

Methuen Police Chief Scott J. McNamara Sworn In



Chief Scott McNamara, who has 25 years of law enforcement experience, now takes the helm of the Methuen Police Department, overseeing its 98 professional sworn officers and 16 dedicated civilian employees. Here, he is being congratulated by Mayor Neil Perry. (Courtesy Photo Methuen Police Department)

Veterans to Washington, D.C.



1A Auto donated \$5000.00 to Veterans Assisting Veterans (VAV) back in July for their efforts to send a group of Vietnam Veterans to Washington DC.

Veterans Assisting Veterans had planned the trip prior to COVID and it was postponed until September 24-26. Vietnam Veterans from the Lowell area took a train from Boston to Washington, D.C. to see the Vietnam War Memorial, the Washington Mall and Arlington National Cemetery.

VAV hosted and paid for all travel expenses, food, and accommodations. Rick Green, 1A Auto CEO helped raise funds as well as having 1A Auto donate. "I'm incredibly proud to see this amazing trip take place. I never feel like we can do enough for our veterans. Vietnam Veterans are deserving of our continued gratitude for their sacrifices," Green said.

Veterans Assisting Veterans is a Dracut, MA based 100% volunteer, charitable 501(C)3 organization that has been supporting local veterans, veteran causes, and veteran organizations

for over a decade. www.vetsassistingvets.com

Rick and Mike Green founded 1A Auto in 1999. Since then, 1A Auto has become the largest online auto parts retailer. Starting as a fledgling company that sold parts out of a small family garage, 1A Auto has transformed into the high-tech online aftermarket auto parts retailer it is today. The Green brothers' mission is to empower people and provide them with the solutions to accomplish their own auto repairs.

The 1A Auto team has also built the largest internet-based library of how-to videos in the industry. 1A Auto has over 1.4 million YouTube subscribers and more than 1 billion video minutes watched. 1A Auto has also earned the industry's highest customer service ratings on the internet. 1A Auto has experienced 30% growth each year since 1999 and employs over 600 people in its facilities nationwide. The corporate offices of 1A Auto are in Pepperell, Massachusetts and Nashua, NH. <https://www.1aauto.com>

Veteranos visitan a Washington, D. C.



1A Auto donó \$5000.00 a Veterans Assisting Veterans (VAV) en julio por sus esfuerzos para enviar un grupo de Veteranos de Vietnam a Washington DC.

Veterans Assisting Veterans había planeado el viaje antes de COVID y se pospuso hasta el 24 y 26 de septiembre. Los veteranos de Vietnam del área de Lowell tomaron un tren desde Boston a Washington, DC para ver el Monumento a la Guerra de Vietnam, el Washington Mall y el Cementerio Nacional de Arlington.

VAV organizó y pagó todos los gastos de viaje, comida y alojamiento. Rick Green, director ejecutivo de 1A Auto, ayudó a recaudar fondos y también hizo que 1A Auto hiciera una donación. "Estoy increíblemente orgulloso de ver que se lleva a cabo este increíble viaje. Nunca siento que podamos hacer lo suficiente por nuestros veteranos. Los veteranos de Vietnam merecen nuestra continua gratitud por sus sacrificios", dijo Green.

Veterans Assisting Veterans es una organización 501 (C) 3 caritativa 100% voluntaria basada en Dracut, MA, que ha estado apoyando a los veteranos locales, causas de veteranos y organizaciones de veteranos durante más

de una década. www.vetsassistingvets.com

Rick y Mike Green fundaron 1A Auto en 1999. Desde entonces, 1A Auto se ha convertido en el minorista de autopartes en línea más grande. Comenzando como una empresa incipiente que vendía repuestos en un pequeño garaje familiar, 1A Auto se ha transformado en el minorista de repuestos de automóviles en línea de alta tecnología que es hoy. La misión de los hermanos Green es capacitar a las personas y brindarles las soluciones para realizar sus propias reparaciones automotrices.

El equipo de 1A Auto también ha creado la biblioteca de videos instructivos basada en Internet más grande de la industria. 1A Auto tiene más de 1.4 millones de suscriptores de YouTube y más de mil millones de minutos de video vistos. 1A Auto también ha obtenido las calificaciones de servicio al cliente más altas de la industria en Internet. 1A Auto ha experimentado un crecimiento del 30% cada año desde 1999 y emplea a más de 600 personas en sus instalaciones en todo el país. Las oficinas corporativas de 1A Auto se encuentran en Pepperell, Massachusetts y Nashua, NH. <https://www.1aauto.com>

Los EE.UU. declara guerra contra el pueblo

Pg. 6

US declares war against the people

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U.S. Small Business Administration Celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month with Virtual Event Featuring Administrator Guzman

A special fireside chat with Administrator Guzman and other SBA leadership will kick off the two-part event, followed by a virtual panel discussion with entrepreneurs about SBA's economic relief programs

WHAT: SBA Celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month: Testimonies of Excellence & Pride (Excelencia y Orgullo). The U.S. Small Business Administration will hold a virtual fireside chat to discuss entrepreneurship in the Hispanic community with SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman, Associate Administrator of the Office of Entrepreneurial Development, Mark Madrid, and Bibi Hidalgo, Associate Administrator of the Office of Government Contracting and Business Development. The fireside chat will be followed by a live online panel discussion with Hispanic small business owners about how they've used critical financial lifelines to help them pivot and overcome adversity during the pandemic.

WHEN: Thursday, October 14, 2021
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. (EDT)

WHO: Isabella Casillas Guzman, SBA Administrator

Mark Madrid, Associate Administrator, SBA's Office of Entrepreneurial Development

Bibi Hidalgo, Associate Administrator, SBA's Office of Government Contracting and Business Development



Ryan Bethencourt, CEO, Wild Earth, Las Vegas, NV

Teresa Razo, CEO and Owner, Cambalache and Villa Roma Argentine and Italian Restaurants, Fountain Valley, CA

HOW: Registration is required. Click here to register or visit <https://sbahispanicheritagemonth.eventbrite.com>. This event will be recorded.

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.

Groundwork Lawrence Celebrates Selection as a Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program Beneficiary



FIGHT HUNGER WITH US!

We will receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker sold at our selected Stop & Shop in our selected month.

Benefiting Organization:
GROUNDWORK
Lawrence

Selected Month: **OCTOBER**
Selected Stop & Shop:
757 Turnpike Street
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STOP & SHOP

Groundwork Lawrence (GWL) has been chosen as an October beneficiary of the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program.

The Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program, which launched in February 2021, makes it simple for customers to give back. Every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker sold benefits a hunger relief organization near the Stop & Shop where it was purchased.

GWL was chosen as the October beneficiary by the Stop & Shop store leadership at 757 Turnpike St, North Andover, MA. Every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet purchased at this Stop &

Shop location in October will result in a \$1 donation to Groundwork Lawrence.

"Flowers can brighten someone's day, brighten a room, or bring a smile to someone's face," said Heather McMann, Executive Director of Groundwork Lawrence. "They can now fight hunger as well. In October, purchase a Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet from North Andover Stop & Shop to help us feed someone in need."

For more information about the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program, please visit stopandshop.bloomin4good.com.

Find us in / Búsquenos en Facebook/Rumbo

LOCATION CHANGE



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in memory of Roger Twomey

11th Annual

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Sunday November 7, 2021 8:30-11:30am

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VETERANS ARE FREE

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Presents...

A Public Safety Breakfast Forum

What You Need To Know For Your Business and Home

with Featured Confirmed Speakers:

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Essex County Sheriff Kevin E. Coppinger

Andover Police Chief Patrick Keefe (Confirmed)

Haverhill Police Chief Robert Pistone (Confirmed)

Lawrence Police Chief Roy Vasque (Confirmed)

Methuen Police Chief Scott McNamara (Invited)

North Andover Police Chief Charles Gray (Confirmed)

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Friday, October 15, 2021

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Company: _____

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48 Hour Cancellation Notice Prior To Event For Full Refund. No Show Reservations Will Be Billed.

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POR DALIA DÍAZ
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READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

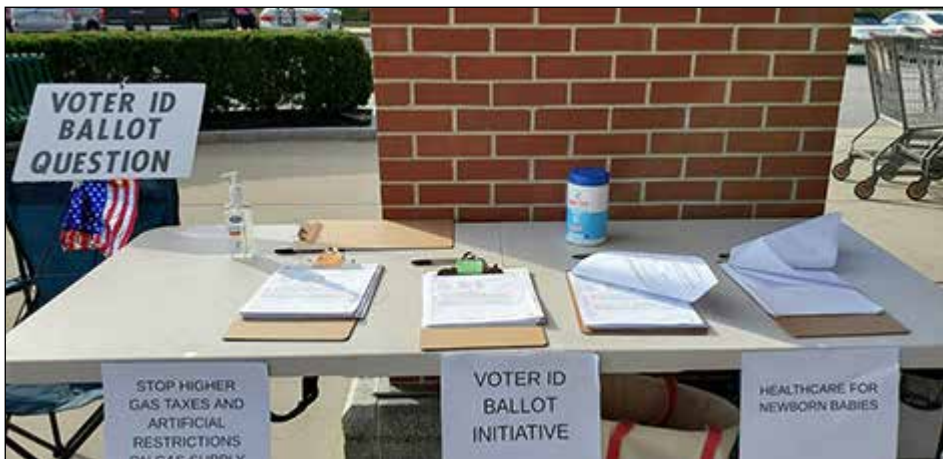
Desde Mi Esquina



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.



Involúcrese y de su firma

Quiero que todos sepan que recolectaré firmas en tres preguntas que, con suerte, aparecerán en la boleta electoral en noviembre del 2022. Los temas son:

1. Identificación de votantes, para asegurarnos de que todos deben mostrar alguna forma de identificación para mantener la honestidad del proceso de elección;
2. si un niño que está siendo abortado nace vivo, los médicos deben hacer todo lo posible para preservar su vida; y
3. prohibir que Massachusetts aplique impuestos, tarifas o medidas generadoras de ingresos que puedan reducir o restringir el suministro de gasolina, combustibles de diesel u otros combustibles para motores.

Necesitamos 120,000 firmas para el 17 de noviembre de 2021 en todo el estado y me ofrecí como voluntaria para recoger aquí en Lawrence. Si alguien está interesado en ayudar con alguno de esos temas, no dude en llamarme y le explicaré cómo funciona. Incluso si sale una tarde y visita a la gente en su calle, será muy apreciado.

Estoy planeando visitar iglesias porque el tema del aborto es muy importante para sus corazones. Si alguien desea invitarme a hablar con su grupo sobre cualquiera de los temas, también estoy disponible.

Violencia en las escuelas

Hay peleas diarias en diferentes escuelas y se han publicado algunos videos en las

redes sociales. Al contactar a las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence, respondieron que suceden fuera de las escuelas, aunque esta semana un estudiante fue suspendido por tres días de la Escuela Leonard por traer una pistola de aire comprimido.

Este fue un incidente grave y los padres deberían haber sido notificados, pero no creo que lo fueran.

Publicar videos en las redes sociales ha sido una bendición para nosotros porque, de lo contrario, no nos enteraríamos de esos incidentes.

Terrorismo doméstico

En la página 1 dije que Estados Unidos declaró la guerra al público. Espero que se tome el tiempo de leer el artículo que escribí en la página 6 "¿Pueden los padres ser considerados Terroristas Domésticos? El Fiscal de los Estados Unidos pidió al Departamento de Justicia, el FBI y Seguridad Nacional que arresten, encarcelen y procesen a los padres que asisten a las reuniones del comité escolar y se comportan enérgicamente en voz alta.

Ya sea que estos padres estén

protestando por el uso de máscaras en la escuela, objetando ser vacunados o el uso de la Teoría Crítica de la Raza (CRT) en su salón de clases, es su Derecho de la Primera Enmienda hacerlo y ser escuchado.

Eche un vistazo a las personas arrestadas por irrumpir en el Capitolio el 6 de enero; han estado encarcelados durante meses, muchos de ellos en aislamiento, pero no han visto a un juez ni han escuchado sus cargos. La Constitución establece claramente que nadie debe ser privado de su libertad sin motivo.

Este país se está volviendo loco y no puedo arreglarlo. Pero, a nivel local, puedo educar a nuestra comunidad para que defienda lo que es correcto. Las cosas seguirán empeorando a menos que comencemos a participar activamente en la educación de nuestros hijos.

Le pregunté a las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence si están enseñando CRT y su respuesta fue: "No conozco un plan de estudios de CRT para las escuelas K-12, y sé que no usamos uno aquí", dijo Christopher Markuns. He hablado con profesionales del sistema que me han contado los argumentos entre ellos.

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

- Thomas Jefferson

Carta a Michelle Tassinari de la Oficina del Secretario de Estado

RE: Irregularidades en la votación de la ciudad de Lawrence

Estimada Abogado Tassinari:

Represento a la Campaña para Elegir a Brian De Peña (como Alcalde de la Ciudad de Lawrence). A principios de esta semana, me reuní con el Sr. De Peña y su personal de campaña para discutir las numerosas quejas de los electores sobre irregularidades en la votación antes y durante las elecciones preliminares del 21 de septiembre de 2021. Lo siguiente es un resumen:

Una de las quejas más comunes que recibí el Sr. De Peña se refería al uso agresivo de "asistencia" no solicitada a los votantes de edad avanzada. Hubo informes de personas que "ayudaron" a varios votantes todos los días durante la votación anticipada en el Ayuntamiento de Lawrence y luego nuevamente en diferentes urnas el día de las elecciones preliminares. Se vio a un individuo, en particular, yendo tan lejos como marcar la boleta para un votante anciano.

Reconociendo que la ley protege el derecho de un votante discapacitado a elegir a alguien para que lo ayude en el proceso de votación, el empleo de la asistencia en serie y dirigida descrita anteriormente cruza la línea y no se puede tolerar. Los funcionarios electorales de la ciudad y los trabajadores electorales deben estar mejor educados sobre este tema para garantizar que los votantes no sean manipulados indebidamente.

El Sr. De Peña recibió múltiples quejas de los residentes del Edificio Brien, una instalación de vivienda para personas mayores que también es el lugar de votación del Distrito C-3. Los funcionarios de una

campaña en competencia fueron testigos el día de las elecciones preliminares tocando las puertas de esta instalación, instruyendo a los residentes a votar por ciertos candidatos y/o acompañando a los residentes a las urnas y ayudándolos durante todo el proceso de votación. Esta actividad de campaña demasiado agresiva puede explicar los resultados sesgados del Distrito C-3:

Resultados primarios:

Distrito C-3:

Vasquez: 213 De Peña: 106

Distritos C-1, C-2 y C-4

Vasquez: 503 De Peña: 485

Se observó una actividad de campaña demasiado agresiva similar en los Apartamentos Valebrook, el lugar de votación para el Distrito B-4, con resultados igualmente sesgados:

Resultados primarios:

Distrito B-4:

Vasquez: 239 De Peña: 104

Distritos B-1, B-2 y B-3

Vasquez: 371 De Peña: 486

Otra queja común de los constituyentes se refería a la negativa de los trabajadores electorales a permitir votaciones provisionales. Varios electores simplemente fueron rechazados de las urnas donde habían votado en elecciones anteriores. Si bien esto ciertamente no sugiere ninguna intención nefasta por parte de los trabajadores electorales, tal privación del derecho a voto de cualquier votante es simplemente inaceptable. Los trabajadores electorales



Algunos miembros del comité de Brian De Peña expresando al Abogado Brian Corrigan sus preocupaciones sobre las irregularidades y abusos el día de elecciones. Desde la izquierda están: Jaquie Marmol, Pedro Beato, Atty. Corrigan, Brian DePeña, Octavien Spanner and Councilor at-Large Ana Levy.

deben estar mejor capacitados para trabajar con los votantes a fin de garantizar que se cuenten todos los votos legítimos.

Un elector se quejó de que los trabajadores electorales de la escuela Guilmette (Distrito D-2) en realidad instruían a los votantes por quién votar.

Finalmente, una queja común provino de electores que no estaban al tanto de los cambios en sus lugares habituales de votación y fueron sorprendidos el día de las elecciones preliminares. Los funcionarios electorales de la ciudad deben hacer un esfuerzo de alcance concertado para informar a los electores en estos distritos afectados. Quizás se debería colocar letreros en los lugares de votación anteriores el día de las elecciones para dirigir a los votantes

a los nuevos lugares de votación.

El Sr. De Peña quiere participar en una elección justa. Al llamar su atención sobre las irregularidades mencionadas anteriormente, la esperanza es que su oficina trabaje en estrecha colaboración con los funcionarios electorales de la ciudad de Lawrence y brinde la asistencia que tanto se necesita con capacitación y supervisión antes y durante el 2 de noviembre de 2021, con el fin de eliminar estas irregularidades y garantizar una elección tan justa.

Si desea investigar o discutir alguno de estos asuntos con más detalle, no dude en ponerse en contacto conmigo. Gracias.

Atentamente,

Brian T. Corrigan

¡A todos nos gustan las cosas gratis!

Por Frank Bonet



¡Un camión para ti, un camión para ti y un camión para ti también! Parece que el Alcalde Interino Kendrys Vasquez tiene tiempo para comprar camiones nuevos para algunos de sus amigos más cercanos y queridos, e incluso para

quitar algunos del DPW para dárselos a otros departamentos. ¡Demasiado para el presupuesto de capital!

El Alcalde Interino Vásquez se compró un vehículo nuevo del presupuesto del Departamento de Obras Públicas. Compró otro vehículo nuevo para el director interino del DPW, Franklin Miguel (como usted sabe, es miembro de la familia de Vásquez), y se compraron muchos otros vehículos nuevos. De más está decir que él ha respaldado al Alcalde Interino Vásquez.

Además, el director de TI de la ciudad

recibió otro vehículo nuevo de la ciudad, del presupuesto del DPW. Como muchos de ustedes saben, el director de TI, Luis Santiago, también ha respaldado al Alcalde Interino Vásquez.

Para superarse a sí mismo, el Alcalde Interino Vásquez también le ha dado al Director del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos un vehículo nuevo, del presupuesto del DPW. Como sabrá, la directora Martha Vélez ha sido vista en varios eventos de recaudación de fondos de la campaña de Vásquez.

La conexión es que si respalda al Alcalde Interino Vásquez, él le dará un vehículo nuevo para su departamento. Lo que es más intrigante es que la mayoría, si no todos, de estos vehículos nuevos son vehículos para llevar a casa. Esto significa que todos estos jefes de departamento también pueden llenar el tanque, lleno de combustible, en el DPW Yard y conducir a casa.

Existe una solicitud de registros públicos para determinar si los fondos de Cares Act o de American Recovery Act se utilizaron para comprar estos nuevos vehículos. Además, en la solicitud también se preguntará si el administrador en jefe Mark Ianello y/o la directora de nómina Donna Cole han estado informando estos incidentes sujetos a impuestos al Servicio de Impuestos Internos para cada uno de estos jefes de departamento.

Muchas personas y muchos gobiernos municipales no informan estos incidentes como sujetos a impuestos. Las áreas específicas de preocupación del IRS han estado en cuatro áreas principales: uso personal de vehículos proporcionados por el empleador, teléfonos celulares, asignaciones de ropa y reembolsos de comidas.

Para los empleados con vehículos para

llevar a casa, el beneficio de desplazamiento es un ingreso imponible y debe informarse al IRS. La forma más fácil de hacer esto es estableciendo un monto de beneficio diario (el IRS actualmente permite entre \$3.00 y \$4.00 por día) y reportándolo como ingreso tributable en el Formulario W-2 del empleado. Para los funcionarios electos con un vehículo de propiedad del gobierno, el IRS requiere un cálculo utilizando el valor arrendado del vehículo y una declaración del porcentaje del uso total del vehículo que es personal. Esto también debe declararse como ingreso sujeto a impuestos en el formulario W-2 del empleado. Si estos empleados usan los vehículos para uso personal (que pueden haber tenido, y continúan usándolos para uso personal mientras están fuera del lugar de trabajo), se aplicarán cálculos de impuestos adicionales.

Lo que preocupa a los residentes de la ciudad es que los fondos del gobierno se estén utilizando para comprar los vehículos nuevos o para arrendar los vehículos cuando hay una discusión sobre aumentar los impuestos, por encima del máximo del 2.5% para el año fiscal 23, en la comunidad de Lawrence.

DPW necesita desesperadamente vehículos nuevos. En cambio, se retiraron vehículos nuevos de DPW y se entregaron al Centro de Servicios Humanos y de Salud, esta administración (así como cualquier nueva administración) debe considerar las prioridades que están transmitiendo a su público y sus empleados.

Todos los demás departamentos que necesitan vehículos nuevos, como Bomberos y Policía, tienen que hacer que su nuevo vehículo solicitado se agregue al Plan Capital de la Ciudad, que también es creado y monitoreado por el Director Interino de DPW Franklin Miguel.

You are on Let's Make a Deal!

By Frank Bonet



You get a truck, you get a truck, and you get a truck. It seems that Interim Mayor Kendrys Vasquez has time to buy new trucks for some of his closest and cherished friends, and even taking some away from DPW to give to other departments.

So much for the capital budget!

Interim Mayor Vasquez purchased a new vehicle for himself, from the Department of Works budget. Another new vehicle was purchased for the Acting DPW Director Franklin Miguel (you know, Mayor Vasquez's family member), and numerous other new vehicles have been purchased. As you may know, DPW Miguel has endorsed Interim Mayor Vasquez.

Additionally, the City's IT Director has been given another new city vehicle, from the DPW budget. As many of you know, IT Director Luis Santiago has also endorsed Interim Mayor Vasquez.

To outdo himself, Interim Mayor Vasquez has given the Department of Health & Human Services Director a new vehicle as well, from the DPW budget. As you may know, Director Martha Velez has been seen in several Interim Mayor Vasquez campaign fundraising events.

The connection is that if your endorse Interim Mayor Vasquez, he will give you a brand new vehicle for your department. What is more intriguing is that most, if not all of these new vehicles are take-home vehicles. This means that all of these department heads can fill the tank, full of fuel, at the DPW Yard as well and drive home.

A public records request is in place to determine if Cares Act, or American Recovery Acts, funds were used to purchase these new vehicles. Additionally, the request also will

inquire on whether Chief Administrator Mark Ianello and/or Payroll Director Donna Cole, have been reporting these taxable incidents to the Internal Revenue Services for each of these department heads.

Many individuals, and many municipal governments, do not report these taxable incidents. The specific areas of IRS concern have been in four major areas: personal use of employer-provided vehicles, cell phones, clothing allowances, and meal reimbursements.

For employees with take-home vehicles, the commuting benefit is taxable income and must be reported to the IRS. The easiest way to do this is by establishing a daily benefit amount (IRS currently allows for \$3.00-\$4.00 per day) and reporting it as taxable income on the employee's Form W-2. For elected officials with a government-owned vehicle, the IRS requires a calculation using the leased value of the vehicle and a statement of the percentage of total vehicle usage that is personal. This must also be reported as taxable income on the employee's W-2. If these employees use the vehicles for personal use (which may have had, and continue to use for personal use while they are off the worksite) additional tax calculations apply.

Concerns for city residents is that government funds are being used to buy the new vehicles, or used to lease the vehicles when an argument about raising taxes, above the 2.5% maximum for FY23, is ongoing in the Lawrence community.

DPW desperately needs new vehicles. Instead, new vehicles were taken away from DPW and handed over to the Health & Human Services Center, this administration (as well as any new administrations) should look at the priorities that they are conveying to its public and its employees. Every other department needing new vehicles, such as Fire and Police, has to make their new vehicle requested added to the City's Capital Plan, which is also created and monitored by Acting DPW Franklin Miguel.

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Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

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

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

Can parents be considered “domestic terrorists”?

(Léalo en español en la página 6)

By **Dalia Díaz**

Under the present administration, that’s what is happening. Anyone questioning the decisions made by government officials can no longer be trusted and will be subject to arrest, incarceration without the benefit of an indictment or judicial order for weeks, maybe months.

A group representing public school committees is calling for the Biden administration to invoke The Patriot Act in response to parents and community members appearing at school committee meetings protesting against recent changes.

Those changes are worthy of protest range from vaccination mandates, mask mandates, and the Critical Race Theory (CRT) teachings.

Viola M. García, President of the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent President Biden a letter saying that “educational leaders are under an immediate threat,” for the aggressiveness of demonstrators at their meetings opposing board policies and adopting other measures.

In the letter, the NSBA requests to mobilize the resources of the Department of Justice, Education, and Homeland Security, as well as the FBI’s counterterrorism division.

The Patriot Act was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 26, 2001, to deter and punish terrorist acts in the United States and across the globe, to enhance law enforcement investigatory tools and for other purposes.

The forced mask mandate has caused lots of demonstrations all over the country and now, the vaccination requirements have incensed many more who see their employment in jeopardy launching violent revolts everywhere.

But, the mandate with the most opposition has been that of CRT. Parents and community groups, in general, have strongly objected to what they consider “brainwashing” of our children.

According to Wikipedia, this movement began after the civil rights struggle to study the intersection of race and laws in the United States to challenge mainstream American liberal approaches to racial justice.

CRT examines social cultural and legal issues primarily as they relate to race and racism in the United States.

The studies were sensible enough; the problems began with the implementation by the schools and the teachers, resulting in lively complaints at school committee meetings. Their findings should be taught in schools just like we all should learn about slavery but only with the goal of understanding history and keeping this country united.

Instead, it’s being used with very small children in grades K-12 and what it is creating is hatred and division among them. With younger children, teachers separate students by race and discuss how the white students are the oppressors, while the Black students are portrayed as victims. Older students may understand the concept but at any age, it creates animosity and hate.

Since the civil rights era, this country has done everything possible to achieve equal rights and opportunities for everyone. But it seems that we are going backward. This movement is creating the divisions among races that we left behind. Universities are now holding separate commencements for different racial groups at the request of Black students; many have also set up separate dormitories to suit the cultural

groups within their institutions. Whatever happened to unity? The phrase of “systemic racism” is widely used and the only point of reference dates from history.

Education Secretary Miguel Cardona was asked on CNN if parents should be the primary stockholders of their children’s education and he responded that “parents are important stakeholders but I also believe educators have a role in determining educational programs.”

Parents allow school systems to choose the educational program and we send them to school to be educated but CRT has nothing to do with history. Pointing out the differences among us and anointing a negative label on some of them will only inspire resentment and even violence.

If we look at our own families, we find that we have a rainbow of colors. That reminded me of an interview with Stuart Varney, a British commentator on the CRT subject. He said that in his immediate family he has three races, two religions (Christians and Hebrews), and seven cultural backgrounds. He worries about his Black granddaughter hearing that her three sisters are her oppressors because they are privileged by being White.

That’s exactly what is going on today in public schools and parents have every right to know what’s being taught to their children. Violence is certainly not the answer but we must make the school systems understand that we disapprove of teaching racial disparities that could only lead to chaos and division.

Parents have the fundamental right to decide the type of education they want for their children and now, the FBI will be watching the school committee meetings to immediately escort and apprehend anyone becoming irate.

We now hear there’s a huge conflict of interests in this order given to the FBI because Attorney General Merrick Garland’s daughter is married to the Xan Tanner cofounder of Panorama Education, a Boston-based company which is under fire for its multimillion contracts with school boards.

For months, parents have been fighting what they describe as “woke” indoctrination in schools. Panorama Education is using data collection as a pretext for school officials to push controversial ideas about race, identity, and sexuality.

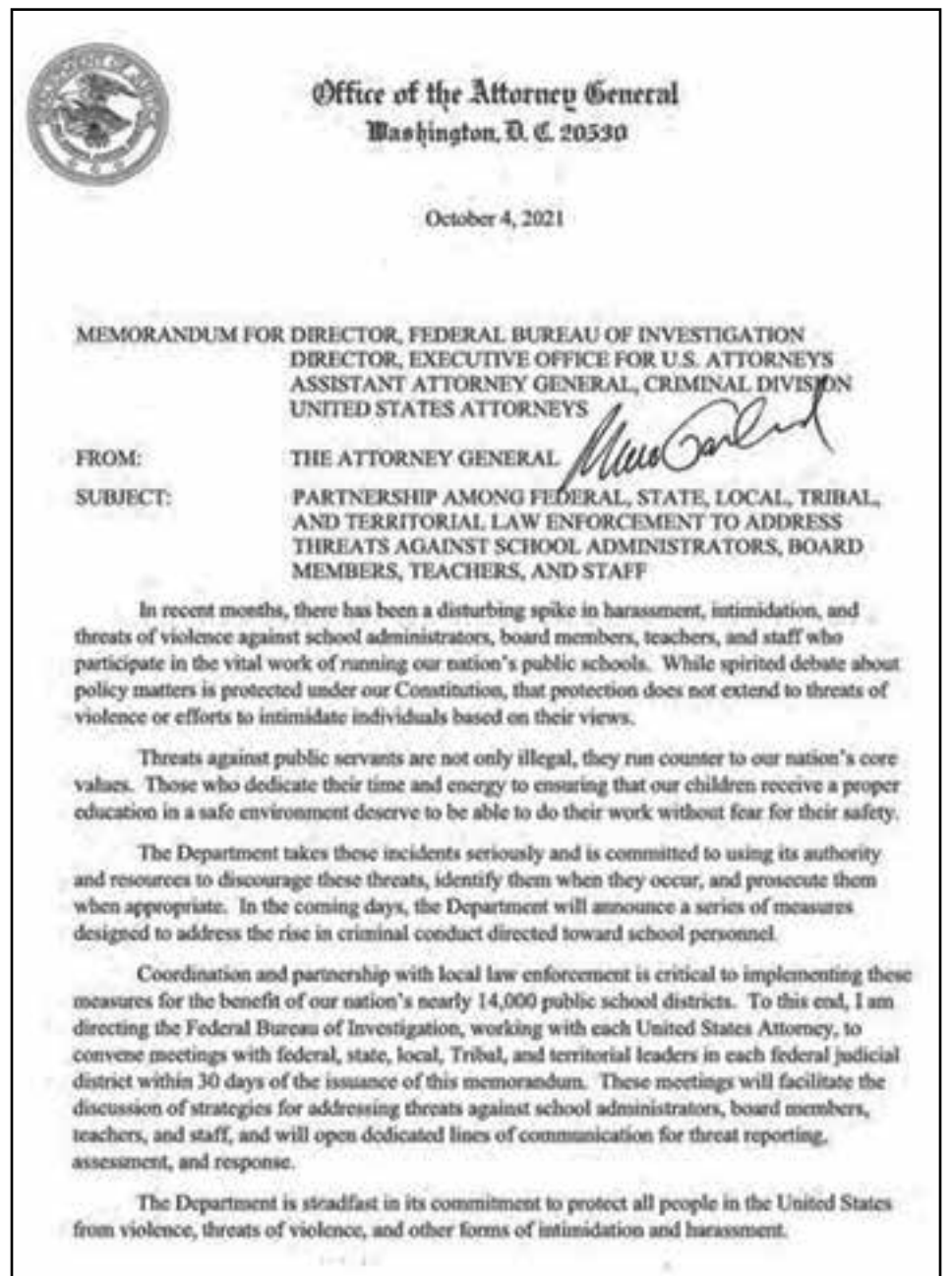
They recently discovered a contract for Panorama for more than \$2 million to conduct social and emotional learning (SEL) monitoring in Virginia, resulting in data on students.

They seemed to focus more generally on social behavior and emotional health, but also included some content about race. “Social and emotional learning” (SEL) and “culturally responsive” training have become seemingly innocuous buzzwords in education, but critics have worried that they served as conduits for left-wing ideas about race and identity.

We don’t foresee that happening in Lawrence because most parents have never attended a school committee meeting and are totally unaware of what CRT means or the danger that represents to this country.

Through the years, I have been commenting on the public participation in local issues. I am in dismay of the lack of concern and that includes going into the child’s classroom to observe what he or she is learning.

Unless we learn to be on the alert about everything on our health, security, and freedoms, we’ll lose everything, including our children.



The Revolving Test Kitchen invites you to the webinar

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19 OCT

WORKING: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

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Tuesday, October 19th at 9:00 AM

* This is an online event. Zoom link will be provided closer to the date

El Revolving Test Kitchen les invita al seminario en línea

Methuen Police Chief Scott J. McNamara Sworn In

METHUEN — The Methuen Police Department would like to announce that Police Chief Scott J. McNamara was sworn in Tuesday morning by City Clerk John J. Wilson.

Chief McNamara, who has 25 years of law enforcement experience, now takes the helm of the Methuen Police Department, overseeing its 98 professional sworn officers and 16 dedicated civilian employees.

The new chief's daughters recited the Pledge of Allegiance in a ceremony that included an introduction by Mayor Neil Perry, who appointed McNamara, and a performance of the National Anthem by Methuen High School Student Ella MacLaren.

McNamara's wife pinned the chief's new badge on after City Clerk Wilson swore him in.

"This is a city that is truly all pulling in the same direction. I'm awestruck and blown away by it, and I know now I need to double down on my own efforts just to keep up," Chief McNamara said in remarks to family, colleagues, and Methuen leaders. "This department is full of talented officers who are dedicated to improving the lives of the citizens of Methuen."

McNamara began his law enforcement career with Lawrence Police in 1996, serving as a patrolman before rising through the ranks to Captain in 2008. From 2008 to earlier this year, McNamara served as the Lawrence Police Department's captain in charge of the Bureau of Field Services — a position in which he commanded 90 sworn officers and 17 civilians as they responded to an average of 50,000 to 70,000 calls for service yearly.

"Chief McNamara stood out from a field of highly qualified candidates for this role, and I have the utmost confidence in his ability to lead the department in a way that is innovative and considerate of the needs of everyone in our city," Mayor Perry said. "I look forward to the positive impact his leadership will have not only on the men and women sworn to protect and serve our residents, but on our community as a whole."

Since May, McNamara served as

captain in charge of the Lawrence Police Department's Bureau of Professional Standards, where he oversaw internal affairs, conducted compliance checks on overtime and detail compensation, worked on the department's efforts to build a new police station, and commanded administrative divisions overseeing evidence, courts, the sex offender registry, public records and information technology.

McNamara has earned an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Northern Essex Community College, a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Salem State College, and a master's degree in Criminal Justice from UMass Lowell.

McNamara has completed additional training courses in:

- Police reform legislation with the Commonwealth Police Legacy
- Internal Affairs Certification with the Municipal Police Institute
- Planning, Designing and Construction Police Facilities with the International Association of Chiefs of Police
- Executive Command and Staff Development with the Municipal Police Institute
- Police Chief and Command Leadership Academy at Endicott College
- Senior Management Institute for Police at UMass Boston
- Commander Leadership Training with the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (FBI LEEDA)
- Massachusetts Police Leadership Institute at UMass Lowell

"I know this job can't be done from behind a desk. I must lead from the front," McNamara said, "offering thanks to those who trained and mentored him over the years. "I know policing is changing all the time, and we must change with it and maintain a deep, meaningful relationship with the community we serve."

Chief McNamara thanked Interim Chiefs Thomas McEnaney and Randy Haggar, as well as all those in Methuen who have welcomed him.

Chief McNamara begins his work immediately.



Essex County Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger, Chief Scott McNamara, Mayor Neil Perry.



Lawrence Police Chief Roy Vasque was present to congratulate the new Methuen Police Chief Scott J. McNamara.

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Greater Lowell Community Foundation anuncia Fondo de reasentamiento afgano

La Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) anunció recientemente un nuevo Fondo de reasentamiento afgano de GLCF. Aprobado por unanimidad por la Junta de GLCF el 10 de septiembre, GLCF creó este fondo para apoyar a las organizaciones sin fines de lucro locales encargadas de los reasentamientos de refugiados afganos. Con una afluencia de nuevos refugiados de Afganistán que llegan al Gran Lowell, el Fondo de Reasentamiento Afgano de GLCF apoyará los esfuerzos de las organizaciones del Gran Lowell para ayudar a garantizar que los necesitados sean bienvenidos y conectados con vivienda, empleo, transporte, alimentos, aculturación y otros relacionados. apoyo.

"En tiempos de necesidad humanitaria, GLCF brinda donde más se necesita en la comunidad", dijo Jay Linnehan, presidente y director ejecutivo de GLCF. "A medida que lleguen refugiados y evacuados afganos en los próximos meses, el Fondo de Reasentamiento Afgano de GLCF apoyará a las organizaciones sin fines de lucro del área que brindan el apoyo fundamental necesario para recibir y reasentar a esta población".

Las donaciones al Fondo de Reasentamiento Afgano de GLCF se pueden hacer en línea en www.glcfoundation.org o por correo al Fondo de Reasentamiento Afgano de GLCF c/o GLCF, 100 Merrimack Street, Suite 202, Lowell, MA 01852.

Greater Lowell Community Foundation announces new Afghan Resettlement Fund

The Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) recently announced a new GLCF Afghan Resettlement Fund. Unanimously approved by the GLCF Board on Sept. 10, GLCF created this fund to support local nonprofits charged with Afghan refugee resettlements. With an influx of new refugees from Afghanistan arriving in Greater Lowell, the GLCF Afghan Resettlement Fund will support the efforts of Greater Lowell organizations to help ensure those in need are welcomed and connected with housing, employment, transportation, food, acculturation, and other related support.

"In times of humanitarian need, GLCF gives where it is most needed in the community," said Jay Linnehan, GLCF's President and CEO. "As Afghan refugees and evacuees arrive in the coming months, the GLCF Afghan Resettlement Fund will support area nonprofits providing critical support needed to welcome and resettle this population."

Donations to the GLCF Afghan Resettlement Fund can be made online at www.glcfoundation.org or by mail to the GLCF Afghan Resettlement Fund c/o GLCF, 100 Merrimack Street, Suite 202, Lowell, MA 01852.

Haverhill Covid Vaccine Clinic tuvo un éxito mayor de las expectativas

El domingo, 26 de septiembre, la Coalición Latina, en asociación con la Ciudad de Haverhill, el Representante Estatal Andy Vargas, la Cámara de Comercio de Greater Haverhill, Community Action, Veteran Services Outreach, Haverhill Police Department, Leaving the Streets Ministry y Covanta, llevaron a cabo una clínica de vacuna COVID en el parque GAR con vacunas administradas por los Servicios para Personas Mayores de Merrimack Valley.

A pesar de la baja participación en las clínicas recientes, en el evento del domingo se vacunaron aproximadamente 40 personas, incluidos varios adolescentes acompañados por sus padres.

“Cuando el personal de Elder Services se dio cuenta de que no tendrían suficientes vacunas para satisfacer la demanda, el Representante Andy Vargas rápidamente consiguió vacunas adicionales, y él y su esposa Rikelma las entregaron personalmente al evento,” dijo Manny

Matias, presidente de The Latino Coalition of Haverhill.

También estuvo presente Patrick Driscoll de Driscoll Funeral Home. El Sr. Driscoll entregó más de 50 mochilas con útiles escolares a todas las familias presentes. Estuvieron presentes cuatro miembros de la Liga de Mujeres Votantes, registrando personas para votar. El Alcalde Fiorentini también se acercó para agradecer a la gente por vacunarse.

Todos los vacunados recibieron una tarjeta de regalo Market Basket de \$25 y la oportunidad de ganar \$100 en efectivo. El Director de Servicios para Veteranos, Luis Santiago, fue el encargado de notificar a los cinco ganadores.

La clínica para una segunda inyección de Pfizer será el domingo, 17 de octubre de 1 a 5 pm en el Citizens Center, al lado del Parque GAR. Las vacunas de Pfizer y Johnson and Johnson también estarán disponibles para personas no vacunadas previamente.



Haverhill Covid Vaccine Clinic Succeeds Beyond Expectations

On Sunday, September 26, the Latino Coalition, in partnership with the City of Haverhill, Rep. Andy Vargas, The Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, Community Action, Veteran Services Outreach, Haverhill Police Department, Leaving the Streets Ministry, and Covanta, held a COVID vaccine clinic at GAR Park with shots administered by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley.

Despite low turnout in recent clinics, Sunday's event saw approximately 40 people vaccinated, including a number of teenagers accompanied by their parents.

“When Elder Services staff realized they would not have enough shots to meet the demand, Rep. Andy Vargas quickly secured extra vaccines, and he and his wife Rikelma personally delivered them to the event,” said Manny Matias, President, The

Latino Coalition of Haverhill.

Also present was Patrick Driscoll of Driscoll Funeral Home. Mr. Driscoll gave out over 50 backpacks with school supplies to all the families present. Four members of the League of Women Voters were present, registering people to vote. Mayor Fiorentini also stopped by to thank people for getting vaccinated.

All those vaccinated received a \$25 Market Basket gift card and a chance to win \$100 cash. The five winners were notified by Veterans Services Director Luis Santiago.

The follow-up clinic for a second Pfizer shot will be Sunday, October 17, from 1-5 pm at the Citizens Center, next to GAR Park. Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson shots also will be available for previously unvaccinated individuals.

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Lawrence History Center welcomes 2 new members to its board of directors and re-opens to the public



On September 25, 2021, the Lawrence History Center (LHC) held its 43rd Annual Meeting and 'Re-Opening' Open House. LHC Board President Mark Cutler presided over the meeting at which two new board members -- Brian Sheehy and Dr. Ellen Spero -- were elected by the membership to serve their first three year terms. The meeting and open house also marked LHC's re-opening to the public after having closed on March 14, 2020 due to the pandemic (LHC Response to COVID-19).

Mark called the meeting that took place in the Essex Company Stable to order at 10:00 AM. He welcomed guests and thanked LHC board, staff, and volunteers for their efforts across a very difficult time in our shared history.

LHC Board Secretary Sara Morin Barth then presented the LHC Annual Meeting Minutes, 9/19/2020 for approval.

After the membership accepted the



minutes, LHC Treasurer Mark Svendsen presented the FY2021 Treasurer's Report for acceptance. His overview included a summary of our revenue and other support, in addition to our expenses and investment account balance.

After the FY2021 Treasurer's Report was accepted, LHC Vice President Glennys Sanchez presented the following Board Slate of Candidates, 2021-2022 and introduced two new nominated board members:

Renewing Members:

Officer Position(s)

Mark Svendsen, Treasurer, 2021 – 2024 (2nd term)

Director Position(s)

Kathleen Curry, 2021 – 2024 (1st term)

Anil "Nilly" DaCosta, 2021 – 2024 (2nd term)

Ellen Minzner, 2021 – 2024 (2nd term)



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ALENE CANDLES

El alcalde y la superintendente escolar anuncian al segundo oficial de recursos para Haverhill High

Uno de los 2 nuevos puestos policiales aprobados por el alcalde esta semana

El Alcalde James J. Fiorentini acordó agregar dos oficiales más al presupuesto de la policía, una medida que permite a la policía desplegar de inmediato un segundo oficial de recursos en la escuela secundaria de Haverhill.

Los nuevos puestos que acaba de aprobar el alcalde permitirán a la policía reasignar un oficial de patrulla existente a la escuela secundaria y un segundo oficial al nuevo equipo de consejería psicológica del departamento, dijo el Jefe de Policía Robert Pistone.

"Siempre hemos tenido un oficial de recursos escolares (SRO) en la escuela secundaria desde que tengo memoria, pero dados algunos de los problemas que han tenido lugar a principios de este año, creemos, y el alcalde estuvo de acuerdo, que es un es un buen momento para agregar un segundo SRO ", dijo el Jefe Pistone. "El alcalde vio el valor de agregar estos puestos adicionales y asignar otro SRO a la escuela secundaria y estamos muy agradecidos".

Las oficinas de recursos escolares funcionan de 7 a 3 y están presentes en la escuela para que los maestros y los estudiantes se sientan seguros y puedan concentrarse en el aprendizaje y su educación, dijo el Jefe Pistone. El oficial de policía actual que trabaja en la escuela secundaria da una clase de justicia penal y asiste a muchos eventos y actividades extracurriculares.

"La superintendente escolar y yo estamos muy conscientes de que los padres están muy preocupados por algunos de los incidentes recientes en la escuela secundaria,

y me complace ver que el Departamento Escolar está tomando medidas rápidas para agregar otro SRO, así como otros cambios para abordar la situación", dijo el Alcalde Fiorentini. "La policía, el Departamento Escolar y mi oficina están trabajando juntos y tomando esto muy en serio".

El Jefe Pistone dijo que parte de la decisión de agregar el segundo SRO es que identificó al candidato perfecto para el puesto. El oficial, Christian Guzmán, actualmente entrena lucha libre en un distrito escolar público vecino y trabaja en campamentos juveniles locales en el verano.

"Al oficial Guzmán le encanta trabajar con niños y ya conoce a muchos de ellos", dijo el Jefe Pistone, y agregó que el oficial Guzmán comenzará su nueva asignación en Haverhill High el lunes por la mañana.

El segundo nuevo puesto policial aprobado por el alcalde esta semana trabajará en conjunto con los médicos de salud mental que, bajo un nuevo programa a partir de este año, acompañarán a los oficiales en las llamadas de servicio que involucren a personas con mucho estrés.

El Jefe Pistone señaló que el departamento está en proceso de reemplazar a 4 oficiales que se retiraron recientemente, pero dijo que puede tomar hasta un año para que un nuevo empleado sea capacitado y salga a la calle.

Los puestos adicionales elevan la dotación completa de funcionarios presupuestados del departamento de Haverhill a 112, la mayor cantidad en la historia de la ciudad.

Mayor, School Superintendent Announce 2nd Resource Officer For Haverhill High

One of 2 New Police Positions Approved by Mayor this Week

Mayor James J. Fiorentini has agreed to add two more officers to the police budget – a move that allows police to immediately deploy a second resource officer at Haverhill High School.

The new positions just approved by the mayor will allow police to reassign one existing patrol officer to the high school and a second officer to the department's new psychological counseling team, Police Chief Robert Pistone said.

"We've always had a school resource officer (SRO) at the high school as long as I can remember but given some of the issues that have taken place at the beginning of this year we believe, and the mayor agreed, that it's a good time to add a second SRO," Chief Pistone said. "The mayor saw the value of adding these additional positions and assigning another SRO to the high school and we are very appreciative."

School resource officers work 7-3 and are a presence at the school so teachers and students feel safe and can concentrate on learning and their education, Chief Pistone said. The current police officer who works at the high school teaches a criminal justice class and attends many after-school events and activities.

"The school superintendent and I are very aware that parents are very concerned about some of the recent incidents at the high school, and I am pleased to see the School Department taking swift action to

add another SRO as well as other changes to address the situation," Mayor Fiorentini said. "Police, the School Department and my office are all working together and taking this very seriously."

Chief Pistone said part of the decision to add the second SRO is that he identified a perfect candidate for the job. The officer, Christian Guzman, currently coaches wrestling in a neighboring public school district and works at local youth camps in summertime.

"Officer Guzman loves working with kids, and he knows a lot of them already," said Chief Pistone, adding that Officer Guzman will begin his new assignment at Haverhill High on Monday morning.

The second new police position approved by the mayor this week will work in tandem with mental health clinicians who, under a new program starting this year, will be accompanying officers on service calls involving people under high stress.

Chief Pistone noted the department is in the process of replacing 4 officers who recently retired, but said it can take up to year for a new hire to be trained and hit the street.

The additional positions bring the Haverhill department's full complement of budgeted officers to 112 – the most in city history.

Women Working Wonders Fund Presents Virtual Power of the Purse Plus Fundraiser

Lowell, MA – The Women Working Wonders (WWW) Fund, a permanently endowed fund of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, will host their annual Power of the Purse Plus fundraising event as an Online Auction and Raffle from Oct. 10 to 15, 2021. This virtual Power of the Purse Plus fundraiser is where handbags and accessories take center stage.

“At Women Working Wonders, we know that a purse is more than a mere accessory or fashion statement. The purse is a symbol of power, of a collective philanthropic dedication to improve the lives of girls and women, and thus improve society,” said Carolyn Gregoire, Women Working Wonders Fund board president. “The Women Working Wonders Fund’s Power of the Purse Plus is key to our ability to raise funds for grants that improve the lives of girls and women in Greater Lowell.”

This year’s Power of the Purse Plus features exclusive Tory Burch and Louis Vuitton Raffles. Tory Burch raffle tickets are \$20 each, or \$10 each on October 10, which is National Handbag Day. Louis Vuitton raffle tickets are \$50. Additionally, there will be over 65 auction items available. Participants may register to bid and purchase raffle tickets online through Bidpal (<https://one.bidpal.net/wwwpurse2021>).

Proceeds from the Power of the Purse Plus event support local programs that empower women and girls to effect positive change in the community.

Women Working Wonders provides annual grants in three key areas: assisting women in transition, providing leadership development, and contributing to the beautification of the environment. WWW fund has distributed 51 grants totaling over \$250,000 since its inception in 2004. In 2021 Women Working Wonders proudly awarded \$56,800 to six Greater Lowell nonprofits.

Recipients of 2021 WWW grants:

- Budget Buddies: \$10,000 for New Workshop for Women: Financial Health for Families with Children
- Challenge Unlimited: \$10,000 for Equine Encounter: Healing to Leadership for Girls and Women
- Coalition for a Better Acre: \$10,000 for Sewing Training Program
- Girls Inc. of Greater Lowell: \$10,000 for Leadership Academy
- Refuge Lowell: \$10,000 for Girls and Young Women Creating Community Through Public Art
- International Institute of NE: \$6,800 for Creating New Avenues for Success (CNAFS)

“The grant from the Women Working Wonders Fund will help to initiate an exciting new program that fosters education about public art, street art, community murals, and installations in a typically male-dominated arena,” said Nikki Giraffo, founder of Refuge Lowell. “This program



Photo: Henry Marte

A student at Refuge Lowell, a recent recipient of a \$10,000 grant to fund a program for girls and young women creating community through public art from the Women Working Wonders Fund.

will empower middle and high school girls to develop personal and conceptual content for their public art projects.”

For more information, visit womenworkingwondersfund.com or contact womenworkingwondersfund@gmail.com.

Established in 1997, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) is a philanthropic organization comprised of more than 390 funds dedicated to improving the quality of life in 21 neighboring cities

and towns. With financial assets of more than \$55 million, GLCF annually awards grants and scholarships to hundreds of worthy nonprofits and students. It is powered by the winning combination of donor-directed giving, personal attention from Foundation staff, and an in-depth understanding of local needs. The generosity of our donors has enabled the Community Foundation to award more than \$25 million to the Greater Lowell community.

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ESSEX ART CENTER

A Love Letter to Lawrence

Wow, I feel like I hit the jackpot!

When I joined the team at Essex Art Center in January, I couldn't fully appreciate what a special community I was about to be a part of. No one told me the Center functioned more like a family—one where people showed up for each other and worked to achieve something bigger than any one of us could accomplish on our own.

There was great work happening at the Center, but I wanted to think more expansively. What could we do for the City of Lawrence? And how could we serve the contemporary art scene of the Merrimack Valley? Luckily for me, the Board of Directors welcomed this broad thinking, and the City of Lawrence made me feel like I belonged.

I'm so grateful for all of the partnerships and friendships that have blossomed over the past several months. Early on, Jess Martinez of MassDevelopment introduced me to an inspiring group of leaders who serve on the Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) advisory for Lawrence. Many of these folks helped usher along the programs the Center wanted to bring to life, including our Grand Reopening celebration "Fiesta en la Calle" and our public art installation "Gateway to the Arts."

And there were folks like David Meehan—longtime Lawrence art teacher

and our former Board member—who handwrote an itinerary for me Labor Day weekend. The Feast of the Three Saints (awesome music, great dancing, and multiple parades), Mahrahan (Lebanese festival, rich culture, and fantastic food), and the Bread & Roses Festival (celebration of local history, music, and art). Where else are there three festivals in one weekend? Lawrence knows how to Party!

Collaboration runs deep in Lawrence, and I was thrilled to learn that some of the things I hoped to achieve at the Center already had roots. For example, multiple organizations were working together to establish the Lawrence Arts Collective—to hire an Arts Coordinator and bring an Artist-in-Residence program to the City of Lawrence. I can't think of anywhere else where local businesses and nonprofits were partnering in such a profound way to elevate arts and culture in their community.

Lawrence is beautiful. I am proud to call this city my home, and I look forward to continuing to do this creative work with all of you.

Thank you for your warm welcome and all your support!

Monica Manoski
Executive Director

Essex Art Center's Grand Reopening "Fiesta en la Calle" was one event with significant results!

1,827 individuals visited the Center's galleries during the block party
103 local artists participated in our Salon Show + Art Sale
90 artworks sold
\$36,019 in total artwork sales
\$19,135.50 stayed at the Center to support our mission-related programming
\$16,883.50 paid to regional artists

We want to thank all the artists, musicians, volunteers, and attendees for making our Grand Reopening such a wild success!

In September, we welcomed Jeffrey Yasuo Mansfield as our inaugural artist-in-residence. Jeffrey joins us via the Lawrence Arts Collective, a coalition of Lawrence-based organizations that develop and facilitate uplifting Arts and Culture activities.

Jeffrey is a design director at MASS Design Group and a Ford-Mellon Disability Futures fellow. His work explores the relationships between architecture, landscape, and power. In addition, Jeffrey is a recipient of a Graham Foundation grant and a John W. Kluge Fellowship at the Library of Congress for his work on Architecture of Deafness, which explores

how deaf schools and other deaf spaces emerged as sites of cultural resistance. Jeffrey holds a Master of Architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and an AB in Architecture from Princeton University.



Deaf since birth, Jeffrey is a Yonsei, or fourth-generation Japanese American. He attended a deaf school in Massachusetts, where his earliest intuitions about the relationship between buildings and power emerged.

Essex Art Center's next exhibition opens on Friday, October 22.

We hope you'll join us from 5-7 PM to celebrate the work of a diverse range of ceramic artists.

Exhibiting artists include Anne Thiam, Natalia Almonte, Gustavo Barceloni, Paul Briggs, Sarah Burns, Betsy Redelman Díaz, Larry Elardo, JooLee Kang, Sam Kim, Sally Lee, Maureen Mills, Silvi Naçi, Karen Orsillo, and Steve Zoldak.

Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM and Saturdays 1:30 - 4:00 PM through November 13. Please check the website for updated Gallery hours beyond November 13.

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LAWRENCE- La Junta Directiva de la Feria Internacional del Libro, Inc. y el comité organizador tienen el honor de anunciar oficialmente el 15avo. aniversario de uno de los eventos culturales más importantes de la ciudad, que tendrá lugar los días 22, 23 y 24 de octubre de 2021 en varios lugares de Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Este año la Feria Internacional del Libro 2021 está dedicada a la Diáspora Literaria de República Dominicana. Estamos honrando a la poeta dominico-estadounidense, traductora y socia fundadora del Powow River Poets en Newburyport, Massachusetts, Rhina Espaillat; junto al poeta dominicano, José Mármol, y un homenaje póstumo a Sr. José Balbuena.

Un programa completo que incluye corto metraje, foro, conversatorio, lecturas de poesía, exhibición, venta y firma de libros por autores y mucho más.

Todos estos son parte de la XV Feria Internacional del Libro 2021, que honra a autores y poetas invitados de la República Dominicana y otros países.

La siguiente es una lista de eventos significativos:

Jueves, 21 de octubre
Inauguración de la Biblioteca José Balbuena
Ateneo Dominicano
15 Union St, Lawrence, MA
De 17:00 a 19:00
Entrada gratuita

Viernes, 22 de octubre
Gran Inauguración de la Feria Híbrida (Facebook Live y Localización TBD)
6:00 PM- 8:00 PM
Entrada gratuita

Sábado, 23 de octubre
Feria Infantil
Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence
51 Lawrence St, Lawrence, MA
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Foro Educativo Virtual
ZOOM
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Paneles/ Presentaciones/
Exposiciones/ Venta de libros
Colegio Comunitario del Norte de Essex
45 Franklin St, Lawrence, MA

Domingo, 24 de octubre
Documental de Cine/ Paneles/
Presentaciones/ Exposiciones/
Venta de Libros
Colegio Comunitario- Northern Essex Community College
45 Franklin St., Lawrence, MA

Thursday, October 21st
Jose Balbuena Library Inauguration
Ateneo Dominicano
15 Union St, Lawrence, MA
5:00 PM- 7:00 PM
Free Admission

Friday, October 22nd
Fair Grand Opening
Performing & Fine Art Center
70-71 North Parish Rd Lawrence, MA
6:30 PM- 9:00 PM
Free Admission

Saturday, October 23rd
Children's Fair
Lawrence Public Library
51 Lawrence St, Lawrence, MA
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Virtual Educational Forum
ZOOM
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Panels/ Presentations/ Exhibitions/
Book Sales
Northern Essex Community College
45 Franklin St, Lawrence, MA

Sunday, October 24th
Film Documentary/ Panels/
Presentations/ Exhibitions/ Book Sale
Northern Essex Community College
45 Franklin St, Lawrence, MA

LAWRENCE- The Board of Directors of the International Book Fair, Inc. and the organizing committee is an honor to officially announce the 15th anniversary of one of the city's most important cultural events, which will take place on October 22, 23, and 24, 2021 in various venues throughout Lawrence, Massachusetts.

This year the 2021 International Book Fair is dedicated to the Dominican Republic Literary Diaspora. We are honoring the Dominican-American poet, translator, and founding member of the Powow River Poets in Newburyport, MA, Rhina Espaillat, the Dominican poet, Jose Marmol, and a posthumous homage to the Dominican poet, Sr. Jose Balbuena.

A well-rounded program that includes forums, film screenings, workshops, poetry readings, book sales, signings by authors, and much more.

These are all part of the XV International Book Fair 2021, which honors invited authors and poets from the Dominican Republic and other countries. The following is a list of significant events:

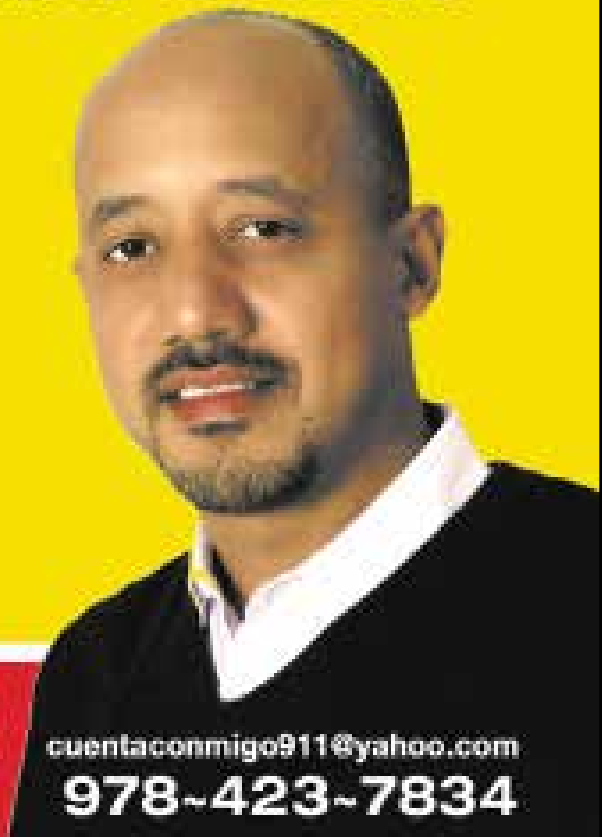
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Por Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, CCP

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

La suerte sangrienta de los gallos luchadores

Las peleas de gallos no se tratan solo de juegos, apuestas, entretenimiento y una fuente de mano de obra muy necesaria. También son un símbolo, una metáfora por así decirlo, del "machismo". El gallo es "nosotros" y nosotros somos "el gallo". Cualquier intento oficial de prohibir sus sangrientas peleas es visto no solo como un ataque económico contra nuestra forma de vida, sino también como un ataque contra nuestra imagen y orgullo masculino cultivado. Proyectamos nuestras agresiones en nuestro gallo favorito y lo hacemos nuestro agente.

El 20 de abril de 2021, el gobierno cubano emitió y publicó un decreto ley sobre bienestar animal que castiga a los infractores con multas, pero que permite las peleas de gallos y la matanza religiosa de santería. El 14 de enero del 2021, en Puerto Rico, la nación y sus líderes se levantaron de ira protestando por los esfuerzos de un juez federal para prohibir la práctica del llamado "deporte". Nada menos que Mariano Rodríguez, un respetado y reconocido pintor cubano ya desaparecido y recordado en una exposición del Boston College, dejó su huella en los lienzos dibujando gallos y llamándolos "El Gallo".

Estamos familiarizados con las peleas de gallos. Hemos estado ahí, pero no somos sus fanáticos.

"Fico" y su mundo de peleas de gallos. Originalmente Publicado en Julio del 2006; editado en mayo del 2012.

Se supone que los veranos sean tiempos más lentos para los que escribimos. Son momentos en que las mentes hacen marcha atrás y escogen entre las reminiscencias que yacen reposando escondidas en alguna de sus partes. Este verano no es diferente, así es que voy a viajar hacia atrás a través de la senda de mis memorias.

Estoy seguro que mis lectores saben que crecí en otro país, otra cultura. En realidad, no hace falta nombrarlo; no es importante para lo que voy a decir hoy. Podemos guardarlo secreto; imaginemos que es como si fuera una conspiración entre usted y yo; fue una nación latina si le interesa. Eso es todo lo que necesitamos para esta historia; podría ser donde quiera.

Lo que muchos de ustedes no saben es que también tengo una gran memoria y soy capaz de extraer imágenes de mi niñez y dibujarlas en el lienzo de mis escritos hoy día. Eso me provee con una oportunidad de revivir esos momentos y colocarlos en el contexto de mi propia experiencia entonces y ahora y compartirlas con mis lectores. Desde luego, esos son momentos íntimos míos, instantes que son obviamente irrelevantes para la mayoría de la gente, pero verdaderamente existentes en lo que llamamos "nuestro pasado". Los escritores somos también pintores; ellos con brochas y pasteles, nosotros con plumas y gramática. Yo pinto ficción de la realidad.

Una de esas imágenes grabadas en mi memoria es la del mundo único de las peleas de gallos. La otra es el nombre de Fico, sobrenombre de Federico, un criador de gallos de pelea que pasaba todo momento de su vida preparando el gallo para que

fuera el mejor contendiente que podía ser o atendiendo a los minutos detalles de negocio de esa ocupación, que eran muchos. Fico era un hombre viejo ya cuando lo conocí: bajo de estatura, delgado como una flecha, intenso y agitado, con ojos penetrantes que lo miraban a uno como si estuviera tratando de evaluar nuestra habilidad gallina de pelear. Podía ser muy amistoso un momento; sarcástico el próximo; profano algunas veces, todo relacionado con sus aves y parte de la misma persona.

Yo nunca había imaginado a un criador de gallos que usaba camisa de cuello, corbata y mangas largas cuando oficiaba, pero ahí estaba. Las peleas de gallos eran su carrera, su imagen de respetabilidad. Cuando hacia su entrada a la pequeña valla del coliseo, la ruidosa multitud anticipando el sabor de la sangre que se avecinaba, sus hombros se enderezaban; su altura se expandía. Caminaba como si tuviera cuatro zapatos; dos en sus pies, los otros dos bajo sus axilas para hacer los hombros mas anchos; uno de sus animales entrenados en la mano. Siempre me impresionó.

Tenía su propia "galería" en la casa. Imagínese que usted sea un entrenador de boxeo y tiene su propio cuadrilátero detrás de la casa. Y allí estaban, su esposa e hijos, sus amigos siempre cerca escuchando los cantos del largo inventario de gallos que caminaban impacientemente de un lado a otro dentro de las jaulas. Yo no tenía idea de cómo Fico podía ganar su sustento y el de su familia en esa profesión, no cuando muchacho ni después cuando crecí. Pero eventualmente lo averigüé.

El criaba gallos para gente muy rica e influyente: políticos, hombres de negocios, caracteres ociosos con mucho dinero que quemar y nada mas de interés que hacer. Eran personas, en su mayoría hombres de edad media o vieja, la esposa o la amante colgando del brazo, que tenían pasión por las peleas de gallos, pero no por los cacareos en sus propios patios.

En los Estados Unidos las peleas de animales son ilegales, algunos dirían que inmoral. En otros países de habla hispana se consideraría ilegal no tenerlas. Las corridas de toros en España, por ejemplo, me imagino que lo mismo puede ocurrir en Méjico, se supone que sean una metáfora del hombre contra la bestia. El torero representa nuestras mejores cualidades-sí, yo se lo que usted está pensando-y el toro es nuestra peor naturaleza animal. Cuando el matador se enfrenta a la bestia está en realidad tratando de destruir la tentación de sus peores instintos y convirtiéndose en una mejor persona. No se lo diga al toro, porque no lo va a creer, pero ese es en realidad el significado del mensaje. Es en realidad "bulería", bueno algo parecido.

Hace varios años, en un viaje a través de Europa, me encontré con una pequeña escultura muy singular: un torero, su cuerpo volando en el aire, acorneado por un toro. Me gustó de inmediato; presentaba un punto de vista diferente. Podría haber sido el logotipo favorito para mis artículos. Dudé comprarlo; estaba yo en Lisboa entonces, al comienzo de nuestra excursión, y decidí esperar para adquirirlo hasta que volviéramos a la capital portuguesa en nuestra ruta de

salida del continente. Desafortunadamente la exhibición del artista se había terminado cuando regresamos y los patrocinadores no me pudieron poner en contacto con el artista.

La moraleja de esta historia es muy simple: nunca esperen para comprar su escultura favorita de un torero acorneado. Portugal, a propósito, no permite que se mate al toro en las corridas. La criatura se sacrifica mas tarde y se le da como alimento a las instituciones caritativas. Eso es mas humano me supongo, pero no estoy seguro de lo que eso hace a la metáfora sobre nuestros instintos. Tal vez significa que jugamos con ellos y jamás los eliminamos por completo.

Las peleas de gallos son similares de cierta manera, pero en ellas estamos lidiando con la muerte entre iguales, la supervivencia del mejor; Darwin a la quinta potencia. La metáfora es sobre la manera en que nos comportamos en una guerra; en realidad una cosa absurda. El pelo de los gallos recibe un corte alemán y lucen como cadetes de una escuela militar. Las patas se afeitan igualmente y reciben espuelas que son mortales en la pelea.

Y la unión "espiritual" íntima, perdonen si uso aquí el adjetivo equivocado, entre dueño y animal es total. Es ahí donde Fico intervenía. La persona que le pagó para que diera forma a su gallo de pelea para el momento supremo de la verdad esperaba nada menos que excelencia en el comportamiento del animal, incluyendo la posibilidad de que muriera. Y Fico lo sabía.

The cockpit at the center of the action is a round circus ring where birds are teased to a point of confrontation after which there is no return; as someone has said, "a man has to do what a man has to do." The floor is sawdust good for the chicken to walk and the blood to dip. Wings fly in the air, necks raised in anger, spurs stuck in each other's bellies.

La valla al centro de la acción es un anillo similar a la arena de un circo donde a los gallos se les tientan, fastidian y embroman entre sí hasta un punto de excitación en la confrontación del que no se puede regresar; como alguien dijera, "un hombre tiene que hacer lo que un hombre tiene que hacer". El piso es de aserrín bueno para que los gallos caminen y la sangre se disuelva. Las alas vuelan en el aire, los cuellos se alzan en medio de la ira, las espuelas se traban en el cuerpo del enemigo.

El gentío grita. Las apuestas se hacen, algunas veces modificadas en el calor del momento, en alta voz. Y cuando uno de los animales finalmente muere, la multitud se siente satisfecha. Es hora de tener otra pelea; hay intercambio de dinero, los tabacos se muerden. Y en el viaje de regreso a la casa los fanáticos compartirán historias inconsecuentes y sin sentido sobre las aves que ganaron. Pero, desde luego, los gallos no sabían.

Fico había provocado la furia y el poder destructivo del animal a su nivel de ejecución máxima. Era de ahí de donde provenía el dinero la mayoría de las veces. Solo tenía que mencionar el nombre del ave para recordar al de su dueño. Pasaba horas en trance afilando las espuelas para hacerlas mas letales. Y desde luego, apostando por

su bandada cuando creía seriamente que ganaría, podía generar ingresos también. El animal que perdía o ganaba no era simplemente un pájaro; era un símbolo de masculinidad para su dueño.

Nadie sabía la reacción de un cliente perdedor cuando regresaba a la casa a su esposa o su amante. A lo mejor era una bomba que no estallaba; o no estaba de buen humor. ¡Eh! Un hombre puede también tener un dolor de cabeza por favor. Ella se preguntará como es que un animal de alas y dos patas puede competir tan elocuentemente con sus encantos. Y Fico lo sospechaba. Eso era por lo que, de cierta manera, era un hombre popular con las damas. Ellas tenían confianza en su habilidad de cumplir con las esperanzas de sus clientes; la alternativa era una noche de amor desperdiciada. Él era un afrodisiaco para sus patronos.

Yo nunca le di mucho pensamiento a la ocupación de Fico, o mucho crédito. No hasta que terminé de leer "El Origen de las Especies" de Charles Darwin y la importancia de la crianza y domesticación de animales. Fico fue un selector natural de lo mejor que los gallos de pelea podían producir; el era en realidad un evolucionista. Su labor mejorando la supervivencia de los gallos competía seriamente con cualquier referencia sobre las palomas descrita por Darwin en su famoso trabajo de investigación. Las cualidades que sobrevivieron en los gallos de Fico se hicieron parte eterna de muchas generaciones futuras de gallos de pelea. Usted podía ver que las miradas de los ojos de gallos que vivían solamente para pasar un buen tiempo con las gallinas eran muy diferentes a las de los guerreros que no tenían tiempo para esas distracciones. Estos últimos eran en realidad mucho más serios.

El día que dejé mi patria, para siempre como después resultó, mientras el avión maniobraba hasta el final de la pista y doblaba para levantar su nariz y alas plateadas hacia el cielo cálido de primavera en el que se dirigiría a la Florida, noté un cansado campesino que laboraba en una finca cercana. Con dos bueyes y un arado frente a él, sus ojos casi cerrados por el fuerte sol que le hería la cara arrugada miserablemente, trataban de romper para plantarlo el duro y fértil suelo que yo dejaba atrás.

También pude ver un gallo joven y ligero que apuradamente, su cuerpo tambaleándose hacia ambos lados, corría tras el sembrador. No se sabía donde iba; no lucía irascible, mas bien asustado, tal vez tratando de escapar del ruido incesante y creciente producido por las hélices y motores de mi nave. Me recordé entonces de Fico, muerto ya hacía varios años, por un instante. Me pregunté si este espécimen sería un descendiente de sus criaturas belicosas. Las peleas de gallos no eran ya populares en esa época, las luchas humanas las habían remplazado, pero pensé que tal vez a Charles Darwin le habría gustado saber sobre este hombre que había llevado a cabo una labor de evolución en su propio patio. ¿Fue Fico realidad o ficción? se preguntan ustedes. Bueno, solo puedo decir que estubo casado con una pariente mía.

Y este es mi punto de vista en un día lento de fin de verano.



A POINT OF VIEW © 1996

By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, ICCP

The bloody luck of the fighting roosters

Cock fighting is not only about games, betting, entertainment and a source of much needed labor. It's also a symbol, a metaphor so to speak, of "machismo."

The cock is "us" and we are the cock as well. Any official attempt to forbid their bloody fights is seeing not only as an economic attack against our way of living, it's also an attack against our cultivated male image and pride. We project our aggressions on our favorite cock and make him our agent.

On April 20, 2021, the Cuban government issued and published a decree law on animal welfare punishing violators with fines, but allowing cockfighting and Santeria religious slaughter. On January 14, 2021, in Puerto Rico, the nation and its leaders rose in anger protesting the efforts of a Federal judge to outlaw the practice of the so-called "sport."

None other than Mariano Rodriguez, a well-respected and recognized Cuban painter now defunct and being remembered in a Boston College exhibit, made his mark on the canvass drawing roosters in several positions and colors. He has named his subjects "El Gallo," The Rooster. We can see that the hypnotic power of the male "Gallus domesticus" attracts artists' creativity. We are familiar with cook fighting; being there, done that, but not a fan.

"Fico" and his world of cock fighting.

Summers are supposed to be slower times for those of us who write. They are moments when the mind goes on reverse and picks and chooses from old hidden reminiscences lying down somewhere. This one is no different, so I am going back down the proverbial "memory lane."

I am sure my readers already know that I was raised in another country, another culture. It really does not make any sense to name it, it is not that important today, we can keep it secret, let you imagine it like a conspiracy between you and me; it was a Latino country if you should know. That is all we need for this story; it could be anywhere.

What some of you may or may not be aware of is that I also have a very good memory and am able to bring forth images of my early childhood and then draw them unto the canvass of my writings today. That provides me with an opportunity to relive those moments and place them in the context of my own experience then and now and share them with my readers. Of course, they are my own moments, instances that are obviously irrelevant to most folks, but truly existing in what we call our past. We writers are also painters, they with brushes and pastels, we with pens and grammar. I paint fiction from reality.

One of those images etched in my memory is the unique world of cock fighting. The other is the name of Fico, short for Federico, a gamecock breeder who spent his every living moment either raising a rooster to be the best fighter it could be or attending to the myriad business details of the trade, which are plenty. Fico was already an old man when I met him: short, thin like an arrow, intense and brisk, piercing eyes that looked at you as though

seizing your cock fighting ability. He could be very friendly one moment; sarcastic the next; profane sometimes, all related to his birds; it was all part of the same persona.

Never had I imagined a cock breeder who wore long sleeve shirts and tie while performing. But there he was. Cock fighting was his career, his image of respectability. When he walked into the small coliseum-like cockpit, the noisy throngs tasting the blood of the fight, his shoulders straightened up; his height expanded. He walked as though he was wearing four shoes; two on his small feet, another two for support under his armpits to make them wider; one of the trained fighters in his hand. I always wondered.

He had his own "gallería" (cockpit) at home. Imagine you being a boxing trainer and having your own ring behind the house. And there was, of course, a wife and kids nearby always listening to the crows of the large cock livestock walking impatiently back and forth in the cages. I never could figure out how Fico made a living in that profession; not as a child, not as I grew up. Eventually though I found out.

He bred some roosters for very rich and influential people: politicians, businessmen, lazy wealthy characters with a lot of money to burn and nothing to do. They were folks, mostly middle-aged men, wife or mistress holding their arms, who had a passion for the cock fighting trade but not for the cackling in their own backyards.

In the United States animal fighting is illegal, some would say immoral. In other Spanish speaking countries, it would be considered illegal not to have it. Bull fighting in Spain, for instance, I suppose the same is true for Mexico, is said to be a metaphor of man against beast. The bullfighter represents our best qualities-yes, I know what you are thinking-and the bull is our worst animal side. When the matador faces the beast to kill, he is really trying to destroy the temptation of his worst instincts and becoming somehow a better person. Don't tell that to the bull, because he is not going to buy it, but that is really what the meaning of the message is all about. It's really bull, well you know what I mean.

Several years ago, on a trip through Europe I ran into a very unusual sculpture: A bullfighter, his body up in the air, gored by a bull. I liked it; it presented a different point of view. It could have been the favorite logo for my writings. I hesitated to buy it; I was in Lisbon at the time at the beginning of my tour, and decided to wait until we returned to the Portuguese capital on our way out of Europe to pick it up. Unfortunately, the exhibit was over by the time we came back and the sponsors of the exhibit could not get me in touch with the artist.

Moral of the story: always buy your favorite gored bullfighter sculpture right away. Portugal, by the way, does not allow killing of the bull by the bullfighters. The creature is sacrificed later and given to charity for food. That is more humane I guess, but I am not sure what it does to the original metaphor about our instincts. Perhaps it means to play with our temptations without really doing away with them altogether.

Cock fighting is similar in a way, but here we are dealing with a fight to the death

between equals, the survival of the fittest so to speak: Darwin to the fifth power. The metaphor is about the way we behave in warfare, mostly senseless. Rooster's hairs get a crew cut, looking like military school cadets. Their legs are shaved as well and they get spurs that are lethal in the fight.

And the intimate "spiritual" union, sorry if I use the wrong qualifier here, between animal and owner is total. That is where Fico came into place. The person who paid him to shape his gamecock to the moment of truth expected the best performance, even if that meant risking death. Fico knew that.

The crowd screams, the bets are placed out loud, sometimes increased in the heat of the moment. And when one of the animals finally dies the multitude is pleased. Time for the next fight; money exchanges hands, cigars get bitten on. And on the way home, all the fans will share inconsequential and meaningless stories about the bird who won. But, of course, the birds didn't know.

Fico had to awaken the anger and destructive power of the animal to its maximum performance. That is where he got his money most of the time. He could always match any rooster's name with his employer's family name. He spent countless hours sharpening the spurs to be more lethal. And, of course, betting for his flock when it won could also bring home some money. The dying or winning animal was not simply a bird; it was also a symbol of masculinity for its owner.

No one knew what the disappointed loser would do that night going home to wife or mistress. He may be a dud; not in the right mood perhaps. Hey, men can also have a headache, you know. She will wonder how a two-legged winged animal can compete with her charms so eloquently. And Fico suspected that all along. That is why, in a way, he was also a ladies' man. They trusted him to deliver what his clients wanted; or else, a wasted night of love. He was an aphrodisiac to his patrons.

I never gave Fico's practice much thought, or credit. Not until I finished reading Charles Darwin's Origin of the Species and the importance of breeding and domestication anyway. Fico was a natural selector of the best a gamecock could be; he was really an evolutionist. His work improving the survivability of roosters could compete with every pigeon reference portrayed by Charles Darwin in his underpinning work. The qualities that survived in Fico's birds became part of future generations of fighting roosters that would last forever. You could see in the eyes of the roosters who lived only for the hens an expression much different from those of the warriors who were not into the fun of things. The latter really meant business.

The day I left my country, forever as it turned out, while the plane taxied to the end of the runway to turn and lift its silvery wings into the warm spring sky in the direction of the Florida Keys, I noticed a tired peasant in a nearby farm, two oxen in front of him, pulling the plow to break the nasty but fertile soil I was leaving behind. His eyes were almost shut, the sun hitting his wrinkled face miserably.

I also noticed a young rooster running close behind him. He did not seem angry, just hurried. I had no idea where he was heading; probably running away from the increasing noise of the propellers of my plane. I thought of Fico then, already dead several years, for a moment. I wondered whether this specimen was one of the descendants of his creatures of war. Cock fighting was no longer popular in the country, people fighting had taken over, but I thought that Charles Darwin would have liked to know about this man who had done some evolution work in his own backyard. Was Fico real or fictitious? you may ask yourselves. Well, all I can say is that he was married to a distant relative of mine.

And that is my point of view this slow end of summer day.

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¿Listo para empezar a ahorrar? ¡Reciba un estimado en cuestión de minutos!

En la agencia de T.A. Sullivan compararemos los costos de todas las opciones en su cobertura a través de nuestra confiable red de más de 20 compañías afiliadas y le prepararemos un estimado que se ajuste a su presupuesto y sus necesidades. Nuestro servicio ha sido ganador de reconocimientos. Tenemos las primas más bajas.

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COMPETITIVE COVERAGE THAT FITS YOUR NEEDS

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

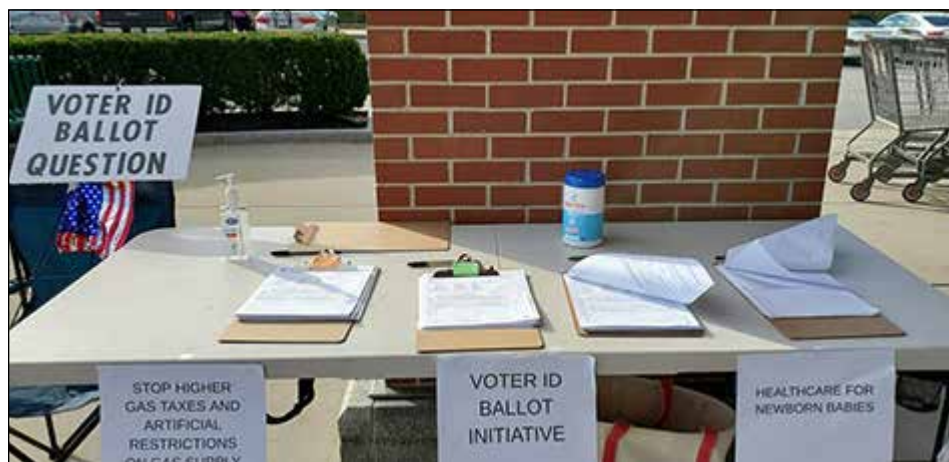
From My Corner



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR RUMBO

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

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



Get involved; sign up!

I want to let everyone know that I'll be collecting signatures on three questions that, hopefully, will appear on the ballot in November 2022. The subjects are:

1. ID Voting, to make sure everyone must show some form of identification to maintain the honesty of the election process;
2. if a child being aborted is alive, doctors should do everything possible to preserve his life; and
3. prohibit Massachusetts from imposing any tax, fee, revenue-generating measure that could reduce or restrict the supply of gasoline, diesel fuels, or other motor fuels.

We need 120,000 signatures by November 17, 2021, statewide and I volunteered to collect them here in Lawrence. If anyone is interested in helping with any of those topics, feel free to call me and I'll explain how it works. Even if you go out one afternoon and visit the people on your street, it will be greatly appreciated.

I am planning on visiting churches because the abortion issue is dear to their hearts. If anyone wishes to invite me to speak to your group on any of the topics, I am available, as well.

Violence in schools

There are daily fights in different schools and some videos have been posted on social media. Upon contacting the Lawrence Public Schools, they responded that they happen outside the schools, although this week a student was suspended for three days from the Leonard School for bringing a BB gun.

This was a serious incident and parents should have been notified but I don't believe they were.

Posting videos on social media has been a blessing in disguise for us because otherwise, we wouldn't find out about those incidents.

Domestic terrorism

On page 1 I said that the United States declared war against the public. I hope you take the time to read the article I wrote on page 7 "Can parents be considered Domestic Terrorists? The United States Attorney asked the Department of Justice, the FBI, and Homeland Security to arrest, jail, and prosecute parents attending school committee meetings and behaving vigorously loud.

Whether these parents are protesting their children's use of masks in school, objecting to being vaccinated, or the use of Critical Race Theory (CRT) in their classroom, it's their First Amendment Right to do so and be heard.

Take a look at the people arrested for storming into the Capitol on January 6; they have been jailed for months, many in isolation yet they have not seen a judge or heard their charges. The Constitution clearly states that no one should be deprived of his liberty without reason.

This country is going crazy and I cannot fix it. But, locally, I can educate our community to stand for what's right. Things will continue to get worse unless we start taking an active part in our children's education.

I asked the Lawrence Public Schools if they are teaching CRT and their response was, "I'm not aware of a CRT curriculum for k-12 schools, and I know we don't use one here," said Christopher Markuns. I have spoken to professionals in the system who have told me about the arguments among them.

Letter to Atty. Michelle Tassinari, at the Secretary of State's Office



Some members of the Brian De Peña's campaign committee expressing to Attorney Brian Corrigan their concerns about irregularities and abuses on election day. From the left are: Jaquie Marmol, Pedro Beato, Atty. Corrigan, Brian DePeña, Octavien Spanner and Councilor at-Large Ana Levy.

RE: City of Lawrence Voting Irregularities

Dear Attorney Tassinari:

I represent the Campaign to Elect Brian De Peña (as Mayor of the City of Lawrence). Earlier this week, I met with Mr. De Peña and his campaign staff to discuss numerous constituent complaints of voting irregularity leading up to and during the September 21, 2021 Preliminary Election. The following is a summary:

One of the most common complaints Mr. De Peña received concerned the aggressive employment of unsolicited "assistance" to elderly voters. There were reports of individuals "assisting" multiple voters per day during early voting at Lawrence City Hall and then again at different polls on Preliminary Election Day. One individual, in particular, was seen going so far as to mark the ballot for an elderly voter. Recognizing that the law protects the right of a disabled voter to choose someone to assist in the voting process, the employment of targeted, serial assistance described above crosses the line and cannot be tolerated. City election officials and poll workers must be better educated on this issue to ensure that voters are not being unduly manipulated.

Mr. De Peña received multiple complaints from residents of the Brien Building, an elderly housing facility which also happens to be the District C-3 polling location. Officials from a competing campaign were witnessed on Preliminary Election Day knocking on doors of this facility, instructing residents to vote for certain candidates and/or escorting residents into the polls and assisting them through the entire voting process. This overly aggressive campaign activity may explain the skewed District C-3 results:

Primary Results:
District C-3:
Vasquez: 213 De Peña: 106

Districts C-1, C-2 and C-4:
Vasquez: 503 De Peña: 485

Similar overly aggressive campaign

activity was witnessed at the Valebrook Apartments, the polling location for District B-4, with similarly skewed results:

Primary Results:
District B-4:
Vasquez: 239 De Peña: 104

Districts B-1, B-2, and B-3:
Vasquez: 371 De Peña: 486

Another common constituent complaint concerned the refusal of poll workers to allow provisional ballots. Several constituents were simply turned away from polls where they had voted in previous elections. While this certainly does not suggest any nefarious intent on the part of the poll workers, such disenfranchisement of any voter is simply unacceptable. Poll workers must be better trained to work with voters to ensure that all legitimate votes are counted.

One constituent complained of poll workers at the Guilmette School (District D-2) actually instructing voters for whom to vote.

Finally, a common complaint came from constituents who were unaware of the changes to their customary polling locations and caught by surprise on Preliminary Election Day. City election officials must make a concerted outreach effort to inform constituents in these affected districts. Perhaps signage should be placed at former polling locations on Election Day to direct voters to the new polling locations.

Mr. De Peña wants to participate in a fair election. By bringing the above-referenced irregularities to your attention, the hope is that your office will work closely with City of Lawrence election officials and provide much-needed assistance with training and oversight leading up to and during November 2, 2021, in order to eliminate these irregularities and guarantee such a fair election.

Should you wish to investigate or discuss any of these matters in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Yours truly,

Brian T. Corrigan

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

- Thomas Jefferson



Award-Winning Poet and Writer to Speak at Middlesex CC

As part of the Visiting Writers Series, Middlesex Community College will host poet and writer DeMisty D. Bellinger at an outdoor event. By speaking at the college, she hopes to “show students that writing is a possibility, both as a career and hobby.”

“I want to help them understand the art of writing – and like any other art – its worth of exploration for the sake of beauty alone, as well as commentary,” Bellinger said. “Furthermore, I want them to know that there are writers who are active now, who are living people that create and try to interpret the world in the way that they know how.”

She also wants to emphasize to students the importance of writing as communication, whether it be through poetry and

fiction or in more general ways, such as text messages, emails or articles. “We write to present our perceptions and to persuade others to see the world as we do,” she said.

Bellinger’s event will take place in the Bedford Campus Quad Canopy Tent at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20. A poetry editor at Malarkey Books, Bellinger is also an alumni reader at Prairie Schooner. At Fitchburg State University, she teaches creative writing, African American studies, and women, gender and sexuality studies.

For her work, she has been awarded fellowships and residencies from the Vermont Studio Center, Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference and The Marge Piercy Intensive Poetry Workshop.

Bellinger has published two books of poetry, “Rubbing Elbows” (2017, Finishing Line Press) and “Peculiar Heritage” (2021, Mason Jar Press). Her fiction and nonfiction writing have been published in a variety of literary journals and magazines, including Necessary Fiction, Modern Poetry Quarterly Review, Kweli, The Ekphrastic Review, Diverse Voices Quarterly, Eureka and Forklift, Ohio.

Her poetry, fiction and essays have been included in anthologies, including From



As part of the Visiting Writers Series, Middlesex Community College will host poet and writer, DeMisty D. Bellinger at an outdoor event. The event will take place in the Bedford Campus Quad Canopy Tent at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20.

the Ashes: An International Anthology of Womxn’s Poetry, Best Small Fictions 2019, Nasty Women Poets: An Unapologetic Anthology of Subversive Verse, and Teacher Voice.

MCC Visiting Writers Series is co-sponsored by the Creative Writing Program and the Office of Student Engagement. Contact StudentEngagement@middlesex.mass.edu or call 978-656-3363 or visit <https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/english/creative.aspx> for more information.

There is still time to register for MCC’s Fall Mini-mester session II, starting on Monday, November 1. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/registration/ or call 1-800-818-3434 to register.

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

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 October 16, 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. 2012 Chevrolet Express G3500 VIN 1GB0G3CG6C1184918
2. 2007 Dodge Ram 1500 VIN 1D7HU18277S260581
3. 2006 Volkswagen Passat VIN WVWFU93C26P163712

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

Signed
Frank Coady
Coady’s Towing Service
10/1, 10/8, 10/15

Maintenance Technician Full-Time Position

Based in Manchester, NH, however job locations run from Haverhill, MA to Concord, NH.

Compensation: Competitive, commensurate with experience.

Paid Vacation, Holidays, and Sick Time; Health Plan, Dental, 401k, FSA. Opportunity for Overtime Pay, Paid Mileage, Company Phone.

We support a diverse portfolio of commercial and residential properties in New Hampshire and Northern Massachusetts.

- Must be able to lift 30-50 lbs.
- Must have a valid driver’s license, reliable transportation and a basic set of your own tools.
- Must be able to work overtime in emergency situations.
- Must be available for night/weekend on call duty (rotates among the team).

The primary job responsibilities include:

- plumbing repairs
- repair/replace door hardware/locks, smoke alarms
- repair/replace window screens
- appliance repair and installation
- electrical repairs
- roofing inspection/minor roof repair
- HVAC troubleshooting and filter change
- minor drywall and carpentry repair
- painting
- cleaning/grounds maintenance
- other tasks as needed to maintain property appearance

EDUCATION: A high school education or equivalent is required (college hours preferred). Background screening is required.



Rumbo

“The Bilingual Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley”

www.rumbonews.com

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

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

www.rumbonews.com

¡La Fundación Big Brother Big Sister necesita tu ayuda!



Si tienes ropa usada y pequeños artículos del hogar que ya no usas, dónalos para quienes si los necesitan. Llegaremos a tu puerta para recibir lo que puedas entregar.

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

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

¡Gracias por tu apoyo!



2021-22 Merrimack College Men's Hockey

There's plenty of reasons to be excited when the Merrimack College men's hockey team takes the ice for the first time for the 2021-22 campaign Thursday evening in Rhode Island to battle Providence.

Merrimack returns 20 players from its 2020-21 roster, including all five of its top scorers in the form of Filip Forsmark, Liam Walsh, Alex Jefferies, Declan Carlile and Logan Drevitch. On the back end of the ice, Zachary Borgiel fought and won the starting job in the goal and looks to maintain the job entering the new campaign. The Warriors had an abrupt end to last season after they were red hot entering the final weekend of the Hockey East regular season. Merrimack had won three of its final five games, including a pair of ranked victories and would have had tons of momentum going into the postseason.

A key story line for the team entering the winter are the additions made through the transfer portal. Merrimack scooped up a pair of now former Denver Pioneers, as Steven Jandric and Jake Durlinger both joined the Warriors after long careers for their graduate student seasons and both are expected to be in the lineup against the Friars. The team also solidified its defense core when it picked up Christian Felton from Bentley.

FORWARDS

The Warriors should have some of the best depth at the position that they've seen in years. Forsmark, Walsh, Jefferies and Drevitch return as top scorers, but Jandric has 86 points in 127 career games and Max Newton returns with 50 points in 102 games, including seven points in just nine games last winter after he joined the team in the middle of the season. A few seasons after a massive freshmen class of nearly 20 players came to North Andover, the group is primed for a big season, including a few forwards. Regan Kimens (20 points in 49 career

games), Ben Brar (18 points in 47 games) and Mac Welsher (14 points in 44 games) have a lot of scoring upside and can move up and down the lineup. After he missed the past season and a half with injuries, Jordan Seyfert returns for his senior season and expects to be in the lineup Thursday night as well. Matt Copponi is the lone freshman in the lineup tonight for the Warriors, but Mark Hillier and Devlin O'Brien should contribute throughout the year as well.

DEFENSEMEN

Merrimack returns one of the most experienced defense groups in Hockey East. Zach Uens and Declan Carlile have been a top pair defense group in the league since they first stepped foot on campus two seasons ago and have also both been key offensive contributors with 57 combined points in 96 games. Zach Vinnell emerged last season as a dangerous power play man and should get plenty of minutes along with classmate, Liam Dennison. A couple of newcomers are set to make their collegiate debuts this evening, as Mike Brown and Adam Arvedson are slotted into the lineup against the Friars. Arvedson's Swedish countryman, Ivan Zivlak, should find ice time along with Felton and Kevin Sadovski.

GOALTENDERS

Borgiel topped the team in minutes played last season and appeared in 15 of the team's 18 games. He won four games and had a .883 save percentage to go with a 3.10 goals against average. Troy Kobryn returns after he made a trio of starts last season and has now played in 23 games in his Warrior career. One newcomer joined the goaltending core in the form of Hugo Ollas. The 2020 New York Ranger draft pick has plenty of size at 6' 8", 253 pounds and should contend along with Borgiel and Kobryn for playing time.

Men's Hockey's 2021-22 Schedule Unveiled

FULL SCHEDULE | SEASON TICKETS

The 2021-22 Merrimack College men's hockey schedule was released Tuesday afternoon ahead of the team's season opener in October.

The Warriors play an exhibition game Oct. 2 in Durham, N.H. against the Wildcats before they start their season Oct. 7 with a road contest against Hockey East rival, Providence. Just two days after that, Lawler Rink welcomes back fans for the first time since the 2019-20 season when Sacred Heart pays a visit to North Andover.

Merrimack is set to play seven separate ECAC Hockey members this winter, including a pair in Hamilton, N.Y. against Colgate Oct. 15-16. Six consecutive conference games against in-state foes follow the series against the Raiders, as Merrimack takes on Boston University (Oct. 22-23), defending national champion Massachusetts (Oct. 29-30) and Boston College (Nov. 5-6) in home-and-home series. A road series at Maine (Nov. 12-13) leads into a pair of Thanksgiving week games, as the Warriors take on Holy Cross in Worcester on Nov. 23, then host Union

that Saturday.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

It's almost time for Merrimack hockey again at Lawler!

SCHEDULE:

Connecticut comes to Lawler Rink to open the month of December to open a home-and-home series (Dec. 3-4), then Massachusetts returns to North Andover Dec. 9 for a midweek affair. The stars of tomorrow come to Lawler Dec. 12 for a Sunday afternoon matchup when the Warriors battle the U.S. National Team Development Program U-18 team in an exhibition. The 2021 calendar year is set to close Dec. 17 with a home game against Ivy League foe, Dartmouth.

Four straight non-conference games begin 2022, as Merrimack heads to Yale (Jan. 1) and Brown (Jan. 2), then hosts North Country teams, Clarkson (Jan. 7) and St. Lawrence (Jan. 8). The Warriors return to conference

The Exchange Clubs of the Merrimack Valley present ...

Oktoberfest

Ticket includes **Delicious Oktoberfest Cuisine**
Three (3) Beer Tickets, Mug & Live Music

Sat, October 16, 2021 • 1 - 4 pm

Beer • Food • Music

The Michael B. Christensen Community and Family Support Center (CFSC) is one of 75 National Exchange Club's Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) centers and the only one in Massachusetts. We believe it is important to support parents increase their parenting skills, access community resources and become self-sufficient.

Crescent Yacht Club, Haverhill
30 Ferry Street, Bradford, Massachusetts 01835

\$40 Ticket
Early Bird Price
\$45 ticket of the door

Purchase Tickets at: driveagainstchildabuse.org

NILP
Northeast Independent Living Program

VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING

October 27, 2021 • 5:30 - 6:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

Questions or accommodations contact Sheila at shegarty@nilp.org

Register

Spanish interpreters, CART, and ASL will be available during the meeting.

We look forward to connecting with everyone and celebrating accomplishments! Most importantly, we encourage consumers of NILP to vote for the Board of Directors and ensure a commitment to consumer control.

You may vote in one of the following ways:

- At the annual meeting
- By proxy (authorize someone else in writing to vote on your behalf)
- By absentee ballot if you are unable to attend the annual meeting

Absentee ballots must be received no later than October 22, 2021.

Please reply to this e-mail for an absentee ballot or proxy authorization.

P.S. Although this will mostly be a business meeting, you can join us for fun and festivities at our Reimagined Gala on November 4th, which will be hosted online here: <https://NILPGALA21.givesmart.com>.

We hope to see you at both events!

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.

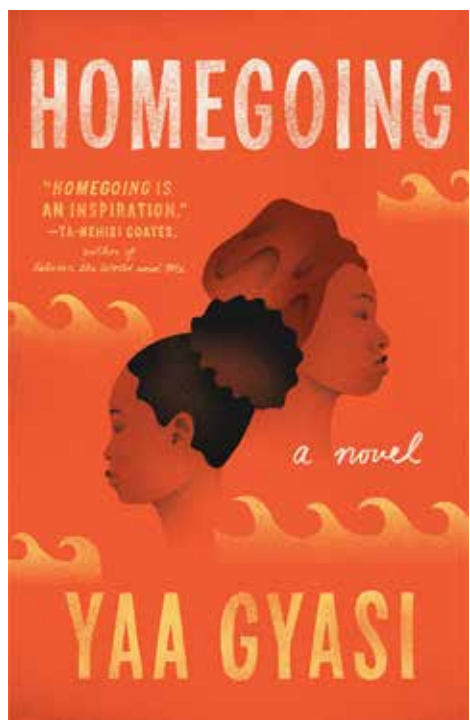
Get your copy now

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.



Meet Author Rita Williams-Garcia

Saturday, October 23, at 2 pm
Ages 8-12 - Virtual

Meet Youth Nashua Reads author Rita Williams-Garcia! She will share what drove her to become an author, her writing process, and how to get published. She's excited to leave some time to answer any questions readers have about Clayton Byrd and One Crazy Summer. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Registration is required to receive an invitation to the Zoom event. Go to tinyurl.com/nashuareads.

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.

Tiempo de Cuentos (Storytime) at Haverhill Library

Tuesday, Oct. 12 @ 3:45 p.m.

We will read, sing, and dance in this 30-minute program for kids 3-5 with their families.

All families welcome -- English and Spanish speakers. To protect your family and our staff, we require masks for all indoor programs.

Masks are required for all patrons aged 2 or older, regardless of vaccination status.

Vamos a leer, cantar, y bailar en español e inglés en este programa de 30 minutos para niños de 3-5 años con sus familias.

Haverhill Public Library, 99 Main St, Haverhill MA 01830. To register, visit haverhillpl.org/kids.

Se requieren máscaras para todos los niños mayores de dos años de edad.

Puerto Rican Art Lecture October 21 at 7 p.m.

Guest Curator Dr. Graciela Trilla of Haverhill, MA will speak about her family's collection of Puerto Rican art works by the artists of the distinguished "Generación de los Cincuenta" (The Generation of the 1950s). Dr. Trilla will tell some of the stories behind the artwork and the themes such as identity, social justice, exploitation and colonization of the island and its people.

This presentation is free and will be in Spanish and English

Buttonwoods Museum, 240 Water Street, Haverhill
978-374-4626 info@buttonwoods.org

Conferencia de arte Puertorriqueño 21 de octubre a las 7 p.m.

La curadora invitada Dra. Graciela Trilla de Haverhill, MA hablará sobre la colección de obras de arte puertorriqueño de su familia por los artistas de la distinguida "Generación de los Cincuenta" (La Generación de la década de 1950). El Dr. Trilla contará algunas de las historias detrás de la obra de arte y los temas como identidad, justicia social, explotación y colonización de la isla y su gente.

Esta presentación es gratuita y estará en español e inglés.

Buttonwoods Museum, 240 Water Street, Haverhill
978-374-4626 info@buttonwoods.org

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mass.gov/vaping @GetTheVapeFacts



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