



The City Council continues hiding at meetings via Zoom.

Setiembre/September 8, 2021

EDICIÓN NO. 782
The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

98th Feast of The Three Saints



Thanks to Mike Lomazzo for posting this picture on his Facebook page. He wrote:

"On Sunday night, the lovely 17-year-old Bella Perrotta came on stage to sing our National Anthem. Now for the story behind the story. The year is 2004, we are celebrating our 81st Feast of the Three Saints. when Bella who was 2 months at the time was handed up to the Varda by her Dad Tom for a blessing by our Three Saints. In the picture Bella is being held by our brother Jimmy Piemonte as John Dube watches."



Photo: Mike Lomazzo

Another fun weekend ends with Bread & Roses Festival



Rumbo received a collection of photos from the Bread and Roses Festival from Photographer George Richardson that we'll bring you in next week's edition.

Otro fin de semana de diversión termina con el Festival de Pan y Rosas

Rumbo recibió una colección de fotos del Festival de Pan y Rosas del fotógrafo George Richardson y se las traeremos en la próxima edición.

Honoring Dante Alighieri

The Community Center Trust of Lodge #902 is hosting a commemoration event in honor of Dante Alighieri on the 700th Anniversary of his death. Alighieri is the father of the modern Italian Language and author of the Divine Comedy. On Saturday, September 11, 2021 our lodge will celebrate with a Tree Planting and Plaque Placement Ceremony at 11:45 AM at Methuen Sons of Italy, 459 Merrimack St. Students from the Italian Language studies in Methuen, Officers of the Sons of Italy and Community

Leaders will take part in this program marking this historic event.

As part of the day's events a Bocce Tournament will begin at 8:00 AM. Members of the Lodge and the greater community are invited to take part. Anyone interested in participating are invited to call the Lodge and speak with Community Center Trust Member, Pio Frittita at 978-502-8469.

More details on page 18.

¿Podemos confiar en Vilma?

Pg. 5

Can we trust Vilma?

Pg. 6

Corruption: Museum Sq. and Bid Rigging

Corrupción: Museum Sq. y licitaciones

Pg. 8

Por/By Dalia Diaz
rumbonews.com/blog

Pareciendo como el servicio secreto

Página 4

Desde Mi Esquina

Por/By Dalia Diaz
rumbonews.com/blog

Looking like the secret service

From My Corner

Page 16

98th Feast of The Three Saints

Lawrence, Massachusetts

Photos: Arlene Torres Ortolaza



an awesome job entertaining us. Hats off to "The Acting Out" theatre group, as they performed Peace, Love & Music. They were fantastic!

It wouldn't be a Feast if we didn't have Joey Grieve sing the National Anthem' before our 6 pm show.

Feast favorite, Stephen Savio and the Seabreeze Band won the crowd over with some old Italian Classics.

Saturday night, the stage belonged to "Something Else Band" what a high-energy show!

Sunday

We asked Acting Out to come back for another performance; the crowd really appreciated their efforts.

Once the Varda passed the stage, the lovely Bella Perrotta sang our National Anthem and God Bless America.

Rico Barr and JJR Horns entertained the crowd with some classics when music was music. I myself love a fantastic horn section; there was something for everyone in Rico's show, including a wicked drum solo.

Once the Saints were in the Saint Alfio Chapel the B--Street Bombers wowed the huge crowd that stayed, sang and danced with a 2-hour show that was just awesome. This year marks their 41st anniversary as a Band.

Special thanks to this year's entertainment committee, Joe Mac, Jim, Joe D & Tony P, they did a great job once again this year. Last night they were talking about who they should get for the 99th Feast. Go figure!

Thank you all that came over to say hi, it was so nice seeing friends having fun again. I thought the food at this year's Feast was awesome.

See you all at next year's Feast. Father Mikey.

By Mike Lomazzo

The Society really did an outstanding job putting together a Feast of this size in such a short period of time. On Sat I thought the crowd was slightly less than usual and we expected that.

On Sunday, we were packed, we actually sold out of Feast Raffle Tickets that was the first time since I have been a member that has happened.

On the entertainment side of things :

Saturday

Special thanks to John Diresta who did

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¡Gracias por tu apoyo!

Richard Guilmette and his son Joseph take part in this ceremony every year.

Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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POR DALIA DÍAZ
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READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Desde Mi Esquina



CARTAS AL EDITOR RUMBO

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Las cartas deben tener menos de 300 palabras de largo. Favor de incluir un número de teléfono o dirección electrónica para confirmar quién la envía.

Pareciendo el Servicio Secreto

En el Desfile de la Semana Hispana del mes pasado, Rumbo estuvo presente con su fotógrafo. Además de tomar fotografías maravillosas del desfile y de todos sus participantes, Rumbo notó algo extraño que requiere una revisión interna y externa para ver si alguna ley fue violada.

Estas fotos fueron tomadas y utilizadas en las noticias de la Semana Hispana de Rumbo, edición del 22 de agosto de 2021. Estas fotos muestran a algunos miembros del equipo del alcalde interino Vásquez con dispositivos especiales de comunicación caminando con su equipo de campaña política en el desfile (no como alcalde, pero con su equipo de campaña y con carteles políticos.)

Por los gráficos, se pueden ver los dispositivos conectados a la cintura de cada miembro y tapones para los oídos en uno o más canales auditivos. Una de las personas es el Director de TI de la ciudad. El otro individuo es el recientemente ascendido Capitán de Policía Fabián Guerrero y el Director del DPW Franklin Miguel.

Estos dispositivos nunca han sido utilizados por ningún otro alcalde o su equipo. Se parecen a los dispositivos de comunicación de las fuerzas del orden que se utilizan para los presidentes y vicepresidentes de los Estados Unidos.

Esto hace que Rumbo se plantee las siguientes preguntas:



• ¿El departamento de TI de Lawrence compró estos dispositivos de comunicación y usó los dispositivos para la seguridad del alcalde interino Vásquez y, de ser así, por qué el director de TI y el alcalde usaron estos dispositivos para una campaña política?

• ¿Permitió el Departamento de Policía de Lawrence el uso de dispositivos de seguridad de comunicaciones de las fuerzas del orden para su uso durante la Semana Hispana? De ser así, ¿fue idea del Capitán Guerrero? Si es así, ¿por qué el jefe de policía Roy Vasque permitió que los dispositivos de la ciudad se usaran para un evento político?

Si ninguna de las declaraciones anteriores es cierta, entonces los ciudadanos del Commonwealth deberían ver los costos asociados con la compra o el alquiler de dispositivos de comunicación de seguridad en el OCPF del alcalde interino Kendrys Vasquez como gastos o contribuciones (in-kind).

MCC's Inter-Campus Shuttle Service Running for Fall Semester

Education is made easy at Middlesex Community College. Across the two campuses in Bedford and Lowell, Middlesex students can take classes and engage in programs that enhance their educational experience and set them up for success.

Throughout the Fall 2021 semester, Middlesex will feature more on campus classes, student support services and activities. In order to help students access these resources and go between campuses, MCC's Transportation division will run the Inter-Campus Shuttle Service.

"Providing access to transportation for our students is important to Middlesex, and we understand that many rely on this service," said Daniel Martin, MCC's Director of Public Safety and Transportation. "The college strives to get our students to their classes safely and on time, and we are excited to be back up and running for the Fall 2021 semester."

The shuttle will run on all days classes meet, starting on Monday, August 30. Operation hours are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays.

At this time, everyone on MCC



properties – including the Inter-campus Shuttle Service – must wear face masks indoors at all times in all shared spaces. The college will continue to revisit these protocols on a regular basis.

For more information on MCC's transportation options – including shuttle service, directions to campus and parking options – visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/transportation/ or contact Martin at martind@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3751.

MCC's Fall 2021 semester will feature flexible course formats – including on campus and online – and a variety of student support services and resources. To register for classes, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

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– Voltaire
AZ QUOTES

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¿Podemos confiar en Vilma?

Por Dalia Díaz

Ha sido extremadamente decepcionante, que con cinco candidatos a alcalde, no hubo debates este año. No hablo de "conocer a los candidatos". Me refiero a un debate real. Un debate que expondría a los candidatos a preguntas inteligentes y a respuestas situacionales ideales que iluminarían a los votantes si los candidatos tienen algo en el cerebro, son tontos, o realmente piensan.

Hay ventajas en estos debates, o como los llamé confrontaciones. Especialmente con los medios involucrados, porque es el mejor método para identificar quiénes son los candidatos y qué esperan de ellos los votantes. Esto es más cierto, especialmente si son honestos. Sin embargo, la honestidad y los candidatos rara vez van de la mano, especialmente en las elecciones. Se hacen promesas y no se cumplen.

Entonces, digamos que yo era un miembro de la prensa que les hacía preguntas a los candidatos... Podría suceder. Esta es una de las preguntas o preocupaciones que haría, presentaría o identificaría.

Cuando la Comisión de Planificación de Merrimack Valley nombró a Vilma como representante de Lawrence, eché un vistazo a sus largas y ceremoniosas calificaciones en su anuncio. El primer párrafo fue el más impactante; decía que "ella es una planificadora urbana con más de 24 años de experiencia en organizaciones municipales y sin fines de lucro".

Esa es una oración engañosa si alguna vez vi una. Ella puede tener 24 años trabajando en organizaciones municipales y sin fines de lucro, colectivamente. Pero definitivamente no tiene 24 años trabajando en urbanismo.

Sus deberes laborales, en la YWCA, fueron las habilidades enumeradas en el sitio web de MVPC (capacitación extensa en justicia social y racial, equidad de género y salud e investigación participativa basada en la comunidad), entonces, ¿dónde adquirió los más de 24 años como planificadora urbana para calificarla para el trabajo actual. Ella era una trabajadora social en la YWCA que se ocupaba de la violencia doméstica, no de la planificación urbana.

Su currículum también establece que ella "proporciona supervisión administrativa a los programas de derechos de CDBG, HOME Investment Partnerships y Emergency Solutions Grant, y a un programa de reducción de plomo". No entiendo por qué citaría un programa al que se le negó financiación en los últimos dos años. Ahora sabemos cómo la ciudad de Lawrence perdió millones en esos programas con la denegación de HUD, debido a la mala gestión y los errores administrativos de presentación.

El departamento que dirige en el gobierno local, el Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario, devolvió \$134,630.84 al gobierno federal, porque ella y su departamento no sabían qué hacer con los fondos. Para aquellos que no entienden cómo administrar los fondos públicos, permítanme decirles que devolver los fondos a la agencia gobernante que otorgó los fondos es un PECADO. También pone al departamento y al alcalde en una situación de mala administración y la probabilidad de que no se les otorguen los fondos en el futuro.

Se cree que la candidata Vilma tiene una licenciatura en ciencias de Springfield College con especialización en salud y

servicios humanos. Afirma que también tiene un Programa de Certificación de nueve meses del Instituto de Práctica sin Fines de Lucro de la Facultad de Vida Cívica Jonathan M. Tisch de la Universidad de Tufts, que se reúne durante cuatro horas una vez al mes.

Al consultar el sitio web de la universidad, no pude encontrar una licenciatura en Salud y Servicios Humanos que se ofreciera en ningún campus de Springfield College. Su solicitud de empleo en la ciudad de Lawrence fue solicitada hace varios años a través de una solicitud de registros públicos, también afirma que asistió a Northern Essex Community College durante 1.5 años y luego asistió 4 años a Springfield College, sin embargo, su currículum dice que asistió desde enero de 2000 hasta diciembre de 2001.

Son dos años de universidad, ¡pero ella afirma que tuvo 5.5 años de universidad! Pensé que tal vez estaba trabajando en ambas instituciones de educación superior al mismo tiempo. Las horas semestrales de Northern Essex Community College son transferibles a otras universidades; entonces, habiendo asistido durante 1.5 años, ¿por qué pasó 4 años más en Springfield College, como se indica en su solicitud? Su currículum, solicitud y carta de presentación no reflejan si se graduó o no de la universidad solo que asistió.

Trabajó en la YWCA de Lawrence desde el 2003 hasta el 2017. Fue entonces cuando se postuló y fue nombrada para su puesto actual. Su solicitud dice que nunca ha trabajado para la ciudad de Lawrence en años anteriores. Pero, en 2010, el Alcalde William Lantigua la contrató como Coordinadora del Grupo de Trabajo de Salud de la Alcaldía. Ella admite, en su carta, que ocupó ese cargo durante 15 años hasta el presente.

Recuerdo al Alcalde Rivera haciendo campaña con la promesa de que solo contrataría profesionales calificados, educados y para trabajos en la ciudad. La solicitud, el currículum y la carta de presentación de Vilma tienen muchas inconsistencias. En este momento, me cuestioné si Vilma Martínez Domínguez tiene un título universitario. En un debate, esa habría sido una pregunta hecha por miembros de la prensa.

Sin embargo, no es la primera vez que el ex Alcalde Rivera falla a los residentes con sus prácticas de contratación. Se recuerda que nos dio un ingeniero municipal (Theodoro Rosario), que era agrónomo. Los residentes de la ciudad pensaban que el maíz estaba a punto de ser cultivado en las calles, o que Theo habría estado a cargo de los mercados de verduras que llegan al frente de El Centro para personas mayores todos los meses.

Durante una deposición, el ex Alcalde Rivera mintió una vez acerca de que Wendy Luzón tenía un título universitario, cuando más tarde confesó que solo había completado (y continúa) una escuela secundaria. Hay otros partidarios colocados en buenos trabajos con credenciales falsas, y resultó ser la mejor manera de garantizar la lealtad. Ahora, Rivera la está apoyando para la alcaldía de esta ciudad.

El problema aquí es la falta de veracidad. Las mentiras dicen mucho sobre una persona. El hecho de que una persona tenga o no un título es solo un testimonio de logros y una formación o conocimientos básicos para realizar un trabajo en particular. La

cualidad más valorada será su honestidad; la confianza en que el trabajo se realizará de acuerdo con lo requerido.

No debería haber ninguna decepción por ella. Actuó como se esperaba. El Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario administra muchos millones de dólares, de muchas fuentes, y ella ha aprendido rápidamente a jugar el juego dando oportunidades a los amigos y haciéndose de la vista gorda cuando es necesario. Una de esas oportunidades de obsequio, debido a que tiene un buen corazón, fue un préstamo de liderazgo y rehabilitación sin interés otorgado al mejor amigo de Kendrys, director interino del DPW, Franklin Miguel.

En 2016, Franklin Miguel Francisco estaba trabajando para el Departamento de Transporte de Massachusetts (Mass DOT) y, por sugerencia de Kendrys Vasquez, solicitó una subvención de pintura con plomo de \$15,000. Hubo retrasos en la finalización de la obra, con la mala gestión de la subvención, cuando terminaron devolviendo mucho dinero al gobierno. El trabajo finalmente se completó el 19 de junio de 2018.

A principios de 2018, Franklin Miguel fue contratado para trabajar con la Ciudad de Lawrence como Gerente de Activos de Capital. Ya se puede imaginar, con la ayuda de Vásquez, que entonces era presidente del concejo, y el Alcalde Rivera, aprobaron el nuevo trabajo que habían terminado de crear. El 1 de marzo de 2018, Franklin firmó un contrato con MassHousing por un préstamo de \$35,000. Curiosamente, el Acuerdo de subvención de verificación de ingresos completado, tenía prueba de ingresos de su declaración del IRS del 2015, de cuando era empleado de Mass DOT. Sus ganancias ese año fueron unos miserables \$72,957.98. El sentido común me dice que el formulario de verificación de ingresos debería haberse actualizado, pero no fue así.

La aplicación del Programa de Reducción de Plomo muestra en la página 6 una lista de los miembros de la familia que dependen de su salario. En la página 7, hay otra lista de los niños nuevamente. Luego, el Acuerdo de subvención de verificación de ingresos presenta una declaración de su padre, en las páginas 2 y 3, en la que jura que su hijo los mantiene y en la página 12 hay una lista similar de miembros de la familia.

Esas declaraciones son falsas porque en febrero de 2015, padre e hijo formaron una corporación (FM Properties LLC) con el propósito de "ventas de bienes raíces



residenciales y comerciales y todas y cada una de las actividades legales permitidas por el estado de Massachusetts". Dicha corporación fue disuelta por orden judicial el 30 de junio de 2021.

Además, el 28 de mayo de 2021, cada uno contribuyó con \$1,000 a la campaña de Kendrys Vasquez.

Esas dos listas se redactaron con dos años de diferencia, pero no se mencionó a la madre de los niños en ninguno de los formularios completados. Franklin se enumeró a sí mismo, a sus padres y a sus tres hijos. Todos sabían de su existencia, que vivía con ellos y que estaba empleada. ¿No cree que esto se ve mal tanto para Franklin Miguel como para Vilma? Bueno, debería serlo; favoritismo que de otro modo otros no habrían recibido ni podrían haber recibido. Muestra la mala administración de los fondos. Pero también fue como una bofetada en la cara porque no impidió que Kendrys corriera. Si yo fuera ella, lo habría gritado por toda la ciudad. Pero, de nuevo, ella también se habría visto muy mal.

Si Franklin Miguel hubiera enumerado sus ingresos, probablemente superaría los límites/niveles de ingresos para recibir la subvención. ¿Fue esto un descuido o intencional? ¿Se han beneficiado otros amigos de este comportamiento? Bien, veamos. Una carta del 2019, adjunta al archivo, muestra que la Gerente de Vivienda (E. Ureña) le escribió a Vilma con una explicación por algún retraso en la realización del trabajo. Pero el trabajo se completó un año entero antes de que se produjera la carta. ¡Me parece que alguien les estaba cubriendo el trasero!

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Can You Trust Vilma?

By Dalia Díaz

It has been extremely disappointing, that with five mayoral candidates, there were no debates this year. I am not speaking about “meet the candidates”. I am speaking about an actual debate. A debate that would expose candidates to intelligent thought-out questions and ideal situational responses that would enlighten the voters if candidates were fluff, puff, or the real thing.

There are advantages in these debates, or as I called them confrontations. Especially with the media involved, because it’s the best method to identify who are the candidates, and what is expected of them by the voters. This is most true, especially if they are honest. However, honesty and candidates rarely go together, especially in elections. Promises are made and promises are not followed through.

So let’s say that I was a member of the press asking candidates questions... It could happen. This is one of the questions or concerns that I would either ask, portray, or identify.

When the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission appointed Vilma as Lawrence’s representative, I glanced at her long and sententious qualifications in their announcement. The first paragraph was the most shocking; it said that “she is an urban planner with 24+ years of experience in municipal and non-profit organizations.”

That is a misleading sentence if I ever saw one. She may have 24 years working in both municipal and non-profit organizations, collectively. But she definitely does not have 24 years working in urban planning.

Her job duties, at the YWCA, were the skills listed on MVPC’s website (extensive

training in social and racial justice, gender and health equity, and community-based participatory research) so where did she acquire the 24+ years as an urban planner to qualify her for the current job. She was a social worker at the YWCA dealing with domestic violence, not urban planning.

Her resume also states that she “provides administrative oversight to CDBG, HOME Investment Partnerships, and Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement programs, and to a Lead Abatement Program.” I don’t understand why she would cite a program that was denied funding in the last two years. We now know how the City of Lawrence lost millions in those programs with HUD’s denial, due to mismanagement and administrative filing errors

The department that she runs in local government, Community Development Department returned \$134,630.84, to the Federal government, because she and her department didn’t know what to do with funds. For those who don’t understand how to manage public funds, let me tell you that returning funds to the governing agency that awarded the funds is a SIN. It also puts the department, and the mayor, in a predicament of bad management, and the probability of not being awarded the funds in the future.

It is believed that candidate Vilma holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Science from Springfield College with a major in Health and Human Services. She states that she also holds a nine-month Certificate Program from the Institute for Nonprofit Practice from Tufts University’s Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, meeting for four hours once a month.

Upon checking the college’s website, I could not find a Bachelor’s degree in Health and Human Services being offered at any campus of Springfield College. Her City of Lawrence job application was requested several years ago through a public records request, also states that she attended Northern Essex Community College for 1.5 years and then attended 4 years to Springfield College, yet her resume says she attended from a period of January 2000 to December 2001.

That’s two years of college, but she states that she had 5.5 years of college! I thought maybe she was working in both higher educational institutions at the same time. The semester hours from Northern Essex Community College, are transferable to other universities; so having attended for 1.5 years, why did she spend 4 additional years at Springfield College, as stated on her application. Her resume, application, and cover letter do not reflect whether or not she graduated from college just that she attended.

She was employed at the Lawrence YWCA from 2003 through 2017. It was then that she applied, and was appointed, to her current position. Her application says that she has never worked for the City of Lawrence in prior years. But, in 2010 she was contracted, by Mayor William Lantigua as Coordinator of the Mayor’s Health Task Force. She admits, in her letter, that she held that position for 15 years through the present.

I recall Mayor Rivera campaigning on the promised that he would only hire qualified, educated, and professionals for city jobs. Vilma’s application, resume, and cover letter have a lot of inconsistencies. At this moment, I questioned whether or not Vilma Martinez Dominguez has a college degree. In a debate, that would have been a question asked by members of the press.

However, it’s not the first time former Mayor Rivera fails the residents, with his hiring practices. You can recall that he gave us a city engineer (Theodoro Rosario), who was an agronomist. City residents thought that corn was about to be farmed in the streets, or that Theo would have been in charge of the vegetable markets that make it to the front of the senior center every month.

During a deposition, former Mayor Rivera once lied about Wendy Luzón having a college degree, when later it was found that she only had (and continues to have) completed a high school. There are other supporters placed on good jobs with counterfeit credentials, and it proved to be the best way to guarantee loyalty. Now, Rivera is supporting her for mayor of this city.

The issue here is the lack of truth. Lies say a lot about a person. Whether or not an individual has a degree is only a testimony of accomplishments, and basic training or knowledge to perform a particular job. The most valued quality will be his or her honesty; the trust that the work will be performed according to what’s required.

There should be no disappointment at all, about her. She performed as expected. The Community Development Department manages many millions of dollars, from many sources, and she has learned quickly to play the game by giving opportunities to friends and a blind eye when required. One such given gift opportunity, because she has a good heart, was a lead and rehabilitation no interest loan given to Kendrys best buddy Acting DPW Director Franklin Miguel.

In 2016, Franklin Miguel Francisco was working for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (Mass DOT) and at the suggestion of Kendrys Vasquez, he applied



for a lead paint grant of \$15,000. There were delays in the completion of the work, with the poor management of the grant, when they ended up returning lots of money to the government. The work was eventually completed on June 19, 2018.

At the beginning of 2018, Franklin Miguel was hired to work with the City of Lawrence as the Capital Asset Manager. You know, with help from Vasquez who was then Council President, and Mayor Rivera they approved the new job that they had completed putting together. On March 1, 2018, Franklin signed a contract with MassHousing for a \$35,000 loan. Curiously, the Income Verification Grant Agreement filled out, had proof of income of his 2015 IRS statement - of when he was employed by Mass DOT. His earnings that year were a measly \$72,957.98. Common sense tells me that the income verification form should have been updated but it wasn’t.

The Lead Abatement Program application shows on page 6, a list of family members that are dependent on his salary. On page 7, there’s another listing of the children again. Then, the Income Verification Grant Agreement presents a statement from his father, on pages 2 and 3 swearing that they are being supported by their son and on page 12 is a similar listing of family members.

Those statements are false because in February of 2015, father and son formed a corporation (FM Properties LLC) for the purpose of “residential and commercial real estate sales and any and all lawful activity allowed by the State of Massachusetts.” Said corporation was dissolved by a court order on June 30, 2021.

Furthermore, on May 28, 2021, each contributed \$1,000 to Kendrys Vasquez’s campaign.

Those two lists were written two years apart, yet there was no mention of the children’s mother on neither completed form. Franklin listed himself, his parents, and three children. Everyone knew of her existence - that she lived with them and that she was employed. How does this look bad for both Franklin Miguel and Vilma? Well, it should; favoritism that otherwise others would not and could not have received. It shows the mismanagement of funds. But it also smacked her in the face because it still did not stop Kendrys from running. If I were her, I would have blasted that across the city. But then again, she would have looked very bad.

If Franklin Miguel would have listed her income, he would probably surpass the income limits/levels for receiving the grant. Was this an oversight or intentional? Have other friends been benefited from this behavior? Well, let’s see. A 2019 letter, attached to the file, shows that the Housing Manager (E.Urena) wrote to Vilma with an explanation for some delay in getting the work accomplished. But the work was completed one entire year before the letter was produced. It seems to me that someone was covering their ass!

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Aviso del Alcalde Interino Kendry Vasquez sobre el Departamento de Personal

A la espera de una investigación independiente del Departamento de Personal de la Ciudad, el personal del departamento fue colocado en licencia administrativa pagada el miércoles, 25 de agosto de 2021. Teniendo en cuenta la renuncia del actual Director de Personal, que entrará en vigencia el lunes, 6 de septiembre, 2021, el alcalde Vásquez ha nombrado un director interino. Gina LaGreca, que actualmente forma parte del equipo de abogados de la ciudad, se desempeñará como directora interina para garantizar que el departamento continúe brindando los servicios que necesitan el personal y los residentes.

Comprometido con el buen gobierno, la transparencia y la modernización de los

servicios de la ciudad y el Ayuntamiento, el Alcalde Interino Vásquez ha estado en comunicación con el Collins Center de la Universidad de Massachusetts, Boston. De los cuales, el Collins Center ha sido comisionado para ayudar a la Ciudad: reclutar un nuevo Director de Personal; ejecutar una auditoría del Departamento de Personal; hacer recomendaciones de mejores prácticas; y llevar a cabo un estudio de clasificación de empleados y una revisión de ordenanzas, que el Departamento de Personal no ha realizado en más de 15 años. Está previsto que el trabajo comience tan pronto como concluya la investigación independiente.

Declaración oficial debida al reciente comunicado de prensa de la ciudad de Lawrence en relación con el personal

Es lamentable que la Ciudad de Lawrence, de repente, decidiera comprometerse con la transparencia y la modernización de los servicios. Parece que el Alcalde Interino Vásquez solo quiere ser transparente con los temas que quiere ser transparente, y no con la totalidad del gobierno de la ciudad, ética o integridad.

También es una lástima para todos que la ciudad ahora se comprometa a realizar un estudio de clasificación de empleados no sindicalizados y una auditoría del personal cuando durante los últimos 15 años es exactamente lo que le he estado pidiendo a la ciudad que financie. Cada año, el Director Administrativo y Financiero y los alcaldes (incluido este año) no solo han negado los fondos, sino que han cambiado el presupuesto de personal para adaptarlo a sus necesidades y han decidido que el departamento funcionó bien sin auditorías y que a los empleados se les pagaba barato. Supongo que es el momento adecuado para esta administración, pero también es un insulto.

Lo que realmente se requiere es un estudio de compensación, no un estudio de reclasificación. Un estudio de compensación permitirá un aumento en los salarios de los empleados no sindicalizados que son muy necesarios. También aumentará el salario del Jefe de Gabinete y ese es el deseo del Alcalde. Estoy seguro de que el nuevo director de personal también tendrá un

gran aumento en el rango de sueldos. Pero eso es lo que nosotros, los ciudadanos de Lawrence, obtenemos cuando la gente no sabe nada sobre el personal, pero tratan de pagar altos salarios de los contribuyentes aunque parezcan tontos.

Además, el hecho de que la ciudad esté trabajando con el Collins Center le indica cuán fraudulento es el Director Administrativo y Financiero. Los fondos que utilizarán nunca se agregaron al presupuesto de personal en el año fiscal 22, ni a ningún otro presupuesto departamental al respecto. El concejo no ha aprobado tales fondos para ese trabajo en su presupuesto para el año fiscal 22, por lo que gastar sin aprobación solo demuestra cómo la ciudad ha estado funcionando este año, de manera fraudulenta.

Además, el trabajo para cambiar las ordenanzas y gráficas ya se ha completado. Mi departamento y el abogado externo han proporcionado a la administración anterior, y al CAFO actual y al abogado de la ciudad, los cambios que se solicitaron. Se gastó mucho dinero y ahora la administración quiere gastar fondos nuevamente.

Cuando sea elegido, me aseguraré de que la responsabilidad de esta y de las futuras administraciones esté en orden y mantendré a los colegas del concejo informados sobre estos temas.

Frank Bonet

Notice from Interim Mayor Kendry Vasquez regarding the Personnel Department

Pending an independent investigation of the City's Personnel Department, the staff in the Department were placed on paid administrative leave on Wednesday, August 25, 2021. Taking into account the resignation of the current Personnel Director, which will be effective on Monday, September 6, 2021, Mayor Vasquez has appointed an Acting Director. Gina LaGreca, currently part of the City Attorney's team, will serve as Acting Director to ensure that the Department continues to provide services needed by staff and residents.

Committed to good governance, transparency and the modernization of City

services and City Hall, Mayor Vasquez has been in communications with the Collins Center at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Of which, the Collins Center has been commissioned to help the City: recruit a new Personnel Director; run an audit of the Personnel Department; make recommendations for best practices; and conduct an employee classification study and ordinance review, which has not been conducted by the Personnel Department in over 15 years. The work is slated to begin as soon as the independent investigation concludes.

Official Statement due to City of Lawrence recent Press Release in Regards to Personnel

It is unfortunate that the City of Lawrence, suddenly, decided to commit themselves to transparency and modernization of services. It seems that Mayor Vasquez only wants to be transparent with the topics he wants to be transparent, and not the entirety of city government, ethics, or integrity.

It is also unfortunate for everyone that the city is now committed to conducting a non-union employee classification study and audit of Personnel when for the last 15 years is exactly what I have been asking the city to fund. Every year the Chief Administrative & Financial Officer, and Mayors (including this year's) have not only denied the funds, but change the personnel budget to suit their needs, and have decided that that the department ran well without any audits and employees were getting paid cheaply. I guess the time is right for this administration, but it's also an insult.

What is really required is a compensation study, not a reclassification study. A compensation study will allow an increase in salaries for non-union employees that are much needed. It will also increase the salary for the Chief of Staff and that is the Mayor's wish. I am sure the new Personnel Director will also have a huge increase in salary range. But that is what we, the citizens

of Lawrence, get when people know nothing about personnel but try to pay top taxpayer dollars and make themselves look silly.

Additionally, the fact that the city will be working with the Collins Center, tells you how fraudulent the Chief Administrative & Financial Officer is. The funds that they will use, was never added to the personnel budget in FY22, or any other departmental budget for the matter. The council has never approved such funds for that work in its FY22 budget, and so spending without approval just goes to show how the city has been working this year - fraudulently.

Additionally, the work to change ordinances and charts has already been accomplished. My department and the outside attorney have provided the previous administration, and current CAFO and City Attorney, changes that were requested. A pretty penny was spent, and now the administration wants to spend funds all over again.

When elected, I will ensure that accountability for this and future administrations are in order and keep colleagues in the council educated on these issues.

Frank Bonet

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Corrupción en Lawrence: Museum Square y manipulación de licitaciones

Por Dalia Díaz

A fines de septiembre de 2019, mientras el entonces Alcalde Dan Rivera siguió la orden de un juez de crear espacios de estacionamiento y agregar autobuses para servir a los residentes de Museum Square Apartments, el director administrativo y financiero (Mark Ianello) estaba violando la ley para obtener lo que él creía que era el dinero de la ciudad.

Hace muchos años, antes de septiembre de 2019, se creó un acuerdo en el que la ciudad nunca ha visto ni un centavo del dinero recaudado del estacionamiento por los propietarios de Museum Square Apartment (Jackson Street Housing Associates) y sus residentes. Digamos que la ciudad salió del lado perdedor y el abogado que revisó ese contrato para Lawrence, no fue muy inteligente. Lawrence no ha recibido ningún pago desde que se crearon los apartamentos en Museum Square, junto con el estacionamiento de Museum Square.

Sin embargo, en o alrededor de septiembre del 2019, CAFO Mark Ianello, eludió el proceso legal (sin que el Alcalde Rivera lo supiera) y forzó una evaluación más alta del Museum Square Garage. Hoy, Museum Square Apartments tiene un valor de \$4,383,000.00. En 2019, la propiedad se evaluó en \$3,258,700.

Sin embargo, debido a que Jackson Street Housing Associates no estaba pagando a la ciudad dinero por el garaje (aunque lo estaban cobrando a sus residentes), Mark decidió sacar el dinero de la ciudad por la puerta trasera; evaluando la propiedad 1 millón de dólares adicionales. Funcionó y nadie se dio cuenta de la diferencia ni los hechos hasta ahora.

Este director administrativo y financiero es igualmente poco ético y no tiene integridad. No tiene el mejor interés por la ciudad de Lawrence, es arrogante y permite la corrupción. Debería renunciar. Me pregunto qué otras empresas han obligado al CAFO a evaluar la propiedad de forma arbitraria para que su presupuesto se vea mejor.

Pero no verá una investigación del alcalde interino Kendrys Vasquez sobre este tema. El único hecho cierto que ha ocurrido es que la Autoridad de Vivienda de Jackson Street ha aumentado los alquileres de los inquilinos para pagar los aumentos en la evaluación de impuestos. Oye, pero seamos transparentes, ¿eh?

Licitación fraudulenta

Anteriormente, en una edición de verano en Rumbo, les escribimos a ustedes, los lectores, sobre Cemetery Services, Inc. Una empresa a la que se le otorgó un contrato de \$300,000 después de que todos los propietarios y socios silenciosos donaron cada uno \$1,000 a la campaña del alcalde interino Kendrys Vasquez.

Las fuentes han indicado que la Ciudad de Lawrence ha autorizado ilegalmente un

segundo contrato por un monto de \$300,000 sobre el segundo postor. Esta adjudicación de contrato no solo es sospechosa debido a las contribuciones de la campaña a los fondos del alcalde Vásquez, sino que la ley establece que se debe adjudicar el contrato al postor más bajo a menos que la ciudad haya presentado un problema de desempeño del servicio anterior.

El contrato era por un precio base para un proyecto (vegetación y basura), y luego se suponía que la ciudad pediría un precio alternativo para el trabajo adicional dependiendo de la financiación. Esto no se hizo de esa manera y, por lo tanto, se otorgó a CSI para pagar las contribuciones de la campaña.

También se ha presentado una queja ante el Fiscal General y otras agencias. Como dijo el ex Director de Personal, el Director Administrativo y Financiero simplemente está haciendo lo que el alcalde Vásquez pide y no protege los fondos de la ciudad ni sigue la ley.

Además, también se adjudicó ilegalmente un proyecto de reparación de carreteras. Se suponía que la ciudad presentaría una oferta por los servicios para que las empresas pudieran presentar sus ofertas. En un proyecto reciente de reparación de carreteras, la licitación de la ciudad fracasó. En lugar de enviar una oferta por los servicios, la ciudad se comunicó personalmente con unas diez (10) empresas constructoras familiares en la ciudad y les pidió que presentaran una cotización de menos de \$10,000 por área provista, para eludir el proceso de adquisición. Se llama manipulación de licitaciones y es ilegal.

La manipulación de licitaciones es un esquema fraudulento en las subastas de adquisiciones que resulta en licitaciones no competitivas y es realizado por funcionarios corruptos, por empresas en un acto orquestado de colusión o entre funcionarios y empresas. Esta forma de colusión es ilegal.

El objetivo típico de la manipulación de licitaciones es permitir que la parte "ganadora", en este caso CSI, y las otras empresas más pequeñas para el segundo proyecto de reparación de carreteras, obtengan contratos a precios no competitivos (es decir, a precios más altos si son vendedores o precios más bajos si son compradores).

Las otras partes son compensadas de diversas formas, por ejemplo, mediante pagos en efectivo, o mediante la designación de licitador "ganador" en otros contratos, o mediante un acuerdo en el que se subcontratarán algunas partes del contrato del adjudicatario. De esta forma, "comparten el botín" entre ellos.

La manipulación de licitaciones casi siempre da como resultado un daño económico para la agencia que busca las licitaciones y para el público, que en última instancia asume los costos como contribuyentes o consumidores.

Corruption in Lawrence: Museum Square and Bid Rigging

By Dalia Díaz

In Late September 2019, while then-Mayor Dan Rivera followed a judge's order to create parking spaces and added shuttle buses to residents of Museum Square Apartments, the Chief Administrative & Financial Officer (Mark Ianello) was breaking the law to get what he thought was the city's money.

A long time ago, before September 2019, an agreement was created in which the city has yet to see one cent of any sums of money from all of the parking agreed for the Museum Square Apartment owners (Jackson Street Housing Associates) and their residents. Let's just say that the city came out on a losing side, and the attorney, who reviewed that contract for Lawrence, was not that bright. Lawrence had not seen any payments since the Museum Square Apartments were created, along with the Museum Square Parking Garage.

However, in or around September 2019, CAFO Mark Ianello circumvented the legal process (without Mayor Rivera knowing it) and forced a higher assessment of Museum Square Garage. Today, Museum Square Apartments is assessed at \$4,383,000.00. Back in 2019, the property was assessed at \$3,258,700.

However, because the Jackson Street Housing Associates were not paying the city any money for the garage (although they were collecting it from their residents), Mark decided to get the city's money through the back door; assessing the property an additional \$1 million. It worked and you did not know the difference or the facts until now.

This Chief Administrative & Finance Officer is just as unethical and has no integrity. He does not have the best interest of the City of Lawrence, and is cavalier and allows corruption. He should resign. I wonder what other businesses have the CAFO forced assessment of property arbitrarily to make his budget look better.

But you won't see an investigation by Mayor Kendrys Vasquez on this issue.

The only fact that has occurred is that Jackson Street Housing Authority has increased rents on tenants to pay for the increases in tax assessment. Hey, but let's be transparent, hey?

Bid rigging

Previously, in an earlier summer edition of Rumbo, we wrote to you, the readers, about Cemetery Services, Inc. A company that was awarded a \$300,000 contract after all of the owners and silent owners each donated \$1,000 to Interim Mayor Kendrys Vasquez's campaign.

Sources have indicated that the City of Lawrence has illegally authorized a second contract for an amount of \$300,000 over the second-place bidder. Not only is this contract award fishy because of the campaign contributions to Mayor Vasquez's funds, but the law states that the lowest bidder must be awarded the contract unless a previous service performance issue was submitted by the city.

The contract was for a base pricing for a project (greenery and trash), and then the city was supposed to ask for alternate pricing for additional work contingent upon funding. This was not done in that manner and therefore awarded to CSI to pay for campaign contributions.

A complaint has been filed with the Attorney General and other agencies as well. It's as the previous Personnel Director stated, that the Chief Administrative & Financial Officer is just doing whatever Mayor Vasquez asks and not protecting the city's funds or following the law.

Additionally, a project of repairing roads was illegally awarded as well. The city was supposed to place a bid for services so that companies could submit their bids. In a recent project for road repairs, the city bid rigged. Instead of sending a bid for services, the city personally reached out to about ten (10) mom and pop construction companies in the city, and asked them to each submit a quote of less than \$10,000 per provided area, to circumvent the procurement process. It's called bid-rigging and it's illegal.

Bid-rigging is a fraudulent scheme in procurement auctions resulting in non-competitive bids and is performed by corrupt officials, by firms in an orchestrated act of collusion, or between officials and firms. This form of collusion is illegal.

The typical objective of bid-rigging is to enable the "winning" party, in this case CSI, and the other smaller companies for the second road repairs project, to obtain contracts at uncompetitive prices (i.e., at higher prices if they are sellers, or lower prices if they are buyers).

The other parties are compensated in various ways, for example, by cash payments, or by being designated to be the "winning" bidder on other contracts, or by an arrangement where some parts of the successful bidder's contract will be subcontracted to them. In this way, they "share the spoils" among themselves.

Bid rigging almost always results in economic harm to the agency which is seeking the bids, and to the public, who ultimately bear the costs as taxpayers or consumers.

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

The recent fire at Bennington St. in Lawrence left 64 residents homeless and in need of everything. Please contact Heal Lawrence if you wish to make a contribution to the victims. The website has a list of donated items and things that are needed as well as names, ages, sizes, etc. but they suggest giving them gift cards to grocery stores and department stores in any denomination.

El reciente incendio de la calle Bennington en Lawrence ha dejado a 64 residentes sin hogar y necesitados de todo. Favor de ponerse en contacto con Heal Lawrence si desea hacer una contribución a las víctimas. El sitio en la internet tiene una lista de artículos que han sido donados y lo que necesitan así como nombres, edades, tallas, etc. pero ellos sugieren que les compren tarjetas de mercados o tiendas por departamentos de cualquier denominación.

<http://heallawrence.org/>

heallawrence@aol.com

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

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

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

José Martí.

GLTS recibió una subvención estatal de \$220,000 para expandir el programa de fabricación avanzada y fabricación de metales

El Gobernador Baker destaca la excelencia de la escuela como impulso para ampliar la financiación de la educación técnica

El superintendente John Lavoie se complace en compartir que la Escuela Técnica Greater Lawrence recibió una subvención de capital de habilidades de \$ 220,000 de la Administración de Baker-Polito.

La subvención fue anunciada durante una ceremonia celebrada en Peabody Veterans Memorial High School el lunes 16 de agosto, durante la cual el gobernador Charlie Baker entregó subvenciones Skills Capital a 47 premiados.

La escuela secundaria ampliará el taller de fabricación avanzada y actualizará el equipo en el laboratorio de tecnologías de unión y fabricación de metales, y así preparará mejor a sus graduados para la fuerza laboral. El nuevo equipo ayudará a expandir el Instituto de Carreras Técnicas de la escuela al aumentar el número de estudiantes inscritos en programas vespertinos y nocturnos.

“La Administración de Baker-Polito ha sido un firme partidario de la Escuela Técnica Greater Lawrence y de asegurar que nuestros graduados tengan todas las habilidades y herramientas necesarias para tener éxito después de graduarse”, dijo el Superintendente Lavoie. “Estas becas marcan una diferencia significativa en la educación y la vida de nuestros estudiantes, y los ayudan a prepararse para carreras exitosas en el campo elegido”.

El gobernador Baker destacó al distrito y al superintendente Lavoie en sus comentarios. Dijo que visitó el programa de fabricación avanzada de Greater Lawrence Technical School a principios de 2020,

donde vio el enfoque multifacético de la escuela: educación técnica profesional durante el día, programas para estudiantes de Lawrence High School después de la escuela y programas nocturnos para adultos.

“Había empleadores que estaban rondando a los estudiantes, esperando que se graduaran, para poder contratarlos e incorporarlos a su fuerza laboral”, dijo el gobernador Baker. “Ese fue el impetu para presentar un programa de Iniciativa de Carreras Técnicas de tres turnos significativamente ampliado en todo el estado”.

“Su escuela, en particular, fue una de las que realmente hizo rodar la pelota”, dijo el gobernador Baker al superintendente Lavoie.

A través de sus subvenciones Skills Capital, la Administración de Baker-Polito ha trabajado para aumentar el número de estudiantes inscritos en programas donde pueden aprender y capacitarse para ocupaciones en carreras de alta demanda.

“Las subvenciones Skills Capital Grants han ayudado a brindar a miles de jóvenes oportunidades en trabajos de alta demanda, y las subvenciones han tenido un impacto tremendo en los estudiantes, las escuelas y las empresas locales”, dijo el gobernador Baker. “Estas importantes inversiones realizadas durante los últimos seis años en este programa con nuestros socios en la Legislatura ayudarán a capacitar a los estudiantes para que se adapten a las necesidades cambiantes de nuestra economía”.

Las subvenciones Skills Capital se otorgan a instituciones educativas

que pueden mostrar sus asociaciones con empresas locales y cuyo plan de estudios y credenciales buscan satisfacer la demanda de industrias en crecimiento en el Commonwealth. Más de 300 programas educativos han recibido apoyo financiero de la iniciativa de subvenciones Skills Capital, el gobernador Baker anunció que la financiación del Workforce Skills Cabinet ha superado los \$ 100 millones.

“Massachusetts está clasificada como una de las principales economías en innovación. Cuando piensas en innovación, piensas en los problemas que existen en el mundo y en las personas que tienen las habilidades y los conocimientos para solucionarlos”, dijo el vicegobernador Polito. “Para seguir siendo competitivos, debemos invertir en el desarrollo de habilidades y en oportunidades educativas”.

GLTS Awarded \$220,000 State Grant to Expand Advanced Manufacturing and Metal Fabrication Program

Gov. Baker Highlights School’s Excellence as Impetus for Expanded Technical Education Funding

Superintendent John Lavoie is pleased to share that Greater Lawrence Technical School has been awarded a \$220,000 Skills Capital Grant from the Baker-Polito Administration.

The grant was announced during a ceremony held at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School on Monday, Aug. 16, during which Gov. Charlie Baker handed out Skills Capital Grants to 47 awardees.

The high school will expand the advanced manufacturing shop and upgrade equipment in the metal fabrication and joining technologies lab, and thus better prepare its graduates for the workforce. The new equipment will help expand the school’s Career Technical Institute by increasing the number of students enrolled in afternoon and evening programs.

“The Baker-Polito Administration has been a strong supporter of Greater Lawrence Technical School, and of ensuring our graduates have all the skills and tools needed to become successful after they graduate,” Superintendent Lavoie said. “These grants make a significant difference

in the education and lives of our students, and help prepare them for successful careers in their chosen field.”

Gov. Baker highlighted the District and Superintendent Lavoie in his remarks. He said he visited Greater Lawrence Technical School’s Advanced Manufacturing program in early 2020, where he saw the School’s multi-faceted approach: Career Technical Education in the day, programs for Lawrence High School students after school, and evening programs for adults.

“There were employers who were hovering over students, waiting for them to graduate, so they could hire them, and bring them into their workforce,” Gov. Baker said. “That was the impetus for filing a significantly expanded, three-shift Career Technical Initiative program statewide.”

“Your school, in particular, was one of the ones that really got the ball rolling,” Gov. Baker told Superintendent Lavoie.

Through its Skills Capital grants, the Baker-Polito Administration has worked to increase the number of students enrolled in programs where they can learn and train for occupations in high-demand careers.

“The Skills Capital Grants have helped give thousands of young people opportunities in high-demand jobs, and the grants have had a tremendous impact on students, schools and local businesses,” Gov. Baker said. “These significant investments made over the past six years in this program with our partners in the Legislature will help train students to adapt to the changing needs of our economy.”

Skills Capital grants are awarded to educational institutions that can showcase their partnerships with local businesses and whose curriculum and credentials seek to meet the demand of growing industries in the Commonwealth. More than 300 educational programs have received financial support from the Skills Capital grant initiative, Gov. Baker announced that the Workforce Skills Cabinet funding has now exceeded \$100 million.

“Massachusetts is ranked as one of the top economies for innovation. When you think about innovation, you think about the problems that exist in the world, and the people who have the skills and knowhow to fix them,” Lt. Gov. Polito said. “To continue to be competitive, we need to invest in skills development, and in educational opportunities.”

The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center

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

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

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



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Enhancing Jewish Identity across Generations

Lappin Foundation and Congregation Ahavas Achim invite families to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, at PJ Library Jewish New Year at the Farm, Sunday, September 12, 10-11 a.m. at Cider Hill Farm, 45 Fern Avenue, Amesbury.

Enjoy stories, songs, a hayride, apple picking, apples and honey and hear the shofar blown. In the event

of rain, the program will be held September 19 at 10 a.m.

PJ Library Jewish New Year at the Farm is a free program of Lappin Foundation and Congregation Ahavas Achim and is supported by CJP.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Sharon Wyner at 978-565-4450 or swyner@lappinfoundation.org. Walk-ins are welcome.

PJ Library Story Time – Celebrate the Jewish Harvest Festival of Sukkot

Children ages five and younger are invited to learn about the Jewish harvest festival of Sukkot with a story and songs lead by Cantor Idan Irelander of Temple Emanuel of Andover on Friday, September 17 at 11 a.m. ET on Zoom.

This program is free and open to all. The story time is co-sponsored

by Haverhill Public Library, Lappin Foundation and Temple Emanuel of Andover.

Visit LappinFoundation.org to register for the Zoom link. For more information, contact Susan Feinstein at sfeinstein@lappinfoundation.org or call (978) 740-4431.

Productor Ganador del Emmy se une a Latinos For Education para liderar los esfuerzos de marketing y narración de historias

Ciro Valiente, ex productor de noticias de Telemundo New England, se desempeñará como Gerente de Marketing de Latinos for Education

Latinos for Education anunció que el ex productor de noticias de Telemundo New England, **Ciro Valiente**, se une a su creciente equipo de diversos líderes latinos como Gerente de Marketing y Comunicaciones de la organización. **Ciro** aporta más de 10 años de experiencia en comunicaciones y narración digital, cuyo trabajo le ha valido dos premios Emmy de Nueva Inglaterra, y se convirtió en el primer latino en ganar un Emmy como productor destacado de noticias en vivo.

“Estoy emocionado de unirme a una organización que está derribando las barreras que impiden que los estudiantes latinos y sus familias aprovechen la promesa de una educación de alta calidad. Quiero que más estudiantes latinos vean la educación como el camino hacia la prosperidad económica y una vida mejor, y que tengan una comunidad de líderes latinos animándolos”, dijo **Ciro Valiente**. “Con suerte, a través del contenido bilingüe y la narración de historias, podemos traer a más padres, educadores y líderes en nuestro viaje para crear oportunidades

de educación equitativas para todos los estudiantes latinos”.

Desde que llegó a los Estados Unidos en 2014, **Ciro** ha trabajado para múltiples medios de comunicación en Boston y Washington, D.C., y ha servido como locutor de juegos para Boston Red Sox Spanish Network en más de 50 juegos.

Como Gerente de Mercadeo y Comunicaciones, **Ciro** utilizará multimedia y narración de historias para promover la misión de Latinos for Education de centrar la voz de los estudiantes, padres y educadores latinos en todas las políticas educativas; así como la construcción de una red de líderes latinos a nivel nacional dentro del sector educativo.

Originario de Venezuela, **Ciro** obtuvo una licenciatura en Medios de Comunicación y Comunicaciones de la Universidad Santa María en Caracas. En julio de 2017, se convirtió en el miembro más joven de la Junta Directiva de First Literacy, una organización sin fines de lucro fundada en 1988 por un grupo de líderes corporativos y comunitarios, incluido el ex alcalde de Boston Raymond Flynn y el ex editor del Boston Globe William O. Taylor. **Ciro** vive en Massachusetts con su esposa y sus dos hijas.

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ALENE CANDLES

Emmy winning producer joins Latinos For Education to lead storytelling and marketing efforts

Ciro Valiente, former news producer at Telemundo New England, will serve as Latinos for Education's Manager of Marketing

Boston, Massachusetts - Latinos for Education announced that former news producer at Telemundo New England, **Ciro Valiente**, is joining its growing team of diverse Latino leaders as the organization's Manager of Marketing and Communications. **Ciro** brings over 10 years of experience in communications and digital storytelling, whose work has earned him two New England Emmy Awards, and he became the first Latino to win an Emmy for Outstanding Live News Producer.

“I'm excited to join an organization that is breaking down the barriers that keep Latino students and families from tapping into the promise of a high-quality education. I want more Latino students to see education as the path towards economic prosperity and a better life, and that they have a community of Latino leaders cheering them on,” said **Ciro Valiente**. “Hopefully through bilingual content and storytelling we can bring more parents, educators and leaders

on our journey to create equitable education opportunities for all Latino students.”

Since arriving in the United States in 2014, **Ciro** has worked for multiple media outlets in Boston and Washington, D.C., and has served as a game broadcaster for the Boston Red Sox Spanish Network on over 50 games.

As Manager of Marketing and Communications, **Ciro** will utilize multimedia and storytelling to advance Latinos for Education's mission of centering the voice of Latino students, parents and educators in all education policies; as well as building a network of Latino leaders nationwide within the education sector.

Originally from Venezuela, **Ciro** earned a BS in Mass Media & Communications from the Universidad Santa María in Caracas. In July 2017, he became the youngest member of the Board of Directors of First Literacy, a non-profit organization founded in 1988 by a group of corporate and community leaders, including former Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn and former Boston Globe publisher William O. Taylor. **Ciro** lives in Massachusetts with his spouse and two daughters.

The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center

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

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

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



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1st Annual Italian/American Heritage Breakfast

On Sunday, October 3, 2021, Methuen Sons of Italy will host our 1st Annual Italian/American Heritage Breakfast at our Lodge 902, 459 Merrimack St., Methuen, to benefit the Community Center Trust, the non-profit group who oversees the ongoing upkeep of our Lodge building.

The community is invited to join us for this fundraising event. The morning will begin in front of the building with a Flag Raising Ceremony at 9:30 AM. Breakfast will follow inside the lodge with guest speaker Stephen Zappala MD. Who will share his life experience of 'Growing up Italian' The Discovery Award will be presented to Ralph Bagarella, Past President of the Sons of Italy Lodge 902 for his tireless service to our Lodge and the community at large. Come join us for a Sunday Morning Family Breakfast just like we used to have when we grew up!! For Tickets, call Larry Giordano at 978-360-9256 or stop by the Sons of Italy Hall on Thursday nights.



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.

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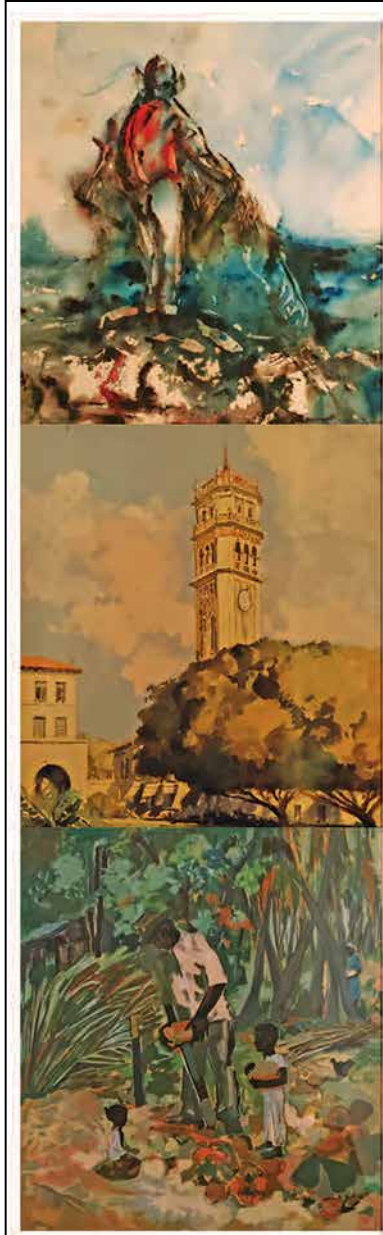
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Puerto Rican Art Exhibit

AT THE
BUTTONWOODS MUSEUM

La Generación de los Cincuenta
Trilla Family Collection of Puerto Rican Art

September 8 – October 30, 2021

Guest Curator Dr. Graciela Trilla, of Haverhill, MA is thrilled to share her family's collection of Puerto Rican art works by the artists of the distinguished "Generación de los Cincuenta" (the generation of the 1950s). It will feature art created in various mediums including paintings, drawings, lithographs, wood carving, prints, and serigraphs, as well as ceramics and an exhibit of the 500 year old Puerto Rican art of making lace recognized as Mundillo.

The exhibit will be on display at the Buttonwoods Museum in Haverhill, MA from September 8 through October 30 in honor of Hispanic Heritage month. A reception will be held on Sunday, September 12 from 1-4 p.m.

The Buttonwoods Museum is located at 240 Water Street, Haverhill, MA. Museum hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays 10am to 5pm and Sundays 12 to 5pm, closed on Mondays. This exhibit is free and open to the public. For learn more, email info@buttonwoods.org or call 978-374-4626.



Colección de Arte de Puerto Rico de la Familia Trilla

Estimados colegas y amigos,

Visiten esta exhibición seminal de arte puertorriqueño de la "Generación de los Cincuenta" junto con obras de cerámica en 3D de Atlas Moon Rodríguez Decker del 8 de septiembre al 30 de octubre en honor a la herencia hispana.

La exhibición estará en el Museo Buttonwoods en Haverhill y es gratuita para el público. ¡Puede ser una oportunidad para excursiones con estudiantes!

Entusiasmada de compartir esta exhibición de 47 piezas y su historia con todos ustedes,

Graciela Trilla, Ed.D
Curadora de Exhibición

Trilla Family Collection of Puerto Rican Art

Dear friends and colleagues,

Please consider visiting this seminal exhibit of Puerto Rican Art of the "Generación de los Cincuenta" along with 3D ceramic works by Atlas Moon Rodríguez Decker from Sept 8 to Oct 30 in honor of Hispanic Heritage.

The exhibit will be at the Buttonwoods Museum in Haverhill and is free to the public. It may be an opportunity for field trips with students!

Hoping to share this 47 piece exhibit and it's rich history with all of you,

Graciela Trilla, Ed.D.
Exhibit Curator

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MCC's Corporate Ed. Leads the Way in Educating the Workforce

Enrolling in a degree or certificate program or taking professional development courses can advance a person's career, launch them into a new field, or update their knowledge and skills. While often many students feel as though it is too expensive or difficult to fit into their already busy schedules, Middlesex Community College creates access to education in a variety of ways.

"Our partnerships with local businesses and organizations have helped us understand what employers are seeking, allowing us to build programs and courses that are geared to those needs," said Judy Burke, MCC's Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. "When companies provide benefits such as tuition reimbursement to their employees, Middlesex is able to act as the bridge between employees or potential employees and more satisfying careers, leading to a better educated workforce."

Many employers in the local area – including Lowell General Hospital, Raytheon, CVS, Verizon, McDonalds, Chipotle and UPS – assist their employees in paying for their education. Middlesex can help students use their tuition reimbursement in a way that works best for them.

Through tuition reimbursement, MCC can invoice a student's employer or allow students to pay their bill after they are reimbursed by their employer. MCC can also offer trainings and programs for employees – paid for by employers – with the Corporate Education and Training program.

"The tuition assistance program that was developed between MCC and Lowell General has been transformative in providing

meaningful professional development and financial access to higher education for our staff," said Deborah Bergholm-Petka, System Director of Culture & Engagement for Lowell General and the Wellforce healthcare system. "We truly value our partnership with MCC."

MCC's Corporate Ed. works directly with companies, businesses and organizations to build programs that work best for them. Trainings – such as management and leadership, basic skills, health care, technology, public safety and other topics based on individual needs – can happen on location, online or at MCC. With these partnerships, Middlesex stays relevant while playing an important role in educating employees across a variety of industries.

"The needs of employers, employees and industries have changed in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and Middlesex has been working with companies throughout to stay up-to-date and design trainings that respond to these changes," said Lisa Tuzzolo, MCC's Director of Corporate Education and Training. "Moving forward, Middlesex and Corporate Ed. are prepared to continue being leaders of educating the workforce, enhancing careers and companies' prospects, and stabilizing the Commonwealth's economy."

As a leader of professional development and workforce training for over 30 years, MCC's Corporate Education and Training program provides employees with the knowledge and skills they need to start or advance in their careers. Visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/bus_ind/ or contact



Enrolling in a degree or certificate program or taking professional development courses can advance a person's career, launch them into a new field, or update their knowledge and skills. While often many students feel as though it is too expensive or difficult to fit into their already busy schedules, Middlesex Community College creates access to education in a variety of ways.

Teresa Medina at medinat@middlesex.mass.edu for more information.

With affordable pricing, flexible course options and award-winning support services and resources, Middlesex gets students on track to reach their goals. The Fall 2021 semester starts on Thursday, September 9. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/ or call 1-800-818-3434 to register for classes.

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 education for more than 50 years. Middlesex puts the student first. Meeting each learner where they are, MCC provides them with a safe, welcoming and engaging place to learn. Offering more than 80 degree and certificate programs – plus hundreds of noncredit courses – Middlesex features flexible course formats and a variety of award-winning student support services and resources. Student success starts at MCC!

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UN PUNTO DE VISTA © 1996

Por Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, ICCP

El Dr. Montesino, totalmente responsable por este artículo, es el Editor de LatinoWorldOnline.com

Fuimos tú y yo quienes morimos allí

Sucede todos los días. Alguien nace. Alguien muere. Estamos acostumbrados. Asistimos al nacimiento, a un bautismo o un entierro. Es rutinario. Se supone que las vidas deben ser así.

Lo que no es ver con horror cuando cientos, tal vez miles de personas, mueren en un instante triste y horrible y simplemente desaparecen. Los acontecimientos del 11 de septiembre nos detuvieron a todos en seco y nos dejaron pensar. Estoy seguro de que algunos de nosotros expresamos una sensación temporal de alivio egoísta silencioso porque no fuimos las víctimas directas de este horrendo crimen. No compramos los boletos para esos vuelos. No estábamos en el World Trade Center. Pero, ¿lo estábamos? Uno lee los periódicos o escucha los canales de televisión y escucha la expresión: Nunca seremos los mismos. ¿Pero no lo haremos?

Un control de cordura a los miles de años de historia humana, también conocido como miseria humana, crea una perspectiva diferente. Uno no tiene que ir más de cinco mil años de los muchos de la existencia humana registrados para apreciar quiénes y qué somos. En un artículo sobre la pena de muerte escribí: "Si nos remontamos a la historia, la era de las primeras civilizaciones de Babilonia, Persia, los Arios, las conquistas musulmanas de la India, los romanos, los griegos, los bárbaros, las cruzadas cristianas y otros, el nivel de violencia de los conquistadores todavía nos deja perplejos". Si tuviera que escribir de nuevo sobre nuestra perspectiva histórica, no cambiaría ni un ápice.

Entonces, ¿qué es lo que somos? Primero, somos fanáticos de nuestras propias creencias. Silenciosa o ruidosamente pensamos que tenemos razón y nos hemos ganado el derecho de entrar por la amplia

puerta del cielo, mientras que usted y los suyos ni siquiera entrarían por la puerta trasera a menos que se unan a mi fe, sea la que sea. Y una fe, por definición, no puede ser evidencia. El Catecismo Católico definió la Fe como "La creencia en lo que no hemos visto". No solo afirmamos ser teológicamente correctos, sino también intelectual y étnicamente correctos. Las llaves del cielo funcionan mejor si llevan el color de nuestra propia piel y la composición de nuestro cabello y nuestros ojos. Tenemos que cuidar el vecindario.

Teniendo lo que consideramos creencias exclusivas sobre las cosas del cielo, pensamos que llevamos la mejor fórmula, la única fórmula, para llegar allí y atribuimos a los demás una motivación que no podemos justificar o incluso explicar a nuestra satisfacción. Lástima que la vida se defina como una etapa intermedia entre el olvido antes de nacer y el paraíso después que nos vamos. Debemos ser más inteligentes y pensar en la vida como una experiencia más permanente aquí y ahora. Si nos miramos unos a otros como viajeros temporales en un breve viaje, podríamos comenzar a vernos como verdaderos seres humanos, no como objetos o instrumentos de odio, incluso de amor equivocado.

Entonces, debemos continuar. No es que nunca seremos los mismos. La triste verdad es que pensábamos que no éramos iguales y descubrimos que lo somos. No importa quién apretó el gatillo o presionó el botón. Fue un par de manos humanas las que lo hicieron. Manos como la mía; Pensamientos rectos como los míos. Nacemos y morimos existencialmente solos, pero el once de setiembre, los que murieron no murieron solos. Morimos con ellos.

Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy.

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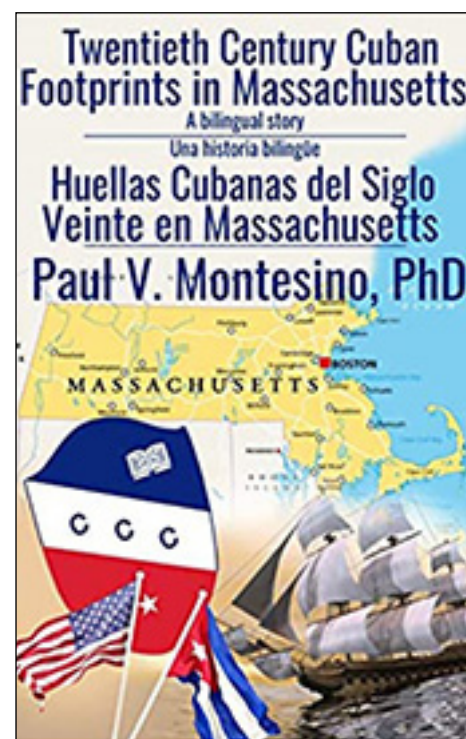
Nuevo libro sobre cubanos en Massachusetts

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

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

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

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



A POINT OF VIEW © 1996

By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, ICCP

It was you and I who died there

It happens every day. Somebody is born. Somebody dies. We're used to it. We attend the birth, a baptism, or the burial. It's routine. Lives are supposed to be like that.

What's not routine is being forced to watch in horror when hundreds, perhaps thousands of people, die at one sad and horrific instant and simply vanish. The events of September 11 stopped all of us in our tracks and made us think. I'm sure some of us expressed a temporary sense of quiet selfish relief because we weren't the direct victims of this horrendous crime. We didn't buy the tickets to those flights. We weren't in the World Trade Center. But, were we? One reads the newspapers or listens to the television channels and hears the expression: We'll never be the same. But won't we?

A sanity check to the thousands of years of human history, a.k.a. human misery, creates a different perspective. One does not have to go more than five thousand years of the many of human existence recorded to appreciate who and what we are. In an article about the death penalty I wrote: "If we go back in history, the age of the early civilizations of Babylonia, Persia, the Aryans, the Muslim conquests of India, the Romans, the Greek, the Barbarians, the Christian crusades and others, the level of violence of the conquerors still perplexes us." If I must write again about our historical perspective I would not change an iota.

So, what is it we are? First, we are fanatics of our own beliefs. Quietly or noisily we think we are correct and have earned the right to enter the wide door of heaven, while you and yours would not

even make it through the back door unless you join my faith, whatever that is. And a faith, by definition, cannot be evidence. The Catholic Catechism defined Faith as "The belief in what we haven't seen." We not only claim to be theologically right, but also intellectually and ethnically correct. The keys to heaven function better if they carry the color of our own skin and the composition of our hair and our eyes. We have to protect our neighborhood.

Having what we consider to be exclusive beliefs about heavenly stuff, we think we carry the best formula, the only formula, to make it there and we attribute to others a motivation we cannot justify or even explain to our satisfaction. Too bad life is defined as a middle stage between oblivion before we are born and paradise after we go. We should become smarter and think of life as a more permanent here and now experience. If we looked at each other as temporary travelers on a brief journey we might start to see each other as true human beings, not as objects or instruments of hate, even misguided love.

So, we must go on. It is not that we'll never be the same. The sad truth is that we thought we were not the same and we discovered we are. It doesn't matter who hit the trigger or pushed the button. It was a pair of human hands that did it. Hands like mine; Righteous thoughts like mine. We are born and die existentially alone, but on September eleven, those who died did not die alone. We died with them.

And that's my point of view today.

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Noncredit Cooking Courses This Fall in Downtown Haverhill



Chef Colby Bergeron will teach three noncredit one-evening culinary courses at NECC this fall including empanadas and date nights with Italian and French themes.

Northern Essex Community College will offer a series of noncredit cooking courses in the new Lupoli Family Institute of Culinary Arts this fall. The series will begin September 13 and run through December, and each course will be one evening.

Most of the courses have an ethnic theme, exploring food from countries around the world, including China, India, Spain, France, Italy, and Thailand. Also offered are date nights for couples who want to cook together, food and wine pairing, and more.

All courses will be taught safely with masks required and limited numbers for social distancing.

Led by the instructors, all of whom are industry professionals, each class will help create a dish or dishes. Participants will leave with new skills and recipes.

Local chefs who will be teaching include Denis Boucher, Colby Bergeron, Phuong Lai-Matzker, Shilpi Ranjan, and Alison Hartung.

“These courses are for people who enjoy cooking and want to learn more about the culinary arts,” said Sandy Zappala, program coordinator. “The focus is on having fun while learning.”

Located in The Heights, a newly built 10-story luxury building on Merrimack Street with views of the Merrimack River, the institute includes classrooms, laboratories, and state-of-the-art kitchens and offers noncredit community courses as well as credit programs in culinary arts and

hospitality management.

The culinary institute had a soft opening in the fall of 2020 with noncredit courses. Credit courses followed in the spring.

To learn more about fall noncredit courses, visit <https://www.necc.mass.edu/culn> or contact Sandy Zappala at szappala@necc.mass.edu.

NECC’s Center for Corporate & Community Education offers noncredit business, professional, career, and personal development courses as well as professional certificates and computer training for individuals and companies looking for cutting-edge skills, by providing the training that is most needed in today’s workforce. For more information email noncredit@necc.mass.edu or call 978-659-1200 or visit us online

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

Enterprise Bank celebrates their new branch in North Andover



Congratulations to Enterprise Bank on today’s Ribbon Cutting celebration of their new branch in North Andover! It was a great celebration with State Senators Diana DiZoglio and Bruce Tarr; State Representative Christine Minicucci, Town Manager Melissa Rodrigues, Enterprise Bank President Jack Clancy, Branch Manager Therese Leone and Enterprise Banking Team Members!

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

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

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



Concurso Lanza tu Idea- EparaTodos Lawrence

El próximo 16 de Septiembre de 6:00 pm a 8:30 pm EparaTodos Lawrence realizará su Concurso Virtual-Lanza Tu idea, un concurso en el cual emprendedores de habla hispana presentan sus ideas de negocio y compiten por premios en efectivo. ¡Repartiremos \$2,750! Será un evento divertido y abierto a toda la comunidad hispana.

Este es un evento virtual dirigido a todos los emprendedores que se encuentran en sus etapas iniciales y desean obtener exposición valiosa y comentarios sobre una idea de negocios.

Excelente oportunidad para crear una red empresarial y validar la creatividad e innovación de todas las ideas de negocio. Los emprendedores pueden postularse sin costo alguno; toda la comunidad está invitada a asistir y elegir uno de los premios en efectivo: 1er lugar: \$1,000 -2do lugar: \$750 -3er lugar: \$500 y el favorito del público: \$500

Los participantes tienen plazo de inscribirse hasta el 5 de septiembre a la

media noche. Antes del concurso, los participantes elegidos, recibirán orientación y preparación para lanzar su idea la noche del 16 de septiembre.

Este evento es realizado en alianza con Pentucket Bank. Adicionalmente, tendremos jurados calificados de diferentes industrias quienes elegirán las mejores ideas dentro de los concursantes.

También EparaTodos tiene sus inscripciones abiertas a toda la comunidad hispanohablante del Merrimack Valley interesados en llevar su idea de negocio u organización sin fines de lucro al siguiente nivel.

El acelerador de EparaTodos conocido como «Negocios Exitosos» es un programa gratuito de un año que se ofrece dos veces por año en cada una de nuestras comunidades. Este programa ofrece una combinación única de capacitación y mentoría inmersivas, y acceso a una amplia red profesional. Cualquiera que sueñe con iniciar o desarrollar un negocio u organización sin fines de lucro puede postular.

Rumbo

“The Bilingual Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley”

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BY DALIA DÍAZ
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LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Looking like the Secret Service

In last month's Semana Hispana Parade, Rumbo was present with its photographer. Besides taking wonderful pictures of the parade and all of its participants, Rumbo noticed something strange that requires an internal and an external review to see if any laws were violated.

These photos were taken and used in the news of the Semana Hispana for Rumbo, edition of August 22, 2021. These photos show some of Interim Mayor Vasquez's team with special communication devices walking with his political campaign team in the parade (not as a mayor, but with his campaign team and with political signs.) By the graphics, you can see the devices attached to each member's waist and ear plugs in one or more ear canals. One of the individuals is the Director of IT for the City. The other individual is recently promoted Police Captain Fabian Guerrero, and DPW Director Franklin Miguel. These devices have never been used by any other mayor or his/her team. They look similar to law enforcement communication devices used for Presidents and Vice Presidents of the United States.

This makes Rumbo ask the following questions:

- Did the Lawrence IT department purchase these communication devices and used the devices for the security of Interim Mayor Vasquez, and if so, why did the IT Director, and Mayor, use these devices for political campaign?
- Did the Lawrence Police Department allow the use of law enforcement communication security devices for use



during Semana Hispana, and if so, was it Captain Guerrero's idea? If so, why did Police Chief Roy Vasquez allow city devices to be used for a political event.

If none of the above statements are true, then the citizens of the Commonwealth should see cost associated with either purchasing or rental of security communication devices show up on Interim Mayor Kendrys Vasquez's OCPF as expenses or in-kind contribution.

NECC Golf Tournament Raises \$18,000 for Athletic Programs



The winning team (l to r): Jeremy Tabb, Paul Hamilton, Ron Caswell, and Rob O'Connell.

The Northern Essex Community College Athletic Department in conjunction with the NECC Foundation held its 4th annual golf tournament on Monday August 30th at Renaissance Golf Club. The 18-hole shotgun scramble event benefits the Athletics department and is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Knights. The event raised over \$18,000 in support of the NECC athletic programs.

"We had a great day and thanks to everyone who came out to make this our most successful tournament to date," NECC's Director of Athletics Dan Blair said. "The event is growing each year and we had tremendous turnout from alumni this year."

The rain held off and the sun shined in the afternoon for the field of 134 golfers. The event also featured over 40 sponsors.

Top team honors after posting a score of 60 (-12) went to Ron Caswell, Jeremy Tabb, Paul Hamilton and Rob O'Connell. The team of Steve Richards, Frank Ricciardi,

Dan Sampson, and Joe Wilson took home second place with a score of 61 (-11).

On course contest winners were:

- Men's Longest Drive: Colby Maiola '16
- Women's Longest Drive: Cathy Landry
- Men's Closest to the Pin: Jim Powers
- Women's Closest to the Pin: Claudia Soo Hoo
- Par 3 Challenge: Tom Mortimer

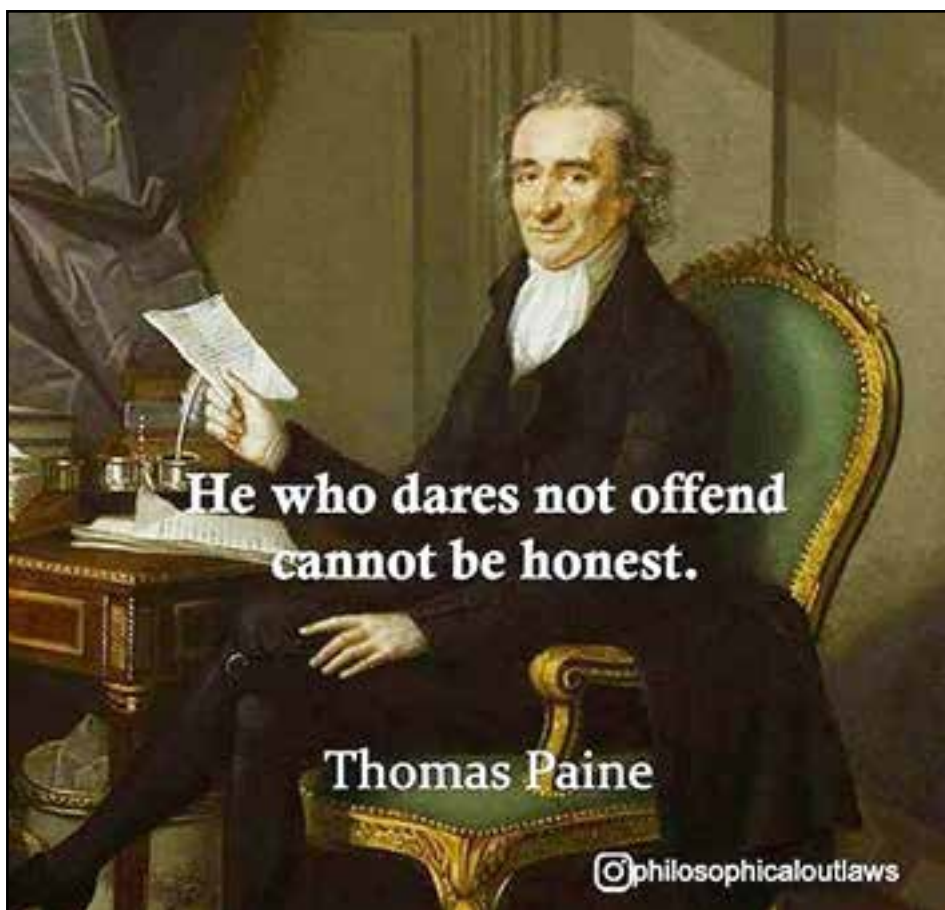
For additional information contact Dan Blair, director of athletics at dblair@necc.mass.edu or call 978-556-3820.

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.

"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



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Excepto el 3^{er} jueves de cada mes

Por favor, llame al 978-686-0900 para una cita con Lawrence SCORE

MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
264 ESSEX ST.
LAWRENCE, MA 01840-1516

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Join us for this introductory seminar that outlines the initial steps to marketing success. This interactive seminar will help build your overall marketing strategy.

Wednesday, September 15, 2021
11:30 - 1:00pm
Revolve Coworking
205 River St, 2nd Floor, Haverhill

Members - FREE
Non-members - \$10
Lunch included.

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Programa de Equidad Social de la Comisión de Control del Cannabis

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Nuestro programa de capacitación gratuito puede mostrarle cómo sus habilidades o negocios existentes pueden apoyar a la industria del cannabis de Massachusetts sin tener que obtener una licencia.



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 Cannabis Control Commission
 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MassCannabisControl.com/EquityPrograms

PARA TODO TIPO DE SEGURO



Yomari, Elizabeth, Nini, Joan y Carla

Personales

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Casas

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* Tarifas bajas para seguro de AUTOS y CASAS

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OPORTUNIDAD DE PROPIEDAD DE VIVIENDA ASEQUIBLE PARA VETERANOS

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Precio de venta:
\$270,000






- Vivienda unifamiliar asequible que se venderá a un veterano con ingresos elegibles y comprador de vivienda por primera vez.*
- Nueva construcción
- 3 recámaras
- 1,300 pies cuadrados
- 0.78 acres

* El comprador debe ser elegido por sorteo, debe haber completado la solicitud, la aprobación previa del banco y la certificación del taller.

* Los bienes del hogar no pueden exceder los \$75,000.

Tamaño del hogar	Límite de ingresos
3	\$70,650
4	\$78,500
5	\$84,800
6	\$91,100

*Se dará preferencia a los veteranos, pero los solicitantes no necesitan ser veteranos para postularse.

Ubicaciones para recoger la solicitud:

- Tewksbury Housing Authority, Saunders Circle, Tewksbury, MA 01876
- Tewksbury Public Library, 300 Chandler Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876
- Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876
- Tewksbury Veteran's Services Senior Center, 175 Chandler Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876

Sesión de información - 15 de Septiembre • 6:30 pm
Tewksbury Public Library

- elegibilidad - preferencias de selección - proceso de lotería

SOLDIER ON Preguntas sobre la propiedad, comuníquese con: Melissa Maniscalco mmaniscalco@tewksburyhousing.com



Escanee el código QR para acceder a una aplicación en línea o para obtener más información <https://bit.ly/3gPA0Dg>

Author of 'Homegoing' to speak in live virtual library event

Author Yaa Gyasi will appear in a Nashua Public Library live virtual event on Sunday, October 17, at 2 p.m. She is the author of "Homegoing," the 2021 selection of the Nashua Reads: One City, One Book program.

Yaa will be interviewed by Lisa Allen, and a question and answer session will follow.

The event, which is free this year, is sponsored by the Friends of the Nashua Public Library and the Ella Anderson Trust. Register for the Zoom at tinyurl.com/nashuareads.



About Yaa Gyasi

Yaa Gyasi was born in Ghana and raised in Huntsville, Alabama. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from Stanford University and a master's in fine arts from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where she held a Dean's Graduate Research Fellowship. She lives in New York City.

Yaa's honors include the National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize, the PEN/Hemingway Award for Best First Novel, the American Book Award, and the National Book Foundation's Under 35 award.

"Homegoing," published in 2016, was Yaa's first novel. When her second novel, "Transcendent Kingdom," was released in 2020 it became an instant bestseller. For more information on Yaa Gyasi, please visit prhspeakers.com.

About Homegoing

Born in Ghana in the 1700s, Effia and Esi are half-sisters, unknown to one another. Effia marries an English colonial and lives a life of luxury in his Ghanaian castle. Esi, captured in a tribal war, is shipped to America and sold into slavery. "Homegoing" follows the lives of these two women and of eight generations of their descendants.

From the Gold Coast of Africa to Mississippi and Harlem, through the Civil War and the Great Migration, the novel illuminates the injustices of racism and slavery over the past 300 years.

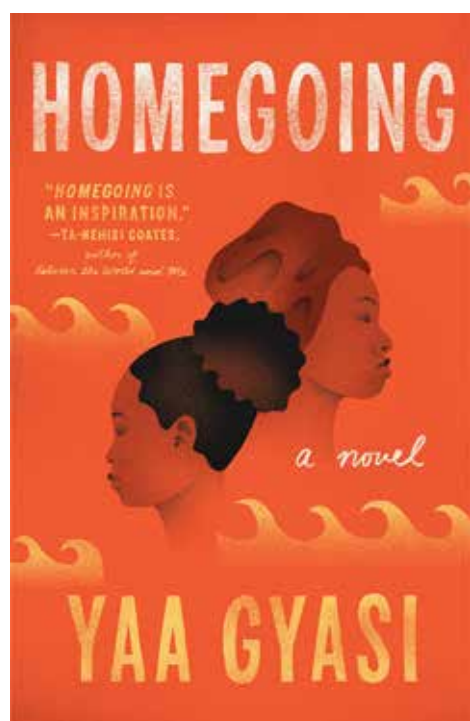
Get your copy now

The library has over 100 copies of "Homegoing," in many formats. To reserve a copy, call 603-589-4611 or visit nashualibrary.org and click Catalog. You can also reserve multiple copies for your book group.

About Nashua Reads: One City, One Book
The goal of the One City, One Book program is to get as many Nashuans as possible to read the same book and talk about it with friends, coworkers and neighbors. The Nashua program is now in its 19th year.

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

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



Community Center Trust Methuen Sons Of Italy Commemorating The 700th Anniversary's Death Of Dante Alighieri



Dante Alighieri, (born May 21–June 20, 1265, Florence [Italy]—died September 13/14, 1321, Ravenna), Italian poet, prose writer, literary theorist, moral philosopher, and political thinker.

A statue of Dante Alighieri in Florence, referred as the "Father of the Italian Language" as modern Italian replaced Latin. Dante also is known as "Il Sommo Poeta, the Supreme Poet. He is best known for the monumental epic poem *La commedia*, later named *La divina commedia* (The Divine Comedy).

Dante's *Divine Comedy*, a landmark in Italian literature and among the greatest works of all medieval European literature, is a profound Christian vision of humankind's temporal and eternal destiny. On its most personal level, it draws on Dante's own

experience of exile from his native city of Florence. On its most comprehensive level, it may be read as an allegory, taking the form of a journey through hell, purgatory, and paradise. The poem amazes by its array of learning, its penetrating and comprehensive analysis of contemporary problems, and its inventiveness of language and imagery. By choosing to write his poem in the Italian vernacular rather than in Latin, Dante decisively influenced the course of literary development. (He primarily used the Tuscan dialect, which would become standard literary Italian, but his vivid vocabulary ranged widely over many dialects and languages.) Not only did he lend a voice to the emerging lay culture of his own country, but Italian became the literary language in western Europe for several centuries.

DANTE ALIGHIERI COMMEMORATION AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 11TH 2021

8:00 – 8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:00 – 8:45 Am	Teams Confirmatio 50/50 + Raffle Tickets Sale
8:30 - AM	Bocce Tournament Begins
11:45 – 12:15 PM	Tree Planting And Plaque Placement Ceremony To Take Place Inside And Outside (See Agenda)
12:30 PM	Lunch Will Be Available
12:30 – 1:00 PM	Raffle Tickets Draw
4:00 – PM	Bocce Tournament Over (Take Winning Team Picture Jacket Size)
4:00 – 5:00 PM	Clean Room Re-Organize Tables

www.rumbonews.com



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Lawrence, MA 01841

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On Saturday, September 18th the community is invited to the 2nd Annual Methuen Kiwanis Bike Rodeo where children can test their bicycle handling skills on their own bikes, while being encouraged to increase helmet use. There will be a skills course including braking without skidding, walking the bike through a crosswalk, waiting at stop signs, etc.

Free Bike Helmets for children participating with their own bicycles while supplies last.

This event will take place in the Chick-fil-A parking lot on 73 Pleasant Valley Street, Methuen from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Children will also enjoy a Guest Appearance by the Chick-fil-A Cow

Check out our Methuen Kiwanis Club Facebook page for more information!



MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Presents

2021 SHOP - STAY - EAT LOCAL TOURISM CONFERENCE WITH KEIKO MATSUDO ORRALL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - MA OFFICE OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM



Friday, September 24, 2021
8:00AM - 9:15AM at



315 S. Bradford St, North Andover, MA

Hear about the MV Chamber's Shop - Stay - Eat Local Tourism Program Success and learn how the Chamber is encouraging all to Shop - Stay - Eat Local!

First introduction to the MVCC Travel & Tourism video project!

Thank you to our Sponsors to date: MV Chamber Means Business Program and Smolak Farms

For sponsorship opportunities call Michael Bevilacqua at 978-686-0900 or email: michael.bevilacqua@merrimackvalleychamber.com

This event is FREE, but registration is required
You may now Register for this program at www.merrimackvalleychamber.com
(978) 686-0900 Office@MerrimackValleyChamber.com

Join us outdoors under the tent!

Complimentary Breakfast!

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Website
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f Twitter Instagram in

CLASIFICADOS | CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE


NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Coady's Towing Service 139 Marston Street, Lawrence, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after September 17, 2021 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

1. 2005 Ford E350 VIN 1FDSE35L45HA55845
2. 2013 Chevrolet Impala VIN 2G1WG5E39D1217278

Vehicles are being stored at Coady's Towing Service and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed
Frank Coady
Coady's Towing Service
9/1, 9/8, 9/15



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Tel: 978-686-3323
www.mvrestore.org**

Store Hours
Wednesday-Friday: 10am-6pm
Saturday: 10am-5pm

Donations / Donaciones
(please call ahead for large donations)

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

Open to the public, shop-donate-volunteer


Please do not drop off items after store hours

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

Abierto al público, compre-done-hágase voluntario

Favor de no dejar donaciones después del horario

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





Welcome to Lawrence

LAWRENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WELCOMES NEWCOMERS

Event hosted by ELPAC & English Language Learner Department

Join us in welcoming our newcomer students and their families to our Lawrence Public Schools & community.

- Light snacks & refreshments
- Community resources
- Raffle & Prizes

Thursday, September 16th 2021
Lawrence Public Library
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
51 Lawrence St, Lawrence MA

Free Event for our families and community
Organizations interested in hosting an informational table, please contact jullisa.declat@Lawrence.k12.ma.us to sign up.
Questions call 978-975-5905 ext. 25640






Bienvenido a Lawrence

LAS ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DE LAWRENCE DAN LA BIENVENIDA A LOS RECIÉN LLEGADOS

Evento Organizado por ELPAC y el Departamento de Educación del Estudiante de Ingles

Únase a nosotros para dar la bienvenida a nuestros estudiantes recién llegados y sus familias a nuestra comunidad y escuelas públicas de Lawrence!

- Recursos de la comunidad
- Rifas y más
- Refrigerios

Jueves, 16 de septiembre de 2021
Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
51 Lawrence St, Lawrence MA

¡Evento gratis para las familias y la comunidad!
Organizaciones interesadas en tener una mesa informativa, por favor contactar jullisa.declat@Lawrence.k12.ma.us para llenar el formulario.
Preguntas llame a 978-975-5905 ext. 25640