



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

## Consejos para Prevenir las Enfermedades Relacionadas con el Calor en el Trabajo

La exposición al calor al trabajar al aire libre y en espacios interiores puede ser peligrosa.

(Read it in English on page 2)

Casi 3 de cada 4 muertes por las enfermedades relacionadas con el calor ocurren durante la primera semana de trabajo. Los trabajadores nuevos y los que regresan necesitan desarrollar lentamente la tolerancia al calor y trabajar turnos más cortos en el calor para empezar.

La exposición peligrosa al calor extremo puede ocurrir en espacios interiores y exteriores durante todo el año. Mantenga a los trabajadores seguros con estos consejos de seguridad útiles y fácil de seguir:

- Siga la Regla de 20% — el primer día, no permita que los empleados trabajen más de 20% de la duración del turno a intensidad plena en el calor. Aumente la duración de tiempo no más de 20% al día hasta estén acostumbradas a trabajar en el calor.
- Proporcione agua fría para beber — aliente a los trabajadores a beber al menos un vaso cada 20 minutos, aun si no tienen sed.
- Descansos — permita a los trabajadores el tiempo para recuperarse del calor bajo la sombra o en un sitio fresco.

- Use ropa adecuada— haga que los trabajadores usen sombrero y ropa liviana, de color claro, holgada y respirable de ser posible.
- Esté pendiente a sus compañeros — aliente a los trabajadores a vigilarse muy de cerca y vigilar a los demás por signos de enfermedades relacionadas con el calor.
- Busque cualquier signo de enfermedades relacionadas con el calor, incluyendo desmayo, mareos, náuseas, y espasmos musculares, y actúe rápido — en caso de duda, llame al 911.
- Ofrezca capacitación sobre los riesgos de estar expuesto al calor y cómo prevenir las enfermedades relacionadas.
- Tenga listo un plan de emergencia para saber qué acciones debe tomar si uno de los trabajadores presenta síntomas de agotamiento por calor.

Visite [www.osha.gov/calor](http://www.osha.gov/calor) para más información sobre la prevención y primeros auxilios para las enfermedades causadas por el calor.

## MCC Graduate Supported by Professors and Community



A recent graduate from Middlesex Community College, Odette Pinales is thankful for her education. Middlesex taught her the importance of advocating for herself, getting involved in the community, and taking advantage of opportunities. As she prepares to transfer to a four-year college, she said she had “a great and interesting ride” at MCC. Pg. 8



### Consejos para Prevenir las Enfermedades Relacionadas con el Calor en el Trabajo



**Modere su actividad.** Casi 3 de cada 4 muertes por el calor ocurren durante la primera semana de trabajo.

Desarrolle una tolerancia al calor aumentando la intensidad en un 20% cada día.



**Beba agua fría aun si no tiene sed**



**Descanse lo suficiente para recuperarse del calor**



**Tome descansos bajo la sombra o en un lugar fresco**



**Use sombrero y ropa adecuada para el calor**



**Esté pendiente a sus compañeros**



**Chequee verbalmente a los trabajadores usando mascarilla**

## GLCF Gabriel Cuevas Scholarship



Greater Lowell Community Foundation anuncia el establecimiento del Fondo de Becas Gabriel Cuevas, una beca conmemorativa que lleva el nombre de Cuevas, un estudiante de Lowell High School y miembro dedicado de Aaron's Presents que falleció inesperadamente en agosto de 2020. Pg. 6

Greater Lowell Community Foundation announces the establishment of the Gabriel Cuevas Scholarship Fund, a memorial scholarship named for Cuevas, a Lowell High School student and dedicated Aaron's Presents member who unexpectedly passed away in August 2020. Pg. 6

## USCIS actualiza las políticas de inmigración

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Por/By Dalia Diaz  
rumbonews.com/blog

Desde Mi Esquina



**Teoría Crítica de razas  
Comisión de Licencias  
Dept. de Elecciones**

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rumbonews.com/blog

From My Corner



**Critical Race Theory  
Licensing Commission  
Elections Department**

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# El Stop & Shop de North Andover se une a GLCAC para luchar contra el hambre

La despensa semanal de alimentos del Greater Lawrence Community Action Council ha sido seleccionada por el Stop & Shop de North Andover como beneficiaria de julio de su programa "Bloomin' 4 Good", que dona dinero para luchar contra el hambre en la comunidad.

Cada mes, en cada Stop & Shop, se elige a una organización local de lucha contra el hambre como beneficiaria de la venta del ramo "Bloomin' 4 Good" con la etiqueta del círculo rojo.

El Greater Lawrence Community Action Council recibirá una donación de \$1 por cada ramo "Bloomin' 4 Good" de \$10.99 que se venda en julio en el Stop & Shop de 757 Turnpike Street, North Andover.

"Estamos muy agradecidos a Stop & Shop por comprometerse con la lucha contra el hambre y por seleccionar a la despensa de alimentos del GLCAC como beneficiaria del programa en julio", dijo Evelyn Friedman, directora ejecutiva del GLCAC. "Durante la pandemia, la necesidad de nuestra despensa semanal de alimentos se triplicó y, especialmente en los meses de verano, GLCAC y otras organizaciones que luchan contra el hambre necesitan el apoyo de la comunidad".

En 2020, la despensa de GLCAC brindó alimentos frescos a más de 3600 personas. La despensa está abierta al público todos los martes a las 4 p. m. en 305 Essex Street,



Lawrence.

GLCAC es una agencia de servicios sociales multifacética que asiste anualmente a más de 32.000 personas mediante una variedad de programas, entre ellos, de educación en la primera infancia, asistencia de combustible, asistencia nutricional de WIC, servicios de inmigración, prevención del envenenamiento con plomo y del maltrato infantil, clases de inglés y protección al consumidor. El Greater Lawrence Community Action Council se dedica a crear oportunidades colaborando con nuestra comunidad y capacitando a las personas para que alcancen sus metas. Puede encontrar más información sobre el Greater Lawrence Community Action Council en [www.glcac.org](http://www.glcac.org). Para mayor información sobre el programa "Bloomin' 4 Good" de Stop & Shop, visite [stopandshop.bloomin4good.com](http://stopandshop.bloomin4good.com).

# North Andover Stop & Shop Teams with GLCAC to Fight Hunger

The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council's weekly food pantry has been selected by the North Andover Stop & Shop as the July beneficiary of its Bloomin' 4 Good Program which donates money to fight hunger in the community.

Every month at every Stop & Shop location a different local hunger organization is selected to benefit from the sale of the Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker. The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council will receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet purchased in July at the Stop & Shop located at 757 Turnpike Street, North Andover.

"We are very grateful to Stop & Shop for making a commitment to fighting hunger and for selecting GLCAC's food pantry to benefit from the program in July," said Evelyn Friedman, Executive Director of GLCAC. "The need for our weekly food pantry tripled during the pandemic, and especially in the summer months, GLCAC and other organizations that fight hunger need the community's support."

GLCAC's food pantry provided fresh food to more than 3,600 people in 2020. The pantry is open to the public every Tuesday



at 4 p.m. at 305 Essex Street, Lawrence.

GLCAC is a multi-faceted social services agency that assists more than 32,000 individuals through a range of programs including early childhood education, fuel assistance, WIC nutrition assistance, immigration services, lead poisoning prevention, child abuse prevention, English-language lessons, and consumer protection. The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council works to create opportunities by collaborating with our community and empowering individuals to achieve their goals. Learn more about The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council by visiting [www.glcac.org](http://www.glcac.org). For more information about the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program, please visit [stopandshop.bloomin4good.com](http://stopandshop.bloomin4good.com).

# OSHA's Campaign to prevent heat-related sicknesses

OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention campaign, launched in 2011, educates employers and workers on the dangers of working in the heat. Through training sessions, outreach events, informational sessions, publications, social media messaging and media appearances, millions of workers and employers have learned how to protect workers from heat. Our safety message comes down to three key words: Water. Rest. Shade.

## Dangers of Working in the Heat

Every year, dozens of workers die and thousands more become ill while working in extreme heat or humid conditions. There are a range of heat illnesses and they can affect anyone, regardless of age or physical condition.

## Employer Responsibility to Protect Workers

Under OSHA law, employers are responsible for providing workplaces free of known safety hazards. This includes protecting workers from extreme heat. An employer with workers exposed to high

temperatures should establish a complete heat illness prevention program.

## Provide workers with water, rest and shade.

- Allow new or returning workers to gradually increase workloads and take more frequent breaks as they acclimatize, or build a tolerance for working in the heat.
- Plan for emergencies and train workers on prevention.
- Monitor workers for signs of illness.

## Resources

OSHA's Occupational Exposure to Heat page explains what employers can do to keep workers safe and what workers need to know - including factors for heat illness, adapting to working in indoor and outdoor heat, protecting workers, recognizing symptoms, and first aid training. The page also includes resources for specific industries and OSHA workplace standards. Also look for heat illness educational and training materials on our Publications page.

**OSHA**  
osha.gov/heat

## Prevent Heat Illness at Work

**Ease into Work.** Nearly 3 out of 4 fatalities from heat illness happen during the first week of work.

Build a tolerance to heat by increasing intensity by 20% each day.

Drink cool water even if you are not thirsty	Rest for long enough to recover from the heat	Take breaks in a shady or cool area
Wear a hat and dress for the heat	Watch out for each other	Verbally check on workers wearing face coverings

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

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

**- Thomas Jefferson**

# Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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### Family Health Center

[haverhillfamilyhealthcenter.org](http://haverhillfamilyhealthcenter.org)



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POR DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

# Desde Mi Esquina



## Teoría crítica de razas

Hay algo nuevo y revolucionario que llegará a las escuelas en los Estados Unidos este otoño y los padres de todo el país se quejan de ello. Se llama CRT (teoría crítica de raza).

Esto se basó en el Proyecto 1619, escrito por Nikole Hannah-Jones, quien recibió el Premio Pulitzer de comentario 2020. La razón de su nombre es por ser el año en que llegaron los primeros esclavos como parte de la fundación de San Agustín, Florida, con el objetivo de enseñar la historia racial en este país. El Proyecto afirma que Estados Unidos se fundó sobre raíces racistas y sigue siendo una nación racista.

No hay duda de que este país ha tenido una historia brutal durante varios siglos y debería enseñarse en la escuela para asegurarnos de que no la repitamos.

Desde la Guerra Civil, el presidente Abraham Lincoln, luchó por emancipar a los esclavos y eso es lo que ahora celebramos en Juneteenth, que representa el 19 de junio de 1863, el día en que los esclavos fueron declarados hombres libres. Fue un proceso lento que se implementó hasta mediados de la década de 1900, cuando la discriminación era desenfrenada, particularmente en los estados del sur.

He estado en este país desde 1963, antes de la firma de la Ley de Derechos Civiles en 1965, y recuerdo el caos provocado por las manifestaciones en las calles y las objeciones a la igualdad racial. En Boston, los padres apedreaban los autobuses escolares que transportaban a niños pequeños en oposición a la eliminación de la segregación escolar. Son días oscuros que no queremos volver a vivir.

La historia negra y la esclavitud deben enseñarse en la escuela como parte de las clases de historia porque nunca deben olvidarse.

El problema es que están de regreso pero al revés. Haber elegido dos veces a un presidente negro y tener más minorías en el gobierno es una señal segura de que nuestro país ha cambiado. Cuando pensamos que habíamos logrado la armonía y eso era solo un recuerdo, los estudiantes universitarios comenzaron a pedir dormitorios separados y graduaciones para las minorías separado de los blancos. Empezamos a ver divisiones que nunca existieron y ven a la gente según el color de su piel, justo al contrario de lo que deseaba Martin Luther King.

Ahora, CRT se ha llevado al extremo. Comenzando con los niños de kindergarten, los maestros los separan por razas señalando que los estudiantes de piel más clara son "privilegiados" y tendrán más oportunidades en la vida, solo por el color de su piel. También les dirán a los niños negros que los blancos los ven como "inferiores" que nunca llegarían a ser gran cosa. La clase enseña que los blancos son "opresores" y los negros son las "víctimas".

¿Cómo afectará eso el comportamiento

de nuestros hijos? ¿Cómo va a curar eso los conflictos raciales que están creando ahora? Los niños no eligen a sus compañeros de juego por raza, pero si los niños negros se ven a sí mismos como víctimas, ¿por qué querrían jugar con sus opresores?

Una cosa es hablar de historia, pero señalar a los jóvenes sus diferencias hoy en día es enseñarles a odiar. Veo un camino muy peligroso por delante.

Los padres deben participar en la educación de sus hijos. Hablen con ellos, pregúnteles qué han aprendido hoy y escuche sus comentarios sobre sus compañeros.

## Comisión de Licencias

Están sucediendo tantas cosas en el Ayuntamiento que es difícil (incluso para mí) mantener el ritmo. Intento ver las reuniones del concejo y las juntas y comisiones porque las cosas están sucediendo a un paso rápido justo frente a nosotros y la mayoría de la gente no se da cuenta.

Por ejemplo: el 23 de junio, la Comisión de Licencias tuvo una audiencia en el asunto de la licorería de Mt. Vernon Liquors. Después de una votación unánime, su licencia fue suspendida indefinidamente. No pensé nada de eso, después de todo, el establecimiento estaba bajo vigilancia y los investigadores vieron 61 cargos de irregularidades, como vender a adolescentes menores de edad. Eso fue lo suficientemente severo para ese castigo.

Una licencia de licor es valiosa porque la cantidad es limitada y no hay ninguna disponible y la gente está dispuesta a pagar para obtener una a cualquier precio.

Unos días después, las cosas empezaron a encajar. La decisión sobre la licencia se tomó el 23 de junio y el 25 de junio, Alfred Potter, uno de los miembros de la Junta de Licencias renunció inesperadamente. Ni siquiera siguió el procedimiento requerido para renunciar a su cargo.

¡Pero se pone mejor! El 28 de junio comenzó a trabajar para el alcalde interino Kendrys Vasquez como coordinador de vecindarios o enlace comunitario y finalmente se conformó con el título de asistente del alcalde ganando \$44,000. Nuevamente, se eligió "deocráticamente" (con solo señalar con el dedo). ¿Se anunció esta posición? ¿Quién más solicitó el trabajo? ¿Existe el trabajo? ¿Ha creado el ayuntamiento una ordenanza para este puesto? Si es así, ¿cuál es la escala salarial? Nadie lo sabe.

El alcalde interino contrata personas de la misma manera que el dueño del rancho elige a sus trabajadores. Sabemos que él cree que este rancho le pertenece y este tipo de contratación los convierte en sujetos fieles, dispuestos a hacer un esfuerzo, incluso pidiendo a las empresas contribuciones de campaña. ¡Él los posee como ganado!

Mi única pregunta ahora es, ¿cuánto tiempo antes de que esa licencia de licor termine siendo asignada a otra persona?

Necesitamos seguir la conexión porque tener una licencia de licor es prácticamente una licencia para imprimir dinero.

## Departamento de Elecciones

El pasado viernes, 9 de julio, los empleados del Departamento de Elecciones en Lawrence se alarmaron cuando abrieron un sobre que contenía un polvo blanco. Inmediatamente, se llamó a la policía, al departamento de bomberos, a las ambulancias e incluso a Hazmat que se encarga de los materiales peligrosos y llegaron en cuestión de minutos.

Se sabe que a veces el solo hecho de estar en presencia de ciertas sustancias puede afectar a un individuo y es aún peor si toca la piel. Durante más de tres horas se aseguraron de que los empleados estuvieran sanos, pero se les pidió que permanecieran en el edificio hasta que se realizaran más investigaciones.

## 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.

Mientras tanto, se desinfectaban las manos con lejía, por si acaso.

Se llamó al alcalde interino y la primera vez se les dijo que no estaba. Una vez que se enteraron de que estaba arriba, las llamadas se repitieron un par de veces y nunca tuvo la decencia de bajar del tercer piso. Otros empleados estaban preocupados por ellos y lo demostraron.

Esta persona está a cargo del bienestar de toda la ciudad y eso incluye a los empleados de la ciudad. Un incidente de este tipo, por peligroso que pudiera haber sido, no le proporcionaría una sesión de fotos en la prensa. Que sea un incendio y él será el primero en hablar con los medios en el lugar.

Una vez que los funcionarios de materiales peligrosos pudieron determinar que el polvo no era una droga mezclada con azúcar, todos pudieron irse a casa, aconsejando que la oficina debería tener una buena limpieza con productos químicos para estar seguros.

"The political process does not end on Election Day. Young people need to stay involved in the process by continuing to pay attention to the conversation and holding their leaders accountable for the decisions they make."

"El proceso político no termina el día de las elecciones. Los jóvenes deben permanecer involucrados en el proceso al seguir prestando atención a la conversación y responsabilizar a sus líderes por las decisiones que toman".

Patrick Murphy



Sueño de Maravilla es un programa interactivo para el público en español por la 1490 AM y 3.7 FM, además de Facebook y próximamente por YouTube.

**"Impactando la vida de los oyentes"**

**Producción de Luis Piñeyro**

**Miércoles, de 2 a 3 de la tarde por la 1490 AM**

## 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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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**  
**sábados 8 am por WNNW 800 AM y 102.9 FM**

# Nueva iniciativa está inspirando formas de activar las vidrieras de las tiendas vacantes en el centro comercial de Lawrence



Si conduce por Essex St. en Lawrence en estos días, verá letreros de Imagina Essex, en marquesinas, letreros en forma de A y en una larga franja de ventanas. Hace unas semanas, la actividad en torno a estos carteles estalló con artistas locales, realizadores, performers y visitantes, todos buscando participar en lo que se llamó 'Imagina Comercio'; un evento de inmersión destinado a inspirar tanto a los residentes como a los propietarios de las posibilidades que se encuentran dentro de los espacios vacíos en un vibrante y bullicioso centro de la ciudad.

En asociación con MassDevelopment TDI, Creative Collective fue invitado a Lawrence para facilitar y demostrar formas nuevas y emocionantes de realizar pruebas piloto de activaciones temporales de escaparates de tiendas vacantes en el centro de Lawrence. "La vitalidad, la capacidad de recuperación, la creatividad y la fuerza de la comunidad de Lawrence son los rasgos que nos hicieron ansiosos por trabajar con una colección tan diversa de residentes, creadores, partes interesadas y miembros de la comunidad para imaginar lo que es posible en el centro de la ciudad", expresó el fundador de Creative Collective, John Andrews.

"Lawrence no sufre de falta de oportunidades, sufre de un problema de percepción", dice Jess Martinez, becario de TDI Lawrence de MassDevelopment. "Me encanta presumir de Lawrence. En especial, me encanta mostrárselo a las personas que me arrugan la nariz y me preguntan, '¿por qué Lawrence?'. Los llevo al Antique Mall en Canal Street, les muestro dónde comprar deliciosas galletas italianas (soy una chica de Fisichelli), lea detenidamente libros en El Taller, beba jugo de caña de azúcar fresco en la nueva tienda de delicatessen Casabe Fruit Store, y presuma de todos los increíbles eventos culturales y arte público que se han desarrollado en los últimos años. Es un momento emocionante para ser parte del renacimiento de Lawrence y las ventanas emergentes en Imagina Essex nos acercan un paso más a mostrar lo que es posible en uno de los edificios emblemáticos de Essex Street".

Desde el inicio de este proyecto, Creative Collective tenía la intención de que los resultados finales del proceso reflejaran las necesidades de la comunidad y quería ver lo que estaba sucediendo en el vecindario del centro. Con esto en mente, Creative Collective administró un proceso

de participación comunitaria de seis meses, en asociación con MassDevelopment TDI, a través de sesiones de información virtual, alcance directo de socios, conversaciones individuales con miembros de la comunidad y partes interesadas, reuniones del Equipo de Liderazgo y una variedad de distribuciones de encuestas. La información recopilada de estos esfuerzos llevó a informar los temas de todos los programas programados para la serie Imagina Essex, incluidos "Imagina Comercio", "Imagina Gastronomía", "Imagina Arte" e "Imagina Teatro".

Con un equipo de liderazgo arraigado en la comunidad de Lawrence, Creative Collective está implementando estas ofertas programáticas con las necesidades locales a la vanguardia de todos los aspectos de planificación. Felipe Collazo es el actual presidente del Festival Bread & Roses, artista local y líder comunitario. Collazo fue entrevistado y seleccionado como Coordinador de Participación Comunitaria para todo el proyecto Imagina Essex. Sus relaciones existentes dentro de la comunidad hacen posible que Creative Collective colabore y apoye a las empresas, proveedores y artistas locales. "Estoy muy emocionado de ser parte de este proyecto en el que puedo ayudar a resaltar el talento y el potencial que muchos de nosotros dentro de la comunidad ya sabemos que está aquí", dijo Collazo. "Poniéndolo todo en exhibición en este hermoso edificio y destacar lo mejor de lo que tenemos para ofrecer, y vislumbrar cómo podría verse en el futuro, es absolutamente increíble. Darle a nuestra comunidad este gran escenario que merecen brillar en el corazón de nuestro centro de la ciudad es realmente especial."

Jeurys Santiago, fundador de Minds with Purpose, lidera el marketing y la documentación del proyecto, asegurando que el alcance y la narración sean bilingües y superen con creces lo ordinario y predecible. Por último, completando el equipo de Lawrence, está Taylor Greeley. Greeley, una estilista comercial local que trabaja en campañas para algunos de los nombres más importantes de la moda como Vogue y Elle, está contribuyendo con su talento a Imagina Essex mediante la creación de atractivos escaparates y exhibiciones de arte para las ventanas emergentes. Con este extraordinario equipo de líderes locales, Imagina Essex está mostrando a todos de qué está hecho Lawrence.

El sábado, 17 de julio, de 10.00 a 13.00 horas, los residentes y visitantes

tendrán una vez más la oportunidad de participar en este proceso en el segundo de los cuatro eventos de la serie Imagina Essex, 'Imagina Gastronomía'. La comida será el tema central de este evento, con un mercado de agricultores emergente, acceso a organizaciones alineadas con los alimentos y muestras e información de los lugares de interés gastronómico locales.

¿Le gustaría ver más opciones culinarias en Essex Street? Únase a Imagina Essex para imaginar las posibilidades y ayude a dar forma al futuro del centro de la ciudad mientras disfruta de algunas delicias.

Para obtener más información sobre Imagina Essex, inscribirse como voluntario, o para ser un participante o proveedor en futuras activaciones, por favor

## Inspiring Ways to Activate Vacant Storefronts in Downtown Lawrence

If you drive down Essex St. in Lawrence these days, you will see signage for Imagina Essex, on marquees, a-frame signs and on a long strip of windows. A few weeks ago, the activity around these signs exploded with local artists, makers, performers, and visitors, all looking to take part in what was called 'Imagina Comercio'; an immersive event intended to inspire both residents and property owners of the possibilities that lie within vacant spaces in a vibrant, bustling downtown.

In partnership with MassDevelopment TDI, Creative Collective was invited to Lawrence to facilitate and demonstrate new and exciting ways to pilot temporary activations of key vacant Downtown Lawrence storefronts. "The vibrancy, resiliency, creativity, and strength of the Lawrence community are the traits that made us eager to work with such a diverse collection of residents, creators, stakeholders, and community members to imagine what is possible in the Downtown," expressed Creative Collective founder, John Andrews.

"Lawrence doesn't suffer from lack of opportunities, it suffers from a perception issue," says MassDevelopment's TDI Lawrence fellow, Jess Martinez. "I love showing off Lawrence. I especially love showing it off to people that scrunch up their nose at me and ask, 'why Lawrence?' I take them to the Antique Mall on Canal Street, show them where to buy delicious Italian cookies (I'm a Fisichelli's girl), peruse books at El Taller, drink fresh sugar cane juice at the new Casabe Fruit Store Delicatessen, and brag about all the amazing cultural events and public art that has been going up the past few years. It's an exciting time to be part of Lawrence's renaissance and the pop-ups at Imagina Essex bring us one step closer to showcasing what's possible in one of Essex Street's landmark buildings."

From the start of this project, Creative Collective was intent on the results of the process being reflective of community needs and wanted to see what was going on in the downtown neighborhood. With this in mind, Creative Collective administered a six-month community engagement process, in partnership with MassDevelopment TDI, through virtual info sessions, direct partner outreach, one-on-one conversations with community members and stakeholders, Leadership Team meetings, and a variety of surveys distributions. The information collected from these efforts led to inform the themes of every program slated for the

Imagina Essex series, including 'Imagina Comercio,' 'Imagina Gastronomía,' 'Imagina Arte,' and 'Imagina Teatro.'

With a leadership team ingrained in the Lawrence community, Creative Collective is implementing these programmatic offerings with the local needs at the forefront of all planning aspects. Felipe Collazo is the current President of the Bread & Roses Festival, a local performer, and a community leader. Collazo was interviewed and selected as the Community Engagement Coordinator for the entire Imagina Essex project. His existing relationships within the community make it possible for Creative Collective to collaborate and support local businesses, vendors, and performers. "I'm so excited to be part of this project where I get to help highlight the talent and potential that a lot of us within the community already know is here," said Collazo. "Putting it all on display in this beautiful building and spotlighting the best of what we have to offer, and a glimpse of what that could look like in the future is incredible. Giving our community this grand stage that they deserve to shine bright right in the heart of our downtown is special."

Jeurys Santiago, founder of Minds with Purpose, leads Marketing and Documentation for the project, ensuring that outreach and storytelling are bilingual and far exceed the ordinary and predictable. Lastly, rounding out the Lawrence team is Taylor Greeley. Greeley, a local commercial stylist who works on campaigns for some of the biggest names in fashion like Vogue and Elle, is contributing her talents to Imagina Essex by creating engaging window and art displays for the pop-ups. With this extraordinary team of local leaders, Imagina Essex is showing everyone what Lawrence is made of.

On Saturday, July 17th, from 10 am-1 pm, residents and visitors will once again have an opportunity to engage with this process at the second of four events in the Imagina Essex series, 'Imagina Gastronomía.' Food will be the focus of this event with a pop-up farmers' market, access to food-aligned organizations, and samples and information of local dining hotspots.

Would you like to see more culinary options on Essex Street? Join Imagina Essex in imagining the possibilities and help shape the future of the downtown while enjoying some delectable treats.

For more information on Imagina Essex, to sign up to volunteer, or to be a participant or vendor in future activations, please visit [www.imaginaessex.com](http://www.imaginaessex.com).

## GLCF anuncia la beca LHS por el fundador de Aaron's Presents en honor a Gabriel Cuevas

Lowell, MA - La Fundación Comunitaria de Greater Lowell (GLCF) tiene el honor de anunciar el establecimiento del Fondo de Becas en Memoria de Gabriel Cuevas. Este nuevo fondo de becas honra el espíritu de donación de Gabriel al otorgar anualmente a un estudiante de último año de Lowell High School (LHS) hasta \$1000.

Gabriel Cuevas, amado hijo, hermano y amigo falleció inesperadamente en agosto de 2020, justo antes de comenzar su último año en LHS. Gabriel usó su voz para levantar a los marginados y excluidos de la escuela y la sociedad. Además, Gabriel también fue un miembro dedicado de Aaron's Presents, una organización que brinda oportunidades para que los jóvenes creen una comunidad y se preocupen por los demás. La fundadora de Aaron's Presents, Leah Okimoto, estableció el Fondo de Becas en Memoria de Gabriel Cuevas a través de GLCF para honrar su memoria.

"Gabe era una de esas pocas personas que traía amabilidad, consideración, risa y sonrisas dondequiera que iba. Siempre estaré agradecido por el tiempo que pasamos juntos como voluntario y yendo al teatro. Además, estaba comprometido con su educación y esperaba seguir creciendo y desarrollándose como líder y activista en la universidad", dijo Leah Okimoto, fundadora y directora ejecutiva de Aaron's Presents. "Sé sin lugar a dudas que Gabe habría aprovechado la oportunidad de nominar a

un compañero de clase para una beca, así que su familia y yo pensamos que crear una oportunidad de generosidad y ayuda para los jóvenes sería una forma adecuada de honrarlo".

Las donaciones a cualquier fondo de la Greater Lowell Community Foundation, incluido el Gabriel Cuevas Memorial Scholarship Fund, se pueden hacer en línea en [www.glcfoundation.org/donate](http://www.glcfoundation.org/donate) o por correo al Gabriel Cuevas Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o GLCF, 100 Merrimack Street, Suite 202, Lowell, MA 01852.

El programa de becas de Lowell High School es posible gracias a una asociación entre Lowell High School y la Greater Lowell Community Foundation. Las becas se otorgan a través de las generosas contribuciones de donantes, muchos de los cuales son graduados de Lowell High School, familias que honran a un ser querido o líderes empresariales locales que apoyan a su comunidad. Las becas juegan un papel importante para ayudar a GLCF a lograr su misión de mejorar la calidad de vida de la comunidad de Greater Lowell. Para obtener más información, llame al 978-970-1600 para saber cómo la fundación comunitaria puede ayudar a un donante a establecer una beca.

Para obtener más información sobre Greater Lowell Community Foundation, visite [www.glcfoundation.org](http://www.glcfoundation.org).

## GLCF Announces LHS Scholarship Established by Aaron's Presents Founder in Honor of Gabriel Cuevas

Lowell, MA – The Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) is honored to announce the establishment of the Gabriel Cuevas Memorial Scholarship Fund. This new scholarship fund honors Gabriel's spirit of giving by annually awarding a Lowell High School (LHS) senior up to \$1000.

Gabriel Cuevas, beloved son, brother, and friend passed away unexpectedly in August 2020, just before beginning his senior year at LHS. Gabriel used his voice to lift those marginalized and excluded in school and society. Additionally, Gabriel was also a dedicated member of Aaron's Presents, an organization that provides opportunities for young people to build community and care for others. Aaron's Presents founder Leah Okimoto established the Gabriel Cuevas Memorial Scholarship Fund through GLCF to honor his memory.

"Gabe was one of those rare people who brought kindness, thoughtfulness, laughter, and smiles wherever he went. I will forever be grateful for the time we spent together volunteering and going to the theatre. In addition, he was committed to his education and looked forward to continuing to grow and develop as a leader and activist in college," said Leah Okimoto, founder and executive director of Aaron's Presents. "I know without a doubt that Gabe would have jumped at the chance to nominate a

classmate for a scholarship, so his family and I thought that creating an opportunity for both generosity and help for young people would be a fitting way to honor him."

Donations to any fund at the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, including the Gabriel Cuevas Memorial Scholarship Fund, can be made online at [www.glcfoundation.org/donate](http://www.glcfoundation.org/donate) or by mail to the Gabriel Cuevas Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o GLCF, 100 Merrimack Street, Suite 202, Lowell, MA 01852.

The Lowell High School scholarship program is made possible by a partnership between Lowell High School and the Greater Lowell Community Foundation. Scholarships are provided through the generous contributions of donors, many of whom are Lowell High School graduates themselves, families honoring a loved one, or local business leaders supporting their community. Scholarships play a significant role in helping GLCF achieve its mission to improve the quality of life for the Greater Lowell community. For more information, call 978-970-1600 to learn how the community foundation can help a donor establish a scholarship.

For more information on the Greater Lowell Community Foundation please visit [www.glcfoundation.org](http://www.glcfoundation.org).

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# MCC's Summer Theatre Camp for Kids Returns to In-Person Format

Throughout the pandemic, Middlesex Community College's Theatre department has provided students with performance opportunities – from online courses to socially distanced Zoom productions. As part of the College for Kids 2021 summer programming, Middlesex is bringing back the Summer Theatre Camp for Kids for an in-person experience.

Young performers ages 8 to 17 will have the opportunity to rehearse, stage and mount a full musical production with professional lights, sets and costumes at MCC's Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center in Lowell, under direction of Karen Oster, MCC's Chair of Performing Arts.

"We are thrilled to finally be able to bring our children's theatre program back to MCC – live and in person," Oster said. "This is one of the programs that we look forward to every year and being able to gather in our beautiful performing arts space and see our old friends – and meet new ones – is so exciting!"

This year's production will be "James and the Giant Peach, Jr." The program will run 9 a.m. through 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, starting on August 2. Final performances will take place on Friday, August 13 and Saturday, August 14.

The mission of the camp is to provide a fun and exciting environment for kids to explore theatre arts, and to encourage creative growth, teamwork and a "company" mentality. The camp believes children of all ages are capable of "magnificent" things and

there are no limits to their creativity.

Since 2008, MCC's Summer Theatre Camp has put on 13 productions – including last year's Virtual Theatre experience for kids to stay engaged, interactive, creative and collaborative throughout the pandemic.

Many of the young performers who participate in MCC's Summer Theatre Camp remain with the program for years. Dracut-native Andrew Shapiro – who is a 10-year camp veteran – gained a passion for performing thanks to his time in the summer camp.

"It didn't matter who I was in the show, it was the experience that had me wanting to keep coming back," he said. "One of the biggest things that really made the camp stick out for me was the professionalism coming from everyone involved. It didn't feel like I was in a summer camp, we were putting together a show. That's what mattered – the show."

From Chelmsford, Emma DeWitt has been involved with the program since middle school. She has appreciated the community that the summer camp has provided to her the past five years.

"Everyone is encouraged to bring their own unique perspectives to every production, which makes for an amazing collaborative experience," she said. "At MCC, I've forged friendships that will last a lifetime and learned so much about myself as a performer and person. I wouldn't have it any other way!"

With a BFA from The Boston



Throughout the pandemic, Middlesex Community College's Theatre department has provided students with performance opportunities – from online courses to socially distanced Zoom productions. As part of the College for Kids 2021 summer programming, Middlesex is bringing back the Summer Theatre Camp for Kids for an in-person experience, such as when they performed Shrek Jr. in 2015.

Conservatory in Musical Theatre and Directing, and an M.Ed. from Cambridge College, Oster has extensive experience in the theatre world. She has facilitated, directed and coordinated the performances and involvement of young cast members in many productions on Broadway and National Tours. She is now a Ph.D. candidate in the Individually Designed Program at Lesley University.

In addition to Oster's leadership and guidance, students in MCC's Summer Theatre Camp will also have the chance to work with MCC Assistant Director, Stage Manager and Outreach Coordinator Amy Myres and Residential Technical Supervisor and Lighting, Sound and Set Director for Merrimack Repertory Theatre Carter Miller.

College for Kids features seven weeks of half day programs that run from 8:30 a.m. to noon, or 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., in addition to

the MCC Summer Theatre Camp. Students who participate can explore future careers, learn new skills, meet new friends, boost their self-confidence, and follow a regular routine all online.

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.

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

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# Haverhill Bank promotes employee to management position



HAVERHILL, Mass. (July 12, 2021)— Alison M. “Ali” Barker was recently promoted to branch manager of Haverhill Bank’s Salem, N.H., branch. Barker joined the bank four years ago,

beginning as a universal banker. Prior to her promotion, she served as assistant branch manager at the Haverhill Bank’s Rosemont office, 1094 Main St., Haverhill. She has 18 years of banking experience. As branch manager, Barker is responsible for maintaining the performance of the branch and providing leadership and supervision to staff.

Ali’s local knowledge and banking experience will help her build and expand relationships with current and prospective clients,” said Haverhill Bank President and CEO Thomas L. Mortimer.

Ali is a resident of Atkinson, N.H., and graduated from Winnacunnet High School, in Hampton, N.H.

A depositor-owned institution, Haverhill Bank was founded in 1877 and is the oldest cooperative bank in Massachusetts. The bank’s Main

Office is at 180 Merrimack St. in Haverhill. Haverhill Bank also maintains offices at 163 South Main St., 1094 Main St., 6 West Main St., Merrimack, 281 Main St., West Newbury, and 396 Main St., Salem, N.H.

# Recent MCC Graduate Supported by Professors and Community

A recent graduate from Middlesex Community College, Odette Pinales is thankful for her education. Middlesex taught her the importance of advocating for herself, getting involved in the community, and taking advantage of opportunities. As she prepares to transfer to a four-year college, she said she had “a great and interesting ride” at MCC.

From the Dominican Republic and now living in Lawrence, Pinales came to MCC because of the variety of course options, ability to meet new people, and positive recommendations from family and friends.

Having acted as a Student Marshal for the 2021 virtual Commencement ceremony, Pinales flourished during her time at Middlesex. She graduated with highest honors and as a member of MCC’s honor society, Phi Theta Kappa. Although shy by nature, she enjoyed being active in the community, including by participating in Bible Club.

“I have learned that people won’t really know who you are if you don’t get yourself involved and out there,” she said. “MCC taught me to take risks and take opportunities that might show up unexpectedly because you don’t know the people you can bless along the way.”

As a Graphic Design major, Pinales had professors who were well-prepared, provided relevant feedback, and pushed her to do her best. Her professors Jeanne Cronin and Joe Eiler in particular showed her “opportunities I would’ve never thought I would have.” This helped to develop her confidence as she continues on her journey.

“Professors are so understanding,” she said. “The school is very student-centered, which is great and makes you feel heard and understood.”

While she plans to continue studying Graphic Design at her transfer institution, she is interested in minoring in Fine Arts because of MCC professor Angela Ales. In addition to inspiring her love of art, Pinales appreciated that Ales was also bilingual and pushed her to work hard.

“She is very genuine and if she saw your



A recent graduate from Middlesex Community College, Odette Pinales is thankful for her education. Middlesex taught her the importance of advocating for herself, getting involved in the community, and taking advantage of opportunities. As she prepares to transfer to a four-year college, she said she had “a great and interesting ride” at MCC.

potential and you weren’t going full force on your work, she would tell you,” Pinales said. “I felt like she understood me and she felt like a mentor to me.”

When classes shifted to online formats because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Pinales had trouble with the internet reaching her room and her computer freezing on her when she was trying to participate in class. After turning to her professors for support – who Pinales believed “moved mountains” for her – she was able to loan one of the college’s computers and a Wi-Fi hotspot. She then went on to “have a better experience with online classes.”

Middlesex understands that students have different needs and preferences in regards to class formats. In response, the college is featuring more face-to-face classes on both the Bedford and Lowell campuses for the Fall 2021 semester. Whether on campus, online or a hybrid mix of both, MCC is providing students with the flexibility and support to help them reach their goals.

For Pinales, Middlesex built a foundation that will help her in her future academics, as well as in her personal and professional life. She wants to continue developing her skills and growing “in every aspect of my life.”

“It feels like a relief to be graduating,” she said. “I will definitely miss MCC and the wonderful people here. It’s definitely a bittersweet thought because I made some good friends and connections with professors, and I know I will miss the great community here.”

The Art and Design program at MCC helps students go into – and succeed in – the workforce or transfer to four-year schools with its award-winning and affordable offerings, small class sizes and flexible schedules. Visit <https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/art/> for more information and to discover your path at Middlesex.

If you have ever taken a class at MCC, you are an alum! To share your story – and join the free Alumni Association – contact Amy Lee, Director of Annual Giving & Alumni Relations, at 978-656-3028 or [leea@middlesex.mass.edu](mailto:leea@middlesex.mass.edu). Visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/alumni](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/alumni) for more information.

Students can get back on track and reach their goals with a variety of options in MCC’s Fall 2021 semester. Visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/) or call 1-800-818-3434 to register.

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# Semana Hispana en Lawrence, Inc.

Calendario de Eventos / Events Calendar

“Juventud en Acción” 2021 “Youth in action”

<p><b>Coronacion / Coronation</b>                  Julio / July 10 2021                  50 Cross St. Lawrence, Ma @ 1:00 P.M.  <b>Rueda de Prensa / Press Release @ 2 P.M.</b>                  50 Cross St. Lawrence, Ma 01841                  Germinudy Rosario (978) 918-9267  <b>Deporte / Sports</b>                  Julio/ July 17, 2021                  O’Neill Park South Lawrence, Ma. 01843                  Isidro Guerra (978) 382-0882  <b>Noche de Comedia</b>                  Julio / July 30                  TBA @ 7:00 P.M.                  Pura Saint Hilaire (561) 283-9855  <b>Cena VIP D’ Gala / VIP D’ Gala Dinner</b>                  Agosto / August 05 - Jueves / Thursday @ 7:00 P.M.                  Elk’s Andover St. Lawrence, Ma.                  Pura Saint Hilaire (561) 283-9855  <b>Noches Latinas / Latin Nights</b>                  Agosto /August 07 - 13                  Marta Rentas (978) 852-6756  <b>Festival Cultural-Tarima / Stage</b>                  Agosto / August 14 y 15, 2021 @ 1 P.M.                  Campagnone Park 200 Common St. Lawrence, Ma.                  Eufemia De La Cruz (978) 601-9827                  Germinudy Rosario (978) 918-9267                  Marlenny DeJesus (978) 809-0619</p>	<p><b>Noche de Cuba</b>                  Junio / June 12, 2021                  43 Jackson St. Lawrence, Ma.</p>  <p><b>Noche de Colombia</b>                  Agosto/August 07, 2021                  TBD</p> 
<p><b>Parada / Parade - Domingo / Sunday</b>                  Agosto / August 15 - 12:00 P.M.                  Central Catholic School                  300 Hampshire St, Lawrence, MA 01841                  Isidro Guerra (978) 382-0882</p>	<p><b>Noche de Ecuador</b>                  Agosto/August 07, 2021                  TBD</p>  <p><b>Noche de Peru</b>                  Agosto/August 08, 2021                  TBD</p> 
<p><b>Revista / Magazine – Pantalla / Screen LED</b>                  Germinudy Rosario (978) 918-9267                  Eufemia De La Cruz (978) 601-9827  <b>Beers / Cervezas</b>                  Marisa Meléndez (954) 348-9987  <b>Quioscos / Kiosks</b>                  Marlenny De Jesús (978) 809-0619</p>	<p><b>Noche de Puerto Rico</b>                  Agosto/August 12, 2021                  TBD</p> 
<p>Executive Committee 2020-2022</p> <p>Presidenta Germinudy Rosario (978) 918-9267                  Vice-Presidenta Marlenny De Jesus (978) 809-0619                  Secretaria Eufemia De La Cruz (978) 601-9827                  Tesorera Jannette Ortiz (978) 423-0301</p>	<p><b>Noche de Republica Dominicana</b>                  Agosto/August 13, 2021                  TBD</p> 

Para más detalles favor de llamar, gracias!

For more details please call, thank you! Etc.



**HELP YOUR TEEN QUIT VAPING**



## Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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

<http://heallawrence.org/>      [heallawrence@aol.com](mailto:heallawrence@aol.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/heallawrence.mass>

# Recent NECC Retirees Receive Emeritus Status

As part of this year's Commencement Ceremonies, Northern Essex Community College President Lane Glenn conferred the rank of Emeritus Status on several long time members of the faculty and staff, who have recently retired.

At Northern Essex, the rank of emeritus is an honor that recognizes sustained excellence in performance, character, and meritorious service to the college.

Stephen Fabbrucci of Atkinson, NH was named vice president emeritus of human resources. He started at the college in 1977 as director of personnel. Over the years, he was promoted to assistant dean of human resources, associate dean of human resources, dean of human resources, and, his most recent position, from which he retired in 2019, vice president of human resources and labor relations.

During his years at the college Fabbrucci worked for three presidents: John Dimitry, David Hartleb, and Lane Glenn.

In presenting the honor, President Glenn said "We all have very different styles, but one thing we had in common, was our reliance on and appreciation for Steve. No one in the community college system knew more about collective bargaining than Steve, and he was often tapped to provide leadership on this topic at the state level."

Gail Feigenbaum of Andover was named professor emerita of early childhood education.

She joined the Early Childhood Education faculty in 1986 and has served as coordinator of that program since 2001, retiring in 2020.

Under Feigenbaum's leadership, the Early Childhood Education Program filled a tremendous need in the community for qualified early childhood educators.

She expanded the program, making it more accessible, especially to people already working in the field who are looking for credentials.

Evening courses, online courses, and a certificate option have been added, and student diversity has been increased.

"If you visit any Early Childhood Center in the Merrimack Valley, it's a given that you will meet passionate, caring teachers, who are Gail's former students," said Glenn.

Joanna Fortna of Bradford, was named professor emerita of academic preparation.

She was an adjunct faculty member for 11 years before being named a full-time developmental writing faculty member and curriculum coordinator in 1998. She retired in 2020 after 33 years of service to the college.

"Her career has been dedicated to helping students become better writers, and successful student outcomes are the focus of everything that she does," said Glenn.



Stephen Fabbrucci

"She has revised our curriculum more than once; piloted new ways of teaching and learning, such as learning communities and accelerated developmental courses; and been a mentor to other faculty."

Marilyn McCarthy of Andover was named professor emerita of academic preparation.

McCarthy began teaching College Reading, Philosophy, Logic and World Religions at Northern Essex in 1998 and she became a full-time developmental reading faculty member in 2001. She retired in 2020.

Successful reading skills are essential to success in most college courses, and Marilyn dedicated her career to giving her students the skills to become stronger readers.

"She was always innovative, willing to experiment with learning communities, curriculum redesigns, and learning outcomes," said Glenn.

Suzanne Van Wert of Plaistow, NH was named professor emerita of English.

She joined the college's English faculty in 1983 and, for many years, she was chair of the department.

Suzanne was a gifted teacher, and she also made many contributions to the college.

She led the institutional assessment of the six core academic skills, which were instituted in 2014, to ensure that students had the outcomes needed to succeed in further college studies or their careers.

She also was instrumental in building frameworks for learning assessment on campus, serving as co-chair of our Assessment of Student Learning Committee.

Those who received emeritus status but were unable to attend a commencement ceremony, included Kerin Hamidiani of Salem, NH, professor emerita dental assisting, Nancy Julin of Leominster, assistant dean emerita of health professions, Patricia Kidney of Dracut, professor emerita of art & design; and Jean Poth of Groveland, vice president emerita of institutional advancement.



Gail Feigenbaum



Joanna Fortna



Marilyn McCarthy



Suzanne Van Wert

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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)

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## Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley to offer concert

On Friday, August 20, 2021 the Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. will host its 6th Annual Benefit Concert at the Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury, MA., featuring Jozay & Patti, the renowned shipboard duo who has been entertaining audiences worldwide with their vibrant performance of Diamonds & Pearls, Cash & Kings.

All proceeds go directly to the FKMV projects including their Annual Christmas party, Duffle Bag/Backpack Program, Helene Giordano Memorial Scholarship Program, Financial Aid Program that includes numerous Camperships and various Sponsorships and Events all benefitting the foster children of our area.

Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley is dedicated to serving the needs of foster children in the Merrimack Valley with a goal to bring a positive influence into their lives and provide programs that support these children as they grow.

To purchase Tickets from Blue Ocean Music Hall at 978-462-5888 or for more information check out their website – [www.fosterkidsmv.org](http://www.fosterkidsmv.org) or call 978-771-2150.



### Affordable Homeownership Opportunity Lawrence, MA

Essex County Habitat for Humanity is breaking ground on a two-family duplex, located at 25-27 and 29 Spruce Street in Lawrence, this August. We are looking for qualifying homebuyers for one four-bedroom, and one three-bedroom homes.

**To Qualify:** You must be a first-time homebuyer. Required to contribute 240-300 hrs. of "sweat equity" working on your own home.

**Cost to you:**

- \$220,000 for four bedrooms
- \$200,000 for three bedrooms
- Closing costs are approximately \$5,000.
- Mortgage, taxes, insurance, and condo fees. Approximately \$1,100-\$1,600\*/month

Habitat Targeted Income Guidelines		
Household Income		
Family Size	Min Income	Max Income
1	\$18,950.00	\$30,000.00
2	\$21,950.00	\$33,000.00
3	\$24,950.00	\$36,000.00
4	\$27,950.00	\$39,000.00

\*Based on 60% to 80% of average median income. Subject to change. Financial information based on 2020 HUD Income Limits.

Join us on: **Thursday July 22 6:00 PM** or **Saturday July 24 11:00 AM** or **Thursday July 29 6:00 PM** at the YMCA located at 40 Lawrence Street, Lawrence 01840

Please RSVP to attend our homeowner information meeting to receive an application form and instructions for applying. **LIMITED spots available**, secure your seat by emailing [Roxanna@essexcountyhabitat.org](mailto:Roxanna@essexcountyhabitat.org) or call Roxanna at 978.681.8558 EXT. 4 to confirm your interest.



We believe **Every Family** deserves access to a safe, decent, and affordable place to call home.

If you are unable to attend please let us know and we will provide alternative options. \* All amounts listed above are subject to change.

Applicants who meet eligibility requirements will be entered into a lottery and if chosen, will become a prospective Habitat homeowner. Deadline to apply is August 26, 2021.

Essex County Habitat for Humanity  
 14 Park Street, Danvers, MA 01923  
 (978) 681-8558  
[essexcountyhabitat.org](http://essexcountyhabitat.org) for more info

In accordance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and the Fair Housing Act, Essex County Habitat for Humanity does not discriminate with regards to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, family status, marital status, receipt of public assistance income or age (provided that the applicant has the capacity to enter into a binding contract).



## 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.



## Mayor Fiorentini Announces Re-election Campaign Will Focus on Public Education, Public Safety and Public Infrastructure

Mayor James J. Fiorentini has announced his intention to seek re-election and keep his job leading the city and continuing Haverhill's ascension as one of the leading cities in the region.

Mayor Fiorentini kicked off his campaign June 21 with a packed fundraising celebration at downtown's Tap restaurant overlooking the Merrimack River.

"We have made so much progress in our city and we have so much momentum going," Mayor Fiorentini said. "We have a wonderful group of staff and volunteers that have worked so hard to get so many vaccine clinics up and running and so far, we have vaccinated about 60 percent of our community."

"I am so proud of this community," the mayor continued. "We worked hard during the entire pandemic – to bring testing and vaccines to this community and to keep the public safe. I hope that my daily updates as well as my video updates kept our community updated, reassured and informed during the height of the pandemic."

Mayor Fiorentini also recently re-launched his campaign website, which includes background about the mayor as well as his personal story and his positions on the most important issues in his hometown city. You can find it here: <https://jimfiorentini.com/>

Mayor Fiorentini's new budget was approved by City Council on June 29. It provides record school funding, new resources for the police department and a new, modern, local Health Department with new resources to help keep Haverhill healthy in pandemic and non-pandemic times.

"We have so much to be proud of here in our city," Mayor Fiorentini said. "Our industrial parks are booming, with another 800-1,000 jobs coming to our city."

The mayor noted that at a recent ground-breaking for a major food-maker building a new plant with upwards of 500 new jobs in the bustling Broadway Business Park, that the broker that helped put the deal together stressed how easy it

is to do business in Haverhill under Mayor Fiorentini's leadership.

"During the pandemic, we kept our downtown restaurant zone going with swift help," the mayor said. "Several business owners who own restaurants in multiple cities told us that no one could match the service we gave them."

"Going forward, we have money in the budget -- American Rescue Plan funds and infrastructure dollars to allocate," Mayor Fiorentini said. "This is the time to invest in our future. In public education, public safety, and public infrastructure. That investment must be done wisely to get the best possible use of our tax dollars."

Mayor Fiorentini stressed that the city has an incredible opportunity to further revitalize and grow downtown by remaking the Merrimack Street entrance. The mayor noted five major companies are in the running to redevelop the Goecke Parking Garage property by rebuilding the parking facility and adding shops and offices around it.

"We took a downtown with abandoned factory buildings and brought in over \$250 million in public and private investment," the mayor said, summarizing his success revitalizing downtown in his prior terms. "Now we have five major companies bidding on the next phase of redevelopment. That must be managed wisely."

The mayor stressed guiding the Consentino School project will be a major focus of his next term.

"If we do it wisely and manage our budget properly, we can build that school without raising taxes with an override or a debt exclusion," the mayor said.

Over the next four months, Mayor Fiorentini will continue to outline his plans to invest and build upon Haverhill's incredible momentum.

"We have done so much, and Haverhill is moving in the right direction, forward," the mayor said. "This is no time to turn back. Our best days lie ahead, and I hope that in the coming months I can earn your vote."

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# MCC Appoints Interim Provost & VP of Student & Academic Affairs

Middlesex Community College has named Dr. Arlene Rodríguez Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs. She has over 20 years of experience working in the Massachusetts community college system, most recently as Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs at Cape Cod Community College. With a lifelong commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, Dr. Rodríguez and MCC share a mission of providing an equitable and accessible education to all students.

MCC President Phil Sisson has worked closely with Dr. Rodríguez since 2015 when she became the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Springfield Technical Community College. Calling her a “change agent leader,” Sisson is excited to welcome Dr. Rodríguez – and her dedication to equity in higher education – to Middlesex.

“I have truly admired her exemplary leadership in a number of areas which I believe are critical to our future success at MCC,” President Sisson said. “I not only have complete confidence in her ability to lead our academic and student affairs areas, but I am also confident that Arlene will bring an important new perspective to our work ahead.”

Throughout her career, Dr. Rodríguez has developed strong relationships within the community, creating relevant and valuable partnerships, fundraising initiatives

and opportunities for students to reach success. Her experience working within the Mass. community college system has shown Dr. Rodríguez the positive impact that Middlesex has made throughout the state and for the college’s students.

“I am honored to be part of an enterprise that is committed to the Greater Lowell and Bedford communities, and ensuring that all of our students have access to social and economic mobility through a college education,” Dr. Rodríguez said. “I am enthusiastic about working with an innovative and dynamic community of faculty and staff on deepening that commitment.”

Before her tenure at Cape Cod Community College, Dr. Rodríguez was the Senior Academic Affairs Advisor to the Mass. Department of Higher Education in which she worked on boosting college completion rates, closing achievement gaps, and graduating more students from underserved populations. She also co-led the initiative “100 Males to College” to create a college-bound culture for low-income males and young men of color.

With a doctorate in English from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Dr. Rodríguez holds an MA from Lehigh University and a BA from Fordham University. Fluent in Spanish, she started her career as an English professor, transitioned to the administration level as an Academic Dean and then became Vice President of

Academic Affairs at Springfield Tech.

A productive member of her community, Dr. Rodríguez has been appointed to the Barnstable County Human Services Commission, Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, and was on the Springfield YWCA’s Board of Directors, among other titles. She has also won several awards dedicated to her human service and leadership.

For more information about MCC – and to register for the Summer and Fall 2021 semesters – visit [www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/) or call 1-800-818-3434.

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



Middlesex Community College has named Dr. Arlene Rodríguez Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs. She has over 20 years of experience working in the Massachusetts community college system. With a lifelong commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, Dr. Rodríguez and MCC share

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# USCIS actualiza las políticas para mejorar los servicios de inmigración

WASHINGTON — EE.UU. los Servicios de Ciudadanía e Inmigración han publicado nuevas actualizaciones de políticas en el Manual de Políticas de USCIS para aclarar los criterios y circunstancias para el procesamiento acelerado; mejorar la guía de solicitud de evidencia (RFE) y aviso de intención de denegar (NOID), y aumentar el período de validez para los documentos de autorización de empleo (EAD) iniciales y de renovación para ciertos no ciudadanos con solicitudes de ajuste de estatus pendientes.

“Estamos tomando medidas para eliminar las políticas que no promueven el acceso al sistema de inmigración legal y continuaremos haciendo mejoras que ayuden a las personas a navegar por el camino hacia la ciudadanía y que modernicen nuestro sistema de inmigración”, dijo el secretario de Seguridad Nacional, Alejandro N. Mayorkas.

“Estas medidas de política son consistentes con las prioridades de la administración de Biden-Harris para eliminar las barreras innecesarias al sistema legal de inmigración de nuestra nación y reducir las cargas sobre los no ciudadanos que pueden ser elegibles para beneficios de inmigración”, dijo la directora interina de USCIS, Tracy Renaud. “USCIS se compromete a promover políticas y procedimientos que aseguren que operamos de una manera justa, eficiente y humana que refleje la herencia de Estados Unidos como

una tierra de oportunidades para quienes la buscan”.

## Procesamiento acelerado

Según la política actualizada de criterios de agilización, los solicitantes de beneficios y los oficiales de USCIS reciben más orientación sobre cuándo se puede justificar el procesamiento expedito. Además, las organizaciones sin fines de lucro cuya solicitud sea en apoyo de los intereses culturales y sociales de los Estados Unidos pueden solicitar que se considere un beneficio para el procesamiento acelerado, incluso si el procesamiento premium está disponible para ese beneficio.

El procesamiento acelerado es un servicio para situaciones especiales que USCIS considera para los solicitantes de beneficios que necesitan urgentemente que se adjudiquen su solicitud de beneficios de inmigración. USCIS revisa dichas solicitudes caso por caso. Las solicitudes aceleradas para no ciudadanos con un orden final de expulsión o no ciudadanos en procedimientos de deportación se coordinan entre USCIS y el Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas de EE.UU.

## Solicitudes de pruebas y avisos de intención de negar

USCIS está regresando a los principios adjudicativos de un memorando de junio de 2013 que instrúa a los oficiales de la

agencia a emitir un RFE o NOID cuando evidencia adicional podría potencialmente demostrar la elegibilidad para un beneficio de inmigración. Como parte de la política actualizada de RFE y NOID, USCIS está anulando un memorando de julio de 2018 que permitía a los oficiales de la agencia denegar ciertas solicitudes de beneficios de inmigración en lugar de emitir primero un RFE o NOID.

Esta política actualizada garantizará que los solicitantes de beneficios tengan la oportunidad de corregir errores inocentes y omisiones no intencionales. En general, un oficial de USCIS emitirá una RFE o NOID cuando el oficial determine información o explicación adicional que potencialmente pueda establecer la elegibilidad para un beneficio de inmigración.

## Documentos de autorización de empleo

La orientación de política actualizada

aumentará el período de validez actual de un año en los EAD tanto iniciales como de renovación a dos años para ciertos ajustes de los solicitantes de estatus. Se espera que el aumento del período de validez de los EAD para ciertos solicitantes de ajuste reduzca la cantidad de solicitudes de autorización de empleo que recibe el USCIS y permita que la agencia transfiera recursos limitados a otras áreas prioritarias.

Esta guía se emitió debido a los retrasos en el procesamiento en curso que afectan la finalización de las solicitudes de ajuste de estado. Renovar los EAD en esta categoría generalmente es gratis, y USCIS recibió casi 370,000 solicitudes de autorización de empleo relacionadas con ajustes en el año fiscal 2020.

Para obtener más información sobre USCIS y sus programas, visite [uscis.gov](http://uscis.gov) o siganos en Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Facebook y LinkedIn.

## USCIS Updates Policies to Improve Immigration Services

WASHINGTON—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has issued new policy updates in the USCIS Policy Manual to clarify the criteria and circumstances for expedited processing; improve request for evidence (RFE) and notice of intent to deny (NOID) guidance, and increase the validity period for initial and renewal employment authorization documents (EADs) for certain noncitizens with pending adjustment of status applications.

“We are taking action to eliminate policies that fail to promote access to the legal immigration system and will continue to make improvements that help individuals navigate the path to citizenship, and that modernize our immigration system,” said Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas.

“These policy measures are consistent with the Biden-Harris administration's priorities to eliminate unnecessary barriers to our nation's legal immigration system and reduce burdens on noncitizens who may be eligible for immigration benefits,” said Acting USCIS Director Tracy Renaud. “USCIS is committed to promoting policies and procedures that ensure we operate in a fair, efficient, and humane manner that reflects America's heritage as a land of opportunity for those who seek it.”

## Expedited Processing

Under the updated expedite criteria policy, benefit requestors and USCIS officers are provided further guidance on when expedited processing may be warranted. Additionally, nonprofit organizations whose request is in furtherance of the cultural and social interests of the United States may request that a benefit be considered for expedited processing, even if premium processing is available for that benefit.

Expedited processing is a special-situation service that USCIS considers for benefit requestors who urgently need their request for immigration benefits adjudicated. USCIS reviews such requests on a case-by-case basis. Expedited requests for noncitizens with a final order of removal

or noncitizens in removal proceedings are coordinated between USCIS and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

## Requests for Evidence and Notices of Intent to Deny

USCIS is returning to the adjudicative principles of a June 2013 memo that instructed agency officers to issue an RFE or NOID when additional evidence could potentially demonstrate eligibility for an immigration benefit. As part of the updated RFE and NOID policy, USCIS is rescinding a July 2018 memo that permitted agency officers to deny certain immigration benefit requests instead of first issuing an RFE or NOID.

This updated policy will ensure those benefit requestors are given an opportunity to correct innocent mistakes and unintentional omissions. In general, a USCIS officer will issue an RFE or NOID when the officer determines additional information or explanation that may potentially establish eligibility for an immigration benefit.

## Employment Authorization Documents

Updated policy guidance will increase the current one-year validity period on both initial and renewal EADs to two years for certain adjustments of status applicants. Increasing the validity period on EADs for certain adjustment applicants is expected to reduce the number of employment authorization requests USCIS receives and allow the agency to shift limited resources to other priority areas.

This guidance was issued due to ongoing processing delays affecting the completion of adjustment of status applications. Renewing EADs in this category is generally free, and USCIS received nearly 370,000 adjustment-related employment authorization requests in the fiscal year 2020.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit [uscis.gov](http://uscis.gov) or follow us on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Facebook, and LinkedIn.



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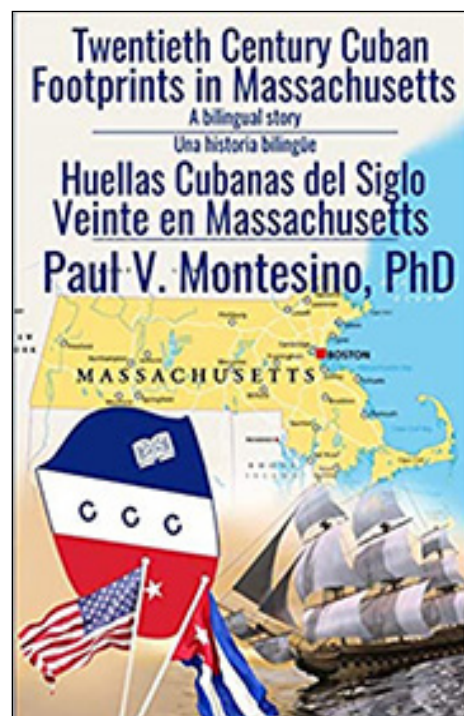
## New book about Cubans in Massachusetts

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

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

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

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



# ESSEX ART CENTER

LAWRENCE ARTS COLLECTIVE:  
ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM

## CALL FOR ARTISTS

Application Deadline July 15, 2021

Starting this fall, the Lawrence Arts Collective will host seven artist residencies throughout the city. As part of this opportunity, each artist will receive a \$5,000 stipend for their 9-month commitment. One artist will be granted studio space at Essex Art Center. Is that artist YOU?

EAC offers artist in residency program <https://images.benchmarkemail.com/client437274/image10772074.jpg>  
Starting this fall, the Lawrence Arts Collective will host seven artist residencies throughout the city. As part of this opportunity, each artist will receive a \$5,000 stipend for their 9-month commitment. One artist will be granted studio space at Essex Art Center. Is that artist YOU?

We seek artists who are:

- \* Eager to bring their work to new audiences and are genuinely interested in sharing experiences through art,
- \* Active listeners and clear communicators with an appreciation for others' perspectives,
- \* Curious! Always learning and appreciative of other's skills and expertise.

The Artist In Residency will run from September 15, 2021, through June 15, 2022.

Don't wait—the deadline to apply is Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 11:59 PM EST!

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

## August 30 NECC Golf Tournament Benefits the College's Athletics



The 2nd Place Team from the 2020 tournament (L-R Kim Grady, Jennifer Borislow, Mark Guanya and Chris Bock)

Northern Essex Community College is recruiting golfers and soliciting sponsors for its Fourth Annual Golf Tournament, which benefits the college's 12 varsity athletic programs. It will be held August 30, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. at Renaissance Golf Club on 377 Kenoza St., Haverhill.

Open to the public, the fee for individual golfers is \$180, including green fees, 18 holes of golf with cart, breakfast and an awards lunch, a golfer gift bag, and an Under Armour gift.

Registration for the four-player scramble, best ball tournament will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start and scramble at 8:30 a.m. The awards luncheon and silent auction begins at 2 p.m.

Sponsorships range from \$100 (tee sponsor) to \$5,000 (limited to one sponsor). Last year's tournament raised more than \$16,000 with 125 golfers of all ages, representing alumni, employees and friends of the college.

Proceeds from the golf tournament will be used for athletic facility improvements, continued sports expansion, and for support programs to help student athletes reach their academic and athletic goals.

For more information, visit the golf tournament site.

Numerous options for sponsorship and registration are available here.

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

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

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Monday, August 2, 2021 - Haverhill Country Club  
Foursomes on sale May 1, 2021 - [Haverhillbgc.org/golf-tournament](http://Haverhillbgc.org/golf-tournament)  
Sponsorships available - Contact Melissa deFriesse x302.

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**Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce**

**Networking at Noon Luncheon at BuenoMalo!**

**Open to ALL Chamber Members!**

**Wednesday, July 21, 2021**  
**12 Noon - 1:15 PM**  
**BuenoMalo Restaurant**  
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BY DALIA DÍAZ  
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LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

# From My Corner



## Critical Race Theory

There's something new and revolutionary coming to schools in the United States this fall and parents all over the country are complaining about it. It's called CRT (Critical Race Theory.)

This was borne out of the 1619 Project, written by Nikole Hannah-Jones who was awarded the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Commentary. The reason for its name is for being the year when the first slaves arrived as part of the founding of St. Augustine, Florida, aiming at teaching the racial history in this country. The Project claims that the United States was founded on racist roots and continues to be a racist nation.

There's no doubt that this country has had a brutal history for several centuries and it should be taught in school to make sure we don't repeat it.

Since the Civil War President Abraham Lincoln fought to emancipate the slaves and that's we now celebrate Juneteenth which stands for June 19th, 1863, the day slaves were declared as free men. It was a slow process to be implemented until the mid-1900s when discrimination was rampant, particularly in the southern states.

I've been in this country since 1963, before the signing of the Civil Rights Act in 1965, and remember the chaos brought on by demonstrations on the streets and the objections to racial equality. In Boston, school busses carrying little children were being stoned by parents in opposition to school desegregation. Those are dark days that we never want to live again.

Black history and slavery must be taught in school as part of history classes because it should never be forgotten.

The problem is that they are back but in reverse. Having elected twice a Black president, and having more minorities in government is a sure sign that our country has changed. When we thought we had achieved harmony and that was just a memory, university students started asking for separate dormitories and commencements for minorities. We started seeing divisions that were never there and people were seen according to their skin color, just opposite to what Martin Luther King wished for.

Now, CRT has been taken to the extreme. Beginning with kindergarten children, teachers separate them by race pointing out that the students with lighter skin are "privileged" and will have more opportunities in life, just because of their skin color. They will also tell Black children how they are seen by Whites as "inferior" that they would never amount to much. The

class teaches that Whites are "oppressors" and Blacks are the "victims."

How is that going to affect our children's behavior? How is that going to cure the racial conflicts they are creating now? Kids don't choose their playmates by race but if Black children see themselves as victims, why would they want to play with their oppressors?

It's one thing talking about history but pointing out their differences today to youngsters is teaching them to hate. I see a very dangerous path ahead.

Parents must be involved in their children's education. Talk to them, ask them what they learned today and listen to their comments about their peers.

## Licensing Commission

There are so many things happening at City Hall that it's difficult (even for me) to keep up. I try watching the council meetings and the Boards and Commissions because things are happening at a fast pace right in front of us and most people don't notice.

For example: on June 23, the Licensing Commission had a hearing on the Mt. Vernon Liquors issue. After a unanimous vote, their license was suspended indefinitely. I didn't think anything of that, after all, the establishment was under surveillance and the investigators saw 61 counts of improprieties such as selling to underage teens. That was severe enough for that punishment.

A liquor license is valuable because the numbers are limited and there are none available and people are willing to pay to get one at any price.

A few days later, things began to fall into place. The decision over the license was made on June 23 and on June 25, Alfred Potter, one of the members of the Licensing Board resigned unexpectedly. He didn't even follow the required procedure for resigning from his post.

But it gets better! On June 28 he began working for Interim Mayor Kendrys Vasquez as Neighborhood Planner or Community Liaison and finally settled for the title of Assistant to the Mayor earning \$44,000. Again, "deocraticamente" (just by signaling with his finger) was chosen. Was this position advertised? Who else applied for the job? Does the job exist? Has the city council created an ordinance for this position? If so, what's the pay scale? Nobody knows.

The interim mayor hires people the way the ranch owner picks his laborers. We know that he believes that this ranch belongs to him and this type of hiring makes for faithful subjects, willing to go the mile

– even asking businesses for campaign contributions. He owns them!

My only question now is, how soon before that liquor license ends up being allocated to someone else? We need to follow the connection because having a liquor license is practically a license to print money.

## Alarm at Elections Department

Last Friday, July 9th, the employees at the Elections Department in Lawrence were alarmed when they open an envelope containing a white powder. Immediately, the police, fire department, ambulances, and even hazmat were called arriving within minutes.

It is known that sometimes just being in the presence of certain drugs an individual could be affected and it's even worse if it touches the skin. For over three hours they made sure that the employees were healthy

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO

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but they were asked to stay in the building until further investigation. Meanwhile, they sanitized their hands with bleach, just in case.

The interim mayor was called and the first time they were told that he was not around. Once they found out that he was upstairs, calls were repeated a few times and he never had the decency to come down from the third floor. Other employees were concerned and showed it.

This person is in charge of the entire city's well-being and that includes city employees. An incident of this sort, no matter how dangerous it could have been, was not going to provide a photo-op for him. Let that be a fire and he'll be the first one on-site talking to the media.

Once the hazmat officials were able to determine that the powder was not a drug mixed with sugar, everybody was able to go home, advising that the office should be a good cleaning with chemicals to make sure.

**Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names.**

**Perdone a sus enemigos, pero nunca olvide sus nombres.**

**- President John F. Kennedy**

## Community Blood Drive to Honor 'Jamesy's Journey' on July 24 in Andover

In July 2020, James Lino of Dracut was diagnosed with cutaneous T-cell lymphoma at the tender age of 3. Although he is now in remission, the treatment protocol – which includes supplemental blood as well as chemotherapy – will continue through November 19, 2022.

On Saturday, July 24, a community blood drive in honor of "Jamesy's Journey" will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Andover Town House/Town Hall, 20 Main St. in Andover. The event was coordinated by Phil Liaboe, James's grandfather, to raise awareness of the impact of the nationwide blood shortage on many different kinds of patients: a young child with a rare blood disorder, a family member fighting cancer or a friend involved in a car accident.

"Even if people can't give blood at this clinic, I encourage them to find another one because there are so many kids and other patients out there who need blood," said Heather Lino, praising the expert, compassionate caregiving of Tufts Children's Hospital, where her son has been hospitalized more than 200 days over the past year, and Home Health VNA, whose maternal child health nurses assess James, draw blood for lab work, administer chemotherapy and coordinate care with Tufts Children's Hospital staff.

"Everyone kindly asks, 'What can I do to help?' Lino added. "Giving blood is a way to celebrate life while making a big difference."



To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Jamesy Journey.

About Home Health Foundation  
Home Health Foundation, which includes providers Circle Home, Commonwealth Nursing Services, Hallmark Health VNA, Home Health VNA, Home Health VNA of NH, Merrimack Valley Hospice and York Hospital Hospice as part of the Wellforce Health System, provides essential home health, palliative, hospice, aide and private care services in all the places patients call home. Together, these agencies are leading the development of a new era of innovation, with a relentless focus on transforming home-based care. For more information, visit HomeHealthFoundation.org.





# MVCC Mixer at Bridges by Epoch June 22, 2021

By Dalia Diaz

On June 22, Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce held an afternoon mixer at Bridges by Epoch in Andover that proved how resourceful the staff can be. It was supposed to be on the patio when started to rain and they improvised meeting in the front porch. We had a Grand Time!



Naldo Sanchez is the chef at Bridges. He served us a chicken salad out of this world decorated with little flowers (eatable) inside a wedge of lettuce. Those balls were macaroni and cheese but they were stuffed with lobster. What a creation! The rest was an assortment of fruits and raw vegetables with a dressing of his own.



"We love the Merrimack Valley Chamber, it is one of the best. I have been doing Chamber events for years. They always have a great turnout, great attendance. They got really clever through COVID with keeping things interesting and networking events that way. But we are back live, it is really exciting."

Susan Tourtillotte  
Senior Advisor



James Behnan was the raffle winner.



Susan Tourtillotte greeted the group and explained the great services Bridges provides. Next to her is Michael Bevilacqua, MVCC vice president.



Naldo Sanchez, chef and director of services at Bridges. Naldo also does cooking demonstrations of the local Andover television.



Enjoying the afternoon were Thomas Gazda, TEG Consulting Associates; Reshma Nair, Bridges Executive Director; and Paige McGlynn, Life Enrichment Director.



Stephanie Messina Sewade, Luke Jackson Benefit Solutions; Heather Gaspar, Smolak Farms, among others.



Meeting old friends again were Bill Halloran, Peniel Environmental; Joseph DiBrigida, WXRV/92.5 the River; and Tim Burke, Lyconet.

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# El Departamento del Sheriff del Condado de Essex celebra a los reclusos que completaron la programación educativa

La ceremonia de reconocimiento del martes, 29 de junio para los reclusos del Departamento del Sheriff del Condado de Essex (ECSD) que completaron programas educativos demuestra que "pueden suceder grandes cosas en los lugares más inesperados", según Jillian Nelson, superintendente asistente del Departamento del Sheriff del Condado de Essex.

En la ceremonia, celebrada en Middleton House of Correction, los estudiantes fueron reconocidos por la directora de educación Darla Lamanna y el personal del Northern Essex Community College por completar con éxito los programas ofrecidos por Northern Essex. Spectrum Health Systems, Roca, Inc. y UTEC también reconocieron a los estudiantes por sus logros. A la ceremonia asistieron graduados, administradores y maestros.

Northern Essex ha estado ofreciendo programación educativa para el Departamento del Sheriff del Condado de Essex desde 2019 cuando la universidad fue seleccionada como parte de un proceso competitivo de subvenciones.

Los programas ofrecidos por Northern Essex incluían clases de preparación para los estudiantes que tomaban el examen HiSET (equivalencia de escuela secundaria); cursos universitarios de tres créditos; y una clase de pares de una semana que conduce a la certificación como tutor de pares.

Brindar oportunidades educativas a los reclusos es una prioridad, según el Alguacil Kevin Coppinger. "Nuestro lema es que cada obstáculo es una oportunidad. Queremos que nuestros clientes sepan que si algo se les presenta, pueden caer".

Dylan Flanagan, quien recibió la puntuación más alta en el examen HiSET, fue nombrado mejor alumno de la clase y fue invitado a hablar en la ceremonia.

Llevando una toga y birrete azul, dijo: "Lo principal que aprendí es que, sin importar la situación, enfóquese en lo positivo. Nunca te rindas porque siempre hay un lado positivo. Gracias por darme las herramientas para encontrar mi lado positivo".

Dennis Everett, director de reentrada de UTEC, fue el orador principal. Al compartir sus propios antecedentes, que incluyeron una infancia difícil debido a la violencia familiar y múltiples encarcelamientos, Everett dijo: "Todos mis logros no habrían sucedido si no hubiera hecho el trabajo interno". Pidió a los presos "restablecer las relaciones familiares" y "tratar de perdonarse a sí mismos".

Lane Glenn, presidente de Northern Essex, también habló, compartiendo una historia inspiradora de un estudiante que comenzó a tomar cursos en la instalación correccional y se trasladó al campus después de ser liberado a mediados del semestre. El estudiante ahora está inscrito en el Programa de Administración de Empresas de la universidad. "Entré en la carrera de educación porque creo en el cambio. Esta es una sala llena de personas que se preocupan por usted y su futuro. Estamos aquí para ayudarlo".

Los estudiantes que completaron una clase de tres créditos recibieron sudaderas NECC. Todos los demás homenajeados recibieron una bolsa de NECC, que pueden usar para llevar sus pertenencias cuando sean liberados.

Northern Essex cuenta con personal en Middleton House of Correction, incluidos asesores académicos y profesionales en el lugar; especialistas en aprendizaje; bibliotecarios de derecho para la biblioteca de los reclusos, que administra Northern Essex; y un director de programa.

Si bien la programación educativa se redujo debido a la pandemia, los cambios recientes en la vivienda de los presos permitieron que más presos participaran en la programación este semestre pasado.

Los planes para el futuro incluyen ofrecer cursos adicionales de Northern Essex dentro de las instalaciones, continuar con el programa de tutoría entre pares y agregar a las ofertas de clases actuales, según Colleen Dolan, directora ejecutiva del Programa de Educación NECC/ECSD.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Dolan, [cdolan@necc.mass.edu](mailto:cdolan@necc.mass.edu).



ECSD-Dylan Flanagan recibió la puntuación más alta en la prueba HiSET y fue el mejor alumno de la clase. De izquierda a derecha en la foto: el presidente de NECC Lane Glenn, el alguacil del Condado de Essex Kevin Coppinger, Flanagan y el superintendente del alguacil del condado de Essex, Aaron Eastman.

ECSD-Dylan Flanagan received the highest score on the HiSET test and was the class valedictorian. Left to right in photo: NECC President Lane Glenn, Essex County Sheriff Kevin Coppinger, Flanagan, and Essex County Sheriff Superintendent Aaron Eastman.

## Essex County Sheriff Department Celebrates Inmates Who Completed Educational Programming

The Tuesday, June 29 Recognition Ceremony for Essex County Sheriff Department (ECSD) inmates who have completed educational programs proves that "Great things can happen in the most unexpected of places," according to Jillian Nelson, assistant superintendent, Essex County Sheriff's Department.

At the ceremony, held at Middleton House of Correction, students were recognized by Education Director Darla Lamanna and the Northern Essex Community College staff for successfully completing programs offered by Northern Essex. Spectrum Health Systems, Roca, Inc., and UTEC also recognized students for their achievements. Graduates as well as administrators and teachers attended the ceremony.

Northern Essex has been offering educational programming for the Essex County Sheriff's Department since 2019 when the college was selected as part of a competitive grant process.

Programs offered by Northern Essex included preparation classes for students taking the HiSET (high school equivalency) exam; three-credit college courses; and a week-long peer class leading to certification as a peer tutor.

Providing educational opportunities for inmates is a priority, according to Sheriff Kevin Coppinger. "Our motto is every obstacle is an opportunity. We want our clients to know that if something gets in front of them they can fall forward."

Dylan Flanagan, who received the highest score on the HiSET exam, was named the class valedictorian and was invited to speak at the ceremony.

Wearing a royal blue graduation cap and gown, he said "The main thing that I learned is that, no matter the situation, focus on the positive. Never give up because there's always a bright side. Thank you for giving

me the tools to find my bright side."

Dennis Everett, director of reentry for UTEC, was the keynote speaker. Sharing his own background, which included a difficult childhood because of family violence and multiple incarcerations, Everett said "All of my gains wouldn't have happened if I hadn't done the internal work." He asked the inmates "to restore family relationships" and "move to forgive yourselves."

Lane Glenn, president of Northern Essex, also spoke, sharing an inspiring story of a student who began taking courses at the correctional facility and transitioned to campus after being released mid-semester. The student is now enrolled in the Business Management Program at the college. "I got in education because I believe in change. This is a room full of people who care for you and your future. We're here to help you."

Students who completed a three-credit class received NECC sweatshirts. All other honorees received an NECC swag bag, which they can use to carry their belongings when they are released.

Northern Essex maintains a staff at the Middleton House of Correction, including on-site academic and career advisors; learning specialists; law librarians for the inmates' library, which Northern Essex manages; and a program director.

While educational programming was scaled down due to the pandemic, recent changes to inmate housing allowed more inmates to participate in programming this past semester.

Plans for the future include offering additional Northern Essex courses within the facility, continuing with the peer tutoring program, and adding to current class offerings, according to Colleen Dolan, executive director, NECC/ECSD Education Program.

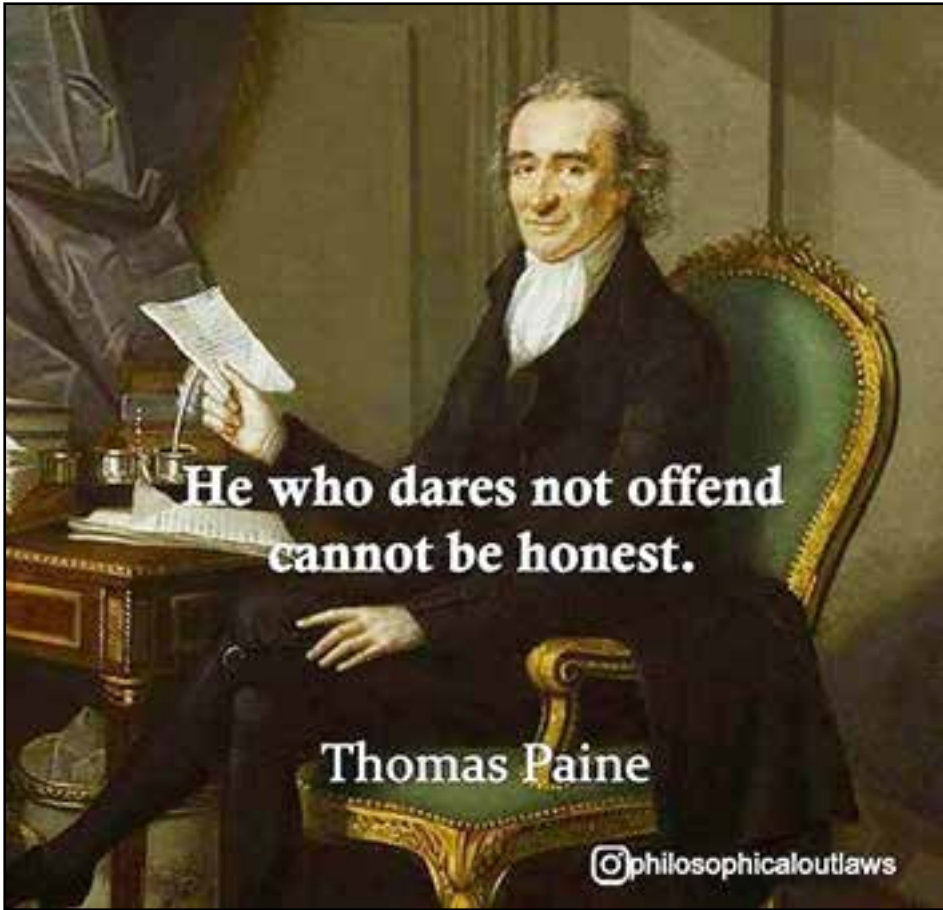
To learn more, contact Dolan, [cdolan@necc.mass.edu](mailto:cdolan@necc.mass.edu).



ECSD Lane- El Presidente de NECC, Lane Glenn, habla en la ceremonia de reconocimiento en Middleton House of Correction.

ECSD Lane- NECC President Lane Glenn speaks at the recognition ceremony at Middleton House of Correction.

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

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

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

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