

Enero/January 8, 2023

EDICIÓN NO. 845
The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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Celebrating the new year...
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Celebrando el año nuevo...
cada segundo

Por/ By Paul Montesino Pg. 11

Happy 100th Birthday Veteran Sebastiano Messina



Photo Benjamin Levy

Members of the Lawrence City Council and Mayor Brian DePeña honored Veteran Sebastiano Messina at Andover Country Club on his 100th birthday. Pg. 10

Our leaders at work in the State House



A delegation from Greater Lawrence Family Health Center traveled to the State House to discuss issues impacting our community with new legislators Sen. Pavel Payano, City Councilor Stephany Infante, Rep. Francisco Paulino, and former Secretary of Health & Human Services Phil Johnston. The panel included GLFHC President & CEO Guy Fish, MD, Director of Development & Marketing Steve Crowell, and Corporate Strategy & Legislative Affairs Manager.

YMCA's Ryan McVann is Nationally Recognized

The YMCA of the USA recognizes 30 of the Y staff, under the age of 30, all across the country who are dedicated to the mission. This award formally acknowledges his or her accomplishments at their perspective associations and is praised for his or her overall potential to lead. The implementation of this award has been encouraged in order to sustain and strengthen the legacy of the YMCA, ensuring that future generations will continue to be inspired to serve through the Y. Pg. 14

Executive Director and CEO at the Merrimack Valley YMCA and Ryan McVann with his great holiday attire.



Ryan McVann de YMCA es reconocido a nivel nacional

La YMCA de los EE. UU. reconoce a 30 del personal de Y, menores de 30 años, en todo el país que se dedican a la misión. Este premio reconoce formalmente sus logros en sus asociaciones de perspectiva y es elogiado por su potencial general para liderar. Se ha alentado la implementación de este premio para sostener y fortalecer el legado de la YMCA, asegurando que las generaciones futuras continúen inspirándose para servir a través de la Y. Pg. 14

¿Qué son los estipendios y cómo se emiten?

What are stipends and how they are issued?

Por/By Dalia Diaz - Pg. 9

News from Methuen Police

The Methuen Police Department is working on recruitment of residents to take the Civil Service Police Exam that is coming up soon. The deadline to apply for the Civil Service Test is January 17th, 2022!

Can you help us get this information out there to your social media Friends and Followers? The information has been posted to our police department social media accounts for quick sharing as well. Any dissemination of this content is greatly appreciated in our efforts to grow a more diverse police department.

See more information on page 17.

Por/By Dalia Diaz
rumbonews.com/blogs

Desde Mi Esquina

iAleluya!

Este no es el país de mi
refugio

Página 4

Por/By Dalia Diaz
rumbonews.com/blogs

From My Corner

Alleluia!

This is not the country of
my refuge

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Mayor Appoints Conservation Officer after a decade-long absence



Mayor James J. Fiorentini has appointed retired Haverhill Police Officer Dan McDonald to the position of part-time Conservation Officer.

Officer McDonald, who holds a master's degree in Criminal Justice, served the Haverhill Police Department for 27 years before his retirement in July 2021. Since retiring, Officer McDonald has been working private details for Haverhill Police.

The city eliminated the Conservation Officer position about a decade ago, but Mayor Fiorentini and Police Chief Robert Pistone agreed the time has come to restore the position, which is charged with watching over the city's vast woodlands and waterways, and many miles of nature trails along with hunters, fishermen, hikers and the general public.

An avid outdoorsman and long-

time advocate for preserving Haverhill's woodlands, Officer McDonald was excited to take on his new role.

"Officer McDonald's vast knowledge of Haverhill's rural areas and his prior career in public service has allowed him to jump right into his new position," Police Chief Pistone said. "In the short time since starting his new job, Officer McDonald has been active, dealing with illegal hunting activities, illegal dumping violations, ATV complaints and many other issues on conservation lands throughout the city."

Officer McDonald will also assist Haverhill's Animal Control officers when they are off duty or need help.

If you have an issue or a question for Officer McDonald about conservation lands, you can email him at dmcdonald@haverhillpolice.com

Alcalde nombra oficial de conservación después de una década de ausencia

El Alcalde James J. Fiorentini ha designado al oficial de policía jubilado de Haverhill, Dan McDonald, para el puesto de oficial de conservación a tiempo parcial.

El oficial McDonald, que tiene una maestría en Justicia Criminal, sirvió en el Departamento de Policía de Haverhill durante 27 años antes de jubilarse en julio de 2021. Desde que se jubiló, el oficial McDonald ha estado trabajando en "details" privados para la Policía de Haverhill.

La ciudad eliminó el puesto de Oficial de Conservación hace aproximadamente una década, pero el Alcalde Fiorentini y el jefe de policía Robert Pistone acordaron que ha llegado el momento de restaurar el puesto, que está encargado de vigilar los vastos bosques y vías fluviales de la ciudad, y muchos kilómetros de senderos naturales a lo largo con cazadores, pescadores, excursionistas y público en general.

Un ávido amante de la naturaleza y defensor desde hace mucho tiempo de la

preservación de los bosques de Haverhill, el oficial McDonald estaba emocionado de asumir su nuevo rol.

"El vasto conocimiento del Oficial McDonald de las áreas rurales de Haverhill y su carrera previa en el servicio público le han permitido saltar directamente a su nuevo puesto", dijo el jefe de policía Pistone. "En el poco tiempo transcurrido desde que comenzó su nuevo trabajo, el oficial McDonald ha estado activo, lidiando con actividades de caza ilegal, violaciones de vertidos ilegales, quejas de vehículos para todo tipo de terreno y muchos otros problemas en tierras de conservación en toda la ciudad".

El oficial McDonald también ayudará a los oficiales de control de animales de Haverhill cuando estén fuera de servicio o necesiten ayuda.

Si tiene un problema o una pregunta para el oficial McDonald sobre las tierras de conservación, puede enviarle un correo electrónico a dmcdonald@haverhillpolice.com

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Departamento de Policía de Lawrence

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The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

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315 Mt. Vernon Street Lawrence, MA 01843-3206

Tel: (978) 794-5360 | www.rumbonews.com

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POR DALIA DÍAZ
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READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16



Desde Mi Esquina

¡Aleluya!

Algo está pasando en LCAT. Hay indicios de que la ciudad le ha dicho a Lawrence Community Access Television que tienen 90 días para entregar la administración del Canal 22 y el Canal 8 al pueblo.

Había perdido toda esperanza y dejé de quejarme porque pensé que nunca sucedería. Tengo que averiguar más sobre esto y traérselo la próxima semana.

Este no es el país de mi refugio

Con toda la violencia que está sucediendo en el mundo (y en este país), nos sentimos afortunados de vivir en este área y particularmente en Lawrence, donde casi nada está sucediendo. Bueno, depende de cuánto lleguemos a escuchar porque estamos privados de noticias.

¿Recuerda la administración de William Lantigua? Camiones de todas las estaciones de televisión de Boston estaban estacionados permanentemente frente al Ayuntamiento y todos los programas de noticias parecían tener el mismo guion: negatividad hacia Lawrence. Al jefe de policía John Romero le encantaba estar en la televisión y no dudaba en llamar a los medios de comunicación cuando sucedía algo, por insignificante que fuera.

Lo mejor es estar al tanto de lo que afecta a nuestra ciudad porque podemos comprar cerraduras para nuestras puertas y cámaras de vigilancia para nuestras casas; pero si no sabemos qué peligros nos acechan, ¿cómo nos vamos a proteger?

La mayoría de las veces nos enteramos de la violencia escolar porque a los estudiantes les encanta publicar videos de peleas en las redes sociales, pero nunca escuchamos sobre medidas disciplinarias o lo que les sucedió, por lo que asumimos que no fue tan malo.

En este momento en Virginia, hay un maestro en estado crítico por un disparo de un estudiante. Horrible, cierto, pero el hecho de que el niño tuviera 6 años es difícil de comprender. ¿Qué le estamos haciendo a esta generación? Entre las drogas, el alcohol, los videojuegos violentos, la falta de disciplina y la falta de educación en nuestras escuelas (a nivel nacional), no podemos esperar menos.

En Boston, el Concejo Municipal pide a la Alcaldesa Michelle Wu que coloque policías en todas las escuelas ante el aumento de la violencia entre los estudiantes. Solo esta semana, algunas estudiantes atacaron a una maestra que acompañaba a una estudiante a su casa después de que terminaron las clases cuando dos o tres alumnas los atacaron y comenzaron a agredirlos, según un artículo en el Boston Herald.

“Los testigos dijeron a la policía que se vio a tres de las niñas golpeando repetidamente a la maestra mientras yacía en el suelo, protegiendo a la estudiante con su cuerpo, y se vio a una estudiante

saltando de una cornisa y pateando a la maestra”, dice el artículo. La maestra y la estudiante fueron hospitalizadas.

También están solicitando el regreso de tecnología no invasiva, como detectores de metales, lo cual no es una mala idea para las escuelas de Lawrence.

Durante años, he estado pidiendo información a las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence sobre muchos temas y solo hubo silencio. Hace un par de años, acompañé a la madre de una estudiante de la escuela Arlington para averiguar qué planeaban hacer con ella después de resultar lesionada cuando otras dos estudiantes le hicieron una broma aprendida en tiktok. Eso resultó en que se le dijera a la estudiante que no regresara a la escuela. La víctima siguió siendo educada en casa y nunca supimos si las perpetradoras fueron siquiera disciplinados.

El silencio proveniente del sistema escolar fue insultante y nadie respondió a mis preguntas. El alcalde y los concejales de la ciudad no pudieron hacer nada porque el sistema escolar está bajo el control del estado. Entonces yo dependía de maestros, trabajadores, padres, cualquiera que me dijera qué estaba pasando pero había miedo.

La gente en esta ciudad está paralizada por el miedo a todo y no exige lo que es suyo por derecho. No estoy hablando de violencia; simplemente preguntando por qué están sucediendo las cosas.

Finalmente, James Miele, un oficial de seguridad de Lawrence High School que se jubiló el año pasado y está demandando al Departamento Escolar por no recibir lo que se le debía cuando se fue en junio pasado, me envió dos solicitudes bajo la Ley de Libertad de Información de las escuelas y el Departamento de Policía.

Esa es la única forma de obtener información porque los radioaficionados ya no pueden monitorear los radios de la policía porque cambiaron la frecuencia y nadie sabe lo que está pasando.

Esos documentos mostraron que desde el 8/1/22 hasta el 12/29/22 hubo 157 incidentes en las escuelas con 64 incidentes solo en la escuela secundaria habiendo tenido 10 arrestos. Esto es alarmante para mí, pero me pregunto cómo es que no nos enteramos de esos casos.

Hubo un tiempo en que había 15 oficiales de seguridad en las escuelas y ahora solo hay 7, mientras que muchos empleados de las escuelas están pagados con exceso. Esperemos que el Alcalde Brian De Peña pueda recuperar las escuelas de la intervención y solucionar esa situación.

También espero que el alcalde pueda enterarse de lo que realmente se les está enseñando a nuestros niños en temas de género. Un juez en California falló recientemente a favor de la madre de un niño de 5 años que quiere castrarlo y convertirlo en una niña. El padre del niño no pudo salvarlo del juez.

Eso está pasando en todo el país. Aquí mismo en Ludlow, Massachusetts, se les

dijo a los maestros que alentaran a los niños a cambiar sus nombres y pronombres sin el consentimiento de sus padres. Cuando se enteraron de que esto estaba pasando, demandaron al sistema escolar.

El juez falló el 14 de diciembre en contra de los padres porque la demanda no cumplió con el estándar legal de “choque de conciencia” para reclamos del debido proceso bajo la Enmienda 14, pero también reprendió al distrito escolar por su política de retener las identidades de género a los estudiantes a escondidas.

Finalmente decidió que ocultar información a los padres no alcanzaba el umbral de ser impactante para la conciencia.

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.

¿Está eso pasando en Lawrence? Espero que el Alcalde De Peña también pueda aclarar qué es lo que se enseña en nuestras escuelas y si hay claridad para los padres porque así es. Por ejemplo, ¿por qué permiten que un maestro varón cambie su ropa por ropa femenina y vuelva a cambiarse antes de irse a casa?

¿Qué está tratando de demostrar a sus alumnos y por qué le permiten hacerlo?

¡Tenemos tanto trabajo que hacer aquí! Lo más importante que debemos hacer es aprender a perder el miedo y hacer preguntas a nuestros líderes. Rellenar los baches no hace que la ciudad sea segura, ¡la gente, sí!

No me disculpo si esto ofende a alguien

Por Greg Morris

A un joven de Pittsburgh se le pagó para entretenerte como atleta profesional. Lamentablemente ese joven resultó gravemente herido; él casi muere; sin embargo, su vida fue salvada. Su contrato es de \$4 millones por 4 años. Fue un incidente aterrador que podría haber tenido un resultado mucho más triste y me alegro de que sobreviva.

Como es un atleta, su nombre está en todos los medios y casi todos hablan de él, de lo afortunado que es. Se puso a trabajar con el peso de las protecciones de fútbol y la presión de hacer un buen partido para los fanáticos y su equipo.

Los medios de comunicación están haciendo de ésta la noticia más importante del momento. Se refieren a él como el joven y valiente jugador que sobrevivió a un roce con la muerte en un extraño accidente mientras ganaba millones. Las redes sociales y los medios de comunicación se jactan de cómo una cuenta de GoFundMe para la organización benéfica del atleta ha recaudado más de \$4.7 millones a su nombre gracias a las donaciones.

Otros dos hombres fueron a trabajar también desde Pittsburgh al igual que el jugador. Estos dos hombres ganaban mucho menos dinero, tenían mucha más presión y cargaban con el peso de las promesas a sus familias y un juramento a su comunidad. En lugar de almohadillas y casco, usaban una insignia y un chaleco.

La insignia que usan dice OFICIAL DE POLICÍA y puede ser pequeña, pero tiene el peso de saber que prometieron a sus familias que regresarían a casa, el peso de un juramento de servir y proteger a una comunidad siendo lo único que se interpuso entre los inocentes y los demonios.

En una balanza las protecciones de fútbol pesan más que un escudo de unas pocas onzas. Pero en el corazón, esa insignia pesa mil veces más que esas almohadillas. Uno de esos hombres yace en un hospital recuperándose de una herida de bala con su familia, amigos, comunidad y la Línea Azul a su lado. El otro hombre pagó el sacrificio supremo;

no hay mayor amor que este: dar la vida por los amigos. Hoy la familia, los amigos, la comunidad y Blue Line del oficial se preparan para despedirse.

Estos dos hombres, el jefe de policía de Brackenridge, Justin McIntire, y el oficial de Tarentum, Jordan Schrecengost, son la segunda historia en las noticias y hablaron menos en las redes sociales, mientras que la organización benéfica GoFundMe del artista ahora tiene un valor de \$4.7 millones y docenas de deportistas de la pantalla se acercan para apoyarlo y su caridad.

La familia del asesinado jefe de policía de Brackenridge, Justin McIntire, se despedirá y tendrá que enfrentarse a un futuro sin él. El oficial de Tarentum, Jordan Schrecengost, enfrentará un largo camino hacia la recuperación y una vida de cicatrices físicas y mentales. Estoy seguro de que habrá apoyo de la comunidad para estos dos valientes hombres, pero ¿crees que ascenderá a la suma de \$4.7 millones? Yo tampoco.

Me enferma que estos hombres sean segundos después de un atleta. Los medios necesitan aclarar quiénes son los verdaderos héroes.

Nuevamente, me alegro de que el jugador esté bien, pero estoy con la Línea Azul. Mi corazón y mis oraciones están con las familias y la familia LEO del jefe de policía de Brackenridge, Justin McIntire, y el oficial de Tarentum, Jordan Schrecengost, los verdaderos héroes.

Nota de la editora:

Greg Morris me dio permiso para agregar el nombre del actor Jeremy Renner, quien fue atropellado en un accidente por su maquinaria de remover nieve, también está siendo muy mencionado.

Si quiere contribuir a salvar una vida, envíe su contribución a Stacy Morris quien está siendo mantenida en vida gracias a \$2,000 en medicamentos cada mes. Puede enviarlo a: <https://gofund.me/f8ff1496>

Para más información, por favor vea nuestra edición de 9/22/22 en Rumbonews.com

“Sé que mi franqueza de palabra hace que me odien, y ¿qué es su odio sino una prueba de que estoy diciendo la verdad?”

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Maura Healey jura como 73^{va} Gobernadora de Massachusetts

Se compromete a hacer que Massachusetts sea más asequible, impulsar la competitividad y liderar el mundo en materia climática

BOSTON – El miércoles, 5 de enero de 2023, Maura T. Healey prestó juramento como la 73^{va} gobernadora de Massachusetts, luego de convertirse en la primera mujer elegida para el cargo en la historia del estado. También es la primera persona gay en ocupar el cargo.

Healey prestó juramento usando una Biblia familiar originalmente propiedad de su tatarabuela Henrietta Porter. Henrietta estaba casada con el tatarabuelo de Healey, Jere W. Porter, quien luchó en la Guerra Civil por la Unión. Se casaron después de la guerra en Newburyport.

En su discurso inaugural, Healey se comprometió a hacer que Massachusetts sea más asequible, impulsar la competitividad y liderar el mundo en materia climática. Una transcripción completa del discurso se puede encontrar aquí.

Asequibilidad

“Amamos este estado porque es nuestro hogar. Un hogar para todos nosotros. Queremos que la gente venga aquí. Y queremos que las personas que crecen aquí se queden aquí. Nuestro país ve a Massachusetts como un brillante ejemplo de libertad, igualdad y éxito. Pero demasiados estados están comenzando a pasar por alto”, dijo Healey. “Tenemos que hacer de Massachusetts un lugar al que la gente pueda darse el lujo de llamar hogar. Nuestra gente no puede realizar sus sueños

hasta que acabemos con la pesadilla de los altos costos”.

Los planes de Healey para hacer que Massachusetts sea más asequible comienzan primero con la vivienda. Se comprometió a presentar legislación en sus primeros 100 días para crear un nuevo Secretario de Vivienda, que trabajará en todo el gobierno y en todo el estado para cumplir con nuestras metas de vivienda. También le ha ordenado a su Secretario de Administración y Finanzas que identifique terrenos e instalaciones estatales no utilizadas que puedan convertirse en viviendas dentro de un año.

Healey también destacó su compromiso con la implementación de la reforma fiscal, incluido un crédito fiscal por hijos ampliado. Y pidió la aprobación de una legislación en línea con Common Start, que reduciría el costo del cuidado infantil para las familias y aumentaría el salario de los trabajadores.

Competitividad

“También necesitamos construir una economía de Massachusetts para el futuro. No podemos liderar el mañana si nos conformamos con lo que es lo suficientemente bueno hoy. Para seguir atrayendo a los mejores trabajadores del mundo, nuestra economía tiene que competir”, dijo Healey. “Permitanme hablar directamente con la comunidad

empresarial. Usted ayuda a impulsar nuestra economía y ayudará a construir nuestro futuro. En mí, tendrás un compañero en cada paso del camino”.

Para apoyar a las empresas e impulsar la competitividad, Healey pidió un esfuerzo masivo de capacitación laboral, asociándose con colegios comunitarios y escuelas vocacionales para garantizar que los trabajadores estén capacitados con las necesidades de las empresas en la región. Se comprometió a crear y financiar un nuevo programa llamado MassReconnect en su primer presupuesto, que ofrecerá un colegio comunitario gratuito a estudiantes mayores de 25 años que no tengan un título universitario. También pidió financiar la Ley de Oportunidades Estudiantiles y ampliar los recursos para la atención de la salud mental y la seguridad alimentaria.

Healey también enfatizó que la competitividad de Massachusetts está ligada a un sistema de transporte seguro, confiable y accesible. Se comprometió a nombrar a un Gerente General de MBTA con amplia experiencia en tránsito y un enfoque láser en hacer que el tránsito sea seguro y confiable, además de nombrar a un Jefe de Seguridad dentro de los 60 días para realizar una auditoría del sistema. También se comprometió a incluir fondos en su primer presupuesto para contratar a 1,000 trabajadores adicionales de MBTA en el primer año de su administración y anunció que formará un grupo de trabajo interinstitucional, el primero de su tipo, para competir por dinero federal para infraestructura.

Entiendo que nuestra gente es nuestra mayor fortaleza, Healey también se comprometió a derribar las barreras sistémicas que retienen a muchos. Para comenzar este trabajo, está ordenando a todas las agencias estatales que realicen una auditoría de equidad completa.

Clima

“Déjame ser claro sobre esto. Donde otros pueden ver desesperanza y resignación, yo veo una oportunidad sin igual”, dijo Healey. “Podemos proteger nuestro clima y crear empleos. Tampoco es demasiado tarde para hacerlo. Es urgente que hagamos los dos. Y creo que Massachusetts puede liderar el mundo”.

Con el fin de impulsar el trabajo necesario para combatir la crisis climática y liderar la economía de energía limpia, Healey anunció que presentará una Orden Ejecutiva el viernes creando un Jefe Climático a nivel de gabinete, que trabajará en todo el gobierno y con las comunidades para cumplir con nuestros objetivos climáticos. Esos objetivos incluyen duplicar los objetivos eólicos y solares marinos, cuadruplicar el despliegue de almacenamiento de energía, electrificar

la flota de transporte público, poner un millón de vehículos eléctricos en las carreteras para 2030, dedicar al menos el 1% del presupuesto estatal a las agencias ambientales y de energía, triplicar el presupuesto del Centro de Energía Limpia y la creación de un Banco Verde para fomentar la inversión en infraestructura resiliente y atraer nuevos negocios a Massachusetts.

Healey también se comprometió a crear un corredor climático de investigación, innovación y fabricación desde Berkshires hasta Barnstable y crear miles de nuevos puestos de trabajo en tecnología ecológica y tecnología azul, resiliencia costera y justicia ambiental.

Vicegobernadora Driscoll

Kimberley Driscoll prestó juramento como vicegobernadora, lo que convirtió a la pareja en el primer equipo de oficina ejecutiva exclusivamente femenino en la historia del estado. Usó una Biblia de la legendaria Casa de los Siete Tejados en Salem, que se hizo famosa por la novela de 1851 del autor de renombre mundial Nathaniel Hawthorne. El hito de Salem, construido en 1668, ahora es un museo sin fines de lucro y figura en el Registro Nacional de Lugares Históricos de los EE.UU. y está designado como Distrito de Monumentos Históricos Nacionales de los EE.UU. La biblia histórica, publicada en 1859, pertenece a la familia artística Upton de Salem, la última familia en llamar hogar a The House of the Seven Gables, y la primera en ofrecer recorridos por la mansión precolonial.

El discurso inaugural de la Vicegobernadora Driscoll reflexionó sobre el momento histórico y su trayectoria personal, y articuló la visión que la impulsa a ella y a la Gobernadora Healey a crear un Estado que trabaje para todos y les dé la bienvenida a todos. Señaló la rica historia de “primicias” de Massachusetts como evidencia de la capacidad del estado no solo para enfrentar los desafíos del momento, sino también para aprovechar las oportunidades que surgen al abordar esos desafíos.

“Aquellos de nosotros en esta sala elegidos para representar a personas en todo Massachusetts sabemos que es posible satisfacer nuestras necesidades colectivas en vivienda, educación, transporte y clima. Después de todo, somos un estado con una rica historia de primicias, desde desencadenar una revolución en el hogar hasta compartir vacunas que salvan vidas en todo el mundo”, dijo Driscoll. “Ahora, más que nunca en la historia de nuestro estado, debemos apoyarnos en nuestras raíces y aprovechar las oportunidades para crecer, cambiar, innovar, para unir a las personas en el avance de nuestra visión compartida”.

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 PM to 8:30 PM.

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



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**Points and/or additional fees may be assessed for borrowers with credit scores lower than 720 and/or cash-out refinance loans.

Maura Healey Sworn in as 73rd Governor of Massachusetts

Pledges to make Massachusetts more affordable, drive competitiveness and lead the world on climate

BOSTON — On Wednesday, January 5, 2023, Maura T. Healey was sworn in as the 73rd Governor of Massachusetts, after becoming the first woman ever elected to the position in state history. She is also the first gay person to hold the office.

Healey was sworn in using a family Bible originally owned by her Great Great Grandmother Henrietta Porter. Henrietta was married to Healey's Great Great Grandfather Jere W. Porter, who fought in the Civil War for the Union. They married after the war in Newburyport.

In her inaugural address, Healey pledged to make Massachusetts more affordable, drive competitiveness and lead the world on climate. A full transcript of the speech can be found [here](#).

Affordability

"We love this state because it's our home. A home for us all. We want people to come here. And we want people who grow up here to stay here. Our country looks on Massachusetts as a gleaming example of liberty and equality and success. But too many states are beginning to pass us by," said Healey. "We have to make Massachusetts a place that people can afford to call home. Our people can't realize their dreams until we end the nightmare of high costs."

Healey's plans to make Massachusetts more affordable start first with housing. She pledged to file legislation in her first 100 days to create a new Secretary of Housing, who will work across the government and across the state to meet our housing goals. She has also directed her Secretary of Administration and Finance to identify unused state-owned land and facilities that can be turned into housing within one year.

Healey also highlighted her

commitment to implementing tax reform, including an expanded child tax credit. And she called for passage of legislation in line with Common Start, which would lower the cost of child care for families and increase pay for workers.

Competitiveness

"We also need to build a Massachusetts economy for the future. We can't lead tomorrow if we settle for what's good enough today. To keep attracting the best workers in the world, our economy has to compete," said Healey. "Let me speak directly to the business community. You help drive our economy and you will help build our future. In me, you will have a partner every step of the way."

In order to support businesses and drive competitiveness, Healey called for a massive job training effort, partnering with community colleges and vocational schools to make sure workers are trained with the needs of companies in the region. She pledged to create and fund a new program called MassReconnect in her first budget, which will offer free community college to students over 25 who don't have a college degree. She also called for funding the Student Opportunity Act and expanding resources for mental health care and food security.

Healey also emphasized that Massachusetts' competitiveness is tied to a safe, reliable and accessible transportation system. She committed to appointing an MBTA General Manager with deep transit experience and a laser focus on making transit safe and reliable, as well as appointing a Safety Chief within 60 days to conduct an audit of the system. She also pledged to include funding in her first budget to hire 1,000 additional MBTA workers in the first year of her

administration and announced that she will form an interagency task force — the first of its kind — to compete for federal infrastructure money.

Understanding that our people are our greatest strength, Healey also pledged to break down systemic barriers that hold far too many back. To begin this work, she is directing every state agency to conduct a full equity audit.

Climate

"Let me be clear about this. Where others may see hopelessness and resignation, I see unparalleled opportunity," said Healey. "We can protect our climate and create jobs. It's not too late to do either. It's urgent that we do both. And I believe Massachusetts can lead the world."

In order to drive the work needed to combat the climate crisis and lead the clean energy economy, Healey announced that she will submit an Executive Order on Friday creating a cabinet-level Climate Chief, who will work across government and with communities to deliver on our climate goals. Those goals include doubling offshore wind and solar targets, quadrupling energy storage deployment, electrifying the public transportation fleet, putting one million electric vehicles on the road by 2030, dedicating at least 1% of the state budget to environmental and energy agencies, tripling the budget of the Clean Energy Center and creating a Green Bank to foster investment in resilient infrastructure and attract new businesses to Massachusetts.

Healey also pledged to create a climate corridor of research, innovation and manufacturing from the Berkshires to Barnstable and creating thousands of new jobs in clean tech and blue tech, coastal resiliency, and environmental justice.

Lieutenant Governor Driscoll

Kimberley Driscoll was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor, making the pair the first all-women executive office team in state history. She used a Bible from the fabled House of the Seven Gables in Salem, made famous by world-renowned author Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1851 novel. The Salem landmark, built in 1668, is now a non-profit museum and listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places and is designated a U.S. National Historic Landmark District. The historic bible, published in 1859, belongs to the artistic Upton Family of Salem — the last family to call The House of the Seven Gables home, and the first to offer tours of the pre-colonial mansion.

Lieutenant Governor Driscoll's inaugural address reflected on the history-making moment and her personal journey, and articulated the vision that drives her and Governor Healey to build a Commonwealth that works for and welcomes all. She pointed to Massachusetts' rich history of "firsts" as evidence of the state's capacity to not only meet the challenges of the moment, but to embrace the opportunities that come with addressing those challenges.

"Those of us in this room elected to represent people throughout Massachusetts know that it's possible to meet our collective needs in housing, in education, in transportation and climate. After all, we're a state with a rich history of firsts - from sparking a revolution at home to sharing life-saving vaccines around the world," said Driscoll. "Now, more than ever in our state's history, we must lean into our roots and embrace the opportunities to grow, change, innovate - to bring people together in advancement of our shared vision."

I WAS DENIED AN APARTMENT FOR NOT HAVING 3X THE RENT, EVEN THOUGH I HAVE A VOUCHER.



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Cuando un arrendador trató de negarme la vivienda debido a mi vale de vivienda (ejemplo, sección 8), me comuniqué con FHAM y me enteré de mis derechos de vivienda justa. Por ejemplo, si puedes pagar un apartamento con su vale, entonces el arrendador no puede negárselo solo porque sus ingresos son menos de tres veces el alquiler total. Si cree que ha sufrido discriminación, comuníquese con FHAM y presente una denuncia.

Visite www.mafham.org o llame al (508)444-9332.

**La discriminación de vales es ilegal.
¡Repórtalo!**



Carta al Editor / Letter to the Editor



Amigo,

En caso de que se lo haya perdido, nuestra gobernadora demócrata entrante, Maura Healey, prestó juramento hoy.

Le evitaré revisar los aspectos más destacados de la cobertura aduladora de su toma de posesión por parte de nuestros medios heredados sesgados.

Ahora tenemos una gobernadora que animó abiertamente a los alborotadores e incendiarios en 2020, que sermonó a cualquier persona preocupada por los hombres biológicos que deambulan por los vestuarios de mujeres para que "se aguanten" y que prometió "reducir los impuestos" durante su mandato como gobernadora, pero que la apoyó plenamente, una nueva tasa de impuestos graduados que recientemente entró en vigencia y que sin duda alejará a las empresas de Massachusetts.

Tenemos mucho trabajo por hacer, así que iremos directo al grano: nuestro enfoque este invierno y principios de la primavera se asentará de lleno en reunir

a las bases para que se involucren en sus elecciones municipales locales.

El cambio comienza a nivel local, y estaremos reclutando republicanos para postularse para puestos en sus comités escolares locales, consejos municipales y juntas de electores.

Estamos construyendo un mejor MassGOP.

Seguimos comprometidos con la construcción de un mejor Partido Republicano de Massachusetts, que responda a las bases y no a los de adentro, y que ofrezca una alternativa distinta al statu quo izquierdista en Beacon Hill.

No vamos a renunciar, y tú tampoco. Hay mucho trabajo por hacer y, en nombre del Partido Republicano de Massachusetts, les agradezco su continuo apoyo.

Sinceramente,

Jim Lyons, Presidente
Partido Republicano de Massachusetts

Friend,

In case you missed it, our incoming Democratic Gov. Maura Healey was sworn into office today.

I'll spare you from reviewing highlights of the fawning coverage of her inauguration from our biased legacy media.

We now have a governor who openly cheered on rioters and arsonists in 2020, who lectured anyone concerned about biological men roaming around women's locker rooms to "just hold it," and who promises to "cut taxes" during her tenure as governor yet fully supported a new graduated tax rate that recently went into effect that will no doubt drive businesses away from Massachusetts.

We've got our work cut out for us, so we'll get right to the point: Our focus this winter and early spring will sit squarely on rallying the grassroots to get involved in

their local municipal elections.

Change begins locally, and we will be recruiting Republicans to run for seats on their local school committees, city councils, and boards of selectmen.

We're building a better MassGOP. You can help by clicking here.

We remain committed to building a better Massachusetts Republican Party, which answers to the grassroots and not the insiders, and which offers a distinct alternative to the leftist status quo on Beacon Hill.

We're not about to quit, and neither are you. There's much work to be done, and on behalf of the Massachusetts Republican Party, I thank you for your continued support.

Yours,

Jim Lyons, Chairman
Chairman, Massachusetts Republican Party



Pegasus House y Women's View reciben una subvención de \$10,000 para programas educacionales



Nicole Roberge, quien se graduó de Women's View el año pasado, de pie con un certificado de graduación, la directora ejecutiva Carina Pappalardo y la directora del programa Donna Kivlin.

Nicole Roberge, who graduated from Women's View last year, stands with a graduation certificate, CEO Carina Pappalardo, and Program Director Donna Kivlin.

La directora ejecutiva Carina Pappalardo se complace en compartir que The Psychological Center, Inc. recibió una subvención de \$10,000 de Perpetual Trust for Charitable Giving para financiar programas educativos continuos en Pegasus House y Women's View.

Los fondos de la subvención, que son administrados y distribuidos por Bank of America Philanthropic Solutions, apoyarán programas en temas como autosuficiencia financiera, autocuidado y atención médica, aumento de la autoestima, capacitación laboral, cocina y reunificación familiar.

Los programas educativos tienen como objetivo mejorar la autosuficiencia

y la educación de los huéspedes, así como prepararlos para encontrar vivienda y vivir con éxito en recuperación.

"Preparar a nuestros huéspedes para la vida después de su estadía en Pegasus House y Women's View es un componente clave de nuestra estrategia para que las mujeres se recuperen como miembros exitosos de la sociedad, y es una verdadera bendición ver cómo cada mujer crece por sí misma". recuperación y se gradúa con honor y gratitud", dijo el CEO Pappalardo. "Apreciamos enormemente estos fondos de subvención y esperamos continuar nuestros esfuerzos para brindar educación y esperanza a todos nuestros invitados".

Pegasus House and Women's View Receive \$10,000 Grant To Support Educational Programming

Chief Executive Officer Carina Pappalardo is pleased to share that The Psychological Center, Inc., received a \$10,000 grant from the Perpetual Trust for Charitable Giving to fund continued educational programs at Pegasus House and Women's View.

Grant funds, which are managed and distributed by Bank of America Philanthropic Solutions, will support programs on topics such as financial self-sufficiency, self-care and medical care, increasing self-esteem, employment training, cooking, and family reunification.

Educational programs are aimed at improving guests' self-sufficiency and

education, as well as preparing them to find housing and to successfully live in recovery.

"Preparing our guests for life after their stay at Pegasus House and Women's View is a key component of our strategy for getting women back on their feet as successful members of society, and it is a true blessing to watch as each woman grows in their own recovery and graduates with honor and gratitude," said CEO Pappalardo. "We appreciate these grant funds tremendously and look forward to continuing our efforts to provide both education and hope to all of our guests."

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

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

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

¿Qué son los estipendios y cómo se emiten?

Por Dalia Diaz

Durante varios años, hemos escuchado sobre los bajos salarios de los empleados de la ciudad y cómo otros han recibido grandes aumentos. Nunca ha habido otra explicación que no sea que unos están sindicalizados, otros no y no hay nadie luchando por ellos.

Hay una larga lista de renuncias que se han producido en los últimos tres años que demuestran que el salario era la principal queja y pasaron a mejores trabajos. Por ejemplo, en 2020 hubo 23 renuncias; en 2021 subió a 46; y en 2022 fueron 61, para un total de 131 en tres años. Desde el departamento de policía hasta la biblioteca y el departamento de obras públicas, todos buscan mejores fondos para sobrevivir y, a decir verdad, algunos eran ridículamente bajos.

Cuando el Alcalde Brian De Peña sugirió aumentar los salarios, los residentes temieron que aumentaran los impuestos a la propiedad, entre otros costos. "Seguimos perdiendo gente buena por esto", dijo el Alcalde De Peña. "Y la gente que estamos perdiendo son en su mayoría profesionales como varios ingenieros que se han ido a municipios cercanos", concluyó.

El alcalde insistió en que debemos preocuparnos, ante todo, de que la ciudad funcione correctamente con empleados conscientes, que realmente se preocupen por ella y estén capacitados para el trabajo.

Primero, contrató los servicios del Edward J. Collins Center for Public Management en UMass, Boston (Collins Center). El informe regresó con mucha información sobre las ciudades y pueblos de los alrededores y cómo la economía actual los ha afectado. Luego, compararon sus trabajos y salarios con lo que tenemos actualmente con un "Salario Mínimo Anual Recomendado" y un "Salario Máximo Recomendado" como sugerencia inicial. Eso incluyó a TODOS los empleados de la ciudad en TODOS los departamentos y muchos de ellos estaban mal pagados.

La Encuesta de Salarios de Mercado del Centro Collins incluyó los siguientes municipios: Andover, Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Haverhill, Lowell, Lynn, Methuen, North Andover y Tewksbury, era obvio que comparar a Lawrence con esas ciudades es injusto; sin embargo, se tomó en consideración.

El alcalde comenzó a asignar un estipendio anual a varios empleados de la ciudad y en junio pasado, el Concejo Municipal aprobó el aumento de esos puestos en el presupuesto de la ciudad

(publicado en línea) y los nuevos salarios comenzaron en julio.

A modo de aclaración, hay un estudiante en prácticas que trabaja en la Alcaldía, pero trabaja algunas horas por la tarde o por la noche y recibe una compensación por hora.

A partir de 2023, no hay estipendios asignados por la alcaldía.

Cómo deberían funcionar los estipendios

Los estipendios asignados por una fuente de autoridad estarán plagados de corrupción. La administración de Rivera usó la afiliación sindical versus no sindical como base para determinar el valor y el valor del salario, pero solo para recompensar a los aliados políticos y amigos mientras atacaba a los miembros sindicales (matando dos pájaros de un tiro).

Las acciones de Rivera fueron ilegales. Sin embargo, la cobertura de apoyo sindical poco sincero, junto con la falta de respuesta de los atacados, resultó en fraude, ausencia de empleados (no-show), políticas de "pago por jugar" y falta de productividad.

Todas esas cosas son las que plagan las posiciones políticas desde el Empleo Federal hasta el Municipal. La corrupción inevitablemente seguirá y fluirá del uso de estipendios para curar las disparidades salariales; desafortunadamente, es el comienzo de algo que esperaba que la Administración De Peña pudiera denunciar.

Pero, como dicen, "¿Qué podría salir mal?" La corrupción de salarios/estipendios podría frenarse con una supervisión independiente. Por ejemplo, todos los estipendios deben enviarse al Concejo Municipal como "artículos presupuestarios" y solo deben implementarse aquellos aprobados por el Concejo.

También debe haber una revisión de todos los estipendios. Idealmente, debería haber un sistema semestral o anual o como parte del proceso de aprobación del presupuesto para determinar si el estipendio es efectivo (si está logrando el resultado previsto, como producción o servicio público) y si el estipendio es necesario para continuar con las métricas de revisión estándar.

Otra forma de implementar estipendios es presentarlos como "enmiendas de ordenanzas" al puesto que pretenden complementar. Esto requeriría revisión y aprobación por parte del Concejo Municipal y enmiendas presupuestarias,

las cuales estarían abiertas para revisión e investigación pública.

El peligro de no participar tanto en una "revisión pública" como en una votación abierta de representantes elegidos de forma independiente los somete a críticas creíbles y ataques políticos, sino

a cuestionar su existencia legal, como el nepotismo y la extorsión.

En resumen, un estipendio sin supervisión es corrupto.

Recuerde, el servicio del gobierno es un "privilegio ganado" no un "gratis para todos".

What are stipends and how they are issued?

By Dalia Diaz

For several years, we have been hearing about low salaries for city employees and how others have been receiving large raises. There has never been any explanation other than the fact that some are unionized, others are not and there's no one fighting for them.

There's a long list of resignations that have taken place in the last three years demonstrating that salary was the main complaint and they moved on to better jobs. For example, in 2020, there were 23 resignations; in 2021, it went up to 46; and in 2022, there were 61, for a total of 131 in three years. From the police department to the library and the department of public works, everyone aims for better monies to survive and truth be told, some were ridiculously low.

When Mayor Brian De Peña suggested increasing salaries, residents were afraid that property taxes, among other costs, would go up. "We keep losing good people because of this," said Mayor De Peña. "And the people we are losing are mostly professionals like several engineers who have gone to nearby municipalities," he concluded.

The mayor insisted that we must be concerned, first of all in having the city running properly with conscientious employees who really care for it and are qualified for the job.

First, he contracted the services of the Edward J. Collins Center for Public Management at UMass, Boston (Collins Center). The report came back with lots of information about surrounding cities and towns and how the current economy has affected them. Then, they compared their jobs and salaries to what we presently have with a "Recommended Minimum Annual Salary" and a "Recommended Maximum Salary" as a beginning suggestion. That included ALL city employees in ALL departments and many of them were underpaid.

The Collins Center's Market Salary Survey included the following municipalities: Andover, Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Haverhill, Lowell, Lynn, Methuen, North Andover, and Tewksbury, it was obvious that comparing Lawrence to those cities is unfair; it was, nevertheless, taken in consideration.

The mayor began assigning an Annual Stipend to several city employees and last June, the City Council approved the increase on those positions in the city budget (posted online) and the new salaries began in July.

For clarification purposes, there is a student intern working at the Mayor's Office but he works a few hours in the afternoon

or evenings and gets compensated hourly.

Beginning in 2023, there are no stipends assigned by the mayor's office.

How stipends should work

Stipends assigned by one source of authority will be plagued by corruption. The Rivera Administration used union vs. non-union affiliation as a basis to determine salary worth and value but only to reward political allies and friends while attacking union members (killing two birds with one stone).

Rivera's actions were unlawful. However, the cover of insincere union support coupled with a lack of retort from those attacked resulted in fraud, no-show employees, pay-to-play policies, and a lack of productivity.

All those things are what plague political positions from Federal to Municipal Employment. Corruption will inevitably follow and flow from the use of stipends to cure salary disparities – unfortunately, it is the beginning of something I had hoped the De Peña Administration might denounce.

But, as they say, "What could possibly go wrong?" Salary/Stipend corruption might be curbed with independent oversight. For example, All stipends should be submitted to the City Council as "budgetary items" and only those approved by the Council should be implemented.

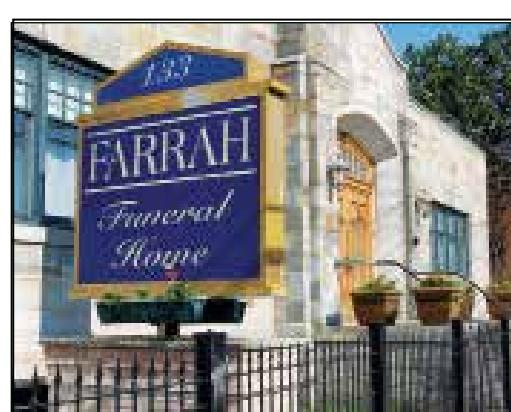
There should also be a review of all stipends. Ideally, there should be a system semi-annually or annually or as part of the budget approval process to determine if the stipend is effective (if it is achieving the intended result, such as production or public service) and if the stipend is needed to continue with standard review metrics.

Another way to implement stipends is to present them as "Ordinance Amendments" to the position they are intended to supplement. This would require review and approval by the City Council and budgetary amendments – both of which would be open for public review and inquiry.

The danger of not engaging both a "public review" and an open vote of independently elected representatives subjects them to credible criticism and political attack – if not to question their lawful existence such as nepotism and extortion.

In short, a stipend without oversight is corrupt.

Remember, government service is an "earned privilege" not a "free-for-all".



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Veteran Sebastiano Messina turns 100

Several members of the Lawrence City Council and Mayor Brian De Peña got together at Andover Country Club on January 8th to celebrate the 100th birthday of Sebastiano Messina hosted by his family.

Mr. Messina's grandson Brad called Councilor Ana Levy to ask if she could attend the affair. "I reached out to Councilor Levy and left her a detailed message. Then, I also spoke with Council President Marc Laplante."

When she responded that she was going to invite the rest of the councilors, his response was, "The more the merrier."

"I said that we honor all veterans and we would love to honor him as well. I explained to him the gratitude that our city Council also has for our veterans," said Councilor Levy.

Councilor Levy presented the Council's Proclamation and Senator Pavel Payano issued one from the Senate.

The City Council is looking for veterans to recognize with a proclamation, especially when they turn 100 years of age.

When Mr. Sebastiano Messina returned home, he opened his own company, Columbia ASC (upholstery) here in the City of Lawrence. He resides above his business to this day at 165 South Broadway.



Surrounding Mr. Messina are: Ana Levy, Celina Reyes, Gregory Del Rosario, Mayor Brian De Peña, Esteela Reyes, Pavel Payano, Stephanie Infante, and Council President Mac Laplante.



Please see below info on the Veteran for proclamation.

- Sebastiano Messina
- Branch of service: Army
- Rank of service: Staff Sergeant
- Enlisted August 31, 1942
- Date of separation December 11, 1945
- Military Occupation AP Engine Mechanic

Good conduct medal, victory medal, American theater campaign ribbon, Asiatic & Pacific theater, campaign ribbon, European African middle eastern theater campaign ribbon.





Happy Holidays from Essex Art Center!

Dear friends,

Happy Holidays! We hope that this time of year can serve for some well-deserved rest and reflection. At Essex Art Center, we have a lot to look forward to as we enter 2023, including a new schedule of classes and an exciting upcoming exhibition. The cold might have you stuck inside, but it's a great time to learn a new skill and be with art.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Remember that winter classes are open for registration! Even though classes are filling up fast, there are still spots open. Check out what's available by visiting our website. Don't forget that Lawrence youth receive a 75% off discount, Lawrence adults receive a 30% off discount, and all seniors no matter where you live receive a 10% off discount.

SAVE THE DATE

On January 19, we will welcome Nudo, an artist collective based in Cali, Colombia, into our space. Their exhibition, De-construcción: Lejanías, integrates videos, sculptures, and installations by over a dozen artists to explore notions of feeling far away—from ourselves, and often from each other—and reminds us that we are not alone. We hope to see you at the opening on Thursday, January 19, 6:00 - 8:00 pm!



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UN PUNTO DE VISTA

Por Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, CCP

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

Celebrando el año nuevo... cada segundo

En el año 45 A.C., eso fue cuarenta y cinco años antes de que Jesús naciera, si quieras mantener el récord, Julio César, un dictador romano si quiere agregar jugo a la historia, ordenó un calendario que consta de doce meses basado en un año solar.

Un año solar significaba que seguiríamos los diversos puntos que alcanza el planeta Tierra mientras viaja alrededor del sol de principio a fin, los 365 días que toma completar el viaje. Este calendario empleaba un ciclo de tres años de 365 días, seguido de un año de 366 días (año bisiesto). Lo que significa que un año después de cada punto de ese viaje, nuestro planeta navegaría se encontraría en el mismo punto.

Cuando se implementó por primera vez, el "Calendario Juliano" también movió el comienzo del año del 1 de marzo al 1 de enero. Por cierto, en caso de que se lo pregunten, el Sr. César no declaró el 1 de enero como feriado de pago, otros lo harían más tarde.

No voy a entrar en este conocido evento histórico por gusto. Parece que los humanos hemos seleccionado ese lugar particular del 1 de enero en los cielos, y ninguno otro de los 364 lugares restantes, para desearnos lo mejor, darnos regalos caros unos a otros y, en muchas de las ocasiones, emborracharnos. Si queremos

ser exactos, cada día en el calendario puede ser una celebración de año nuevo, por ejemplo, nuestros cumpleaños. Preferimos colocar un marco alrededor de todo lo que hacemos, y crear calendarios es una buena manera de hacerlo.

Un ejemplo ayudará. Cuando comencé a escribir mis memorias, no comencé mi historia el día de febrero cuando nací. En cambio, elegí el día de marzo cuando comenzó mi nueva vida en los Estados Unidos. Lo que significa que el día de año nuevo sigue a un día de año viejo, el nuevo mejor que el viejo.

Eso debería darle una opción más amplia para celebrar su año nuevo. Probablemente significa que la mayoría de nosotros tenemos diferentes días de año nuevo cuando nos enfrentamos a la luz del sol y decidimos que trescientos sesenta y cinco días, o seis, a partir de ahora, estaremos en el mismo lugar en el firmamento frente a ese sol. Creo que en realidad es una gran idea y sensación. Significa que la humanidad estará celebrando, saludándose y abrazándose, pero con buena suerte sin emborracharnos y manejar, todos los días del año. ¡Que fiesta!

Bienvenido a mi celebración de año nuevo cada vez que suceda!

Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy. Abur.



A POINT OF VIEW

© 1996
By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, CCP

Celebrating the new year... every second

In 45 B.C., that was forty-five years before Jesus was born if you want to keep the record, Julius Caesar, a Roman dictator if you want to add juice to the story, ordered a calendar consisting of twelve months based on a solar year.

A solar year meant that we would keep track of the various points that planet earth reached as it traveled around the sun from beginning to end, the 365 days it took to complete the trip. This calendar employed a cycle of three years of 365 days, followed by a year of 366 days (leap year). Meaning that a year from every point on that journey, our browsing planet would find itself at the same point.

When first implemented, the "Julian Calendar" also moved the beginning of the year from March 1 to January 1. By the way, just in case you wondered, Mr. Caesar did not declare January 1 a paying holiday, others would do it later.

I am not getting into this well-known historical event for naught. It seems that humans have selected that January 1 particular spot in the heavens, and none other of the remaining 364 spots, for wishing each other well, giving expensive gifts to each other, and, on more occasions than not, getting drunk. If we want to be

sticky, every day on the calendar can be a new year celebration, say, our birthdays. We prefer to place a frame around everything we do, and creating calendars is a good way to do it.

An example will help. When I started to write my memoirs, I did not begin my story the day in February when I was born. I chose instead the day in March when my new life in the United States began. This means that the new year day follows an old year day, the new one better than the old.

That should give you a wider choice for celebrating your new year. It probably means that most of us have different new year days when we face the light of the sun and decide that three hundred sixty-five days, or six, from now, we will be on the same spot on the firmament facing that sun. I think it is a great idea and a great feeling. It means that humanity will be celebrating, greeting each other, and hugging each other, but hopefully not getting drunk and driving, every day of the year. What a party!

Welcome to my New Year celebration whenever it happens!

And that's my point of view today. So long.

GLCAC ampliará las clases de inglés con fondos de una subvención estatal

En el Greater Lawrence Community Action Council Inc. habrá más puestos disponibles en las clases gratuitas de inglés gracias a una subvención estatal de \$161.501. La financiación elevará la matrícula a 216 alumnos, un aumento del 33 %, en las clases de inglés para hablantes de otros idiomas (ESOL, por su sigla en inglés).

El Programa de Aprendizaje para Adultos de GLCAC solicitó la subvención porque la demanda supera el número de puestos disponibles. La subvención a Servicios de Alfabetización Familiar y Educación para Adultos fue concedida por el Centro Comunitario de Aprendizaje de Adultos del Departamento de Educación Primaria y Secundaria para el año fiscal 2024.

"Aprender inglés tiene una importancia vital porque abre oportunidades educativas y de empleo. En una ciudad de inmigrantes en la que más del 70 % de la población habla español, la demanda de clases de ESOL supera con creces la oferta, y agradecemos esta subvención porque nos permite ayudar a más personas a lograr sus metas personales", dijo Evelyn Friedman, directora ejecutiva de GLCAC, Inc., una agencia de servicios sociales sin fines de lucro que atiende anualmente a más de 30.000 personas ofreciendo una variedad de servicios, desde el cuidado infantil hasta

ayuda con la calefacción del hogar.

GLCAC es una de las 81 organizaciones que el martes, 20 de diciembre de 2022 recibieron \$48,2 millones en subvenciones convocadas a concurso. En la carta en que informaban a GLCAC de la subvención, el gobernador Charlie Baker y la vicegobernadora Karyn Polito dijeron que las metas de estos subsidios eran ofrecer una educación de alta calidad a los adultos de todo el estado.

"Les damos las gracias por su compromiso con la implementación de programas innovadores que mejoran y aceleran los resultados educativos y la capacitación de jóvenes y adultos en el Estado de Massachusetts", escribieron.

La financiación de la subvención es para el año fiscal 2024, y GLCAC espera comenzar a ofrecer puestos adicionales en las aulas en el otoño de 2023.

"Imaginamos un futuro en el que todos los adultos de Massachusetts puedan adquirir los conocimientos, las habilidades y el apoyo que necesitan para lograr la vida que desean", escribió Wyvonne Stevens-Carter, directora estatal de educación de adultos.

Para mayor información sobre las clases de inglés para hablantes de otros idiomas (ESOL) y otros programas de GLCAC, los invitamos a visitar glcac.org o a llamar al (978) 681-4900.

GLCAC to Expand English-Language Classes with Funding from State Grant



**Greater
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More seats will be available for free English language classes at the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council Inc., which has received a \$161,501 state grant. The funding will bring total enrollment to 216 students, a 33 percent increase, in the English for Speakers of Other Languages classes.

GLCAC's Adult Learning Program applied for the grant because the demand exceeds the classroom seats available. The Adult Education and Family Literacy Services grant was awarded by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's FY 2024 Community Adult Learning Center.

"Learning English is vitally important as it opens opportunities for education and employment. In a city of immigrants where more than 70 percent of the population speaks Spanish, the demand for ESOL classes far outpaces the supply, and we are grateful for this grant that enables us to

help more people achieve their personal goals," said Evelyn Friedman, Executive Director, of GLCAC, Inc., a non-profit social services agency that serves more than 30,000 individuals annually in a variety of services from child care to home heating assistance.

GLCAC is one of 81 organizations awarded \$48.2 million in competitive grants on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. In a letter informing GLCAC of the grant, Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito said the grants were to provide high-quality adult education across the state.

"Thank you for your commitment to the delivery of innovative programs that improve and accelerate educational and training outcomes for out-of-school youth and adult learners in the Commonwealth" they wrote.

The grant funding is for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024, and GLCAC expects the additional classroom seats to be available in the fall of 2023.

"We envision a future where every adult in Massachusetts can gain the knowledge, skills, and support they need to build the life they aspire to live," wrote Wyvonne Stevens-Carter, state director of adult education.

For more information about ESOL classes and other programs offered by GLCAC, visit glcac.org or call (978) 681-4900.

Informe: Se detectaron altos niveles de gas radón peligroso en el 22% de los hogares de Massachusetts

Durante el mes de acción contra el radón en enero, la Asociación Estadounidense del Pulmón insta a todos a realizar pruebas de detección de radón en su hogar.

El radón es la segunda causa principal de cáncer de pulmón y el informe "Estado del cáncer de pulmón" revela que se detecta en niveles altos en aproximadamente el 22% de los hogares de Massachusetts. Durante enero, el Mes de Acción contra el Radón, la Asociación Estadounidense del Pulmón en Massachusetts insta a todos a realizar pruebas de detección de radón en sus hogares.

El radón es un gas radiactivo natural emitido desde el suelo. El radón puede ingresar a una casa a través de grietas en los pisos, las paredes del sótano, los cimientos y otras aberturas. La exposición al radón es la segunda causa principal de cáncer de pulmón en los Estados Unidos y es la causa principal de cáncer de pulmón en personas que nunca han fumado.

Aquí en Massachusetts, alrededor del 22% de los resultados de las pruebas de radón igualan o superan el nivel de acción de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental (EPA) de 4 pCi/L, según el informe "Estado del cáncer de pulmón" de la Lung Association.

"El radón es responsable de aproximadamente 21,000 muertes por cáncer de pulmón cada año y es la principal causa de cáncer de pulmón en personas que nunca han fumado. Dado que el radón es inodoro, insípido e incoloro, la única forma de detectarlo en su hogar es analizando el aire. Es por eso que es fundamental que

todos se hagan una prueba en su hogar", dijo Daniel Fitzgerald, director de defensa de la Lung Association. "El mes de acción contra el radón es el momento perfecto para aprender más sobre este peligroso gas y tomar medidas para protegerse a sí mismo y a sus seres queridos".

Los kits de prueba de radón que puede hacer usted mismo son fáciles de usar y económicos. La EPA insta a cualquier persona con niveles de radón de 4 picoCuries por litro (pCi/L) o superiores a tomar medidas para instalar un sistema de mitigación en sus hogares. Tanto la EPA como la American Lung Association recomiendan que se considere la mitigación si los niveles superan los 2 pCi/L. Despues de detectar niveles altos, un profesional de radón debe instalar un sistema de mitigación de radón.

Un sistema típico de mitigación de radón consta de un tubo de ventilación, un ventilador y un sellado adecuado de grietas y otras aberturas. Este sistema recoge el gas radón debajo de los cimientos y lo ventila hacia el exterior de su casa. Si necesita instalar un sistema de mitigación de radón, comuníquese con el programa de radón de su estado para obtener una lista de profesionales certificados en mitigación de radón.

Obtenga más información sobre las pruebas y la mitigación del radón en www.Lung.org/Radon.

Report: High Levels of Dangerous Radon Gas Detected in 22% of Massachusetts Homes

During Radon Action Month in January, the American Lung Association urges everyone to test their home for radon

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer and the "State of Lung Cancer" report reveals that it is detected at high levels in about 22% of homes in Massachusetts. During January for Radon Action Month, the American Lung Association in Massachusetts is urging everyone to test their home for radon.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas emitted from the ground. Radon can enter a home through cracks in floors, basement walls, foundations and other openings. Exposure to radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and is the leading cause of lung cancer in people who have never smoked.

Here in Massachusetts, about 22% of radon test results equal or exceed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action level of 4 pCi/L, according to the Lung Association's "State of Lung Cancer" report.

"Radon is responsible for an estimated 21,000 lung cancer deaths every year and is the leading cause of lung cancer in people who have never smoked. Since radon is odorless, tasteless and colorless, the only way to detect radon in your home

is to test the air. This is why it is critical for everyone to test their home," said Daniel Fitzgerald, Director of Advocacy for the Lung Association. "Radon Action Month is the perfect time to learn more about this dangerous gas and take action to protect yourself and your loved ones."

Do-it-yourself radon test kits are simple to use and inexpensive. EPA urges anyone with radon levels at or above 4 picoCuries per liter (pCi/L) to take action to install a mitigation system in their homes. Both the EPA and the American Lung Association recommend that mitigation be considered if levels are greater than 2 pCi/L. After high levels are detected, a radon mitigation system should be installed by a radon professional.

A typical radon mitigation system consists of a vent pipe, fan, and properly sealing cracks and other openings. This system collects radon gas from underneath the foundation and vents it to the outside of your home. If you need to have a radon mitigation system installed, contact your state radon program for a list of certified radon mitigation professionals.

Learn more about radon testing and mitigation at www.Lung.org/Radon.

Merrimack Valley Planning Commission Awarded State Grant To Advance Notification System For Combined Sewer Overflow Events Throughout The Lower Merrimack River

Funding from the Community Compact Cabinet Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Program will support improved communication and notification of water quality in the Merrimack River

HAVERHILL, MA – Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) events and their associated water quality degradation have been a long-standing concern for communities abutting the Merrimack River in Massachusetts. In recent years, this phenomenon has garnered increased attention at the municipal and state level as research on its impacts are explored. In an effort to protect public health, the state sponsored legislation entitled “Massachusetts Act Promoting Awareness of Sewage Pollution in Public Waters” (314 CMR 16.00) that was signed into law last year. This Act requires municipal Boards of Health adjacent to CSO outfalls to publicly notify their communities following the onset of CSO events to ensure their safety during times of compromised water quality.

To support Merrimack Valley Boards of Health with compliance and to better inform citizens about water quality when interfacing with the Merrimack River, the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) pursued and has been awarded funds from the State’s Community Compact Cabinet Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Program to update and expand its CSO Early Alert Tool for the Merrimack River.

“This effort will greatly advance public awareness and safety by developing a comprehensive regional public notification system for CSO events in the lower Merrimack River.” Said Jerrard Whitten, Executive Director at MVPC. “While wastewater treatment plants currently do an

excellent job providing notification via electronic alerts, they are often limited in the audience they reach and the extent to which they are able to provide information to the broader river-use community.”

This project will enhance citizen access to water quality information along the Merrimack River after CSO events so the general public can make informed decisions regarding use of the resource. Work will be conducted to improve MVPC’s prototype Early Alert Tool, a CSO notification web resource created under the Merrimack River District Commission (MRDC). This tool will be expanded in scope to predict water quality after CSO events in segments of the river downstream of the Lowell Wastewater Treatment Plant, and adjustments will be made to enhance the accuracy of the tool’s predictive modeling.

“Combined sewer overflows typically occur following wet weather events and cause elevated bacteria levels which can persist hours to days after an event occurs.” Said Cecelia Gerstenbacher, Environmental Program Coordinator at MVPC. “This situation becomes particularly concerning when bacteria levels from CSO events exceed Massachusetts water quality standards, and there is no watershed-wide mechanism in place to inform recreational river users of these risks.”

By taking a regional approach working in collaboration with the Merrimack River District Commission and partnering with local Boards of Health across the Merrimack Valley, MVPC aims to develop a comprehensive notification system that is accessible to a broad range of users and supports the goals of local municipalities to inform the public of CSO events along the river.

To learn more about this project, please contact Cecelia Gerstenbacher at cgerstenbacher@mvpco.org

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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 January 16, 2023 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.

1. 2006 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCM71346A021019
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3. 2006 Toyota Camry VIN 4T1BE32K96U652901
4. 2002 Honda Civic VIN 1HGEM21982L071694
5. 2016 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCR3F98GA031691
6. 2001 Chevrolet Silverado VIN 1GCEK19T01E165909
7. 2008 Honda Ridgeline VIN 2HJKYK16588H529060
8. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox VIN 2CNFLCEC8B6453536
9. 2013 BMW 528XI VIN WBAXH5C55DD113692
10. 2005 Ford F-250 Super Duty VIN 1FTSX21515EB53815

Robert Sheehan
Owner, Sheehan's Towing L.L.C.
1/1, 1/8, 1/15

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Notice is hereby given by Coady's Towing Service 139 Marston Street, Lawrence, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicle on or after January 16, 2023 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

1. 2020 Volkswagen Jetta VIN 3VWCB7BU6LM048407

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

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

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Merrimack Valley YMCA's Ryan McVann is Nationally Recognized with 30 Under 30 Award

The Merrimack Valley YMCA's own, Ryan McVann, has been selected by YMCA of the USA as a recipient of the 30 Under 30 award for the year 2022.

The YMCA of the USA recognizes 30 of the Y staff, under the age of 30, all across the country who are dedicated to the mission. This award formally acknowledges his or her accomplishments at their perspective associations and is praised for his or her overall potential to lead. The implementation of this award has been encouraged in order to sustain and strengthen the legacy of the YMCA, ensuring that future generations will continue to be inspired to serve through the Y.

While recognizing Ryan's accomplishments, CEO Frank Kenneally stated, "It's not every day that someone from our Y get recognized nationally. Not only is it recognition for Ryan but also for the Merrimack Valley Y." Ryan was promoted to Senior Director of Membership at the Andover/ North Andover YMCA branch earlier this year and he has built a team that can support his efforts to reinvent and grow our membership program. He has been instrumental in key initiatives to move

our Association forward by improving our culture with staff, volunteers and members. Ryan started a mobile food market that served over 300 families and leads an Association-wide Employee Resource Group to improve employee engagement and culture.

To learn more about the Merrimack Valley YMCA, visit mvymca.org

With its headquarters located in Lawrence, Massachusetts, nestled in the heart of the Merrimack Valley, the Merrimack Valley YMCA is represented by the Andover/North Andover YMCA, the Lawrence YMCA, the Methuen YMCA, Camp Lawrence and Camp Nokomis on Lake Winnipesaukee, and Day Camp Otter in Salem, New Hampshire. Each of these branches and camps serve the needs of distinct and unique communities, making the Merrimack Valley YMCA an organization rich in cultural, social, and economic diversity. Through quality programs, services, volunteers, and staff, the Merrimack Valley YMCA is constantly working to help make healthier lives achievable for everyone. www.mvymca.org



Executive Director and CEO at the Merrimack Valley YMCA and Ryan McVann with his great holiday attire.

Ryan McVann de Merrimack Valley YMCA es reconocido a nivel nacional con el premio 30 Under 30 Award

Ryan McVann, miembro de la YMCA de Merrimack Valley, ha sido seleccionado por la YMCA de EE. UU. como ganador del premio 30 Under 30 para el año 2022.

La YMCA de los EE. UU. reconoce a 30 del personal de Y, menores de 30 años, en todo el país que se dedican a la misión. Este premio reconoce formalmente sus logros en sus asociaciones de perspectiva y es elogiado por su potencial general para liderar. Se ha alentado la implementación de este premio para sostener y fortalecer el legado de la YMCA, asegurando que las generaciones futuras continúen inspirándose para servir a través de la Y.

Mientras reconocía los logros de Ryan, el CEO Frank Kenneally declaró: "No todos los días alguien de nuestra Y es reconocido a nivel nacional. No solo es un reconocimiento para Ryan, sino también para Merrimack Valley Y". Ryan fue ascendido a Director Sénior de Membresía en la sucursal de Andover/North Andover YMCA a principios de este año y ha creado un equipo que puede respaldar sus esfuerzos para reinventar y hacer crecer nuestro programa de membresía. Ha sido fundamental en iniciativas clave para

hacer avanzar a nuestra Asociación al mejorar nuestra cultura con el personal, los voluntarios y los miembros. Ryan inició un mercado móvil de alimentos que atendió a más de 300 familias y dirige un Grupo de Recursos para Empleados de toda la Asociación para mejorar la cultura y el compromiso de los empleados.

Para obtener más información sobre Merrimack Valley YMCA, visite mvymca.org

Con su sede central ubicada en Lawrence, Massachusetts, ubicada en el corazón del Valle de Merrimack, la YMCA de Merrimack Valley está representada por la YMCA de Andover/North Andover, la YMCA de Lawrence, la YMCA de Methuen, Camp Lawrence y Camp Nokomis en el lago Winnipesaukee, y Day Camp Otter en Salem, New Hampshire. Cada una de estas sucursales y campamentos satisface las necesidades de comunidades distintas y únicas, lo que convierte a Merrimack Valley YMCA en una organización rica en diversidad cultural, social y económica. A través de programas, servicios, voluntarios y personal de calidad, Merrimack Valley YMCA trabaja constantemente para ayudar a que todos tengan una vida más saludable. www.mvymca.org

"Nosotros no somos periodistas para ser popular. Nuestro trabajo es escudriñar hasta hallar la verdad y poner presión constante en nuestros líderes hasta conseguir la verdad."

"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



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Middlesex CC Offers New Course for Healthcare Professionals

At Middlesex Community College, lifelong learning enhances professional and personal lives. Part of the college's Community Education and Training division, MCC's new Medical Terminology for Everyone course helps participants set themselves up for success – whether they are starting a career in healthcare or hoping to communicate better in a hospital setting.

The course was created by Davi-Ellen Chabner, who has taught for several years in a variety of educational settings, including in both Washington D.C. and Boston. Her goal is to combine theoretical learning with practical applications and real-life stories to make the medical language easier to understand.

"I'm explaining the language and giving them a foundation to take that forward in their jobs or in their regular lives, so that this language is useful," Chabner said. "Not only if you're going into the field, but also if you're going into a doctor's office as a patient or family member. If the doctor is speaking a language you've never heard before, you need to know a little about it so you can ask the right questions and understand the treatment."

In her experience, Chabner has had many people take the class who are starting out in a health field or are looking to improve their communication skills. She has also had several doctors come from different countries wanting to improve their understanding of the English language.

Chabner describes many of her students as being on the frontlines of giving patients information about what they are going through. In her course, she strives to teach them how the language is constructed so that even if they do not memorize every

term, they can figure out different words on their own.

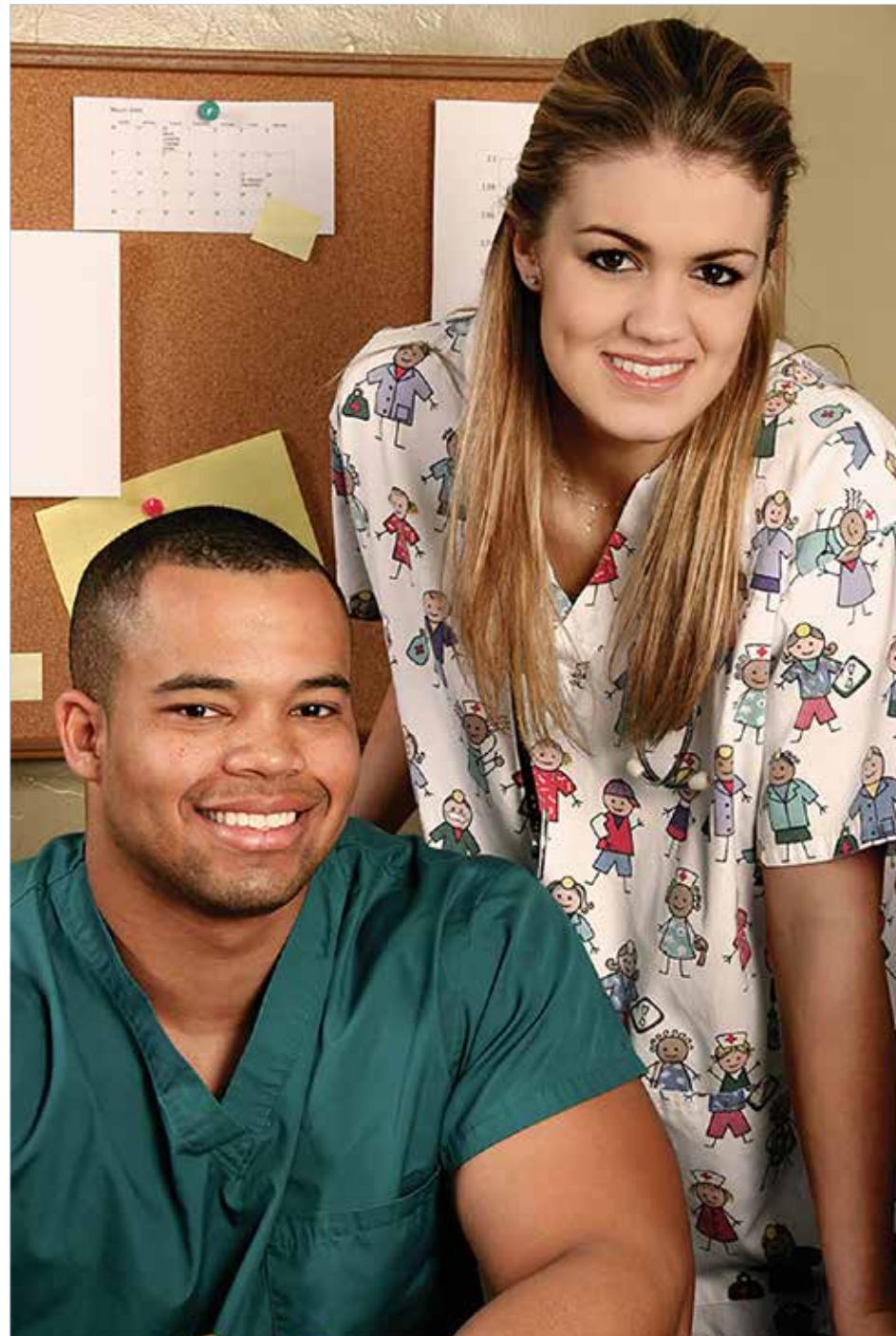
"The course is very practical," Chabner said. "It's not just about learning terms, it's putting them in the context of a patient setting. This course is a stepping stone and will help students pursue a career in a health field."

Chabner first got into teaching when her children were in school. After being contacted by the National Institutes of Health to teach their employees the language of medicine, she researched as much as she could on the subject matter. Along with her students, she learned more about how the body works, what happens when someone gets sick, and the language used to understand all of the steps involved.

With a bachelor's degree in Zoology and Physiology from Wellesley College, Chabner holds a master's degree in Science Teaching from Harvard University. Her book "The Language of Medicine," is in its twelfth edition and is intended as a resource for students to use both during and after the course finishes.

Coming out of the pandemic, Chabner is excited to bring the course to MCC. "I teach students step-by-step how to study and learn," she said. "It makes me feel good when they understand something."

At Middlesex Community College, lifelong learning enhances people's professional and personal lives. Part of the college's Community Education and Training division, MCC's new Medical Terminology for Everyone course helps participants set themselves up for success – whether they are starting a career in healthcare or seeking medical treatment.



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BY DALIA DÍAZ
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LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4



From My Corner

Alleluia!

Something is happening at LCAT. There are indications that the city has told Lawrence Community Access Television that they have 90 days to turn the administration of Channel 22 and Channel 8 to the people.

I had lost all hope and stopped complaining because I thought it would never happen. I have to find out more about this and bring it to you next week.

This is not the country of my refuge

With all the violence going on in the world (and this country), we feel lucky to live in this area and particularly in Lawrence where not much of anything is happening. Well, it depends on how much we get to hear because we are news-deprived.

Do you remember the William Lantigua administration? Trucks from all the Boston television stations were permanently parked in front of City Hall and all news programs appeared to have the same script: negativity toward Lawrence. Police Chief John Romero loved being on television and didn't hesitate to call the media when something was happening – no matter how menial.

It's best to be aware of what affects our city because we can buy locks for our doors and surveillance cameras for our homes; but if we don't know what dangers loom ahead, how would we protect ourselves?

Most of the time we find out about school violence because students love to post videos of fights on social media but we never hear about disciplinary measures or what happened to them, so we assume it wasn't so bad.

Right now in Virginia, there's a teacher in critical condition from a shot by a student. Awful, right, but the fact that the child was 6 years old is difficult to comprehend. What are we doing to this generation? Between drugs, alcohol, violent video games, lack of discipline enforcement, and lack of education in our schools (nationally) we cannot expect anything less.

In Boston, the City Council is asking Mayor Michelle Wu to place police officers in all the schools due to the increase in violence among students. Just this week, a few students jumped a teacher who was walking a student home after classes ended when two to three female students jumped them and began assaulting them, according to an article in the Boston Herald.

"Witnesses told police three of the girls were seen repeatedly punching the teacher as she lay on the ground, shielding

the student with her body, and one student was seen jumping off a ledge and kicking at the teacher," said the article. The teacher and student were hospitalized.

They are requesting the return of non-invasive technology such as metal detectors as well, which is not a bad idea for Lawrence's schools.

For years, I have been asking the Lawrence Public Schools for information on many issues and there was only silence. A couple of years ago, I accompanied the mother of an Arlington School student to find out what they were planning to do with her after being hurt when two other students played a prank learned on tiktok. That resulted in the student being told not to return to school. The victim stayed home-schooled and we never found out if the perpetrators were even disciplined.

The silence coming from the school system was insulting and no one would answer my questions. The mayor and city councilors could not do anything because the school system is under state take-over. So I depended on teachers, workers, parents, and anyone who would tell me what was going on but there was fear.

People in this city are paralyzed by fear of everything and don't demand what's rightfully theirs. I'm not talking about violence; just asking why things are happening.

Finally, James Miele, a safety officer who retired last year from Lawrence High School and is suing the School Department for not receiving what was due him when he left last June, sent me two Freedom of Information Act requests from the schools and the Police Department.

That's the only way to get some information because radio aficionados cannot monitor the police radios anymore since they changed the frequency and no one knows what's happening.

Those documents showed that from 8/1/22 to 12/29/22 there were 157 incidents in the schools with 64 incidents in the high school alone having had 10 arrests. This is alarming to me but I wonder how come we don't hear about those cases.

At one time, there were 15 safety officers in the schools and now there are only 7 while so many school employees are very highly overpaid. Let's hope that Mayor Brian De Peña can get the schools back from receivership and take care of that situation.

I also hope that the mayor can find out what is being taught to our children regarding gender issues. A judge in California recently ruled in favor of the mother of a 5-year-old that she wants to castrate and turn him into a girl. The boy's father couldn't save him from the judge.

That is happening all over the country. Right here in Ludlow, Massachusetts, teachers were told to encourage children to change their names and pronouns without the consent of their parents. When they found out that this was going on, they sued the school system.

The judge ruled on Dec. 14 against the parents because the lawsuit failed to meet the "shocks-the-conscience" legal standard for due-process claims under the 14th Amendment, but he also scolded the school district for its policy to withhold students' gender identities.

He ultimately decided that withholding information from the parents

"Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude."

THOMAS JEFFERSON

No apologies if this offends anyone

By Greg Morris

A young man from Pittsburgh was being paid to entertain as a professional athlete. Sadly that young man was severely injured; he almost died; however, his life was saved. His contract is \$4 million for 4 years. It was a scary incident that could have had a much sadder outcome and I am glad he will survive.

Since he is an athletic entertainer his name is all over the media and almost everyone is talking about him, about how lucky he is. He went to work carrying the weight of football pads and the pressure of putting on a good performance for the fans and his team.

The media is making this the top-of-the-hour story. They refer to him as the young brave entertainer that survived a brush with death in a freak accident while he was making millions performing. Social media and news media brag how a GoFundMe account for the entertainer's charity has raised more than \$4.7 million in his name by people donating.

Two other men went to work also from Pittsburgh just like the entertainer. These two men made a lot less money, had a lot more pressure, and carried the weight of promises to their families and an oath to their community. Instead of pads and a helmet, they wore a badge and a vest.

The badge they wear reads POLICE OFFICER and it may be small but it carries the weight of knowing they promised their families they will return home, the weight of an oath to serve and protect a community by being the only thing that stood between the innocent and evil.

On a scale the football pads weigh more than a badge of a few ounces. But in the heart, that badge weighs a thousand times more than those pads. One of those men lies in a hospital recovering from a gunshot wound with his family, friends, community, and the Blue Line by his side. The other man

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO

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did not meet the threshold of being shocking to the conscience.

Is that happening in Lawrence? I hope Mayor De Peña can also clarify what's being taught in our schools and if there's clarity for parents because it is. For example, why do they allow a male teacher to change his clothing to female garb and change back before going home?

What is he trying to prove to his students and why do they allow him to do it?

We have so much work to do here! The most important thing to do is learn to lose the fear and ask questions of our leaders. Filling potholes doesn't make for a safe city – people do!

paid the supreme sacrifice; there's no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. Today the officer's family, friends, community, and Blue Line prepare to say goodbye.

These two men, Brackenridge Police Chief Justin McIntire and Tarentum Officer Jordan Schrecengost are the second story in the news and talked about less on social media while the entertainer's GoFundMe charity is now at \$4.7 million and dozens of sports and screen entertainers reach out to support the entertainer and his charity.

The family of murdered Brackenridge Police Chief Justin McIntire will say their goodbyes and have to face a future without him. Tarentum Officer Jordan Schrecengost will face a long road to recovery and a lifetime of physical and mental scars. I am sure there will be community support for both of these brave men but, do you think it will amount to the tune of \$4.7 million? Neither do I.

It sickens me these men are second to an athlete. The media needs to get right who the true heroes are.

Again I am glad the entertainer will be OK but I stand with the Blue Line. My heart and prayers go to the families and LEO family of Brackenridge Police Chief Justin McIntire and Tarentum Officer Jordan Schrecengost, the true heroes.

Editor's note:

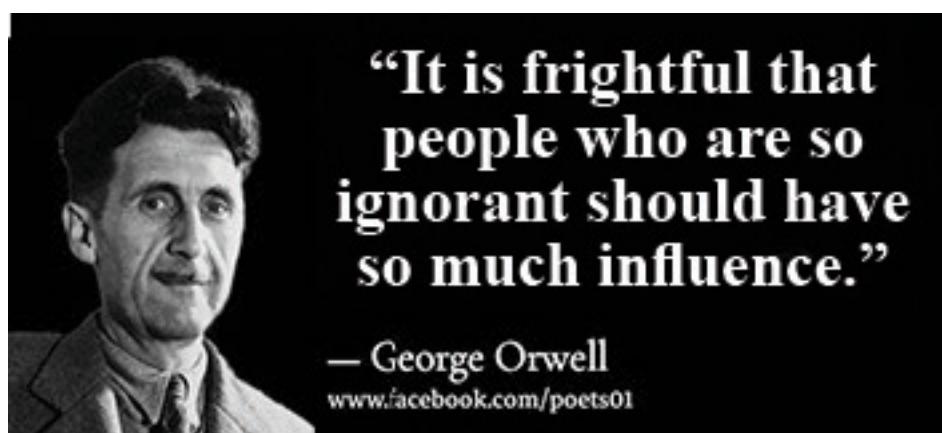
Greg Morris gave me permission to add the name of the actor Jeremy Renner who got run over by his snow plow is getting a lot of play, too.

If you want to contribute to saving a life, send your contribution to Stacy Morris who's been kept alive thanks to \$2,000 in medications each month. Send it to: <https://gofund.me/f8ff1496>

For more information, please visit our 9/22/22 edition in <https://rumbonews.com>

"It is frightful that people who are so ignorant should have so much influence."

— George Orwell
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The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center

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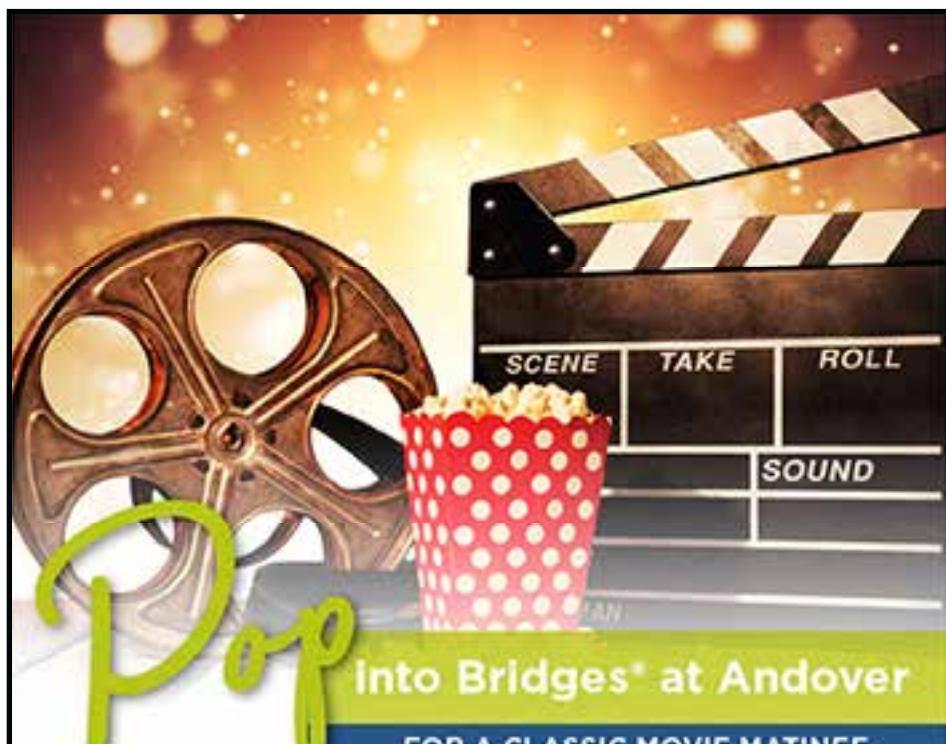
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Family Caregiver Support Group

Evening | Monday, January 9 | 7 p.m.
Daytime | Wednesday, January 25 | 11 a.m.

Take this time to connect with other families in similar situations, ask questions about your loved one's symptoms, voice your concerns, and learn strategies to make caring for your loved one at home a less stressful and more fulfilling experience for you both.

Early-Stage Support Group

Wednesday, January 11 | 11 a.m.

Know someone recently diagnosed with early-stage memory loss? This session is designed specifically to provide helpful insight and guided conversation for those with early-stage memory loss. It's an opportunity for them to ask questions, share concerns, and connect with others who are on a similar journey.

Thursday, January 19 | 11 a.m. or 7 p.m.

Sundowning, isolation, seasonal affective disorder, and winter weather conditions can present unique challenges for family caregivers. Join us for tips and strategies to keep your loved one with memory loss – and yourself – safe and happy throughout the winter months.

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"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant, I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

Mark Twain



Volunteer this January

"Kindness is one of the greatest gifts you can bestow upon another." — Katherine Hepburn



Happy New Year and Thank You for All Your Support in 2022!

We are thankful for all the passion and energy our volunteers have shown in 2022 supporting Neighbors In Need in so many different ways. We appreciate your love and dedication to helping others.

With gratitude we are looking forward to having you at our side in 2023.

To volunteer this January please choose from the opportunities below?

Neighbors In Need is grateful to the 50+ volunteers who work with us each week to address food and basic needs insecurity in our

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