

### UMass Lowell and SAIC Establish Cyber Center



UMass Lowell and SAIC signed a partnership Wednesday to launch the UMass Lowell Cyber Center. Seated from left are UMass Lowell Chancellor Julie Chen; UMass President Marty Meehan; Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll and SAIC CEO Toni Townes-Whitley. Back row from left are Mathew Correa, UMass Lowell associate vice chancellor of national security strategy and partnerships; Elizabeth McGrath, chief, HN Operations Program Executive Office C3I&N, Hanscom Air Force Base; Vinnie DiFronzo, executive vice president, Air Force and Combatant Commands Business Group, SAIC; state Rep. Rodney Elliott; Prabu Natarajan, CFO, SAIC; Caroline Freedman, regional director for U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren; Julia Spagnola, special assistant for U.S. Sen. Edward Markey; Jose Rivera, vice president, Enterprise Digital Solutions, SAIC; Lowell City Manager Tom Golden; Anne Maglia, UMass Lowell vice chancellor of research and economic development; Rich Wissler, senior director, business development, Air Force and Combatant Commands Business Group, SAIC. / PHOTO BY EVELYN DOW Pg. 15

### Grand Opening of the New Balance Foundation SquashBusters Center



Molly Santry, Director of New Balance Foundation, expressed the foundation's pride in the project, saying, "As a longtime supporter of SquashBusters and Lawrence Community works - along with dozens of other impactful non-profit organizations across the city of Lawrence - it's wonderful to see this project come to life. It aligns directly with our mission to invest in vibrant communities and bright futures through sport and know it will make a meaningful difference to the community--especially to the young people of Lawrence." Pgs. 2 & 3

### Dying for a Christmas card Cartero... Escríbale Una Carta de Navidad

Pg. 11

### La Navidad mágica WOW! de American Training

Pg. 5 & 6



Brought WOW! Magic to Life! With American Training's WOW! Magical Wonka Christmas

### New author: Raeann Keeley-Pellerin Pg. 9

**Operation Santa Paws**

Our residents experience so much joy from animals. We want to give back to them during the holiday season! New England Life Enrichment Team is doing their third annual Operation Santa Paws Fundraiser!

**DECEMBER 1-22**

**ACCEPTABLE SUPPLIES FOR DONATION:**

- Unopened pet food
- Pet toys
- Blankets & towels
- Pet beds
- Food bowls
- Cleaning products
- Collars & leashes
- Grooming products

Pg. 14

Por/By Della Diaz rumbonews.com/blog

Desde Mi Esquina

Minutas del concilio Más sobre Wendy DiZoglio y Legislatura Jefe de policía **Página 4**

Por/By Della Diaz rumbonews.com/blog

From My Corner

Council minutes More about Wendy DiZoglio and Legislature Police Chief **Page 16**

# Grand Opening of the New Balance Foundation SquashBusters Center and Completion of Armand Michael Hyatt Apartments in Lawrence, MA

Lawrence, MA—December 10, 2024—The City of Lawrence marks a significant milestone today with the grand opening of the New Balance Foundation SquashBusters Center and Armand Michael Hyatt Apartments. Hosted by Lawrence Community Works, Inc. (LCW) and SquashBusters (SQB), this event celebrates the successful culmination of years of collaboration, strategic planning, and community investment to bring affordable, healthy, green housing and transformative opportunities to the city's youth and families.

The newly opened facility at 26-30 Island Street complex brings together deeply affordable family housing and a brand-new world-class community center, in a holistic development that nurtures the emerging neighborhood in the City's historic Mill District. The project signifies a new era of innovation and commitment to youth programming for the Lawrence community, building on the presence of other strong youth organizations in the area and heralding more to come. The 18,000-square-foot New Balance Foundation SquashBusters Center, a cornerstone of this development, features classrooms, squash courts, a fitness center, and flexible community spaces. Beyond its primary programming, the center will serve as a vital resource for residents and groups, fostering a sense of belonging and partnership.

"The New Balance Foundation SquashBusters Center at Armand Michael Hyatt Apartments represents the culmination of spreading love, expanding opportunity, and investing in youth, day in and day out, for almost three decades. Never in a million years did I imagine this level of impact when I set out on this journey in 1996 with only 24 youth participants," said Greg Zaff, Founder of SquashBusters. "On behalf of our Board and staff, I'm deeply proud and humbled by this collaboration. We are grateful to the many contributors, but especially the New Balance Foundation for making this dream a reality, and for our partnership with Lawrence Community Works for imagining the possibility and for having the courage to say 'Yes!'"

The surrounding Armand Michael Hyatt Apartments, completed as part of this initiative, provides 80 units of brand new deeply affordable rental housing to meet the pressing demand in the city. AMH represents \$46M of investment to revitalize this formerly industrial 4-acre site, adding outdoor recreational spaces and safe community access to the Nunzio DiMarca Park and Merrimack River. AMH is a deeply green development, with rooftop solar in process and designed to achieve "Passive House" certification, one of the most energy efficient building standards. Over 1,700 applications have been received for the 80 apartment homes.

"Lawrence Community Works has a central commitment to holistic development that provides a double or triple "bang for the buck" for our community. It's not just about housing units; it's about revitalizing neighborhoods, creating opportunities, and showing folks what is possible when community partners come together in Lawrence," said Jess Andors, Executive Director of LCW. "The opening of the New Balance Foundation SquashBusters Center and Phase Two of the Armand Michael Hyatt Apartments embodies the idea of a healthy, equitable neighborhood

- one that not only provides cutting-edge affordable housing but also creates a hub for education, wellness, and connection that will empower our residents for generations to come."

City leaders, project partners, and community members joined in the festivities, with remarks from Lawrence Mayor Brian A. DePeña, State Senator Pavel Payano, MA Secretary Edward Augustus, and representatives from New Balance Foundation. Their words highlighted the shared vision and dedication that brought this milestone to fruition.

Molly Santry, Director of New Balance Foundation, expressed the foundation's pride in the project, saying, "As a longtime supporter of SquashBusters and Lawrence Community works - along with dozens of other impactful non-profit organizations across the city of Lawrence - it's wonderful to see this project come to life. It aligns directly with our mission to invest in vibrant communities and bright futures through sport and know it will make a meaningful difference to the community--especially to the young people of Lawrence."

LCW was founded in 1986 and experienced a rebirth in 1999, since leveraging over \$150 million of direct investment into the city, while growing its membership base to 5,000 residents and stakeholders and implementing innovative asset-building, workforce training, and youth development programs.

Since 2012, SquashBusters has been an integral part of the Lawrence community, inspiring hundreds of students through sports, academics, and mentorship. For the first time, all its programming will be centralized in this state-of-the-art facility, increasing its reach and deepening its impact.

Today's celebration drew more than 250 guests, including students and families, funders, and elected officials. As the ribbon was cut and the doors opened, attendees were invited to tour the facility, meet with program leaders, and see firsthand the exciting opportunity this development adds to the community.

New Balance Athletics joined the Lawrence business community in 1982. Employing more than 600 associates in the city across the brand's global design and development center, athletic footwear manufacturing, factory retail store at 5 South Union Street as well as its nearby distribution center- the Company's facility is less than a half mile from the AMH complex.

## About the New Balance Foundation (NBF):

The New Balance Foundation (NBF) invests in vibrant communities and bright futures through sport. Since 1981, New Balance Foundation has invested in proven pathways to help young people achieve their goals. Our grantmaking focuses on community-led, outcomes-driven initiatives that promote access to sport, educational support, career readiness and overall well-being. We have granted over \$150 million USD to date to trailblazing non-profits across the globe. This includes more than \$12 million USD in donations to 90 non-profits in 2024 alone. Learn more about New Balance Foundation at <https://www.newbalance.com/new-balance-foundation/our-mission/>.



## About SquashBusters (SQB):

SquashBusters (SQB) is a sports-based youth development program that believes in the transformative impact of athletics and education on young people's lives. Established in 1996, each year the organization serves over 500 students, aged 12 to 25, in Boston and Lawrence, MA and Providence, RI. SQB strategically combines the sport of squash with academic support, health and fitness initiatives, community service, college and financial aid mentoring, and career guidance so students can fulfill their greatest potential. Since our inception, 98% of our students have gone on to post-secondary education, 86% of the time to a four-year college. Within 6 years, 70% graduate and all do so without accruing excessive debt. Our alumni have gone on to successful careers in finance, medicine, engineering, law, teaching and more, including our CEO who is a 2010 graduate of the program. Learn more about SquashBusters at [www.squashbusters.org](http://www.squashbusters.org).

## About Lawrence Community Works (LCW):

Lawrence Community Works (LCW) is a community development corporation based in Lawrence, MA that weaves together community planning, organizing, and asset-building efforts with high-quality affordable housing and commercial development to create vibrant neighborhoods and empowered residents. For over 25 years, LCW has focused on building social capital among Lawrence residents (neighbors, parents, youth), fostering leadership skills and practices at multiple levels of the community, engaging residents in the design and governance of projects and programs, mobilizing people to volunteer and vote, and implementing collective action campaigns and deep collaborations to improve housing, municipal budgeting, economic development, and schools. To learn more about our work, visit [www.lawrencecommunityworks.org](http://www.lawrencecommunityworks.org).

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine - and shadows will fall behind you."

Walt Whitman

## Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

### DIRECTOR AND GRAPHIC DESIGN

**Dalia Díaz**  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

### SALES & CIRCULATION DIRECTOR

**Alberto M. Surís**  
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

Publicación de SUDA, Inc.

315 Mt. Vernon Street Lawrence, MA 01843-3206

Tel: (978) 794-5360 | [www.rumbonews.com](http://www.rumbonews.com)



[facebook.com/rumbonews](https://facebook.com/rumbonews)  
[twitter.com/rumbonews](https://twitter.com/rumbonews)

Published on the 1<sup>st</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of Every Month

# New Balance Foundation SquashBusters Center

Photos courtesy of Richard Russell



Miembro de la FDIC



## ¿ESTÁ LISTO PARA SU PRIMER HOGAR?

Hágalo posible con el programa ONE Mortgage de Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP).

- ✓ Pago inicial del 3% para condominios y viviendas para 1 y 2 familias<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ Pago inicial del 5% para viviendas para 3 familias<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Tasas de interés fijas y bajas
- ✓ Sin seguro hipotecario privado

Para comenzar la compra de un hogar, póngase en contacto con:

**Rachel Concepcion**

Agente de préstamos hipotecarios

Correo electrónico: [r.concepcion@easternbank.com](mailto:r.concepcion@easternbank.com)

C: 603-702-1404 / O: 978-446-9279

NMLS# 705890

Hablo Español

**ATENCIÓN:** Toda la documentación y las transacciones posteriores, incluidas, entre otras, solicitudes, divulgaciones y estados mensuales, estarán en inglés. Al solicitar un préstamo, declara conocer que todas las futuras comunicaciones por escrito se harán en inglés.

EL BIEN  
PRESTA



**Eastern Bank**  
ÚNETE PARA BIEN®

<sup>1</sup> Mínimo del 1.5% de fondos del comprador y del 1.5% de ayuda o regalo

<sup>2</sup> Mínimo del 3% de fondos del comprador y del 2% de ayuda o regalo

Este documento no representa un compromiso de entregar un préstamo. Sujeto a pautas del programa y aprobación de crédito. Eastern Bank NMLS #451827.

**POR DALIA DÍAZ**  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

# Desde Mi Esquina



## ¡Finalmente, obtuve mi respuesta!

Durante las últimas dos semanas, he estado escribiendo sobre la falta de información en la ciudad, las actas que faltan en el sitio web. Las reuniones del concejo municipal y de la junta no están allí, lo que hace imposible que alguien investigue las decisiones anteriores de esos grupos.

Esta grave violación de la Ley de Reuniones Abiertas conlleva severas sanciones para la ciudad. La responsabilidad del Secretario de la Ciudad es aceptar las publicaciones requeridas para que se publiquen todas las reuniones públicas y mantener el calendario de reuniones públicas. Los avisos de las reuniones deben anunciarse 48 horas antes de la fecha y hora programadas.

De acuerdo con la Ley de Reuniones Abiertas, el público puede asistir a las reuniones de los organismos públicos, pero está excluido de una sesión ejecutiva convocada para un propósito válido enumerado en la ley. Si bien se permite que el público asista a una reunión abierta, una persona solo puede dirigirse al organismo público con el permiso del presidente.

Los organismos públicos deben crear y mantener actas precisas de todas las reuniones, incluidas las sesiones ejecutivas. Las actas, junto con todos los documentos y anexos utilizados, son registros públicos y parte del registro oficial de la reunión.

La División de Gobierno Abierto del Fiscal General hace cumplir la Ley de Reuniones Abiertas. El Procurador General tiene la autoridad de recibir e investigar denuncias, iniciar acciones de cumplimiento, emitir opiniones consultivas y promulgar reglamentos.

Ese tema me estaba poniendo nerviosa porque nadie respondió a mis preguntas y debería haber recibido una llamada de alguien. Luego, el alcalde Brian DePeña se comunicó conmigo el domingo por la noche; no tenía idea de que las actas no se estaban publicando en el sitio web de la ciudad y quería saber más, así que le di los últimos detalles.

Más tarde me dijo que había hablado con la Secretaria Municipal Eileen Bernal, y ella dijo que trabajaría en la publicación de las actas. Sin embargo, anteriormente se había quejado de que su oficina necesitaba ayuda adicional. Recuerdo que el secretario municipal anterior, Bill Maloney, dijo en varias ocasiones que su oficina necesitaba al menos siete empleados, y nadie ha tratado de aliviar la situación a través de los años.

La ciudad ha sido negligente en la dotación de personal durante años en todos los departamentos y la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal debería ser la prioridad número uno. Son la huella histórica y el rostro de su gente en todos los aspectos.

Tal vez la necesidad de ayuda adicional se deba a que las personas de la oficina de la secretaria municipal realizan ceremonias de bodas en lugar de hacer su trabajo diario. Mi pregunta es si son jueces de paz, ya que la ley lo exige para poder realizar ceremonias.

Solicité la lista de notarios públicos en Lawrence al Secretario de Estado William Galvin, y esto es lo que recibí:

## Lista de jueces de paz en Lawrence, MA.

- Eileen Bernal
- Celia Marisol
- Karol DeBinion de Contrera
- Iris Gonzalez
- Jennifer Jimenz
- Steven Kfoury
- Diane LaBlance
- Ana Levy
- Isabel Melendez
- Julissa Nunez
- Tomas Nunez Genao
- Julia Perez-Silverio
- Richard Reyes
- Damarys Ruiz
- Michael Sullivan
- Rafael Tejeda
- Teresa Vega

Sé que algunos de esos nombres listados ya no utilizan sus credenciales para ese propósito, y no confío en la precisión de que el Estado mantenga esa lista actualizada.

En el pasado (y probablemente en la actualidad) el Secretario de Estado requería que cualquier secretario municipal o asistente del secretario municipal completara la solicitud y obtuviera la aprobación del Concejo de la Gobernadora de la solicitud como juez de paz ANTES de realizar matrimonios o actuar como juez de paz en cualquier capacidad. El problema de esa situación es que el matrimonio puede no ser reconocido como legal ya que no se realizó según las reglas y requisitos de la Commonwealth.

## Por favor, denle un despertador a Wendy Luzón

Ella siempre llega tarde a las reuniones, y el martes pasado, llegó casi media hora después de que comenzara el Comité de Personal. Poco después de tomar asiento, hizo una pregunta disparatada que el comité discutió la semana anterior, pero ella estaba ausente. Luego, con una voz muy dura, la presidenta Stephany Infante le dijo que se trató la semana pasada y que debería haberlo visto el video. ¡Bien hecho, Stephany!

Los concejales querían escuchar al CAFO Mark Ianello sobre la búsqueda de un jefe de policía. Él explicó los informes que recibió de los consultores en Tampa, Florida. Luego, la presidenta Infante preguntó sobre el papel que desempeñaría el comité de ciudadanos local, solo para escuchar del Sr. Ianello que no existe tal comité. Ella insistió en que el alcalde lo había creado para revisar los documentos y entrevistar a los candidatos.

Parece no haber comunicación entre el CAFO y el alcalde Brian DePeña. Cuando le dije lo que escuché, se mantuvo firme y dijo que eso no es lo que quiere hacer con ese proceso. El alcalde DePeña no está al tanto de lo que hace su gente. Parece que toman las decisiones en público y él se entera de ellas cuando alguien de la comunidad se

lo dice. No hay comunicaciones escritas ni informes que pasen por sus manos, como si al delegar pudiera estar seguro de que las cosas se harán de acuerdo con sus instrucciones.

## Comité de Presupuesto y Finanzas

Un tema sobre la mesa en la agenda fue la transferencia de \$400,000 que se asignaron a la Federación Hispana para que se utilizaran en pequeñas empresas a través de la subvención Lawrence Prospering Grant. Hubo mucha discusión sobre la anterior concesión a las empresas. Estaban tratando de aclarar por qué los miembros de la Federación no fueron incluidos y sugirieron obtener un informe sobre las mejores prácticas utilizadas en la selección de los ganadores.

Al final, Wendy y Stephany sugirieron pedirle a la presidenta de la Federación, Sara Pérez, que esté presente en el próximo Comité de Presupuesto y Finanzas.

Les recomiendo que lean la carta de Sara a los miembros del concejo en la página 8.

## CARTAS AL EDITOR

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

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

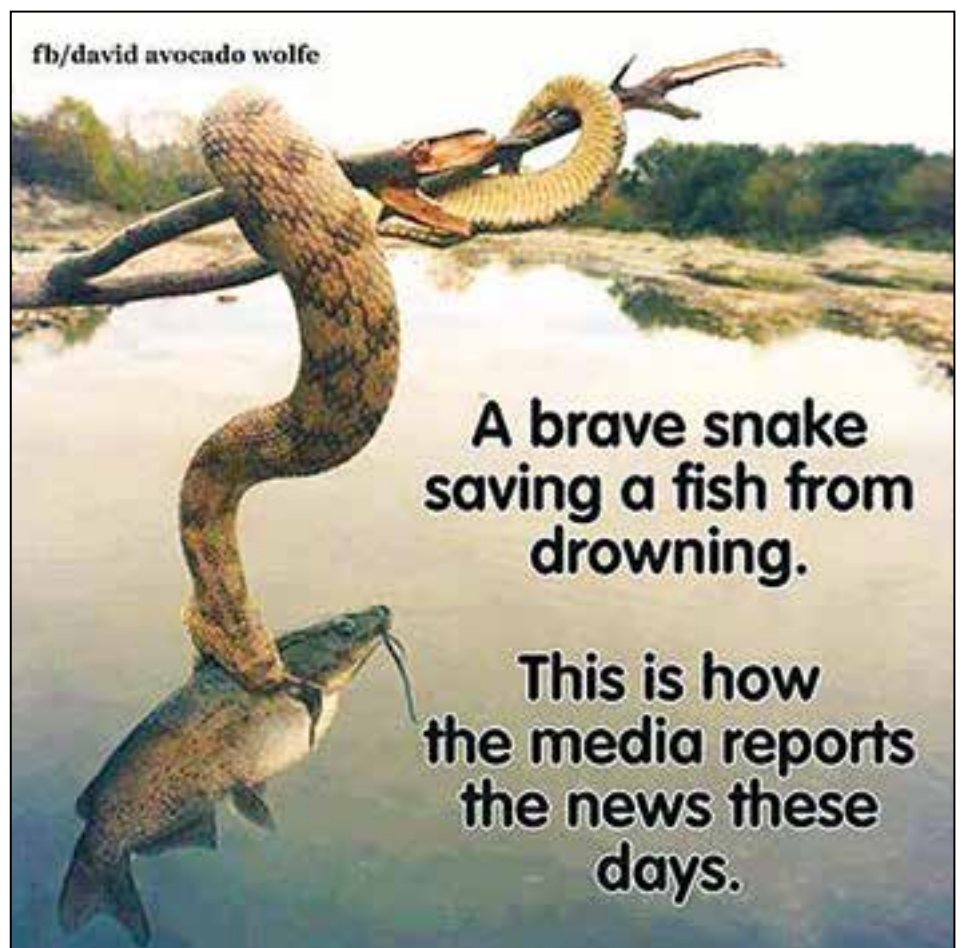
## Haciéndole pasar un mal rato a Diana DiZoglio

Los miembros de la Legislatura probablemente nunca pensaron que la pregunta de la boleta electoral propuesta por la Auditora DiZoglio llegaría muy lejos. ¡Oh, estaban equivocados!

Un documento redactado por la Oficina del Secretario de Estado William Galvin, dice que una pregunta de boleta electoral aprobada por los votantes con éxito entrará en vigencia dentro de los 30 días (o el 5 de diciembre), pero le están haciendo pasar un mal rato alegando que hubo un error porque la persona que actualizó esa regla debería haber dicho "30 días después de la aprobación por el Concejo de la Gobernadora".

¡No es gran cosa! La Sra. DiZoglio comenzará su auditoría el 3 de enero y no podemos esperar los resultados. Le llevó muchos años llegar a este punto y nosotros la ayudamos.

Los resultados de las elecciones del 5 de noviembre sobre la pregunta No. 1 acerca de la auditoría de la Legislatura fueron 72 % SÍ y 28 % NO.



Find us in / Búsquenos en Facebook/Rumbo



# ¡Le dimos vida a la magia WOW!

## La Navidad Mágica WOW! de American Training y la Fábrica de Chocolate Wonka

Hay algo en la magia WOW! que captura la imaginación.

Si no asististe a la Navidad del viernes pasado en la fábrica de chocolate de Willy Wonka, ¡te perdiste el evento de tu vida!

A partir de las 5:00 p. m., cientos de invitados, colegas y visitantes se congregaron en nuestro vestíbulo en Campanelli para presenciar una transformación no solo del espacio físico (que fue increíble), sino también una que tocó el alma.

Recibidos por Willy Wonka, Charlie, Violet, el abuelo y la abuela en las puertas de entrada a la fábrica, los Oompa-Loompas hicieron que todos los visitantes se sintieran como en familia, y se mezclaron con la multitud durante toda la noche. Encabezando la lista de invitados estuvo la espectacular visita de Santa Claus, la Sra. Claus y sus elfos, directamente desde el Polo Norte, quienes se sentaron para las fotos en el barco de caramelos duros de Willy Wonka, conocido como S.S. Wonkatania.

Eso preparó el escenario para la noche más conmovedora en la historia del entrenamiento estadounidense, ya que nuestros invitados se entregaron a una noche de baile al ritmo de DJ Greg, que nos dio un éxito tras otro en un ambiente de club

nocturno que recordaba a los mejores clubes de baile de Nueva York. El entusiasmo y la alegría que mostraron todos se podían sentir con cada ritmo de "We Are Family", cada paso de baile de Macarena y cada voz alzada en sintonía con el tema de "Frozen".

Chocolate caliente, refrescos, botellas de agua mineral, un bufé de hamburguesas de carne, varios tipos de pizza, tiras de pollo tiernas y macarrones cremosos con varios aderezos de elección, mantuvieron la energía de todos en su máximo rendimiento hasta el final de la noche.

¡ESTO fue realmente WOW! ¡Magia cobrando vida!

Y justo cuando piensas que no podría ser más WOW! ¡Mágico!... El público tendrá la oportunidad de ver la exhibición de forma gratuita mediante cita previa durante la temporada navideña comunicándose con [StephanieBradbury@americantraininginc.com](mailto:StephanieBradbury@americantraininginc.com) para programar una fecha y hora.

American Training Inc. es una organización sin fines de lucro con sede en Merrimack Valley que brinda vivienda, educación, capacitación y servicios de apoyo a personas con discapacidades, jóvenes en riesgo y estudiantes adultos que buscan un camino hacia una vida más significativa.

**FREE** **Friday, December 20 - 4 - 7 PM**  
**6 Campanelli Drive, Andover, MA**



# We Brought WOW! Magic to Life!

## With American Training's WOW! Magical Wonka Christmas at The Chocolate Factory

There is something about WOW! Magic that captures the imagination.

If you did not attend last Friday's Christmas at Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory, you missed the Event of a Lifetime!

Beginning at 5:00pm hundreds of Guests, Colleagues, and Visitors poured into our lobby at Campanelli to witness a transformation not only of the physical space (which was incredible) but one that touched the soul as well.

Greeted by Willy Wonka, Charlie, Violet, Grandpa, and Grandma at the Front Gates to the Factory, every visitor was made to feel like Family by The Oompa-Loompas who mingled with the crowd all night long. Topping off the guest list was a spectacular visit by Santa, Mrs. Claus, and their Elves, direct from the North Pole, who sat for photos in Willy Wonka's Hard Candy Boat known as the S.S. Wonkatoria.

That set the stage for the most heart-warming night in American Training History as our Guests poured their hearts into a night of dancing to DJ Greg spinning one hit after another in a night club setting reminiscent of New York's best dance clubs. The enthusiasm and joy showed by everyone could be felt with every beat of "We Are Family", every dance move to the Macarena, and every raised voice in tune with the theme from "Frozen."

Hot chocolate, soda, bottles of spring water, a buffet of beef sliders, various kinds of pizza, tender chicken fingers, and creamy macaroni with various toppings of one's

choosing, kept everyone's energy at peak performance until the end of the night.

### THIS was truly WOW! Magic Coming to Life!

And just when you think it couldn't get any more WOW! Magical!... the public will get a chance to view the display for free via appointment throughout the Holiday Season by contacting [StephanieBradbury@americantraininginc.com](mailto:StephanieBradbury@americantraininginc.com) to schedule a date and time.

American Training Inc. is a non-profit organization based in the Merrimack Valley that provides housing, education, training & support services to people with disabilities, youth at risk & adult learners who are looking for a pathway towards a more meaningful life.



**FREE!** **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**FRIDAY 12/20, 5P-7P**  
**6 CAMPANELLI DRIVE ANDOVER MA**

**CHRISTMAS**  
*Character Meet & Greet!*  
**Featuring Santa & Mrs. Claus!**  
**AMERICANTRAININGINC.COM**

 **DONATE**

## Cartas al Editor // Letters to the Editor

LAWRENCE FIREFIGHTERS' UNION, AFL-CIO LOCAL 146  
P.O. BOX 533, LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS 01841

### El sindicato de bomberos de Lawrence expresa su preocupación por el centro de despacho combinado propuesto

Lawrence, MA – El sindicato de bomberos de Lawrence, IAFF Local 146, está expresando su preocupación por el centro de despacho combinado que se propone para la nueva estación de policía de Lawrence. El sindicato sostiene que esta medida interrumpirá las operaciones altamente eficientes que se llevan a cabo actualmente en el edificio de alarmas contra incendios de Lawrence en Bodwell Street, donde las operaciones de despacho se han llevado a cabo sin problemas desde 1936.

Actualmente, el Departamento de bomberos de Lawrence (LFD) cuenta con dos operadores de alarmas contra incendios (FAO) las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana, que utilizan sistemas de última generación para enviar los vehículos contra incendios. La instalación de Bodwell Street incluye tres consolas de despacho, lo que garantiza un sólido apoyo durante incidentes a gran escala. El sindicato afirma que nunca ha habido una queja sobre la calidad o la velocidad de los tiempos de respuesta de esta instalación.

#### “Una solución en busca de un problema”

El presidente del sindicato, Daniel Sirois, expresó su frustración por la presión de la ciudad para la mudanza, y afirmó:

“El centro de despacho combinado propuesto no se concibió debido a ninguna deficiencia en nuestras operaciones actuales. Esta es una solución en busca de un problema. Unas mejoras modestas en las instalaciones de Bodwell Street serían más rentables y mantendrían los altos estándares que nuestra comunidad merece”.

A pesar de las garantías de la ciudad de que la financiación de la subvención para la nueva estación de policía exigía la reubicación, los líderes sindicales dicen que una solicitud de registros oficiales no ha revelado tal requisito. Además, la ciudad excluyó inicialmente a los representantes sindicales de las reuniones de planificación, y solo permitió la participación después de que el sindicato presentara una queja por

prácticas laborales injustas (ULP). Principales preocupaciones con la mudanza propuesta

#### El sindicato destacó varias cuestiones clave con la transición:

1. Autonomía operativa: mudarse a la estación de policía colocaría a los FAO bajo la administración policial, lo que podría comprometer la eficiencia y la independencia.
2. Ineficiencia: el centro de despacho combinado no integra el sistema CMED del Hospital General de Lawrence, que maneja el Despacho Médico de Emergencia. Las ineficiencias actuales en el proceso de transferencia de llamadas al 911 persistirían.
3. Instalaciones inadecuadas: el nuevo centro carece de las comodidades esenciales para los FAO que trabajan turnos de 24 horas, como áreas de descanso, instalaciones de cocina y equipos de entrenamiento, que están disponibles en las instalaciones de Bodwell Street.
4. Interrupciones innecesarias: la subvención ya incluye fondos para mantener Bodwell Street como respaldo de emergencia, lo que sugiere que mantenerlo como el centro de despacho principal sería factible y práctico.

#### En busca de un diálogo constructivo

El presidente Sirois enfatizó que el sindicato sigue comprometido a trabajar en colaboración con los funcionarios de la ciudad y está ansioso por discutir formas de mejorar los servicios sin comprometer la eficiencia o el bienestar de los empleados.

"Invitamos a los comentarios y esperamos participar en un diálogo abierto con los funcionarios electos para garantizar los mejores resultados para los residentes de Lawrence y la seguridad de nuestra comunidad", dijo Sirois.

El sindicato pide a la ciudad que reconsidere la propuesta y se concentre en mantener las operaciones exitosas del despacho de Bodwell Street

### Lawrence Firefighters' Union Raises Concerns Over Proposed Combined Dispatch Center

Lawrence, MA – The Lawrence Firefighters' Union, IAFF Local 146, is voicing significant concerns about the planned combined dispatch center proposed for the new Lawrence Police Station. The union argues that this move will disrupt the highly efficient operations currently conducted at the Lawrence Fire Alarm building on Bodwell Street, where dispatch operations have been conducted seamlessly since 1936.

Currently, the Lawrence Fire Department (LFD) staffs two Fire Alarm Operators (FAOs) 24/7, using state-of-the-art systems to dispatch fire apparatus. The Bodwell Street facility includes three dispatch consoles, ensuring robust support during large-scale incidents. The union asserts that there has never been a complaint about the quality or speed of response times from this facility.

#### “A Solution in Search of a Problem”

Union President Daniel Sirois expressed frustration over the City's push for the move, stating:

“The proposed combined dispatch center wasn't conceived because of any shortcomings in our current operations. This is a solution in search of a problem. Modest upgrades to the Bodwell Street facility would be more cost-effective and maintain the high standards our community deserves.”

Despite assurances from the City that grant funding for the new police station mandated the relocation, union leaders say an official records request has revealed no such requirement. Additionally, the City initially excluded union representatives from planning meetings, only allowing participation after the union filed an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) complaint.

#### Key Concerns with the Proposed Move

The union highlighted several key issues with the transition:

1. Operational Autonomy: Moving to the police station would place FAOs under police administration, potentially compromising efficiency and independence.
2. Inefficiency: The combined dispatch center does not integrate Lawrence General Hospital's CMED system, which handles Emergency Medical Dispatch. Current inefficiencies in the 911 call transfer process would persist.
3. Inadequate Facilities: The new center lacks essential amenities for FAOs working 24-hour shifts, such as rest areas, kitchen facilities, and workout equipment, which are available at the Bodwell Street facility.
4. Unnecessary Disruption: The grant already includes funding to maintain Bodwell Street as an emergency backup, suggesting that keeping it as the primary dispatch center would be both feasible and practical.

#### Seeking Constructive Dialogue

President Sirois emphasized that the union remains committed to working collaboratively with City officials and is eager to discuss ways to improve services without compromising efficiency or employee well-being.

“We invite feedback and look forward to engaging in open dialogue with elected officials to ensure the best outcomes for the residents of Lawrence and the safety of our community,” said Sirois.

The union calls on the City to reconsider the proposal and focus on sustaining the successful operations of the Bodwell Street dispatch.

#### AFFILIATED WITH

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS AFL-CIO  
PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS OF MASSACHUSETTS AFL-CIO  
THE GREATER LAWRENCE, HAVERHILL CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL AFL-CIO  
65 LOWELL ST LAWRENCE MASSACHUSETTS

¡La Fundación Big Brother Big Sister necesita tu ayuda!



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

Para programar una cita, llama al 1.800.483.5503 o visítanos en nuestra página web en internet: [www.bbbsfoundation.org](http://www.bbbsfoundation.org).

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

¡Gracias por tu apoyo!

**BE A LIFESAVER**  
**BECOME A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR TODAY ON...**  
[MatchingDonors.com](http://MatchingDonors.com)

## Cartas al Editor // Letters to the Editor

### Decepcionada con los nombramientos recientes

Estimados miembros del Concejo Municipal de Lawrence,

Espero que esta carta los encuentre bien. Como residente de Lawrence durante más de 35 años, me siento compelida a expresar mi profunda decepción respecto a la reciente aprobación de candidatos para puestos en la ciudad que carecen de las calificaciones necesarias—tanto educativas como experienciales—y que, sin embargo, están recibiendo salarios desproporcionadamente elevados.

Poseo un título de licenciatura y he navegado a través de tres carreras diferentes, además de haber criado a mis cuatro hijos en esta comunidad. Cada uno de ellos ha seguido una educación superior y ha establecido carreras exitosas: uno tiene una maestría en emprendimiento empresarial, otro es ingeniero eléctrico, una es enfermera registrada y la más joven está cursando una doble especialización en pre-derecho. Si bien mi familia es solo un ejemplo, refleja a muchos profesionales y personas bien educadas que viven en Lawrence. No necesitamos depender de la contratación de individuos sin las calificaciones requeridas, especialmente cuando hay tantos candidatos capaces dentro de nuestra comunidad.

Es preocupante ver al concejo municipal aprobar tales prácticas de contratación, particularmente cuando parecen socavar el arduo trabajo y la dedicación de los residentes locales que están calificados y ansiosos por contribuir a nuestra ciudad.

Si alguno de ustedes está considerando la reelección el próximo año, por favor,

tengan en cuenta que la comunidad está observando de cerca. Somos conscientes de las decisiones que se están tomando en nuestro gobierno local y nos preocupan las implicaciones de estas elecciones.

Aunque no me postularé para ningún puesto en la ciudad el próximo año, quiero asegurarles que estaré activamente comprometida en descubrir y arrojar luz sobre cualquier desinformación o manipulación de hechos durante la próxima campaña. En una tierra de ceguera, el de un solo ojo es rey, y tengo la intención de ser esa voz de claridad para nuestra comunidad.

Además, dado que no podré asistir a la próxima reunión del concejo municipal, le pido amablemente a mi miembro del concejo, Stephanie Infante, que lea esta carta al público para que quede registrada y reconocida.

Les insto a reconsiderar la dirección en la que se dirige nuestra ciudad en lo que respecta a las prácticas de empleo y la asignación de salarios. La comunidad merece transparencia, responsabilidad y un compromiso con la contratación de individuos calificados que sirvan a nuestra ciudad de manera efectiva.

Gracias por su atención a este asunto. Espero un futuro en el que nuestro gobierno local priorice los valores y talentos de sus residentes.

Atentamente,

Sarah B. Pérez  
Lawrence, MA. 01843

Residente preocupada de Lawrence

### Disappointed over recent appointments

Dear Members of the Lawrence City Council,

I hope this letter finds you well. As a resident of Lawrence for over 35 years, I feel compelled to express my deep disappointment regarding the recent approval of candidates for city positions who lack the necessary qualifications—both educationally and experientially—yet are being offered disproportionately elevated salaries.

I hold a bachelor's degree and have navigated through three different careers, and I have raised my four children in this community. Each of them has pursued higher education and established successful careers: one has a master's degree in business entrepreneurship, another is an electrical engineer, one is a registered nurse, and the youngest is a double major in pre-law. While my family is just one example, it reflects the many professionals and well-educated individuals who live in Lawrence. We do not need to rely on hiring individuals without the requisite qualifications, especially when there are so many capable candidates within our community.

It is concerning to witness the city council approving such hiring practices, particularly when they seem to undermine the hard work and dedication of local residents who are qualified and eager to contribute to our city. If any of you are considering re-election next year, please be aware that the community is watching

closely. We are aware of the decisions being made in our local government, and we are concerned about the implications of these choices.

While I am not running for any city positions next year, I want to assure you that I will be actively engaged in uncovering and shedding light on any misinformation or manipulation of facts during the upcoming campaign. In a land of blindness, the one-eyed is king, and I intend to be that voice of clarity for our community.

Additionally, because I will not be able to attend the next full council meeting, I kindly ask my city council member, Stephanie Infante, to read this letter to the public so that it may be recorded and acknowledged.

I urge you to reconsider the direction in which our city is heading regarding employment practices and salary allocations. The community deserves transparency, accountability, and a commitment to hiring qualified individuals who will serve our city effectively.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I hope for a future where our local government prioritizes the values and talents of its residents.

Sincerely,

Sarah B. Perez  
Lawrence, MA. 01843

Concerned Lawrence Resident

## El Senado apoya el proyecto de ley para poner fin a la financiación de la radio y la televisión públicas

Anticipando lo que puede ser una de las muchas luchas del año que viene en Washington, el senador John Kennedy (republicano de Luisiana) ha presentado un proyecto de ley que pondría fin a la financiación de los contribuyentes a la radio y la televisión públicas. “La Corporación para la Radiodifusión Pública se niega a darnos un contenido justo e imparcial”, dice Kennedy, quien afirma que su legislación ahorraría dinero de los contribuyentes al poner fin a lo que él llama “el medio de propaganda del Gran Hermano” en una publicación en las redes sociales.

La propuesta de Ley de No Propaganda

es un complemento de un proyecto de ley (H.R.8053) presentado anteriormente por el representante Scott Perry (republicano de Pensilvania) que no solo eliminaría la financiación futura a los medios públicos, sino que también rescindiría las autorizaciones anticipadas anteriores. Esa práctica ha estado presente en los proyectos de ley de financiación del gobierno desde 1975 para permitir a las emisoras públicas suficiente tiempo de anticipación para colocar y producir programación futura. ¿Kennedy y otros finalmente cumplirán una promesa de años de los conservadores de poner fin al apoyo a los medios públicos?

## Bill to end public radio and TV funding gets support in Senate

Staff | Inside Radio

Foreshadowing what may be one of many fights in the coming year in Washington, Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA) has introduced a bill that would end taxpayer funding to public radio and television. “The Corporation for Public Broadcasting refuses to give us fair, unbiased content,” says Kennedy, who says his legislation would save taxpayer money by ending what he calls “Big Brother’s propaganda outlet” in a social media post.

The proposed No Propaganda Act is a companion to a bill (H.R.8053) introduced earlier by Rep. Scott Perry (R-PA) that would not only zero out future funding to public media, but also rescind earlier advance authorizations. That practice has been in government funding bills since 1975 to allow public broadcasters enough lead time to place and produce future programming. Will Kennedy and others finally deliver on a years-long promise by conservatives to end public media support?



**JOIN US TO EXPLORE**  
FAMILY DYNAMICS & CONFLICT RESOLUTION

**Tuesday, December 17 | 12:00 p.m.**  
In Person at Bridges® Andover  
A light lunch will be served.

Bridges® experts will share insights into the emotional and practical challenges that occur within relationships when a loved one has dementia.

Join us as we discuss changing family dynamics, spousal stress, and conflict resolution tactics to maintain healthy connections.

We are here to support you and your loved one with memory loss. You are welcome to bring them to enjoy lunch with our life enrichment team while you attend the educational session.

Kindly contact Senior Advisor Susan to RSVP.  
stourillotte@bridgesbypoch.com



# New Author: Raeann Keeley-Pellerin: de sus raíces en el barrio de Arlington a autora empoderadora

Raeann Keeley-Pellerin, orgullosa nativa del barrio de Arlington en Lawrence, siempre ha tenido una profunda conexión con su comunidad. Hoy, está retribuyendo de más de una manera. Como especialista en eventos en Lazarus House Ministries, Raeann apoya a personas y familias necesitadas, mientras que su libro debut, *Rising From the Ashes: Facing Anxiety and Depression After Loss*, arroja luz sobre un tema cercano a su corazón: la salud mental.

Para Raeann, el barrio de Arlington no es solo el lugar donde creció; es la base de su identidad. "Esta comunidad me formó", dice. "Me dio mi sentido de compasión y resiliencia. Volver a trabajar aquí se siente como cerrar el círculo".

## Un viaje personal

El viaje de Raeann para convertirse en autora nació del dolor y la perseverancia. Después de la pérdida de su madre adoptiva, se encontró navegando por un laberinto emocional de dolor, ansiedad y depresión. "Perder a mi madre fue devastador", recuerda Raeann. "Pero a medida que trabajaba con mis emociones, me di cuenta de que había cosas que había estado cargando incluso antes de su muerte".

Su libro es una exploración profundamente personal de cómo el duelo se entrelaza con la salud mental. A través de su propia historia, Raeann espera ayudar a otros a sentirse menos solos y fomentar conversaciones abiertas sobre el tema a menudo tabú de la salud mental.

## Rompiendo el silencio

Mientras trabaja en Lazarus House Ministries, Raeann ve de primera mano cómo los problemas de salud mental pueden afectar a las personas y familias que luchan contra la pobreza y la falta de vivienda. "En el mundo, nos apresuramos a abordar las necesidades físicas, pero a menudo pasamos por alto la salud mental", explica Raeann. "Necesitamos hacer que sea aceptable hablar sobre no estar bien. Cambiar la mentalidad de que la salud mental es un tema tabú llevará años, pero cada paso adelante ayudará".

Su libro es a la vez un recurso y un llamado a la acción. En *Rising From the Ashes*, Raeann invita a los lectores a abrazar el viaje desordenado y no lineal de la curación. Comparte sus luchas y triunfos con vulnerabilidad y esperanza, con el objetivo de normalizar los altibajos de la salud mental.

## Mantenerse conectada

A pesar de su nuevo título como autora, Raeann sigue arraigada a sus raíces. Sigue retribuyendo al vecindario de Arlington, no solo a través de su trabajo en Lazarus House, sino también usando su historia para inspirar a quienes la rodean. "No se trata solo de escribir un libro, se trata de construir conexiones y hacer saber a las personas que no están solas en sus luchas", dice Raeann.

Sus pasatiempos, como la fotografía y las manualidades, mantienen vivo su espíritu creativo. Incluso es conocida por tomar fotos divertidas de personajes de LEGO en sus aventuras, un guiño al lado más ligero de la vida que se esfuerza por adoptar.

## Un mensaje para la comunidad

El camino de Raeann es de resiliencia y esperanza, y su mensaje es claro: "El dolor, la ansiedad y la depresión no son cosas que tengas que superar solo. Está bien pedir ayuda. Y está bien no estar bien".

Su historia nos recuerda el poder de la comunidad, la importancia de la salud mental y la belleza de resurgir de las cenizas, incluso después de las pérdidas más profundas.

*Rising From the Ashes: Facing Anxiety and Depression After Loss* está disponible en Amazon en formato de libro impreso y libro electrónico.

La dedicación de Raeann Keeley-Pellerin a su vecindario y su misión de normalizar las conversaciones sobre la salud mental la convierten en un verdadero tesoro del vecindario de Arlington.

Para reservar una conferencia o para obtener más información: envíe un correo electrónico a [rmkpellerin@gmail.com](mailto:rmkpellerin@gmail.com) o llame al 603.489-7989



## Raeann Keeley-Pellerin: From Arlington Neighborhood Roots to Empowering Author

Raeann Keeley-Pellerin, a proud native of Lawrence's Arlington neighborhood, has always connected deeply to her community. Today, she's giving back in more ways than one. As the Events Specialist at Lazarus House Ministries, Raeann supports individuals and families in need, while her debut book, *Rising From the Ashes: Facing Anxiety and Depression After Loss*, sheds light on a topic close to her heart—mental health. For Raeann, the Arlington neighborhood isn't just where she grew up; it's the foundation of her identity. "This community shaped me," she says. "It gave me my sense of compassion and resilience. Coming back to work here feels like coming full circle."

### A Personal Journey

Raeann's journey to becoming an author was born out of pain and perseverance. After the loss of her adoptive mother, she found herself navigating an emotional labyrinth of grief, anxiety, and depression. "Losing my mom was devastating," Raeann recalls. "But as I worked through my emotions, I realized there were things I had been carrying even before her passing."

Her book is a deeply personal exploration of how grief intertwines with mental health. Through her own story, Raeann hopes to help others feel less alone and to encourage open conversations about the often-taboo topic of mental health.

### Breaking the Silence

While working at Lazarus House Ministries, Raeann sees firsthand how mental health challenges can impact individuals and families struggling with poverty and homelessness. "In the world, we are so quick to address physical needs, but we often overlook mental health," Raeann explains. "We need to make it okay to talk about not being okay. Changing the mindset that mental health is a taboo topic will take

years, but every step forward will help."

Her book is both a resource and a call to action. In *Rising From the Ashes*, Raeann invites readers to embrace the messy, non-linear healing journey. She shares her struggles and triumphs with vulnerability and hope, aiming to normalize the ups and downs of mental health.

### Staying Connected

Despite her new title as an author, Raeann remains grounded in her roots. She continues to give back to the Arlington neighborhood, not only through her work at Lazarus House but also by using her story to inspire those around her. "It's not just about writing a book—it's about building connections and letting people know they're not alone in their struggles," Raeann says.

Her hobbies, like photography and crafting, keep her creative spirit alive. She's even known for taking playful photos of LEGO characters on her adventures, a nod to the lighter side of life she strives to embrace.

### A Message for the Community

Raeann's journey is one of resilience and hope, and her message is clear: "Grief, anxiety, and depression aren't things you have to overcome alone. It's okay to ask for help. And it's okay not to be okay."

Her story reminds us of the power of community, the importance of mental health, and the beauty of rising from the ashes, even after the most profound losses.

*Rising From the Ashes: Facing Anxiety and Depression After Loss* is available on Amazon in paperback and eBook formats.

Raeann Keeley-Pellerin's dedication to her neighborhood and her mission to normalize conversations about mental health make her a true Arlington neighborhood treasure.

To book a speaking engagement or to learn more: email [rmkpellerin@gmail.com](mailto:rmkpellerin@gmail.com) or call 603.489-7989

READ PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF RUMBO ON OUR WEBSITE [RUMBONEWS.COM](http://RUMBONEWS.COM)

## Ahora en Amazon / Now in Amazon



A Point of View-Un Punto de Vista: Volume Seven-Volumen Siete. (A Point of View-Un Punto de Vista Bilingual books) (Spanish Edition)  
Spanish Edition | Related to: A Point of View-Un Punto de Vista Bilingual books | by Dr. Paul Victor Montesino.

# Volunteer Spotlight: Jesus Suriel, Giving Back to the Community

*Special to Rumbo*

By Elizabeth Covino

Jesus Suriel cares about the community he grew up in, which is where he is raising his children, and pursuing his career in banking.

In addition to being a very involved YMCA member and volunteer, he gives his time to Lazarus House Ministries, Si Se Puede, Inc., Greater Lawrence Community Fund, and Lawrence Lions Club.

Jesus serves as Chair of the Y's Camping Services Board of Managers. He is also a member of the Y's Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees and is incoming Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.

"The YMCA does so much for the community. There are opportunities to volunteer and make a difference in many areas such as child care, Adelante (teen education and leadership program), and helping to fight food insecurity. The Y is such a blanket organization that positively impacts many areas of need in our community. I'm proud to volunteer," he said.

"Since I've participated in the Y's strategic planning process, it has shown me how the Y focuses on the positive impact of our youth and families. The many partnerships are important and the Y is always open as a collaborator to expand its reach and impact," he said.

Jesus has worked for Enterprise Bank for 11 years. During the interview process, he was impressed that they asked about his community involvement. He shared that in banking, many interviews revolve around sales and sales goals. He was able to speak

to his volunteer work and the importance of this to him. The Merrimack Valley YMCA has been fortunate to not only partner with Enterprise Bank while securing financing (most notably the expansion over a decade ago of the Lawrence Branch's family aquatic center), but also as a for the bank's ongoing support of fundraising events as substantial sponsors. Enterprise bankers have served for many years as Board members and special event committee members.

Jesus and his wife Angie have enjoyed attending the annual Auction Gala since 2022. They are happy that the Y's fundraising allows all children to have the opportunity to participate in Y programs. They have seen first-hand the value of camp from their daughters, Emily (age 9) and Abby (age 10), who love summers at Camp Otter. The girls also do Hart Basketball Camp and summer vacation week programming at the Y.

"The girls love the friends they made at camp. When they think about summer camp, they miss their friends the most. The girls are so connected with CITs and staff, also. We are appreciative that the staff make sure the kids have fun and have a great summer. They are in a safe environment. I like to people watch when I'm at events and there is a good sense of community at Y events like Healthy Kids' Day and the Halloween Party. The kids and families are happy. I also like the partnerships involved in these events, like with Kiwanis and the YWCA.

The Suriel family loves their Y family membership. They swim together, play in the gymnasium together, and workout together.

We thank Jesus for his volunteer service and for being a great Y Ambassador in the community!



## Voluntario destacado: Jesús Suriel, retribuyendo a la comunidad

*Especial para Rumbo*

Por Elizabeth Covino

A Jesús Suriel le importa la comunidad en la que creció, donde está criando a sus hijos y donde sigue su carrera en el sector bancario. Además de ser un miembro y voluntario muy involucrado de la YMCA, dona su tiempo a Lazarus House Ministries, Si Se Puede, Inc., Greater Lawrence Community Fund y Lawrence Lions Club.

Jesús se desempeña como presidente de la Junta de Directores de Servicios de Camping de la YMCA. También es miembro del Comité Ejecutivo de la Junta de Síndicos de la YMCA y es el vicepresidente entrante de la Junta Directiva.

"La YMCA hace mucho por la comunidad. Hay oportunidades para ser voluntario y marcar una diferencia en muchas áreas, como el cuidado infantil, Adelante (programa de educación y liderazgo para adolescentes) y ayudar a combatir la inseguridad alimentaria. La YMCA es una organización tan amplia que impacta positivamente en muchas áreas de necesidad en nuestra comunidad. Estoy orgulloso de ser voluntario", dijo.

"Desde que participé en el proceso de planificación estratégica de la YMCA, me ha demostrado cómo la Y se centra en el impacto positivo de nuestros jóvenes y familias. Las numerosas asociaciones son importantes y la YMCA siempre está abierta como colaboradora para ampliar su alcance e impacto", dijo.

Jesús ha trabajado para Enterprise Bank durante 11 años. Durante el proceso de entrevistas, le impresionó que le preguntaran sobre su participación en la comunidad. Compartió que en la banca, muchas entrevistas giran en torno a las ventas y los objetivos de ventas. Pudo hablar de su trabajo voluntario y la importancia que esto tiene para él. La YMCA de Merrimack Valley ha tenido la suerte no solo de

asociarse con Enterprise Bank mientras obtenía financiación (en particular, la expansión hace más de una década del centro acuático familiar de Lawrence Branch), sino también por el apoyo continuo del banco a los eventos de recaudación de fondos como patrocinadores importantes. Los banqueros de Enterprise han trabajado durante muchos años como miembros de la Junta y miembros del comité de eventos especiales.

Jesús y su esposa Angie han disfrutado de asistir a la Gala de Subasta anual desde 2022. Están felices de que la recaudación de fondos de la Y permita que todos los niños tengan la oportunidad de participar en los programas de la Y. Han visto de primera mano el valor del campamento de sus hijas, Emily (de 9 años) y Abby (de 10 años), a quienes les encantan los veranos en Camp Otter. Las niñas también participan en el campamento de baloncesto Hart y en la programación de la semana de vacaciones de verano en la Y.

"A las niñas les encantan los amigos que hicieron en el campamento. Cuando piensan en el campamento de verano, extrañan más a sus amigos. Las niñas también están muy conectadas con los CIT y el personal. Agradecemos que el personal se asegure de que los niños se diviertan y tengan un gran verano. Están en un entorno seguro. Me gusta observar a la gente cuando estoy en eventos y hay un buen sentido de comunidad en los eventos de la Y como el Día de los Niños Saludables y la Fiesta de Halloween. Los niños y las familias están felices. También me gustan las asociaciones involucradas en estos eventos, como con Kiwanis y la YWCA.

A la familia Suriel le encanta su membresía familiar en la Y. Nadan juntas, juegan juntas en el gimnasio y hacen ejercicio juntas.

¡Agradecemos a Jesús por su servicio voluntario y por ser un gran embajador de la YMCA en la comunidad!



Emily and Abby at a YMCA Halloween family event.

Emily y Abby en un evento familiar de Halloween de la YMCA.



**UN PUNTO DE VISTA** ©1996

Por Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, CCP

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

**A Propósito de las Navidades  
Cartero... Escríbale Una Carta de Navidad  
Versión de Diciembre 2024**

Por: Pedro Pablo Montesino Sánchez (1909-1995.)  
(Editado y adaptado por Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA)

Aquella viejecita, con sus cabellos blancos y su mirada triste, estaba todos los días, desde horas tempranas, junto a la acera de su casa, esperando al cartero. ¡Esperaba una carta!

Cuando desde lejos se veía la imagen uniformada y escuchaba el silbato del empleado de correos anunciando a los vecinos su presencia tan deseada por todos, el rostro de la anciana se llenaba de alegría, de esperanzas. Aquel hombre seguramente le traía hoy el mensaje que ella esperaba con ansias desde hacía tiempo.

Cuando el cartero se acercaba, la anciana vibraba de emoción; su corazón latía aceleradamente. Era como un soplo de nueva vida que llenaba todo su ser. Allí, en aquella bolsa que colgaba del hombro del cartero, vendría la misiva esperada, el mensaje de alivio, la alegría metida en un sobre. Y el cartero, al llegar junto a la viejecita, siempre repetía las palabras amargas de días anteriores: "Señora, hoy no traigo carta para usted."

La anciana, al ver defraudada sus esperanzas, fruncía el ceño, dibujándose en su rostro el dolor y la desesperación. De sus ojos, casi apagados por los años, brotaban las lágrimas. Y sus manos, huesudas y temblorosas, hacían las veces de pañuelos. La carta que esperaba no vino tampoco ese día. Y la viejecita, toda hecha amargura, volvía al cuarto que le servía de refugio, para esperar la mañana siguiente, el nuevo día, en que tal vez recibiría la carta de su hijo, que siempre esperaba con ansias y amor de madre.

Así fueron pasando los días y siempre aquella pobre vieja, bajo el sol de la mañana, esperaba al cartero y recibía de éste la misma desagradable respuesta: "Señora, hoy no traigo carta para usted." Y mientras las ramas y las hojas del árbol de Navidad se marchitaban, se desfloraban también las esperanzas de esta madre.

Y era que la carta esperada no podría venir nunca. El hijo que ella tanto quería estuvo envuelto en las luchas revolucionarias y un día cayó para siempre frente al paredón de fusilamiento. Y la madre, en su fe eterna, lo creía lleno de vida, en otro país tal vez, alegre y feliz como el día que le dio el beso de despedida. Por eso esperaba todos los días la carta que nunca llegaba... la carta que jamás llegaría la tarjeta simple navideña que ansiaba.

Un día, en horas de la mañana, la viejecita no esperaba al cartero como de costumbre. Los vecinos, al no verla junto

a la acera, fueron en su búsqueda al humilde refugio donde vivía.

La encontraron enferma... muy enferma y llorando. En la casi inconsciencia que la alta fiebre le producía, la anciana solo clamaba por una carta, la carta que esperaba de su hijo.

Los vecinos la atendieron con todo cariño. Uno de ellos fue hasta la acera, se situó en el mismo lugar que la anciana ocupaba todos los días y esperó allí pacientemente la llegada del empleado postal; este venía alegre como siempre; tocando su silbato y con un montón de cartas en las manos...

-¿Hay carta para la viejecita que lo esperaba a usted todos los días?—le preguntó el vecino.

-No; tampoco traigo carta para ella en el día de hoy; ¿y la viejecita?; ¿Qué le pasa que no me espera?

-Está enferma; muy enferma; delirando. Hace falta algo que le anime y solo usted podría ayudarla.

-¿Yo? ¿De qué manera?

-Escríbale, Cartero, por lo que más usted quiera: ¡Escríbale una carta! ¡Hágale una postal de Navidad!

Nota: Desde los años cuarenta hasta los setenta del siglo pasado, Pedro Pablo Montesino, que mis lectores han sospechado correctamente era mi padre, fue un escritor prolífico de varias organizaciones periodísticas escritas, radiales y televisoras de Cuba. Esta historia la publicó en Hialeah, Florida, en los años sesenta como homenaje a las madres que sufrían entonces, sufren todavía, la tragedia política cubana que las separaban de sus hijos.

Yo escogí y edité este artículo para publicación con el objetivo de reconocerle su importancia no solamente en el campo periodístico en que Pedro Pablo Montesino se desarrolló sino la fortaleza moral de su filosofía política y su efecto en mi carrera de escritor también. Un hombre que publicó en tantos medios de comunicaciones se sentiría orgulloso e impresionado de ver sus pensamientos resucitados navegando a través de la supercarretera milagrosa del Internet. Estoy seguro de que, la esperara o no, ahora él recibió su carta.

Tengan unas festividades y nuevo año feliz. ¡Y no dejen de enviar su carta! O mejor, llamen a su viejecita si vive o envíenle el mensaje de una oración si no.



**A POINT OF VIEW** © 1996

By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA, CCP

**Dying for a Christmas card  
December 2024 version**



Based on "Mr. Mailman; Please write her a letter," a story by Pedro Pablo Montesino Sanchez (1909-1995) published originally in October of 1969. (Edited and adapted by Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA.)

The old fragile woman, with her cotton-white hair and eternally sad appearance, was prompt every single day, standing next to the sidewalk in front of her unassuming house, waiting for the mailman. She was anxious for a letter or just a Christmas card!

As soon as she spotted the white and blue uniformed image of the mail carrier in the distance following his intricate daily route, the face of the old woman suddenly shone with happiness, expectations, and hope. That man would certainly bring today the message of love she earnestly awaited. As he approached her, the woman quivered with emotion, her heart beating at a higher rate. It was like a flow of new life that filled her up. There, in that shoulder bag carried by the man, would lie the expected letter, the Christmas card, a message of relief and happiness sealed in an envelope. And the mailman, as he came close to the woman, would repeat the exact words of disappointment of the day before: "Sorry, madam, today I have no correspondence for you either."

The old woman, her hopes dashed one more time, would knit her thick eyebrows, pain and desperation reflected on her face, shedding tears from her tired old eyes, tears she would wipe away with trembling hands and an old wrinkled handkerchief. The letter she had waited for had not come that day either. She then returned to the room that served as a refuge to wait until the following morning; a new day when she might receive a card or a letter from her beloved son that she anticipated with anguish and motherly love.

Time went by day by sullen day, and always the poor old woman, under the morning sun, waited for the mailman and received the same disappointing answer: "Sorry madam, today I don't have a letter for you." As the branches of the Christmas trees withered down, so did the hopes of this anxious mother.

And it was that the letter could never arrive. The son she loved so dearly had been involved in a revolutionary uprising against the Castro dictatorship one day and

had become a nameless victim of the firing squad. The old mother had been lied to by protecting friends and in her unwavering and eternal faith believed that he was still alive, in another country perhaps, happy and full of life like the day he had given her a goodbye kiss and a promise to love her forever. That is why she always waited every day for the letter that never arrived; the letter that would never arrive, the simple Christmas card she longed for.

One day, it was still early in the morning, and the old woman was not waiting for the mailman, as was her practice and costume. Concerned about her absence, the neighbors, went looking for her in the humble quarters where she lived. They found her sick, gravely ill, and crying. In the stupor produced by the fever, she only asked to see a letter, the letter she wanted from her son.

The neighbors called a doctor and took care of her with love. One of them went to the sidewalk, stood in the same place where the woman did every day, and waited patiently for the customary arrival of the mailman. He showed up happy and energetic as usual, with a heavy load of letters.

"Is there any letter for the old woman who waits for you daily?" asked the neighbor.

"No," he replied, "I have no letter today either. And the old woman, what happened that she did not wait for me today?" He added with concern.

"She is ill, very ill; restless. She needs something to alleviate her pains, and you are the only one who can help."

"Me? How?"

"Mr. Mailman, please give her this letter we wrote for her. Please give her this Christmas card."

Note: Between the nineteen forties and the nineteen seventies, Pedro Pablo Montesino, who my readers must have guessed by now was my father, wrote prolifically for various media organizations in Cuba and later in Florida. This fictional piece appeared in the Hialeah Sun, Hialeah, Florida, in October of 1969. He intended it as a homage to the mothers who suffered, still suffer, the Cuban political tragedy that separated them from their sons and daughters.

I choose and edit this article for Christmas every year to recognize its importance not only as a journalistic piece in the field in which my father worked but also as an example of the strength of the morality of his political philosophy and the impact it had in my career as a writer. A man who published so skillfully in so many communication channels of the time would be proud and impressed to see his thoughts come to life as they traveled through the information superhighway of the Internet. He died in November of 1995. I am sure that he has now received this letter, whether he is waiting for it or not.

Have a happy holiday season, and don't neglect to send your letter! Better call your loving mother if she still lives or send her a message of prayer if she doesn't.

Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA

"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

# La violencia

La violencia permanente nos obliga a pensar. ¿Por qué es tan recurrente?



Por Tomás Núñez, ThD

Para vislumbrar alguna luz tenemos que partir sin autoengaños de esta ambigüedad fundamental: por una parte, la realidad está cargada de conflictos, pero en otro sentido, es un tejido de orden y paz. Ninguno de estos dos aspectos consigue erradicar al otro. Se mezclan, y se mantienen en un equilibrio difícil y dinámico.

El arte consiste en mantener esa tensión, buscando aquella convergencia de energías que permite el surgimiento de la paz, fruto de instituciones mínimamente justas e incluyentes, y de ordenamientos sociales sanos, custodiados por un Estado que vela por el equilibrio de las tensiones, usando legítimamente la coerción cuando es necesario. Si no se diese esta búsqueda de equilibrio, tal vez la sociabilidad sería imposible, y los seres humanos se exterminarían unos a otros.

La paz resulta de la administración de los conflictos usando medios no conflictivos. En la construcción de la paz, los intereses colectivos deben sobreponerse a los individuales, la multiculturalidad ha de prevalecer sobre el etnocentrismo, la perspectiva global orientará la local.

Tenemos que ser realistas y sinceros. Hay violencia en el mundo porque yo llevo violencia dentro de mí en forma de rabia, envidia y odio, que deben ser siempre contenidos.

La explicación de la agresividad ha desafiado a los más agudos pensadores. Sigmund Freud parte de la constatación de que existen dos pulsiones básicas: una que afirma y exalta la vida (Eros) y otra que tiende hacia la muerte (Thanatos) y sus derivados psicológicos, como los odios y las exclusiones.

Para Freud la agresividad surge cuando el instinto de muerte se activa por alguna amenaza que viene de fuera. Alguien puede amenazar a otro y querer quitarle la vida. Entonces el amenazado se anticipa y pasa a agredir y eventualmente a eliminar a quien le amenaza.

Otro pensador contemporáneo, René Girard, afirma que la agresividad proviene de la permanente rivalidad existente entre los seres humanos (a la que él llama «deseo mimético»). Esta rivalidad crea permanentes tensiones y elabora siniestras complicidades. Al concentrar en alguien toda la maldad y toda la amenaza, la sociedad lo convierte en un chivo expiatorio. Todos se unen contra él para apartarlo. Esta unión instaura una paz momentánea entre todos los contendientes. Deshecha la paz, se inventa un nuevo chivo expiatorio (los terroristas, los traficantes, etc.) y nuevamente se crea la unión de todos contra él y se rehace la paz perdida.

Los antropólogos también nos han ayudado a entender la agresividad. Nos aseguran que somos simultáneamente sapiens y demens, no por degeneración, sino por constitución evolutiva. Somos portadores de inteligencia y de energías interiores orientadas hacia la generosidad, la colaboración y la benevolencia. Y al mismo tiempo somos portadores de demencia, de exceso, de pulsiones de muerte. Somos seres trágicos porque surgimos como coexistencia de los opuestos.

Dada esta contradicción, ¿cómo construir la paz? La paz sólo triunfará en la medida en que las personas y las colectividades se dispongan a cultivar, como proyecto de vida, la cooperación, la solidaridad y el amor. La cultura de la paz depende del predominio de estas positivities y de la vigilancia que las personas y las instituciones mantengan sobre la otra dimensión, siempre presente, de rivalidad, de egoísmo y de exclusión.

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.houseofmercy.lawrence.com/give-help>

**BAGS  
IN BULK**

Bagsinbulk.com



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.

# Violence

Permanent violence forces us to think. Why is it so recurrent?

By Tomás Núñez, ThD

To glimpse some light, we must start without self-deception from this fundamental ambiguity: on the one hand, the reality is full of conflicts, but in another sense, it is a fabric of order and peace. Neither of these two aspects succeeds in eradicating the other. They mix and maintain them in complex and dynamic equilibrium.

Art consists in maintaining this tension, seeking that convergence of energies that allows the emergence of peace, the fruit of minimally fair and inclusive institutions, and healthy social arrangements, guarded by a State that ensures the balance of tensions, legitimately using coercion when necessary. If this search for balance did not occur, sociability would be impossible, and human beings would exterminate each other.

Peace results from the management of conflicts using non-conflictive means. In building peace, collective interests must prevail over individual interests, multiculturalism must prevail over ethnocentrism, and the global perspective will guide the local one.

We must be realistic and sincere. There is violence in the world because I carry violence within me in the form of rage, envy, and hatred, which we must always contain.

The explanation of aggression has challenged the most acute thinkers. Sigmund Freud starts by observing two basic drives: one that affirms and exalts life (Eros) and another that tends towards death (Thanatos) and its psychological derivatives, such as hatred and exclusion.

For Freud, aggression arises when the death instinct is activated by some threat that

comes from outside. Someone can threaten another and want to take his life. Then, the threatened person anticipates and attacks and eventually eliminates the person who threatens him.

Another contemporary thinker, René Girard, claims that aggression comes from the permanent rivalry that exists between human beings (which he calls "mimetic desire"). This rivalry creates permanent tensions and elaborates sinister complicities. Society makes him a scapegoat by concentrating all evil and all threats on someone. Everyone unites against him to get rid of him. This union establishes a momentary peace between all the contenders. Once the peace is destroyed, a new scapegoat is invented (terrorists, drug dealers, etc.), and once again, the union of all against him is created, and the lost peace is remade.

Anthropologists have also helped us to understand aggression. They assure us that we are simultaneously sapiens and demons, not because of degeneration, but because of the evolutionary constitution. We are carriers of intelligence and inner energies oriented toward generosity, collaboration, and benevolence. And at the same time, we are carriers of madness, of excess, of death drives. We are tragic beings because we emerge as a coexistence of opposites.

Given this contradiction, how can we build peace? Peace will only triumph if people and communities are willing to cultivate cooperation, solidarity, and love as a life project. The culture of peace depends on the predominance of these positives and on the vigilance that people and institutions maintain over the other dimension, always present, of rivalry, selfishness, and exclusion.

**MERRIMACK VALLEY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**HOLIDAY  
NETWORKING  
MIXER**



Join us for the MVCC Annual Holiday Mixer at Lanam Club! Enjoy complimentary appetizers, cash bar, networking, and a chance to win a door prize!



**Tues. December 17th, 2024**



**5:00 - 7:00 PM**



**Lanam Club**  
260 North Main St., Rte 28  
Andover, MA 01810

**To Register: Call the  
MVCC: (978) 686-0900 or  
Register with Secure  
Credit Card Online at:  
MerrimackValleyChamber.com**

**Contact The MVCC for Sponsorship Opportunities  
\$10 (Members) / \$20 (Future Members)**



# Trahan anuncia \$144,000 en fondos federales para apoyar a las fuerzas del orden locales

WASHINGTON, DC – La congresista Lori Trahan (MA-03) anunció un total de \$143,806 en fondos federales obtenidos para apoyar las iniciativas de aplicación de la ley en Lowell, Lawrence, Haverhill, Fitchburg y Marlborough. Los fondos se otorgaron a través del Programa de Subvenciones de Asistencia Judicial en Memoria de Edward Byrne (Byrne JAG) del Departamento de Justicia de los EE. UU.

“Los agentes de policía de todo el estado trabajan todos los días para proteger a nuestras comunidades y merecen el equipo y el apoyo necesarios para hacer su trabajo de la manera más segura y eficiente posible”, dijo la congresista Trahan. “Como orgullosa partidaria de programas federales como Byrne JAG que entregan fondos directamente a los departamentos de policía locales, me complace ver estos premios que brindarán un mejor apoyo a los agentes en nuestras ciudades de acceso.

Espero continuar mi trabajo con los jefes de policía locales y los líderes comunitarios para identificar medidas adicionales que podamos tomar para brindar un mejor apoyo a nuestras fuerzas del orden locales”.

Desde que asumió el cargo en 2019, Trahan ha apoyado constantemente el aumento de la financiación para el programa Byrne JAG y el programa Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), las dos principales iniciativas que dirigen la financiación federal a los departamentos de policía locales. El año pasado, Trahan apoyó la legislación que contenía \$924,061,000 en financiación para el programa Byrne JAG, un aumento de \$377 millones desde cuando asumió el cargo por primera vez, y \$664,516,000 para el programa COPS, un aumento de \$321 millones desde 2019.

La ciudad de Lowell está recibiendo \$37,617 para que el Departamento de Policía de Lowell contrate a un analista de delitos en la Unidad de análisis e inteligencia del delito, así como a un analista de investigación de subvenciones y a un gerente de programas en la Unidad de investigación y desarrollo.

“Estamos agradecidos de haber recibido este premio del Programa JAG Edward Byrne Memorial. “Esta financiación apoyará directamente nuestros esfuerzos para mejorar la seguridad pública en Lowell”, dijo el administrador de la ciudad de Lowell, Thomas A. Golden, Jr. “Es un paso importante para garantizar que nuestra comunidad se mantenga segura, resistente



y receptiva a las necesidades de todos los residentes”.

La ciudad de Lawrence recibirá \$37,617 para comprar un nuevo vehículo policial marcado que ayudará a mejorar los tiempos de respuesta del Departamento de Policía de Lawrence, la seguridad de los oficiales y la confianza general de la comunidad en la aplicación de la ley.

“Recibir la subvención Edward Byrne Memorial 15 de la Oficina de Asistencia Judicial es una bendición. Esta subvención respaldará la adquisición de un vehículo policial marcado, mejorando la seguridad pública. Este logro refleja el compromiso de nuestra ciudad de garantizar la seguridad y el bienestar de nuestros residentes”, dijo el alcalde de Lawrence, Brian A. DePeña.

La ciudad de Haverhill recibirá \$34,493 para continuar con la compra de equipo no letal del Departamento de Policía de Haverhill para ayudar a reducir la intensidad de las situaciones que involucran a personas volátiles, agresivas y agresivas. El Departamento de Policía de Haverhill utilizó una inversión similar en 2023 para comenzar a comprar pistolas Taser y escudos balísticos para los oficiales.

“En nombre de la ciudad de Haverhill y nuestro Departamento de Policía, estamos muy agradecidos por el continuo apoyo del gobierno federal para aumentar la seguridad en nuestra comunidad. El Departamento de Policía de Haverhill solicita anualmente esta subvención y este año la financiación se destinará a la compra de pistolas Taser, que han demostrado ayudar a reducir la tensión durante los encuentros en los que se utiliza la fuerza”, dijo la alcaldesa de Haverhill, Melinda Barrett.

People with disabilities are entitled to reasonable accommodations or modifications that allow them to fully enjoy their housing. Learn more and get help requesting accommodations or modifications from a housing provider by contacting the Community Teamwork Fair Housing program at 978-654-5637 or fairhousing@commteam.org. Any opinions or recommendations expressed in this message are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Las personas con discapacidades tienen derecho a adaptaciones o modificaciones razonables que les permitan disfrutar plenamente de su vivienda. Obtenga más información y ayuda para solicitar adaptaciones o modificaciones a un proveedor de vivienda comunicándose con el programa de Vivienda Justa de Community Teamwork al 978-654-5637 o fairhousing@commteam.org. 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.

# Trahan Announces \$144K in Federal Funding to Support Local Law Enforcement

WASHINGTON, DC – Congresswoman Lori Trahan (MA-03) announced a total of \$143,806 in federal funding secured to support law enforcement initiatives in Lowell, Lawrence, Haverhill, Fitchburg, and Marlborough. The funding was awarded through the U.S. Department of Justice’s Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) Program.

“Police officers across the Commonwealth go to work every day to protect our communities, and they deserve the equipment and support necessary to do their jobs as safely and efficiently as possible,” said Congresswoman Trahan. “As a proud supporter of federal programs like Byrne JAG that deliver funding directly to local police departments, I’m glad to see these awards that will better support officers in our gateway cities. I look forward to continuing my work with local police chiefs and community leaders to identify additional steps we can take to better support our local law enforcement.”

Since taking office in 2019, Trahan has consistently supported increased funding for the Byrne JAG program and the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, the two main initiatives that direct federal funding to local police departments. Last year, Trahan supported legislation containing \$924,061,000 in funding for the Byrne JAG program, a \$377 million increase from when she first took office, and \$664,516,000 for the COPS program, a \$321 million increase since 2019.

The City of Lowell is receiving \$37,617 for the Lowell Police Department to retain a Crime Analyst in the Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit as well as a Grant Research Analyst and a Program Manager in the Research and Development Unit.

“We are grateful to have received this award from the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Program. This funding will directly support our efforts to improve public safety in Lowell,” said Lowell City Manager Thomas A. Golden, Jr. “It’s an important step in ensuring our community remains safe, resilient, and responsive to the needs of all residents.”

The City of Lawrence is receiving \$37,617 to purchase a new marked police cruiser that will help improve Lawrence Police Department response times, officer safety, and overall community trust in law enforcement.

“Being awarded the Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Grant 15 is a blessing. This grant will support the acquisition of a marked police cruiser, enhancing public safety. This achievement reflects our city’s commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents,” said Lawrence Mayor Brian A. DePeña.

The City of Haverhill is receiving \$34,493 to continue the Haverhill Police Department’s purchase of nonlethal equipment to help de-escalate situations involving volatile, aggressive, and assaultive individuals. The Haverhill Police Department used a similar investment in 2023 to begin the purchase of tasers and ballistic shields for officers.

“On behalf of the City of Haverhill and our Police Department, we are very appreciative of the federal government’s continued support to increase safety in our community. The Haverhill Police Department applies annually for this grant and this year the funding will be put towards purchasing tasers, which are proven to assist with de-escalation during use of force encounters,” said Haverhill Mayor Melinda Barrett.

## \$1 Million Pro Bull Riders’ World Championship Race Winds Through the Manchester, NH and the Greater Boston Area on Dec. 20-21

Along with surging World Championship contender Mason Taylor, the Manchester event is anticipated to feature a broad roster of heavy hitters including:

- Teenage phenom John Crimber. Currently ranked No. 1 in the world, Crimber has taken the bull riding world by storm since turning 18 during Summer 2023. After finishing No. 2 in the 2024 PBR World Championship race, he dominated the Teams season, crowned the league’s 2024 regular-season and Championship tournament MVP. Now he’s determined to finish 2025 with nothing short of an individual gold buckle.
- Two-time PBR World Champion Jose Vitor Leme. Fresh off winning the Teams World Championship with the Austin Gamblers in October 2024, Leme is ready to further etch his name in PBR’s individual record books. Winning the second event of the 2025 season in Ontario, California, Leme is attempting to become just the third rider in history to win the PBR World Championship three times.
- Two-time PBR Canada Champion Nick Tetz. After being an accomplished junior hockey player in Canada, Tetz felt

pulled to bull riding, making the shift, and establishing himself as one of the nation’s premier riders to emerge from Canada in recent years. Now he has his sights set on becoming the first Canadian to be crowned a PBR World Champion.

Along with our roster of riders, additional storylines available for the event include:

- The animal athlete stars, PBR’s bucking bulls, and their stock contractors who treat these bovine superstars as members of the family. Alongside the riders, PBR’s animal athletes are also competing for a World Championship, with crucial outs on the line in Manchester.
- The transformation of SNHU Arena which will include the setup of steel, totaling to the length of six football fields, and the trucking in of 750 tons of dirt.
- PBR’s bullfighters who occupy one of the most interesting roles in sport in protecting the world’s top riders every night. While each rider and bull will compete only once nightly, these fearless athletes will be on the dirt for each of the 40 outs inside SNHU Arena.

# Cedar View Rehab apoya a los refugios de animales con la "Operación Santa Paws"

Cedar View Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center en Methuen, donde los residentes a menudo se benefician de visitas de terapia asistida por animales, ha lanzado la "Operación Santa Paws" para recolectar suministros para mascotas y donarlos a la MSPCA en Nevins Farm en Methuen.

Hasta el 22 de diciembre, el centro de enfermería especializada en 480 Jackson St. acepta artículos donados como mantas y toallas, camas para perros y gatos, comida/golosinas para mascotas sin abrir, juguetes

para mascotas, productos de aseo, collares y correas, y cuencos de comida/agua.

Los animales de terapia desempeñan un papel vital en la vida de los residentes de cuidados a largo plazo, en particular aquellos que viven con demencia y Alzheimer. Los beneficios de la terapia con animales para las personas mayores incluyen elevación emocional, mayor autoestima, mejores habilidades sociales y menor riesgo de depresión y ansiedad.

Para obtener más información, visite CedarViewRehab.com.



## Cedar View Rehab supports animal shelters with 'Operation Santa Paws'

Cedar View Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in Methuen, where residents often benefit from animal-assisted therapy visits, has launched "Operation Santa Paws" to collect pet supplies and donate them to the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen.

Through Dec. 22, the skilled nursing facility at 480 Jackson St. welcomes donated items such as blankets and towels, dog and cat beds, unopened pet food/treats, pet toys,

grooming products, collars and leashes, and food/water bowls.

Therapy animals play a vital role in long-term care residents' lives, particularly those living with dementia and Alzheimer's. Benefits of animal therapy for seniors include emotional uplift, increased self-esteem, improved social skills, and reduced risk of depression and anxiety.

For more information about, visit CedarViewRehab.com.

**LEA EDICIONES PREVIAS DE RUMBO EN LA INTERNET [RUMBONEWS.COM](http://RUMBONEWS.COM)**



137 Lawrence Street  
Lawrence, MA 01841

**(978)682.4060**

Somos expertos en precios módicos y servicio de alta calidad.

La Primera Funeraria hispana sirviendo con esmero y satisfacción a la comunidad latinoamericana.

Brindamos servicio de asistencia social y enviamos el cuerpo a cualquier lugar incluyendo a Puerto Rico, la República Dominicana, Centro y Suramérica. También ofrecemos planes pagados con anticipación y estampas de recordatorios.

# Open Forums with Vice President of Lawrence Campus and Community Relations Finalists

For the past few weeks, a search committee has been reviewing applications and interviewing candidates for NECC's next Vice President of Lawrence Campus and Community Relations. I am pleased to announce that we have three finalists who will be returning to campus for full-day interviews.

You are invited to attend an Open Forum with the candidates, on the following days and times, to meet them, ask questions, and provide your feedback to the search committee.

### Dr. Daniel Ibarrodo

Wednesday, December 18, 1:15-2:15PM  
LC301 (with telecast to the Haverhill campus, TC103)

### Dr. Dennis Camacho

Thursday, December 19, 1:15-2:15PM  
LC301 (with telecast to the Haverhill campus, TC103)

### Dr. Naydeen González-De Jesús

Friday, December 20, 1:15-2:15PM

LC301 (with telecast to the Haverhill campus, TC103)

Complete information about the search for our next Vice President of Lawrence Campus and Community Relations, including the job posting, schedules for open forums, and resumes of the finalists is available at this link. Please note that this site is only accessible on campus or via VPN, and you will need to log in to SharePoint. You can also download and log in to the mobile SharePoint app.

After attending a candidate forum, please provide your feedback using this online form.

Sign language interpreting services are available by request. Please contact Chris Sicuranza at CSicuranza@necc.mass.edu if you would like to request services.

I would like to thank the members of the search committee, including Vivian Cavazzi, Professor Maria Carles, Anthony DeGregorio, Allison Dolan-Wilson, Jenny Fielding, Maria Hernandez, Giselle Peguero Grullon, Officer Elizabeth Raymond, Sandy Rochon, and Chris Sicuranza for lending their time and talents to this important selection process.

## CLASIFICADOS | CLASSIFIEDS

### 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 vehicle on or after January 8, 2025 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

- 2017 Hyundai Tucson VIN KM8J3CA46HU561284

Vehicle is being stored at Stuart's Automotive and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed  
Kevin Stuart  
Stuart's Automotive  
12/15, 12/22, 1/1

### 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 vehicle on or after December 23, 2024 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

- 2010 Ford Fusion VIN 3FAHP0HG4AR267973

Vehicle is being stored at Stuart's Automotive and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed  
Kevin Stuart  
Stuart's Automotive  
12/1, 12/8, 12/15

## 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.

# UMass Lowell and SAIC Establish Cyber Center

## LINC Partner Builds on University's Cyber Expertise and Collaboration with National Defense Community

UMass Lowell and Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), a global leader in technology integration, have signed an agreement to establish a cyber center that will strengthen the resilience of the defense industrial base and expand the pipeline of skilled cyber professionals across the region.

The UML Cyber Center will be located within the Lowell Innovation Network Corridor (LINC), the transformative public-private partnership unveiled earlier this year.

SAIC's initial \$1.3 million contribution will create an anticipated 30 jobs and increase access to state-of-the-art cyber research and services for local and regional businesses and nonprofits and train the future STEM workforce through paid internships, job fairs, and training programs in collaboration with Middlesex Community College and local high schools.

"We know that cyber industry is ever evolving, and to keep up with the rapidly changing environment, we need to ensure we have skilled and trained workforce at the helm," said Gov. Maura Healey. "That's why our administration has expanded our state's workforce training programs, invested in four cybersecurity ranges in partnership with our institutions of higher education and signed the FutureTech Act into law — because we know how important it is to be a leader in this space. This new partnership between UMass Lowell and SAIC is another exciting example of how Massachusetts continues to champion innovative cyber technology and how we contribute to our national defense."

"Our administration has been laser-focused on competing for our nation's leading companies to grow here in Massachusetts, and on providing opportunities to advance and grow our state's workforce," added Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll. "This partnership prioritizes our state's innovation economy while also ensuring we're setting our state, and our country, up for a safer cyber future."

UMass Lowell's Cybersecurity Studies Program is designated a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Research by the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security.

"UMass Lowell appreciates the ever-evolving relationship between national security and cyber readiness, and the importance of advancing research into relevant cyber infrastructure," said UMass Lowell Chancellor Julie Chen. "Partnering with SAIC gives students, professors, and regional industry partners alike the opportunity to better understand the associated challenges within this relationship, and to better posture for problems and opportunities as they arise in the future."

"The SAIC partnership and creation of a Cyber Center is great news for UMass Lowell and the city of Lowell," said UMass President Marty Meehan. "These developments promise new knowledge and technological advances in a critically important field. At the same time, this collaboration will produce an important pipeline of talent as we develop the workforce urgently needed to join the work of securing our networks and information infrastructure and ensuring their resilience into the future."

The new cyber center will extend SAIC's footprint beyond UMass Lowell's Applied Research Corporation at Hanscom Air Force Base. The center will provide direct support to the Air Force's strategic

initiatives in the areas of Command, Control, Communications, and Battle Management; Cyber; Electronic Warfare; Information Systems; and Enterprise Digital Infrastructure.

"Establishing this center builds on the success we've shared with the University of Massachusetts Lowell in implementing a student internship program at Hanscom Air Force Base focused on the DOD's critical Cloud One platform," said SAIC CEO Toni Townes-Whitley. "This expanded partnership will help build the future cyber workforce and ensure a stream of high demand talent for the nation, as well as Hanscom's many critical programs that directly impact U.S. and global security."

Under the Notice of Intent, which was signed at the UMass Club on Dec. 11, the university and SAIC have also agreed to advance post-graduate employment opportunities for students and to reskill or upskill current personnel at Hanscom Air Force Base and at local defense companies.

In addition, the agreement calls for collaboration with other state and federal enforcement agencies, including the Massachusetts State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation.

### Officials Praise Partnership

U.S. Rep. Lori Trahan: "We're thrilled to welcome SAIC to Lowell and even more excited about the jobs and opportunity this will mean for the people of the Merrimack Valley. The Cyber Center of Excellence puts Lowell at the center of important research and innovation that helps secure our country and support our military, while training skilled professionals who are ready to work in this growing economic sector. This is just the latest piece of a multibillion-dollar economic and jobs boom driven by the Lowell Innovation Network Corridor that is transforming the Mill City."

### Lowell City Manager Tom Golden:

"It's a great day in Lowell as we welcome SAIC and celebrate the collaboration with UMass Lowell to create a world-class cyber-research facility. The jobs and economic activity that come with SAIC will benefit all residents of Lowell, as we continue to build on the vision and potential of LINC and the Lowell Transformative Development Initiative."

### About SAIC

SAIC is a premier Fortune 500® technology integrator focused on advancing the power of technology and innovation to serve and protect our world. Our robust portfolio of offerings across the defense, space, civilian and intelligence markets includes secure high-end solutions in mission IT, enterprise IT, engineering services and professional services. We integrate emerging technology, rapidly and securely, into mission critical operations that modernize and enable critical national imperatives.

We are approximately 24,000 strong; driven by mission, united by purpose, and inspired by opportunities. SAIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer, fostering a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion, which is core to our values and important to attract and retain exceptional talent. Headquartered in Reston, Virginia, SAIC has annual revenues of approximately \$7.4 billion. For more information, visit saic.com. For ongoing

news, please visit our newsroom.

For more information, please contact: Caralyn Duke at caralyn.duke@saic.com

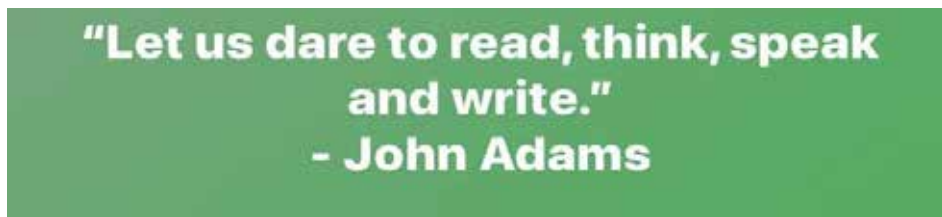
### About UMass Lowell

A top Massachusetts public university, UMass Lowell is a national research university in the heart of a gateway city. The university offers its students bachelor's,

master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences. UMass Lowell delivers high-quality educational programs, vigorous hands-on learning and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepares graduates to be leaders in their communities and around the globe. www.uml.edu



UMass Lowell Chancellor Julie Chen, left, and SAIC CEO Toni Townes-Whitley, far right, sign a partnership to create the UMass Lowell Cyber Center. Looking on are UMass President Marty Meehan and Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll./ PHOTO BY EVELYN DOW



BY DALIA DÍAZ  
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

# From My Corner



## Finally, I got my answer!

For the past couple of weeks, I've been writing about the lack of information in the city the missing minutes on the website. City council and board meetings are not there, making it impossible for anyone to research the previous decisions of those groups.

That serious violation of the Open Meeting Law carries severe penalties for the city. The City Clerk's responsibility is to accept the required postings for all public meetings to be posted and maintain the public meetings calendar. Meeting notices must be announced 48 hours before the scheduled date and time.

Under the Open Meeting Law, the public may attend meetings of public bodies, but they are excluded from an executive session called for a valid purpose listed in the law. While the public is permitted to attend an open meeting, an individual may only address the public body with the permission of the chair.

Public bodies are required to create and maintain accurate minutes of all meetings, including executive sessions. Minutes, along with all documents and exhibits used, are public records and part of the official record of the meeting.

The Attorney General's Division of Open Government enforces the Open Meeting Law. The Attorney General has the authority to receive and investigate complaints, bring enforcement actions, issue advisory opinions, and promulgate regulations.

That issue was getting on my nerves because nobody responded to my questions, and I should have received a call from someone. Then, Mayor Brian DePeña contacted me on Sunday night; he had no idea that the minutes were not being posted on the city's website and wanted to know more, so I gave him the latest details.

He later told me that he had spoken to City Clerk Eileen Bernal, and she said that she would work on posting the minutes. However, she had previously complained that her office needed extra help. I remember that the previous city clerk, Bill Maloney, said on several occasions that his office needed at least seven employees, and no one has tried to alleviate the situation through the years.

The city has been remiss on staffing for years in every department and the Clerk's office should be #1 priority. They are the historic footprint and face of its people in all respects.

Perhaps the need for extra help is the

result of having the people in the city clerk's office perform wedding ceremonies instead of doing their daily work. My question is if they are justices of the peace, as the law requires them to perform ceremonies.

I requested the list of justices of the peace in Lawrence from the Secretary of State William Galvin, and this is what I received:

### List of Justices of the Peace in Lawrence, MA.

- Eileen Bernal
- Celia Marisol
- Karol DeBinion de Contrera
- Iris Gonzalez
- Jennifer Jimenez
- Steven Kfoury
- Diane LaBlance
- Ana Levy
- Isabel Melendez
- Julissa Nunez
- Tomas Nunez Genao
- Julia Perez-Silverio
- Richard Reyes
- Damarys Ruiz
- Michael Sullivan
- Rafael Tejada
- Teresa Vega

I know that some of those names are no longer using their credentials for that purpose, and I don't trust the accuracy of the State keeping that list up to date.

In the past (and probably currently) the Secretary of State required any City Clerk/Assistant City Clerk to complete the application and obtain Governor Council approval of the application as a Justice of the Peace BEFORE conducting marriages or acting as a Justice of the Peace in any capacity. The pitfall of that situation is that the marriage may not be recognized as legal since it was not performed under the rules and requirements of the Commonwealth.

## Please give Wendy Luzón an alarm clock

She is always late for meetings, and last Tuesday, she arrived almost a half-hour after the Personnel Committee began. Soon after taking a seat, she asked a looney question that the committee discussed the previous week, but she was absent. Then, in a very harsh voice, Chair Stephany Infante told her it was dealt with last week and

that she should've watched it. Well done, Stephany!

The councilors wanted to hear from CAFO Mark Ianello about the search for a police chief. He explained the reports he received from the consultants in Tampa, Florida. Then, Chair Infante asked about the role that the local citizens' committee would play, only to hear from Mr. Ianello that there is no such committee. She insisted that the mayor had set it up to review the documents and interview the candidates.

There's no communication between the CAFO and Mayor Brian DePeña. When I told him what I heard, he was adamant, saying that's not what he wants to do with that process. Mayor DePeña is not on top of what his people are doing. It seems that they make the decisions in public, and he becomes aware of them when someone in the community tells him. There's no written communications or reporting passing through his hands, as if by delegating, he can be sure things will be done according to his instructions.

## Budget and Finance Committee

One tabled item on the agenda was the transfer of \$400,000 which was allocated to the Hispanic Federation to be used for small businesses through the Lawrence Prospering Grant. There was plenty of discussion about the earlier giveaway to businesses. They

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR RUMBO

315 Mt. Vernon St.  
Lawrence MA 01843  
Email: [Rumbo@rumbonews.com](mailto:Rumbo@rumbonews.com)

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

were trying to clarify why the Federation members were not included and suggested getting a report on the best practices used in the selection of the winners.

In the end, Wendy and Stephany suggested asking the Federation president Sara Pérez to be present at the next Budget and Finance Committee.

I recommend you read Sara's letter to the council members on page 8.

## Giving Diana DiZoglio a hard time


Members of the Legislature probably never thought that Auditor DiZoglio's proposed ballot question wouldn't go far. Oh, were they wrong!

A document drafted by the Office of the Secretary of State William Galvin, says that a successful voter-approved ballot question shall take effect within 30 days (or December 5) but they are giving her a difficult time alleging that there was an error because the person who updated that rule should have said "30 days after approval by the Governor's Council.

No big deal! Ms. DiZoglio will begin her audit on January 3, and we cannot wait for the results. It took her many years to get to this point and we helped.

The results of the November 5th election on Question #1 about auditing the Legislature were 72% YES and 28% NO.

## READ PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF RUMBO ON OUR WEBSITE [RUMBONEWS.COM](http://RUMBONEWS.COM)



**Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce**

# MAYORS & MANAGERS FORUM 2025

Monday, January 13th

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

**DoubleTree by Hilton**  
123 Old River Road  
Andover, MA 01810

Includes a Full Hot Breakfast Buffet

Sponsorship is now available. Thank you to our sponsors to date: Merrimack Valley Credit Union; MV Chamber Means Business Program

**\$40 Members / \$50 Future Members**

Register and/or Sponsor at:  
[www.merrimackvalleychamber.com](http://www.merrimackvalleychamber.com)  
 978-686-0900  
[office@merrimackvalleychamber.com](mailto:office@merrimackvalleychamber.com)



CONFIRMED  
MA Lieutenant Governor  
**Kim Driscoll**



CONFIRMED  
Amesbury Mayor  
**Kassandra Gove**



CONFIRMED  
Andover Town Manager  
**Andrew Flanagan**



CONFIRMED  
Haverhill Mayor  
**Melinda Barrett**



INVITED  
Lawrence Mayor  
**Brian DePeña**



INVITED  
Methuen Mayor TBD



INVITED  
Newburyport Mayor  
**Sean Reardon**



CONFIRMED  
North Andover Town Manager  
**Melissa Rodrigues**

AZ QUOTES



If you want to know who controls you, look at who you are not allowed to criticize.

- Voltaire

AZ QUOTES



# Formas inteligentes de adoptar a tu próxima mascota

Trae alegría a casa durante las Fiestas: Formas inteligentes de adoptar a tu nuevo mejor amigo

A medida que se acerca la temporada de regalos, muchos optarán por regalar mascotas, especialmente cachorros y gatitos que encabezan las listas de deseos navideños. Best Friends Animal Society, una organización líder en bienestar animal que trabaja para poner fin al sacrificio de perros y gatos en los albergues del país alienta a las familias que planean regalar un compañero peludo durante las fiestas a elegir la adopción en lugar de comprar una mascota en una tienda, en línea o de un criador.

Muchas personas no se dan cuenta de que elegir regalar una mascota juega un papel crucial en la reducción del sacrificio innecesario de gatos y perros en los albergues", dijo Julie Castle, directora ejecutiva de Best Friends Animal Society. "Muy a menudo se puede encontrar una variedad de perros y gatos de todas las edades y tipos en los albergues o grupo de rescate local y, al elegir adoptar en lugar de comprar, no solo le estás dando un hogar amoroso a una mascota necesitada, sino que también somos parte de la solución para poner fin al sacrificio de perros y gatos en los albergues del país."

No hay mejor momento para regalar una segunda oportunidad ya que los albergues y grupos de rescate del país están llenos de mascotas esperando un hogar. Best Friends ofrece tres consejos para ayudar a las personas a tomar la mejor decisión cuando se trata de regalar mascotas:

**1. Planifica la sorpresa:** Regalar una mascota puede ser una manera alegre de darle la bienvenida a un nuevo miembro de la familia; sin embargo, es importante discutirlo primero con todos y asegurarse de que todos los miembros estén completamente comprometidos con el cuidado y el amor de la mascota, en lugar de sorprenderlos. Desde

los paseos diarios hasta la limpieza de la caja de arena, todos los miembros del hogar deben asumir las responsabilidades que conlleva el cuidado de una nueva mascota.

**2. Crea una experiencia memorable:** Regalar mascotas puede ser un desafío para quienes están fuera de su hogar porque es difícil saber qué tipo de mascota podría ser la mejor opción para el estilo de vida de esa familia o persona. En su lugar, considera regalar un certificado de regalo de su albergue o grupo de rescate local, lo que permitirá al destinatario elegir su nuevo compañero. Para una experiencia verdaderamente memorable, envuelva el certificado de regalo con artículos esenciales para su nueva mascota o planifiquen una visita juntos para ayudarlos a encontrar a su nuevo mejor amigo.

**3. Haga de la adopción tu ÚNICA opción:** Elije adoptar en un albergue de animales local o en un grupo de rescate cuando decidas regalar una mascota. Al hacerlo, no solo estás salvando una vida y siendo parte de la solución para poner fin al sacrificio innecesario de perros y gatos, sino que muchas mascotas en los albergues tienen experiencia viviendo en un hogar y se adaptarán fácilmente a la vida familiar. Los asesores de adopción y el personal del albergue pueden compartir información valiosa sobre los antecedentes de cada mascota y ayudarte a encontrar la combinación perfecta para el estilo de vida de tu familia.

Best Friends Animal Society alienta a la comunidad a #TraerAlegríaCasa ofreciendo un evento de adopción de 12 días en nuestro Santuario de animales en Kanab, Utah, y en nuestros centros de Los Ángeles, Nueva York, Bentonville, AR, Salt. Lake



Best Friends Animal Society ofrece consejos de como adoptar una mascota responsablemente durante las fiestas.

City y Houston. Del 12 al 25 de diciembre, las tarifas de adopción se reducirán a \$10 y cada adoptante recibirá una bolsa de comida para mascotas Blue Buffalo de cortesía. ¿No estás cerca de un centro de salvamento Best Friends? Best Friends se asocia con más de 5000 albergues y rescates en todo el país. Visita <https://bestfriends.org/partnerspara> encontrar un albergue local o un grupo de rescate cerca de ti y lleva la alegría a tu hogar adoptando una mascota necesitada durante las fiestas.

sacrificar perros y gatos en los albergues de los Estados Unidos. Fundada en 1984, Best Friends es pionera en el movimiento "no-kill" y ha ayudado a reducir la cantidad de animales sacrificados en los albergues, de aproximadamente 17 millones por año a 415,000. Best Friends lleva a cabo programas que salvan vidas en todo el país y tiene el santuario más grande del país. Trabajando en forma conjunta con una red de alrededor de 5,000 socios dedicados a promover el bienestar animal, Best Friends está trabajando para salvar a todas las mascotas, Save Them All®. Para más información, visita [SalvaUnaMascota.org](http://SalvaUnaMascota.org).

Información sobre Best Friends Animal Society

Redes sociales

Best Friends Animal Society es la organización líder en bienestar animal, que trabaja para lograr que para el año 2025 se haya puesto fin a la práctica de

Facebook: @bestfriendsanimalsocietyenespanol  
Instagram: bestfriends\_enespanol

**Foster MA**

**Cada padre hace una diferencia**

dcf MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF Children & Families

**Rumbo**  
"The Bilingual Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley"  
[WWW.rumbonews.COM](http://WWW.rumbonews.COM)

Selling and accepting donations of new and gently used furniture, housewares, cabinets, appliances and building materials

**ReStore**  
Essex County Habitat for Humanity  
the store that builds homes

647 Andover Street | Lawrence, MA | 978-686-3323 | [www.ecrestore.org](http://www.ecrestore.org)  
Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm

shop donate volunteer