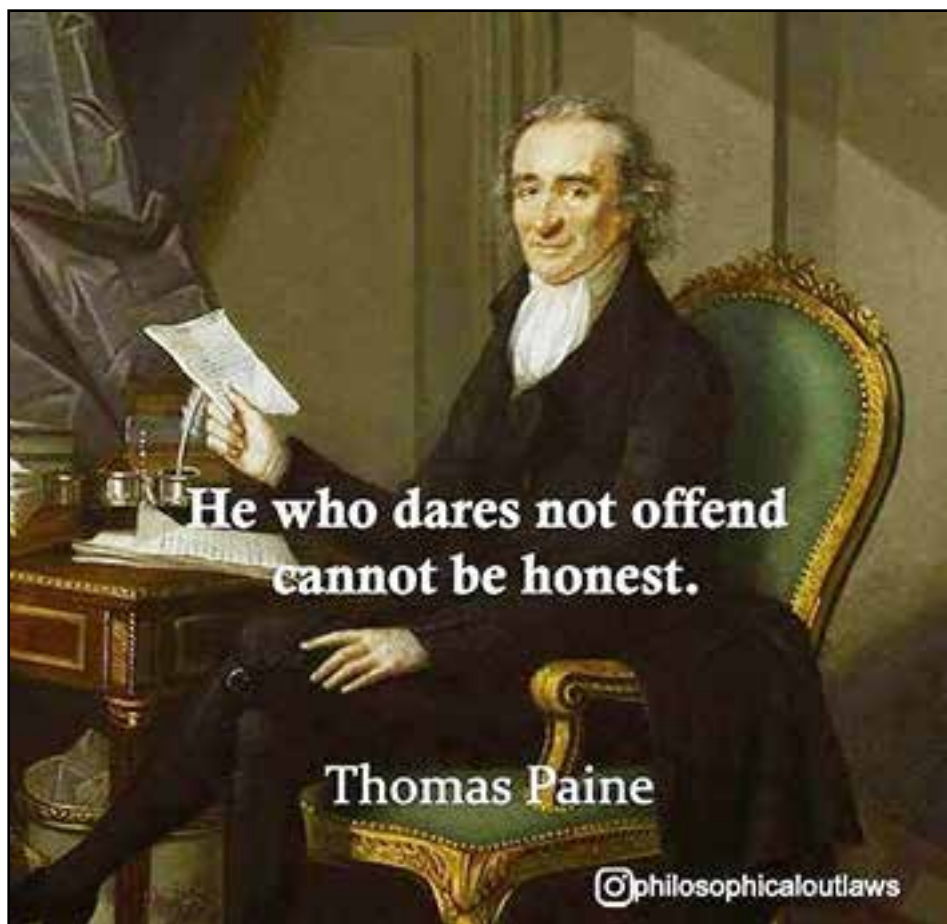
on because they cannot ask questions or interfere in any way. I believe the president should have told the director that if she had anything of importance to bring up, she should have placed an item on the agenda.

Also, this was a sure way for the homeless coordinator not running the risk of having questions thrown at her regarding her responsibilities in this community.

I had to laugh watching it at home because of how low they stoop to grant a candidate a few minutes of free air time. SHAMEFUL!

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

**- Thomas Jefferson**



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Website <https://www.rrodriguezlaw.com>

Attorney Richard Rodriguez was selected as the 2019 Hispanic Week Grand Marshall for his community work in the City of Lawrence as an advocate for the disability population.

El abogado Richard Rodríguez fue seleccionado como el Gran Mariscal de la Semana Hispana de 2019 por su trabajo comunitario en la ciudad de Lawrence como defensor de la población con discapacidad.

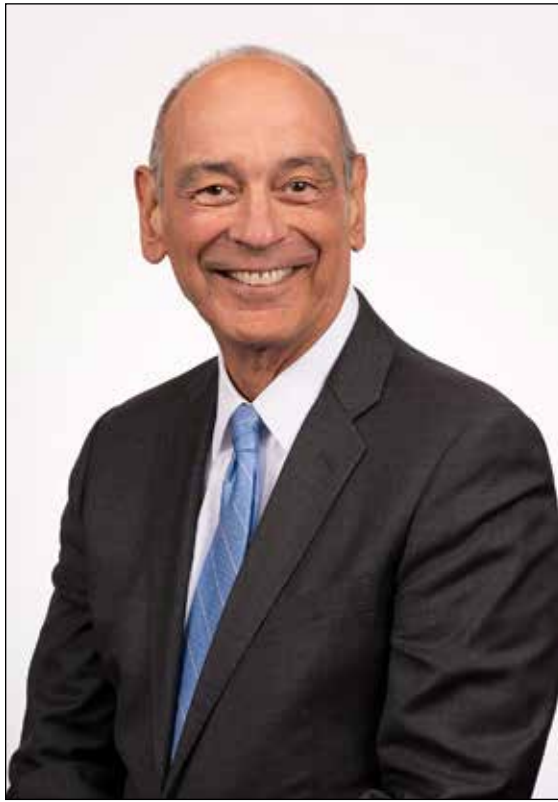


# GLCF announces new Steven Joncas Community Connector Award at Annual Meeting

Lowell, MA – Over 150 residents, business leaders, and nonprofit professionals attended the virtual Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF)’s 2021 annual meeting on June 8. GLCF announced that a new GLCF Steven Joncas Community Connector Award has been established by the foundation in honor of outgoing longtime board member’s commitment to the community.

The inaugural GLCF Steven Joncas Community Connector Award will be given at GLCF’s Celebrate Giving on October 13. The award, given to a community member nominated by individuals and organizations who had stood out in their support of the Greater Lowell community through one or more extraordinary acts during the year. The award recipient will be able to select a Greater Lowell nonprofit to receive \$1000 from GLCF. Nominations for the GLCF Steven Joncas Community Connector Award will open in September.

Steven Joncas came onto the GLCF board in 2006 at the request of founding member Dick Donahue. Joncas served as GLCF board president from 2010-2013. Professionally, Steven Joncas has more than 40 years of real estate development and government experience. Joncas held key positions with elected officials. He served as Chief of Staff for Congressman Martin T. Meehan from 1993 to 1995 and as District Director for Congressman Paul Tsongas later becoming State Manager and Director of Economic Development when Mr. Tsongas was elected to the U.S. Senate.



The Greater Lowell Community Foundation recently hosted its Annual Meeting and announced the new Steven Joncas Community Connector Award, in honor of Joncas’ service to Greater Lowell and his 15 years of board service.

“We wanted to honor Steve’s 15 years of dedicated service to GLCF,” said GLCF President & CEO Jay Linnehan. “The Steven Joncas Community Connector Award honors his valuable commitment to the community and will serve as a beacon for future community leaders. I speak firsthand as someone who has benefitted from his trusted advice and guidance. He cares about Greater Lowell, and his passion has been inspiring to GLCF.”

To find a video of the Annual Meeting or for further information about GLCF, visit [www.glcfoundation.org](http://www.glcfoundation.org).

**RCL Family Day**

Sábado 24 Julio de 2021 @ 11 am

Roberto Clemente Field - 490 Pawtucket St  
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# Lawrence Partnership anuncia nuevo director ejecutivo

George Ramírez, ex funcionario estatal de desarrollo económico, ha sido nombrado Director Ejecutivo de The Lawrence Partnership, la colaboración de líderes empresariales y cívicos comprometidos con la creación de una economía inclusiva y resiliente en Lawrence. La Junta de Directores anunció la medida hoy, concluyendo una larga búsqueda para reemplazar al antiguo director Derek Mitchell, quien dejará la Asociación a finales de este mes para convertirse en presidente de LEADS.

Ramírez, quien nació en Colombia y se crió en Lowell, es abogado y consultor de empresas y organizaciones sin fines de lucro. Ramírez se desempeñó anteriormente como vicepresidente ejecutivo de operaciones para MassDevelopment, una agencia de desarrollo económico cuasi estatal en Massachusetts. Antes de eso, se desempeñó como Asesor Jurídico del Secretario de Vivienda y Desarrollo Económico bajo la Administración del Gobernador de Massachusetts Deval L. Patrick. Ramírez también se desempeñó como presidente del Concejo de Coordinación de Asistencia Económica, miembro del Comité Asesor del Fondo de Tecnología Emergente y miembro del Gabinete de Desarrollo del Gobernador Patrick. Al principio de su carrera, el Sr.

Ramírez se desempeñó como miembro del Concejo Municipal de Lowell.

"Es un gran honor para mí tener la oportunidad de trabajar con una junta tan distinguida compuesta por líderes empresariales, sin fines de lucro y educativos", dijo Ramírez. "Derek Mitchell y su personal han hecho un gran trabajo creando una organización que está bien posicionada para ayudar a Lawrence a continuar su trayectoria como Ciudad en Movimiento. Espero poder empezar".

"Estamos muy contentos de dar la bienvenida a George Ramírez como el nuevo Director Ejecutivo de la Asociación", dijo Wendy Estrella, presidenta de la junta de Lawrence Partnership. "Espero trabajar con George ahora que ingresamos a una nueva fase de liderazgo. Estoy segura de que juntos continuaremos el trabajo continuo de la Asociación de fortalecer el desarrollo económico de Lawrence de una manera que beneficie a toda la comunidad".

"George tiene la combinación perfecta de experiencia, creatividad, simpatía e impulso para mantener el viento en las velas de Lawrence Partnership y todas las oportunidades para el desarrollo económico inclusivo que tenemos por delante", dijo Lane A. Glenn, presidente de Northern Essex Community College y presidente del

comité de búsqueda de la junta.

Ramírez comenzará su papel a finales de este mes.

## Acerca de The Lawrence Partnership

Lawrence Partnership fue lanzada en 2014 por líderes de empresas locales, bancos del área, organizaciones sin fines de lucro, instituciones educativas y de atención médica y el gobierno, todos comprometidos con la creación de una economía local resiliente, inclusiva y equitativa. Siempre guiada por una estrategia centrada en las personas, la Asociación desarrolla e implementa iniciativas que apoyan a las pequeñas empresas, fomentan el liderazgo y hacen crecer la fuerza laboral en Lawrence.



Former state economic development official George Ramírez to take over for longtime Executive Director Mitchell.

## Lawrence Partnership announces new executive director

George Ramírez, a former state economic development official, has been named Executive Director of The Lawrence Partnership, the collaboration of business and civic leaders committed to building an inclusive and resilient economy in Lawrence. The Board of Directors announced the move today, concluding a lengthy search to replace longtime director Derek Mitchell, who is leaving the Partnership later this month to become president of LEADS.

Ramírez, who was born in Colombia and raised in Lowell, is an attorney and consultant to businesses and nonprofits. Ramírez previously served as Executive Vice President of Operations for MassDevelopment, a quasi-state economic development agency in Massachusetts. Prior to that, he served as General Counsel to the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development under Massachusetts Gov. Deval L. Patrick's Administration. Ramírez also served as chairman of the Economic Assistance Coordinating Council, a member of Emerging Technology Fund Advisory Committee, and as a member of Gov. Patrick's Development Cabinet. Earlier in his career, Mr. Ramírez served as a member of the Lowell City Council.

"It is my great honor to have an opportunity to work with such a distinguished board made up of business, non-profit, and education leaders," said Ramírez. "Derek Mitchell and his staff have done a great job building an organization that is well-

positioned to help Lawrence continue its trajectory as a City on the Move. I look forward to getting started."

"We are excited to welcome George Ramírez as the Partnership's new Executive Director," said Lawrence Partnership Board Chair Wendy Estrella. "I'm looking forward to working with George as we enter a new leadership phase. I am confident that together we will continue the Partnership's ongoing work of strengthening Lawrence's economic development in a way that benefits the whole community."

"George has the perfect combination of experience, creativity, relatability, and drive to keep the wind in the sails of the Lawrence Partnership and all of the opportunities for inclusive economic development ahead for us," said Lane A. Glenn, president of Northern Essex Community College and chair of the board's search committee.

Ramírez will begin his role later this month.

### 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.

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## Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

<http://heallawrence.org/>

[heallawrence@aol.com](mailto:heallawrence@aol.com)

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



# ESSEX ART CENTER

This Summer Essex Art Center is offering many in-person and virtual classes. We hope you join us and find your art bliss!

As always, in addition to what you see listed online, we are happy to coordinate a private class. Sending warm vibes your way!

The Essex Art Center Team

Since EAC serves youth who are not yet able to be vaccinated, we are following the guidance for schools and face coverings will remain required. See our latest in-person policies [HERE](#).

Here is a highlight of a few of our NEW Youth summer classes.

## STUDIO TIME

Age 7-10 + Age 11-15  
in-person youth intensive with CLAIRE, LISA, + MARIANA  
3-days, Tue-Thu, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 8/10 - 8/12, \$135

Join us in the studio for three intense mornings of creative fun! Explore gesture drawing and study facial proportions as you create portraits on canvas. Learn the art of needle felting as you form colorful soft sculptures. And finally, using the EAC iPads, learn how simple lines and shapes can transform into an animated object as you create your own gif. EAC provides all materials.

## SCULPT + BUILD

Age 6+ virtual youth intensive with GEORGIA RENFROE  
4-days, Mon-Thu, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM, 7/26 - 7/29, \$90

On each day of this four-day workshop, students will embark on a new creative adventure. Students will sculpt and build fun and imaginative three-dimensional works of art. We will use many recycled materials that students have at home combined with some basic art supplies. Students will provide their own materials

## PERSPECTIVE DRAWING

Age 10+ virtual youth class with SAM AMAN  
6-wks, Monday, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM 7/12 - 8/16, \$135

If you've ever wanted to learn how to draw from your imagination, but you've always struggled with believability and being able to translate what is in your head onto the paper, then this course is for you. Using the rules of perspective drawing, you will begin to learn how to use visual tricks, construction lines, and technical drawing fundamentals to create characters, worlds, objects, or whatever you want to draw from your own head. Students will provide their own materials

Here is a highlight of a few of our NEW Adult summer classes.

## 4 MODERNIST SCULPTORS

virtual adult lecture with JIM ZINGARELLI  
3-wks, Friday, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM, 8/6 - 8/20, \$65

In this art history class, we will examine the work of 4 modernist sculptors over the course of 3 online zoom classes. We'll begin with Constantin Brancusi (early 20th century), move on to Barbara Hepworth (mid-century), Marisol (late midcentury), and finally Martin Puryear (late 20th-early 21st century). In each case, we'll explore the evolving nature of modernist sculpture (referencing other sculptors as well), each

working within both traditional and new methods & materials, and the context in which their work unfolded. The class will conclude with a brief look at Jim Zingarelli's sculptural work, which has been influenced by a modernist aesthetic and, more particularly, by all of these sculptors.

## FIBER FABRIC COLLAGE ...an Eye-Opening Color Workshop

in-person adult class with KAREN NASTUK  
1-day, Monday, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, 7/12, \$45

Want the depth of Rembrandt and the sparkle of Sargent? With three hours of practice reproducing a scene using fabric, you'll train your brain and eyes to see color more accurately, which will make you a better painter! How dark can a white chair be? Does a white buoy have a white reflection? Please bring five color photographs or magazine scenes. You will recreate one in fabric. These images should have objects close and far away to help you understand the depth of field.

View all of our classes in our [SUMMER 2021 PDF](#)

**RADIANCE OF THE DAY**  
... an immigrants' story

**THEATER AUDITIONS**

A MUSICAL PLAY BY GINGER LAZARUS  
DIRECTED BY PASCALE FLORESTAL  
MUSIC COMPOSITION AND ARRANGEMENT BY ANDRES BALLESTEROS

PERFORMANCES IN LAWRENCE ON SEPTEMBER 11 AND 12

**In Good Company** announces auditions for *Radiance of the Day*, a new musical play by Ginger Lazarus. The play will be performed as part of a new outdoor Lawrence performing arts festival on September 11 and 12. Rehearsals will begin in early July, and will be held in Lawrence or other nearby location. Because the performances will be in the afternoon outdoors, we expect all rehearsals starting August 30 will be during daytime hours.

Persons interested in auditioning may do so either by video submission or in-person. In both circumstances, please prepare a one-minute contemporary monologue, and 32 bars of an uptempo song. Much of the music in the show is from choral traditions and/or be multi-voice-part in nature, so experience with choral singing is a plus.

In-person auditions will be held at Spotlight Playhouse, 15 Union Street (Everett Mill), Unit 459, Lawrence, on:  
Friday, June 11 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm  
Saturday, June 12 from 12:30 to 4:30 pm

Sign up for a time slot at <http://ingc.co/signup>.

Video auditions should upload their video(s), along with a headshot and resumé if available, at <http://ingc.co/upload>.

All auditionees are requested to complete the questionnaire at <http://ingc.co/audinfo>. Note that all roles are unpaid.

Actors of all backgrounds are encouraged to audition.

Character descriptions and additional information are available at <http://ingc.co/auditions>.

If you have questions, email us at [auditions@ingoodcompanytheater.org](mailto:auditions@ingoodcompanytheater.org).