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The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley



Evolution Human Beings and Life

Evolución el Ser Humano y la Vida

Por/By Dr. Tomas Núñez

Abril/April 1, 2025



3/27/2025 | Men's Basketball NORTH ANDOVER, Mass. - Merrimack College Head Men's Basketball Coach Joe Gallo has signed a new 10-year contract that will keep him with the team through the 2034-35 season, Fr. Bryan Kerns, O.S.A., Vice President and Chief of Staff to the President and Interim Vice President for Athletics, announced on Thursday.

"Joe Gallo's impact at Merrimack College goes well beyond the basketball court," said Merrimack College President Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D. "He is not only a championship-winning coach, but a dedicated leader who helped to ensure our successful transition to the Division I level, bringing the Merrimack (Cont. on page 13)

Lazarus House Ministries Celebrates Casa Bethesda Grand **Opening With The Community**



Lazarus House Ministries Executive Director Carmen H. Vega, board of directors members Todd Johnson and Art Durkin, Lawrence Mayor Brian DePeña, and others gathered together to commemorate this milestone. Local officials stood alongside them, affirming the city and state's commitment to addressing homelessness.

Merrimack College and Joe Gallo Mayor DePeña Honors Agree to New 10-Year Contract Late Sergeant Charles M. Saindon with Posthumous **Promotion to Lieutenant**



Lieutenant Saindon, who passed away on February 26, 2024, had completed the written portion of the Lieutenant's exam but was unable to complete the assessment section before his passing. During a ceremony held at City Hall, Mayor DePeña presented a proclamation and a certificate of appreciation to his wife, Kelley, and their children, David and Cassidy. The family was also presented with a Lieutenant's badge and gold collar pins in his honor. Pg. 3

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bit.ly/RestoreTheEarth

Pg. 6&7

Artículos para el hogar | Metal | Ropa | Textiles | Libros | CD

El Seguro Social actualiza los requisitos de verificación de identidad anunciados recientemente

El requisito de ir en persona a una oficina no se aplicará a las solicitudes de Seguro por Incapacidad, Medicare y SSI

La Administración del Seguro Social (SSA, siglas en inglés) está tomando medidas proactivas para mejorar la seguridad de sus servicios mediante la implementación de procedimientos más estrictos de verificación de identidad. Las medidas actualizadas protegerán aún más los registros y beneficios del Seguro Social de millones de personas de los EE. UU. contra actividades fraudulentas. La verificación de identidad en persona entrará en vigor el 14 de abril de 2025 para quienes no puedan usar su cuenta personal my Social Security para ciertos servicios.

El Comisionado Interino del Seguro Social, Lee Dudek, dijo: "Hemos escuchado a nuestros clientes, al Congreso, a los defensores de derechos y a otros, y estamos actualizando nuestra política para brindar un mejor servicio a las poblaciones más vulnerables del país. Además de extender la fecha en que la nueva política entra en vigor por dos semanas para garantizar que nuestros empleados reciban la capacitación necesaria para ayudar a los clientes, las solicitudes de Medicare, incapacidad y Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI, siglas en inglés) estarán exentas de la verificación de identidad en persona, ya que existen múltiples oportunidades durante el proceso de decisión para verificar la identidad de una persona".

Bajo la política actualizada que entra en vigor el 14 de abril de 2025, las personas que soliciten el Seguro por Incapacidad del Seguro Social (SSDI, siglas en inglés), Medicare o Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI, siglas en inglés) y no puedan usar una cuenta personal my Social Security, podrán llenar su reclamación completamente por teléfono sin necesidad de visitar una oficina.

Las personas que no puedan usar su cuenta personal my Social Security para solicitar beneficios, solo necesitarán verificar su identidad en una oficina del Seguro Social si solicitan los beneficios por jubilación, para sobrevivientes o como dependientes (cónyuge o hijo). El Seguro Social exigirá la verificación de identidad digital por internet o en persona para estos casos. La agencia no exigirá estos requisitos en situaciones de extrema necesidad, como casos terminales o de prisioneros antes de ser puestos en libertad. El Seguro Social está desarrollando un proceso que requerirá documentación y la aprobación de la gerencia para evitar la política en estos casos de extrema necesidad.

Las personas que no puedan usar los servicios por internet de la cuenta my Social Security de la agencia para cambiar su información de depósito directo para cualquier beneficio, deberán visitar una oficina del Seguro Social para procesar el cambio o pueden llamar al 1-800-772-1213 y oprimir el 7 para español para programar una cita en persona. La agencia también recomienda que las personas que no puedan solicitar por internet llamen para programar una cita en persona, y así iniciar y llenar una solicitud de beneficios por jubilación, para sobrevivientes o como dependientes (cónyuge o hijo) en una sola interacción.

Recientemente, el Seguro Social exigió que casi todos los empleados de la agencia, incluyendo los que atienden al público en todas las oficinas de la nación, trabajaran en la oficina cinco días a la semana. Este cambio garantiza la máxima disponibilidad de personal para cumplir con el requisito más estricto de verificación de identidad en persona.

La agencia continuará monitoreando

y, de ser necesario, realizará ajustes para garantizar que se pague a la persona correcta, la cantidad correcta en el momento correcto, a la vez que se protegen los beneficios y programas que administra. El Seguro Social planifica implementar el servicio de integridad de pagos de la Oficina de Servicios Fiscales del Departamento del Tesoro, conocido como Account Verification Service (Servicio de verificación de cuentas [AVS, siglas en inglés]). El AVS proporciona servicios de verificación bancaria instantánea para prevenir de forma proactiva y oportuna el fraude asociado con las solicitudes de cambio de

depósito directo. La agencia continuará combatiendo el fraude mientras equilibra sus responsabilidades de integridad del programa con el cumplimiento de su misión de servicio al cliente para el pueblo de los EE. UU.

Las personas que aún no tienen una cuenta my Social Security pueden crear una en www.ssa.gov/myaccount (solo en inglés).

Manténgase actualizado sobre los requisitos y excepciones de verificación de identidad del Seguro Social en Lo que debe saber sobre cómo comprobar su identidad con el Seguro Social | SSA.

Rectificación del Registro sobre el Cierre de Oficinas del Seguro Social

Las noticias recientes en los medios que indican que la Administración del Seguro Social (SSA) cerrará permanentemente sus oficinas locales son falsas. Desde el 1 de enero de 2025, la agencia no ha cerrado ni anunciado el cierre permanente de ninguna oficina local. Ocasionalmente, la SSA debe cerrar temporalmente una oficina local por razones como el clima, daños o problemas con las instalaciones, y la reabre cuando se resuelven los problemas. La agencia ha anunciado el cierre permanente de una oficina de audiencias en White Plains, Nueva York.

La SSA colabora estrechamente con las delegaciones locales del Congreso antes de cerrar cualquier oficina permanentemente. La agencia también reasigna a los empleados de las oficinas afectadas a otras ubicaciones para ayudar a las comunidades a acceder a

servicios presenciales.

"La SSA se compromete a brindar servicio donde las personas necesitan ayuda, y nuestras oficinas locales no son la excepción", declaró Lee Dudek, Comisionado Interino del Seguro Social. "No hemos cerrado permanentemente ninguna oficina local este año."

La SSA identificó espacios de oficina subutilizados para la Administración de Servicios Generales (GSA) para garantizar que el gobierno invierta el dinero de los contribuyentes de la manera más prudente posible. La agencia proporcionó a la GSA una lista de lugares para la desvinculación. La mayoría son salas de audiencias pequeñas sin personal asignado. Dado que la mayoría de las audiencias se realizan virtualmente, la SSA ya no necesita estas salas infrautilizadas.

Correcting the Record about Social Security Office Closings

Recent reports in the media that the Social Security Administration (SSA) is permanently closing local field offices are false. Since January 1, 2025, the agency has not permanently closed or announced the permanent closure of any local field office. From time to time, SSA must temporarily close a local field office for reasons such as weather, damage, or facilities issues, and it reopens when the issues are resolved. The agency has announced the permanent closure of one hearing office, in White Plains, NY.

SSA works closely with local congressional delegations before closing any office permanently. The agency also reassigns employees from an affected office

to other locations to help communities access in-person services.

"SSA is committed to providing service where people need help and our local field offices are no exception," said Lee Dudek, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. "We have not permanently closed any local field offices this year."

SSA identified for the General Services Administration underutilized office space to ensure the government is spending taxpayer money as prudently as possible. The agency provided GSA a list of sites for termination. Most of these are small hearing rooms with no assigned employees. Since most hearings are held virtually, SSA no longer needs these underutilized rooms.





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Mayor Brian A. DePeña Honors Late Sergeant Charles M. Saindon with Posthumous Promotion to Lieutenant

Lawrence, MA – (March 28, 2025) – Mayor Brian A. DePeña and the Lawrence City Council posthumously promoted Sergeant Charles M. Saindon to the rank of Lieutenant within the Lawrence Police Department in recognition of his exceptional service and dedication.

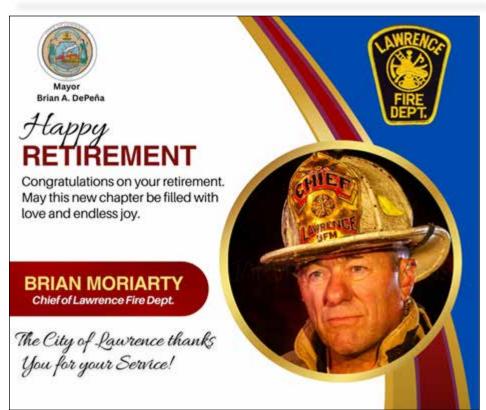
Lieutenant Saindon, who passed away on February 26, 2024, had completed the written portion of the Lieutenant's exam but was unable to complete the assessment section before his passing. During a ceremony held at City Hall, Mayor DePeña presented a proclamation and a certificate of appreciation to his wife, Kelley, and their children, David and Cassidy. The family was also presented with a Lieutenant's badge and gold collar pins in his honor.

Provisional Chief Melix Bonilla praised Lieutenant Saindon's commitment to the Lawrence Police Department over his 20year career, highlighting his impact as a mentor and leader.

"Lieutenant Charles M. Saindon's dedication to Lawrence will never be forgotten. This promotion honors his service, leadership, and the lasting impact he made in our community and the Police Department," said Mayor Brian A. DePeña.

Lieutenant Saindon joined the Lawrence Police Department in 2003 and served in various roles, including Community Policing, K-9, Auto-Theft Detective, Marine Unit, and Motorcycle Unit. He was a dedicated Field Training Officer, guiding new recruits with care and professionalism. His legacy of service and mentorship continues to inspire his colleagues and the community he so faithfully served.





The City of Lawrence formally announces the forthcoming retirement of Fire Chief Brian A. Moriarty, effective April 18, 2025. Chief Moriarty has served with distinction in this critical leadership role since March 22, 2015, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to public safety, security, and the well-being of our resi-dents.

Over the past decade, Chief Moriarty has exemplified professionalism, dedication, and excellence in public service. Under his steadfast leadership, the Lawrence Fire Depart-ment has made remarkable advancements in emergency response,

firefighter training, and community engagement. His strategic vision and steadfast commitment have signifi-cantly enhanced public safety and emergency preparedness in our city.

On behalf of the City of Lawrence, I extend my profound gratitude to Chief Moriarty for his outstanding service and leadership. His dedication and contributions to our community will leave a lasting legacy, and his impact will be felt for years to come. As he embarks on this new chapter in his life, the City of Lawrence wishes him a fulfilling and well-earned retirement.

Anuncio de jubilación

La Ciudad de Lawrence anuncia formalmente la próxima jubilación del Jefe de Bomberos Brian A. Moriarty, a partir del 18 de abril de 2025. El Jefe Moriarty se ha distinguido en este importante puesto de liderazgo desde el 22 de marzo de 2015, demostrando un compromiso inquebrantable con la seguridad pública y el bienestar de nuestros residentes.

Durante la última década, el Jefe Moriarty ha sido un ejemplo de profesionalismo, dedicación y excelencia en el servicio público. Bajo su firme liderazgo, el Departamento de Bomberos de Lawrence ha logrado avances notables en la respuesta a emergencias, la capacitación de bomberos y la participación comunitaria. Su visión estratégica y su firme compromiso han mejorado significativamente la seguridad pública y la preparación para emergencias en nuestra ciudad.

En nombre de la Ciudad de Lawrence, expreso mi profunda gratitud al Jefe Moriarty por su destacado servicio y liderazgo. Su dedicación y contribuciones a nuestra comunidad dejarán un legado perdurable, y su impacto se sentirá en los años venideros. Al embarcarse en este nuevo capítulo en su vida, la ciudad de Lawrence le desea una jubilación plena y bien merecida.

Alcalde Brian A. DePeña Honra al Sargento Fallecido Charles M. Saindon con Ascenso Póstumo a Teniente

Lawrence, MA – (28 de marzo de 2025) – El Alcalde Brian A. DePeña y el Concejo Municipal de Lawrence promovieron póstumamente al sargento Charles M. Saindon al rango de teniente dentro del Departamento de Policía de Lawrence en reconocimiento a su excepcional servicio y dedicación.

El Teniente Saindon, quien falleció el 26 de febrero de 2024, había completado la parte escrita del examen de Teniente, pero no pudo completar la sección de evaluación antes de su fallecimiento. Durante una ceremonia celebrada en el Ayuntamiento, el Alcalde DePeña entregó una proclamación y un certificado de reconocimiento a su esposa, Kelley, y a sus hijos, David y Cassidy. La familia también recibió una insignia de Teniente y pines dorados en su

El jefe provisional Melix Bonilla elogió el compromiso del teniente Saindon con el Departamento de Policía de Lawrence a lo largo de sus 20 años de carrera, destacando su impacto como mentor y líder.

"La dedicación del teniente Charles M. Saindon a Lawrence será inolvidable. Este ascenso honra su servicio, liderazgo y el impacto duradero que tuvo en nuestra comunidad y en el Departamento de Policía", declaró el Alcalde Brian A.

El Teniente Saindon se unió al Departamento de Policía de Lawrence en 2003 y desempeñó diversas funciones, incluyendo Policía Comunitaria, Canino, Detective de Robo de Autos, Unidad Marina y Unidad de Motocicletas. Fue un oficial de entrenamiento de campo dedicado, guiando a los nuevos reclutas con atención y profesionalismo. Su legado de servicio y mentoría continúa inspirando a sus colegas y a la comunidad a la que sirvió con tanta devoción.





Chief Melix Bonilla and the members of the Lawrence Police Department regret to announce the unexpected passing of Officer Shaun McLellan.

Officer McLellan began his career with the department in February 2008, following his graduation from the Lowell Police Academy. Over the years, he served in various roles within the department.

Funeral arrangements are still being finalized but are expected to take place next Wednesday and Thursday. We ask that you keep Officer McLellan's family, friends, and the Lawrence Police Department in your thoughts and prayers during this incredibly difficult time.

Office of the Mayor - Lawrence, MA.

El jefe interino Melix Bonilla y los miembros del Departamento de Policía de Lawrence lamentan anunciar el inesperado fallecimiento del oficial Shaun McLellan.

El oficial McLellan comenzó su carrera en el departamento en febrero de 2008, tras graduarse de la Academia de Policía de Lowell. A lo largo de los años, desempeñó diversos cargos dentro del departamento.

Los preparativos del funeral aún se están ultimado, pero se espera que se celebre el próximo miércoles y jueves. Les pedimos que mantengan presentes en sus pensamientos y oraciones a la familia, los amigos, el Departamento de Policía de Lawrence y al oficial McLellan durante este momento tan dificil.

Oficina del Alcalde - Lawrence, MA.



"The best journalists are those who do not seek to please the powerful, but rather hold them accountable."

Carl Bernstein

Announcing the passing of Concejal Gregory Delrosario Officer Shaun McLellan anuncia campaña de reelección anuncia campaña de reelección

Comunicado a los Munícipes del Distrito C de Lawrence Mass

Queridos amigos y vecinos,

En el transcurso de estos años, hemos trabajado juntos para lograr importantes avances en nuestro querido Distrito C. Sin embargo, somos conscientes de que aún queda mucho por hacer. Nuestro compromiso con el bienestar, el desarrollo y la transformación positiva de nuestro distrito sigue intacto, y por eso hoy quiero compartirles que he decidido postularme para un nuevo período como su concejal.

Esta decisión nace del deseo de continuar representando a las valiosas personas de este distrito, de quienes me siento profundamente orgulloso. Juntos, hemos demostrado que el trabajo colectivo tiene el poder de transformar comunidades, y sé que con su respaldo podemos alcanzar

nuevas metas y enfrentar los desafíos que

Mi compromiso sigue siendo impulsar las iniciativas municipales que reflejen sus necesidades y aspiraciones, trabajando incansablemente por un Distrito C más fuerte, unido y próspero.

Agradezco profundamente el apoyo que me han brindado en el pasado y confio en que juntos seguiremos escribiendo una historia de progreso para nuestro distrito y nuestra amada Ciudad de Lawrence.

Que la gracia y la bendición de Dios estén siempre con ustedes y sus familias.

Con aprecio y compromiso,

Gregory DelRosario Más que su concejal, su amigo



Councilor Gregory Delrosario announces re-election campaign

Statement to the Residents of District C in Lawrence

Dear friends and neighbors,

Over the years, we have worked together to achieve significant progress in our beloved District C. However, we are aware that much remains to be done. My commitment to the well-being, development, and positive transformation of our district remains unwavering. That is why I am proud to announce my decision to run for another term as your City Councilor.

This decision stems from my desire to continue representing the valuable people of this district, of whom I am deeply proud. Together, we have proven that collective effort has the power to transform communities, and I am confident that with your support, we can achieve new goals and overcome future challenges.

My pledge remains the same: to advance municipal initiatives that reflect your needs and aspirations, working tirelessly for a stronger, more united, and prosperous

I am deeply grateful for the support you have given me in the past, and I trust that together we will continue to write a story of progress for our district and our beloved City of Lawrence.

May God's grace and blessings always be with you and your families.

With gratitude and commitment,

Gregory DelRosario More than your councilor, your friend

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing on the proposed 2025-2026 Lawrence Public Schools budget will be held on April 9, 2025 at 6:00pm at the South Lawrence East Educational Complex auditorium at 165 Crawford St., Lawrence, Mass. The proposed budget is for the time period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

A copy of the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget will be made available on the LPS website (www.lawrence.k12.ma.us) by end of day on April 7, 2025.

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA

El 9 de abril de 2025 a las 6:00pm se celebrará una audiencia pública sobre la propuesta del presupuesto para las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence para el año escolar 2025-2026 en el auditorio del Complejo Educativo South Lawrence East, ubicado en el 165 de Crawford St., Lawrence, Massachusetts. El presupuesto propuesto es para el periodo dell 1 de julio de 2025 y el 30 de junio de 2026.

Una copia de la propuesta de presupuesto para el año fiscal 2026 estará disponible en el sitio web de LPS (www.lawrence.k12.ma.us) al final del día 7 de abril de 2025.

GLTS's Workforce Development Department Celebrates Graduation of Solar Installer Technical Training Class

ANDOVER — Superintendent John step on the path to a career in that industry," Lavoie is pleased to report that the Greater Lawrence Technical School's Workforce Development Department celebrated the graduation of 14 adults from the school's Solar Installer Technical Training course for adult learners.

The GLTS Workforce Development Department created the 20-week program in partnership with Groundwork Lawrence. The program is funded with a grant from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center. The class helps adult learners who are looking for a pathway to a new career earn all of the basic skills and certifications required for an entry-level job in a growing field.

Fourteen adult learners were provided with comprehensive, hands-on instruction in solar installations, electrical work and safety compliance. Students were equipped with the skills needed for an entry-level job in the growing solar energy industry.

Graduates earned industry-recognized certifications while learning from a team of three expert instructors. As part of the program, graduates participated in job interviews with leading local solar companies, positioning them for immediate employment in the renewable energy field.

One graduate has already landed a job as a result of completing the class, and several other graduates are on second interviews with leading solar companies.

Superintendent John Lavoie spoke to graduates during a ceremony held Tuesday afternoon in the Four Winds Restaurant at GLTS. He congratulated graduates on being brave enough to continue their education and to move toward a new career path in a growing industry.

"Green and sustainable energy is the future of the construction industry in so many ways, and you've taken your first Lavoie said. "Please don't ever quit learning, and let yourself grow to find a better life for you and your family."

The course was scheduled to make it feasible for working adults, with classes being held Monday to Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., with an additional four hours of online coursework per week.

GLTS Workforce Development Director Susan Almono, Groundwork Lawrence Workforce Manager Laura Cabrera and GLTS Program Manager Ena Pena also spoke at the graduation ceremony, congratulating graduates on all they've achieved, and encouraging them to continue learning.

"Today is a testament to all the time, effort, persistence and work that each of you put in," said Cabrera. "You are stepping into such a good place and taking the future into your own hands."

"We hope you all will move on to make a great wage for your family, but you should know that you will also make a great difference in our world by helping to combat climate change," said Almono.

Graduate Franquel Garcia, of Lawrence, was working as a private driver before taking the class, but after graduation was hired by Tesla to work as a solar panel maintenance technician. He is already working at his new job.

"I was just a rookie when I got here. I started from the beginning," Garcia said. "But I learned how to work with conduit, learned basic electrical, and solar panel maintenance. It was everything I needed to know to land a job."

To learn more about Workforce Development at Greater Lawrence Technical School, or to see what other training courses will be available soon, visit glts.net and click on Adult Education.



Graduate Yadiel Vasquez gives a shoutout to his fellow graduates during a brief speech at graduation from Solar Installer Technical Training at Greater Lawrence Technical School on Tuesday afternoon. Vasquez was one of 14 students who graduated from the class, which was offered to adult learners via the Greater Lawrence Technical School Workforce Development Department. (Courtesy Greater Lawrence Technical School)

DEVELOPM

Greater Lawrence Technical School Superintendent John Lavoie speaks to graduates of the Solar Installer Technical Training class, offered to adult learners by the school's Workforce Development Department. Fourteen adult learners graduated from the class, which teaches all the basics required to start a career in solar installation. (Courtesy Greater Lawrence Technical School)



Graduate Carlos Rodriguez poses for a photo with a family member after graduation for the Solar **Installer Technical Training** class at Greater Lawrence Technical School on Tuesday afternoon. (Courtesy Greater Lawrence Technical School)





At left: Deimy Ramirez, a graduate of the Solar **Installer Technical Training** Technical School, speaks to his fellow graduates on Tuesday afternoon. (Courtesy Greater Lawrence Technical School)



Lawrence Technical School)





Below right: Laura Cabrera, Workforce Manager for Groundwork Lawrence, speaks to graduates of the Solar **Installer Technical Training** course for adult learners at Greater Lawrence Technical School. Groundwork Lawrence partnered with GLTS to create the new program and recruit students. (Courtesy Greater Lawrence Technical School)



Restore the Earth Reuse & Recycle Drive benefits local non-profits and the Earth

Donate to keep your unwanted things out of the landfill

Start putting aside unwanted home goods, scrap metal, clothing, textiles, books and CDs to donate to the Reuse & Recycle Drive. In honor of Earth Day, Essex County Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Lawrence is partnering with the Epilepsy Foundation New England, More Than Words and Windfield Recycling to host this drivethrough collection on Saturday, April 19 from 10am – 1pm.

"Part of the Habitat ReStore's mission is to keep reusable and resellable items out of the landfill. One of our taglines is even Every day is Earth Day at the ReStore!" says Jim Kapelson, ReStore Director. "We fund Habitat's building of affordable homes with the proceeds from sales of donated items. So, this event is not only great for the Earth, but it will also help us meet our mission."

Knowing that other organizations could also benefit from the drive, and residents could properly dispose of even more unwanted items, three more organizations were invited to join in. With the advice and participation of Marc Fournier, who used to head up North Andover's Zero Waste Day, the event should run like a well-oiled machine.

Cars should pull into the back parking lot of the Habitat ReStore, located at 647 Andover Street in Lawrence, by turning from Andover Street onto Shepard Street and taking a left into the lot. There will be a greeter there to direct donors to proceed through the one way set up. Runners will remove donations from vehicles and, if there is more than one type of donation, direct drivers to next station.

Bethany Chase-Reynolds from Epilepsy Foundation New England adds "Your donations mean so much to so many."

To review details of what will and won't be accepted, visit: www.essexcountyhabitat. org/earth-day-drive. Please keep in mind that there is no dumpsters on site, so if an item isn't accepted, be prepared to bring it home with you. This drive is open to residents of all towns.

About Essex County Habitat for Humanity

Essex County Habitat for Humanity is the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, the largest nonprofit homebuilder in the world. Essex County Habitat builds decent, safe, and affordable homes in partnership with the families who need them. Each partner family works at least 240 sweat equity hours alongside volunteers to build their home and then carries an affordable 30-year mortgage. Since it was established in 1985, the affiliate has delivered on their mission for over 170 families in Essex County. To donate, volunteer, or learn more, please visit EssexCountyHabitat.org

To help fund their work, Essex County Habitat operates a ReStore, located in Lawrence, where they sell quality new and previously owned furniture, appliances, building materials, and houseware at greatly reduced prices. To donate, volunteer, or learn more, please visit EssexCountyHabitat.org

About Epilepsy Foundation New England

Stop Seizures. Find Cures. Save Lives. Help for today, Hope for tomorrow

Epilepsy Foundation New England's mission is to lead the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives of people and families affected by epilepsy in New England. They aim to improve the lives of individuals and families impacted by epilepsy and seizures, by providing: Access, Outreach, Advocacy, Support and Research

About More Than Words

More Than Words is a nonprofit social enterprise that empowers system-involved youth to take charge of their lives by taking charge of a business.

At More Than Words, youth ages 16-24 who are in foster-care, homeless, out-of-school, or in the court system, learn to run an online and retail bookstore while also getting full

wrap-around supports to tackle the barriers from our state systems and take charge of their lives.

Windfield Recycling

Windfield is dedicated to providing topnotch recycling and asset recovery services. Their commitment to quality, excellence, and environmental performance is unwavering. Through their innovative programs, they aim to reduce waste, conserve resources, and promote sustainability. They believe in responsible corporate citizenship and strive to make a positive impact on both the environment and our community.

Join them in their mission to elevate industry standards and create a greener future.



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

Sip, Sample & Support Emmaus

Emmaus to Hold Annual Spring Fundraising Event on May 15

HAVERHILL | Emmaus invites you to join the fun and support a great cause at "Sip, Sample and Support," the organization's annual spring gala and fundraising event on Thursday, May 15.

Founded in 1985, Emmaus, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping families and individuals rebuild their lives. Located in Haverhill, MA, it is the largest provider of emergency shelter in Essex County. For over 40 years, Emmaus has helped more than 40,000 children and adults out of homelessness and toward self-sufficiency. This past year alone, we helped a total of 1,929 people whose lives have been impacted by homelessness, including 864 children under 18 years old, 134 victims of domestic violence, 41 seniors (65+), and 28 veterans."

Throughout the evening, guests will have several opportunities to support Emmaus's mission, including an exciting live auction. For the third consecutive year, City Councilor Tim Jordan will serve as auctioneer, while Katherine Underwood from WMUR will emcee the event. Known for hosting unforgettable galas, Emmaus promises an evening full of entertainment, including a cocktail contest, classic American cuisine, wine pull, raffles, and a few surprises guaranteed to delight attendees.

The Sip, Sample and Support gala is truly a remarkable event. It mobilizes our community to come together and raise funds to help combat about housing insecurity." said Jeanine Murphy, Emmaus, CEO

Sponsorships, tickets, and donation opportunities are available at https://emmausinc.ejoinme.org/sipsample25.. We hope to see you there!

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House of Mercy focuses on the physical, mental, and most importantly, spiritual rehabilitation of every person that comes seeking help in our organization. We are a place of rest for souls feeling lost and rejected today. Our mission is to reestablish and to raise lives according to the commands and principles of The Bible, and the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. House of Mercy is in need of underwares for men and women. If you are interested in making a donation, Rumbo recommends ordering from Bags in Bulk.

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La campaña de Reutilización y Reciclaje Restaura la Tierra beneficia a organizaciones locales sin fines de lucro y al planeta

Dona para evitar que tus cosas no deseadas terminen en el vertedero

Empieza a apartar tus artículos del hogar, chatarra, ropa, textiles, libros y CD que ya no quieres para donarlos a la campaña de Reutilización y Reciclaje. En honor al Día de la Tierra, Habitat for Humanity ReStore del Condado de Essex en Lawrence se asocia con la Fundación para la Epilepsia de Nueva Inglaterra, More Than Words y Windfield Recycling para organizar esta recolección desde el auto el sábado, 19 de abril de 10:00 a.m. a 1:00 p.m.

"Parte de la misión de Habitat ReStore es evitar que los artículos reutilizables y revendibles terminen en el vertedero. Uno de nuestros lemas es "¡Todos los días son el Día de la Tierra en ReStore!", afirma Jim Kapelson, director de ReStore. "Financiamos la construcción de viviendas asequibles de Habitat con las ganancias de la venta de artículos donados. Por lo tanto, este evento no solo es excelente para el planeta, sino que también nos ayudará a cumplir nuestra misión".

Sabiendo que otras organizaciones también podrían beneficiarse de la campaña y que los residentes podrían deshacerse adecuadamente de aún más artículos no deseados, se invitó a tres organizaciones más a unirse. Con el asesoramiento y la participación de Marc Fournier, quien dirigía el Día de Cero Residuos de North Andover, el evento debería funcionar a la perfección.

Los vehículos deben ingresar al estacionamiento trasero de Habitat ReStore, ubicado en el número 647 de la calle Andover en Lawrence, girando desde la calle Andover hacia la calle Shepard y a la izquierda para ingresar al estacionamiento. Habrá un recepcionista que guiará a los donantes por la vía unidireccional. Los encargados retirarán las donaciones de los vehículos y, si hay más de un tipo de donación, dirigirán a los conductores a la siguiente estación.

Bethany Chase-Reynolds, de la Fundación para la Epilepsia de Nueva Inglaterra, agregó: "Sus donaciones significan mucho para muchas personas".

Para consultar los detalles sobre qué se aceptará y qué no, visite: www. essexcountyhabitat.org/earth-day-drive.

de basura en el sitio, así que, si no se acepta algún artículo, prepárese para llevarlo a casa. Esta campaña está abierta a los residentes de todas las localidades.

Acerca de Hábitat para la Humanidad del Condado de Essex

Hábitat para la Humanidad del Condado de Essex es la filial local de Hábitat para la Humanidad Internacional, la constructora de viviendas sin fines de lucro más grande del mundo. Hábitat para la Humanidad del Condado de Essex construye viviendas dignas, seguras y asequibles en colaboración con las familias que las necesitan. Cada familia colaboradora trabaja al menos 240 horas de trabajo voluntario para construir su casa y luego obtiene una hipoteca asequible a 30 años. Desde su fundación en 1985, la filial ha cumplido su misión para más de 170 familias en el Condado de Essex. Para donar, ser voluntario u obtener más información, visite EssexCountyHabitat.org

Para ayudar a financiar su trabajo, Hábitat para la Humanidad del Condado de Essex opera una tienda ReStore en Lawrence, donde venden muebles, electrodomésticos, materiales de construcción y artículos para el hogar de calidad, nuevos y usados, a precios muy reducidos. Para donar, ser voluntario u obtener más información, visite EssexCountyHabitat.org

Acerca de la Fundación para la Epilepsia de Nueva Inglaterra

Detenga las convulsiones. Encuentre curas. Salve vidas. Ayuda para hoy, esperanza para mañana

La misión de la Fundación para la Epilepsia de Nueva Inglaterra es liderar la lucha para superar los desafíos de vivir con epilepsia y acelerar las terapias para detener las convulsiones, encontrar curas y salvar vidas de personas y familias afectadas por la epilepsia en Nueva Inglaterra. Su objetivo es mejorar la vida de las personas y familias afectadas por la epilepsia y las convulsiones, brindando acceso, divulgación, defensa, apoyo e investigación.

Acerca de Más Que Palabras

Más Que Palabras es una empresa Tenga en cuenta que no hay contenedores social sin fines de lucro que empodera a jóvenes que viven en el sistema para que tomen las riendas de sus vidas al dirigir un negocio. En More Than Words, jóvenes de 16 a 24 años en hogares de acogida, sin hogar, sin escolarizar o en el sistema judicial, aprenden a administrar una librería en línea y física, a la vez que reciben apoyo integral para superar las barreras de nuestros sistemas estatales y tomar las riendas de sus vidas.

Windfield Recycling

Windfield se dedica a brindar servicios de reciclaje y recuperación de activos

de primer nivel. Su compromiso con la calidad, la excelencia y el desempeño ambiental es inquebrantable. A través de sus programas innovadores, buscan reducir los residuos, conservar los recursos y promover la sostenibilidad. Creen en la ciudadanía corporativa responsable y se esfuerzan por generar un impacto positivo tanto en el medio ambiente como en nuestra comunidad.

Únase a ellos en su misión de elevar los estándares de la industria y crear un futuro más verde.



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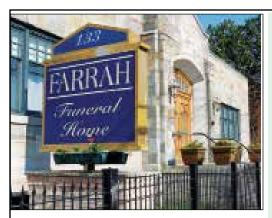


Si tienes ropa usada y pequeños artículos del hogar que ya no usas, dónalos para quienes si los necesitan. Llegaremos a tu puerta para recibir lo que puedas entregar.

Para programar una cita, llama al 1.800.483.5503 o visítanos en nuestra página web en internet: www.bbbsfoundation.org.

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!



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of Haffner's!



Mayor Brian A. DePeña was honored to welcome Mr. Dennis Kelleger, Director of Marketing at Haffner's, to City Hall in celebration of the company's 100-year anniversary! Haffner's has been a pillar of our community, and we are grateful for its continued contributions to Lawrence. Special thanks to Planning Director Daniel McCarthy, Business & Economic De-velopment Director Francisco Surillo, Acting Community Development Director Charlinett Pascual, and DPW Director Jorge Jaime, who joined in the celebration.

Congratulations to Haffner's on this incredible milestone!

¡Celebramos los 100 años de Hafner's!



El Alcalde Brian A. DePeña tuvo el honor de recibir al Sr. Dennis Kelleger, Director de Marke-ting de Haffner's, en el ayuntamiento para celebrar 100 años de esta compañía. Hafner's ha sido un pilar de nuestra comunidad y agradecemos su continua contribución a Lawren-ce. Un agradecimiento especial al Director de Planificación, Daniel McCarthy; al Director de Desarrollo Económico y Comercial, Francisco Surillo, a la Directora Interina de Desarro-llo Comunitario, Charlinett Pascual; y al Director del Departamento de Obras Públicas, Jorge Jaime, quienes se unieron a la celebración.

¡Felicitaciones a Haffner's por este gran logro!

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

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

Rosalynn Carter

Celebrating 100 Years Let's welcome to our city: Sweeney's Liquor Store!

We are thrilled to welcome Sweeney's Liquor Store to their new location at 90 Essex Street! Thank you for continuing to choose Lawrence as your home. We appreciate your investment in our community and wish you continued success in the years ahead.



¡Bienvenidos a nuestra ciudad: Sweeney's Liquor Store!



Nos complace dar la bienvenida a Sweeney's Liquor Store a su nueva ubicación en el 90 de la calle Essex. Gracias por seguir elegiendo a Lawrence como su casa. Agradecemos su inversión en nuestra comunidad y les deseamos muchos éxitos en los años por venir.



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

Welcome to Lawrence, Alpha E Consulting!



Mayor Brian A. DePeña, the Lawrence state delegation, city councilors, and the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce were proud to celebrate the Ribbon Cutting for Alpha E Consulting's new office, located at 264 Essex St, 3rd Floor, Lawrence, MA!

It was a fantastic event filled with great energy, connections, and a shared commitment to business growth in our city. We're excited to see the positive impact Alpha E Consulting will bring to Lawrence. Wishing them much success in their new space!

¡Bienvenidos a Lawrence, Alpha E Consulting!



concejo y la Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Merrimack celebraron con orgullo la inauguración de la nueva oficina de Alpha E Consulting, ubicada en 264 Essex St, 3.er piso, en nuestra ciudad de Lawrence.

Fue un evento fantástico lleno de energía, conexiones y un compromiso compartido con el crecimiento empresarial de nuestra ciudad. Nos entusiasma ver el impacto positivo que Alpha E Consulting traerá a Lawrence. ¡Les deseamos muchos éxitos en su nuevo

"I raise up my voice—not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard [...] We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back."

"Levanto mi voz, no para poder gritar, sino para que los que no tienen voz puedan ser escuchados [...] No todos podemos tener éxito si la mitad de nosotros estamos reprimidos".

-Malala Yousafzai

MVCC offered a terrific BBQ buffet at The Smoke Shop BBQ



Wow! What a fantastic time at today's SOLD-OUT Merrimack Valley Chamber Networking at Noon luncheon!

We enjoyed an amazing BBQ buffet at The Smoke Shop BBQ in Methuen and were treated to a fun demonstration by Chef Andy!



(L to R) Eric Mason, Tricia Sabulis, Stephanie Sewade, Jim Corcoran, Jacob Gagnon, and Barry Abrams.

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

MUHAMMAD ALI

Fire victims / Víctimas de incendios

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

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

http://heallawrence.org/ heallawrence@aol.com https://www.facebook.com/heallawrence.mass

Evolución el Ser Humano y la Vida



Por Tomás Núñez, ThD

En la comprensión de los grandes cosmólogos que estudian el proceso de la cosmogénesis y de la biogénesis, la culminación de este proceso no se realiza en el ser humano. La gran emergencia es la vida

en su inmensa diversidad y aquello que le pertenece esencialmente que es el cuidado. Sin el cuidado necesario ninguna forma de vida subsistirá.

Es imperioso enfatizar que la culminación del proceso cosmogénico no se concreta en el antropocentrismo, como si el ser humano fuese el centro de todo, y los demás seres sólo tuvieran significado cuando se ordenan a él y a su uso y disfrute. El mayor evento de la evolución es la irrupción de la Vida en todas sus formas, también en la forma humana.

Los biólogos describen las condiciones dentro de las cuales surgió la Vida, a partir de un alto grado de complejidad, y cómo cuando esta complejidad se encuentra fuera de su equilibrio, impera el caos. Pero el caos no es sólo caótico; es también generativo. Genera nuevos órdenes y otras varias complejidades.

Los científicos no saben definir lo que es la Vida. Ella es la emergencia más sorprendente y misteriosa de todo el proceso cosmogénico. La vida humana es un subcapítulo del capítulo de la Vida. Es necesario enfatizar: la centralidad le

corresponde a la Vida. A ella se ordena la infraestructura físico-química y ecológica de la evolución, que permite la inmensa biodiversidad, y dentro de ella, la vida humana, consciente, hablante y cuidante.

La vida es entendida aquí como autoorganización de la materia en altísimo grado de interacción con el universo y con todo lo que la rodea. Cosmólogos y biólogos sostienen la vida como la suprema expresión de la "Fuente Originaria de todo ser", que para nosotros es otro nombre, el más adecuado, para Dios. La Vida no viene de afuera, sino que emerge del núcleo del proceso cosmogónico mismo, al alcanzar un altísimo grado de complejidad.

El premio Nobel de biología, Christian de Duve, llega a afirmar que cuando ocurre tal nivel de complejidad en cualquier lugar del universo, la vida emerge como imperativo cósmico (Polvo vital, 1997). En ese sentido el universo está repleto de vida.

La vida muestra una unidad sagrada en la diversidad de sus manifestaciones, pues todos los seres vivos portan el mismo código genético de base, que son los 20 aminoácidos y las cuatro bases fosfatadas, lo que nos hace a todos los seres vivos parientes unos de otros. Cuidar de la Vida, hacer que se expanda, entrar en comunión y sinergia con toda la cadena de vida y celebrar la Vida: es el sentido de vivir de los seres humanos sobre la Tierra, entendida

también como Gaia, superorganismo vivo, y nosotros, los humanos, como la porción de Gaia que siente, piensa, ama, habla y venera.

La centralidad de la Vida implica en concreto asegurar los medios de vida como: alimentación, salud, trabajo, vivienda, seguridad, educación y ocio. Si extendiésemos a toda la humanidad los avances de la tecnociencia ya alcanzados, tendríamos los medios para que todos gozasen de los servicios de calidad a los que solamente sectores privilegiados y opulentos tienen acceso hoy.

Hasta ahora el saber ha sido entendido como poder al servicio de la acumulación de individuos o de grupos que crean desigualdades, por lo tanto, al servicio del sistema imperante, injusto e inhumano. Postulamos un poder al servicio de la Vida y de los cambios necesarios exigidos por ella. ¿Por qué no hacer una moratoria de la investigación y de la invención, a favor de la democratización del saber y de las invenciones ya acumuladas por la civilización, para beneficiar a los millones y millones desposeídos de la humanidad?

Este es el gran desafio para el siglo XXI. O nos autodestruimos, pues hemos construido ya los medios para ello, o empezamos finalmente a crear una sociedad verdaderamente justa y fraternal, junto con toda la Comunidad de la Vida.

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

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

- Theodore Roosevelt

Evolution Human Beings and Life

By Tomás Núñez, ThD

In the understanding of the great cosmologists who study the processes of cosmogenesis and biogenesis, the culmination of this process does not occur in human beings. The remarkable emergence of Life is in its immense diversity, and that which essentially belongs to it is care. Without the necessary care, no form of Life will subsist.

It is imperative to emphasize that the culmination of the cosmogenic process is not realized in anthropocentrism, as if human beings were the center of everything, and other beings only had meaning when they were ordered to it and its use and enjoyment. The greatest event of evolution is the emergence of Life in all its forms, including the human form.

Biologists describe the conditions under which Life emerged from a high degree of complexity and how chaos reigns when this complexity is out of balance. But chaos is not only chaotic; it is also generative. It generates new orders and various other complexities.

Scientists do not know how to define Life. It is the most surprising and mysterious emergence of the entire cosmogenic process. Human Life is a subchapter of the chapter on Life. It is necessary to emphasize that centrality belongs to Life. The physical-chemical and ecological infrastructure of evolution, which allows for immense biodiversity, is organized around it, and within it, human Life is conscious, speaking, and caring.

Life is understood here as the selforganization of matter in a very high degree of interaction with the universe and everything that surrounds it. Cosmologists and biologists uphold life as the supreme expression of the "Original Source of all being," which for us is another, and more appropriate, name for God. Life does not come from outside but emerges from the core of the cosmogonic process itself, reaching an extremely high degree of complexity. Nobel Prize winner in biology, Christian de Duve, went so far as to affirm that when such a level of complexity occurs anywhere in the universe, life emerges as a cosmic imperative (Vital Dust, 1997). In this sense, the universe is teeming with life.

Life displays a sacred unity in the diversity of its manifestations, as all living beings carry the same basic genetic code, consisting of 20 amino acids and four phosphate bases, which makes us all related to one another. Caring for Life, allowing it to expand, entering into communion and synergy with the entire chain of life, and celebrating Life: this is the meaning of life for human beings on Earth, also understood as Gaia, the living superorganism, and we humans as the portion of Gaia that feels, thinks, loves, speaks, and worships.

The centrality of Life specifically involves ensuring the means of Life, such as food, health, work, housing, security, education, and leisure. If we extended the advances in technoscience already achieved to all of humanity, we would have the means for everyone to enjoy the quality services to which only privileged and opulent sectors have access today.

Until now, knowledge has been understood as power at the service of the accumulation of individuals or groups that create inequalities and, therefore, at the service of the prevailing, unjust, and inhumane system. We postulate a power at the service of Life and the necessary changes it demands. Why not establish a moratorium on research and invention, in favor of the democratization of knowledge and the inventions already accumulated by civilization, to benefit the millions and millions of dispossessed members of humanity?

This is a great challenge for the 21st century. We self-destruct since we have already built the means to do so, or we finally begin to create a truly just and fraternal society with the entire Community of Life.

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Lazarus House Ministries Celebrates Casa Bethesda **Grand Opening With The Community**



The Casa Bethesda opening was made possible by a staggering remodel of the building's interior, with the entire space being reconfigured to support and provide self-sufficiency and independence to the parents and children that will be part of the program.

LAWRENCE, MA — Marking a significant step in its mission to serve families facing the challenges of homelessness and food insecurity, Lazarus House Ministries celebrated the grand opening of Casa Bethesda, a transitional housing program providing 5 units to Guests struggling with homelessness. They were joined by a gathering of community leaders and supporters.

Lazarus House Ministries Executive Director Carmen H. Vega, board of directors members Todd Johnson and Art Durkin and others gathered together to commemorate

this milestone. Local officials stood alongside them, affirming the city and state's commitment to addressing homelessness.

"This is more than a shelter—it is a place of renewal and possibility," said Executive Director Carmen H. Vega. "Casa Bethesda represents the heart of our mission: to provide dignity and respect for families working toward a better future."

The success of Casa Bethesda was made possible through the generosity and dedication of numerous companies, donors and community partners. Lazarus House Ministries extends its deepest gratitude to



all who contributed their time, resources, and passion to bring this project to fruition.

Vega continued, "But we are not done yet! As we continue to grow and meet the needs of the community, we need you now more than ever."

Our Ministry is dedicated to serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness, food insecurity, and clothing needs. We served over 30,000 Guests this past year by providing them access to vital services like supplemental groceries, clothing, personal care items, and shelter if

Beyond these essential needs, we provide advocacy and connect our Guest to resources that can make a lasting difference. Above all, we treat everyone with dignity and respect, empowering those we serve to take steps to move forward with hope. For over 41 years, we have been blessed with loyal donors, partnerships and volunteers like yourselves who enable us to serve everyone who walks through our doors.

We cannot do this without you. Thank You. For more information, please visit https://lazarushouse.org

Community Leaders Voice Optimism for New Whittier Tech High School and Local Cost-Sharing Arrangement

Just-released UMass Donahue Institute study recommends "collaborative shared campus model" in which WT and NECC share space and services

Representatives from Whittier Tech's communities, including mayors, town managers, and city councilors and select board members, have expressed strong interest and optimism for a proposal and new cost-sharing arrangement for a new career training high school in partnership with Northern Essex Community College at its Haverhill campus.

The positive comments, sense of collaboration and project momentum have occurred at the most recent meetings of the WT-NECC Municipal Working Group Feb. 25 at Whittier Tech and March 21 at the community college.

All working group members in attendance agreed that a new building project at NECC cannot happen without a new regional agreement and capital funding formula due to the inclusion of NECC and the state as partners. The Healey Administration has signaled its support of the Shared Campus model provided the member communities can reach a deal on a new capital funding agreement.

Whittier Tech Superintendent Maureen Lynch and NECC President Lane Glenn are leading the meetings with help from special facilitator Dennis DiZoglio, a former Methuen mayor and Merrimack Valley Planning Commission director.

Community leaders and a just-finished study by the UMass Donahue Institute have called for more public outreach and timely communications about ongoing planning and discussions around the evolving proposal. Whittier Tech's initial building project proposal was defeated at a districtwide February 2024 election over objections to the \$445 million price-tag and other concerns.

Formal communications documenting the Municipal Working Group meetings are coming soon and regular project updates are available and will continue to be posted on the Whittier Tech and NECC websites. Project updates also occur at monthly WT Regional School Committee meetings and in-person updates will be provided at local Select Board and City Council meetings upon request.

The District recently released the new 91page UMass Donahue Institute final report and recommendations, which can be found on the project website along with this press release and other updates and background information at: https://www.necc.mass.edu/ about/facilities/whittier-tech/.

The UMass Donahue Institute, a public service, research and economic development arm of the University of Massachusetts, examined and identified potential new funding streams, cost-saving ideas, mixedcampus models, and best practices for partnering academic, career training and workforce development institutions. Its study included interviews with residents and municipal officials in the Whittier Tech District, and analyzed data on the regional workforce, demographics and labor market.

The Donahue report's most significant recommendation is that Whittier Tech and NECC should pursue a "collaborative shared campus model" in which the two schools share space and services.

The WT-NECC partnership was born in the interest of reducing the price-tag of a new Whittier Tech high school while also creating a first-of-its kind career training secondary education school and community college partnership to benefit young people in the district and the region's future workforce needs.

Without a new building or major expansion and/or renovations that have been projected to outpace the cost of a new school, the future of Whittier Tech's 50-yearold high school is in doubt. The facility is in critical need of a new wastewater treatment plant, new electrical and heating infrastructure, and larger, modern technical training spaces.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) in December voted to preliminarily approve a new WT building project. MSBA will help the District plan and pay for a new high school, provided the District meets certain benchmarks and the communities continue to work together and demonstrate their commitment to a new high school and funding agreement. MSBA had committed \$177 million in state funds, 40% of the cost, toward the former unsuccessful proposal.

To proceed into MSBA's 270-day Project Eligibility Period this coming summer, the District must provide by July 1, 2025, a letter signed by the chief administrative official in each of the 11 district communities certifying their commitment to:

- Support the District during the MSBA Feasibility phase to consider a new Whittier Tech high school building project;
- Proceed with understanding that the WT District is responsible for the cost of the new building project Feasibility Study. (More information on those costs will be coming soon but the intention is to use information from the previous WT Feasibility Study, as well as some existing District funds and other potential sources of financial support to limit expenses for the WT communities);
- Amend, as may be needed, the existing 50-year-old WT Regional Agreement between the 11 cities and towns.



Rumbo@Rumbonews.com

Photos by Nick Fortuna

MERRIMACK ATHLETICS

Men's Volleyball Loses Gritty Battle with Sacred Heart

3/21/2025 | Men's Volleyball | Box Score

NORTH ANDOVER, MA- The Merrimack men's volleyball team lost to the Sacred Heart Pioneers at Hammel Court on the evening of March 21st despite a great effort.

Rapid Recap

Score: Merrimack 1, Sacred Heart 3 Records: Merrimack 10-6, Sacred Heart 5-11

How it Happened

The Warriors would find themselves down early at the beginning of the first set. They would

battle back though, as Isaiah Vogel, Ephraim Abhulime, and Logan Whitaker teamed up for a block in front of the net. An emphatic spike from Ephraim Abhulime energized the Warriors and contributed to their comeback attempt. The freshman would then get a service ace not too long after that. Kai Vogel also scored points throughout the set with kills of his own. The Warriors tied the set at 19 late in the frame as Isaiah Vogel heated up and got a service ace and a kill. This streak would force the Pioneers to call a timeout. The Warriors picked up where they left off, diving all over the floor and ultimately getting the emphatic tally. Kai Vogel and Ephraim Abhulime teamed up for a big block to give the Warriors the lead for the time being. Reece Lindstrom then contributed another clutch block to further the Warrior's pursuit. Nick Tidik followed that by redirecting a ball over the net for point 23. Logan Whitaker kept the Warrior's efforts alive with a kill, sending the frame into extra points. Despite a great product from Merrimack, the Pioneers would get the two points necessary to win and claim set 1 by a score of 26-24.

The Warriors started the second set down by a few points again. However, that didn't phase the blue and gold as Logan Whitaker had two massive spikes for the first two Merrimack points. The Warriors found themselves even with the Pioneers in the middle of the set. Isaiah Vogel had a clutch point in the frame, giving the Warriors the lead. The blue and gold went on an unstoppable run with Nick Tidik, Kai Vogel, Ephraim Abhulime, and Logan Whitaker all getting kills in the middle of the set. This push from the Warriors would be too much for the Pioneers, as it forced them to call another timeout. Kai Vogel heated back up late in the set, getting consecutive points for the Warriors. Nick Tidik and Isaiah Vogel got the set-winning points and gave Merrimack the victory in the frame, 25-17.

The third set started off with both teams trading points. Logan Whitaker continued his offensive pursuit by getting the Warriors on the board early in the frame. Kai Vogel got involved halfway through the set, tallying a service ace and a kill. The Pioneers found some momentum and went on a run, forcing the halfway timeout to take place. Kyle Wagner would come in and make the box score with a service ace. Ephraim Abhulime caught fire and had four big spikes in a row, leading the Warrior's offensive efforts. The Warriors would have some defensive highlights as well, with Nick Tidik, Reece Lindstrom, and Kai Vogel teaming up for a block. Another block from



Nick Tidik and Logan Whitaker energized the Warriors and tied the set at 21. Logan Whitaker got hot at the end of the set, going on a points streak and helping the blue and gold go to extra points with the Big Red. Despite another great effort from the Warriors, Sacred Heart would once again get the two points necessary to win and take set 3 by a score of 26-24.

Set four saw a close back-and-forth battle between the two squads in the early goings. The Warriors would battle the best they could, but Sacred Heart found some momentum and ran with it. However, the Warriors would answer soon after. Nick Tidik would help the Warriors with a kill of his own. Logan Whitaker provided again with a kill and a shared block with Ephraim Abhulime. Isaiah Vogel heated up halfway through the frame and got a number of consecutive kills. The blue and gold took advantage of the Pioneer's mistakes, as Big Red had no answer for the low roof in Hammel. As a result, the Warriors got hot and went on to score a consecutive amount of points to be even with Sacred Heart. Isaiah Vogel was a catalyst in this pursuit, getting a clutch spike to further the Warrior's point total. His brother Kai Vogel followed soon after and got a string of kills for the Warriors. The blue and gold battled back to once again send the set to extra points. The 24th point came from a service ace from Isaiah Vogel. Nick Tidik and Kai Vogel kept the Warriors in the game with kills of their own. Despite another amazing effort from the Warriors, they dropped set 4 by a score of 30-28.

Notes and Numbers

- Logan Whitaker had a great game and led in two categories: kills with 14 and service aces with 7
- Reece Lindstrom was an assist machine with 44 assists. He also crossed the 1000 career assists threshold!
- Kyle Standage had the most digs with 16
- Kai Vogel had 13 kills and 3 service aces
- Ephraim Abhulime had 8 kills and led in blocks with 1.5
- Isaiah Vogel had 11 kills, 3 service aces, and 6 digs

Up Next

The Warriors are back home tomorrow, March 22nd when they welcome the Dominican University Chargers to Hammel Court at 5PM. The match will be streamed on the Merrimack Sports Network. Link to watch is on the Merrimack men's volleyball schedule. For continuing coverage, visit merrimackathletics.com . Follow the team on Instagram @merrimackmvb .

Softball Bested by BU in Tuesday Doubleheader

3/25/2025 | Softball | Box Score 1 | Box Score 2

NORTH ANDOVER, MA- The Merrimack softball team came up short in both games in this afternoon's doubleheader with the Boston University Terriers.

Rapid Recap

Game 1 Score: Merrimack 0, BU 7 Game 2 Score: Merrimack 0, BU 8

Game 1 Recap

The Terriers struck first with two runs in the initial frame. However, Merrimack pitcher Anna Gedacht got some key outs to get out of the jam. Ellen Hubbard kept

the momentum going on offense with a base hit to left field to start the bottom of the first inning. Anna Gedacht got right back in the circle in the top of the 2nd and pitched an efficient 1-2-3 inning. Madeline Arvai then poked a single to right field to start the offensive pursuit for the Warriors. Alex Miller followed with a disciplined at-bat that resulted in a walk. In the third inning, the blue and gold turned an electric double play with Sofia Palyan getting the runner out at home and Gabby Kaduson throwing down to third base to get another runner out. The Warriors had some more action in the bottom of the 3rd inning as Sydney Samuel was hit by a pitch and Gabby Kaduson reached on a fielder's choice. Although the Warriors put together some quality hits and worked some walks, they were ultimately outscored by BU in game 1 of the doubleheader.

Game 2 Recap

Ellen Hubbard was the catalyst for the offense in the first inning, getting a double in the bottom of the 1st inning. Sofia Palyan had an efficient 2nd inning in the circle getting three outs on four at-vats. The Warriors picked up their offensive pursuit in the bottom of the 2nd inning as Caity Lemay poked a single to right field and Emma Prahin reached on a fielder's choice. Sofia Palyan picked up where she left off in the circle and had another inning where she got three outs in four at-bats. The Warriors took advantage of some errors by the Terriers, as Hannah Scarano and Madeline Arvai were able to reach first



base as a result. The Warriors went to the bullpen in the fourth inning and brought in Sarah Shurtleff, who went on to get a 1-2-3 inning. The blue and gold got some offense going in the bottom of the 5th with a walk by Sydney Shinopulos, a reach via fielder's choice by Hannah Scarano, and another single by Ellen Hubbard. Although the Warriors strung together a great comeback attempt, it was halted by the Terriers.

Game 1 Notes and Numbers

- Anna Gedacht pitched five innings and got 1 strikeout, 5 flyouts, and 8 groundouts.
- Emma Prahin was the relief pitcher and only gave up 1 hit.
- Ellen Hubbard was 1 for 3 with a single.
- Madeline Arvai was 1 for 2 with a single.

Game 2 Notes and Numbers

- Ellen Hubbard was 2 for 3.
- Caity Lemay was 1 for 1.
- Sofia Palyan and Sarah Shurtleff shared the pitching duties and had efficient innings.

Up Next

The Warriors return home this weekend when they welcome the Saint Peter's University Peacocks to the Warrior Softball Diamond at Martone-Mejail Field. The road doubleheader with UMass Lowell has been moved to April 16th. The games will be streamed on the Merrimack Sports Network. The links to watch are on the Merrimack softball schedule. For continuing coverage, visit merrimackathletics.com . Follow the Merrimack softball team on Instagram and Twitter @merrimacksb.

Men's Volleyball Sweeps STAC in Last Home Match of 2025

3/28/2025 | Men's Volleyball | Box Score

NORTH ANDOVER, MA- The Merrimack men's volleyball team was victorious against the St. Thomas Aquinas Spartans in their last home match of 2025 on Friday night. The Warriors reached an impressive milestone as they solidified a 8-1 home record in their third season in existence.

Rapid Recap

Score: Merrimack 3, STAC 0
Records: Merrimack 12-6, STAC 11-9



How it Happened

The Warriors fell behind early in the

(Cont. on page 9)

Men's Volleyball Sweeps STAC... (Cont. from page 8)

first set. However, they battled back to be even with the Spartans. Ephraim Abhulime and the brother duo of Isaiah Vogel and Kai Vogel had clutch kills in the frame to keep the Warriors within striking distance. The Warriors hung with the Spartans going into the later part of the set. Logan Whitaker got hot and provided some much needed points for the Warriors. It would be Isaiah Vogel getting the set-deciding point and getting Merrimack the 25-23 set victory.

The second set saw the Warriors have an early deficit again. However, they were able to fight back with kills from Logan Whitaker and Isaiah Vogel. The Warriors got some more points in the middle of the frame from Ephraim Abhulime and Nick Tidik that helped their comeback. Logan Whitaker got hot in the middle of the set again to add to the Merrimack tally. It would be Ephraim Abhulime teaming up with the dynamic duo of Isaiah Vogel and Kai Vogel to get more kills at the end of the set and help Merrimack get a set 2 victory by a score of 25-22.

The third set was more of a back-andforth tilt. Nick Tidik and Ephraim Abhulime got the Warriors rolling in the early goings of the frame. Logan Whitaker heated up again halfway through the set to give the Warriors some much needed points. Kai Vogel and Isaiah Vogel teamed up with the

set on the line to give the blue and gold some insurance. It would be Ephraim Abhulime getting the kill at the end of the set that gave Merrimack the set 3 victory, 25-22.

Notes and Numbers

- Logan Whitaker led in kills with 10
- Ephraim Abhulime had the second most kills with 9 kills. He also shared a block.
- Kai Vogel had 7 kills, 3 digs, and a service ace.
- Isaiah Vogel had 8 kills, 3 assists and a
- Kyle Standage led the digs category with 8 digs.
- Nick Tidik had the most blocks with 1.5
- Reece Lindstrom once again commanded the assists category with 30 assists. He also had 2 service aces and a

Up Next

The Warriors hit the road to take on the Springfield College Pride at 7pm on April 9th. The game will be streamed on FloCollege. For continuing coverage of Merrimack men's volleyball, visit Merrimackathletics.com . Follow the team on Instagram @merrimackmvb.

Joe Gallo... (Cont. from page 1)

brand to new audiences. Joe's family has become an integral part of the Merrimack community and we look forward to many more successful years with them."

"Megan and I are extremely excited to be able to continue to build our lives at Merrimack," Coach Gallo said. "Our school and our basketball program continue to transform under the leadership of Dr. Hopey and there is still so much more to accomplish. I want to thank Dr. Hopey and Fr. Bryan for their support and belief in me. There is no place like home."

"Joe Gallo is Merrimack College men's basketball," Kerns said. "First as a player and now as head coach, Joe has been instrumental in the program's rise to national prominence. We are grateful Joe, his wife Megan, and sons Joey and Trey will continue to be part of the Warrior family and we look forward to building on the success of the men's basketball program and Merrimack Athletics."

A 2004 graduate of Merrimack College, Gallo is one of the most successful coaches to transition to the Division I level in NCAA history. Since Merrimack Athletics moved to the highest level of collegiate athletics in 2019-20, the men's basketball program has won a conference championship and three regular season championships, and boasts an overall record of 100 wins and 79 losses.

Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year Awards.

The 2024-25 season saw Merrimack's first in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC). Gallo guided

Merrimack to a second seed in the 2025 MAAC Men's Basketball Championship and a spot in the tournament semifinals. Merrimack competed in the Northeast Conference for its first five years in Division I. During that time, Gallo and the Warriors won three Northeast Conference regularseason titles (2019-20, 22-23, 23-24), as well as a Northeast Conference tournament championship (22-23).

At the Division II level, Gallo completed a run of three NCAA Tournament appearances in three years. He also snapped a 19-year conference championship drought when he guided the program to the 2018-19 Northeast-10 Conference Championship.

Before coming back to North Andover in 2016, Gallo had coaching stops at Dartmouth College (2010-12) and Robert Morris University (2012-16). He got his coaching start as a Merrimack assistant from 2005-09.

ABOUT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

One of only two Catholic Augustinian colleges in the United States, Merrimack College is a rising institution with a decadelong trajectory of growth and innovation. Merrimack is a selective, research-oriented, master's comprehensive institution with approximately 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students from 43 states and 42 Under Gallo's tutelage at the Division I countries, comprising schools of arts and level, several Warriors have won Conference sciences, engineering and computational sciences, nursing and health sciences, education and social policy, and business. The college's 220-acre campus is just north of Boston in North Andover, Mass.

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Softball Captures Series-Deciding Win Over Saint Peter's



3/30/2025 | Softball

NORTH ANDOVER, MA- The Merrimack softball team was victorious in the seriesdeciding game with the Saint Peter's University Peacocks on Sunday, March 30th at the Warrior Softball Diamond at Martone-Mejail Field. They move to 4-2 in MAAC conference play.

Rapid Recap

Score: Merrimack 6, Saint Peter's 4 Records: Merrimack 6-15, Saint Peter's

How it Happened

The Warriors got rolling early with Anna Gedacht getting three outs in four at bats in the top of the first. Ellen Hubbard reached on a walk to start the bottom half of the frame. Abby Choquette led off the bottom of the 2nd with a double that got past the center fielder. Alex Miller bunted to move Abby Choquette over to third base. Madison Metcalf stepped up and hit a towering home run to left field to give the Warriors a 2-1 lead. The Warriors kept the offense going with Eva Issitt reaching on an infield hit and Ellen Hubbard drilling a single to left field. Anna Gedacht got right back in the circle in the top of the 4th and dealt a 1-2-3 inning. Madison Metcalf kept her hitting streak alive with a dribbler to the left side in the bottom half of the inning. Sofia Palyan then reached on a fielder's choice. Anna Gedacht fielded the first two outs of the top of the 5th by herself. Ellen Hubbard had a great at bat in the bottom of the 5th where she fouled off a slew of pitches and then sliced a double down the left field line. Thiana Brito

followed that by singling and advancing to second. Gabby Kaduson grounded out but made Ellen Hubbard score for an RBI. Madeline Arvai came up and lined a ball to second base to plate Thiana Brito and tie the game at 4. Sofia Palyan kept the offense rolling in the bottom of the 6th by ripping a single up the middle. Ellen Hubbard ripped a double up the middle to score the pinch runner Sam Russalesi. Thiana Brito put a charge into one and ripped a double that hit the bottom of the wall and was very close to being a home run. Gabby Kaduson then lined a single to right field to move over Thiana Brito. Emma Prahin came in and got the last six outs to secure the victory for the Warriors, 6-4.

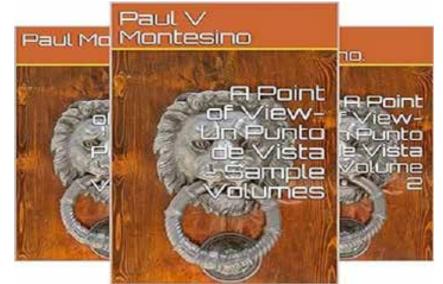
Notes and Numbers

- Ellen Hubbard was 3 for 3 with a plethora of clutch hits including the goahead tally.
- Madison Metcalf was 2 for 3 with a home run.
- Thiana Brito was 2 for 4 with a single and a double.
- Anna Gedacht and Emma Prahin shared the pitching duties and secured a number of key outs.

Up Next

The Warriors travel to Connecticut to play the Fairfield University Stags on Tuesday, April 1st. It will be a doubleheader at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. For continuing coverage, visit Merrimackathletics.com . Follow Merrimack softball on Instagram and Twitter @merrimacksb.

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Sports with Northern Essex Community College

By Dan Blair, Director of Athletics

Three hit national qualifying marks as track and field opens season

Manchester, NH (March 28, 2025) – The Northern Essex men's and women's track and field teams opened their spring campaign on Friday at the SNHU Spring Invitational and saw three individuals hit national meet qualifying standards across four events.

Maci Abbatessa (Danvers) led the Knights on Friday as she picked up national qualifying marks in both the discus and shot put. She placed 7th in the discuss with a throw of 29.4 meters and finished 9th in the shot put with a toss of 9.93 meters. She was the highest finishing two year college participant in both events.

Derick Pierre Paul (Lawrence) picked up a national qualifying height in the high jump as he cleared 1.8 meters to place eighth in the meet.

Edwin SamMbaka (Paris, FR) picked up the final national qualifying performance of the meet as he placed second in his heat of the 200 meter dash with a time of 23.72 to hit the national mark in his debut on the track.

The Knights saw several other strong performances to open the season as Karl Wolfgang (Douala, CM) was the top two year finished in both the men's shot put and discus with mark of 10.82 meters and 31.73 respectively.

Full meet results available are available are

The Knights will return to the track next Saturday when they travel to the Jonathan Tyman Invitational at Gordon College.

Knights sweep Bunker Hill to open up Region 21 play

Haverhill, MA (March 28, 2025) – The Northern Essex Community College baseball team ran their win streak to eight games on Friday with a conference opening double header sweep of Bunker Hill by scores of 19-3 and 15-2. The Knights improve to 12-7 overall.

In game one Jake Kelleher (Haverhill) went the distance as he struck out 10 while walking just one and allowing three runs (two earned) on six hits. He got plenty of support from the Knights bats as they pounded out 19 game one hits and plated nine runs in the bottom of the first inning.

Jaren Megan (Fairhaven) led the offense in game one as he had a game high four hits, all of the extra base variety with three doubles and a home run, to go along with four RBIs and four runs scored.

Five other Knights recorded a multi-hit game one led by Manny Castro (Manchester, NH) and Brooks Keefe (Marblehead) with

three hits each while, Jake Yngber (Miami, FL) Mike Fabiano (Reading) and Thomas Fratto (Reading) recoded two hit each.

In game two Michael Giessler (Peabody) struck out six in four innings of work, allowing two runs on two hits. Eric Bridges (Saugus) finished off the game without allowing a hit and striking out one. The Knights outhit the Bulldogs nine to two in the second game as Megan, Fabiano and Raymond Rojas (Lawrence) recorded multi-hit games.

NECC again put the game out of reach earlier as they plated six first run innings.

Rojas, Anthony Marino (Lynn) and Luke Martinho (Lynnfield) each recorded extra base hits in the game two victory.

Saturday's scheduled game three of the series has been postponed and weather permitting will be played on Monday at Bunker Hill.

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

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

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LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Stuart's Automotive, Inc. 97 Tanner Street, Lowell, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell or junk the following vehicle on or after April 14, 2025 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

1. 2017 Subaru WRX VIN: JF1VA1L63H9835838

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

Signed Kevin Stuart Stuart's Automotive 3/22, 4/1, 4/8

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 April 21, 2025 starting at 10:00 am by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

1. 1997 Chrysler LHS VIN: 2C3HC56F1VH714133

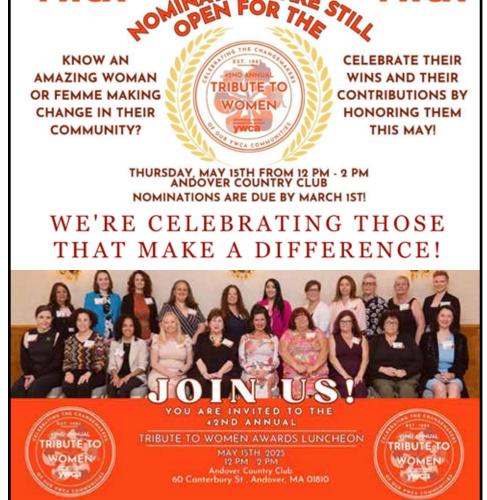
Vehicle is being stored at Stuart's Automotive and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed Kevin Stuart Stuart's Automotive 4/1, 4/8, 4/15

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"Most of us probably feel we couldn't be free without newspapers, and that is the real reason we want newspapers to be free."

Edward R. Murrow





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WHEN? April 24, 2026 5:00 PM - P00 PM





This is the year to put your stamp (well, sticker) on the face of elections in the City of Haverhill!

Submissions for the 2025 I Voted! Sticker Contest will be accepted from until May 16, 2025.

The winning design will be featured on our I Voted! sticker during the 2025 municipal elections. It is a great way to learn about civic esponsibility and showcase local pride! The contest is open to students in grades K-12, who are residents of Haverhill, MA.

> Submit your design via email at cityclerk@haverhillma.gov or in person in Room 118 of City Hall.

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

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

— Indira Gandhi



https://www.pw4c.org/youth-at-riskconference

25th Annual YAR Conference



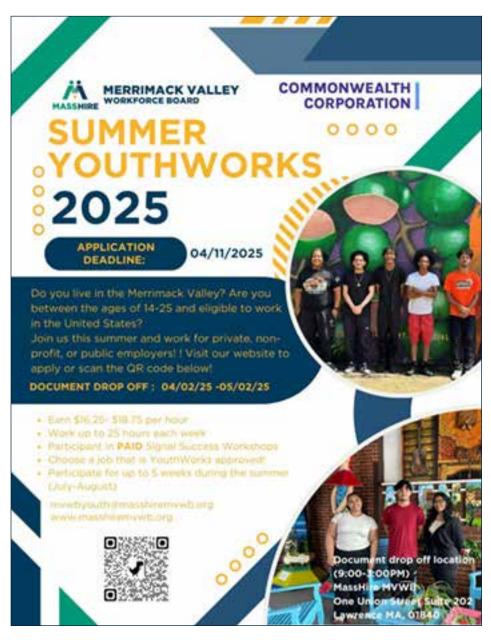
Endicott College May 28, 2025 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

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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.

"A newspaper is not just for reporting the news as it is, but to make people mad enough to do something about it."

"Un periódico no sólo sirve para informar las noticias tal como son, sino para enfadar a la gente lo suficiente como para que haga algo al respecto".

Mark Twain



