

### Nativo de Lawrence galardonado Raising the Irish Flag con el Marinero del Barrio



Por el especialista en comunicación de masas de segunda clase Joshua Samoluk, **Asuntos Públicos del USS Constitution** 

Nativo de Lawrence, Massachusetts, el Boatswain's Mate de 2ª clase, Jason Santamaría, fue galardonado como marinero del trimestre a bordo del USS Constitution, el 24 de febrero.

El marinero del trimestre se otorga a un marinero que ejemplifica una dedicación sobresaliente al deber y un desempeño superior yendo más allá de su trabajo asignado.

"A veces necesitas dejar de estar cómodo y superar tus límites", dijo Santamaría.

Santamaría ha servido en la Marina durante seis años, y su lugar de destino anterior fue el portaaviones de propulsión nuclear USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69)

Lawrence High School.

El USS Constitution es el buque de

guerra comisionado a flote más antiguo del mundo y desempeñó un papel crucial en las Guerras de Berbería y la Guerra de 1812, defendiendo activamente las rutas marítimas desde 1797 hasta 1855.

Los marineros en servicio activo estacionados a bordo del USS Constitution normalmente brindan recorridos gratuitos y ofrecen visitas públicas a más de 600,000 personas cada año, ya que apoyan la misión del barco de promover la historia de la Armada, el patrimonio marítimo y crear conciencia sobre la importancia de una presencia naval sostenida. .

USS Constitution quedó invicto en la batalla y capturó a 33 oponentes.

El barco se ganó el apodo de Old Santamaría se graduó en 2014 de Ironsides durante la guerra de 1812 después de que se vieran balas de cañón británicas rebotando en el casco de madera del barco.

## Lawrence native awarded Sailor of the Quarter

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Lawrence High School. **Class Joshua Samoluk, USS Constitution Public Affairs** 

Lawrence, Mass. native, Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Jason Santamaria was awarded Sailor of the Quarter aboard USS Constitution, Feb. 24.

Sailor of the Ouarter is awarded to a

USS Constitution, is the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat, and played a crucial role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

The active-duty Sailors stationed aboard USS Constitution normally provide free tours and offer public visitation to



Mayor Brian DePeña, Bill Sullivan, president of AOH, and City Council President Marc Laplante addressing the friends in attendance. Pg. 5

# NECC anuncia planes para el comienzo de 2022, incluido el orador destacado



Este año, Northern Essex regresará a su ceremonia de graduación tradicional, completa con gaiteros con atuendos escoceses que encabezan la procesión de graduación, un orador de graduación destacado y una recepción posterior a la

ceremonia de graduación con refrigerios, música y oportunidades para tomar fotografías. La ceremonia tendrá lugar el sábado, 14 de mayo a las 11 am bajo una carpa para 2700 personas en el campus de Haverhill. Pg. 11

Sailor who exemplifies outstanding dedication to duty and superior performance by going above and beyond their assigned job.

"Sometimes you need to stop being comfortable and surpass your limits," said Santamaria.

Santamaria has served in the Navy for six years, and his previous duty station was the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69).

Santamaria is a 2014 graduate of

more than 600,000 people each year as they support the ship's mission of promoting the Navy's history, maritime heritage, and raising awareness of the importance of a sustained naval presence.

USS Constitution was undefeated in battle and captured 33 opponents.

The ship earned the nickname of Old Ironsides during the war of 1812 after British cannonballs were seen bouncing off the ship's wooden hull.

Página 4

### **NECC Announces Plans for 2022 Commencement, Including the Featured Speaker**

This year, Northern Essex will return to its traditional commencement, complete with kilted bagpipers leading the commencement procession, a featured commencement speaker, and a post-commencement

reception with refreshments, music, and photo opportunities. The ceremony will begin on Saturday, May 14 at 11 am under a 2,700-person tent on the Haverhill Campus. Pg. 11



**Consequences** of voting Por/By Delia Diaz fraud Always learning... From My Corner Page 16

# \$35 Million Competition to Improve **Teacher Quality**

Program Aims to Recruit, Prepare, Retain and Support Teachers with a Focus on Equity, Diversity, and Increasing the Educator Pipeline

The U.S. Department of Education is posting a Notice Inviting Applications for the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) program, which will award \$35 million to bolster teacher preparation programs at the undergraduate or "fifth-year" level (Pre-Baccalaureate Models), as well as teaching residency programs for individuals new to teaching that integrate relevant academic content and meaningful clinical experience (Residency Models).

"Across the country, we must continue the necessary work of developing a strong, diverse educator workforce for today and tomorrow," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "High-quality educator preparation programs and teacher residencies are integral to this effort. Effective programs have positive effects on teacher candidates-including boosting the likelihood that they will remain in the profession-and they increase the impact that great teachers have on student learning."

In keeping with Secretary Cardona's priorities, this competition also includes four competitive priorities focused on educator diversity; student social, emotional, and academic needs; and student equitable access to opportunities and resources.

Research shows that high-quality residency models like those in the TQP program can expand the pool of wellprepared applicants entering the teaching profession, promote diversity of the workforce, and bring a wide range of experiences into the classroom to support students. In addition, the close partnership

between school districts and colleges required by the TQP program ensures that preparation programs are closely aligned with practice. The Biden-Harris Administration believes that support for high-quality residency programs is a critical part of ensuring that all students have access to well-prepared and qualified educators, as these programs produce teachers who are more effective and likely to stay in the profession than less comprehensive pathways.

Applicants are also encouraged to apply for partnership grants for the establishment of Grow Your Own (GYO) Programs. The Biden-Harris Administration has called for more investment in high-quality teacher preparation, including GYO programs, to strengthen teacher pipelines and address shortages, and increase and support the growth of teachers. As with teaching residency programs, GYO programs can help address teacher shortages by increasing retention rates while also enhancing educator diversity.

Additionally, the Leadership Program priority in the TQP program provides an opportunity for applicants to carry out an effective school leadership program that will prepare individuals for careers as superintendents, principals, early childhood education program directors, or other school leaders.

The Department recognizes the value of supporting educators and is committed to the providing resources and opportunities that lift up the educator workforce.

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# Education Department Announces El Comité Escolar de GLTS vota para hacer que las máscaras sean opcionales para los estudiantes a partir del 7 de marzo

El Superintendente John Lavoie informa que el Comité Escolar Técnico de Greater Lawrence ha votado para modificar el mandato de máscara escolar del Distrito.

Durante su reunión ordinaria de trabaio del martes, 15 de febrero, el Comité votó a favor de revisar la política para hacer que el tapabocas sea opcional para todos los estudiantes a partir del lunes, 7 de marzo.

El 9 de febrero, el Comisionado de Educación, Jeffrey Riley, anunció que el mandato de mascarilla escolar en todo el estado no se renovaría después de que expire el 28 de febrero. La decisión se tomó después de consultar con expertos médicos y funcionarios de salud estatales, y considerando las altas tasas de vacunación y la disponibilidad generalizada de las pruebas de COVID-19 para el personal escolar y los estudiantes.

Como resultado, el uso de máscaras en los edificios escolares volvería a ser una decisión de política local que deben tomar

los comités escolares individuales.

Debido a las pautas estatales y federales, se requieren máscaras:

• En autobuses escolares

• En la oficina de enfermería y clínica en todo momento.

• Para cualquier persona que regrese de la cuarentena, durante 5 días

"Como lo hemos hecho durante la pandemia de COVID-19, nos estamos moviendo con cautela para tomar decisiones informadas teniendo en cuenta los mejores intereses de los estudiantes y el personal. Si esperamos hasta el 7 de marzo, podremos monitorear cualquier aumento en las tasas de positividad después de las vacaciones de febrero", dijo el Superintendente Lavoie. "Continuaremos siguiendo las tasas de transmisión de la comunidad y permitiremos que los datos guíen nuestras decisiones".

Puede encontrar información sobre la escuela y los protocolos COVID-19 en el sitio web de la escuela.

# **GLTS School Committee Votes** to Make Masking Optional for **Students Starting March 7**

Superintendent John Lavoie reports that the Greater Lawrence Technical School Committee has voted to modify the District's school mask mandate.

During its regular business meeting on Tuesday, February 15, the Committee voted to revise the policy to make masking optional for all students beginning on Monday, March 7.

On February 9, Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley announced that the statewide school mask mandate would not be renewed after it expires on February 28. The decision was made after consulting with medical experts and state health officials, and considering high vaccination rates and widespread availability of COVID-19 testing for school staff and students.

As a result, masking in school buildings would revert to a local policy decision to be made by individual school committees.

Due to state and federal guidelines, masks are required:

- On school buses
- In the nurses' office and clinic at all times.

For anyone returning from quarantine, for 5 days

"As we have throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we are moving cautiously to make informed decisions with the best interests of students and staff in mind. By waiting until March 7, we will be able to monitor any spikes in positivity rates following February vacation," Superintendent Lavoie said. "We will continue to follow community transmission rates and allow the data to guide our decisions."

Information about the school and COVID-19 protocols may be found on the School website.

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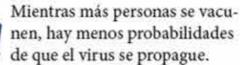




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# **Desde Mi Esquina**

### Consecuencias de cometer fraude electoral

Durante el programa de radio del sábado pasado, el tema fue mi artículo reciente sobre una nueva ley en Massachusetts que otorga licencias de conducir para personas indocumentadas y profundicé en el tema de los no ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos registrados para votar. La ciudad de Nueva York ha estado batallando por la posibilidad de otorgar el derecho al voto no solo a los no ciudadanos que puedan estar legalmente en el país, sino también a los indocumentados. La razón es que viven en la ciudad y pagan impuestos, por lo que deberían tener derecho a votar.

En 2020, la Legislatura Massachusetts aprobó que todos los solicitantes de una licencia de conducir también sean registrados automáticamente como votantes a menos que "opten por no participar" al "marcar la casilla" para detener la provisión automática. La Ley que fue aprobada el pasado 15 de febrero ha eliminado la provisión automática de nuevas licencias, a partir del 1 de julio de 2023, y prohibirá que las licencias se utilicen como identificación de votantes en las urnas.

Existe la posibilidad de que muchos de esos titulares de licencias no tuvieran idea de que los trabajadores sociales de la oficina de asistencia social o incluso los funcionarios del Registro de Vehículos Motorizados los registraron como votantes. Pero también existe la posibilidad de que otros se enteraran de que figuraban como votantes en su ciudad o pueblo y decidieran hacer lo que consideraban su deber.

Ya sea que el voto emitido por un no ciudadano se deba a la ignorancia o a una clara intención de hacer trampa, la ley es la misma. La internet está llena de ejemplos de personas que han sido deportadas por haberlo hecho.

Cuando traigo información a través de Rumbo o en la radio, es como resultado de mi investigación y está demostrado lo común que es. Hay un artículo desgarrador sobre la madre soltera de tres niñas deportada hace diez años y no ha visto a dos de sus hijas que se pudieron quedar atrás porque nacieron aquí.

Como dije, algunas personas votan porque ven que otros lo hacen y al estar en la lista de votantes piensan que está bien. Hay otros casos en los que las personas que saben cómo funciona el sistema, van a votar y no se les pide identificación más allá de algo que muestre una dirección.

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Quería enumerar algunos artículos sobre casos de deportación que encontré, pero en cambio, lo convertiré en otra pieza educativa para todos. Cualquier persona interesada puede encontrarlos en Google.

#### Lo que dice la ley

Hay una página de HG Legal Resources Inc sobre consecuencias para los inmigrantes de cometer fraude electoral que tiene muchos detalles sobre lo que no se debe hacer. He aquí algunos extractos:

"Cuando personas que no poseen ciudadanía en el país participan en eventos de votación, esto podría inclinar los resultados de los candidatos que intentan asumir un cargo. Si bien el sistema de registro para votar posee vulnerabilidades a estas acciones, existen consecuencias estrictas para los inmigrantes que alteran el resultado de las elecciones".

En ciudades como nuestro Merrimack Valley, "Parte del problema con las elecciones al contar los habitantes de un distrito es que algunas de estas personas no son ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos. Algunos son inmigrantes ilegales y otros son aquellos que tienen residencia legal pero aún no han solicitado la ciudadanía dentro del país. Incluso si ninguno de ellos intenta votar, esto aún afecta el resultado según las estadísticas y los números. La capacidad de las elecciones para enfrentar el fraude electoral es grave cuando la inmigración masiva afecta las áreas específicas donde se llevan a cabo estas elecciones. Es importante saber qué causa estos problemas y cómo las consecuencias pueden desempeñar un papel para determinar si se produce un fraude electoral".

Acabamos de tener una redistribución de distritos como resultado del aumento de la población y muchos nuevos residentes han terminado en las listas de votantes debido al antiguo sistema de registrarse al momento de solicitar una licencia de conducir.

Estar en la lista de votantes no es ilegal; el problema es si votan, aunque crean que estaban haciendo lo correcto. Se supone que deben conocer la ley o pedirle consejo a alguien. Si no quiere tener problemas en el futuro, asegúrese de eliminar su nombre de las listas. Alguien más podría venir haciéndose pasar por usted (lo cual sucede) y terminará siendo acusado.

Eliminar nombres de la lista ha sido un problema durante mucho tiempo a menos que la persona vaya personalmente a hacerlo. El exsecretario de la ciudad de Lawrence, Bill Maloney, dijo públicamente muchas veces que el Secretario de Estado no le permite limpiar la lista de votantes.

Ha llegado el momento de buscar los nombres de esos votantes "inactivos" y eliminarlos si no han votado en más de dos elecciones consecutivas. Si vienen a votar algún día, hay un sistema para permitir ese voto y se agregará su nombre.

Entre las sanciones que se enfrentan por votar ilegalmente, según HG Legal Resources están: "Aparte de las multas y el posible tiempo tras las rejas de una prisión estatal o federal, el no ciudadano podría enfrentar la deportación. Si él o ella es un inmigrante ilegal, las autoridades pueden capturar al individuo y asegurarse de que sea llevado a su país de origen de inmediato. Si la persona está legalmente en los Estados Unidos, aún puede enfrentar la deportación como sanción por cometer acciones de fraude electoral. Manipular cualquier elección, ya sea a nivel local, municipal, estatal o federal, es un delito, y la persona generalmente enfrentará graves consecuencias. Es ilegal que cualquier persona que no sea ciudadana participe en la votación, y esto podría ajustar negativamente los números para cualquier funcionario electo".

### CARTAS AL EDITOR RUMBO 315 Mt. Vernon St. Lawrence MA 01843

Email: Rumbo@rumbonews.com

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

También ofrecen un último consejo: "Algunas personas enfrentan cargos penales por fraude electoral cuando son inocentes. Es importante contratar a un abogado para proteger los derechos de la persona en estas situaciones. Muchos casos de supuesto fraude electoral son inexactos y la persona no cometió ningún delito."

### Siempre aprendiendo...

Siempre escuchamos que los miembros de la Corte Suprema son nombrados de por vida, pero acabo de enterarme esta semana que pueden ser acusados y removidos. No estoy abogando por iniciar un movimiento para deshacerme de ninguno de ellos, pero es refrescante saber que existe la posibilidad de arreglar las cosas en caso de que se vuelvan rebeldes.

La Constitución establece que los jueces "desempeñarán sus cargos con buena conducta". Esto significa que los jueces ocupan el cargo por el tiempo que elijan y solo pueden ser destituidos de su cargo por juicio político.

¿Alguna vez un juez ha sido acusado? Quince jueces federales han sido acusados. De esos quince: ocho fueron condenados por el Senado, cuatro fueron absueltos por el Senado y tres renunciaron antes de un resultado en el juicio. El único juez que fue acusado fue el juez asociado Samuel Chase en 1805, acusado de conducta arbitraria y opresiva en los juicios. Después fue hallado inocente por el Senado y sirvió hasta morir en el 1811.



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# Lawrence Irish flag raising March 1, 2022

#### **Photos courtesy of Richard Russell**









## **Greater Commonwealth Virtual School Provides UMass Amherst Students with Virtual Student-Teaching Opportunities**

GREENFIELD -- Director of Teaching and Learning Greg Runyan is pleased to report that the Greater Commonwealth Virtual School played a key role in assisting University of Massachusetts education students with their student-teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The UMass Amherst College of Education offers several teacher preparation programs leading to bachelor's degrees as well as graduate programs leading to a Master of Education, Doctor of Philosophy and Education Specialist degrees.

One of the main components to earning one of these degrees is immersive student teaching experiences with partner schools throughout the region. These placements were put on hold when placement schools switched to remote learning at the height of the pandemic, but UMass students still needed to complete the requirements of their programs.

UMass contacted GCVS during last school year to find to find a solution to this problem. There was a need for studentteacher placements in the areas of English, science, and special education.

GCVS worked to connect UMass' pre-practicum and practicum students with virtual classes in each of these subject areas. Student-teachers were placed in virtual classes at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

GCVS middle school science teacher Jack Czajkowski is a UMass graduate who is an alumnus of the teaching program. Having experienced both the UMass student-teaching program and the virtual school environment, he knew how GCVS was uniquely positioned to help UMass students meet their student-teaching needs during the pandemic.

"So much of student teaching is handson interaction with the kids, and that wasn't possible during the pandemic due to remote learning," Czajkowski said. "But bridging the gap between being able to connect with students and the limitations of remote learning is what the teachers at Greater Commonwealth Virtual Schools specialize in. Our specialized approach to education gives us a unique perspective on not only the value of virtual learning but also how to quickly adapt when students' needs change. This proved to be true to UMass student teachers as well, and we were able to accommodate their varied requirements and responsibilities."

Even during the early stages of the pandemic, Czajkowski saw firsthand the shift in the need for teachers to be comfortable with remote learning.

"It's another tool teachers can have in their toolbox," Czajkowski said. "Being able to communicate with an entire classroom of students in a virtual environment is not easy, as students can become distracted, others may have their cameras off and you can't see their faces, and there can be technical issues as well. Doing your student-teaching through a virtual school will prepare you for a successful career in education, even after the pandemic ends."

GCVS staff worked to ensure that

student teachers preserved connections between the UMass students and the classroom students they worked with, and also the student teachers and the faculty members who mentored them.

One of the UMass student teachers who worked with GCVS during the year was Chrystal Zajchowski, who has since gone on to land a teaching position at a school in the Pioneer Valley.

Zajchowski said she went into college thinking she wanted to teach high school science, but after her experience working with GCVS she found that she preferred to teach middle schoolers. Rather than being a limitation, the virtual environment allowed her to interact with different classrooms in a way she wouldn't have been able to do in a traditional student-teaching setting.

"Student teaching at GCVS was not the conventional way I thought I would be spending my practicum, but I was pleasantly surprised with my experience," she said. "I was lucky and got to experience all three

middle school grades, and many different teaching styles throughout the team, which I believe made me a stronger educator. It was easy to pop into other classrooms and observe, and see what I could adapt into my teaching and what might not fit with my future development as a teacher."

As a first-year teacher there are still many things Zajchowski is adjusting to her teaching style, but through working with GCVS teachers she learned the importance of teamwork and collaboration in the world of education.

"If it were not for my colleagues both at GCVS and the school I teach at now, I would be at a disadvantage in teaching," Zajchowski said. 'My co-workers have become people that I can go to in order to talk about classroom management strategies, student behaviors and curriculum planning. In order to overcome the most difficult year of teaching, I have learned that using your resources, including co-workers, can be your biggest benefit."

### The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & **Education Center**

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

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

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



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# MVRTA elimina las cajas de tarifas y marca el comienzo del servicio de autobús gratuito

(Publicado y tranducido con permiso de WHAV Haverhill)

#### **Por Tim Coco**

De hecho, los pasajeros de la Autoridad de Tránsito Regional del Valle de Merrimack comenzaron a disfrutar de viajes gratis un día antes, como explicó el administrador Noah S. Berger.

"Dije que íbamos a comenzar a obtener tarifas gratuitas el 1 de marzo, pero retiramos todas las cajas de tarifas de nuestros autobuses. ¿Adivina que? Es gratis a partir de ahora", dijo entre aplausos.

Hablando en una ceremonia en el Centro de Transporte de Buckley en Lawrence, Berger señaló que el verdadero costo de cobrar las tarifas incluye los vehículos blindados, la sala de dinero, las cajas de tarifas que cuestan \$35,000 cada una y el tiempo para administrar las monedas de cinco y diez centavos.

Explicó que los autobuses se mueven más rápido y más baratos "sin gente en la fila buscando a tientas monedas de cinco centavos y diez centavos para tirar en la caja de tarifas". Al final, dijo, la Autoridad recibe menos de una cuarta parte por cada dólar en tarifas pagadas, lo que Berger describió como "una forma torpe e ineficiente de generar ingresos".

"Eso no significa que no vamos a generar ingresos. Agradezco a todos mis amigos de Washington, D.C. y Beacon Hill que están aquí porque voy a tener que volver con ellos por dinero, pero no porque no estemos cobrando pasajes", dijo.

Entre esas personas, a quienes se acercará Berger, está la Congresista Lori Trahan. Ella dijo que no puede pensar en una mejor manera de usar los fondos de ayuda de COVID.

"Esto no solo hará que sea más fácil y accesible para las personas aprovechar la MVRTA, sino que también aumentará el número de pasajeros porque más personas verán el valor de subirse a un autobús de la

#### MVRTA", dijo Trahan.

El Congresista Seth Moulton agregó que los autobuses gratuitos también impulsan el desarrollo económico y ofrecen beneficios ambientales. "Cuanta más gente viaje en autobús, más gente en nuestro centro. Queremos más personas en nuestros centros y menos carbono en el aire. Queremos mucho carbono en nuestro acero, no en nuestro aire", dijo.

El Alcalde de Haverhill, James J. Fiorentini, dijo que los autobuses gratuitos también desempeñan un papel importante para cubrir las vacantes laborales. "Esta es una manera de hacer que más personas suban a los autobuses, que más personas tengan trabajo. Cuando salgo al parque industrial, lo primero que me dicen las empresas es que no pueden obtener empleomanía. Y, cuando me dirijo al público, me dicen: 'No podemos llegar allí, alcalde'. Entonces, esto va a generar empleos y oportunidades económicas".

Otros oradores fueron el Senador Barry Finegold, el Alcalde de Lawrence Brian DePeña, la Alcaldesa de Amesbury Kassandra Gove, la Representante Tram T. Nguyen y el Concejal de la ciudad de Haverhill Joseph Bevilacqua y varios pasajeros que dependen del servicio de autobús.

Como informó WHAV en diciembre, los miembros de la junta de la Autoridad de Tránsito votaron unánimemente a favor de un programa piloto de dos años de autobuses gratuitos en todas las rutas fijas locales y servicios de paratránsito EZ Trans. Las tarifas aún se cobrarán en el autobús Boston Commuter. Las tarifas perdidas se están reemplazando con dinero federal de la Ley de Ayuda, Asistenciay Seguridad Económica de Coronavirus y la Ley del Plan de Rescate Estadounidense.





A worker removes the last fare box from a Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority bus. (WHAV News photograph.)

### **MVRTA Removes Fare Boxes and Ushers in Free Bus Service**

(Reprinted and translated with permission from WHAV Haverhill)

#### **By Tim Coco**

Federal, state and local officials were on hand as the last fare collection box was removed Monday morning from local buses, inaugurating free service.

In fact, Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority passengers began enjoying free rides a day early as Administrator Noah S. Berger explained.

"I said we were going to start going fare free March 1st, but we removed all of the fare boxes out of our buses. So, guess what? It's free as of now," he said to cheers.

Speaking at a ceremony at the Buckley Transportation Center in Lawrence, Berger noted the true cost of collecting fares include the armored cars, money room, fare boxes that cost \$35,000 each and the time to manage nickels and dime. He explained buses move faster and cheaper "Without people in line fumbling with nickels and dimes and quarters to throw in the fare box." In the end, he said, the Authority receives less than a quarter for every dollar in fares paid, which Berger described as "a clunky, inefficient way to generate revenue."

"That doesn't mean that we're not going to generate revenue. I thank all of my friends advantage of the MVRTA, but it's also going to increase ridership because more people are going to see the value in jumping on an MVRTA bus," Trahan said.

Congressman Seth Moulton added free buses also boost economic development and offer environmental benefits. "The more people that ride the bus, the more people in our downtown. We want more people in our downtowns and less carbon in the air. We want a lot of carbon in our steel, not in our air," he said.

Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini said free buses also play a role in filling job vacancies. "This is a way to get more people on the buses, more people into jobs. When I go out to the industrial park, the number one thing people talk to me about is they can't get help. And, when I go to people, they say 'We can't get there, mayor.' So, this is going to provide jobs and economic opportunity."

Other speakers included Sen. Barry Finegold, Lawrence Mayor Brian DePeña, Amesbury Mayor Kassandra Gove, Rep. Tram T. Nguyen and Haverhill City Councilor Joseph Bevilacqua and several passengers who rely on the bus service. As WHAV reported in December, Transit Authority board members voted unanimously to a two-year pilot program of free buses on all local fixed route and EZ Trans paratransit services. Fares will still be collected on the Boston Commuter bus. Lost fares are being replaced with federal money from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act and American Rescue Plan Act.

Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority Administrator Noah S. Berger addresses the audience in Lawrence as U.S. Reps. Lori Trahan and Seth Moulton look on. (WHAV News photograph.) from Washington, D.C., and Beacon Hill who are here because I am going to have to go back to them for money, but not because we're not collecting fares," he said.

Among those people, Berger will be approaching, is Congresswoman Lori Trahan. She said she can think of no better way to use the COVID relief funds.

"This is not only going to make it easier and more accessible for folks to take



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# Merrimack College Football Adds to Incoming Class for 2022

NORTH ANDOVER, Mass. - Merrimack College football head coach, Dan Curran, announced a bevy of new additions to the Warriors' incoming 2022 class Friday.

The team added onto an already impressive list of early signees and transfers that were announced earlier in the winter.

### Jack Zergiotis - Montreal, Quebec - Quarterback - 6' 2", 220 LBS -Connecticut

While with the Huskies, Zergiotis played in 13 games with 12 starts and threw for 2,107 yards, 12 passing touchdowns and one rushing touchdown. He also had 418 yards through the air and three touchdowns in his best game against Eastern Carolina. During his high school days in Canada, he was a two-time RSEQ MVP.

Coach Curran on Zergiotis- "Our coaching staff had some familiarity with Jack due to the success he has had at UConn over the past two seasons. His arm talent and athleticism jumps off the screen when you are watching film on him but what really sold the staff on him was his toughness and competitiveness. Jack will be a good fit in our locker room and a great addition our quarterback room."

### Marcus Johnson - Baltimore, Md. - Offensive Lineman - 6' 5", 290 LBS - Saint Frances Academy

Rated a three-star offensive lineman, Johnson had a dominant few years on the line for Saint Frances. He was a two-year starter for the national powerhouse that was ranked as the fourth best high school team in the country.

Coach Curran on Marcus; "Marcus comes to us from St. Frances Academy which is one the top high school football programs in the country. He has a great frame and rare athleticism. He also brings some versatility to the offensive line room being able to play both Guard and Tackle."

### Bryce Ricks - Gaithersburg, Md. - Defensive Lineman - 6' 1", 315 LBS - Quince Orchard

Ricks wreaked havoc on opposing offenses during his time at Quince Orchard. He was a first team 4A All-Montgomery country selection and a three-year starter on the line. He was also a key contributor during the team's 4A state championship run in the fall.

Coach Curran on Bryce; "One of the

was a three-year captain and four-year starter during his high school years. He was named a first team All-New England and first team All-Founders League player and won a New England championship during his time with the Pelicans. Over his career, he had over 2,000 receiving yards and capped his career with 730 receiving yards and nine touchdowns over six games his senior year.

Coach Curran on Chase; "Merrimack has a long standing tradition of elite play at the Wideout position, particularly in the slot, and we believe Chase has all the tools to be a a very good one. He is a talented two sport athlete (basketball) who has a knack for creating separation as a route runner with his quickness and ability to stop and start."

### Bryce Jackson - Nokesville, Va. - Linebacker - 5' 11", 205 LBS -**Brentsville District**

Jackson earned a bevy of accolades during his high school career. He was twice named a Virginia All-State player, earned three defensive all-region selections, one offensive all-region pick, one All-County honor and five all-conference selections as a defensive, offensive and special teams player. During his senior year, he had seven receptions for 138 yards and two scores, 1,282 rushing yards with 24 touchdowns and had 84 tackles, nine tackles for a loss, three sacks and four interceptions on the defensive side of the ball. He ended his time with Brentsville District with 356 tackles, 12 interceptions, five forced fumbles, three sacks, 18 tackles for a loss and 26 total touchdowns.

Coach Curran on Bryce; "Bryce is the definition of a football player....we are projecting him to play our Strike LB position, but he probably could play 3-4 other spots on the defensive side of the ball as well with his instincts, toughness, and nose for the ball. Bryce embodies everything we look for in our student athletes and he is going to be a great fit here."

### Ty Yocum - Reading, Pa. - Tight End/H-Back - 6' 0", 225 LBS -**Exeter Township**

A dominant player on both sides of the ball, Yocum ended his career with 130 carries for 691 yards and 29 touchdowns and 23 receptions for 508 yards and a score. Defensively, he had 246 tackles, 27.5 for a loss and four interceptions. He also received a myriad of awards, as he was named an All-State pick for Pennsylvania, Berks Linebacker of the Year, Berks Defensive Player of the Year, first team All-County and All-League pick and was on Exeter's 5A District 3 championship team. He was also named an All-Academic player. Coach Curran on Ty; "Ty is a throwback player who will project as a TE/H-Back in our offense but was an excellent two way player for Coach Bauer at Exeter Township (PA). He has the ability to dominate at the point of attack as a blocker and also displays soft hands in the passing game. Our staff loves his toughness and the physicality that Ty plays with and we are excited to get him here."

### - Defensive Lineman - 6' 1", 290 LBS - Stonehill

Holland transfers to Merrimack after a successful stint with former NE10 rival, Stonehill. He was named an All-NE10 player, NE10 All-Rookie team member and also found his name on the NE10 Academic Honor Roll and Athletic Director's Honor Roll. On the field, his career includes 86 tackles (27 solo), seven and a half tackles for a loss, five and a half sacks and a forced fumble. His senior season, he had 37 tackles, including 12 solo tackles, four tackles for a loss, three sacks and a forced fumble.

Coach Curran on Rudy; "Rudy is a proven commodity on the defensive line having been a 4 year starter and All Conference player at his last school. He does an excellent job utilizing his hands as a run defender and has the ability to be a two gap defender from the Nose Guard position. Rudy is a humble, hard working young man who we think will be a great fit for the culture of our program"

### Christian Smith - Rumson, N.J. -**Offensive Lineman/Long Snapper** - 6' 2", 270 LBS - Rumson-Fair Haven

A dominant force on the offensive line for Rumson-Fair Haven, Smith helped the team to a pair of state championship game appearances and one state title. A team captain, he was named a first team All-Division, All-Shore and All-Monmouth Country selection. He also was named an All-Jersey Sports Zone player and second team All-Group three pick.

Coach Curran on Christian; "Christian is a proven winner and a big time athlete on the offensive line. He also is ranked as one of the best long snappers in the country coming out of high school and he will have an opportunity to come in and make an immediate impact on special teams. Christian is a talented two sport athlete and an elite student who will be a great addition to the Merrimack College Football Program."

### Tommy Dombo - Washington, D.C. - Offensive Lineman - 6' 3", **300 LBS - Gonzaga College Prep**

A key piece of the Gonzaga offensive line, Dombo was a two-year starter during his high school years. He graduated with two titles, as he was on a pair of WCAC championship teams in 2018 and 2021. He was also named an All-WCAC honorable

Rudy Holland - Forestville, Md. run to a State Championship by making an impact on both sides of the ball. Senior stats include 79 tackles, 7 TFL's, 3.5 sacks, 3 FF on defense, and 76 rushes, 501 yards, 8td's. 2 receptions 44 yards on offense.

> Coach Curran on Rajahn; "Rajahn had an excellent high school career playing on both sides of the ball. We project him to play at the LB position in college and love the versatility that he brings to the table. He also was one of the more impressive young men we met during the recruiting process... he is true student athlete who excels in the classroom and on the field and was a selfless teammate and a natural leader during his time at Red Bank Catholic."

### Kendel Sims - Washington, DC -Linebacker - 6'1" 225lbs - Saint John's College

2 year starter at LB for national power and WCAC Champion St. Johns (DC). Earned 2nd Team All WCAC after a dominant Senior season.

Coach Curran on Kendel; "Kendel is a player we identified early in the recruiting process. We have a great relationship with his high school coach (Pat Ward) and we were really impressed with his film from the shortened spring season. He followed that up with an unbelievable Senior season helping St. Johns to a WCAC Championship. Kendel has the range and athleticism to excel in the passing game and as a sideline to sideline defender, while also still possessing the ability to get off blocks and be physical at the point of attack. A true 3 down LB who could develop into an impact player at the next level."

### Christian Abraham - Montvale, NJ - Defensive Back - 5'10" 190lbs - St. Joseph Regional

3 Star DB out of New Jersey who accumulated over 250 tackles, 13 interceptions on defense and 600 yards rushing to go along with 3 touchdowns in his high school and prep school career.

Coach Curran on Christian: "Christian is player that our staff has recruited for a couple of years now. He is a talented defender who has the necessary skillsets to make an impact on all 3 levels of our defense. I full expect Coach Gennetti to deploy him in a bunch of different ways to take advantage of his speed, athleticism, and nose for the football."

Matthew Nazaire - Union, NJ - Wide Receiver - 6'1", 190lbs -

needs our staff addressed early on in the recruiting process was the need to get more depth and more size along our defensive line and we believe Bryce will be able to address both those areas. He is a big strong interior defensive lineman who has some serious get off and the ability to be an elite run defender at the college level. We also believe Bryce has all the necessary intangibles to develop in a leader in his class and we are excited to work with him this fall."

Chase Collyer - Windsor, Conn. - Wide Receiver - 5' 9", 175 LBS -**Loomis Chaffee** 

A standout for Loomis Chaffee, Collver

mention selection.

Coach Curran on Tommy; "Tommy continues the tradition of Gonzaga College Prep Football pipeline to Merrimack College. He will be the 5th "Zag" in 4 years from Coach Trivers program to don the Blue and Gold starting next fall. Tommy projects as an interior Offensive Lineman at the next level and his toughness, physicality, and intelligence gives him a chance to be a good one at the next level."

Rajahn Cooper - Red Bank, NJ - Linebacker - 6'1" 215lbs - Red **Bank Catholic** 

3 year starter in high school at RB/ LB. Helped spearhead Red Bank Catholic's **Union High School** 

Explosive playmaker that brings rare speed and size to the Wide Receive position. In addition to developing into one of the best Wideouts in the state of New Jersey this past fall, Matt is also one of the top sprinters in the state (100meter/200meter/55 meter). In just 5 games this past fall he was able to accumulate 14 catches 493 yards (24.3 per catch) along with 5 receiving touchdowns, 6 carries for 85 yards rushing, and 1 Kick Return for a touchdown.

Coach Curran on Matt: "Matt comes to Merrimack from NJ powerhouse Union High School which is also the same high

(Cont. on page 9)



### Football Adds to Incoming Class for 2022

(Cont. from page 8)

school as Merrimack Alum and former Captain and All Conference performer Caleb Holden. Matt is a big strong kid who will bring elite speed and will have the chance to develop into a game changer as he continues to learn all the nuances of playing Wideout at the college level. Our staff loves Matt's potential and work ethic and we are excited to work with him the next 4 years."

### Nasir Maryland - Ramsey, NJ -Cornerback - 6'1" 175lbs - Don **Bosco Prep**

A Defensive Back out of New Jersey powerhouse Don Bosco Prep...Nasir developed into a top flight corner putting together an excellent Senior season with 25 Total Tackles, INT, FF, 2PBUs

Coach Curran on Nasir: "Nasir is a long rangy corner who plays a physical brand of football. Despite not having a ton of experience he shows great instincts and excels as a run defender. If you combine those two traits along with Nasir's size and length I think you have all of the ingredients to become a very good corner at the college level. We believe Nasir's best football is ahead of him and our staff is looking forward to developing him."

### Jonas Woods - Milwaukee, WI - Offensive Line - 6'4", 285lbs -Palomar CC

Woods is a Junior College Transfer Offensive Lineman who started the past two seasons for Palomar College. He put together a tremendous Sophomore season earning All County San Diego, 1st team All Conference, while accumulating 28 pancake blocks on the season

Coach Curran on Jonas: "Jonas will have the opportunity to come in and make an immediate impact on the Offensive Line. He is extremely athletic and plays with a mean streak in the run game. He also brings some versatility to the group having the ability to play both Guard and Tackle. Excited to get work with Jonas this summer and we expect him to contribute right away."

Other schools recruited by- Del State, Wagner, Bryant, Davenport, Northern Colorado, Texas A&M Kingsville

### Jack McManus - Wallingford, CT - Tight End/H-Back - 6'2'' 220lbs - Choate Rosemary Hall

The versatile two way player was a 3 year starter and scored over 20 touchdowns in his high school and prep school career. He also contributed over 75 tackles on defense

from his Linebacker spot. This past fall he was named 1st team All Founders League and 1st Team All Nepsac while playing for Coach Spinnato at the prestigious Choate Rosemary Hall School.

Coach Curran on Jack: "Jack fits the exact profile of what we look for at Merrimack for our Tight End/H-Back position. It's a spot that requires athleticism, toughness, intelligence, and a ton of versatility and Jack has all those traits. Similar to other players in our program that have excelled at the H-Back role, Jack is a very good two way player who spent time in high school/prep school making an impact as a receiver, blocker, and a defender."

### Nate Casimir - Ottawa CA -Defensive Back - 5'10" 185lbs -**Clearwater Academy**

A Defensive Back out of Ottawa, CA that played most of his high school career in Florida at Clearwater Acdemy. Nate put together an impressive high school and prep school career with over 85 tackles, 28 interceptions, 14 forced fumbles, 14 tackles for loss, along with 18 touchdowns. His resume also includes being named 1st Team All Conference and Team MVP

Coach Curran on Nate; "Nate was player that we had the opportunity to watch perform in person at our Prospect Day and he did not disappoint. He has tremendous feet, good quickness, and great instincts. But what stood out the most was his competitiveness. Our program's foundation was built on competition and being relentless and Nate embraces both those values and will be a great fit here at Merrimack."

### Damien Williams - Fort Washington, MD - Linebacker -6"1 230lbs - St. Anselm's College

A 3 year starter, All Conference Performer, and Team Captain. Career Stats include 75 Tackles, 10 TFLs, 4 Sacks, 3 PBUs, 1 FF, 1 Punt Block. In addition to his on field success Williams was also impressive in the classroom as well making the Dean's List twice and the Commissioner's Honor Roll during his time at St. Anselm.

Coach Curran on Damien; "Damien will bring experience and leadership to our Linebacker room. We also believe he will be a great addition to our sub package group with his ability as a pass rusher and blitzer. Looking forward to bringing Damien into the fold this summer."

# **Merrimack Valley Chamber Congressional Forum**



The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce held its annual Congressional Forum - A Report from Washington with Congresswoman Laurie Trahan and Congressman Seth Moulton who discussed the issues in Washington, including the attack on the Ukraine, energy, inflation, supply chain, hiring, etc.

The sold-out audience engaged in

questions after the presentations.

The Congressional Forum was sponsored by the MV Chamber's Government Affairs Committee which brings business and government together to work proactively. The next MV Chamber government affairs program will be Mass. State Senators on Friday, March 25, at Salvatore's Lawrence.



(Left to Rich) Merrimack Valley Chamber (MVCC) President/CEO Joseph Bevilacqua; MVCC Vice President Michael Bevilacqua; Congresswoman Lori Trahan; Congressman Seth Moulton; MVCC Government Affairs Chairman Cal Williams.

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### Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

### Youth Writing Workshop

Registrations are now being taken for Youth Writing Workshops for students entering grades 6 through 10. Workshops will be held on a monthly basis on Monday evenings 6 PM to 8 PM at the Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center (the former Asian Center), 439 S. Union Street, Building 2, Level B, Lawrence, MA 01843. The workshops are free for Lawrence residents or \$10 for other towns' residents for each monthly workshop.

Robert Largess will conduct the workshop. He has more than 20 years experience teaching in Boston Public Schools and has taught our successful Summer Youth Writing Program.

Workshops will combine student writing-short stories, poems, essays, and reports - with reading classic stories and poems, and learning a bit about Asian Culture and history, the Ancient Greeks, and the myths and tales of other cultures. Students interested in improving their writing skills should call MVIEC, The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center at 978-683-7316. Check out the MVIEC's website at ww.mviec.org for directions and more details.

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 incedio 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

AS OF JANUARY 2022 STATE REPRESENTATIVES						
Compiled by Carmen García 3 for Lawrence, 3 for Methuen, 2 for Haverhill						
Lawrence		Methuen		Haverhill		
4th Essex (new)		4th Essex (new)		3rd Essex (Andy Vargas)		
	A1, A2 and all of B (B1, B2,	Lawrence:		Haverhill:	all of 1 (1-1, 1-2, 1-3) 2-3	
	B3, B4)		B2, B3, B4)		all of 3 (3-1, 3-2, 3-3)	
Methuen:	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12	Methuen:	Town 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12		all of 4 (4-1, 4-2, 4-3)	
15th Essex	1, 5, 6, 12 are split with	Towns	1, 5, 6, 12 are split with 15th Essex		all of 6 (6-1, 6-2, 6-3) 7-3	
16th Essex (Marcos Devers)		16th Essex (Marcos Devers)		15th Essex (previously Linda Dean Campbell)		
Lawrence:	A3, A4, E2, E3, E4 and all of F (F1,F2, F3, F4)	Lawrence:	A3, A4, E2, E3, E4 and all of F (F1,F2, F3, F4)	Methuen:	Town 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12	
Methuen:	3, 7	Methuen:	Town 3, 7	Town	1, 5, 6, 12 are split with 4th Essex	
17th Essex (Frank Morán)		15th Essex (previously Linda Dean Campbell)		Haverhill: 2-1, 2-2, all of 5 (5-1, 5-2, 5-3), 7-1, 7-2		
Lawrence:	All of C (C1, C2, C3, C4) and All of D (D1,D2, D3, D4) and E1	Methuen:	Town 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12			
Andover:	Town 2, 3, 4	Towns	1, 5, 6, 12 are split with 4th Essex			
Town Ando Ando	•	Haverhill:	2-1, 2-2, all of 5 (5-1, 5-2, 5-3), 7-1, 7-2			

### STATE SENATE

1 for Lawrence, 1 for Methuen, 2 for Haverhill

1st Essex I DiZoglio)	District (previously Diana
Lawrence:	All of Lawrence
Methuen:	All of Methuen
Haverhill:	1-1, 1-2 (some parts), 1-3 (some parts) 2-2 (some parts) and 2-3 3-1, 3-2 (some parts), 3-3 (some parts) 5-1 (some parts) 6-1 (some parts), 6-2 (some parts)

2nd Essex & Middlesex District (Barry Finegold)

All: Wilmington, Tewksbury, Andover, Merrimac, Amesbury

Haverhill: 1-2 (some parts), 1-3 (some parts) Part of: North Andover, Haverhill (see below) 2-1, 2-2 (some parts) 3-2 (some parts), 3-3 (some parts) all of 4 (4-1, 4-2, 4-3) 5-1 (some parts), 5-2, 5-3 6-1 (some parts), 6-2 (some parts), 6-3 all of 7 (7-1, 7-2, 7-3)



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# NECC anuncia planes para el comienzo de 2022, incluido el orador destacado



Haverhill y Lawrence, MA (28 de febrero de 2022): durante los últimos dos años, Northern Essex Community College tuvo que cambiar drásticamente su tradicional celebración de graduación debido al COVID-19.

En el 2020, durante el apogeo de la pandemia, los estudiantes fueron invitados a conducir por el campus y recoger enseres de celebración, seguido de una graduación virtual en una fecha posterior.

Y en 2021, se llevaron a cabo cinco ceremonias de graduación más pequeñas, que permitieron el distanciamiento social.

Este año, Northern Essex regresará a su ceremonia de graduación tradicional, completa con gaiteros con atuendos escoceses que encabezan la procesión de graduación, un orador de graduación destacado y una recepción posterior a la ceremonia de graduación con refrigerios, música y oportunidades para tomar fotografías. La ceremonia tendrá lugar el sábado, 14 de mayo a las 11 am bajo una carpa para 2700 personas en el campus de

Haverhill. "Se siente tan bien volver a la

'normalidad' después de los últimos dos años", dijo Lane Glenn, presidente de

Northern Essex. "Sabemos lo importante que es para nuestros estudiantes cruzar la etapa de graduación y recibir su merecido diploma. Ellos y sus familias aprecian el esplendor de nuestra ceremonia tradicional, que podrán volver a vivir este año".

#### Orador de graduación de este año

El orador destacado de este año será el Dr. Eric Dickson '88.

El Dr. Dickson ahora es médico y director ejecutivo de UMass Memorial Health de Worcester, el tercer sistema de atención médica más grande de Massachusetts, que emplea a más de 16,500 personas, pero, a fines de la década de 1980, era un estudiante de atención respiratoria en Northern Essex, que no estaba seguro de qué dirección tomaría su futuro y abierto a orientación.

El Dr. Daniel Coleman de Andover, neumólogo y asesor médico del Programa de Atención Respiratoria de la universidad durante los últimos 35 años, reconoció el potencial del joven y le sugirió que considerara convertirse en médico.

"Él (el Dr. Coleman) fue la primera persona en mi vida que me recomendó que fuera a la escuela de medicina y me convirtiera en médico. Su mera sugerencia en ese momento inició la trayectoria de mi carrera, que culminó en mi puesto actual... Siempre estaré agradecido por el aliento del Dr. Coleman que me llevó a donde estoy hoy".

Después de obtener su título de asociado en atención respiratoria de Northern Essex en 1988, obtuvo una maestría de la Universidad de Harvard y un título de Doctor en Medicina (M.D.) de la Facultad de Medicina de la Universidad de Massachusetts.

Además del orador destacado, habrá un orador estudiantil seleccionado por la facultad y el personal, y se entregarán premios, incluido el premio a los alumnos destacados, el Premio a la justicia social y el Emérito.

Para obtener más información sobre la 60<sup>a</sup> ceremonia de graduación anual de Northern Essex, visite el sitio web http:// www.necc.mass.edu/graduation.

Northern Essex Community College tiene campus en Haverhill y Lawrence. Ofrece aproximadamente 60 programas de certificados y títulos asociados, así como cientos de cursos sin crédito diseñados para el enriquecimiento personal y el crecimiento profesional. Cada año, 6,000 estudiantes se inscriben en programas de certificados y títulos asociados de crédito en los campus de Haverhill y Lawrence; y otros 2,000 toman clases de desarrollo de la fuerza laboral y educación comunitaria sin crédito en el campus, y en negocios y sitios comunitarios en todo Merrimack Valley. Para obtener más información, visite el sitio web en www. necc.mass.edu o llame al 978-556-3700.

## NECC Announces Plans for 2022 Commencement, Including the Featured Speaker

Haverhill and Lawrence, MA (February 28, 2022)-For the past two years, Northern Essex Community College had to dramatically change its traditional commencement celebration, due to COVID-19.

In 2020, during the height of the pandemic, students were invited to drive on campus and pick up celebration packages, followed by a virtual commencement on a later date.

And in 2021, five smaller commencement ceremonies, allowing socially distancing, were held.

This year, Northern Essex will return to its traditional commencement, complete with kilted bagpipers leading the commencement procession, a featured commencement speaker, and a post-commencement reception with refreshments, music, and photo opportunities. The ceremony will begin on Saturday, May 14 at 11 am under a 2,700-person tent on the Haverhill Campus.

"It feels so good to return to "normal" after the past two years," said Lane Glenn, Northern Essex president. "We know how important it is to our students to walk across the commencement stage and receive their well-earned diploma. They and their families appreciate the pageantry of our traditional ceremony, which they will be able to experience again this year." pulmonologist and medical advisor to the college's Respiratory Care Program for the past 35 years, recognized the young man's potential and suggested he consider becoming a physician.

"He (Dr. Coleman) was the first person in my life who recommended that I go to medical school and become a doctor. His mere suggestion in that moment started my career trajectory, which culminated in my current role...I'll always be grateful for Dr. Coleman's encouragement that led me to where I am today."

After earning his associate degree in respiratory care from Northern Essex in 1988, he went on to get a master's degree from Harvard University and a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree from the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

In addition to the featured speaker, there will be a student speaker selected by faculty and staff and awards will be presented including the Outstanding Alumni Award, Social Justice Award, and Emeritus.

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

**Rumbo** "The Bilingual Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley" WWW.**rumbonews**.COM

> The Exchange Club of Haverhill presents the 20ch Анниаl Rick Barry Sc Dacrick's Òay Celebracion

### Thursday, March 17, 2022 Haverhill Country Club

Doors Open 7:00 am Breakfast Buffet & Networking 7:30 am \$40 per person / \$350 table of 10

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#### This Year's Commencement Speaker

This year's featured speaker will be Dr. Eric Dickson '88.

Dr. Dickson is now a physician and CEO of Worcester's UMass Memorial Health, the third-largest health care system in Massachusetts, employing over 16,500 individuals, but, in the late 1980s, he was a respiratory care student at Northern Essex, who was unsure of what direction his future would take and open to guidance.

Dr. Daniel Coleman of Andover, a



The Exchange Club of Haverhill works to make our community a better place to live through programs of service in Americanism. Community Service, Service to Youth, and our national project, the Prevention of Child Abuse.

#### Amozius Opporcunicies & Tickees

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## TakeControlofYourOnlinePrivacy March 2022 Events at (Very Important!)

#### **By Connor Boyack**

Do you have one of these on your computer? (See the photo below.)

I was thinking the other day how sad it is that we've all gotten used to the idea that we can literally be spied on by the government, by Big Tech, etc... to the point where we put post-it notes or other coverings over the camera.

Some other thoughts... Did you know:

1. That your internet service provider is legally allowed to watch and record everything you do online, and they can sell your "private" browsing history?

2. Google tracks everything you do online without your knowledge or consent, and they use this information to influence you — and they are extremely good at it.

3. Hackers have compiled a database of your online activities, which they then may use against you.

We often receive emails from parents in our Tuttle Twins community asking how they can fight back against Big Tech and Big Brother.

So I asked my friend Glenn to put some suggestions together.

He's a privacy expert and offers educational seminars to give practical, bite-sized measures we can take to protect ourselves. I've asked him to show the Tuttle Twins community how we can protect ourselves against the three points above, and much more.



(Don't worry if you are not a computer whiz. Glenn's content is specifically designed for non-techy people.)

I'm doing a joint webinar with Glenn this Wednesday evening and wanted to invite you to attend to learn some practical things you can do to have more privacy:

5 Ways to Protect Yourself from Big Tech, Big Brother and Thieves Who Spy on You Without your Consent. Wednesday, March 2nd 7:00 p.m. CT (8 ET/6 MT/5 PT)

In my day job, we often get laws changed to protect our right to privacy, but these efforts don't mean much if people aren't willing to take some basic steps to actually protect their own privacy.

Glenn's the right guy to help walk us through some simple steps and offer some actionable tips you can do, pretty simply, to protect your online privacy.

Consider joining Glenn and I Wednesday night to learn. Be sure to register here so you don't miss out!

Connor Boyack is the author of The Tuttle Twins Series.



We will accept any vehicle running or not Tax deductible 100% of the proceeds will go to help saving the lives of people needing

# Lawrence Heritage Sate Park

Lawrence Heritage State Park is located at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts. All programs are free and open to the public. Bring water. Wear sturdy closed toe shoes. Consider sunscreen and insect repellent. An adult must accompany children. Inclement weather cancels outdoor programs. Reasonable accommodations upon advance request. For more information send email to nicole.mcgovern@mass.gov https://www.mass.gov/locations/lawrenceheritage-state-park. Parking is free in the Visitor Center Park Parking Lot between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

### Visitor Center Open daily, 9:00am- 4:00pm

Come learn about the history and development of Lawrence, Massachusetts, one of the nation's first planned industrial city. The 22-minute film shows on request. Visit the Gallery for temporary art and historical exhibits. Located at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

### "Irish Heritage Month" by **Division 8 of the Ancient Order of** the Hibernians

### Open daily, 9:00am- 4:00pm

Celebrate Irish Heritage Month with Lawrence's Division Eight Ancient Order of Hibernian. Come see part of the largest collection of Irish books, media, and memorabilia on the East coast and participate in honoring the first wave of immigrants to ever come to Lawrence. In the third-floor community room, enjoy speeches from Rich Padova (March 6, @ 2pm), Joe Blanchet (March 13, @ 2pm), and an Irish film festival (March 19, @ 10am). Located on the third floor of the Visitor Center at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

### **Discovery Table Open daily, Self-Guided, 9:00am-**4:00pm

Exploring Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitor Center? Play a game of Find & Seek Bingo, color a picture of Lawrence's history, or weave your own placemat. Come check out what we have at our Discovery Table and find something for all ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Located in the lobby of the Visitor Center at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

### **Guided Museum Tour** Daily, Upon Request, 9:00am-4:00pm

Explore our permanent exhibit about

the planned city of Lawrence and its role in American industrialization, immigration, and labor history, with emphasis on waterpower and the textile industry. All ages. Meet in the lobby of the Visitor Center at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

#### Kidleidoscope

Wednesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 10:30-11:30am

A fun program for ages 3-6, accompanied by an adult. Program includes a story and activity. Whenever possible, activities will be outdoors. In case of bad weather, activities will be in the Community Room, with social distancing. No shared materials/ items. Siblings and friends welcome. Meet in the lobby of the Visitor Center at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

### Walk to the Great Stone Dam Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 10:00-11:00am and 2:00-3:00pm Thursdays, March 3, 10, 17, 10:00-11:00am and 2:00-3:00pm

Join us for a walking tour of Lawrence's historic mill district, through Pemberton Park, and leading to the base of the Great Stone Dam while learning about the waterpower system for the textile mills. Weather permitting. Best for ages 13 and above. Meet in the lobby of the Visitor Center at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

### **Dog Walks Along the Canal** Fridays, March 4, 11, 18, 2:00-3:00pm

Already walking your dog? Does your dog love other dogs? Bring your fourlegged best friends on a walk along the canal to Pemberton Park. Socialize your dog and enjoy the views of this historical city. Weather permitting. Dogs must be dog friendly and on leash. Meet on the front deck of the Visitor Center at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Stephanie Cooper, the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr.

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### Call us at 1-800-385-0422 or donate online at www.RealEstate4Kidneys.com

### **Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce**

Business Awards Breakfast- Buy Your Tickets! March 11, 2022, 7:30-9:30 a.m. Atkinson Country Club

The Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce will hold its Annual Business Awards Breakfast on March 11, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., at the Atkinson Country Club, 85 Country Club Drive, Atkinson, NH. The business awards breakfast will honor over twenty businesses, nonprofits, and individuals who exemplify the highest ideals of civic engagement. With over 320 members, the Greater



Haverhill Chamber of Commerce is a leader in the Merrimack Valley, promoting economic development, arts and education, strong neighborhoods, and lively political discourse. The Chamber's commitment to diversity and inclusion is at the core of its mission. Tickets for the Business Awards Breakfast may be purchased by logging on to the Chamber's website at www.haverhillchamber.com. For more information, contact Kate Martin at kate@haverhillchamber.com or George Moriarty at president@haverhillchamber.com.

# Multicultural Watercolors on Display at Nashua Library





"Faces in Watercolors," an exhibit of portraits by Kavitha Chandrasekaran, is on display in the Nashua Public Library in March and April.

The works include depictions of a diverse collection of people from Africa and Asia. There are also a couple of portraits of pets, because, Chandrasekaran says, "Painting fur is something I love to do."

From a young age, Chandrasekaran has been fascinated with different cultures and ethnicities, and that is reflected in her work. "When traveling is challenging, it is a treat to see people from around the globe on one gallery wall." She painted some of Those Eyes

her portraits from photos found on Instagram.

Chandrasekaran

Akha

attempts to capture the story behind the portrait, through her interpretation of the emotion in the eyes and every small detail in jewelry or a headdress. She especially enjoys creating family portraits that include relatives who no longer live with them.

#### Self-taught

Chandrasekaran has a master's in human physiology but when it comes to art, she is self-taught. She has enjoyed drawing and crafts since childhood. Feeling lonely and bored when she moved to Nashua three years ago, she picked up her brush again. Since then, she has

not missed a day of painting.

#### Meet the artist

The exhibit can be viewed anytime the library is open. You can meet the artist at a reception on Thursday, April 14, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The library is located at 2 Court Street. Visit nashualibrary.org/about/directions for directions and parking information.

Artists wanting information about exhibiting at the library should contact Holly Klump at holly.klump@nashualibrary.org or 603-589-4633.

### **Squanicook Colonial Quilt Guild Provides Comfort and Warmth to Patients at Merrimack Valley Hospice**



Members of the Squanicook Colonial Quilt Guild recently donated 21 handcrafted quilts to High Pointe House in Haverhill, one for each patient suite at the hospice and palliative care residence of Merrimack Valley Hospice.

According to Susan Houde, cocoordinator of the Squanicook Colonial Quilt Guild's Quilt Cupboard, the organization is comprised of more than 100 members from northern and central Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. Monthly meetings take place at the VFW in Pepperell, while open sews and workshops are held at the Pepperell Community Center.

Patterns, fabric and other supplies are stored at the Groton Senior Center, which is also the site of monthly meetings, open sews and workshops offered by the Quilt Cupboard. While some members complete quilts independently, others work in teams to piece tops, machine quilt and bind the quilts.

"We have amazing, talented and generous quilters," said Houde, noting that more than 200 quilts and baby blankets were donated to individuals and area agencies in the past year alone. "Our members are very involved with sharing their quilting skills, providing quilts for comfort to members of the community and inspiring hope and healing through quilting."

Director of Hospice Services Linda Miller, RN said generous community supporters such as the Squanicook Colonial Quilt Guild assist Merrimack Valley Hospice in its mission to provide compassionate care to patients as they face life-limiting illnesses with peace and dignity.

"These quilts are beautiful gifts from the heart that will wrap patients and their family members in comfort," Miller said, "much as we do as clinicians."

Merrimack Valley Hospice is a notfor-profit agency providing comfort care and supportive services to patients nearing the end of life and bereavement services to their families and loved ones. Together with Home Health VNA, the agencies provide a full continuum of home health and hospice care in more than 110 communities throughout northeastern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire and southern Maine as York Hospital Hospice. For more information, visit MerrimackValleyHospice. org.

### Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce

Team Haverhill's Possible Dreams March 14, 2022, 7 p.m. Online Event



Team Haverhill's annual Possible Dreams event is back this year with the theme Small Steps-Big Impact. This community conversation provides an opportunity to meet new people, discover more that Haverhill has to offer and shape the future of our community by sharing and incubating new ideas.

**Rain Barrels** 

### 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

#### Now through March 30, 2022

YThe city of Haverhill is offering rain barrels for residents this year. The cost is \$30 per barrel and the deadline to order is March 30. Click on the link below and select "Haverhill" to order yours.

LEARN MORE



"We don't go into journalism to be popular. It is our job to seek the truth and put constant pressure on our leaders until we get answers."

— Helen Thomas

# Just Starting Out? Jumpstart | Seed Swap and Virtual Gardening **Your Financial Future**

Learn to budget, build credit, and save for retirement at Jumpstart Your Financial Future, a series of virtual workshops offered by the Nashua Public Library for ages 17 to 30.

The programs will help you achieve financial prosperity and independence. They are free, but registration is required to get Zoom invitations. Register at tinyurl.com/ nplmoney.

All workshops are presented by the Babson Financial Literacy Project in partnership with the Tewksbury Public Library. They start at 7 p.m.

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

### Tips and Tricks for Managing **Your Credit**

Credit cards are convenient and can help you build your credit profile, but they

can also be a trap. Learn to manage them and avoid their hidden costs. Wednesday, March 2

### Managing Your Money to Build **Your Best Life**

This workshop will help you learn to budget your money and start building a nest egg for your future. Wednesday, March 16

#### **Decisions! Decisions!**

New job? You need to decide how much to put into your retirement account, which investments to choose, and which health insurance plan is best for you. Wednesday, April 6

#### **Protecting You and Your Assets**

This workshop will help you organize and prepare for adult life, which may feel overwhelming!

Mi abuelo me dijo una vez que hay dos tipos de personas: los que hacen todo el trabajo y los que se llevan el mérito. También me dijo que debo estar en el primer grupo; hay menos competencia.

My grandfather once told me that there were two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition.

- Indira Gandhi

### **Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Gold Star Family Needs Help**

February 28, 2022

Good afternoon friend:

The Chamber is moving forward with assisting the family of the late Marine Corps Sergeant Johanny Rosario Pichardo who volunteered to be stationed in Afghanistan to screen women and children at the Hamid Karzai Airport and was killed by a terrorist attack on August 26, 2021 along with 12 other brave service members.

The Chamber is helping to organize the effort to improve the home her family has purchased in Lawrence. It was the dream of Johanny to support her mom and sister financially by servicing her country and we can help by donating our time, building materials, or finances to assist in this effort.

If you are able to make a donation, please send a check made out to the Merrimack Valley Chamber Foundation and put on the subject line: Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo Home Project. 100% of the funds received will be applied to the house rehabilitation and/or given to the family for home related expenses.

As noted in the first e-mail, the home is in the process of being purchased at 23 Durant Street, Lawrence and is in need of repairs and improvements. In addition to donations, any interested contractors, home improvement suppliers, etc. interested in volunteering their time and/or donating needed building equipment or supplies, so that we can together provide the Pichado family with a fully renovated house at no cost to them (the family has used their funds to purchase the home) is also greatly needed, If you can help in any way, that is also much appreciated.

# **Lecture at Nashua Library**



Multiple varieties of seeds were available at an earlier Nashua Public Library seed swap. This year's event will take place from February 28 to March 6.

The Nashua Public Library will hold a seed swap in the Chandler Memorial Wing from Monday, February 28, until Sunday, March 6.

#### Why swap seeds?

The idea behind a seed swap is to grow plants in your garden, save the seeds, and bring them back to share with others the following year. Saving seeds year after year makes them better adapted to our locale.

If you have seeds to share, drop them off in the Chandler Memorial Wing by February 28. Seeds should be viable (not too old), labeled with their names and growing instructions, and preferably packaged in small quantities. If you don't have seeds to share, come anyway and take some home so you can share next year.

You will also be able to pick up information on seed saving, seed starting, and local agricultural programs; check out books from a gardening display; and enter a raffle for antique flower prints.

### Learn to grow good soil

On Thursday, March 3, at 7 p.m., join the library's virtual lecture, "The Soil Food Web," with Diane Miessler.

Diane Miessler, a certified permaculture designer with over 50 years of gardening experience, is the author of "Grow Good Soil." Her talk will cover easy ways to maintain soil health in your own garden, basic composting techniques, and compost

Register for the Zoom by going to bit. ly/soil2022. It's all free

Both events are free and open to the public. The seed swap is sponsored in partnership with the Nashua Garden Club.

The library is located at 2 Court Street, Nashua. For directions and parking information go to nashualibrary.org/about/ directions. For more information contact Holly at holly.klump@nashualibrary.org or 603-589-4633.

## Library Sets Goals for 2022-2024

Over the last seven months, Nashua Public Library staff and trustees took some time to step back from their day-to-day work and set goals for the coming three years.

They surveyed the public, staff, and trustees; talked with focus groups; and held retreats for staff and trustees to answer the question, What does Nashua want and need from its library? As a result of this data gathering, and analysis of demographic data, they decided to focus on three strategic directions:

Welcoming and comfortable: Make the library a trusted, safe place that is inviting, easy to use, and a hub of community activity.

Learning and culture: Support community members in living enriched lives by connecting them to learning

staff are working on an action plan that identifies what services, policies, and other resources are needed to meet those nine goals. For example, under the "Welcoming and comfortable" strategic direction, library staff will work toward the goal of "Serving as a welcoming community-gathering place for every member of the community" by implementing technology that will help staff communicate with customers who speak languages other than English.

The three-year action plan for carrying out the strategic plan will be completed later this spring.

### **Read the plan**

The complete strategic plan includes st of all the goals, the results of the surveys and focus groups, and a profile of the Nashua community. You can read it at https://www.nashualibrary.org/ wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Strategicplan-2022-2024-.pdf. Amanda Standerfer of Standerfer Consulting facilitated development of the plan.

Please feel free to call me at 978 204 2758, or e-mail Chamber President Joe Bevilacqua assist and/or any questions you may have.

Thank you in advance,

Mike Sullivan Chairman **Board of Directors** 978-204-2758 (C)

Joe Bevilacqua President/CFO **MVCC** 978-686-0900

opportunities throughout their lifetime in an equitable and inclusive way.

Collaborative and connected: Integrate the library into the community to achieve high awareness, meaningful partnerships, and recognition of its value.

For each of these directions, three long-term goals were set. Now library

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

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

- Thomas Jefferson



Youth and adult winter classes are listed online. Register today! Many classes fill up in just a day or two. We've highlighted a few classes below

#### Intro to Monotype with a Twist

Expand your ideas of what is possible in printmaking! Students learn to create beautifully layered images using monotype plates, stencils, relief plates, and the intaglio process. First, the instructor will introduce a new relief process using Sintra, a PVC flat material used in sign making. Then, students will carve into the Sintra to create relief prints with a Twist! Students will experiment with this new material and use stencils and collage elements to create unique works on paper. The class is designed for the beginner and the more experienced printmaker. Come, learn the tools of the printmaker and the unique qualities of Akua inks.

Thu | Mar 3-Apr 7 | 10:00 AM-2:00 PM 6 Sessions Ages: Adults (16+) | \$360 | Kathy Reming

#### Drawing the Portrait in Charcoal

Students will learn to see the relationship of values, angles, proportions, and edges in this class. Basic handling and sharpening of charcoal and how to create a wide value range will also be taught. All levels are welcome.

Mon | Mar 7-Apr 11 | 6:30 PM-8:30 PM 6 Sessions Ages: 14 yrs. to 99 yrs. | \$170 | Margie Carrier

#### **Elements of Drawing**

This beginner's drawing class is full of tips to improve your art. Learning the basics—how to create shapes, lines, and shadows—will help you advance your skills and draw like a pro!

### Mon | Mar 14-Apr 11 | 4:30 PM-6:00 PM 5 Sessions

Ages: 10 yrs. to 16 yrs. | \$110 | Ricardo Nassif

Our spring class session will run for 8 weeks (4/18/22 - 6/18/22). Stay tuned! Enrollment will begin March 8th.

Don't miss Marla L. McLeod's solo exhibition! Her work is on view through March 17, 2022.

February Vacation Week (Feb 21-Feb 26)

### **Gallery Hours**

Monday 9:00AM-12:00PM Tuesday 9:00AM-6:00PM Wednesday 9:00AM-4:00PM Thursday 9:00AM-4:00PM Friday 9:00AM-3:00PM Saturday 1:30-4:00PM

### It's easy finding **Rumbo** (978) 794-5360







Faith Ringgold's Tar Beach encourages children to soar high and follow their dreams.

February Vacation Week at Essex Art Center has me feeling all the feels.

It's so rewarding to see our classrooms and galleries filled with young artists and witness their creativity on display. Plus, I'm part of a passionate and dedicated team that makes the magic happen every day. So, after an exceptional week, I feel compelled to share some well-deserved gratitude.

Thank you, Maria (EAC's Director of Education + Community Outreach). Your work with teachers and community partners ensures that students have enriching classroom experiences and leave with a sense of pride and new skills. Whether the learning takes place in our studios or at one of our partner sites, you always find the best teacher for each learning opportunity.

Thank you, Mariana (EAC's Admin + Communications Coordinator + Faculty). Your ability to multi-task is so impressive. On any given day, you gracefully juggle teaching, designing, photographing, and sharing the activities taking place at the Center. Your skillset is diverse, and we are lucky to have you.



Big thanks to each and everyone one of our Faculty. You plan such thoughtful activities that inspire students to see and connect with the world in new ways. On Wednesday, Miss Lisa read the magical story Tar Beach by acclaimed African American artist Faith Ringgold. Then, she walked her students through Marla L. McLeod's exhibition, whose garments contain beadwork that spell out some of Ringgold's famous sayings. Through these experiences, students learned the power of using their voices and saw how one artist can inspire another.

And thanks to all of you! Essex Art Center is a VERY SPECIAL community because of all the people who teach, create, learn, volunteer, and support the magic that happens in our galleries and maker spaces every day. Thank you for being a part of our community.

#### Monica

P.S. Check out the photos below to see some of the magical moments Mariana captured this week.

Boston Celtics take on Donovan Mitchell and the Jazz!

Enjoy an exciting night with your family, friends and/or reward your business associates!

ONLY \$65 EACH - in the Balcony Section 309!



### READ PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF RUMBO ON OUR WEBSITE **RUMBONEWS.COM**

BY DALIA DÍAZ daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

#### LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

# From My Corner

# Consequences of committing voter fraud

During last Saturday's radio show, the subject was my recent article about a new law in Massachusetts granting driver's licenses for undocumented individuals and I delved into the issue of non-citizens of the United States being registered to vote. The city of New York has been battling about the possibility of giving the right to vote not only to non-citizens who may be legally in the country, but to undocumented people, as well. The rationale is that they live in the city and pay taxes so they should be entitled to vote.

In 2020, the Massachusetts Legislature approved that all applicants for a driver's license also be automatically registered as voters unless they "opt-out" by "checking the box" to stop the automatic provision. The Act that was approved last February 15th, has removed the automatic provision for new licenses, effective on July 1, 2023, and will prohibit the licenses to be used as voter identification at the polls.

There is the possibility that many of those license holders had no idea they were registered as voters by the social workers at the welfare office or even the officers at the Registry of Motor Vehicles. But there is also the chance that others found out they were listed as voters in their city or town and decided to do what they considered their duty.

Whether the vote cast by a non-citizen was due to ignorance or clear intent to cheat, the law is the same. The internet is full of examples of people who have been deported for having done so.

When I bring any information through Rumbo or on the radio, it's as a result of my research and it has been demonstrated how common it is. There's a heart-wrenching article about the single mother of three girls deported ten years ago and she hasn't seen two of her daughters who were left behind because they were born here.

As I said, some people vote because they see others do it and being on the voter's list think it's OK. There are other cases in which people who know how the system works, go and vote they will not be asked for identification beyond something showing an address.

I wanted to list some articles on deportation cases that I found but instead, I'll make it another educational piece for everyone. Anybody interested can google counting inhabitants in a district is that some of these individuals are not citizens of the United States. Some are illegal immigrants, and others are those that have legal residency but have not sought citizenship within the country yet. Even if none of them attempt to vote, this still affects the outcome based on statistics and numbers. The capacity for elections to face voting fraud is serious when mass immigration affects the specific areas where these elections take place. It is important to know what causes these issues and how the consequences may play a role in determining if voter fraud occurs."

We just had a redistribution of districts as a result of population increase and many new residents have ended up on the voting rolls due to the old system of getting registered at the time of applying for a driver's license.

Being on the voters' list is not illegal; the problem is if you vote, even if you think you were doing the right thing. You are supposed to know the law or ask someone for advice. If you don't want to run into trouble in the future, make sure that your name is deleted from the rolls. Someone else could come claiming to be you (which happen) and you will end up being accused.

Removing names from the list has been a problem for a long time unless the individual goes personally to get it done. The former Lawrence City Clerk Bill Maloney said publicly many times, that the Secretary of State won't allow him to clean up the voter list.

The time has come to search for the names of those "inactive" voters and remove them if they have not voted in more than two consecutive elections. If they come to vote someday, there's a system to allow for that vote and his or her name will be added.

Among the penalties faced for illegally voting, according to HG Legal Resources are: "Other than fines and possible time behind state or federal prison bars, the noncitizen could face deportation. If he or she is an illegal immigrant, the authorities may seize the individual and ensure he or she is taken to his or her home country immediately. If the person is in the United States legally, he or she may still face deportation as a penalty for committing voter fraud actions. Rigging any election whether on a local, city, state or federal level is a crime, and the person usually will face serious consequences. It is illegal for any noncitizen to take part in voting, and this could negatively adjust the numbers for any elected official."

They also offer one last piece of advice, "Some individuals face criminal charges for voter fraud when they are innocent. It is important to hire a lawyer to protect the rights of the person in these situations. Many instances of supposed voter fraud are inaccurate, and the target did not commit any crime."

"Resolvamos ser dueños, no víctimas, de nuestra historia, controlando nuestro propio destino sin dar paso a sospechas y emociones ciegas".

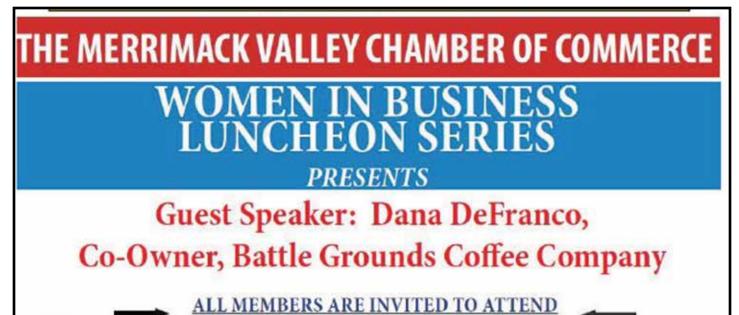
"Let us resolve to be masters, not the victims, of our history, controlling our own destiny without giving way to blind suspicions and emotions."

— John F. Kennedy

THE MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Savings Bank

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### 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.

### Always learning...

We always hear that the members of the Supreme Court are appointed for life but, I just learned this week that they can be impeached. I'm not advocating starting a movement to get rid of any of them but it's refreshing knowing that there's a possibility to straighten things out should they go rogue.

The Constitution states that Justices "shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour." This means that the Justices hold office as long as they choose and can only be removed from office by impeachment.

Has a Justice ever been impeached? Fifteen federal judges have been impeached. Of those fifteen: eight were convicted by the Senate, four were acquitted by the Senate, and three resigned before an outcome at trial. The only Justice to be impeached was Associate Justice Samuel Chase in 1805, charged with arbitrary and oppressive conduct of trials. He was later acquitted by the United States Senate and served until his death in 1811.

## it. What the law says

There's a page from HG Legal Resources Inc on Immigrant Consequences of Committing Voter Fraud that has lots of details about what not to do. Here are some excerpts:

"When individuals that possess no citizenship in the country partake in voting events, this could skew the results for officials attempting to take office. While the registration system for voting does possess vulnerabilities to these actions, there are strict consequences of immigrants that alter the outcome of elections."

In cities such as our Merrimack Valley, "Part of the problem with elections when



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