

Junio/June 22, 2022

EDICIÓN NO. 820

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

Mantente fresco para cuidar tu corazón cuando el calor es extremo Pg. 14

## Playing ball with the Red Sox



The Boston Red Sox hosted an event in Lawrence as part of Major League Baseball's "Play Ball" initiative looking to inspire youth to play the game.

The event, took place on June 12, as a baseball clinic with the Boston Red Sox at South Lawrence East Field at 165 Crawford Street in Lawrence, for participants of the Red Sox Foundation's R.B.I. program that

recently expanded into Lawrence.

Hosted in partnership with Lawrence community leaders and students of Lawrence High School, activities included Live DJ, Games, and visits from Wally and Tessi.

The event is free but requires advance registration at [redsox.com/RBI](http://redsox.com/RBI).

"Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love!"

Sitting Bull

## Merrimack Valley



Ocho equipos participaron en Lawrence desde New Jersey, Boston, y Lawrence el pasado domingo, 19 de junio.

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## Celebrando Semana Hispana 2022



See more pictures on page 5.

## El Banco de Alimentos cambia de liderazgo

La junta directiva del Merrimack Valley Food Bank votó unanimemente para ascender a la subdirectora Debbie Callery a directora ejecutiva y crear el puesto de directora de crecimiento para Amy Pessia. El conocimiento interno de Debbie sobre el MVFB y el conocimiento externo de Amy sobre la comunidad crearán un crecimiento positivo e impactante para el MVFB en los próximos años y décadas

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Amy Pessia and Debbie Callery

## Food Bank changes leadership

The board of directors of the Merrimack Valley Food Bank voted unanimously to promote Assistant Director Debbie Callery to Executive Director and to create the Director of Growth position for Amy

Pessia. Debbie's internal knowledge of the MVFB and Amy's external knowledge of the community will create positive and impactful growth for the MVFB for years and decades to come."

Pg. 6

# Merrimack Valley

Ocho equipos participaron en Lawrence desde New Jersey, Boston, y Lawrence el pasado domingo, 19 de junio.



## ¿Dónde quiere vivir cuando sea anciano?

¿Desea tener la independencia económica para decidir, o quiere andar de casa en casa siendo una carga adicional para sus hijos o terminar en un asilo de ancianos?

**Llámeme, yo puedo ayudarlo a tener el control en su vejez.**

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## El Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts publica un aviso actualizado sobre mascarillas

El Departamento de Salud Pública (DPH, por sus siglas en inglés) publicó una guía actualizada sobre el uso de mascarillas y cubiertas faciales en el Commonwealth. Reconociendo que Massachusetts es un líder nacional en tasas de vacunación con más del 84 por ciento de los residentes elegibles completamente vacunados y más de la mitad de los adultos reforzados, y a la luz de las mejoras recientes en los indicadores de COVID-19, a partir del 1 de julio de 2022, la nueva guía recomienda que las máscaras en el interior son opcionales para la mayoría de las personas, independientemente del estado de vacunación.

Los residentes de Massachusetts tienen fácil acceso a vacunas, pruebas rápidas y terapias: todos los recursos necesarios para prevenir enfermedades graves y los datos de COVID de Commonwealth muestran que estas herramientas funcionan.

“Para proteger a los amigos y familiares, se recuerda a los residentes que recibir una vacuna y un refuerzo siguen siendo la mejor manera de protegerse contra enfermedades graves u hospitalizaciones por COVID-19”, dijo la comisionada de Salud Pública, Margaret

Cooke. “Con base en nuestros esfuerzos de vacunación líderes en el país, el DPH ahora recomienda que los residentes de Massachusetts tengan la opción de tomar una decisión personal sobre el uso de una máscara o una cubierta facial en entornos interiores, independientemente del estado de vacunación”.

Todas las personas en Massachusetts (independientemente del estado de vacunación) deben continuar usando máscaras o cobertores faciales en ciertos entornos, incluso en los centros de atención médica. DPH continúa recomendando máscaras para personas con un sistema inmunitario debilitado, aquellos con mayor riesgo de enfermedad grave debido a la edad o condiciones subyacentes, o que tienen un miembro del hogar con un sistema inmunitario debilitado y con mayor riesgo.

Visite [www.mass.gov/maskrules](http://www.mass.gov/maskrules) para obtener una lista completa de los lugares en los que sigue siendo necesario cubrirse la cara. Hoy, también se ajustaron los requisitos estatales para las cubiertas faciales en ciertos entornos de atención colectiva.

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health Releases Updated Mask Advisory

The Department of Public Health (DPH) released updated guidance regarding the use of masks and face coverings in the Commonwealth. Recognizing that Massachusetts is a national leader in vaccination rates with over 84 percent of eligible residents fully vaccinated and over half of adults boosted, and in light of recent improvements in COVID-19 indicators, effective July 1, 2022, the new guidance advises that masks indoors are optional for most individuals, regardless of vaccination status.

Massachusetts residents have ready access to vaccines, rapid tests, and therapeutics – all the resources needed to prevent severe illness and the Commonwealth’s COVID data shows these tools work.

“To protect friends and family members, residents are reminded that getting a vaccine and booster remain the best way to protect against serious illness or hospitalization from COVID-19,” said

Public Health Commissioner Margaret Cooke. “Based on our nation-leading vaccination efforts, DPH now recommends that Massachusetts residents have the option to make a personal choice about wearing a mask or face covering in indoor settings regardless of vaccination status.”

All people in Massachusetts (regardless of vaccination status) are required to continue wearing masks or face coverings in certain settings, including in health care facilities. DPH continues to advise masks for individuals with a weakened immune system, those at increased risk for severe disease because of age or underlying conditions, or who have a household member with a weakened immune system and at increased risk.

Visit [www.mass.gov/maskrules](http://www.mass.gov/maskrules) for a complete list of venues where face coverings remain required. Today, state requirements for face coverings in certain congregate care settings were also adjusted

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## Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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## Segura

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POR DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

# Desde Mi Esquina

## ¿Es hora de luchar o rendirse?

No, no estoy instigando a la violencia, pero a veces recibo destellos de engaño que me hacen creer que estoy sola en esta comunidad luchando por lo que es correcto.

Llevo tanto tiempo quejándome a través de esta columna de las condiciones de las escuelas, la violencia, la falta de seguridad, e incluso el maltrato a los trabajadores de las cafeterías cuando se atrevían a presentarse ante los oficiales de Lawrence Education Alliance, había un pequeño grupo de unos 20. La Junta escuchó cortésmente su explicación, pero era muy obvio que los trabajadores no obtuvieron ningún respeto por parte de ellos.

Ni una sola vez he recibido una llamada de un parent, maestro o administrador de las escuelas.

He estado solicitando documentos bajo la Ley de Libertad de Información sobre la enseñanza de estudios de género y CRT y se niegan a dármelos. Mencioné situaciones similares en otras ciudades, solo para concluir que Lawrence tiene lo que se merece: una comunidad a la que no le importa tiende a ser abusada por el sistema.

La mediocridad de nuestros vecinos se nota en las exigencias que le hacen al alcalde en su programa de radio de los sábados. Arreglar baches y pavimentar calles laterales son las quejas más comunes. Otras personas que llaman insisten en la difícil situación de los trabajadores de las cafeterías escolares o en recuperar las escuelas del control estatal.

Parece como si no escucharan cuando habla de su falta de control sobre las escuelas. Le pregunté al alcalde hace unos días cómo se siente acerca de que la gente no escuche cuando explica su situación. Sé cómo se siente porque durante 17 años luché contra Lawrence Community Access Television (LCAT) hasta que me rendí. Empecé a pensar: "Si a nadie le importa, ¿por qué debería hacerlo yo?"

No quiero renunciar todavía a la enseñanza de los estudios de género y relaciones raciales en las escuelas porque está afectando a toda una generación y alguien debería defender su educación, pero los padres y toda la comunidad deben involucrarse y exigir saber qué está pasando.

Luego, me encontré con un intercambio de Facebook que no sabía que estaba ocurriendo. Pude reconocer los nombres de los miembros actuales y anteriores del Comité Escolar, en su mayoría mensajes de la Dra. Marianela Rivera. Los escritores estaban enojados por muchas cosas, aunque el tema principal fue el despido de unos 20 maestros del sistema escolar.

¿Ahora le preocupa que los buenos maestros sean despedidos? ¿Es su protección laboral más importante que lo que los niños están aprendiendo? Estaban tan indignados que incluso escribieron una carta al Gobernador Charlie Baker y al Comisionado Jeffrey Riley que no había visto antes. La publiqué aquí por si les interesa leerla.

Si este grupo que participa en esta conversación está tan preocupado, ¿cómo es que no se unen con los ayudantes de

maestros, los trabajadores de las cafeterías, la oficina del alcalde y yo?

Sí, puedo ser una voz para ellos, y juntos podríamos exigir lo que se necesita. El Concejo Municipal ya le dio a la Superintendente Cynthia Paris un voto de No Confianza.

Algún día la gente entenderá lo que hemos perdido con LCAT y mis razones para rendirme en esa lucha. Por favor, luchemos por nuestro sistema escolar.

Estoy cansada de gritarle al viento...

## No puedo esperar hasta la próxima semana

Estoy planeando escribir unas notas de la celebración de la Semana Hispana para la próxima edición pero hay algo que no puede esperar y es mi reseña de la administración del Alcalde Brian De Peña porque algo quedó muy claro este fin de semana.

He tenido conversaciones con él sobre la necesidad de hacer cumplir ordenanzas como infracciones de tránsito, multas de estacionamiento, medidas de recolección y reciclaje de basura, ruido fuerte, etc. Su respuesta siempre es la misma: no quiere ser una carga para la comunidad. Insisto en que la única forma de enseñar a los infractores es a través del bolsillo.

La ciudad es un desastre, no hay dónde estacionarse en el centro comercial porque se niega a multarlos por las horas extras y estamos como antes de que se instalaran los parquímetros.

La sesión de quejas más reciente se produjo este fin de semana cuando el ruido del Campagnone estaba rompiendo chimeneas de piedra en el sur de Lawrence. Además, la gente fumaba pipas de agua (hookas) al aire libre (y quién sabe qué más).

Se han tomado medidas energéticas contra el uso de hookas en lugares públicos con fuertes multas impuestas a individuos y establecimientos y ahora se les permite hacerlo en público.

Digo "permite" porque fue en presencia de policías. ¿Les dijeron que no emitieran multas?

Señor alcalde, usted no puede ser amigo de todos. Esta ciudad es un desorden y cuando intente poner orden, los críticos van a salir. El Departamento de Policía necesita comenzar a multar a las personas por infracciones de tránsito, estacionamiento en doble fila y violación de los parquímetros.

El Servicio de Inspección también debe hacer cumplir sus reglas. Además, deberíamos tener inspectores trabajando desde el viernes por la noche hasta el fin de semana. La cantidad de construcción de mala calidad que se lleva a cabo en esos días es suficiente para generar un ingreso considerable para la ciudad en multas por infracciones. El Cuerpo de Bomberos es consciente del peligro que esto representa. También será una buena manera de controlar el desarrollo de casas de huéspedes ilegales.

Está haciendo un trabajo satisfactorio, según el público en general, pero a menos que se ponga fuerte en estos asuntos tendrá un gran lío en sus manos.



## CARTAS AL EDITOR RUMBO

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

# Carta enviada a las autoridades para devolver el control de las escuelas a Lawrence

Estimado Comisionado Riley, B.E.S.E y Gobernador Baker:

Nosotros, los residentes, educadores, estudiantes, votantes y legisladores preocupados de la delegación de Merrimack Valley estamos escribiendo para solicitar el fin de la administración judicial de las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence. Desde 2011, la reestructuración forzada del plan de estudios, el personal y los programas de DESE no ha logrado abordar las necesidades de los estudiantes en la ciudad de Lawrence. La pandemia agudizó las inequidades inherentes a una comunidad empobrecida y muy diversa, como se evidencia de las siguientes maneras:

-A medida que persisten los problemas de hacinamiento y supervisión, ha habido un fuerte aumento en los incidentes de violencia en Lawrence High School y otras escuelas del distrito. Los estudiantes de Lawrence tienen derecho a sentirse seguros cuando van a la escuela.

-Se han enviado notificaciones de la escuela primaria a los padres instándolos a mantener a los estudiantes en casa para recibir instrucción remota debido a la escasez de personal. Los niños de Lawrence tienen derecho a aprender en persona y en sus comunidades escolares.

-Las tasas de rotación de maestros son mucho más altas que en otras ciudades similares. Las amplias vacantes en todo el distrito han significado que muchos estudiantes pasen semanas, incluso meses, sin tener un maestro de clase constante. Los estudiantes de Lawrence merecen la oportunidad de establecer relaciones con educadores profesionales capacitados.

-Las escuelas de Lawrence están siendo

impulsadas por un plan de estudios de preparación de exámenes mecanizado que aleja a los estudiantes del aprendizaje auténtico. Los estudiantes de Lawrence merecen un aprendizaje alegre y culturalmente apropiado, impulsado por la investigación.

-Los graduados de la Escuela Secundaria Lawrence a menudo deben usar dólares de la Beca Pell en cursos de recuperación sin crédito para acceder al trabajo de nivel universitario. Los graduados de Lawrence merecen una educación que los prepare para la universidad.

-La Sindicatura ha fallado incluso por la propia definición limitada de logro de DESE: datos MCAS. Los estudiantes, educadores y padres de Lawrence no están definidos por los puntajes de las pruebas.

-Por último, pero importante, la Sindicatura ha disminuido el papel de la facultad, el personal, los padres, los estudiantes y el comité escolar electo en el gobierno y la administración de su distrito escolar. El distrito de las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence debe volver a estar completo.

Esto significa restaurar los plenos derechos democráticos del Comité Escolar de Lawrence.

Significa que las personas que trabajan para las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence tienen todas las protecciones garantizadas por la Ley General 150 de Massachusetts como miembros de una unidad de negociación, las mismas protecciones que extendemos a todos los demás distritos del Valle de Merrimack.

La política de "el padre sabe mejor" de la Sindicatura en la Ciudad de Lawrence no se puede cumplir por más tiempo.

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Producción de Luis Piñeyro

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# Escenas de la Semana Hispana 2022 en Lawrence



Shannon Liss-Riordan attended the Parade and she is here being supported by Francisco Paulino, candidate for State Representative, District 16. Also supporting Shannon is Richard Rodriguez, director of ADA in Lawrence.

According to another supporter,

police officer Richard Brooks, "Shannon is widely recognized as one of the nation's top plaintiffs' class action employment lawyers. For more than 20 years, Shannon has brought and won groundbreaking lawsuits that have shaped the law protecting workers in the food service, cleaning, adult entertainment, trucking, and other industries. She is currently representing workers in a number of cases against "gig economy" companies that save on labor costs by misclassifying employees as independent contractors. A graduate of Harvard Law School and Harvard College, Shannon co-founded Lichten & Liss-Riordan, P.C. in 2009. Previously she was a partner at a plaintiff-side employment and union law firm in Boston where she worked for more than 10 years. As Attorney General, Shannon will ensure that the law works for working people."

# El Banco de Alimentos del Valle de Merrimack anuncia un cambio emocionante en el liderazgo

(13 de junio de 2022) - Con gran entusiasmo, Merrimack Valley Food Bank desea anunciar una reorganización del personal que garantizará que la organización tenga la infraestructura para crecer y prosperar en el futuro. El presidente de la junta, Jimmy Good, afirma: "Nuestra junta directiva votó unánimemente para ascender a la subdirectora Debbie Callery a directora ejecutiva y crear el puesto de directora de crecimiento para Amy Pessia. El conocimiento interno de Debbie sobre el MVFB y el conocimiento externo de Amy sobre la comunidad crearán un crecimiento positivo e impactante para el MVFB en los próximos años y décadas".

"Aprecio la confianza de la junta en mí y estoy emocionado de tener la oportunidad de liderar una organización que he llegado a amar durante los últimos 11 años. Espero continuar mi trabajo en el banco de alimentos y asumir nuevos desafíos y responsabilidades. Es un privilegio trabajar con nuestro personal, la junta y las organizaciones a las que servimos, quienes creen en nuestra misión de combatir el hambre", exclama Debbie Callery. Amy Pessia agrega: "Estoy encantada con la oportunidad de concentrarme en mantener relaciones con los actuales socios y simpatizantes del Banco de Alimentos e iniciar otras nuevas. Mi parte favorita de

estar en el Equipo del Banco de Alimentos es aumentar el apoyo y la conciencia sobre la inseguridad alimentaria y el papel de MVFB para combatirla. Hemos crecido exponencialmente durante los últimos 31 años y he tenido la suerte de ser parte de la familia del Banco de Alimentos durante más de 20 años, como voluntario/miembro de la junta, Director Asistente y Director Ejecutivo".

El Merrimack Valley Food Bank (MVFB) comenzó en 1991 y se mudó a su ubicación actual en 735 Broadway Street en Lowell, Massachusetts en 1995. El MVFB proporciona alimentos a un promedio de casi 70,000 personas cada mes a través de asociaciones con más de 100 agencias miembro que operan 156 programas de alimentación en casi 30 comunidades en Massachusetts y New Hampshire.

Si desea obtener más información sobre el banco de alimentos de Merrimack Valley, visite [www.mvfb.org](http://www.mvfb.org).

## Merrimack Valley Food Bank announces an exciting change in leadership

It is with great excitement that the Merrimack Valley Food Bank would like to announce a staff reorganization that will ensure that the organization has the infrastructure to grow and thrive well into the future. Board President Jimmy Good states, "Our board of directors voted unanimously to promote Assistant Director Debbie Callery to Executive Director and to create the Director of Growth position for Amy Pessia. Debbie's internal knowledge of the MVFB and Amy's external knowledge of the community will create positive and impactful growth for the MVFB for years and decades to come." "I appreciate the board's confidence in me, and I am excited to have the opportunity to lead an organization I have grown to love over the last 11 years. I look forward to continuing my work at the food bank and to taking on new challenges and responsibilities. It is a privilege to work with our staff, board, and the organizations we serve, all of whom believe in our mission to fight hunger," Debbie Callery exclaims. Amy Pessia

adds, "I am thrilled with the opportunity to focus on maintaining relationships with current partners and supporters of the Food Bank, and initiating new ones. My favorite part of being on the Food Bank Team is increasing support and awareness of food insecurity and MVFB's role in fighting it. We have grown exponentially over the last 31 years and I have been blessed to be part of the Food Bank family for over 20 years, as a volunteer/board member, Assistant Director and Executive Director."

The Merrimack Valley Food Bank (MVFB) began in 1991 and moved into its current location at 735 Broadway Street in Lowell, Massachusetts in 1995. The MVFB provides food to an average of nearly 70,000 individuals each month through partnerships with more than 100 member agencies that operate 156 feeding programs in nearly 30 communities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

If you would like more information about the Merrimack Valley Food Bank, please visit [www.mvfb.org](http://www.mvfb.org).



**"Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive."**

**"El amor y la compasión son necesidades, no lujos. Sin ellos, la humanidad no podrá sobrevivir."**

Dalai Lama



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it has  
caused a lot of  
problems in  
this world,  
but it has not  
solved one yet.

- Maya Angelou

# Lazarus House Ministries (LHM) – Calls four new Board Members

## In step with launch of new 3-year Strategic Plan for growth

Lazarus House Ministries welcomes four new board members and celebrates newly appointed roles within the board that will strengthen the team as they forge ahead with an aggressive 3-year Strategic Plan for the nearly 40-year-old Ministry. With the guidance of the governance team, the LHM board is intentionally becoming racially, geographically and vocationally diverse in order to bring different perspectives and provide for more excellent and collaborative leadership during this phase of growth.

The new members come from 4 different towns and bring a wealth of experience and heart for the people Lazarus House serves. The board welcomed Pastor Joseph Garon (Haverhill), Hazel Navarro (Dracut), John O'Connor (Reading) and Gregory Spurr (Andover).

Further, Ms. Riley Quinn Doherty (Windham) was elected President of the Board. Ms. Quinn Doherty brings vast leadership and organizational experience from her executive and management roles at Staples. Currently VP and GM of Furniture, and has been involved with Lazarus House for over 23 years. Ms. Quinn Doherty said, "I have been involved here (LHM) in a multitude of different projects and roles, and I am honored to have been given the responsibility to serve in this capacity for this season."

Todd Johnson (Tewksbury) who is taking on the Vice President Role has been serving at Lazarus House since he went to high school and was taught by Lazarus House founder Brother Tom Petitte. Todd told us, "I volunteered then and have continued a forty year affinity to support the mission of addressing need in our own backyard. Along the way, my family and friends have joined in. I feel especially compelled to help alleviate homelessness and food insecurity in the city I grew up in. I'm honored to do so from a different vantage point now."

Lazarus House also thanks Paul MacDonald and Andrew Armata for their years of service on the board.

### TOWN-SPECIFIC CONTENT: Pastor Joe Garon (Haverhill)

Pastor Joe is thrilled to part of the Lazarus House Board and shared, "Absolutely! I'm excited for the opportunity to be part of such great work. I had always heard about the amazing work at Lazarus House Ministries. I am Central Catholic H.S. grad class of 1991 and we often heard about Lazarus House. My parents always spoke highly of the Ministry as well and they have served and donated there for years. I have a lot of food industry experience through my management roles at Market Basket that I hope will be helpful in planning new, more efficient and even more dignified ways to serve our Guests." Pastor Joe left the food industry to work full time in his calling as Campus Pastor for Granite United Church in Lawrence and in that role he said "I have ministered to many people who have been blessed by Lazarus House and the reputation of that ministry grew in my heart and mind. I am so happy to be here and I look forward to being an encouragement to the team by speaking life into each of them and by lifting high the name of Jesus alongside this passionate team."

**Hazel Navarro, LICSW / Founder of Human Heart Connection (Dracut)**

Hazel Navarro is a psychotherapist licensed in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She earned her B.A. (Psychology) from the University of Notre Dame and a Master of Social Work Degree from Boston University. She has worked in hospitals, clinics, and community settings including at Lazarus House Ministries as case manager helping Guests manage stress, process trauma, and work toward their life goals. In July 2021, Hazel opened her own private practice, Human Heart Connection in Tyngsboro, MA specializing in mental health and wellness for leaders, especially those in the healing professions. Hazel says of her new role at Lazarus House, "I hope to give voice to the needs of the leaders who take care of the Guests. It is important to listen to staff members and keep them healthy and motivated so that they in turn, can take good care of our Guests."

### John O'Connor (Reading)

Now retired, John is the former

Executive Vice president of Fidelity Investments and brings a wealth of knowledge to his new role on the Board. He will serve on the Development Committee and share his experience as Lazarus House ramps up fundraising to meet aggressive Strategic Plan goals. John has a long-time connection to Lazarus House and along with his parents volunteered in the Soup Kitchen many years ago with Brother Tom.

### Gregory SPURR (Andover)

Greg Spurr has been involved with volunteer work and non-profits in Lawrence since 2005 and started helping out at the Lazarus House Soup Kitchen in 2007. He says "I have always admired how Lazarus has been able to help those who are struggling to find adequate food and housing. I am looking forward to supporting the mission and employees of Lazarus House so that we can provide more services to our Guests in the years to come."

Links: Lazarus House Ministries - Lazarus House Ministries  
Our Board of Directors - Lazarus House Ministries

Donate Now - Lazarus House Ministries

**Lazarus House Services:** Our aim is to provide what is needed most by families and individuals facing material poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity in the areas of Shelter, Clothing, Food, Advocacy and Community Resources. These core Ministries work simultaneously to provide emergency care, family enrichment, holistic programming, hope for a good future, and life skills to gain independence and sustain self-sufficiency. The people we serve are our Guests – cherished, beloved, and treated with the utmost in respect, dignity, and care. We believe that every Guest deserves the chance to thrive.

**Lazarus House Mission:** To honor God in our work by serving every person we encounter with dignity and respect. We offer community, food, shelter, clothing, and advocacy services with an open and non-judgmental heart.

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a children's trust program

Are you passionate about making an impact for children and families?

**Healthy Families is looking for YOU!**

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**One-time 6% increase for bilingual candidates**

MSPCC, a division of Eliot, is seeking passionate, creative and motivated professionals to be home visitors in our Healthy Families program. Healthy Families is a parenting education program that supports young, first-time parents to create a stable, nurturing environment for their child. We offer comprehensive health and vacation benefits, tuition reimbursement, and extensive training that will prepare you for an Early Childhood or Human Services career!

Successful candidates will have a minimum of a high school or equivalent diploma as well as experience working directly with children and families from culturally diverse communities.

---

**Responsibilities Include:**

- Schedule, plan and complete home visits with families on your caseload in accordance with the scheduling needs of families
- Provide parenting education to families using curriculum in the following areas: parent child interactions, parent and child safety, parent and child health, child development, anticipatory guidance and positive discipline, healthy relationships, healthy pregnancy, labor and delivery
- Complete screening and assessments for the child and family, including developmental questionnaires and mental health screens
- Develop a goal plan in collaboration with each family
- Connect families to community resources and provide appropriate referrals

**Full Time - Monday through Friday; present combination of in-person and remote work**

**High School or equivalent: \$17/hr; Bachelor's: \$18.02/hr**

To apply, scan the QR code below or visit: [eliotchs.org/careers/](http://eliotchs.org/careers/)

# Chancellor Jacquie Moloney honored as a champion of entrepreneurship education

UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacquie Moloney has been honored for her role in founding the Deshpande Symposium for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Higher Education. Now in its 11th year, the international conference is dedicated to integrating entrepreneurship education and opportunities into campus life at colleges and universities across North America.

Moloney, the first woman to lead UMass Lowell, received the Deshpande Symposium Founders Award at the 11th annual Deshpande Symposium, held this week in Cleveland, Ohio. She co-founded the conference with partners from the Deshpande and Burton D. Morgan foundations.

"I am profoundly grateful to receive this honor from my peers. Through this symposium, together, we expand opportunities for students to think and respond like entrepreneurs on their way to becoming our next generation of leaders," said Moloney, who shared the Founders Award this year with co-recipient Deborah Hoover, the Morgan Foundation's president. Among leading other foundation initiatives, Hoover has been instrumental in bringing entrepreneurship programs to liberal arts college campuses across northeastern Ohio.

The event, which annually draws hundreds of educators, business professionals, government and nonprofit leaders, advances how colleges and universities drive research, entrepreneurship, business growth and economic vitality in their respective communities. UMass Lowell operates three business incubators and a student entrepreneurship program, while the Deshpande Foundation supports sustainable, scalable social and economic impact through innovation and entrepreneurship, and the Morgan Foundation champions the work of entrepreneurs of all ages across northeastern Ohio.

This year, conference participants explored the impact higher ed institutions have on regional economic and social ecosystems as well as the opportunities collegiate entrepreneurship programs create to diversify the professional talent pool and foster greater equity and inclusion in the workplace.

Offering their insights on these issues were keynote speakers Renu Khator, chancellor of the University of Houston system, and Philip Gaskin, vice president of entrepreneurship at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

Leaders from historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) headlined a session on how these institutions can act as change agents for entrepreneurship, while representatives of the National Science Foundation's new Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP) Directorate outlined how institutions can best pursue collaboration and funding opportunities.

Other sessions offered participants best practices in building entrepreneurship into the curriculum of higher ed institutions as well as their culture, ecosystems, and research; pursuing commercialization



UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacquie Moloney. (Photo credit: Richard Pasley)

opportunities; and implementing emerging trends in the field.

## Recognizing excellence

Along with Moloney and Hoover, the conference presented awards to one additional individual and six institutions for their exemplary work fostering entrepreneurship. Other recipients of this year's awards included:

- Outstanding Contributions to Advancing Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Higher Education Award: Prof. Nathalie Duval-Couetil, Purdue University entrepreneurship program director.
- Excellence in Curriculum Innovation in Entrepreneurship Award: The Derby Entrepreneurship Center at Tufts University. The Rising Star award in this category went to the Entrepreneurial Leadership Program at Waynesburg University.
- The Excellence in Student Engagement in Entrepreneurship Award: Northeastern University and the Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center at the University of New Hampshire.
- The Deshpande Symposium Award for Technology Commercialization: GDC I-nubate at the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras and Dal Innovates at Dalhousie University.

"This year's awardees highlighted the diversity of programming, curriculum and geography, including strong representation from Canada and India. Once again, a program was recognized for innovation and potential in their approaches with the Rising Star Award," said Raj Melville, executive director of the Deshpande Foundation.

"We congratulate this year's awardees, who demonstrate the solutions-oriented approach to supporting university innovation and entrepreneurship that the Deshpande Symposium is known for," said Phil Weilerstein, president and CEO of VentureWell, which funds and trains faculty and student innovators to create successful, socially beneficial businesses. "Over the past 10 years, the accomplishments of this community of higher ed changemakers have grown."

In 2023, VentureWell will take the lead planning and organizing the symposium while adding an event co-hosted by Arizona State University at the Skysong Scottsdale Innovation Center in Scottsdale, Arizona. "As VentureWell steps up to steward the symposium, we look forward to building on the legacy of high-impact convenings. The engagement of higher ed in the creation of a robust economic future has never been more dynamic or important," Weilerstein said.

# Sports critical to incoming UML chancellor's leadership trajectory

Julie Chen talks women's athletics as Title IX turns 50

As the 50th anniversary of Title IX approaches, UMass Lowell's new chancellor embodies the enduring power of women's participation in college athletics. Julie Chen was a team captain and Academic All American in field hockey and softball while a student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She was later a graduate assistant coach for the Engineers field hockey team – a role that revealed to her a love for coaching and teaching.

Now, 36 years after receiving her bachelor's, one of three degrees she earned from MIT, Chen is heralding Title IX's golden anniversary and the success of generations of female athletes who were ensured an opportunity to compete under the law.

Those stories resonate for Chen, who credits her athletic and coaching experiences for launching her on a path that led to a Ph.D., research roles as a professor and provided some of her earliest leadership experiences. Continuing that trajectory, Chen's tenure as UMass Lowell's fourth chancellor, and second female leader, begins on July 1.

"I was fortunate in college to have a range of experiences, including work experiences, that prepared me for my career," says Chen. "Nothing is quite like the field of competition in focusing the efforts of a group and teaching each of its members individually how to work together toward a common goal."

"Many leaders default to sports metaphors when they talk about what they do – whether it's selecting teams or motivating people to achieve and exceed goals," says Chen. "There's a reason for that. Throughout my career, I've been very grateful not only for what I learned in the classroom but what I took from the field."

Chen, who joined the UMass Lowell faculty in 1997, is currently the vice chancellor for research, innovation and economic development. She will succeed Chancellor Jacqueline Moloney, who last year announced plans to step down as leader of the 18,000-student campus.

Signed into law June 23, 1972, the



UMass Lowell Chancellor-elect Julie Chen.

Title IX amendment to the federal Civil Rights Act prohibits gender discrimination and is widely known for the standards for parity it creates in college athletics.

UMass Lowell student athletes – including seven women's teams – compete in Division I.

To arrange an interview with Chen via phone, email or Zoom (or another platform), contact Emily Gowdey-Backus at [Emily\\_GowdeyBackus@uml.edu](mailto:Emily_GowdeyBackus@uml.edu) or Nancy Cicco at [Nancy\\_Cicco@uml.edu](mailto:Nancy_Cicco@uml.edu).

## About UMass Lowell

UMass Lowell is a national research university located on a high-energy campus in the heart of a global community. The university offers its students bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences. UMass Lowell delivers high-quality educational programs, vigorous hands-on learning and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepare graduates to be leaders in their communities and around the globe. [www.uml.edu](http://www.uml.edu)



Shannon LeBlanc, center, a UMass Lowell graduate and the university's longest-tenured coach, in 2021 celebrated her 20th year at the helm of UMass Lowell's field hockey program. LeBlanc led her alma mater through the transition to become a full-fledged Division I program as a member of the America East Conference. As the winningest multi-year coach in program history, she has amassed a career record of 252-140 (.646) with a final Division II record of 200-50 (.800). UMass Lowell courtesy photos.

# Running the Campus: Today is Juneteenth: What Are YOU Going to Do?

**By Lane Glenn, President  
Northern Essex Community College**

Note: This story originally appeared in "Running the Campus" on June 18, 2020.

Today is Juneteenth, the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States, recognizing June 19, 1865, the day that Union General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas and read a federal decree that all previously enslaved people in the "Lone Star State" were free.

Two-and-a-half years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

More than 150 years later, equity and social justice for black people in this nation remain overdue.

I cannot begin to express what it means to be black in America today.

It is not my experience.

If you'd like to hear from a college president whose voice matters far more than mine right now, I strongly encourage you to read this message from Lee Pelton, the president of Emerson College in Boston: "America is on Fire."

Every word of President Pelton's searingly personal story is compelling, and if by the end you aren't challenging yourself with the question he asks, "What are you going to do?" then your heart may not be beating in your chest.

Whatever challenges I may have faced in my life, whatever obstacles I may have overcome, I have not lived a day as a black man in a country with a legacy of slavery, segregation, and systemic racism.

Right now, at this moment in our fraught racial history, I can only listen to those with experience, learn all I can, lend my voice to their efforts, and enact

antiracism in my own life, personally and professionally.

I have been blessed in my lifetime to have a father who raised me, and a few other vital father figures who have shaped me.

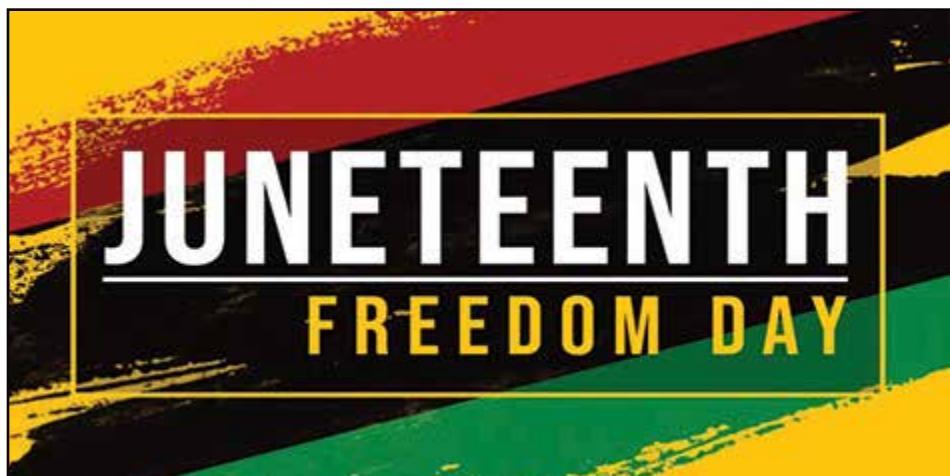
One of those is Al Bostick, who in 1987 when I was a young college student and aspiring actor in Oklahoma City was the artistic director of the Black Liberated Arts Center (BLAC) and now is known by schools and theatres across the country as the travelling "griot" (a West African storyteller) of Basically Bostick Projects, Inc.

Al has taught me many things about art and life and race over the years. One of his early gifts to me was a book, Black American Literature, edited by Darwin Turner, with an inscription that read, in part, "May you enjoy this, and may it bring you enlightenment—at least on the 'darker' side of literature."

Returning to his gift in recent days, seeking the enlightenment he encouraged among the essays, poems, stories, and plays of Phillis Wheatley, W.E.B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, and Paul Laurence Dunbar, I found an essay by Eldridge Cleaver written in 1968, its pages dog-eared and scribbled on in 1988, but its message blazingly important right now in 2020.

In "The White Race and Its Heroes," taken from his memoir, Soul on Ice, Cleaver describes the phenomenon of white youth in the 1960's turning away from their traditional, historical heroes and role models—who largely embraced slavery and subjugation of black Americans—and instead, "joining Negro demonstrations in large numbers."

Beyond carrying signs and chanting slogans, however, Cleaver found some



measure of hope in the results some of their protests were achieving, through the Free Speech Movement at the University of California, and through teach-ins and sit-ins across the country.

"From the beginning America has been a schizophrenic nation," Cleaver writes, "Its two conflicting images of itself were never reconciled, because never before has the survival of its most cherished myths made a reconciliation mandatory."

To many, the demonstrations in cities large and small across the nation over the past three weeks feel like a similar turning point; a moment in which people of all races protest mistreatment and demand change together.

## The precipice of reconciliation.

Today, as we commemorate Juneteenth, and as those of us who have not had the experience of being black in America listen, learn, and seek to lend our voices and our efforts where they will matter the most, my fervent hope is that we do not waste this moment.

Statements of support for black Americans and other communities of color in the face of systemic racism are essential right now: Black lives do matter.

Actions to eliminate racism and create a more just and equitable society for everyone are even more important.

Today, and in the days that follow, with President Pelton's challenge, "What are you going to do?" ringing in our ears, here are some actions to consider:

- Learn more by reading articles, essays, stories, poems, and books, like Ibram X. Kendi's How to Be an Antiracist or Ijeoma Oluo's So You Want to Talk About Race; by watching movies (13th, The Hate U Give, When They See Us), or listening to Podcasts (Justice in America). If you're not sure where to start, check with your local library (including here at NECC), or online with recommendation lists like these from New York Magazine and Fortune.

- Discover the advantages and privileges you may, or may not, have experienced in life by taking a short survey from the Ford Foundation and discovering your American Dream Score.

- Seek antiracist organizations to support (with your time, with your talents, or with your financial contributions).

- Let your elected officials know how you feel about specific issues. Not sure who they are? Look up your federal, state, and local elected officials on this USA.gov web site. Not sure what to say? See how you feel about this Ten Point Policy Platform developed by the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus.

Write an editorial.

Attend a demonstration.

Feel your heart beating and let it move you to act.

The moment is now.

**"Juneteenth may mark just one moment in the struggle for emancipation, but the holiday gives us an occasion to reflect on the profound contributions of enslaved Black Americans to the cause of human freedom."**

**Jamelle Bouie**

## 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 [www.mviec.org](http://www.mviec.org) for directions and more details.

**Negroes for Sale**  
By Public Auction  
On Thursday 10AM the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 1848

**Prime and Healthy**  
At  
**O'Donald's Auction House**  
2 Cumberland St.  
Charleston, S.C.

25 Field Hands - Trained at hoeing, chopp'n,  
thrashing, bale'n, plow'n - peaceful lot - No  
trouble makers, strong, can work in the heat all day long  
10 boys - being taught to drive wagons and fetch - quick learners

18 women - 8 with future insurance - All  
house trained, clean-cooking - iron'n - make'n beds

6 girls - comely, quiet, bud'n out, not  
headstrong, manageable

1 female - superior cook and excellent seamstress  
Also for Sale at one o'clock

Plow horses, cows, hogs, one prime bull  
5 head of goats, 2 wagons

Courtesy of Hartley Pleashaw.

# Play Ball

The Boston Red Sox hosted an event in Lawrence as part of Major League Baseball's "Play Ball" initiative looking to inspire youth to play the game.

The event took place on June 12 at the South Lawrence East Field with a live DJ, games, and a visit from Wally and Tessi.



**MAYOR BRIAN A. DEPEÑA**  
LAWRENCE RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
DIANE SHIKRALLAH AND  
LAWRENCE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PARTNERSHIP

PRESENT

**LIGHT UP LAWRENCE FIREWORKS**

SUNDAY | JULY 3 | 2022  
6 PM TO 10 PM

VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM,  
298 OSGOOD STREET, SOUTH LAWRENCE  
FOOD, KIDS ACTIVITIES AND MUSIC

**ALCALDE BRIAN A. DEPEÑA**  
EL DEPARTAMENTO DE RECREACIÓN DE LAWRENCE  
DIANE SHIKRALLAH Y  
LA ASOCIACIÓN DE VECINDARIOS DE LAWRENCE

PRESENTAN

**ILUMINAR A LAWRENCE CON FUEGOS ARTIFICIALES**

DOMINGO | 3 DE JULIO | 2022  
6 PM TO 10 PM

SI LLUEVE SERÁ EL DÍA 5 DE JULIO

VETERANS MEMORIAL STADIUM,  
298 OSGOOD STREET, SOUTH LAWRENCE  
COMIDA, ACTIVIDADES INFANTILES Y MÚSICA

**Public Service Announcement offered free to the City of Lawrence  
Anuncio de Servicio Público ofrecido gratis a la Ciudad de Lawrence**

**SERVIR A LA COMUNIDAD – PARTICIPAR EN LA DEMOCRACIA**

**SER UN TRABAJADOR ELECTORAL - \$18.00 POR HORA**

La División de Elecciones de la Ciudad de Lawrence está aceptando solicitudes para trabajar para las elecciones estatales del 6 de septiembre y el 8 de noviembre de 2022.

Para ser considerado, debe ser un votante registrado en Massachusetts y poder trabajar de 6:00 a.m. a 9:00 p.m. También debe estar disponible para la capacitación que es obligatoria.

Como trabajador electoral, sus tareas incluirán preparar los lugares de votación, registrar a los votantes, colgar y quitar letreros, contar boletas, poner las boletas en orden por dirección y registrar las actividades electorales.

Las solicitudes en español e inglés están disponibles en la División de Elecciones ubicada en la Sala 4, Ayuntamiento - Sótano, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA. También puede llamar al 978-620-3290 para solicitar una solicitud.

Las solicitudes también están en línea en: City of Lawrence Poll Worker application 2022 Ciudad De lawrence aplicacion de trabajador electoral 2022.

Las solicitudes completadas se pueden dejar o enviar por correo a: División de Elecciones, Sala 4 – Sótano, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA 01840

Se prefieren los candidatos que hablan español e inglés.

**SERVE THE COMMUNITY – PARTICIPATE IN DEMOCRACY**

**BE AN ELECTION WORKER - \$18.00 AN HOUR**

The City of Lawrence Election's Division is accepting applications to work for the State election on September 6 and November 8, 2022.

To be considered you must be a registered voter in Massachusetts and able to work from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. You must also be available for mandatory training.

As a poll worker your tasks will include getting voting locations ready, checking in voters, hanging and removing signs, counting ballots, putting absentee ballots in order by street address, and recording election activities.

Applications in both Spanish and English are available in the Elections Division located in Room 4, City Hall - Basement, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA. You can also call 978-620-3290 to request an application.

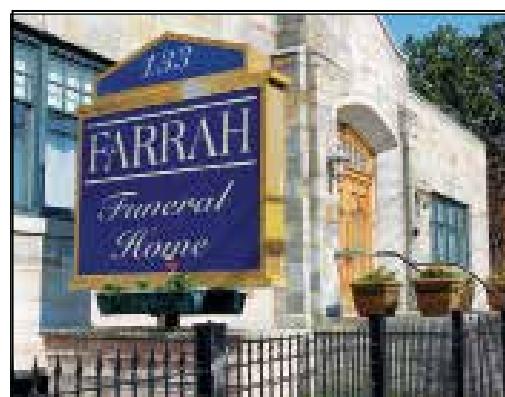
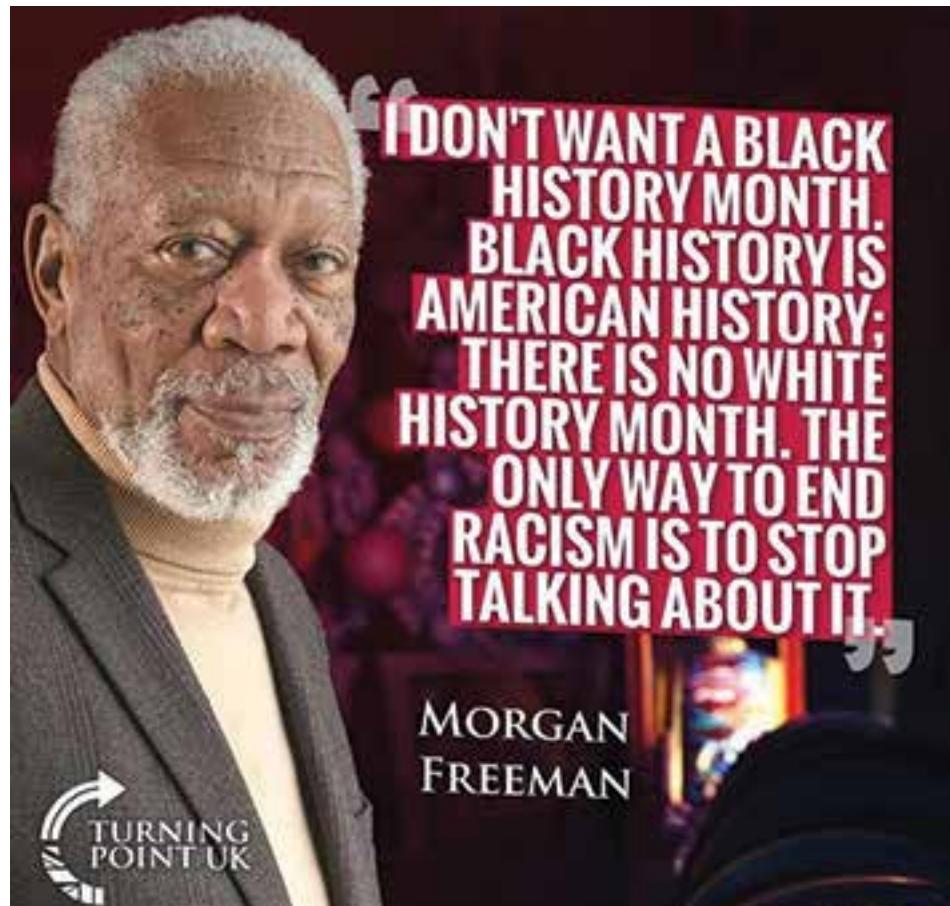
Applications are also on line at

City of Lawrence Poll Worker application 2022

Ciudad De lawrence aplicacion de trabajador electoral 2022

Completed applications can be dropped off or mailed to: Election's Division, Room 4 – Basement, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA 01840.

Candidates who speak both Spanish and English are preferred.



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## Virtual Education Sessions To Support Family Caregivers

### Challenges of Sundowning Thursday, July 7 | 11 a.m.

Fluctuating daylight hours – whether in the evening or on rainy days – can confuse your loved one's internal clock. Learn why these times are especially difficult for those with dementia and how to manage disorientation, stress or agitation and other sundowning symptoms.



#### Our Bridges Locations:

Andover, MA | Hingham, MA | Lexington, MA | Mashpee, MA  
Nashua, NH | Norwalk, CT | Pembroke, MA | Stamford, CT  
Sudbury, MA | Trumbull, CT | Westford, MA | Westwood, MA



**BridgesbyEPOCH.com**

**FAMILY DAY**

11:00 a.m.  
Saturday, July 9th  
Roberto Clemente Field  
@ Barlett School, Lowell

Join us for a day of family and fun to celebrate excellence in community athletics

YAWKEY FOUNDATIONS CHARTERED MEMBER

# Baker-Polito Administration Announces Children Ages 6 Months to 4 years Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccinations

Following recommendations from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Baker-Polito Administration today announced that Massachusetts children ages 6 months to 4 years old are now eligible to receive the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

For the 6 months to 4-year-old age group, the Pfizer vaccine consists of three pediatric doses and the Moderna vaccine consists of two pediatric doses. Appointments will be available for booking beginning Tuesday, June 21st with additional locations and appointments expected to come online in the following days. Vaccines are already available to those 5 years and older. The Administration expects there to be over 400 locations for children ages 6 months to 4 years old to receive a vaccine in the coming weeks.

The COVID-19 vaccine has shown to be safe, effective, and protective against serious illness or death. The Administration is committed to ensuring families have convenient access to free, safe, and effective vaccines. Children 6 months and older may receive a vaccination at locations such as their pediatricians' offices, community health centers, state-supported vaccination sites, mobile clinics and some pharmacy settings depending on the pharmacy and the child's age.

"We know parents and families have been waiting for this, and we are pleased to have this last age group approved for the COVID-19 vaccine," said Dr. Estevan Garcia, a pediatrician, and Chief Medical Officer at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. "The vaccine for this age group has been rigorously tested and we encourage parents to add this vaccine to the list of critical vaccinations their children should receive. We urge parents to reach out to their child's health care provider

with any questions they may have."

How to find a pediatric COVID-19 vaccination appointment:

1. Parents who prefer to have their child vaccinated by their primary care provider should call their provider's office directly.
2. Visit the VaxFinder tool at [vaxfinder.mass.gov](http://vaxfinder.mass.gov) for a full list of available locations. You can narrow results to search for locations offering the pediatric COVID-19 vaccine. Some locations listed may only vaccinate certain ages. Read the site details to learn more.
3. For individuals who are unable to use VaxFinder, or have difficulty accessing the Internet, the COVID-19 Vaccine Resource Line is available by calling 2-1-1 (Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 6 PM, Saturday and Sunday 9 AM – 2 PM). The COVID-19 Vaccine Resource Line is available in English and Spanish and has translators available in approximately 100 additional languages.

Massachusetts is a national leader in vaccination rates with over 84 percent of eligible residents fully vaccinated and over half of adults boosted. Massachusetts residents have ready access to vaccines, rapid tests, and therapeutics – all the resources needed to prevent severe illness and the Commonwealth's COVID data shows these tools work.

The vaccine is free, and you do not need insurance or an ID to be vaccinated. Additional information on the COVID-19 vaccination, including FAQs, can be found here: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccine)

For vaccine information on ages 6 months to 4 years, please visit: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyoungkids](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyoungkids)

For vaccine information on ages 5-11, please visit: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccinekids](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccinekids) For vaccine information on ages 12-17, please visit: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyouth](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyouth)

# El Gobernador anuncia que niños de 6 meses a 4 años pueden ser vacunados contra el COVID-19

Siguiendo las recomendaciones de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) de EE. UU., la Administración Baker-Polito anunció que los niños de Massachusetts de 6 meses a 4 años ahora son elegibles para recibir la vacuna contra el COVID-19 de Moderna o Pfizer.

Para el grupo de edad de 6 meses a 4 años, la vacuna Pfizer consta de tres dosis pediátricas y la vacuna Moderna consta de dos dosis pediátricas. Las citas estarán disponibles para reservar a partir del martes 21 de junio y se espera que las ubicaciones adicionales y las citas estén en línea en los días siguientes. Las vacunas ya están disponibles para los mayores de 5 años. La Administración espera que haya más de 400 lugares para que los niños de 6 meses a 4 años reciban una vacuna en las próximas semanas.

La vacuna COVID-19 ha demostrado ser segura, efectiva y protectora contra enfermedades graves o la muerte. La Administración se compromete a garantizar que las familias tengan acceso conveniente a vacunas gratuitas, seguras y efectivas. Los niños de 6 meses en adelante pueden vacunarse en lugares como los consultorios de sus pediatras, los centros de salud comunitarios, los sitios de vacunación respaldados por el estado, las clínicas móviles y algunas farmacias, según la farmacia y la edad del niño.

"Sabemos que los padres y las familias han estado esperando esto, y nos complace que este último grupo de edad haya sido aprobado para la vacuna contra el COVID-19", dijo el Dr. Estevan García, pediatra y director médico del Departamento de Servicios Públicos de Massachusetts. Salud. "La vacuna para este grupo de edad se ha probado rigurosamente y alentamos a los padres a agregar esta vacuna a la lista de vacunas críticas que deben recibir sus hijos. Instamos a los padres a que se comuniquen con el proveedor de atención médica de sus hijos con cualquier pregunta que puedan tener".

Cómo encontrar una cita de vacunación pediátrica contra el COVID-19:

1. Los padres que prefieren que su

proveedor de atención primaria vacune a su hijo deben llamar directamente al consultorio de su proveedor.

2. Visite la herramienta VaxFinder en [vaxfinder.mass.gov](http://vaxfinder.mass.gov) para obtener una lista completa de las ubicaciones disponibles. Puede restringir los resultados para buscar ubicaciones que ofrezcan la vacuna pediátrica contra el COVID-19. Es posible que algunos lugares enumerados solo vacunen a ciertas edades. Lea los detalles del sitio para obtener más información.

3. Para las personas que no pueden usar VaxFinder o tienen dificultades para acceder a Internet, la Línea de recursos de vacunas contra el COVID-19 está disponible llamando al 2-1-1 (de lunes a viernes de 8:30 a. m. a 6 p. m., sábados y domingos). 9 a. m. a 2 p. m.). La Línea de recursos para la vacuna COVID-19 está disponible en inglés y español y tiene traductores disponibles en aproximadamente 100 idiomas adicionales.

Massachusetts es líder nacional en tasas de vacunación con más del 84 por ciento de los residentes elegibles completamente vacunados y más de la mitad de los adultos reforzados. Los residentes de Massachusetts tienen fácil acceso a vacunas, pruebas rápidas y terapias: todos los recursos necesarios para prevenir enfermedades graves y los datos de COVID de Commonwealth muestran que estas herramientas funcionan.

La vacuna es gratuita y no necesita seguro ni identificación para vacunarse. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre la vacuna contra el COVID-19, incluidas las preguntas frecuentes, aquí: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccine)

Para obtener información sobre vacunas para edades de 6 meses a 4 años, visite: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyoungkids](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyoungkids)

Para obtener información sobre vacunas para niños de 5 a 11 años, visite: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccinekids](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccinekids) Para obtener información sobre vacunas para personas de 12 a 17 años, visite: [mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyouth](http://mass.gov/COVIDvaccineyouth)

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

¡Gracias por tu apoyo!

## NECESITAN CHOFERES PARA TRANSPORTAR ANCIANOS

Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Lawrence, una coalición de comunidades de fe, agencias de servicio social y organizaciones de salud, está buscando voluntarios para llevar a ancianos a citas al médico y otras citas de calidad de vida a través del Programa de Friends in Deed de Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley.

Si usted puede, aunque sea ocasionalmente, por favor, llame a Renee A. Baker, reclutador de voluntarios, al 978-946-1463 (y mencione Interfaith Caregivers.)

Gracias de parte de Interfaith Caregivers y los muchos ancianos que necesitan de los servicios de choferes voluntarios para poder permanecer independientes en su propio hogar.

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# Greater Commonwealth Virtual School Holds First In-Person Graduation Since COVID-19 Pandemic

(Greater Commonwealth Virtual School photos / Courtesy of Schley Warren)



Executive Director Salah Khelfaoui addresses the crowd.

Executive Director Salah Khelfaoui and the administration and staff at the Greater Commonwealth Virtual School would like to congratulate the Class of 2022 on their graduation this past weekend.

For the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the school held an in-person graduation ceremony for the graduating class. The ceremony was held at the Ja'Duke Center for Performing Arts in Turners Falls on Friday, June 10, and was also streamed live on the GCVS Facebook page.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem, opening remarks were given by Director Khelfaoui and GCVS Board of Trustee Chair Jennifer Reynolds. Each expressed to the students how proud they should be of their achievements.

"You've all put aside your worries and you conquered your fears to work hard and achieve the success you enjoy today," Director Khelfaoui said. "In a few days when all of the celebrations are over many of you will most likely experience new worries, anxieties and fears as to what lies ahead. Some of you may have already started feeling that way, and that is normal. But know this, beyond that cloud of uncertainty and fear, you will all discover purpose and success."

Reynolds described how she too is a product of a "less traveled" path to education and success. She wished to impart several lessons she has learned in her life to the graduates, including the importance of always being true to yourself and trusting your instincts, having good intentions and taking time to care for

yourself, and never giving up despite any obstacles life may present.

Several students were recognized for achieving scholarships and awards.

Ella Pierce, of Greenfield, was honored with the Gauthier Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is named for Scott Gauthier, a beloved member of the GCVS school community who worked directly with high school students as one of the school's guidance counselors.

Recipients of the Susan D. Hollins Founder's Award were also honored, including Laila Itemere. The award is in honor of GCVS' original founder/superintendent, and is given to a graduating senior who exemplifies the characteristics of courage, scholarship, generosity and entrepreneurial spirit.

The valedictorian address was given by Jeremy Ruggles, who has taken part in GCVS' dual enrollment option through the school's partnership with Greenfield Community College. Ruggles plans to continue his education at Greenfield Community College by studying liberal arts.

"No matter how you did or how high school treated you, you still made it. Even if you just barely scraped by, you should all be proud," Ruggles said. "I am proud of every student, both here and those at home, for graduating today. I am also proud of this school. GCVS is an amazing place for students who were unable to thrive in a traditional school, for whatever reason."

To close the ceremony the names of each student were displayed on a large screen on stage, including what the students' plans are for after graduation.

## Meet the Class

The graduating members of the GCVS Class of 2022 include the following. A \* indicates a student graduating with honors:

Pablo Alvarado-Cruz, Fausto Neto Andrade, Noah Arel, Nathan Berrios, Eliza Blakie, William Bohonowicz, Brooke Brunelle, \*Krystal Brunelle, Taylor Brunelle, Joshua-Mark Campbell, Ivy Canavan, \*Reid Carrier, Alainna Catino, \*Emily Clark, Amelia Collett, Xavier Cruz, Celia Curtin, Lydia Cutillo, Mickey DeMartino, Ariana Diaz, Cameron DiRusso, Libby Doyle, \*Grace Dunning, Alicia Emond, \*Marick Farina, Gianna Finkley, Carah Finn;

Lydia Flagg, Angelina Frisoni, Savannah Frye, Hikaru Fujiwara, Matt Gayle, \*Anthony Gerardi, Morgan Gibney, Vanessa Gomez, Ally Gracia, Sofia Guadalupe, Cassidy Herbert, Jomarick Hernandez, Alexia Hubacz, \*Morgane Inhaber-Courchesne, Laila Itemere, Kiara Johnson-Ware, Kayleigh Kenney, \*Jayzon King, \*Olivia Knickerbocker, Kaylee Lee, Iraima Lopez Diaz, Nicole Lopez, Isaie Louis, Harley MacMullen, Shane Mahoney;

Emma Matteau, Mariah Mayerhofer, Claire Mental, Holly Merrikin, Lacy Migliaccio, \*Caitlin Moran, Evelyn Mostovoy, Emma Nguyen, Jacqueline Nieves, Edita Nye, Fiona Peill-Meininghaus, Anna Pepper, \*Ella Pierce, Alexandra Pinto, Callie Poissot, Danielle Poole, Adrianna Power Callaghan, Sofia Price, Nathan Recchia, Joelyne Reyes, Courtney Ribas, Sean Roach, Julia Roberts, Ryan Roberts, \*Nolan Ross;

Madison Roy, \*Jeremy Ruggles, Kasia Russo, \*Nolan Saito, Tasneem Shakir, Emma Sherman, Kayla Soeng, Melody Sousa Rebelo, Emilee Souza, Piper Stephenson, Jackson Sullivan, Rehan Syed, Emilia Tryon, Finn Trznadel, Yulianna Vale-Madsen, Adrian Vargas Rivera, \*Amandine Vereque, Gabriella Vigorito, Briley Wade, \*Lindsey Welch, Charles Williams, Tyler Williams, Owen Winters.



Laila Itemere, recipient of the Susan D. Hollins Founder's Award, speaks during the Greater Commonwealth Virtual School graduation ceremony.



Board of Trustee Chair Jennifer Reynolds speaks on her own personal path through education during the ceremony.



The valedictorian address was given by Jeremy Ruggles.



Vice Principal Dr. Jodi Drury speaks during the ceremony.



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# Mantente fresco para cuidar tu corazón cuando el calor es extremo

La American Heart Association advierte que el calor extremo puede ser peligroso para tu salud cardíaca

Las altas temperaturas récord están adelantando el calor del verano este año en gran parte de EE. UU., y la American Heart Association, una fuerza global con el objetivo de lograr vidas más largas y saludables para todos, está instando a las personas a tomar medidas adicionales para proteger sus corazones. Las precauciones son especialmente importantes para los adultos mayores y las personas con presión arterial alta, obesidad o antecedentes de enfermedad cardíaca y ataque o derrame cerebral.

Las temperaturas superiores a 100°, o incluso en el rango de los 80°, sumadas a la alta humedad pueden causar un índice de calor peligroso que puede ser perjudicial para el corazón. El calor y la deshidratación hacen que el corazón trabaje con más dificultad, dado que, en su esfuerzo por enfriarse, traslada sangre de los órganos principales a debajo de la piel. Este cambio hace que el corazón bombee más sangre, lo que lo somete a mucho más estrés. La hidratación ayuda al corazón a bombear sangre más fácilmente a través de los vasos sanguíneos hacia los músculos y ayuda a que los músculos trabajen de manera eficiente.

Una reciente investigación publicada en Circulation, la revista insignia de la American Heart Association, descubrió que, cuando las temperaturas llegan a extremos de un promedio diario de 109 grados Fahrenheit, la cantidad de muertes por enfermedades cardiovasculares puede duplicarse o triplicarse. Otro estudio, presentado en la Conferencia Internacional sobre Ataques o Derrames Cerebrales de la American Stroke Association, sugiere que, cuanto más fluctúen las temperaturas durante el verano, más graves serán los ataques o derrames cerebrales.

“Aunque las muertes y enfermedades relacionadas con el calor se pueden prevenir, más de 600 personas en los Estados Unidos mueren por calor extremo cada año, según los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades de Estados Unidos. Si tienes una enfermedad cardíaca, has sufrido un ataque o derrame cerebral, o tienes más de 50 años o sobrepeso, es muy importante que tomes precauciones especiales cuando hace calor para proteger tu salud”, afirmó Donald M. Lloyd-Jones, M.D., SC.M., FAHA, presidente de la American Heart Association y presidente del departamento de Medicina Preventiva, profesor Eileen M. Foell de Investigación del Corazón y de medicina preventiva, medicina y pediatría en la Facultad de Medicina Feinberg de la Universidad Northwestern en Chicago. “Algunos medicamentos, como los antagonistas de los receptores de la angiotensina (ARB, del inglés Angiotensin Receptor Blockers), los inhibidores de enzima convertidora de angiotensina (ACE, del inglés Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme), los betabloqueantes, los antagonistas del calcio y los diuréticos, que afectan las respuestas de presión arterial o privan al organismo de sodio, pueden exagerar la respuesta del organismo al calor y provocar que caigas enfermo cuando hace un calor extremo. Pero no dejes de tomar tus medicamentos. Aprende a mantenerte fresco y habla con tu médico sobre cualquier inquietud”.

Incluso si no tomas medicamentos para



una afección cardiovascular, es importante tomar precauciones cuando hace calor. Si bien los lactantes y los adultos mayores son más vulnerables a los problemas provocados por el calor, las temperaturas extremas pueden causar problemas de salud en cualquier persona.

“Mantenerse hidratado es clave. Es fácil deshidratarse incluso si no crees tener sed”, comentó Lloyd-Jones. “Bebe agua antes de salir, mientras estás afuera y después de volver cuando hace calor. No esperes hasta que sientas sed. Y la mejor manera de saber si estás consumiendo suficiente líquido es monitorear tu orina y asegurarte de que el color sea pálido, no oscuro ni concentrado”.

La American Heart Association sugiere que todo el mundo siga estas 5 precauciones principales cuando hace calor:

- Mirar el reloj: Es mejor evitar las actividades al aire libre en las primeras horas de la tarde (entre el mediodía y las 3 p. m., aproximadamente), porque el sol suele estar en su punto más fuerte, lo que aumenta el riesgo de enfermedades relacionadas con el calor.
- Vestirse para el calor: Usa ropa ligera y de color claro con telas transpirables, como algodón, o una tela más nueva que repela el sudor. Agrega un sombrero y gafas de sol. Antes de comenzar, aplica un protector solar resistente al agua con FPS 15 como mínimo y vuelve a aplicarlo cada dos horas.
- Beber agua: Mantente hidratado bebiendo algunas tazas de agua antes, durante y después de salir o hacer ejercicio. Evita las bebidas con cafeína o alcohólicas.
- Tomar descansos regulares: Encuentra una sombra o un lugar fresco, detente durante unos minutos, hidrátate y reinicia tu actividad.
- Seguir las indicaciones del médico: Continúa tomando todos los medicamentos según las indicaciones.

Es importante conocer los signos y síntomas de cuando puedes estar experimentando demasiado calor.

## Síntomas de agotamiento por calor:

- dolores de cabeza
- sudoración abundante
- frío, piel húmeda, escalofríos
- mareos o desvanecimiento (síncope)
- pulso débil y rápido
- calambres musculares
- realizar respiraciones rápidas y poco

- profundas
- náuseas, vómitos o ambos

Si experimentas estos síntomas, muévete a un lugar más fresco, deja de hacer ejercicio y refréscate inmediatamente empapándote con agua fría y rehidratándote. Es posible que debas buscar atención médica.

Si experimentas síntomas de un golpe de calor, llama al 9-1-1 y busca atención médica de inmediato.

- Paletas caseras hechas con jugo 100% de fruta
- Batidos de frutas
- Ensaladas frías repletas de verduras, frijoles, legumbres y pescado saludable para el corazón, como atún blanco o salmón
- Verduras crudas frescas y congeladas, como pepino, zanahoria o apio con una salsa ligera y fresca
- Agua fría con gas, con un toque de jugo 100% de fruta o rodajas de cítricos o pepino

## Síntomas de un golpe de calor:

- piel seca y tibia sin sudoración
- pulso fuerte y rápido
- confusión o pérdida del conocimiento
- fiebre alta
- dolores de cabeza punzantes
- náuseas, vómitos o ambos

Un golpe de calor no es lo mismo que un ataque o derrame cerebral. Un ataque o derrame cerebral se produce cuando un vaso sanguíneo hacia el cerebro se rompe o se bloquea por un coágulo, lo que provoca una disminución del flujo de oxígeno hacia el cerebro.

Aunque tomar precauciones es clave, aún es importante encontrar maneras de que toda la familia se mantenga activa durante el verano. Prueba caminar, nadar, andar en bicicleta, patinar, saltar la cuerda, construir un circuito de obstáculos en el patio trasero u organizar un juego de fútbol en el vecindario. Incluso hacer jardinería, empujar un cochecito o pasear al perro cuenta. Ajustar la hora de la actividad a la mañana temprano o en las últimas horas de la tarde también puede ayudar. Si estar al aire libre es insoportable en algunos días, encuentra lugares en interiores donde puedas estar activo, como un centro comercial, un gimnasio o un centro recreativo comunitario.

También es importante mantenerte fresco mientras te recargas de energía. Prueba refrigerios ligeros y saludables antes y después del entrenamiento, que también te puedan ayudar a mantenerte fresco, como los siguientes:

- Fruta fría o congelada

## Recursos adicionales:

- News release in English
- Información de salud de la AHA: La cantidad de muertes por enfermedades cardiovasculares puede duplicarse o triplicarse debido a las temperaturas extremadamente altas
- Información de salud de la AHA: Cómo mantenerse activo cuando hace calor
- Información de salud de la AHA: ¿Cuánta agua necesitas beber?
- Información de salud de la AHA: Riesgos a causa del calor durante el verano para mujeres embarazadas
- Información de salud de la AHA: Infografía sobre el golpe de calor en comparación con el ataque o derrame cerebral

## Acerca de la American Heart Association

La American Heart Association es una fuerza incansable para un mundo de vidas más largas y saludables. Nos dedicamos a garantizar una salud equitativa en todas las comunidades. A través de la colaboración con numerosas organizaciones, impulsadas por millones de voluntarios, financiamos la investigación innovadora, abogamos por la salud pública y compartimos recursos que salvan vidas. La organización con sede en Dallas ha sido una fuente líder de información de salud durante casi un siglo. Comunícate con nosotros a través de heart.org, Facebook, Twitter o llamando al 1-800-AHA-USA1. Para consultas públicas: 1-800-AHA-USA1 (242-8721) heart.org y stroke.org

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## Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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



## Nuevo recurso examina el desmantelamiento solar

La caída de los costos de los equipos, junto con una mayor demanda de energía limpia, han llevado a un rápido aumento en el desarrollo solar durante la última década, una tendencia que se espera que continúe, especialmente en las áreas rurales, según una nueva guía de recursos del Center for Rural Asuntos.

“Los proyectos solares a menudo se ubican en áreas rurales y pueden brindar numerosos beneficios a las comunidades cercanas, incluidos los pagos de arrendamiento a los propietarios de tierras, mayores ingresos fiscales y creación de empleo”, dijo Heidi Kolbeck-Urlacher, asociada senior de políticas del Centro, autora de la guía. “Pero los gobiernos locales también deben pensar en lo que sucede con los sitios que llegan al final de sus ciclos de vida”.

Los requisitos de desmantelamiento pueden ser establecidos por estados y condados, y los acuerdos de propietarios y desarrolladores también pueden establecer requisitos adicionales. La promulgación de estándares de ubicación o zonificación ayuda a garantizar que los residentes locales apoyen el desarrollo solar, dijo Kolbeck-Urlacher.

“Es importante que los gobiernos locales planifiquen con anticipación el desmantelamiento solar y creen ordenanzas que detallen las expectativas y obligaciones”, dijo Kolbeck-Urlacher. “Esto garantiza que la responsabilidad

financiera por el desmantelamiento recaiga en el propietario del proyecto y no en el condado ni en los propietarios”.

Pero no es solo el aspecto financiero del desmantelamiento lo que debe considerarse, sino lo que sucede con el equipo.

La nueva “Guía de recursos para el desmantelamiento de sistemas de energía solar” del Centro describe varias opciones de gestión, incluida la extensión del período de rendimiento a través de la reutilización, renovación o repotenciación de la instalación o la interrupción total de las operaciones y el desmantelamiento del proyecto. También ofrece recomendaciones sobre qué información debe incluirse en los planes de desmantelamiento.

Según el Departamento de Energía de EE. UU., el 75 % de toda la capacidad solar de EE. UU. se ha instalado en los últimos cinco años. Con una vida útil de 25 a 35 años, la mayoría de los paneles siguen operativos. Incluso con un plan implementado, el informe enfatiza la importancia de las revisiones periódicas del plan para adaptarse a los cambios necesarios en las estimaciones de costos, la tecnología y la disponibilidad de los servicios de reciclaje.

Para obtener más información o ver la Guía de recursos para el desmantelamiento de sistemas de energía solar, visite [cfra.org/publications](http://cfra.org/publications).

## New resource examines solar decommissioning

Falling equipment costs coupled with increased demand for clean energy have led to a rapid rise in solar development over the past decade, a trend expected to continue, especially in rural areas, according to a new resource guide from the Center for Rural Affairs.

“Solar projects are often located in rural areas and can provide numerous benefits to nearby communities, including lease payments to landowners, increased tax revenue, and job creation,” said Heidi Kolbeck-Urlacher, senior policy associate at the Center, author of the guide. “But local governments also need to think about what happens to the sites that reach the end of their life cycles.”

Decommissioning requirements can be set by states and counties, and landowners and developer agreements may also set additional requirements. Enacting siting or zoning standards helps ensure solar development is supported by local residents, Kolbeck-Urlacher said.

“It is important for local governments to plan ahead for solar decommissioning and create ordinances that spell out expectations and obligations,” Kolbeck-Urlacher said. “This ensures that financial responsibility for decommissioning falls to

the project owner and not the county and landowners.”

But it’s not just the financial aspect of decommissioning that needs to be considered, but what happens to the equipment.

The Center’s new “Decommissioning Solar Energy Systems Resource Guide” outlines several management options, including extending the performance period through reuse, refurbishment, or repowering of the facility or fully discontinuing operations and decommissioning the project. It also offers recommendations of what information should be included in decommissioning plans.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, 75% of all U.S. solar capacity has been installed in the past five years. With a lifespan of 25 to 35 years most panels are still operational. Even with a plan in place, the report stresses the importance of periodic plan reviews to accommodate necessary changes in cost estimates, technology and the availability of recycling services.

For more information, or to view the Decommissioning Solar Energy Systems Resource Guide, visit [cfra.org/](http://cfra.org/)

## CLASIFICADOS | CLASSIFIEDS

### LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Sheehan's Towing L.L.C. of 26 Lawrence St Methuen, MA, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after July 2, 2022 beginning at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage, and lien fees. Vehicles are being stored at Sheehan's Towing and may be viewed by appointment only.

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2. 2007 Honda Civic VIN JHMFA36227S018868
3. 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan VIN 2D8HN44H08R749945
4. 2011 Ford Edge VIN 2FMDK3KC4BBA92960
5. 2009 Honda CRV VIN 5J6RE48559L066629
6. 2009 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCP36829A051046
7. 2017 Volkswagen Jetta VIN 3VW2B7AJ2HM395839
8. 2013 Nissan Sentra VIN 3N1AB7AP2DL676772
9. 2017 Harley Davidson VIN 1HD1KRC14HB668812
10. 2007 BMW 530 VIN WBANF73587CU26173
11. 2008 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCP26728A058904

Robert Sheehan  
Owner, Sheehan's Towing L.L.C.  
6/15, 6/22, 7/1

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BY DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

# From My Corner

## Time to fight or give up?

No, I am not instigating violence but sometimes I get flares of deception that lead me to believe that I am all alone in this community fighting for what's right.

I have been complaining through this column for such a long time about the schools' conditions, the violence, the lack of safety, and even the mistreatment of cafeteria workers when they got enough nerve to appear before the Lawrence Education Alliance officers, there was a small group of about 20. The Board listened politely to their explanation but it was very obvious the workers didn't get any respect from them.

Not once have I received a call from a parent, teacher, or school administrator.

I have been requesting under the Freedom of Information Act documents about the teaching of gender studies and CRT and they refuse to give them to me. I mentioned situaciones similares in other cities, only to conclude that Lawrence has what it deserves: a community that doesn't care tends to be abused by the system.

You can tell the mediocrity of our residents by the demands made to the mayor on his radio show on Saturdays. Fixing potholes and paving side streets are the most common complaints. Other callers insist on the plight of the school cafeteria workers or getting the schools back from state control.

It appears as if they don't listen when he talks about his lack of control over the schools. I asked the mayor a few days ago how he feels about people not listening when he explains his predicament. I know how he feels because for 17 years I fought the issue of Lawrence Community Access Television (LCAT) until giving up. I got to thinking, "If no one cares, why should I."

I don't want to give up just yet on the teaching of gender studies and racial relations in the schools because it's affecting an entire generation and someone should defend their education but parents and the entire community must get involved and demand to know what's happening.

Then, I came across a Facebook exchange that I didn't know was taking place. I was able to recognize the names of current and former members of the School Committee, mostly messages by Dr. Marianela Rivera. The writers were angry about many things although the main issue was the firing of some 20 teachers being fired from the school system.

Now you are concerned about good teachers being fired? Is their job protection more important than what kids are learning? They were so indignant that even wrote a letter to Governor Charlie Baker and Commissioner Riley that I had not seen before. I published it on page 16.

If this group participating in this conversation is so concerned, how come

they don't unite forces with the teacher aides, cafeteria workers, the mayor's office, and me?

Yes, I can be a voice for them, and together we might be able to demand what's needed. The City Council already gave Superintendent Cynthia Paris a vote of No Confidence.

Someday people will understand what we have lost with LCAT and my reasons for giving up in that struggle. Please, let's fight for our school system.

I'm tired of yelling at the wind...

## Can't wait till next week

I'm planning to write an assessment of the Hispanic Week celebration for the next edition but there's something that cannot wait and it is my assessment of Mayor Brian De Peña's administration because something was very clear this weekend.

I've had conversations with him about the need to enforce ordinances such as traffic violations, parking fines, trash collection and recycling measures, loud noise, etc. His response is always the same: He doesn't want to burden the community. I insist that the only way to teach violators is hitting them in the pocket.

The city is a mess, there is nowhere to park downtown because he refuses to tag them for overtime and we are like it was before the parking meters were installed.

The most recent bitching session came this weekend when the noise from the Campagnone was cracking stone fireplaces in South Lawrence. Also, people were smoking hookas outdoors (and who knows what else.)

There has been a crackdown on the use of hookahs in public places with heavy fines imposed on individuals and establishments and now they are allowed to do it in public.

I say "allowed" because it was in the presence of police officers. Were they told not to issue fines?

Mr. Mayor, you cannot be everybody's friend. This city is a free-for-all and when you try to bring order the critics will be out. The Police Department needs to start tagging people for traffic infractions, double parking and violating the parking meters.

Inspectional Service must enforce their rules as well. Furthermore, we should have inspectors working from Friday night through the weekend. The amount of shoddy construction taking place on those days is plentiful to generate a hefty income for the city in fines for violations. The Fire Department is aware of the danger this represent. It will also be a good way to control the development of illegal rooming houses.

You are doing a satisfactory job, according to the general public, but unless you get tough on these matters you will have a big mess in your hands.

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

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

- Thomas Jefferson



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

# Letters sent to authorities to release Lawrence schools from receivership

Dear Commissioner Riley, B.E.S.E, and Governor Baker:

We, the concerned residents, educators, students, voters, and legislators of the Merrimack Valley delegation are writing to call for an end to the Receivership of Lawrence Public Schools. Since 2011 DESE's forced restructuring of curriculum, personnel, and programs has failed to address the needs of students in the City of Lawrence. The pandemic made worse the inequities inherent in an impoverished and highly diverse community, as evidenced in the following ways:

-As crowding and supervision problems persist there has been a sharp increase in incidents of violence at Lawrence High School and other district schools. Lawrence students have a right to feel safe when they go to school.

-Elementary school notifications have been sent to parents urging them to keep students home for remote instruction due to staffing shortages. Lawrence children have the right to learn in person and in their school communities.

-Teacher turnover rates are much higher than in other gateway cities. Extensive district-wide vacancies have meant many students going weeks, even months-without having a consistent classroom teacher. Lawrence students deserve the chance to form relationships with trained professional educators.

-Lawrence schools are being driven by a mechanized test preparation curriculum which alienates students from authentic learning. Lawrence students deserve joyful and culturally appropriate, inquiry-driven learning.

-Lawrence High School graduates must often use Pell Grant dollars on non-credit remedial courses to access college-level work. Lawrence graduates deserve an education that prepares them for college.

-The Receivership has failed even by DESE's own limited definition of achievement: MCAS data. Lawrence students, educators, and parents are not defined by test scores.

-Lastly, but importantly, the Receivership has diminished the role of faculty, staff, parents, students and the elected school committee in the governance and administration of their school district. The Lawrence Public School district must be made whole again.

This means restoring the full democratic rights of the Lawrence School Committee.

It means that the people working for Lawrence Public Schools have the full protections guaranteed under Mass. General Law 150 as members of a bargaining unit—the same protections we extend to every other district in the Merrimack Valley.

The "father knows best" policy of Receivership in the City of Lawrence cannot be abided any longer.

**"Friendship... is not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything."**

MUHAMMAD ALI

