

Dracut native serves with U.S. Navy in Suffolk



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Sierra Garcia

Cmdr. Laura Stegherr, a native of Dracut, Massachusetts, serves the U.S. Navy assigned to Commander, Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR). Pages 2 Eng. & 3 Sp

New Regional Health Care System for the Merrimack Valley



During the announcement of the integration of Lawrence General Hospital and Holy Family, the entire delegation joined Dr. Abha Agrawal, President and CEO of LGH, and Brian DePeña, Mayor of the City of Lawrence to celebrate the day.

Read the story in Spanish on page 5, and in English on page 6.

Festival de Otoño Hike for Hope



El sábado, 14 de septiembre, el 26vo Festival de Otoño Hike for Hope anual de Lazarus House Ministries reunió a nuestra increíble comunidad en apoyo de quienes enfrentan los desafíos de la pobreza material, la falta de vivienda y la inseguridad alimentaria. Queremos extender nuestro más profundo agradecimiento a todos los que asistieron, caminaron, recaudaron fondos, se ofrecieron como voluntarios y ayudaron a generar un impacto. Su compromiso es verdaderamente inspirador y significa mucho para nosotros y nuestros huéspedes, a quienes nos sentimos honrados de servir.

Hasta la fecha, hemos recaudado \$83,000 de nuestra meta de \$100,000, con más de 314 recaudadores de fondos registrados.

On Saturday, September 14, Lazarus House Ministries' 26th Annual Hike for Hope Fall Festival brought our incredible community together in support of those facing the challenges of material poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity. We want to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who attended, walked, fundraised, volunteered and helped to make an impact. Your commitment is truly inspiring, and it means the world to us and our Guests who we are honored to serve.

To date, we've raised \$83,000 of our \$100,000 goal, with over 314 registered fundraisers.

Pg. 6

La mayor fuente de contaminación del agua es lo que no se ve Pg. 7

The largest source of water pollution is what you can't see

Actualización de la construcción de la escuela Oliver en septiembre:

September Oliver School Construction Update Pg. 8

Por/By Della Diaz

Desde Mi Esquina

Reunión del LRA de 9/25/24

¿De qué sirve la Primera Enmienda?

Hablando por teléfono en voz alta Página 4

Por/By Della Diaz

From My Corner

LRA meeting of 9/25/24

What's the First Amendment for?

Talking on speakerphone Page 16

Dracut native serves with U.S. Navy in Suffolk

By Megan Brown, Navy Office of Community Outreach

SUFFOLK, Va. - Cmdr. Laura Stegherr, a native of Dracut, Massachusetts, serves the U.S. Navy assigned to Commander, Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR).

Stegherr graduated from Dracut High School in 2002. Additionally, Stegherr earned a bachelor's degree in political science from George Washington University in 2006 and a master's degree in defense and strategic studies from the Naval War College in 2020.

The skills and values needed to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in Dracut.

"I think of my hometown of Dracut frequently as I've progressed through my Navy career," said Stegherr. "First, I think about how our town came together following 9/11 and I've continued to carry that sense of meaning, purpose and patriotism with me over the years. Most of all, when I think of my hometown, I think of my dad, Jack DiTillio, who served on our town's Board of Selectmen, our high school's Scholarship Foundation and many other charities. He was also a successful business owner despite never going to college and being raised in very humble circumstances. My dad embodies the concept of servant leadership, that a life of service is a most successful life, and that idea that ordinary people can do extraordinary things."

Stegherr joined the Navy 18 years and three months ago. Today, Stegherr serves as a public affairs officer.

"I first became interested in serving when I was in the fourth grade and I read about how women were finally allowed to serve warships," said Stegherr. "Many years later, when I was a senior in high school, our local town of Dracut was affected significantly by the events of 9/11 when John Ogonowski, a prominent local farmer and the pilot of American Airlines Flight 11, was tragically killed. John's daughter, Laura, and I had been good friends since middle school and this event affected me (and many others in our town) profoundly. I had been considering a ROTC scholarship at that point so I could afford to go to college and this event was the final push that compelled me to apply."

Navy information warfare (IW) plays a role in every Navy mission, every day, around the globe. NAVIFOR's mission is to ensure the more than 60,000 IW sailors and civilians in the fleet – experts in cyberspace, communications, intelligence, meteorology, oceanography, cryptology, electronic warfare and space – are trained, equipped, certified and ready to meet the Navy's warfighting missions.

"Information Warfare extends from seabed to space, and is critical to our Navy's success in competition, crisis and conflict," said Vice Adm. Mike Vernazza, the Navy's IBOSS and commander of NAVIFOR. "The more than 60,000 IW professionals across the globe are our asymmetric advantage – their expertise, professionalism, imagination and creativity are key to our Navy overcoming any adversary at pace and at scale."

With 90% of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to recruiting and retaining talented people from across the rich fabric of America.

Stegherr serves a Navy that operates far forward, around the world and around the clock, promoting the nation's prosperity and security.

"We will earn and reinforce the trust and confidence of the American people every day," said Adm. Lisa Franchetti, chief of naval operations. "Together we will deliver the Navy the nation needs."

Stegherr has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

"When I look back on my career, I'm most proud of my time serving as a public affairs officer (PAO) aboard Uss Harry S. Truman during her 2018 deployment," said Stegherr. "During this deployment, we spent a combined seven months at sea, sailing with allies and partners and supporting Operation Inherent Resolve. We also operated about the Arctic Circle, the first time a carrier had so since the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Serving as a carrier PAO is truly the pinnacle assignment you can complete because you are accomplishing every role a PAO is meant to undertake. You have the opportunity to lead a department of talented sailors and there is no question that the work you are doing is having a profound, worldwide impact. Not to mention, I forged friendships that last today and that I know will last a lifetime. This was, without a doubt, my greatest adventure."

Stegherr can take pride in serving America through military service.

"Serving in our Navy has meant everything to me and it's hard to imagine a life in which I've chosen a different path," said Stegherr. "To me, the Navy is more than a job, it's a calling, and it's given me the chance to personally discover the value I have as a leader and as a communication professional. It's given me the chance to literally see the world- from Japan to the

Mediterranean, to the High North to South America and the Caribbean. As a woman, I hope that my service can also inspire future generations of girls to pursue their dreams as they see what is possible if they work hard and take a chance. Lastly, a life of service, to me, is a life of love for our nation and for the promise of what our nation can be for every American."

Stegherr is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

"There are so many individuals I want to thank that I could never list them all," added Stegherr. "I want to thank my mom and dad for encouraging me to join the Navy. I want to thank my husband, Chris, who has been with me through my whole career and has been incredibly supportive of our Navy life. I want to thank our son, Jack, as well who reminds me every day of my 'why'. Lastly, I want to thank the leaders, mentors and my sailors who have taken the time to help me learn very important lessons along the way, including the hard lessons."



"Un líder lleva a las personas a donde quieren ir. Un gran líder lleva a las personas a donde no necesariamente quieren ir, pero deberían ir".

"A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to be."

Rosalynn Carter

ANNOUNCEMENT: Calling all Developers! HOME-ARP Funding Available for Affordable Housing Projects

The City of Lowell's Department of Planning and Development (DPD) is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the HOME American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Investment Partnership Program. The City is currently soliciting proposals for projects that will use these funds to construct, acquire, or rehabilitate affordable rental housing for individuals and families that meet the HOME-ARP qualifying populations criteria.

The HOME-ARP program is a one-time, time-limited funding source, and all funds must be fully drawn by September 30, 2030. Due to the time-sensitive nature of this program, developers with projects nearing closure are highly encouraged to apply. Eligible projects must ensure that HOME-ARP-assisted housing units remain affordable for a minimum of 15 years.

Projects that demonstrate readiness to proceed and meet the strict funding requirements outlined in this notice will be given priority for funding. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Funds will

be available beginning October 1, 2024. Interested parties can access application materials through the City's website:

- <https://www.lowellma.gov/751/Housing-Energy>

All applications must include one signed original and five copies, which can be mailed or hand-delivered to:

City of Lowell
Department of Planning and Development
Attn: Phil Ferreira
50 Arcand Drive
Lowell, MA 01852

Prospective applicants are encouraged to discuss their projects with DPD staff prior to submission. For further information, please contact:

Phil Ferreira, Housing Program Manager
Phone: (978) 674-4252
Email: pferreira@lowellma.gov

Fair Housing Program PSA

Fair housing is for everyone, regardless of immigration or documentation status. Refusal to rent, threats, retaliation, and different conditions based on national origin is illegal. To learn more, contact the Community Teamwork Fair Housing Program at (978)654-5637 or fairhousing@commteam.org. We do not collect information on citizenship or immigration status. Any opinions or recommendations expressed in this message are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

La vivienda justa es para todos, independientemente del estatus migratorio o de la documentación. La negativa a alquilar, las amenazas, las represalias y las condiciones diferentes basadas en el origen nacional son ilegales. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con el Programa de Vivienda Justa de Community Teamwork al (978)654-5637 o fairhousing@commteam.org. No recopilamos información sobre la ciudadanía o el estatus migratorio. Las opiniones o recomendaciones expresadas en este mensaje son las del autor y no necesariamente reflejan las opiniones del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano.

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Una nativa de Dracut sirve en la Marina de los EE. UU. en Suffolk

Por Megan Brown, Navy Office of Community Outreach

SUFFOLK, Va. - La comandante Laura Stegherr, oriunda de Dracut, Massachusetts, sirve en la Marina de los EE. UU. asignada como comandante de las Fuerzas de Información Naval (NAVIFOR).

Stegherr se graduó de la escuela secundaria Dracut en 2002. Además, Stegherr obtuvo una licenciatura en ciencias políticas de la Universidad George Washington en 2006 y una maestría en defensa y estudios estratégicos de la Escuela Superior de Guerra Naval en 2020.

Las habilidades y los valores necesarios para tener éxito en la Marina son similares a los que se encuentran en Dracut.

"Pienso con frecuencia en mi ciudad natal, Dracut, a medida que he progresado en mi carrera en la Marina", dijo Stegherr. "En primer lugar, pienso en cómo se unió nuestra ciudad después del 11 de septiembre y he seguido llevando conmigo ese sentido de significado, propósito y patriotismo a lo largo de los años. Sobre todo, cuando pienso en mi ciudad natal, pienso en mi padre, Jack DiTillio, que sirvió en la Junta de Concejales de nuestra ciudad, en la Fundación de Becas de nuestra escuela secundaria y en muchas otras organizaciones benéficas. También fue un empresario exitoso a pesar de no haber ido nunca a la universidad y de haber sido criado en circunstancias muy humildes. Mi padre encarna el concepto de liderazgo de servicio, de que una vida de servicio es una vida de gran éxito, y esa idea de que la gente común puede hacer cosas extraordinarias".

Stegherr se unió a la Marina hace 18 años y tres meses. Hoy, Stegherr se desempeña como oficial de asuntos públicos.

"Me interesé por servir cuando estaba en cuarto grado y leí sobre cómo finalmente se permitió que las mujeres sirvieran en los buques de guerra", dijo Stegherr. "Muchos años después, cuando estaba en el último

año de la escuela secundaria, nuestra ciudad local de Dracut se vio afectada significativamente por los eventos del 11 de septiembre, cuando John Ogonowski, un destacado granjero local y piloto del vuelo 11 de American Airlines, murió trágicamente. La hija de John, Laura, y yo habíamos sido buenas amigas desde la escuela secundaria y este evento me afectó (y a muchos otros en nuestra ciudad) profundamente. Había estado considerando una beca ROTC en ese momento para poder pagar mis estudios universitarios y este evento fue el empujón final que me obligó a presentar la solicitud".

La guerra de información (IW) de la Marina juega un papel en cada misión de la Marina, todos los días, en todo el mundo. La misión de NAVIFOR es garantizar que los más de 60.000 marineros y civiles de la flota de IW (expertos en ciberespacio, comunicaciones, inteligencia, meteorología, oceanografía, criptología, guerra electrónica y espacio) estén capacitados, equipados, certificados y listos para cumplir con las misiones de combate de la Marina. "La guerra de la información se extiende desde el fondo del mar hasta el espacio, y es fundamental para el éxito de nuestra Armada en la competencia, la crisis y el conflicto", dijo el vicealmirante Mike Vernazza, jefe de información de la Armada y comandante de NAVIFOR. "Los más de 60.000 profesionales de la guerra de la información en todo el mundo son nuestra ventaja asimétrica: su experiencia, profesionalismo, imaginación y creatividad son clave para que nuestra Armada supere a cualquier adversario a ritmo y escala".

Con el 90% del comercio mundial viajando por mar y el acceso a Internet dependiendo de la seguridad de los cables submarinos de fibra óptica, los funcionarios de la Armada siguen enfatizando que la prosperidad de los Estados Unidos

está directamente relacionada con el reclutamiento y la retención de personas talentosas de todo el rico tejido de Estados Unidos.

Stegherr sirve a una Armada que opera muy por delante, en todo el mundo y las 24 horas del día, promoviendo la prosperidad y la seguridad de la nación.

"Ganaremos y reforzaremos la confianza del pueblo estadounidense todos los días", dijo la almirante Lisa Franchetti, jefa de operaciones navales. "Juntos entregaremos la Armada que la nación necesita".

Stegherr tiene muchas oportunidades de alcanzar logros durante el servicio militar.

"Cuando miro hacia atrás en mi carrera, estoy muy orgulloso del tiempo que trabajé como oficial de asuntos públicos (PAO) a bordo del USS Harry S. Truman durante su despliegue en 2018", dijo Stegherr. "Durante este despliegue, pasamos un total de siete meses en el mar, navegando con aliados y socios y apoyando la Operación Inherent Resolve. También operamos cerca del Círculo Polar Ártico, la primera vez que un portaaviones lo hacía desde la disolución de la Unión Soviética. Servir como PAO de portaaviones es realmente la misión cumbre que puedes completar porque estás cumpliendo con todos los roles que un PAO está destinado a asumir. Tienes la oportunidad de liderar un departamento de marineros talentosos y no hay duda de que el trabajo que estás haciendo está teniendo un profundo impacto mundial. Sin mencionar que forjé amistades que perduran hoy y que sé que durarán toda la vida. Esta fue, sin lugar a dudas, mi mayor aventura".

Stegherr puede enorgullecerse de servir a Estados Unidos a través del servicio

militar.

"Servir en nuestra Marina ha significado todo para mí y es difícil imaginar una vida en la que haya elegido un camino diferente", dijo Stegherr. "Para mí, la Marina es más que un trabajo, es una vocación, y me ha dado la oportunidad de descubrir personalmente el valor que tengo como líder y como profesional de la comunicación. Me ha dado la oportunidad de ver literalmente el mundo, desde Japón hasta el Mediterráneo, desde el extremo norte hasta Sur América y el Caribe. Como mujer, espero que mi servicio también sirva de inspiración a futuras generaciones de niñas para que persigan sus sueños y vean lo que es posible si trabajan duro y se arriesgan. Por último, una vida de servicio, para mí, es una vida de amor por nuestra nación y por la promesa de lo que nuestra nación puede ser para todos los estadounidenses".

Stegherr agradece a los demás por ayudar a hacer posible una carrera en la Marina.

"Hay tantas personas a las que quiero agradecer que nunca podría enumerarlas a todas", agregó Stegherr. "Quiero agradecer a mi mamá y a mi papá por alentarme a unirme a la Marina. Quiero agradecer a mi esposo, Chris, que ha estado conmigo durante toda mi carrera y ha apoyado increíblemente nuestra vida en la Marina. También quiero agradecer a nuestro hijo, Jack, que me recuerda todos los días mi 'por qué'. Por último, quiero agradecer a los líderes, mentores y a mis marineros que se han tomado el tiempo para ayudarme a aprender lecciones muy importantes a lo largo del camino, incluidas las lecciones difíciles".

CEREMONIA DE INICIO DE CONSTRUCCIÓN PARA LA NUEVA ESTACIÓN DE POLICÍA

Cordialmente le invitamos a unirse al Alcalde Brian A. DePeña, funcionarios de la ciudad, líderes comunitarios e invitados distinguidos en la ceremonia de inicio de construcción para la nueva estación de policía en la Ciudad de Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Este evento trascendental marca el comienzo de un nuevo capítulo en la infraestructura de seguridad comunitaria y aplicación de la ley en nuestra querida ciudad. Esperamos darle la bienvenida en este evento y apreciamos su apoyo

compartiendo esta importante invitación con la comunidad en general.

-Cuándo: Jueves, 10 de octubre, 2024

-Hora: 9:00 a. m. – 10:00 a. m.

-Dónde: Frente a la estación de policía de Lawrence en el 90 de la calle Lowell, Lawrence, MA

Todos los visitantes deben usar calzados cerrados. El estacionamiento estará disponible en el 55 de la calle Lowell, Lawrence, MA. Escanee el código QR para obtener más detalles. Gracias

CONSTRUCTION COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY FOR THE NEW POLICE STATION

You are cordially invited to join Mayor Brian A. DePeña, City Officials, Community Leaders, and distinguished guests for the Construction Commencement Ceremony for the New Police Station in the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

This momentous event marks the beginning of a new chapter in community safety and law enforcement infrastructure in our beloved city.

We look forward to welcoming you at the ceremony and appreciate your support

in sharing this significant event with the broader community.

-When: Thursday, October 10th, 2024

-Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

-Where: Across from Lawrence Police Station at 90 Lowell St, Lawrence, MA

All Visitors are required to wear Closed-Toed shoes. Parking will be available at 55 Lowell St. Lawrence, MA. Scan the QR Code for more details. Thank you.

MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAMBER PUBLIC SAFETY BREAKFAST FORUM

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POR DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Desde Mi Esquina



Reunión de la LRA del 9/25/24

Asistí a la reunión regular de la LRA porque estaba pensando en hacer algunas preguntas sobre temas específicos de la agenda. Debo tener cuidado porque todavía hay confusión sobre lo que hacen y mi sentido de la lógica. Hay demasiadas cosas que no entiendo.

Mi curiosidad se refería a dos temas que tenían en Asuntos Pendientes. Al igual que la agenda del concejo municipal, que sigue creciendo con temas postergados de hace más de diez años, la de la LRA estaba aumentando de la misma manera.

Hace muchos meses, me interesé en algo que forma parte de mi experiencia: crear un estudio de televisión para los componentes gubernamentales y comunitarios de la parte de las compañías de cable con las que todos contribuimos a través de nuestras facturas mensuales. Nadie podía explicar por qué la Autoridad de Reurbanización de Lawrence (LRA) tenía que estar a cargo de seleccionar al arquitecto que redactará el diseño.

Entonces, la ciudad pagó mucho dinero por ese trabajo que se desperdició porque hice tanto ruido que finalmente, el alcalde DePeña entendió que el 255 Essex Street, 1er piso, no era un espacio apropiado para un estudio de televisión. Además, no había espacio para salas de edición, vestuarios y salas de maquillaje. Ahora, eso se ha convertido en la administración de la LRA y otras pequeñas oficinas, con el salón a la entrada que está preparado para grandes reuniones o asuntos gubernamentales.

Sin embargo, “la propuesta de diseño LRA – Lawrence Access TV Studio” quedó en el pasado y temí que terminara permanentemente bajo la LRA, donde no pertenecía.

El otro tema fueron las pinturas del White Fund. Desde el primer día, el traslado de las pinturas del Museo de Bellas Artes de Boston a Lawrence se ha planteado en casi todas las reuniones.

No sé de arte y nunca he ido a verlas porque no entendería lo que estoy viendo, aunque está claro que valen millones.

Eso me recordó cuando la ex alcaldesa Patricia Dowling, en 2000, quiso venderlas y utilizar el dinero para mejorar la ciudad. Mucha gente expresó su indignación y terminó en los tribunales. Encabezados por Elizabeth Beland (Dios la bendiga; todavía la extrañamos), otros argumentaron que el testamento del difunto Reverendo William E. Wolcott era específico en sus instrucciones. Wolcott murió en 1911.

Él declaró claramente que su testamento, ejecutado el 20 de junio de 1907, no permite a los demandados vender ninguna de las diecisiete pinturas que fueron legadas, incluidas obras de Eugene Boudin, Camille Pissarro y Claude Monet, a los fideicomisarios de The White Fund (fideicomisarios), un fideicomiso de caridad.

“3. Siempre que las pinturas o cualquier parte de ellas lleguen a posesión real de dichos fideicomisarios, deberán ofrecerlas para fines de exhibición en el Museo de Bellas Artes de la Ciudad de Boston, a menos que determinen lo contrario mediante la discreción confirmada sobre ellos en el siguiente párrafo:

“4. Si en el momento de mi fallecimiento o en cualquier momento posterior existiera dentro de los límites actuales de la ciudad de Lawrence una galería de arte pública ubicada en un edificio a prueba de fuego y bajo la administración que aprueben los fideicomisarios del Fondo White, dichos fideicomisarios podrán depositar los cuadros antes mencionados en dicha galería de arte para fines de exhibición.

Todos sabemos que antes de considerar traer las obras de arte aquí, debemos construir un museo a prueba de fuego súper seguro con la mejor protección electrónica y guardias de seguridad. ¿Puede Lawrence permitirse eso y por qué lo haríamos nosotros?

Después de un análisis cuidadoso del testamento del reverendo Wolcott, el Tribunal Superior decidió que no había duda de que quería que las masas disfrutaran de ese arte que pertenece a los residentes de Lawrence. El tribunal también estableció que los fideicomisarios del Fondo White eran los guardianes y no tenían derecho a vender ninguno de ellos.

Esa controversia se resolvió hace 24 años. Los cuadros permanecerán en el Museo de Bellas Artes y no se pueden vender.

Entonces, cuando los escuché decir que los habían sacado de Asuntos Viejos, abandoné la reunión. También me ofrecí como voluntaria para formar parte del comité de la LRA encargado de revisar las propuestas recibidas para construir o restaurar propiedades, pero no creo que sea apropiado empezar a escribir sobre eso.

¿Para qué sirve la Primera Enmienda?

A principios de este año, los comentarios de la jueza de la Corte Suprema Ketanji Brown Jackson sobre la Primera

Enmienda sorprendieron a todo el mundo. Como jueza de la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos, esperamos que conozca los principios básicos de la Constitución de los Estados Unidos, que nuestros antepasados convirtieron en la primera enmienda por su importancia.

La jueza Jackson dijo: “Mi mayor preocupación es que la Primera Enmienda paralice al gobierno federal de maneras significativas...”.

James Madison fue el autor principal de la Primera Enmienda y fue un defensor de la libertad de expresión, la libertad de prensa, la libertad religiosa, la libertad de reunión y el derecho a solicitar al gobierno la reparación de agravios. Su propósito era proteger al público del gobierno.

Luego, esta semana, John Kerry, ex senador y ex secretario de estado, dijo algo similar. “Si la gente acude a una sola fuente, y la fuente a la que acuden está enferma y, ya sabes, tiene una agenda, y está difundiendo desinformación, nuestra Primera Enmienda es un gran obstáculo para poder simplemente, ya sabes, hacerla desaparecer”, dijo Kerry.

“Así que lo que se necesita, lo que necesitamos es ganar terreno, ganar el derecho a gobernar con la esperanza de

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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.

conseguir suficientes votos para ser libres de poder implementar cambios”, añadió.

Lo que está pasando en este país es increíble. Las leyes ya no significan nada y los cambios se están produciendo bajo el radar porque la mayoría de nosotros nunca escuchamos lo que pasa.

Hablar por el altavoz del teléfono

Debo confesar que uso el altavoz del teléfono todo el tiempo. Si estoy trabajando en casa, me permite seguir trabajando mientras mantengo una conversación. Lo mismo ocurre si estoy en el coche; si me ves hablando, estoy hablando por teléfono o teniendo una reunión de personal conmigo mismo.

Sin embargo, me molesta cuando alguien lo hace a mi alrededor. Hablar por el altavoz del teléfono en espacios públicos es mi mayor fastidio. Ya sea que estemos hablando con el amor de nuestra vida, con el médico o teniendo una pelea con nuestro marido (maldiciendo y usan vocabulario vulgar), nadie tiene por qué ser parte de ello. Si debe mantener una conversación por teléfono en un lugar público, NO LO PONGA EN ALTAVOZ.

“Nuestra Primera Enmienda es un gran obstáculo para poder, ya sabe, simplemente eliminarla de la existencia...”

John Kerry en la Free Speech Union

Youth Writing Workshop

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

By popular demand MVIEC has engaged writing instructor Robert Largess to once again teach this workshop. Fee is \$10 registration for the 6 week course, free for Lawrence residents.

Students interested in improving their writing skills should call MVIEC, The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center at 978-683-7316. Check out the MVIEC's website at www.mviec.org for directions and more details.

Lawrence General Hospital lanza un nuevo sistema regional de atención médica para el Valle de Merrimack

Las ceremonias en los campus de Methuen y Haverhill marcan la integración de Holy Family Hospital en la red de atención ampliada de Lawrence General Hospital



Fotos: Néstor Castillo

LAWRENCE, Massachusetts (1 de octubre de 2024) – Los líderes de Lawrence General Hospital, un hospital comunitario sin fines de lucro, celebraron hoy ceremonias de inauguración en los campus de Methuen y Haverhill de Holy Family Hospital, que simbolizan el cierre de una transacción de venta y el inicio de un nuevo sistema regional de atención médica para el valle de Merrimack. Los eventos son un paso crucial para preservar estos activos esenciales de atención médica y garantizar que las comunidades de Methuen y Haverhill tengan acceso continuo a servicios médicos vitales.

“Estamos orgullosos de dar la bienvenida a Holy Family Hospital, sus pacientes y empleados a nuestro nuevo sistema regional de atención médica”, dijo la Dra. Abha Agrawal, presidenta y directora ejecutiva de Lawrence General Hospital. “Más fuertes que la suma de nuestras partes, brindaremos atención equitativa y de alta calidad a nuestras comunidades con esta integración”.

Los hospitales Methuen y Haverhill estaban al borde del cierre debido a la quiebra de Steward Health Care. Con un fuerte apoyo del estado y su Oficina Ejecutiva de Salud y Servicios Humanos, Lawrence General Hospital asumió la propiedad y la operación de los dos campus. El acuerdo, finalizado hoy, permite la continuidad de los servicios de salud y

posiciona a estos hospitales para el éxito a largo plazo dentro de un sistema más fuerte.

“Hace solo un par de meses, no estaba claro si Methuen y Haverhill todavía tendrían hospitales”, dijo Rosemary Day, presidenta de la junta directiva de Lawrence General Hospital. “Nuestra junta y la administración del hospital estaban absolutamente alineadas en la idea de que teníamos que intervenir y hacer algo. Buscamos construir sobre esta base para crear un gran sistema de salud regional”.

“Hoy marca un nuevo comienzo para la atención médica en Massachusetts”, dijo la gobernadora Maura Healey. “Holy Family tiene la oportunidad de comenzar de nuevo con un operador local, de buena reputación y establecido. Estoy agradecido por el liderazgo del Dr. Abha Agrawal y el equipo del Lawrence General Hospital. Confiamos en que no solo mantendrán abierto el hospital, sino que también mejorarán la atención y fortalecerán las comunidades circundantes”.

El Lawrence General Hospital ya ha iniciado un amplio proceso de integración en ambos campus de Holy Family para prepararse para la transición.

Acerca del Lawrence General Hospital

Como hospital independiente sin fines de lucro que presta servicios en el valle de Merrimack y el sur de New Hampshire, el

Lawrence General Hospital brinda acceso a atención de alta calidad y una red creciente de proveedores locales, que incluyen atención primaria y muchas especialidades. El Lawrence General, un centro de trauma de nivel III designado, tiene uno de los departamentos de emergencia más activos de Massachusetts. El Lawrence General ofrece una amplia gama de servicios y cirugías especializadas en su Centro Santagati para cirugía y es líder en la región en atención cardíaca con el centro cardiovascular más acreditado de Massachusetts. Con más de 11 000 altas de pacientes hospitalizados por año, 1400 nacimientos y un equipo dedicado de casi 2000 empleados, Lawrence General ha prestado servicios con orgullo a la región desde 1875 y es un importante proveedor de atención aguda de urgencias, cirugías, atención médica, maternidad y atención neonatal para el valle de Merrimack y el sur de New Hampshire. Para obtener más información, visite www.LawrenceGeneral.org.

Acerca de Holy Family Hospital

Holy Family Hospital, un hospital de atención aguda de servicio completo

con 310 camas y dos campus ubicados en Methuen y Haverhill, Massachusetts, está acreditado por The Joint Commission y brinda atención experta en las áreas de ortopedia, cuidado de heridas, salud de la mujer, atención cardiovascular, atención de accidentes cerebrovasculares y atención de salud conductual a pacientes en el valle de Merrimack. Holy Family Hospital cuenta con unidades médicas y quirúrgicas integrales para pacientes hospitalizados y servicios de urgencias las 24 horas, los 7 días de la semana en ambas ubicaciones, servicios para pacientes ambulatorios, una guardería de cuidados especiales de nivel II y psiquiatría para adultos y geriátrica. Ambos campus cuentan con un amplio estacionamiento y nuestro campus de Haverhill ofrece habitaciones privadas. Nuestro campus de Methuen ofrece una sala de cateterismo de última generación, un Centro de excelencia avanzado de cadera y rodilla certificado por la Joint Commission y atención de accidentes cerebrovasculares que ha obtenido la distinción Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Target: Type 2 Diabetes de la American Heart Association. Para obtener más información, visite www.HolyFamilyHospital.org.



Dr. Abha Agrawal, President and CEO of Lawrence General Hospital.



Lawrence General Hospital Launches New Regional Health Care System for the Merrimack Valley

Ceremonies at the Methuen and Haverhill Campuses Mark the Integration of Holy Family Hospital into Lawrence General Hospital’s Expanded Care Network

Photos: Néstor Castillo

LAWRENCE, Mass. (October 1, 2024) – Leaders from Lawrence General Hospital, a nonprofit community hospital, held ribbon-cutting ceremonies today at both the Methuen and Haverhill campuses of Holy Family Hospital, symbolizing the closure of a sale transaction and the start of a new regional health care system for the Merrimack Valley. The events are a crucial step in preserving these essential health care assets and ensuring that the communities of Methuen and Haverhill have continued access to vital medical services.

“We are proud to welcome Holy Family Hospital, its patients, and employees to our new regional health care system,” said Dr. Abha Agrawal, President and CEO of Lawrence General Hospital. “Stronger than the sum of our parts, we will bring high quality, equitable care to our communities with this integration.”

The Methuen and Haverhill hospitals were on the brink of closure due to the bankruptcy of Steward Health Care. With strong support from the state and its Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Lawrence General Hospital assumed ownership and operation of the two campuses. The deal, finalized today, allows for continuity in health services and positions these hospitals for long-term success within a stronger system.

“Just a couple of months ago, it was not clear if Methuen and Haverhill would still have hospitals,” said Rosemary Day, Board Chair of Lawrence General Hospital. “Our board and hospital administration were absolutely aligned on the idea that we had to step in and do something. We look to build on this foundation to create a great regional health system.”

“Today marks a new beginning for health care in Massachusetts,” said Gov. Maura Healey. “Holy Family has an opportunity to start fresh with an established, reputable and local operator. I’m grateful for the leadership of Dr. Abha Agrawal and team at Lawrence General Hospital. We’re confident that they will not only keep the hospital open, but also improve care and strengthen the surrounding communities.”

Lawrence General Hospital has already initiated an extensive integration process

across both Holy Family campuses to prepare for the transition.

About Lawrence General Hospital

As an independent, not-for-profit hospital serving the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire, Lawrence General Hospital provides access to high-quality care and a growing network of local providers, including primary care and many specialties. A designated Level III Trauma Center, Lawrence General has one of the busiest Emergency Departments in Massachusetts. Lawrence General offers a broad range of services and specialty surgeries in its Santagati Center for surgery and leads the region in cardiac care with Massachusetts’ most highly accredited cardiovascular center. With more than 11,000 inpatient discharges per year, 1,400 births, and a dedicated team of nearly 2,000 employees, Lawrence General has proudly served the region since 1875 and is a major acute care provider of emergency, surgical, medical, maternity, and newborn care for the Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire. For more information, visit www.LawrenceGeneral.org.

About Holy Family Hospital

A 310-bed full service, acute care hospital with two campuses located in Methuen and Haverhill, Massachusetts, Holy Family Hospital is accredited by The Joint Commission and provides expert care in the areas of orthopedics, wound care, women’s health, cardiovascular care, stroke care and behavioral health care to patients in the Merrimack Valley. Holy Family Hospital features comprehensive inpatient medical/surgical units and 24/7 emergency services at both locations, outpatient services, a Level II Special Care Nursery, and Adult and Geriatric Psychiatry. Both campuses provide ample parking, and our Haverhill campus offers all private rooms. Our Methuen campus offers a state-of-the-art catheterization suite, a Joint Commission certified Advanced Total Hip and Knee Center of Excellence and stroke care that has earned American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Target: Type 2 Diabetes. For more information, visit www.HolyFamilyHospital.org.



Dr. Abha Agrawal, President and CEO of Lawrence General Hospital.



Brian A. DePeña, Mayor of the City of Lawrence.

Debemos atrevernos a ser grandes, y debemos darnos cuenta de que la grandeza es el fruto del trabajo, el sacrificio y el gran coraje.”

“We must dare to be great; and we must realize that greatness is the fruit of toil and sacrifice and high courage.”

- Theodore Roosevelt



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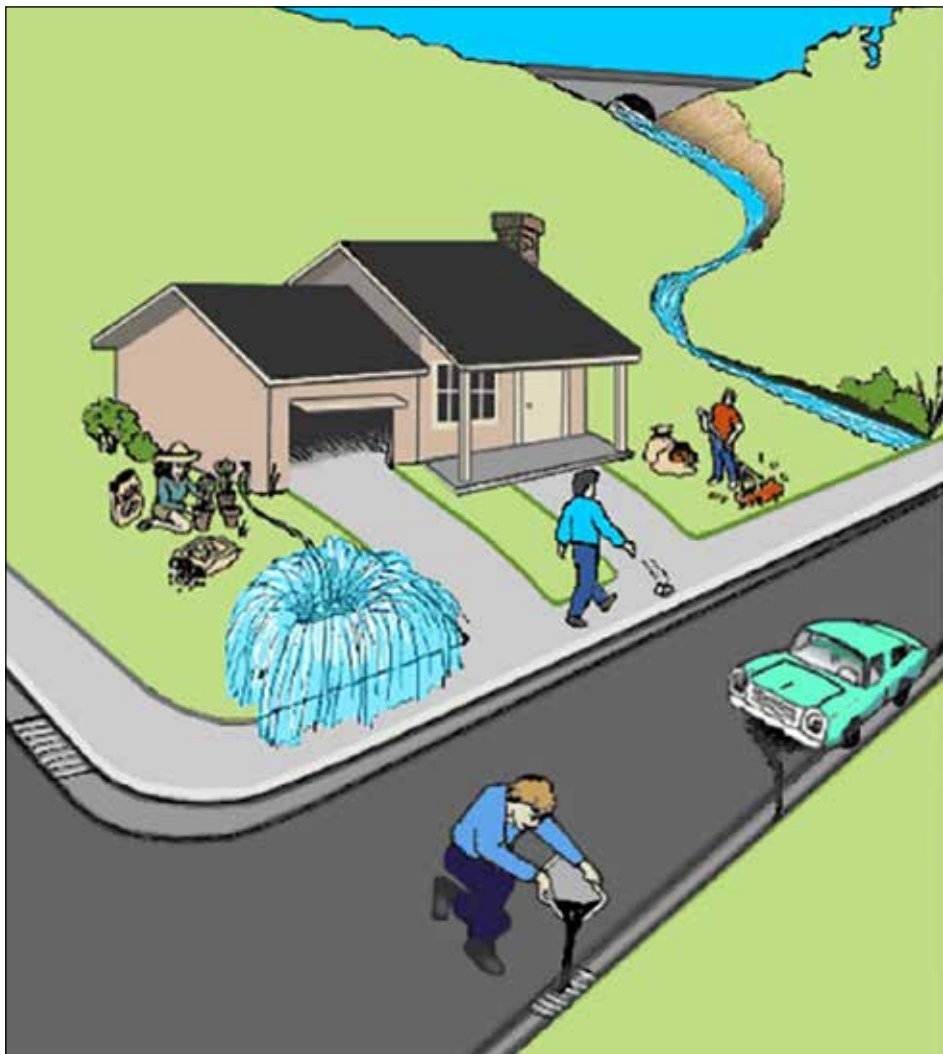
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LA MAYOR FUENTE DE CONTAMINACIÓN DEL AGUA ES LO QUE NO SE VE



**Por Tennis Lilly
Groundwork Lawrence**

Cuando la gente piensa en la contaminación del agua, normalmente se imagina desechos tóxicos saliendo de una tubería o barriles de productos químicos vertidos en un río. Si bien estas fuentes puntuales suponen una amenaza, la forma más común de contaminación del agua es mucho más difícil de ver y controlar.

La contaminación de fuentes no puntuales tiene muchos orígenes. Es causada por materiales peligrosos como anticongelante, aceite de motor y polvo que generan las pastillas de freno (break pads) que se recogen con la escorrentía de aguas pluviales. Estos productos químicos se descargan desde los estacionamientos hacia las carreteras, donde se recoge más contaminación y se descarga en los desagües pluviales y luego en nuestros desagües pluviales y nuestros ríos.

Los parques, cementerios y jardines residenciales son otra fuente de contaminación del agua. La escorrentía de aguas pluviales arrastra bacterias de los desechos de las mascotas y nutrientes de los fertilizantes del césped a nuestros ríos. Esto daña la vida silvestre en ríos y arroyos al causar floraciones de algas nocivas y da como resultado niveles elevados de e-coli que pueden afectar la salud pública y hacer que las playas y los ríos cierren.

Estas fuentes de contaminación llegan a los cuerpos de agua a través de diferentes rutas. Los desagües pluviales a menudo desembocan en ríos y ciénagas, o sus tuberías pueden tener fugas, lo que permite que la contaminación se filtre a las aguas subterráneas. Las aguas pluviales de los parques y los patios a menudo fluyen en forma de láminas hasta que llegan a los

cuerpos de agua.

La nieve derretida generalmente contiene sal para carreteras y otros productos químicos para descongelar y, a medida que se derrite, tomará muchas rutas hacia los ríos y ciénagas. Incluso la lluvia puede ser una fuente no puntual, que recoge la contaminación del aire, incluido el hollín, los productos químicos tóxicos y lava la contaminación de los árboles y los tejados.

Aquí en Lawrence, nuestros tres ríos, Spicket, Shawsheen y Merrimack, están amenazados por la contaminación de fuentes no puntuales. Los altos niveles de bacterias, la proliferación de algas, los niveles elevados de cloroformo fecal, el cloruro de la sal de las carreteras, el nitrógeno de la escorrentía de fertilizantes y los bajos niveles de oxígeno disuelto afectan la capacidad de nuestros ríos para sustentar a los peces y la vida silvestre, así como los hacen inseguros para nadar y la recreación.

Mejorar la salud de nuestros ríos es fundamental para proteger la calidad de vida de los residentes de Lawrence. Hay proyectos en marcha para proteger y restaurar nuestros ríos, y cosas que podemos hacer para ayudar.

Algunas soluciones a la contaminación no puntual son simples: reducir el uso de fertilizantes en el césped y campos de atletismo, utilizar lavaderos de autos en lugar de lavarlos en las entradas de los vehículos, plantar una barrera natural de césped o cubierta vegetal a lo largo de los ríos y arroyos. Proteger y expandir las barreras naturales a lo largo de nuestros ríos y plantar árboles reduce la contaminación y, al mismo tiempo, brinda muchos beneficios a los residentes.

Otras soluciones incluyen la instalación de infraestructura verde para aguas pluviales

(GSI, por sus siglas en inglés) para ayudar a controlar la escorrentía antes de que llegue a los humedales y ríos. La GSI utiliza elementos naturales como estanques, jardines de lluvia y fosos para árboles para atrapar la escorrentía y eliminar contaminantes dañinos. Algunas de estas instalaciones de GSI se pueden ver a lo largo de Spicket River Greenway, O'Neill Park y Nunzio DiMarca Park. (Imagen: Pozo de agua de lluvia en 50 Island Street)

Si bien la contaminación no puntual es un problema complejo para nuestros ríos, la ciudad de Lawrence y Groundwork Lawrence están desarrollando soluciones que ofrecen muchos beneficios para la comunidad y contribuyen a hacer de

Lawrence una comunidad más verde, más saludable y resistente al clima.

Este equipo está lanzando el Plan Maestro de Resiliencia de Aguas de Lluvia Green Lawrence Blue Merrimack para abordar las inundaciones y las amenazas a la salud pública para la comunidad y contribuir a la contaminación de nuestros ríos.

Comuníquese con Groundwork Lawrence para obtener más información sobre el proyecto y ayudarnos a abordar la contaminación de fuentes no puntuales participando en el programa gratuito de plantación de árboles de Groundwork.

Puede comunicarse con Tennis Lilly en tlilly@groundworklawrence.org o al 978-974-0770, Ext. 2016.

THE LARGEST SOURCE OF WATER POLLUTION IS WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE

**By Tennis Lilly
Groundwork Lawrence**

When people think of water pollution, they usually have an image of toxic waste pouring out of a pipe, or barrels of chemicals getting dumped into a river. While these point sources pose a threat, the most common form of water pollution is much harder to see and control.

Non-point source pollution has many sources. It is caused by hazardous materials like antifreeze, motor oil, and brake pad dust being picked up by stormwater runoff. These chemicals are flushed from parking lots into roads where more pollution is picked up and discharged into storm drains and then into our storm drains and our rivers.

Parks, cemeteries and residential lawns are another source of water pollution. Stormwater runoff flushes bacteria from pet waste and nutrients from lawn fertilizer into our rivers. This hurts wildlife in rivers and streams by causing harmful algae blooms and results in elevated levels of e-coli which can impact public health and cause beaches and rivers to close.

These pollution sources make their way into water bodies through different routes. Storm drains often flow into rivers and wetlands, or their pipes may leak, allowing pollution to seep into groundwater. Stormwater from parks and yards often sheet flow until they reach water bodies.

Melting snow usually contains road salt and other deicing chemicals and as it melts will take many routes to rivers and wetlands. Even rainfall can be a nonpoint source, picking up air pollution including soot, toxic chemicals and washing pollution off trees and rooftops.

Here in Lawrence, all three of our rivers, the Spicket, Shawsheen, and Merrimack, are threatened by nonpoint source pollution. High levels of bacteria, algae blooms, elevated levels of fecal chloroform, chloride from road salt, nitrogen from fertilizers runoff and low levels of dissolved oxygen effect the ability of our rivers to sustain fish and wildlife as well as make them unsafe to swimming and recreation. Improving the health of our rivers is critical to protecting the quality of life for Lawrence residents. There are projects underway to protect and restore our rivers, and things we can do to help.



Some solutions to nonpoint pollution are simple, reducing the use of fertilizer on lawns and athletic fields, using car washes instead of washing in driveways, planting a natural buffer of grass or ground cover along rivers and streams. Protecting and expanding natural buffers along our rivers and planting trees reduce pollution while providing many benefits for residents.

Other solutions include installing green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) to help manage runoff before it reaches wetlands and rivers. GSI uses natural features such as ponds, rain gardens and tree pits to catch runoff and remove harmful pollutants. Some of these GSI installations can be seen along the Spicket River Greenway, O'Neill Park, and Nunzio DiMarca Park. (Image: Stormwater tree pit at 50 Island Street)

While nonpoint pollution is a complex problem for our rivers, the City of Lawrence and Groundwork Lawrence are developing solutions that offer many benefits for the community and contribute to making Lawrence a greener, healthier and climate resilient community.

This team is launching the Green Lawrence Blue Merrimack: Stormwater Resilience Master Plan to address flooding and public health threats to the community and contribute to polluting our rivers.

Contact Groundwork Lawrence to learn more about the project and help us address non-point source pollution by participating in Groundwork's free tree planting program.

Tennis Lilly can be reached at tlilly@groundworklawrence.org or 978-974-0770, Ext 2016

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RUMBONEWS.COM

September Oliver School Construction Update

Actualización de la construcción de la escuela Oliver en septiembre:



The installation of exterior brick veneer, salvaged granite, exterior terracotta and metal paneling, and windows and curtainwalls are all ongoing. The team is also continuing to install ceiling grid framing, interior window trim and sills, ceramic wall and floor tile, interior partition drywall and finish, and first coat primer painting. Installation of the new roof system on the existing buildings has been progressing to ensure it is watertight. Installation of light fixtures has also begun and the main feeder cables from the main electrical room are being run throughout the building.

More information is available at: <https://www.lawrence.k12.ma.us/.../oliver-construction...>

La instalación de chapa exterior de ladrillos, granito salvado, terracota exterior y paneles metálicos, y ventanas y paredes de cortina están en marcha. El equipo también continúa instalando el marco de la rejilla de techo, el borde de las ventanas interiores y los sills, la pared de cerámica y el suelo, el tabique interior de drywall y acabado, y la primera pintura de la primera capa. La instalación del nuevo sistema de techo en los edificios existentes ha estado progresando para asegurar que sea aislado. También se ha iniciado la instalación de accesorios de luz y los principales cables alimentadores de la sala eléctrica principal están funcionando en todo el edificio.

Más información está disponible en: <https://www.lawrence.k12.ma.us/.../oliver-construction...>

Ceremonia de Inicio de Construcción para la Nueva Estación de Policía en Lawrence, MA

Cordialmente le invitamos a unirse al Alcalde Brian A. DePeña, funcionarios de la ciudad, líderes comunitarios e invitados distinguidos en la ceremonia de inicio de construcción para la nueva estación de policía en la Ciudad de Lawrence, Massachusetts. Este evento trascendental marca el comienzo de un nuevo capítulo en la infraestructura de seguridad comunitaria y aplicación de la ley en nuestra querida ciudad.

Esperamos darle la bienvenida en este evento y apreciamos su apoyo compartiendo esta importante invitación con la comunidad en general.

- Cuándo: Jueves, 10 de octubre, 2024

- Hora: 9:00 a. m. – 10:00 a. m.

- Dónde: Frente a la estación de policía de Lawrence en el 90 de la calle Lowell, Lawrence, MA

Todos los visitantes deben usar calzados cerrados. El estacionamiento estará disponible en el 55 de la calle Lowell, Lawrence, MA. Escanee el código QR para obtener más detalles. Gracias.

Construction Commencement Ceremony for the new Police Station in Lawrence, MA

You are cordially invited to join Mayor Brian A. DePeña, City Officials, Community Leaders, and distinguished guests for the Construction Commencement Ceremony for the New Police Station in the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts. This momentous event marks the beginning of a new chapter in community safety and law enforcement infrastructure in our beloved city.

We look forward to welcoming you at the ceremony and appreciate your support in sharing this significant event with the

broader community.

-When: Thursday, October 10th, 2024

-Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

-Where: Across from Lawrence Police Station at 90 Lowell St, Lawrence, MA

All Visitors are required to wear Closed-Toed shoes. Parking will be available at 55 Lowell St. Lawrence, MA. Scan the QR Code for more details. Thank you.

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

<http://heallawrence.org/>

heallawrence@aol.com

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

www.rumbonews.com

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The Joint Commission Recognizes Lawrence General Hospital as One of 12 Hospitals in the Country with 2-Year Advanced Certification for Health Equity

Milestone reflects hospital’s unwavering commitment to providing equitable, high-quality care for all patients

Sept. 27, 2024, Lawrence, MA – Lawrence General Hospital has earned The Joint Commission’s Health Care Equity Certification for excellence in its efforts to provide equitable care, treatment and services. This prestigious certification has only been given to 12 hospitals in the United States with Lawrence General as the first stand-alone hospital to receive it.

Lawrence General has demonstrated that it has established structures and processes in place to decrease health care disparities within its patient populations and to promote diversity, equity and inclusion for staff.

On Sept. 17, 2024, Lawrence General underwent a rigorous onsite review as part of its certification process. During the visit, a team of Joint Commission reviewers evaluated compliance with certification standards under the following domains:

- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Data collection
- Provision of care

- Performance improvement

“Health Care Equity Certification distinguishes those organizations that have made health care equity a strategic priority and those that collaborate with patients, families, caregivers and external organizations to help translate equitable health care into better health outcomes,” Ken Grubbs, DNP, MBA, RN, The Joint Commission’s executive vice president of accreditation and certification operations and chief nursing officer, said. “We commend Lawrence General for using The Joint Commission’s certification process to promote that all its patient populations receive access to equitable care, treatment and services.”

“Our successful certification demonstrates our dedication to addressing and reducing health disparities, ensuring that every patient receives fair and inclusive care,” said Dr. Abha Agrawal, Lawrence General Hospital’s president and CEO. “We’re honored to be among the select group of 12 hospitals nationwide to receive this

certification, a hallmark of our commitment to serving our community’s needs.”

Lawrence General’s Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing and Quality Officer Anthony Alley said the hospital is committed to ongoing excellence and has improved its practices because of the certification.

“We have implemented best practices in culturally competent care, enhanced data collection and analysis, and strengthened our policies to better meet the needs of diverse patient populations,” Alley said. “This achievement is not the end but a continued journey. We remain dedicated to furthering our efforts and maintaining the highest standards of health equity.”

To help health care organizations achieve Health Care Equity Certification, The Joint Commission developed a Health Care Equity Certification Resource Center. The resource center provides practical strategies, toolkits, templates, brief synopses and videos.

For more information, please visit The Joint Commission website.

About Lawrence General Hospital

As an independent, not-for-profit hospital serving the Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire, Lawrence General Hospital provides access to high-quality care and a growing network of local providers, including primary care and many specialties. A designated Level III Trauma Center, Lawrence General has one of the busiest Emergency Departments in Massachusetts. Lawrence General offers a broad range of services and specialty surgeries in its Santagati Center for surgery and leads the region in cardiac care with Massachusetts’ most highly accredited cardiovascular center. With more than 11,000 inpatient discharges per year, 1,400 births, and a dedicated team of nearly 2,000 employees, Lawrence General has proudly served the region since 1875 and is a major acute care provider of emergency, surgical, medical, maternity, and newborn care for the Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire. For more information, visit www.LawrenceGeneral.org.

La Joint Commission reconoce al Lawrence General Hospital como uno de los 12 hospitales del país con certificación avanzada de 2 años por equidad en la atención médica

Este hito refleja el compromiso inquebrantable del hospital de brindar atención equitativa y de alta calidad para todos los pacientes

27 de septiembre de 2024, Lawrence, MA: el Lawrence General Hospital obtuvo la Certificación de Equidad en la Atención Médica de la Joint Commission por la excelencia en sus esfuerzos por brindar atención, tratamiento y servicios equitativos. Esta prestigiosa certificación solo se ha otorgado a 12 hospitales en los Estados Unidos, y el Lawrence General es el primer hospital independiente en recibirla.

El Lawrence General ha demostrado que ha establecido estructuras y procesos para disminuir las disparidades en la atención médica dentro de sus poblaciones de pacientes y promover la diversidad, la equidad y la inclusión del personal.

El 17 de septiembre de 2024, el Lawrence General se sometió a una rigurosa revisión in situ como parte de su proceso de certificación. Durante la visita, un equipo de revisores de la Joint Commission evaluó el cumplimiento de los estándares de certificación en los siguientes dominios:

- Liderazgo
- Colaboración
- Recopilación de datos
- Prestación de atención
- Mejora del desempeño

“La Certificación de Equidad en la Atención Médica distingue a aquellas organizaciones que han hecho de la equidad en la atención médica una prioridad estratégica y a aquellas que colaboran con pacientes, familias, cuidadores y organizaciones externas para ayudar a traducir la atención médica equitativa en mejores resultados de salud”, dijo Ken Grubbs, DNP, MBA, RN, vicepresidente ejecutivo de operaciones de acreditación y certificación de The Joint Commission

y director de enfermería. “Felicitamos a Lawrence General por utilizar el proceso de certificación de The Joint Commission para promover que todas sus poblaciones de pacientes reciban acceso a atención, tratamiento y servicios equitativos”.

“Nuestra exitosa certificación demuestra nuestra dedicación a abordar y reducir las disparidades en la salud, asegurando que cada paciente reciba una atención justa e inclusiva”, dijo la Dra. Abha Agrawal, presidenta y directora ejecutiva de Lawrence General Hospital. “Nos sentimos honrados de estar entre el selecto grupo de 12 hospitales de todo el país que recibieron esta certificación, un sello distintivo de nuestro compromiso de atender las necesidades de nuestra comunidad”.

El vicepresidente sénior y director de enfermería y calidad del Lawrence General, Anthony Alley, dijo que el hospital está comprometido con la excelencia continua y ha mejorado sus prácticas gracias a la certificación.

“Hemos implementado las mejores prácticas en atención culturalmente competente, hemos mejorado la recopilación y el análisis de datos y hemos fortalecido nuestras políticas para satisfacer mejor las necesidades de las diversas poblaciones de pacientes”, dijo Alley. “Este logro no es el final, sino un viaje continuo. Seguimos dedicados a promover nuestros esfuerzos y mantener los más altos estándares de equidad en la salud”.

Para ayudar a las organizaciones de atención médica a lograr la Certificación de Equidad en la Atención Médica, The Joint Commission desarrolló un Centro de recursos de certificación de equidad en la atención médica. El centro de recursos proporciona estrategias prácticas, kits de herramientas, plantillas, breves sinopsis y

videos.

Para obtener más información, visite el sitio web de The Joint Commission.

Acerca del Lawrence General Hospital

Como hospital independiente sin fines de lucro que presta servicios en el valle de Merrimack y el sur de New Hampshire, el Lawrence General Hospital brinda acceso a atención de alta calidad y a una red creciente de proveedores locales, que incluyen atención primaria y muchas especialidades. Lawrence General, un centro de traumatología de nivel III, tiene uno de los departamentos de emergencia más activos

de Massachusetts. Lawrence General ofrece una amplia gama de servicios y cirugías especializadas en su Centro Santagati para cirugía y es líder en la región en atención cardíaca con el centro cardiovascular más acreditado de Massachusetts. Con más de 11 000 altas de pacientes hospitalizados por año, 1400 nacimientos y un equipo dedicado de casi 2000 empleados, Lawrence General ha prestado servicios con orgullo a la región desde 1875 y es un importante proveedor de atención aguda de emergencia, quirúrgica, médica, de maternidad y neonatal para el valle de Merrimack y el sur de New Hampshire. Para obtener más información, visite www.LawrenceGeneral.org.



House of Mercy focuses on the physical, mental, and most importantly, spiritual rehabilitation of every person that comes seeking help in our organization. We are a place of rest for souls feeling lost and rejected today. Our mission is to reestablish and to raise lives according to the commands and principles of The Bible, and the example of our Lord Jesus Christ.

House of Mercy is in need of underwares for men and women. If you are interested in making a donation, Rumbo recommends ordering from Bags in Bulk.

Check out their webpage for selections where you can buy assorted sizes in bundles of 50 for a very low price.

HOUSE OF MERCY
85 Bay State Rd., Lawrence, MA 01843

Phones:
Tel: (978) 655-8141 / Fax: (978) 655-5391
<https://www.houseofmercylawrence.com/give-help>



Bagsinbulk.com

La neurociencia en el liderazgo



Por Tomás Núñez, ThD

La neurociencia es una herramienta imprescindible para el desarrollo de nuevos directivos o líderes. Aprender cómo funciona la mente y cómo se favorece la creación de nuevos circuitos neuronales o, lo que viene a ser lo mismo, nuevos hábitos de trabajo, es una necesidad para todo aquel que quiera dirigir personas. Surge así una nueva área de conocimiento, el Neuroliderazgo Emocional.

Desde que allá por los años noventa del pasado siglo la Inteligencia Emocional irrumpiera con fuerza, se ha convertido en un factor imprescindible en nuestras vidas tanto en el plano privado como en el profesional. Su creciente aplicación en las empresas ha supuesto un gran avance en la forma de liderar personas, y en la actualidad resulta inconcebible un líder que no se preocupe de desarrollar sus propias habilidades emocionales, o bien que no dedique un considerable tiempo y esfuerzo en ayudar al desarrollo de dichas habilidades en los miembros de su equipo.

Ahora, la Neurociencia parece la nueva piedra filosofal de nuestros días. Empieza a ser tema de debate entre las personas que tienen dentro de sus responsabilidades el desarrollo de otras personas. Y hay motivos para que sea así. Hasta hace relativamente poco, pensábamos que nuestro potencial neuronal se iba generando hasta la adolescencia, y que, a partir de ese momento, sólo íbamos perdiendo neuronas. Los recientes descubrimientos sobre el cerebro y la plasticidad neuronal han roto esa creencia, y de paso han abierto un futuro mucho más alentador para el ser humano que se preocupa por su desarrollo y crecimiento.

Según lo publicado en la revista Nature Medicine, después de varios años con informaciones contradictorias, se ha confirmado la neurogénesis (creación de nuevas neuronas) en el hipocampo de personas sanas, a diferencia de la degradación neuronal que se confirma en esa misma zona cerebral en personas que padecen Alzheimer. Este descubrimiento, además de la evidente importancia que puede tener para la investigación de tan terrible enfermedad, ofrece nueva luz sobre el funcionamiento de nuestra mente, que puede ser de utilidad para su aplicación en la vida diaria, tanto a nivel social como a nivel profesional.

El hipocampo está implicado en la percepción de las emociones y en el aprendizaje. Es una estructura íntimamente relacionada con el aprendizaje de nuevas conductas y la creación de hábitos, y estos descubrimientos parecen indicar que,

mientras el ser humano se mantiene activo y aprendiendo nuevas conductas, su cerebro genera nuevas neuronas y nuevos circuitos neuronales, o lo que es lo mismo, seguimos creando nuevas neuronas y nuevos circuitos siempre que estemos adquiriendo nuevas habilidades y nos estemos enfrentando a nuevos retos.

Esta aportación científica publicada en Nature Medicine, corrobora lo que se estaba constatando con la ayuda de técnicas no invasivas, como la fMRI (functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging) que ha permitido investigar, durante los últimos años, cómo se forma la memoria, el lenguaje, cómo se produce y transmite el dolor, cómo aprendemos, y cómo influyen en nuestro cerebro las emociones, entre otros campos de aplicación en neuropsicología.

Resultan evidentes, en mi opinión, las implicaciones que estos hallazgos tienen en la dirección de personas y la gestión de equipos en momentos como los actuales, en los que, retos no nos faltan.

La creación de nuevos hábitos beneficiosos y la eliminación de hábitos perjudiciales va de la mano de esta neuroplasticidad citada. Existen zonas de nuestro cerebro que se dedican a fijar las acciones que repetimos con el fin de facilitarnos la vida, de ahorrar energía mental. Pero en ese proceso puede radicar el problema de la resistencia al cambio, tan necesario en un mundo en permanente evolución.

Cuando tenemos un circuito mental establecido y éste se fija y consolida a través de la mielinización, proceso al que llamamos popularmente “hábito”, nuestro funcionamiento cerebral se resiste a modificarlo, porque para el cerebro es importante defender lo aprendido, y porque, además, entre sus prioridades está el ahorro de energía para causas más necesarias. Luchar contra ese hábito puede resultar una misión imposible.

Para que una persona deje de seguir esa rutinaria forma de actuar, es necesario que tenga fuerza de voluntad y esa fuerza de voluntad necesita energía, mientras que la ejecución del hábito reduce al mínimo ese requerimiento energético. Resulta más fácil aprender un nuevo hábito que sustituya al que queremos eliminar, en lugar de luchar contra él.

El nuevo hábito, es decir, el nuevo circuito mielinizado, acabará por imponerse, quedando relegado el antiguo por su falta de uso. La neurociencia, a través de los hallazgos sobre neuroplasticidad, no indica como podemos favorecer la generación de nuevas conductas que sean más beneficiosas para las personas que lideramos.

Esto es sólo un ejemplo de lo mucho que puede ayudarnos la neurociencia, a la hora de desarrollar nuevos directivos o líderes. Aprender cómo funciona nuestra mente y cómo se favorece la creación de nuevos circuitos neuronales, esto es, como se crean nuevos hábitos de trabajo, es una necesidad imperiosa de todo aquel que pretenda liderar o dirigir personas, de quien, siendo líder, pretenda ejercer el Neuroliderazgo.

Este Neuroliderazgo, basado en la Neurociencia, y aplicado al funcionamiento de las emociones y su gestión, es decir, a cómo funcionan las emociones a nivel cerebral y cómo somos capaces de gestionarlas (Inteligencia Emocional), nos lleva a considerar como objeto de atención para el desarrollo de los líderes, un área de conocimiento que podríamos denominar Neuroliderazgo Emocional.



Support for Caregivers

IN-PERSON SUPPORT GROUP
Wednesdays | 4 p.m.
October 9 | November 13 | December 11

Light refreshments will be served.

Caring for a loved one with dementia can bring stress, frustration, guilt and uncertainty. Find peace and comfort by connecting with other caregivers who understand your challenges, and exchange tips for your caregiving journey.

Kindly contact Senior Advisor Susan to RSVP.

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“¿Qué dulzura queda en la vida, si le quitas la amistad? Robar la vida a la amistad es como robarle al mundo el sol. Un verdadero amigo es más digno de estima que un pariente”.

“What sweetness is left in life, if you take away friendship? Robbing life of friendship is like robbing the world of the sun. A true friend is more to be esteemed than kinsfolk.”

CICERO

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

<http://heallawrence.org/>

heallawrence@aol.com

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

Navy and Coast Guard Release Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing

The Navy and U.S. Coast Guard, as joint lead agencies, have prepared and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) (ID# SEIS-007-17-USN-1723491961) that evaluates the reasonably foreseeable effects on the human environment of Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard training and testing activities conducted within the Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing (AFTT) Study Area.

The Navy and Coast Guard's Proposed Action is to conduct military readiness training activities, and research, development, testing, and evaluation activities in the AFTT Study Area. These military readiness activities include the use of active sonar and explosives within existing range complexes and testing ranges and additional areas located in the Atlantic Ocean along the eastern coast of North America, in portions of the Caribbean Sea, the Gulf of Mexico, at Navy pierside locations and port transit channels, near civilian ports, and in bays, harbors, and inland waterways (e.g., the lower Chesapeake Bay).

These military readiness activities are generally consistent with those analyzed in the AFTT EIS/OEIS completed in 2018 and are representative of training and testing that has been conducted in the AFTT Study Area for decades. Since the completion of the 2018 Final EIS/OEIS, the best available science has been updated, the regulatory environment has changed, the Study Area has changed, and what is known about our impacts has been refined. All of this has been incorporated into this Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS analysis. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is a Cooperating Agency for the Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, are able to organize, train, and equip service members and personnel to meet their respective national defense missions in accordance with their congressionally mandated requirements.

Potential direct, indirect, cumulative, short-term, long-term, irreversible, and irretrievable impacts to the environment from two action alternatives and a No Action Alternative are evaluated in the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Resources evaluated in detail include air quality, sediments and water quality, vegetation, invertebrates, marine habitats, fish, marine mammals, sea turtles and other marine reptiles, and birds and bats.

The 60-day public comment period begins on September 20, 2024, and ends

November 21, 2024. The comment period includes an additional 15 calendar days (from the required 45 days) to allow the public more time to review and comment. The public can submit comments during the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS public review and comment period at one of the in-person public meetings, online via the project website, or by U.S. mail. All comments must be postmarked or received electronically by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on November 21, 2024, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Three in-person, open-house style public meetings will be held to inform the public about the proposed action and alternatives and about the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The in-person public meetings will be held as follows:

Tuesday, October 8, 2024, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, MA 02740

Thursday, October 10, 2024, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza, 1 Veterans Pl, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. New Orleans Marriott Metairie at Lakeway, 3838 N Causeway Blvd, Metairie, LA 70002

Two virtual public meetings in the form of a webinar and question and answer session will be held for the public to learn about the proposed action and alternatives. The virtual public meetings will be conducted as follows:

Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. EDT

Thursday, October 24, 2024, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EDT

Registration for the virtual public meetings is available at the project website www.nepa.navy.mil/aftteis/. Recordings of the virtual public meetings will be posted to the project website at www.nepa.navy.mil/aftteis/ for the public to view following their completion.

Comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS may be provided at the in-person public meetings, submitted electronically through the project website: www.nepa.navy.mil/aftteis/, or by mail to: Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Atlantic; Attention: Code EV22SG (AFTT EIS Project Managers); 6506 Hampton Boulevard, Norfolk, VA 23508-1278

Junior Achievement to Open New Innovation Center at Lawrence High School on September 25

JA Innovation Center @ LHS Grand Opening will bring together business, community, and elected leaders

Junior Achievement of Greater Boston (JA) is excited to announce the opening of its second JA Innovation Center in the region at Lawrence High School (LHS) in Lawrence, Massachusetts. The center is being made possible through a partnership between Lawrence Public Schools, Lawrence High School, and Junior Achievement of Greater Boston. Funding for the center was provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation, Staples, and philanthropic supporters of Junior Achievement's programs in Lawrence. The center was designed pro bono by Studio G Architects and the facade was hand-painted by Elevated Thought, an art and social justice non-profit in Lawrence.

"As a proud Lawrencian, I am excited to bring Junior Achievement's transformative programs to the bright youth of Lawrence as part of our strong partnership with Lawrence Public Schools and Lawrence High School," said Radhames Nova, President and CEO of Junior Achievement of Greater Boston.

Over the past two academic years, Junior Achievement of Greater Boston has served approximately 9,000 young people across Lawrence, with many of them at Lawrence High School. This makes Lawrence the community where JA has served the most young people in the region the past two years.

The JA Innovation Center @ LHS will serve as an extension of Lawrence High School's pathways and elective courses. Working closely with the leadership and teachers at Lawrence High School, JA curriculum will be integrated into pathways and elective courses. Within the space, students will explore careers, develop essential technical skills, and cultivate a growth mindset. The space will also provide youth from across Lawrence and the Merrimack Valley a beautiful physical location where they can become entrepreneurs by gathering with peers and mentors, designing and manufacturing their products, and operating their startup businesses through Junior Achievement's curriculum. The JA Innovation Center will host top-of-the-line machinery, equipment and design software for the designing, prototyping and manufacturing of products. Equipment includes 3D printers, laser cutters, vinyl cutters, embroidery and sewing machines, electronics, robotics equipment, hand and power tools, a heat press, and working/collaboration areas.

"Lawrence High School's pathways give our students a unique early opportunity for in-depth career exploration, and the hands-on technical learning and skill development available in the JA Innovation Center will be a powerful new component," said LPS Superintendent Ralph Carrero. "I look forward to seeing our Lancers in action

there."

The partnership between Junior Achievement of Greater Boston and Lawrence High School underscores a shared dedication to making a positive impact on the lives of young people and the broader community.

All 9th graders at LHS take a financial literacy course provided by JA. The 10th grade Business Pathway uses JA's business-focused curriculum for their courses. Lawrence High School students have visited companies in Lawrence and Boston, sparking interest in careers and giving them a glimpse of a day in the life of those in the workforce. By combining resources and expertise, both organizations are committed to creating a supportive environment that encourages academic excellence and personal growth.

Lawrence High School's Head of School, Victor Caraballo-Anderson said, "The JA Innovation Center is a fantastic way to realize our critical portrait of graduate competencies of "collaboration" and "innovation."

Nothing says to a community that you care more than when you invest in it, in this case, the youth of Lawrence High School."

About Junior Achievement of Greater

Boston Incorporated in Boston in 1950 as a regional JA organization, Junior Achievement of Greater Boston seeks to close the wealth and opportunity gaps for youth in key impact communities (currently Boston, Chelsea, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, Quincy and Somerville) by creating middle school to career pathways, igniting youth entrepreneurship and preparing financially savvy youth. Junior Achievement of Greater Boston teaches young people to effectively manage their finances, build critical skills for the workforce, develop their entrepreneurial mindset and increase their confidence, all of which prepares them to succeed in our global economy and empowers them to break the cycle of poverty.

About Lawrence High School

Lawrence High School is a community of learners fully committed to nurturing and developing the skills and talents of their students that will be necessary for college and career readiness in the 21st century. The faculty at Lawrence High School provides students with a safe and positive learning environment in which the needs of their diverse student population are met through a variety of learning opportunities. Students will graduate from Lawrence High School as responsible, self-directed, lifelong learners who have a clear vision for their future, and who demonstrate perseverance, courage and professionalism in the face of adversity and are socially and civically engaged members of their community

The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center

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

The classes will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays either from 9 AM to 11:30 AM or 6 M to 8:30 PM. Class fee is \$50. Call 978-683-7316 for more information.

"Las grandes mentes discuten ideas; las mentes promedio discuten eventos; las mentes pequeñas discuten sobre personas".

"Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people."

Eleanor Roosevelt

¡Un sincero agradecimiento a nuestra comunidad del Festival de Otoño **Hike for Hope!**

El sábado, 14 de septiembre, el 26vo Festival de Otoño Hike for Hope anual de Lazarus House Ministries reunió a nuestra increíble comunidad en apoyo de quienes enfrentan los desafíos de la pobreza material, la falta de vivienda y la inseguridad alimentaria. Queremos extender nuestro más profundo agradecimiento a todos los que asistieron, caminaron, recaudaron fondos, se ofrecieron como voluntarios y ayudaron a generar un impacto. Su compromiso es verdaderamente inspirador y significa mucho para nosotros y nuestros huéspedes, a quienes nos sentimos honrados de servir.

Hasta la fecha, hemos recaudado \$83,000 de nuestra meta de \$100,000, con más de 314 recaudadores de fondos registrados. Cada paso que dio y cada dólar que recaudó nos está ayudando a cambiar vidas. ¡Y aún no ha terminado! La recaudación de fondos permanecerá abierta hasta el 31 de octubre, por lo que aún hay tiempo para hacer una diferencia aún mayor. ¡Gracias por mantener el impulso y compartir nuestra misión con amigos, familiares y colegas para ayudarnos a alcanzar nuestra meta!

Anunciaremos los ganadores de

los equipos y personas que más dinero recaudaron justo antes del Día de Acción de Gracias, ¡así que estén atentos! Un reconocimiento especial para Micki Leblanc y Denise Labrecque, quienes caminaron su caminata número 26, habiendo defendido este evento desde el principio. Su compromiso y dedicación a nuestros invitados es un verdadero testimonio del poder de la comunidad.

¿Tuviste la oportunidad de disfrutar del nuevo Festival de Otoño? Esta incorporación a las festividades de Hike for Hope reunió a familias e individuos para divertirse, comer, escuchar buena música y espíritu comunitario, todo mientras se creaba conciencia sobre las necesidades urgentes que enfrentan nuestros invitados todos los días. Si aún no lo ha hecho, comparta sus recuerdos con nosotros etiquetando a @Lazarus.House.Ministries y usando el hashtag #HikeForHope en las redes sociales. ¡Nos encanta ver sus fotos y escuchar sus historias!

Gracias una vez más por ser parte de este día significativo. Con amor, esperanza y servicio, juntos, estamos haciendo una diferencia.



A Tae Kwon Do Demonstration

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Hike for Hope Fall Festival Community!

On Saturday, September 14, Lazarus House Ministries' 26th Annual Hike for Hope Fall Festival brought our incredible community together in support of those facing the challenges of material poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity. We want to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who attended, walked, fundraised, volunteered and helped to make an impact. Your commitment is truly inspiring, and it means the world to us and our Guests who we are honored to serve.

To date, we've raised \$83,000 of our \$100,000 goal, with over 314 registered fundraisers. Every step you took and every dollar you raised is helping us change lives. And it's not over yet! Fundraising will remain open until October 31st, so there's still time to make an even bigger difference. Thanks for keeping up the momentum and sharing our mission with friends, family, and colleagues to help us reach our goal!

We'll be announcing the winners of the top fundraising teams and individuals right

before Thanksgiving, so stay tuned! Special recognition goes out to Micki Leblanc and Denise Labrecque, who walked their 26th Hike, having championed this event since the very beginning. Their commitment and dedication to our Guests is a true testament to the power of community.

Did you get a chance to enjoy the new Fall Festival? This addition to Hike for Hope festivities brought families and individuals together for fun, food, great music and community spirit, all while raising awareness of the urgent needs our Guests face every day. If you haven't already, share your memories with us by tagging @Lazarus.House.Ministries and using the hashtag #HikeForHope on social media—we love seeing your photos and hearing your stories!

Thank you once again for being part of this meaningful day. With Love, Hope and Service, together, we are making a difference.

For more ways to support Lazarus House Ministries, please visit our donation page: <https://p2p.onecause.com/hikeforhopefallfestival>. Thank you!

Para conocer más formas de apoyar a Lazarus House Ministries, visite nuestra página de donaciones: <https://p2p.onecause.com/hikeforhopefallfestival>. ¡Gracias!



Hikers Jump for Joy



Micki LeBlanc and Denise Labrecque



Andover Animal Hospital and friends



Chulapop Designs Llc Vendor Tent



Food Trucks and Happy Faces

Endorsement Alert: State Representative Manny Cruz endorses Eunice Zeigler for Governor's Council

Friends, I am a firm believer that we get the type of representation we deserve when we show up to the ballot box. That is why...

I am proud to announce that I am endorsing Eunice Zeigler to represent us and serve on the Governor's Council. I am encouraging all my supporters in Salem, and across Essex County to vote for Eunice this fall.

Eunice has a proven track record of dedicated public service and pragmatic leadership as a locally elected official and has built a campaign that is reflective of our shared values. Her unwavering commitment to criminal justice reform, and to survivors,

and her belief in appointing judges and public servants of high integrity and sound jurisprudence make her the ideal candidate to serve on the Governor's Council.

Donate in support of her campaign by using this link. Let's get help Eunice get elected this fall.

Yours in service,

Manny Cruz
State Representative
7th Essex -Salem
Vice-Chair, Salem School Committee

CONGRESSMAN ED MARKEY ENDORSES EUNICE ZEIGLER FOR GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL

METHUEN, MA—Congressman Ed Markey enthusiastically endorses Governor's Council candidate Eunice Zeigler. Congressman Markey states:

"We need leaders on the Governor's Council who will fight for justice and transparency, and Eunice Zeigler brings that mission to District 5. Her commitment to community engagement and ability to listen to and act on the needs of her constituents sets her apart. As Governor's Councilor for District 5, she will be an advocate for justice throughout Massachusetts and foster trust within our communities. I proudly endorse her and encourage District 5 to vote for Eunice Zeigler on November 5.

Zeigler noted "The Congressman is no stranger to fighting to protect our rights in

Massachusetts. His support means a great deal to me and our team."

To learn more about the campaign visit www.eunicezeigler.com. The general election is November 5, 2024.

About the Fifth District: The Fifth District includes the Cities of Amesbury, Beverly, Gloucester, Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell, Methuen, Newburyport, Peabody, and Salem and the Towns of Andover, Boxford, Danvers, Dracut, Dunstable, Essex, Georgetown, Groveland, Hamilton, Ipswich, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Merrimac, Middleton, Newbury, North Andover, North Reading, Pepperell, Rockport, Rowley, Salisbury, Tewksbury, Topsfield, Tyngsborough, Wenham, West Newbury, and Wilmington.

Zeigler announces a major endorsement from Congresswoman Lori Trahan

METHUEN, MA – Governor's Council candidate Eunice Zeigler's campaign is gaining momentum. Team Zeigler announces the endorsement of Congresswoman Lori Trahan. Congresswoman Trahan states:

"As a Congresswoman, I've had the opportunity to work with many local officials, and I first got to know Eunice through her role as a Methuen City Councillor. Eunice consistently stands out as a leader dedicated to service. Her experience as a community advocate and her ability to deliver results are exactly what we need on the Governor's Council. Eunice is always prepared, thoughtful, and committed. I am proud to endorse her as the next Governor's Councilor for District 5."

Zeigler expressed "The Congresswoman is a strong advocate for Massachusetts. My team and I are honored to receive her endorsement in this crucial race."



To learn more about the campaign visit www.eunicezeigler.com. The general election is November 5, 2024.

**THURSDAY, October 24, 2024
6-10 p.m.
Lenzi's in Dracut**

After 46 years of dedicated service, the last 20 of which have been at the helm of the agency, Karen Frederick is retiring from Community Teamwork.

We hope you will join us on Thursday, October 24 at Lenzi's in Dracut as we celebrate an incredible career.

You can purchase tickets through this site or via check made payable to Community Teamwork, Inc., and note Karen's party and the number of tickets in the subject line.

Please mail checks to:

Community Teamwork, Inc.
c/o Margot Regan
155 Merrimack St.
Lowell, MA 01852

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.



Sports with Northern Essex Community College

By Dan Blair, Director of Athletics

Soccer wins fifth straight, takes down Holyoke in conference opener

Haverhill, MA (September 25, 2024) – The Northern Essex Community College men's soccer team jumped out to 3-0 lead on Tuesday night and never looked back as they defeated Holyoke Community College by a 4-1 final and improved to 5-2 on the season and 1-0 in Region 21 play.

The Knights controlled the match from the outset as Jadiel Bomfim (Nashua, NH) recorded a pair of goals in the games opening 29 minutes. Seven minutes Bomfim and Lucas Cantelli (Lowell) worked a give and combination resulting a Bomfim sending the ball past the keeper from 13 yards out into the lower right corner.

In the 29th minute, Bomfim scored his second of the match and team leading eighth of the season as he took possession from the from the Cougars 30 yards from goal, dribbled past two defenders and sent another past the keep from 18 yards.

Cantelli recorded a goal of his own with just eight seconds remaining in the half as

he drilled a shot past the keep from 25 yards out with a pair of defenders closing in.

Holyoke got on the board in the 63rd minute to cut the Knights lead to two, but a 71st minute goal from Joel Ishimwe (Haverhill) restored the lead the three goals when he took the ball from the Holyoke defense, took a pair of touches and sent the ball across the box to beat the keeper from eight yards out.

Will Paganini (Derry, NH) recorded two saves in net for the Knights to pickup his fifth victory of the season.

NECC outshot the Cougars 30-3 for the match and earned 16 corner kicks to zero for the opposition.

The Knights will hit the road for three straight games starting Friday afternoon when the take on Quinsigamond in Worcester at 4:00pm. The Knights will next return home on Tuesday October 8th when they host MassBay at 7:00pm at Whittier Tech.

Volleyball sweeps weekend tri-match from Roxbury, Quinsigamond

Haverhill, MA (September 23, 2024) – The Northern Essex women's volleyball team opened the home portion of its schedule over the weekend and swept a tri-match from Roxbury, defeating the Tigers 3-0 and Quinsigamond, taking down the Wyverns 3-1 to close out the afternoon. With the victories the Knights improve their overall record to 3-1, and are unbeaten in conference play at 3-0.

In the win over Roxbury, (25-22, 25-7, 25-22) the Knights attack was led Nileyshka Rigual (Lawrence) and Cherly BritoRosario (Lawrence) who recorded six and five kills respectively. BritoRosario also added a match high seven service aces.

Licinia Russo (Lawrence) added six service aces of her own while also recording a team high five digs in the match.

As a team, the Knights attacked at a

.123 for the match compared to -.083 for Roxbury.

In the nightcap, Quinsigamond was able to avoid the sweep taking the third set but the Knights ultimately prevailed by set scores of 25-11, 25-10, 24-26, and 25-8.

Rigual led the Knights with seven kills and was followed right behind by Ashley Martinez (Lawrence) who recorded six of her own.

BritoRosario dished out 24 assists in the win while also contributing three kills. Yenelis Beltre (Lawrence) served up nine aces in the win.

The Knights will stay at home this week as they will entertain Southern Maine CC on Thursday evening at 6:30pm before hosting a Region 21 tri-match on Saturday when Bristol and Holyoke will travel to the Sports and Fitness Center.

NECC Weekend Roundup: Soccer Wins Sixth Straight, Volleyball Splits Region 21 Tri-Match

Haverhill, MA (September 29, 2024) - Mixed results for the Knights athletic program over the weekend as men's soccer picked up their sixth straight win with a 2-0 result over Quinsigamond, while volleyball split a pair of matches, beating Bristol before falling to Holyoke both by 3-1 scores.

SOCCER

A pair of first half goals were the difference as the Knights improved their record to 6-2 overall and remain unbeaten in conference play at 3-0. The six straight wins are the third longest active winning streak in country.

A trio from Nashua, NH took care of all the scoring for the Knights as Jonathan Lopes got NECC out to 1-0 lead in the 9th minute as he got his head onto a loose ball deflected in the box following a free kick from 35 yards out. With two minutes remaining before halftime Christian Colem sent the ball into the lower right corner of the net just past the outstretched goalkeeper on a feed from Jadiel Bomfim.

Will Paganini (Derry, NH) made three second half saves to pick up his sixth win of the season.

NECC outshot the Wyverns 24-12 for the match and recorded six corner kicks to three for QCC.

The Knights hit the road on Tuesday to take on Bristol at 4:00pm at Britland Park in Fall River.

VOLLEYBALL

With the tri-match split, the Knights move to 4-3 on the season and sit at 4-1 in conference play.

Over the course of two matches, Ashley Martinez (Lawrence) and Nileyshka Rigual (Lawrence) led the offensive attack as they recorded 27 and 16 kills each over the course of the two matches. Cherly BritoRosario (Lawrence) dished out 45 combined assists.

On the defensive side of the net, in the opening match with Bristol, Yenelis Beltre (Lawrence) had a match high 13 digs, while in the nightcap Angela Medina (Lawrence) had a team high 16 digs.

Both matches were extremely tight throughout, against Bristol, the Knights picked up the 3-1 victory with set scores of 25-21, 26-24, 22-25 and 25-23. Against Holyoke, the Knights won the opening set 25-16 before dropping three straight, 25-14, 26-24 and 25-20.

The Knights will return to the court on Tuesday when they host MassBay in Region 21 action at 6:30pm in the Sport and Fitness Center on the Haverhill campus.

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¡Gracias por tu apoyo!



MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Women's Soccer Soars Past the Purple Eagles

9/28/2024 | Women's Soccer
NIAGARA FALLS, NY- The Merrimack women's soccer team was victorious in their road MAAC matchup with the Niagara University Purple Eagles on September 28th.

Rapid Recap

Score: Merrimack 1, Niagara 0
Records: Merrimack (4-5-1) (2-2) Niagara (5-3-1) (1-2-1)

How it Happened:

The game was even through the first half and both teams were neck and neck through 45 minutes. Then, in the second half, sophomore forward Bella Keogh came through with her third goal of the season to give the Warriors a 1-0 lead. Niagara had some chances late in the game and almost

made it a draw. However, Lily Morgan preserved the lead and got the shutout in goal. Merrimack would go on to secure the road victory and move to 2-2 in MAAC conference play.

Notes and Numbers

- Bella Keogh scored her third goal of the season
- Lily Morgan made 5 saves and got the shutout

Up Next

The Warriors return home on Wednesday, October 2nd when they welcome the Siena College Saints to Martone-Mejail Field at 7PM. Follow the Warriors on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook!

"El talento gana partidos, pero el trabajo en equipo y la inteligencia ganan campeonatos."

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships."

– Michael Jordan.

For the 7th year, the YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts hosts our annual Fall Fest!



Join us at Merrimack Valley Golf Club to sip, savor, and support! The evening will include raffles, games, entertainment, tasty bites, and delicious beverages - all for a good cause! Tickets are \$100 per person, and sponsorship opportunities are available. Come spend an evening celebrating the YWCA's work throughout Essex County and the Merrimack Valley!

Columbus Day will again be celebrated in East Boston at Tall Ship Park



This year, the IAA will again host a Columbus Day Italian-American Cultural Celebration on COLUMBUS DAY, Monday, October 14, 2024 from NOON to 4:00 P.M.

The Tall Ship Park is located at 1 East Pier Drive in East Boston, Pier 1. It is a short walk from the Maverick Square MBTA Station in East Boston.

The venue offers a magnificent view of the Boston skyline.

Sponsored by the Italian American Alliance and the National Italian American Federation for the past three years, the event features Italian food and pastries, raffles, vendors, and children's activities and Italian music. Special musical performances by Steve Savio and Allen Labella, a native of East Boston.

The event is free, and all are welcome.

There is valet parking available (\$ 20).

"This Columbus Day Celebration at the Tall Ship Park carries on the tradition of Columbus Day in Boston", said Jim DeStefano, President of the Italian American Alliance. "It's notable that ordinary people of Boston, on their own, have brought the Celebration of Columbus back to Boston. Christopher Columbus was significant in American history and is model of courage and persistence to many Americans, particularly Italian-Americans."

Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come

The Italian American Alliance has a website! Please check it out: www.theitalianamericanalliance.com

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Stuart's Automotive, Inc. 97 Tanner Street, Lowell, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell or junk the following vehicles on or after October 9, 2024 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

1. 2004 Nissan Maxima VIN 1N4BA41E24C823403
2. 2013 Lexus LS 460 VIN JTHBL5EF4D5119557
3. 1993 Toyota Corolla VIN 2T1AE09E2PC019475
4. 2003 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 VIN 1GCEK19V53E269784

Vehicles are being stored at Stuart's Automotive and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed
Kevin Stuart
Stuart's Automotive
9/22, 10/1, 10/8

OFFICE OF THE LICENSING BOARD OF THE CITY OF LAWRENCE. Notice is hereby given under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 138 that HAPPY MEALS INC DBA El Barrio Restaurant of 297 South Broadway, Lawrence, MA 01843, has applied for a license to sell alcoholic beverages of the following: FULL LIQUOR LICENSE ON PREMISES RESTAURANT. Type of license applied for: CHANGE FOR LICENSE CLASSIFICATION. Will the license be pledged? NO. Name of the NEW restaurant consisting of a main dining room with table and bar seating, attached covered terrace, kitchen, and front and rear exists. There will be a hearing on October 9, 2024, at 6:00 PM in City Hall Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA. Ana V. Morales and Michael A. Laird, Commissioners. Rumbo 9/22/24.

The United in America Project — Bringing Unity to Community

North Andover, MA — In a world that often feels divided, a new project is seeking to bridge the gap through music coupled with a powerful message of unity. The Choral Majority's United in America Project is not just a fundraising initiative but a heartfelt mission to create a musical experience that embodies the core values of community, peace, and love. The Choral Majority Gospel Choir & Band invites friends, neighbors and supporters to partner with them in bringing this important message to life through their music.

At the center of the project is an original anthem titled United in America. This moving composition calls on us all to reach out to our neighbors, seek common ground, and build a stronger, safer, and more joyful society. Beginning in our local neighborhoods and extending through New England and beyond, the message of United in America is one of hope, kindness, and togetherness.

The project's goal is to professionally record this anthem and produce a compelling music video that encourages viewers to seek the good in everyone. The video will feature The Choral Majority Gospel Choir & Band, alongside guest artists, children's choirs, and individuals with special needs. Highlighting the diverse communities of the Merrimack Valley and Greater Boston, the video will celebrate the beautiful faces and hearts that make up the fabric of our beloved hometowns.

Recording for the project is already underway, with video shoots taking place in the Merrimack Valley and Boston areas. Upon completion, the music video will premiere on YouTube with a full-scale promotional campaign, designed to share

United in America's inspiring message far and wide. Additionally, the release of this project will support increased participation in The Choral Majority and its mission of fostering unity through music.

How to Get Involved

You can become part of this mission by contributing to The United in America Project at GiveSendGo.com/TCM. The Choral Majority, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and GiveSendGo is a faith-based crowdfunding platform that shares the hope of unity across divides. Your contribution will help this vital message of love and community reach people across the nation.

The Choral Majority Gospel Choir is a Merrimack Valley-based nonprofit arts ministry that has shared their message with audiences across New England for over 30 years. With members from Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire, the choir is accompanied by a full band and horns, and features both soloists and guest vocalists from across the region.

As the first gospel choir to perform on the main stage at SoulFest, The Choral Majority has also sung with Grammy award-winning artist Ashley Cleveland, at the National Day of Prayer at the State House, Martin Luther King Day celebrations, and numerous other events celebrating diversity and community.

The group's outreach extends through benefit events supporting organizations like Lazarus House, Esperanza Academy, and The Salvation Army, all while maintaining a focus on their core mission: to build unity through diversity and to share God's love and respect for all.

www.rumbonews.com

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner



LRA meeting of 9/25/24

I attended the LRA regular meeting because I was planning on asking some questions about specific items on the agenda. I must be careful because there is still confusion regarding what they do and my sense of logic. There's too much that I don't understand.

My curiosity was regarding two items they had in Old Business. Like the city council's agenda, that keeps growing with tabled items from more than ten years ago, the LRA's was increasing the same way.

Many months ago, I became interested in something part of my expertise: creating a television studio for the government and community components of the cable companies portion that we all contribute to our monthly bills. Nobody could explain why the Lawrence Redevelopment Authority had to be in charge of selecting the architect to draft the design.

So, the city paid lots of money for that work that went to waste because I made so much noise that finally, mayor DePeña understood that 255 Essex Street, 1st floor, was not an appropriate space for a television studio. Besides, there was no room for editing suites, dressing room and makeup room. That has now become the LRA administration and other small offices with the front room set up for big meetings or government affairs.

However, "the design proposal LRA – Lawrence Access TV Studio" remained in old business, and I feared it would end up permanently under the LRA where it didn't belong.

The other issue was The White Fund Paintings. From the first day, moving the paintings from the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston to Lawrence has been brought up at almost every meeting.

I don't know about art and have never gone to see them because I wouldn't understand what I'm looking at, although it's clear they are worth millions.

That reminded me of when former mayor Patricia Dowling, in 2000, wanted to sell them and use the money to improve the

city. Many people expressed their outrage and ended up in court. Headed by Elizabeth Beland (God bless her; we still miss her), others argued that the will of the late Reverend William E. Wolcott was specific in its instructions. Wolcott died in 1911.

He clearly stated that his will, executed on June 20, 1907, does not allow the defendants to sell any of the seventeen paintings that were bequeathed, including works by Eugene Boudin, Camille Pissarro, and Claude Monet, to the trustees of The White Fund (trustees), a charitable trust.

"3. Whenever the pictures or any part of them shall come into the actual possession of the said Trustees, they shall offer the same for purposes of exhibition to the Museum of Fine Arts in the City of Boston, unless they shall determine otherwise by the discretion confirmed on them in the following paragraph:

"4. If at the time of my decease or at any subsequent time there shall exist within the present limits of the city of Lawrence a public art gallery housed in a fireproof building and under such management as the Trustees of the White Fund shall approve, the said Trustees may deposit the aforesaid pictures with such art gallery for purposes of exhibition."

We all know that before considering bringing the artworks here, we must build a super-secure fireproof museum with the best electronic protection and security guards. Can Lawrence afford that, and why would we?

After careful analysis of Rev. Wolcott's will, the Superior Court decided that there was no doubt that he wanted the masses to enjoy that art belonging to the residents of Lawrence. The court also established that the trustees of the White Fund were the keepers and had no right to sell any of them.

That controversy was settled 24 years ago. The paintings shall remain at the Museum of Fine Arts and cannot be sold.

So, when I heard them say they were removed from Old Business, I left the meeting.

I also volunteered to be on the LRA committee to review the proposals received to build/restore properties, but I don't think it's appropriate to start writing about that.

What's the First Amendment for?

At the beginning of this year, Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson's comments on the First Amendment surprised everyone. As a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, we expect her to know the basics of the US Constitution, which our forefathers made the First Amendment first for its importance.

Justice Jackson said, "My biggest concern is that the First Amendment hamstringing the federal government in significant ways..."

James Madison was the primary author of the First Amendment and was a champion of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, religious liberty, freedom of assembly, and the right to petition the government for a redress of grievances. Its purpose was to protect the public from the government.

Then, this week, John Kerry, former senator and former secretary of state, said something similar. "If people go to only one source, and the source they go to is sick and, you know, has an agenda, and they're putting out disinformation, our First Amendment stands as a major block to the ability to be able to just, you know, hammer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO

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

it out of existence," said Kerry.

"So what you need, what we need is to win the ground, win the right to govern by hopefully having, you know, winning enough votes that you're free to be able to implement change," he added.

What's happening in this country is unbelievable. Laws don't mean anything anymore, and changes are happening under the radar because most of us never hear what happens.

Talking on speakerphone

I must confess that I use my speakerphone all the time. If I'm working at home, it allows me to keep working while carrying a conversation. The same is true if I'm in the car; if you see me talking, I'm either on the phone or having a staff meeting with myself.

However, it annoys me when someone else does it around me. Talking on speakerphone in public spaces is my biggest pet peeve. Whether we are talking to the love of our life, the doctor, or having a fight with our husband (swearing and being vulgar), nobody needs to be part of it. If you must carry a conversation on the telephone in a public place, DON'T TURN ON THE SPEAKER.

"Our First Amendment stands as a major block to be able to just, you know, hammer it out of existence..."

John Kerry at the Free Speech Union

YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts set to Celebrate Community at 7th Annual Fall Fest

Lawrence, Haverhill, Lynn, MA — It's that time of year again! The YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts will celebrate its 7th Annual Fall Fest Fundraiser on October 24th at Merrimack Valley Golf Club! This event is a core fundraiser for the YWCA, highlighting the critical work all 25+ YWCA community programs engage in throughout Essex County and the Merrimack Valley. It is also a chance for local changemakers to connect with the community partners and supporters who are foundational to the YWCA mission and help the agency change the lives of over 15,000 women, children, and families every year. The evening will include raffles, games & entertainment, tasty bites, and delicious drinks – all during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which is a core aspect of the YWCA's work!

The Fall Fest Fundraiser, which began in 2017, raises funds to help carry out its mission of creating opportunities for women's growth and leadership while striving to attain a common vision of peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people and ending cycles of domestic violence.

"We appreciate your support of our work as it allows us to help provide our clients with the tools to attain economic self-sufficiency, academic and career success while striving to live with hope and possibility," Nicole Sammartino, YWCA Director of Advancement, said in a release. "Please consider sponsoring the

event so that we may continue supporting our clients and communities by providing comprehensive, interdisciplinary programs that help those in need!"

Tickets for this event are \$100 per person and are available at www.ywcanema.org or Givebutter – just search "YWCA 7th Annual Fall Fest"! However, sponsorship opportunities for this event are also available and allow the YWCA to put a spotlight on supporters like you! Depending on the level you choose, each sponsorship comes with tickets to the event, as well as a form of promotion for your company/brand/organization to thank you for your support of the YWCA's work! If you're unable to join them or sponsor the event, please consider a monetary contribution or donation of a raffle item for them to raise program funds during the event.

Proceeds from sponsors, donors and guests help support YWCA programs, which serves more than 15,000 community women and children annually across its seven sites. For ticket and sponsorship opportunity information, contact Izzy Sarra at 978.788.6362 or isarra@ywcanema.org.

YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts is a social change organization which exists today for the same reasons it was founded back in the 1890s: to assure that women have the tools, skills and opportunities they need to become and remain personally and economically self-sufficient.

El Encuentro Film Festival to Showcase Underrepresented Filmmakers in Lowell, MA on October 4th and 5th, 2024

Lowell, MA – The El Encuentro Film Festival, brought to you by UNITAS and in partnership with Middlesex Community College, is proud to announce its upcoming third annual event on October 4th and 5th, 2024, at The Richard and Nancy Donahue Theater, located at 240 Middlesex Street, in downtown Lowell at 7pm. This two-night festival will provide a platform for underrepresented filmmakers whose voices and stories deserve to be heard.

Each evening will feature 90 minutes of original films, all created by diverse and emerging filmmakers. These works bring forward unique perspectives, rich narratives, and authentic storytelling, offering attendees a rare opportunity to engage with films that challenge norms and spark conversations about inclusion and representation in the creative and film industry.

One of the highlights of the festival is the screening of *Bailando*, a story by Feliciano Segundo Jr, and a film directed by Michael Tejada and starring Arline Lora, a Lowell native. *Bailando* promises to captivate audiences with its heartfelt story and stunning performances. A special Q&A session with the director and lead actress will follow each screening, providing film enthusiasts with an intimate opportunity to engage with the filmmakers, ask questions, and explore the creative process behind the film.

“Being Dominican and a filmmaker, to me, these stories don’t often get shared on screen. I was in love with movies like “Dirty Dancing” and the “Step-Up” franchise. The world of dance in many ways brings us together. Often people fall in love through it as well. “Bailando” is a love story about two twenty-something Dominicans who begin to fall in love through the musical genre of Bachata,” said Michael Tejada on the film.

“We are excited to bring these important voices to the community and celebrate the power of film to unite, inspire, and bring about change,” said Michelle Rivera, Festival’s producer. “El Encuentro is more than just a film festival—it’s a space for dialogue, cultural exchange, and recognition of talent that deserves a wider stage.”

Tickets are available now, and the event is open to the public for \$15 and students for \$10. Join us in celebrating the art of film and supporting underrepresented filmmakers at the El Encuentro Film Festival!

Event Details

Date: Friday, October 4th & Saturday, 5th, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: The Richard and Nancy Donahue Theater, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA

Tickets: Available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/el-encuentro-the-latino-film-experience-tickets-available-at-the-door-tickets-1009296612337>

Tickets will also be sold at the door.

For any inquiries, please visit our website at <https://www.elencuentrofest.com> or email us at unitasoflowell@gmail.com.

About the El Encuentro Festival

El Encuentro Film Festival is dedicated to showcasing films that foster cultural exchange, understanding, and dialogue within the Latino community and beyond. We aim to create a vibrant platform where filmmakers and audiences can engage with thought-provoking narratives, innovative storytelling, and compelling visual artistry.

Join us at El Encuentro Film Festival 2024 and be part of a cinematic journey that bridges cultures and connects hearts.



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LATINO FILM FESTIVAL

Come and experience the enchanting film “Bailando,” directed by the acclaimed Michael Tejada! Starring Arline Lora from Lowell, MA. After the screening, participate in an engaging Q&A session with the talented cast and crew.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4TH & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

07:00 PM

THE RICHARD AND NANCY DONAHUE THEATER, 240 CENTRAL ST, LOWELL, MA.

**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!
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BOTH NIGHTS STARTING AT 7PM

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