

Alcalde de Massachusetts acusado de fraude en préstamos por la pandemia y lavado de dinero

(Read it in English on page 2)

Viernes, 14 de agosto de 2026
Fiscalía de los EE. UU., Distrito de Massachusetts

BOSTON – El alcalde de Lawrence, Massachusetts, fue arrestado y acusado hoy de obtener fraudulentamente más de 1,5 millones de dólares en préstamos para pequeñas empresas durante la pandemia de COVID-19 y de utilizar los fondos para financiar su cuenta de campaña, pagar impuestos personales y liquidar más de 880.000 dólares en hipotecas de alto interés y capital privado (*hard-money mortgages*) que gravaban varias propiedades suyas en Lawrence.

Brian DePeña, de 61 años, está acusado de un cargo de fraude electrónico y un cargo de lavado de dinero. DePeña comparecerá inicialmente ante un tribunal federal en Boston más tarde el día de hoy. DePeña fue elegido alcalde de Lawrence en noviembre de 2021 y reelegido en noviembre de 2025. Anteriormente, formó parte del Concejo Municipal de Lawrence desde 2016 hasta 2021.

"El alcalde DePeña fue elegido para ser un líder de la ciudad de Lawrence. Sus electores lo admiraban y confiaban en él, pero traicionó esa confianza mediante su presunta corrupción y sus mentiras", declaró la fiscal federal Leah B. Foley. "El arresto de hoy es un ejemplo más de nuestra determinación de erradicar el fraude cometido por cualquier persona, incluidos los funcionarios públicos, y de exigir responsabilidades a los cargos electos".

"El arresto de hoy pone de relieve el compromiso continuo de la División de Investigación Criminal del IRS (IRS-CI) de proteger los programas de ayuda de emergencia y exigir responsabilidades a quienes abusan de ellos", afirmó Thomas Demeo, agente especial a cargo de la oficina de campo de Boston de la División de Investigación Criminal del Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS). "Los fondos de la Ley CARES se crearon para ayudar a las pequeñas empresas a sobrevivir a una crisis nacional sin precedentes, no para financiar deudas

(Cont. en la página 4)



El alcalde de Lawrence Brian DePeña fue arrestado en su hogar por agentes del FBI el viernes, 14 de agosto con múltiples cargos criminales.

Kinetic Smiles Inc.



El segundo evento anual contó con la participación de 89 ciclistas y más de 200 asistentes, entre ellos Jeudy Liranzo, reconocido ciclista y atleta de la República Dominicana. Todos los fondos recaudados a través del Kinetic Ride se destinarán directamente a financiar programas gratuitos de bienestar para jóvenes en todo el Valle de Merrimack.

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The second annual event welcomed 89 cyclists and more than 200 attendees, including Jeudy Liranzo, a renowned cyclist and athlete from the Dominican Republic. All proceeds raised through the Kinetic Ride will directly support free wellness programming for young people across the Merrimack Valley.

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Help Deliver More Than a Meal: Lowell & Billerica Volunteer Drivers Needed



AgeSpan is currently looking for volunteer drivers in Lowell and Billerica to help deliver meals to older adults in our community. Whether you have a few hours to give each week or want to make a difference when your schedule allows, your time can help ensure older adults receive the meals and connections they need. Visit their website: <https://agespan.org/volunteer/meals-on-wheels/>

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Massachusetts Mayor Charged with Pandemic Loan Fraud and Money Laundering

Friday, August 14, 2026

U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Massachusetts

BOSTON – The Mayor of Lawrence, Mass. was arrested and charged today with fraudulently obtaining over \$1.5 million in COVID small-business loans and using the proceeds to fund his campaign account, pay personal taxes, and pay off over \$880,000 in high-interest, hard-money mortgages that encumbered various properties he owned in Lawrence.

Brian Depena, 61, is charged with one count of wire fraud and one count of money laundering. Depena will make an initial appearance in federal court in Boston later today. Depena was elected as Mayor of Lawrence in November 2021 and was reelected in November 2025. He previously served on the Lawrence City Council from 2016 until 2021.

“Mayor DePena was elected to be a leader for the City of Lawrence. He was looked up to and trusted by his constituents, but he betrayed that trust through his alleged corruption and lies,” said United States Attorney Leah B. Foley. “Today’s arrest is just another example of our determination to root out fraud by anyone, even public officials and holding elected officials accountable.”

“Today’s arrest highlights IRS CI’s continued commitment to safeguarding emergency relief programs and holding accountable those who abuse them,” said Thomas Demeo, Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, Boston Field Office. “CARES Act funds were created to help small businesses survive an unprecedented national crisis — not to bankroll personal debts, political ambitions, or real estate ventures. IRS Criminal Investigation remains committed to protecting taxpayer dollars, pursuing those who exploit federal relief funds, and ensuring that financial integrity is upheld at every step.”

“Today, the FBI arrested Mayor Brian Depena for allegedly cashing in on a public health crisis and blatantly defrauding a government program meant to keep businesses afloat during the pandemic. It’s alleged the Mayor fraudulently obtained over \$1.5 million in small business loans which he then used as his own slush fund to pay his personal taxes, fund his mayoral campaign, and pay off \$883,000 in high-interest mortgages on several properties he owned. This was emergency financial assistance meant to be a safety net for struggling businesses, not Mr. Depena’s own personal ATM,” said Ted E. Docks, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI’s Boston Division. “When elected officials misuse federal funds for personal gain, they’re breaking the trust of their constituents – and breaking the

law. Together, with our partners, the FBI will continue to doggedly pursue anyone who defrauds the federal government. You’ll be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, and that ‘easy money’ won’t seem so easy after all.”

According to the charging documents, in 2020 and 2021, Depena applied for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (“EIDL”) for Tenares Tire Services Inc., a tire sales and automotive services business he owned in Lawrence. During COVID, the U.S. Small Business Administration offered taxpayer-funded EIDLs to eligible small businesses experiencing substantial financial disruptions due to the pandemic. The interest rate on EIDLs was 3.75%, and the loan use was limited. A business could only use EIDL proceeds as working capital to alleviate economic injury caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Working capital did not include funding a political campaign, paying personal taxes, or paying off mortgages.

Depena allegedly caused Tenares Tire to apply for and obtain an EIDL in the amount of \$150,000 in June 2020 and then used the majority of those funds as working capital for the business. However, according to the charging documents, Depena needed cash by early 2021. It is alleged that his mayoral campaign was struggling to pay bills, he owed the IRS for back taxes and he owed almost \$900,000 to two private, hard money lenders who were charging Depena 12% and 8% interest – significantly more than the EIDL rate of 3.75% – on loans that encumbered various properties Depena owned in Lawrence.

In April 2021, Depena allegedly caused a request for an increase of the Tenares Tire EIDL. On July 14, 2021, the SBA approved an increase of the loan by \$350,000, bringing the total Tenares Tire EIDL to \$500,000. However, the SBA did not release the funds for another month. While waiting, Depena allegedly sent the following texts (originally in Spanish, here translated to English) to his accountant and financial advisor, who had been assisting Depena with the EIDL application and modification:

July 22, 2021: Brother, call me, I’ in trouble. I don’t want to pressure you, but I don’t have time to wait for this loan. I’m in your hands.

July 25, 2021: Brother, I need your help with this loan. I’ve been trying to reach you all week and haven’t been able to get it resolved. I know I’m bothering you a lot, but I have no other option. Only you can give me what I need.

July 28, 2021: Brother call me.

According to the charging documents, the \$350,000 in EIDL funds were electronically deposited into the Tenares Tire bank account on Aug. 16, 2021. The pre-deposit balance in the account was only \$20.23. Shortly thereafter, Depena allegedly



paid \$85,000 of the EIDL funds to the IRS to pay off personal tax debts. He also allegedly transferred \$120,000 of the EIDL funds to a personal account and used that money to write checks totaling \$90,000 to “The Committee to Elect Brian Depena.” It is alleged that these checks were deposited in the Depena mayoral campaign account, and characterized as loans to the campaign, in September and October 2021.

While the hard money, high-interest loans were still outstanding, and while his campaign continued to struggle financially, Depena allegedly caused a request for a second EIDL modification in October 2021. On Oct. 27, 2021, the SBA approved a modification that would increase the loan by \$1,154,400, bringing the total Tenares Tire EIDL to \$1,654,400.

On Nov. 30, 2021, \$1,154,188 in EIDL funds were electronically deposited in the Tenares Tire account and Depena allegedly transferred the entire amount to one of his personal accounts – which had a balance of only \$1,401 – the same day. It is alleged that Depena allegedly used \$42,112.96 of the EIDL funds for his mayoral campaign, writing checks to the campaign for \$10,000 and \$32,112.96. The first check was deposited in the campaign account on Dec. 2, 2021, when the account allegedly had been overdrawn for approximately 20 days.

Finally, it is alleged that Depena used \$883,293 of the EIDL funds to pay off his debts to the hard money lenders. On Dec. 9, 2021, Depena bought a \$538,109.03 treasurer’s check and used it to pay off one of the loans. On Dec. 18, 2021, he bought a \$345,184.13 treasurer’s check and used it to pay off the other loan.

According to the charging documents, as of Aug. 5, 2026, Depena had made only 16 payments on the Tenares Tire EIDL. The outstanding principal balance was approximately \$1,654,420.

The charges of wire fraud each provide for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, up to three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. The charges of money laundering each provide for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised

release and a fine of \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

United States Attorney Leah B. Foley; Ted E. Docks, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division; Tom Demeo, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service’s Criminal Investigation in Boston; and Jeffrey S. Shapiro, Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts made the announcement today. Valuable assistance was provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kristina E. Barclay and Christine Wichers of the Public Corruption Unit are prosecuting the case.

On March 26, 2026, United States Attorney Leah B. Foley announced the creation of the Benefit & Voter Fraud Team, a district-wide initiative established in response to the rampant fraud being uncovered across Massachusetts. The Team is led by two senior federal prosecutors serving as Fraud Coordinators, whose mission it is to aggressively investigate and prosecute misuse of taxpayer-funded benefits in Massachusetts.

Members of the public are encouraged to report suspected benefit fraud in Massachusetts by calling 1-855-SCAM-MA-1 (855-722-6621).

On April 7, 2026, the Department of Justice announced the creation of the National Fraud Enforcement Division. The Fraud Division is investigating and prosecuting those who commit fraud against the American people. The Department’s work to combat fraud supports President Trump’s Task Force to Eliminate Fraud, a whole-of-government effort chaired by Vice President J.D. Vance to eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse within Federal benefit programs.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in the court of law.

Desde Mi Esquina

POR DALIA DÍAZ
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Los desafíos del alcalde Brian DePeña

De vez en cuando, los sábados, Brian visita mi casa al regresar del servicio religioso, algo que hizo también esta semana. Tuvimos la oportunidad de conversar un rato y se le vio como siempre.

Él confía en que se han cometido errores y en que estos serán subsanados. "El FBI ha recopilado una cantidad considerable de información que ahora debe esclarecerse", explicó. "Es mi deber reunir la información pertinente para ellos".

Todas las partes involucradas mostraron respeto y expusieron sus explicaciones de buena fe, lo que sugiere una perspectiva positiva hacia una resolución favorable. No se mencionaron fechas concretas para futuras comparecencias ante el tribunal, y él podrá viajar para asistir a una boda el próximo mes.

El alcalde DePeña mantiene la confianza en que las leyes de este país le permitirán superar esta situación; es fundamental recordar que toda persona se considera inocente hasta que se demuestre su culpabilidad.

¿Estamos perdiendo nuestra humanidad?

Como ocurre en cualquier periodo electoral en este país, el tema del aborto se convierte en un punto de discordia y en un factor decisivo para muchas personas a la hora de votar por un candidato que lo respalda, como si fuera el único asunto que afecta a la sociedad. Existen muchos males entre nosotros y dependemos de la sabiduría de nuestros líderes para resolverlos; sin embargo, quien está a favor de acabar con la vida de un bebé podría no tener idea de cómo reaccionar ante una emergencia.

He dedicado más de medio siglo a defender los derechos de la mujer y sigo creyendo que debemos preguntarnos en qué punto entran en juego los derechos del niño no nacido.

Este ha sido un tema importante para mí desde principios de la década de 1970. He escrito extensamente sobre los derechos de la mujer, incluido el derecho al aborto, incluso en la época en que era casi imposible acceder a él. Existían muchas razones por las que resultaba necesario —a veces por la salud de la madre, cuando el embarazo suponía un riesgo para su vida, o por otros factores que afectaban al bebé— y muchas mujeres perdían la vida en el proceso. Otra razón válida es el caso de violación.

En 1972 escribí un folleto explicando por qué era imperativo aprobar la Enmienda de Igualdad de Derechos; el plazo de 20 años para incorporarla a la Constitución expiró y nuestros legisladores nunca volvieron a mencionarla. Así de firmes eran mis convicciones sobre estos temas.

La semana pasada, se vio a la gobernadora Maura Healey con un grupo de mujeres jóvenes, celebrando la promulgación de una ley que permite el aborto sin límite de tiempo de gestación. Ya no estamos sujetos a la restricción legal anterior de 24 semanas. La nueva ley no establece límites gestacionales y permite a los médicos realizar un aborto en cualquier momento del embarazo, basándose en su criterio profesional.

En términos prácticos, esto significa que la ley de Massachusetts ya no establece un momento del embarazo —ni siquiera en los últimos días previos al parto— a partir del cual el aborto esté categóricamente prohibido.

Nuestra gobernadora Healey ha estado en las noticias toda la semana, pero sabemos que le encanta atribuirse el mérito de todo lo que puede y no reconoce el de los demás. Recordemos que ella solo firmó la medida, pero esta fue debatida apresuradamente durante dos semanas por los legisladores —sin ninguna participación pública— y luego enviada a la gobernadora para el acto público y la firma.

Observemos cómo votó nuestra delegación de Lawrence al respecto: Francisco Paulino fue el único que se opuso. Personas religiosas de todas partes han manifestado su descontento con la nueva ley; desde líderes religiosos locales hasta obispos católicos de todo el estado, algunos de los cuales la califican de bárbara.

Coincido en que estamos perdiendo nuestra humanidad, ya que existen tantas formas de prevenir un embarazo no deseado que no puedo justificar esta nueva ley.

El representante estatal Jeffrey Turco, uno de los legisladores que se opusieron al proyecto de ley, fue más directo: afirmó que la ley permite el aborto "en cualquier momento, sin restricciones y, en muchos casos, financiado con fondos públicos hasta el momento del nacimiento".

Sin embargo, existe una pregunta que creo que los residentes de Massachusetts tienen todo el derecho a plantear. La ley de Massachusetts reconoce que acabar con la vida de un feto viable puede constituir homicidio bajo ciertas circunstancias. No obstante, el aborto se rige por un marco jurídico completamente distinto. Entiendo que se trata de situaciones legalmente diferentes y no sugiero lo contrario. Pero el contraste plantea una profunda cuestión moral: ¿cómo podemos reconocer como homicidio la pérdida de la vida de un niño no nacido viable cuando otra persona causa su muerte, mientras que nuestra ley permite la interrupción intencionada de esa vida en desarrollo en un entorno médico?

From My Corner

BY DALIA DÍAZ
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Mayor Brian DePeña's Challenges

Occasionally on Saturdays, Brian visits my home on his way back from church service, which he did this week as well. We had the opportunity to converse for a while, and he appeared to be his usual self.

He is confident that errors have been made and that they will be rectified. "The FBI has amassed a significant amount of information that now needs to be clarified," he explained. "It is my duty to collect the appropriate information for them."

Everyone involved demonstrated respect and conveyed their explanations with a sense of good faith, indicating a positive outlook towards a favorable outcome. There were no specified future dates for appearances before the court mentioned, and he will be able to travel for a wedding next month.

Mayor DePeña remains confident that the laws in this country will see him through this situation, and it is essential to remember that everyone is considered innocent until proven guilty.

Are We Losing Our Humanity?

Like any election period in this country, the abortion subject becomes a bone of contention and deciding factor for many people voting for a specific candidate supporting it, as if that is the only topic affecting society. There are many ills among us, we depend on the wisdom of our leaders to solve them and the person who favors killing a baby may not have any idea as to how to react when facing emergencies.

I have spent more than half a century defending women's rights, and I still believe we need to ask where the rights of the unborn child enter the equation.

Since the early 70s that has been an important topic for me. I have written extensively about women's rights, including the right to abortion and that was during the days when it was nearly impossible to get one. There have been many reasons for which if was necessary, sometimes for the mother's health at that time that may be a detriment to her life or other factors affecting the baby and many women died in the process. Another valid reason is in case of rape.

In 1972 I wrote a booklet explaining why it was imperative to approve the Equal Rights Amendment; the 20-year window to make it part of the Constitution went by and our legislators never mentioned it again. That's how strongly I felt about those issues.

Last week, Governor Maura Healey was seen with a group of young women, happy to sign into law the passing of the unlimited gestation period to have an abortion. We are no longer limited by the previous 24-week statutory restriction. The new law contains no gestational limit and permits a physician to perform an abortion at any point in pregnancy based on the physician's professional judgment.

In practical terms, that means Massachusetts law no longer establishes a point during pregnancy—including the final days before birth—after which an abortion is categorically prohibited."

Our governor Healey has been on the news all week, but we know that she loves taking credit for anything she can and doesn't give credit to others. Let's remember that she only signed it, but this was debated in a rush for two weeks by the legislators without any public input and then sent to the governor for the show and signature.

Check how our Lawrence delegation voted on this: Francisco Paulino was the only one refusing it. Religious people from everywhere have shown displeasure with the new law; from local religious leaders to Catholic bishops from all over the Commonwealth, some saying it's barbaric.

I agree that we are losing our humanity because there are so many ways to prevent an unwanted pregnancy that I cannot justify this new law.

State Rep. Jeffrey Turco, one of the legislators who opposed the bill, put it more bluntly: he said the law allows abortion "anytime, unrestricted, and in many cases, publicly funded until the moment of birth."

There is, however, a question that I believe Massachusetts residents have every right to ask. Massachusetts law recognizes that the killing of a viable fetus can, under certain circumstances, constitute homicide. Yet abortion is governed by an entirely different legal framework. I understand that these are legally distinct situations, and I am not suggesting otherwise. But the contrast raises a profound moral question: how can we recognize the loss of a viable unborn child's life as a homicide when someone else causes its death, while our law permits the intentional termination of that developing life in a medical setting?

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

CICERO

Alcalde Brian DePeña arrestado por el FBI

(Continúa de la página 1)

personales, ambiciones políticas o proyectos inmobiliarios. La División de Investigación Criminal del IRS mantiene su compromiso de proteger el dinero de los contribuyentes, perseguir a quienes explotan los fondos federales de ayuda y garantizar que se mantenga la integridad financiera en todo momento".

"Hoy, el FBI arrestó al alcalde Brian DePeña por presuntamente sacar provecho de una crisis de salud pública y defraudar descaradamente un programa gubernamental destinado a mantener a flote a las empresas durante la pandemia. Se alega que el alcalde obtuvo fraudulentamente más de 1,5 millones de dólares en préstamos para pequeñas empresas, los cuales utilizó luego como un fondo personal para pagar sus impuestos particulares, financiar su campaña a la alcaldía y liquidar 883.000 dólares en hipotecas de alto interés sobre varias de sus propiedades. Se trataba de asistencia financiera de emergencia concebida como una red de seguridad para empresas en dificultades, no como un cajero automático personal para el Sr. DePeña", declaró Ted E. Docks, agente especial a cargo de la División de Boston del FBI. "Cuando los funcionarios electos hacen un uso indebido de fondos federales para beneficio personal, traicionan la confianza de sus electores y violan la ley. Junto con nuestros socios, el FBI seguirá persiguiendo con determinación a cualquiera que defraude al gobierno federal. Serán procesados con todo el peso de la ley, y ese 'dinero fácil' no parecerá tan fácil después de todo".

Según los documentos de la acusación, en 2020 y 2021, DePeña solicitó Préstamos por Desastre por Daños Económicos (EIDL, por sus siglas en inglés) para Tenares Tire Services Inc., una empresa de venta de neumáticos y servicios automotrices de su propiedad en Lawrence. Durante la pandemia de COVID, la Administración de Pequeñas Empresas de EE. UU. (SBA) ofreció préstamos EIDL, financiados por los contribuyentes, a pequeñas empresas elegibles que sufrían graves trastornos financieros debido a la pandemia. La tasa de interés de los EIDL era del 3,75 % y el uso de los fondos estaba restringido. Una empresa solo podía utilizar los fondos del EIDL como capital de trabajo para mitigar los daños económicos causados por la pandemia de COVID-19. El capital de trabajo no incluía financiar una campaña política, pagar impuestos personales ni liquidar hipotecas.

Presuntamente, DePeña hizo que Tenares Tire solicitara y obtuviera un préstamo EIDL por valor de 150.000 dólares en junio de 2020 y, posteriormente, utilizó la mayor parte de esos fondos como capital de trabajo para la empresa. Sin embargo, según los documentos de la acusación, DePeña

necesitaba efectivo a principios de 2021. Se alega que su campaña para la alcaldía tenía dificultades para pagar facturas, que debía impuestos atrasados al IRS y que adeudaba casi 900.000 dólares a dos prestamistas privados de capital privado (hard money lenders); estos le cobraban intereses del 12% y el 8% —una cifra significativamente superior a la tasa del 3,75% del programa EIDL— por préstamos que gravaban varias propiedades de las que DePeña era dueño en Lawrence.

En abril de 2021, Depena presuntamente tramitó una solicitud para aumentar el préstamo EIDL de Tenares Tire. El 14 de julio de 2021, la SBA aprobó un incremento de 350.000 dólares en el préstamo, elevando el total del EIDL de Tenares Tire a 500.000 dólares. No obstante, la SBA no desembolsó los fondos hasta un mes después. Durante la espera, Depena presuntamente envió los siguientes mensajes de texto (originalmente en español, aquí traducidos al inglés) a su contador y asesor financiero, quien lo había estado ayudando con la solicitud y la modificación del EIDL:

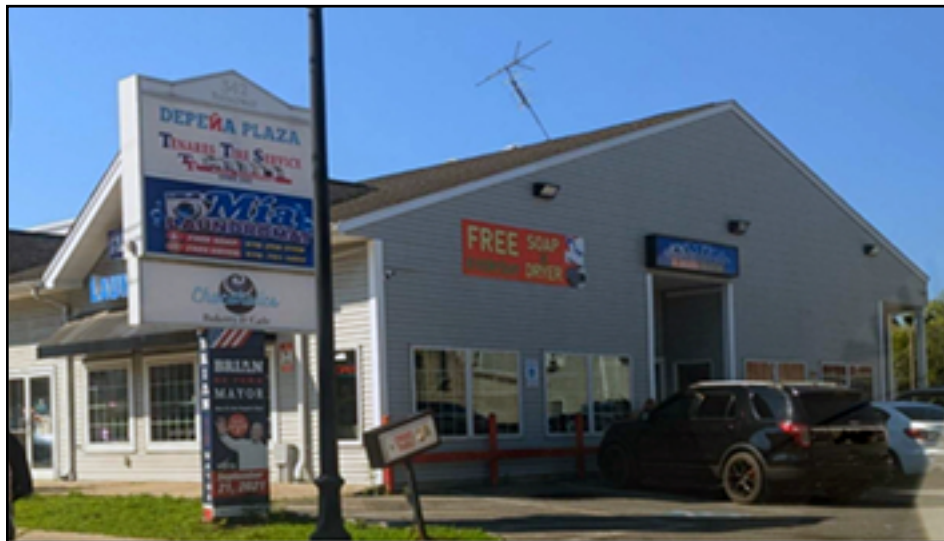
22 de julio de 2021: Hermano, llámame, estoy en apuros. No quiero presionarte, pero no tengo tiempo para esperar por este préstamo. Estoy en tus manos.

25 de julio de 2021: Hermano, necesito tu ayuda con este préstamo. He intentado comunicarme contigo toda la semana y no he logrado resolverlo. Sé que te estoy molestando mucho, pero no tengo otra opción. Solo tú puedes darme lo que necesito.

28 de julio de 2021: Hermano, llámame.

Según los documentos de la acusación, los 350.000 dólares de los fondos del EIDL se depositaron electrónicamente en la cuenta bancaria de Tenares Tire el 16 de agosto de 2021. El saldo de la cuenta previo al depósito era de tan solo \$20,23. Poco después, DePeña presuntamente destinó 85.000 dólares de los fondos del EIDL a pagar deudas fiscales personales ante el IRS. Asimismo, presuntamente transfirió 120.000 dólares de los fondos del EIDL a una cuenta personal y utilizó ese dinero para emitir cheques por un total de 90.000 dólares a nombre de "The Committee to Elect Brian DePeña" (Comité para Elegir a Brian DePeña). Se alega que dichos cheques se depositaron en la cuenta de la campaña electoral de DePeña para la alcaldía —registrándose como préstamos a la campaña— durante los meses de septiembre y octubre de 2021.

Mientras los préstamos de alto interés y garantía real (hard money loans) seguían pendientes de pago y su campaña continuaba atravesando dificultades financieras, DePeña presuntamente gestionó una solicitud para una segunda modificación del préstamo EIDL en octubre de



2021. El 27 de octubre de 2021, la SBA aprobó una modificación que aumentaba el préstamo en 1.154.400 dólares, elevando así el monto total del EIDL de Tenares Tire a 1.654.400 dólares.

El 30 de noviembre de 2021, se depositaron electrónicamente 1.154.188 dólares de fondos del EIDL en la cuenta de Tenares Tire; ese mismo día, DePeña presuntamente transfirió la totalidad de dicha suma a una de sus cuentas personales, la cual contaba con un saldo de apenas 1.401 dólares. Se alega que DePeña utilizó 42.112,96 dólares de los fondos del EIDL para su campaña a la alcaldía, emitiendo cheques a favor de la campaña por importes de 10.000 y 32.112,96 dólares. El primer cheque se depositó en la cuenta de la campaña el 2 de diciembre de 2021, fecha en la que dicha cuenta presuntamente llevaba unos 20 días en descubierto.

Por último, se alega que DePeña utilizó 883.293 dólares de los fondos del EIDL para liquidar sus deudas con los prestamistas de alto interés. El 9 de diciembre de 2021, DePeña adquirió un cheque de caja por valor de 538.109,03 dólares y lo utilizó para cancelar uno de los préstamos. El 18 de diciembre de 2021, compró otro cheque de caja por 345.184,13 dólares y lo empleó para liquidar el préstamo restante. Según los documentos de acusación, para el 5 de agosto de 2026, DePeña había realizado únicamente 16 pagos del préstamo EIDL de Tenares Tire. El saldo de capital pendiente ascendía a aproximadamente 1.654.420 dólares.

Cada uno de los cargos por fraude electrónico conlleva una pena máxima de 20 años de prisión, hasta tres años de libertad supervisada y una multa de hasta 250.000 dólares. Cada uno de los cargos por lavado de dinero conlleva una pena máxima de 10 años de prisión, tres años de libertad supervisada y una multa de 250.000 dólares. Las penas son impuestas por un juez de un tribunal federal de distrito basándose en las Directrices Federales para la Imposición de Penas de los EE. UU. y en las leyes que rigen la determinación de la condena en casos penales.

El anuncio fue realizado hoy por la Fiscal Federal Leah B. Foley; Ted

E. Docks, agente especial a cargo de la División de Boston del Buró Federal de Investigaciones (FBI); Tom Demeo, agente especial interino a cargo de la División de Investigación Criminal del Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS) en Boston; y Jeffrey S. Shapiro, Inspector General de la Oficina del Inspector General del Commonwealth de Massachusetts. Se contó con la valiosa colaboración de la Oficina del Inspector General del Departamento de Trabajo de los EE. UU. Las fiscales federales adjuntas Kristina E. Barclay y Christine Wichers, de la Unidad de Corrupción Pública, están a cargo de la acusación en este caso.

El 26 de marzo de 2026, la Fiscal Federal Leah B. Foley anunció la creación del Equipo contra el Fraude en Beneficios y el Voto (Benefit & Voter Fraud Team), una iniciativa de alcance distrital establecida en respuesta al fraude generalizado que se estaba descubriendo en todo Massachusetts. El equipo está dirigido por dos fiscales federales de alto rango que actúan como coordinadores de fraude, cuya misión es investigar y procesar enérgicamente el uso indebido de beneficios financiados por los contribuyentes en Massachusetts.

Se invita a la ciudadanía a denunciar cualquier sospecha de fraude en los beneficios en Massachusetts llamando al 1-855-SCAM-MA-1 (855-722-6621).

El 7 de abril de 2026, el Departamento de Justicia anunció la creación de la División Nacional de Aplicación de la Ley contra el Fraude (National Fraud Enforcement Division). Esta división investiga y procesa a quienes cometen fraude contra el pueblo estadounidense. La labor del Departamento para combatir el fraude respalda el Grupo de Trabajo del presidente Trump para Eliminar el Fraude, una iniciativa que abarca a todo el gobierno —presidida por el vicepresidente J.D. Vance— destinada a erradicar el fraude, el despilfarro y el abuso en los programas federales de beneficios.

Los detalles contenidos en los documentos de acusación son alegaciones. Se presume que el acusado es inocente hasta que se demuestre su culpabilidad más allá de toda duda razonable ante un tribunal.

Llamado a mi estimada ciudad y residentes de Lawrence



Por Yeison Mora

Permítame tomarme un momento para instar a todos en nuestra comunidad a que permanezcan tranquilos, respetuosos y pacientes mientras nuestro alcalde se enfrenta a la situación actual. No estoy aquí para defender al alcalde o para emitir juicios sobre las circunstancias. Simplemente creo que deberíamos permitir que el proceso legal siga su curso y darle al alcalde la oportunidad de abordar este asunto. Enfrentar una situación como esta no es fácil para nadie. Algunas personas están actuando como si esta fuera la primera vez que un líder político en la ciudad de Lawrence se enfrenta a serios problemas legales.

Desafortunadamente, no lo es. Nuestra ciudad ha experimentado situaciones similares que involucran a líderes políticos en el pasado, incluyendo a Fidelina Santiago, William Lantigua y Jeovanny Martes Rosario. Este es un asunto serio, y debido a que implica una investigación federal y un proceso legal, creo que deberíamos permitir que las autoridades apropiadas hagan su trabajo sin especulaciones o divisiones innecesarias en nuestra comunidad. Podemos estar en desacuerdo, hacer preguntas y exigir responsabilidad sin dejar de recordar que todos merecen el debido proceso y respeto. Reunámonos como comunidad, permanezcamos en paz y permitamos que los hechos y el proceso legal determinen lo que sucede a continuación. Muchas gracias, y que Dios bendiga a la ciudad de Lawrence y a toda su gente.

A call to my beloved city and the residents of Lawrence

By Yeison Mora

I want to take a moment to urge everyone in our community to remain calm, respectful, and patient as our mayor faces the current situation. I am not here to defend the mayor or to make judgments about the circumstances. I simply believe that we should allow the legal process to take its course and give the mayor the opportunity to address this matter. Facing a situation like this is not easy for anyone. Some people are acting as though this is the first time a political leader in the City of Lawrence has faced serious legal issues. Unfortunately, it is not. Our city has experienced similar situations involving political leaders in the past, including Fidelina Santiago,

William Lantigua, and Jeovanny Martes Rosario. This is a serious matter, and because it involves a federal investigation and legal process, I believe we should allow the proper authorities to do their work without unnecessary speculation or division in our community. We can disagree, ask questions, and demand accountability while still remembering that everyone deserves due process and respect. Let us come together as a community, remain peaceful, and allow the facts and the legal process to determine what happens next. Thank you very much, and God bless the City of Lawrence and all its people.

¿Alguien está planteando a los candidatos las preguntas adecuadas?

Por Dalia Díaz

A medida que nos acercamos a una nueva temporada electoral, resulta crucial reflexionar sobre las preguntas que dirigimos a nuestros candidatos. Si bien las promesas en materia de vivienda, carreteras, educación y salarios son habituales, es igualmente importante profundizar en su trayectoria y cualificaciones. ¿Hemos preguntado a los candidatos por los logros alcanzados durante su mandato, en caso de que busquen la reelección? Muchos candidatos podrían carecer de un historial de logros sustancial, un aspecto fundamental para tener en cuenta a la hora de votar. Además, conviene indagar sobre su idoneidad para el cargo. ¿Están realmente preparados para afrontar los desafíos que conlleva la función? En ocasiones, los candidatos figuran en las papeletas por motivos ajenos a su capacidad de liderazgo efectivo, como el deseo de vengarse de otra persona.

Quizás la pregunta más importante que debemos plantearnos se refiere a su honestidad. La integridad de una persona es un factor clave para determinar si es apta para ocupar un cargo público. Por ejemplo, en el caso de Celina Reyes (alias Lina Montesino), cabría preguntarse por qué una empresa de cuidado infantil registrada en el Estado a su nombre figura con Lina Montesino como persona de contacto. Se trata de la misma persona, pero con dos nombres distintos en un documento legal. Esta situación podría suscitar dudas sobre la transparencia y la rendición de cuentas. En conclusión, el poder de forjar nuestro futuro está en nuestras manos. Tomemos decisiones informadas que nos benefician a nosotros y a las generaciones venideras. Recordemos que las decisiones tomadas por desconocimiento pueden acarrear consecuencias a largo plazo. Actuemos con vigilancia y reflexión al ejercer nuestro voto.

Is anyone asking the candidates the right questions?

By Dalia Díaz

As we approach another election season, it's crucial to reflect on the questions we ask of our candidates. While promises regarding housing, roads, education, and wages are common, it's equally important to delve deeper into their track record and qualifications. Have we asked candidates about their past accomplishments during their term if they are running for reelection? Many candidates might lack a substantial record of achievement, which is a critical aspect to consider when making our votes. Moreover, it's worth asking about their qualifications for the office. Are they well-equipped to handle the challenges that come with the role? Sometimes, candidates might be on the ballot for reasons other than their ability to lead effectively, such as a desire for

revenge against someone else. Perhaps the most crucial question we should ask is about their honesty. An individual's integrity is a key factor in determining their suitability for public office. For instance, in the case of Celina Reyes (alias Lina Montesino), it might be worth asking why a childcare business registered in the Commonwealth under her name has as contact person Lina Montesino. Same person, two names on a legal document. This could raise questions about transparency and accountability. In conclusion, the power to shape our future lies in our hands. Let's make informed decisions that will benefit us and future generations. Remember, ignorant choices can lead to long-term consequences. Let's be vigilant and thoughtful in our voting.

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Governor Maura Healey’s campaign claims

By Dalia Díaz

The last few days of a political campaign are loaded with false statements that candidates are hopeful voters will not bother to dissect. The bombardment is so heavy that the flyers and campaign material end up in the trash most often, resulting on a big voting block making decisions based on ignorance and wrong information.

My research showed that some points in the governor’s materials

are genuine accomplishments, but the wording deliberately conflates the Governor's role with that of the Legislature and exaggerates several outcomes. The governor denied credit or recognition where they belonged in certain achievements. Most of these statements are based on real Massachusetts policies, but several are worded in a way that is politically flattering or broader than the underlying facts.

Claim	Verdict	What the facts show
Made community college free for residents.	Essentially true	Massachusetts launched MassEducate in 2024, making tuition and fees at the state's public community colleges free for eligible students regardless of income. There are eligibility requirements, including Massachusetts residency, enrollment requirements, and no prior bachelor's degree.
Capped insulin and inhalers at \$25.	Mostly true, but needs qualification	A 2025 Massachusetts law capped copays at \$25 per 30-day supply for one brand-name drug for diabetes, asthma and certain other conditions. So, saying <i>all insulin and inhalers</i> are capped at \$25 is too broad.
Banned renter-paid broker fees, saving renters thousands upfront.	True, with an important distinction	Effective August 1, 2025, a broker retained by a landlord generally cannot charge the tenant a broker fee. However, a tenant can still pay a broker when the tenant hired the broker. Saying it "saves renters thousands" is a reasonable description of the potential benefit, but the actual savings vary.
Cut taxes for the first time in 20 years.	True	Gov. Healey signed tax cuts in 2023, described by the Commonwealth as Massachusetts' first tax cut in more than 20 years.
Passed the largest housing bill in history, with 100,000 homes in the pipeline.	Substantially true, but wording matters	The \$5.2 billion Affordable Homes Act was described by the state as its most ambitious housing investment and largest housing bond bill. The administration reported nearly 100,000 new housing units in the pipeline under its administration. "Pipeline" does not mean 100,000 homes have already been built.
Doubled education funding — our schools now rank #1 in the nation.	Misleading / needs correction	Massachusetts schools do have extremely strong national rankings, and the state says Massachusetts ranked #1 on the Nation's Report Card. But I don't find support for the claim that education funding was doubled. Also, "schools rank #1" needs to specify the ranking/metric. Massachusetts was also ranked #1 in education in broader rankings.
Capped healthcare co-pays and deductibles.	Too broad	Massachusetts has enacted various copay limits and protections, including the \$25 prescription-drug copay provision, and MassHealth has specific cost-sharing rules. But there is not a general Massachusetts cap on all healthcare copays and deductibles. In fact, Massachusetts health plans continue to have deductibles and copays.
Delivered hundreds of millions in energy bill savings for families.	Basically supported, but should be more precise	The Healey administration announced \$220 million in immediate energy relief, including \$50 electric-bill credits, and projected \$5.8 billion in savings over five years from its energy-affordability agenda. Separately, a solar program change was expected to reduce electricity costs by \$300 million in one year.

I also fact-checked it against the actual accomplishments of Gov. Maura Healey and the Massachusetts Legislature, separating what Healey can legitimately claim personally from what was done by the Legislature or Commonwealth as a whole.

The important distinction is that Maura Healey can legitimately claim

leadership, proposals, negotiations, and signing laws—but the Massachusetts Legislature passes the laws and appropriates the money. Some of the language in the list blurs those roles.

I checked the Massachusetts government and Legislature's own records. Here is how I would divide the credit.

Claim	Healey's role	Legislature's role	Fair attribution
Renter-paid broker fees	Her administration supported the policy and she signed the legislation.	Passed the law banning forced tenant-paid broker fees.	Shared, but primarily a legislative enactment.
Tax cuts	Proposed the \$1 billion tax package and signed it.	Passed the tax bill.	Shared. This is one where Healey has a particularly strong personal claim because tax cuts were an explicit campaign/administration priority. Her own announcement thanks the Legislature for "seeing this through."
Largest housing bill in history	Filed the Affordable Homes Act and made it a major administration priority; signed the final bill.	Negotiated, amended and passed the legislation.	Strongly shared. The administration's original proposal was \$4 billion; the enacted package became a \$5.2 billion authorization.
100,000 homes in the pipeline	This is an administration measurement/claim, based on projects completed or entering development during her administration.	Legislature provided much of the statutory and financial framework.	Primarily an administration accomplishment/metric, but not 100,000 homes built.
Doubled education funding	Healey has proposed and supported substantial education increases.	The Legislature actually appropriates education funding.	I would not use "doubled." I have not found evidence supporting that claim.
Schools rank #1	Her administration can point to Massachusetts' national educational performance.	Legislature funds the system.	Neither Healey nor the Legislature can honestly claim to have "made" Massachusetts #1. It is a performance ranking involving decades of policy, educators, districts and students.
Capped healthcare copays and deductibles	Signed legislation containing specific prescription-drug cost caps.	Passed those provisions.	The original statement is too broad. It should be limited to specified prescription drugs/cost-sharing.
Hundreds of millions in energy savings	Strong administration claim. Healey's administration initiated the 2025 Energy Affordability Agenda and secured immediate relief.	Legislature must enact legislation for many of the longer-term proposals.	Mostly Healey administration, but not entirely. The administration reported \$220 million in immediate relief and \$5.8 billion in projected five-year savings.

There is an especially important distinction on the energy claim

Healey announced a \$220 million immediate energy-relief program in March 2025: \$125 million from a \$50 electric-bill credit and \$95 million from lower gas rates. Her administration projected another \$5.8 billion in savings over five years.

But in May 2025, Healey filed additional legislation that she said could save ratepayers another \$10 billion over 10 years. Filing a bill isn't the same thing as the Legislature passing it.

So if someone says: "Healey delivered billions in energy savings", I'd ask which billions and which legislation? Some are actual savings/relief; some are projected savings; and some depend on legislation.

The tax-cut claim is also revealing. The statement: "Cut taxes for the first time in 20 years." This is not false, but it is crafted to give Healey maximum personal credit.

Healey proposed the tax package, campaigned for it and signed it. But the Legislature passed it. In fact, Healey's own 2023 announcement explicitly thanked Speaker Mariano, Senate President Spilka and the Legislature for getting it done.

And MassEducate is another good example: The flyer says: "the Healey-Driscoll Administration and state Legislature made public community college free..."

The administration provided leadership and signed the budget; the Legislature passed the budget and supplied the statutory appropriations. The Legislature’s own FY2025 report specifically identifies the creation of MassEducate as one of its accomplishments.

The original wording makes it sound as though Governor Healey personally did all of these things.

That’s not quite fair. A more accurate political formulation would be Healey-led administration + Massachusetts Legislature = most of these accomplishments.

Healey deserves substantial credit for setting priorities, proposing legislation, negotiating, using the executive branch to implement programs, and signing legislation.

The Legislature deserves substantial credit because it writes, amends, passes and funds the laws.

And there are a few things—particularly education funding and the #1 ranking—that shouldn’t be attributed to Healey personally at all.

One thing I find particularly interesting is that the Massachusetts Senate itself is now highlighting education and transportation investments in the FY2027 budget, including more than \$4 billion in Fair Share resources directed toward education and transportation.

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Hudson native participates in world’s largest international maritime warfare exercise



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Patricia Elkins

By Megan Lemly, Navy Office of Community Outreach

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii - Pfc. Kaden Chaves, a native of Hudson, Massachusetts, serves with Combat Logistics Battalion 15 (CLB-15), 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, a military support unit participating in the biennial Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise in and around the Hawaiian Islands.

The skills and values needed to succeed in the Marine Corps are similar to those found in Hudson.

“I learned growing up that change is good, respect is everything and that being uncomfortable is okay, and, a lot of the time, it can benefit you,” Chaves said. “In the Marine Corps, you never have a consistent schedule, so you have to get comfortable being uncomfortable and be ready to adapt for whatever comes your way.”

Chaves joined the Marine Corps one year ago. Today, Chaves serves as a transmission systems operator.

“I joined the Marine Corps because there wasn’t much going back home and I wanted something I could be proud of,” Chaves said. “I’ve also always had thoughts about serving my

country. It was always something in the back of my head.”

As the world’s largest international maritime exercise, 31 nations, approximately 40 surface ships, five submarines, 14 national land forces, over 140 aircraft and more than 25,000 personnel will participate in RIMPAC 2026. This exercise provides a unique training opportunity that helps participants foster and sustain cooperative relationships that are critical to ensuring safety at sea and security on the world’s oceans. RIMPAC 2026 marks the 30th exercise in a series that began in 1971.

The theme of RIMPAC 2026 is “Partners: Integrated and Prepared.” The participating nations and forces exercise a wide range of capabilities and demonstrate the inherent flexibility of maritime forces. These capabilities range from disaster relief and maritime security operations to sea control and complex warfighting. The relevant, realistic training program includes gunnery, missile, anti-submarine and air defense exercises, as well as amphibious, counter-piracy, mine clearance operations, explosive ordnance disposal and diving and salvage operations.

It is fitting that the world's premier maritime exercise occurs as the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary. For 250 years, the United States has built relationships with international partners based on trust, cooperation, and shared values. RIMPAC is where that trust is put into practice, strengthening the people-to-people relationships that are the bedrock of all the nations’ collective security.

Chaves plays an important role in the exercise.

“Working and living alongside other countries during RIMPAC is really cool to experience,” Chaves said. “I’ve never done this before, and I’m learning a lot. Hawaii is beautiful.”

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

“Being in the Marine Corps means serving something greater than myself,” Chaves said. “It is important to be humble. Yes, you are serving the Marine Corps, but that doesn’t make you a better human being than anyone else.”

Chaves is grateful to others for helping make a Marine Corps career possible.

“I want to thank my parents, Kevin and Joanna, for the support

they've given me and for keeping me in the right headspace,” Chaves added. “I also want to thank my grandparents, Beatrice and Antonio, and my sisters, Bella and Skyla, for being by my side through it all and for giving me unconditional love.”

Hosted by Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, RIMPAC 2026 will be led by Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet, Rear Adm. Richard Meyer, who will serve as Combined Task Force (CTF) commander. Chile will fill the role of deputy commander of the CTF, and Japan will fill the role of vice commander. The Republic of Korea will command the maritime component, and Canada will command the air component.

During RIMPAC, a network of capable, adaptive partners train and operate together in order to strengthen their collective forces and promote a free and open Indo-Pacific. RIMPAC 2026 contributes to the increased interoperability, resiliency and agility needed by the Joint and Combined Force to deter and defeat aggression by major powers across all domains and levels of conflict.

More information about RIMPAC is available here: <https://www.cpf.navy.mil/RIMPAC/>

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Kinetic Smiles, Inc. celebra la segunda edición anual del Kinetic Ride & Family Day

Kinetic Smiles Inc., una organización sin fines de lucro 501(c)(3) que promueve estilos de vida saludables y activos mediante programas comunitarios en todo el valle de Merrimack, dio la bienvenida a ciclistas, familias y miembros de la comunidad en Lawrence el domingo, 9 de agosto, con motivo de su segunda edición anual del Kinetic Ride & Family Day.

El evento contó con tres rutas ciclistas diseñadas para adaptarse a ciclistas de diferentes edades y niveles de habilidad. Los asistentes también disfrutaron de actividades para toda la familia, música en vivo, un sorteo de mochilas para el regreso a clases y más.

Kinetic Smiles se fundó para crear conciencia sobre la espina bífida, una afección que afecta la columna vertebral y la médula espinal, y que puede plantear desafíos de movilidad y salud a lo largo de toda la vida. La organización apoya a las personas y familias que viven con esta condición, al tiempo que promueve una mayor comprensión, inclusión y apoyo comunitario en todo el valle de Merrimack y más allá.

"Como madre de Kamilah, una joven resiliente con espina bífida, esta labor es profundamente personal para mí y para mi familia", dijo Dahianara Liranzo, fundadora y directora ejecutiva de Kinetic Smiles. "La experiencia de mi hija me ha inspirado a crear espacios inclusivos donde todos, independientemente de sus capacidades, tengan la oportunidad de moverse y prosperar".

"Kinetic Smiles representa la fortaleza, la determinación y el corazón de mi sobrina, Kamilah", dijo el representante estatal Frank A. Moran. "Como su tío, no podría estar más orgulloso de ver cómo inspira a nuestra comunidad a unirse y crear conciencia sobre otras familias afectadas por la espina bífida".

"Kinetic Smiles realiza una labor importante para crear conciencia sobre la espina bífida y asegurar que las personas y familias que enfrentan desafíos de movilidad y salud sepan que son vistas, valoradas y apoyadas", dijo la representante estatal Estela Reyes. "Felicitó a Dahianara Liranzo y a todos los que ayudaron a hacer del Kinetic Ride & Family Day de este año una celebración significativa de inclusión, resiliencia y comunidad".

"El Kinetic Ride & Family Day es un ejemplo maravilloso de lo que se puede lograr cuando unimos a familias, organizaciones locales y socios comunitarios", dijo el representante estatal Francisco Paulino. "Este evento promueve una vida saludable a la vez que crea un espacio acogedor para que residentes de todas las edades y capacidades se conecten, se diviertan y celebren la fortaleza de nuestra comunidad de Lawrence".

El segundo evento anual contó con la participación de 89 ciclistas y más de 200 asistentes, entre ellos Jeudy Liranzo, reconocido ciclista y atleta de la República Dominicana. Todos los fondos recaudados a través del Kinetic Ride se destinarán directamente a financiar programas gratuitos de bienestar para jóvenes en todo el Valle de Merrimack.



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

Walt Whitman



Kinetic Smiles, Inc. Celebrates the Second Annual Kinetic Ride & Family Day

Kinetic Smiles Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes healthy, active lifestyles through community-based programs across the Merrimack Valley, welcomed cyclists, families, and community members to Lawrence on Sunday, August 9, for its second annual Kinetic Ride & Family Day.

The event featured three cycling routes designed to accommodate riders of different ages and skill levels. Attendees also enjoyed family-friendly activities, live music, a back-to-school backpack giveaway, and more.

Kinetic Smiles was established to raise awareness of spina bifida, a condition affecting the spine and spinal cord that can present lifelong mobility and health challenges. The organization supports individuals and families navigating life with the condition while promoting greater understanding, inclusion, and community support throughout the Merrimack Valley and beyond.

“As the mother of Kamilah, a resilient young woman with spina bifida, this work is deeply personal to me and my family,” said Dahianara Liranzo, founder and executive director of Kinetic Smiles. “My daughter’s experience has inspired me to create inclusive spaces where everyone, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to move and thrive.”

“Kinetic Smiles represents the strength, determination, and heart of my niece, Kamilah,” said State Representative Frank A. Moran. “As her uncle, I could not be prouder to see her inspire our community to come together and raise awareness for other families affected by spina bifida.”

“Kinetic Smiles is doing important work to raise awareness of Spina Bifida and ensure that individuals

and families facing mobility and health challenges know they are seen, valued, and supported,” said State Representative Estela Reyes. “I commend Dahianara Liranzo and everyone who helped make this year’s Kinetic Ride & Family Day a meaningful celebration of inclusion, resilience, and community.”

“Kinetic Ride & Family Day is a wonderful example of what can be accomplished when we bring families, local organizations, and community partners together,” said State Representative Francisco Paulino. “This event promotes healthy living while creating a welcoming space for residents of every age and ability to connect, have fun, and celebrate the strength of our Lawrence community.”

The second annual event welcomed 89 cyclists and more than 200 attendees, including Jeudy Liranzo, a renowned cyclist and athlete from the Dominican Republic. All proceeds raised through the Kinetic Ride will directly support free wellness programming for young people across the Merrimack Valley.



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El calor extremo está aumentando, y también puede aumentar el riesgo para tu corazón



La American Heart Association recomienda tomar precauciones adicionales a medida que suben las temperaturas en todo el país

A medida que el calor del verano se intensifica en todo los Estados Unidos, la American Heart Association advierte que el aumento de las temperaturas altas no solo pueden ser incómodas: también pueden exigirle más al corazón y aumentar el riesgo de complicaciones graves.

Aunque las tragedias causadas por huracanes y tornados suelen recibir más atención en las noticias, el calor extremo es en realidad la principal causa de muerte relacionada

con el clima (sitio web en inglés) en los Estados Unidos, según el Servicio Meteorológico Nacional.

- Un informe publicado en la revista Journal of the American Medical Association encontró que más de 2,300 personas murieron por exposición al calor en los EE. UU. en 2023 (sitio web en inglés).

- Investigaciones publicadas en la revista Circulation de la American Heart Association proyectan que las muertes cardiovasculares relacionadas con el calor podrían más que duplicarse en las próximas décadas.

“El calor hace que el corazón trabaje más”, dijo Manesh R. Patel, M.D., FAHA, presidente voluntario de la American Heart Association y jefe de la división de cardiología, jefe de la división de farmacología y vicepresidente de Servicios Cardíacos y Vasculares de Duke Health, en Durham, Carolina del Norte. “Cuando tu cuerpo trata de enfriarse, tu frecuencia cardíaca sube y los vasos sanguíneos

se expanden. Para las personas con enfermedad cardíaca, e incluso para quienes en general están sanos (sitio web en inglés), ese esfuerzo extra puede volverse peligroso rápidamente”.

Por qué el calor puede ser pesado para tu corazón

Cuando hace mucho calor, el cuerpo suda para enfriarse, y eso puede hacer que pierdas líquidos y te deshidrates. Al mismo tiempo, el corazón tiene que bombear más sangre para ayudar a regular la temperatura del cuerpo. Todo eso junto puede poner más presión en el sistema cardiovascular.

Cómo protegerse del calor extremo

La American Heart Association recomienda algunos pasos simples que pueden ayudarte a mantenerte seguro:

- Evita las horas de más calor: Si puedes, limita las actividades al aire libre entre el mediodía y las 3 p.m., cuando suele hacer más calor.
- Usa ropa fresca: Elige ropa ligera y de colores claros, y no olvides un sombrero, lentes de sol y protector solar para cuidar tu piel.
- Toma suficiente agua: Bebe agua antes, durante y después de estar al aire libre. Trata de evitar el alcohol y las bebidas con cafeína, porque pueden contribuir a la deshidratación.
- Toma descansos: Descansa en la sombra o en un lugar fresco bajo techo para darle a tu cuerpo tiempo de recuperarse.

También es importante conocer los síntomas de peligro, ya que reconocerlos a tiempo puede salvarte la vida.

Los síntomas de agotamiento por calor pueden incluir:

- Dolor de cabeza
- Piel fría, pálida y húmeda
- Pulso rápido pero débil
- Mareo o desmayo
- Debilidad o calambres musculares
- Náuseas o vómitos

Si tienes cualquiera de estos síntomas, reduce el ritmo de cualquier actividad física y dirígete a un lugar más fresco; refréscate de inmediato echándote agua fría por encima y rehidratándote. Es posible que debas buscar atención médica.

El golpe de calor es una emergencia médica. Llama al 9-1-1 de inmediato si notas:

- Temperatura corporal por encima de 103 °F
- Piel caliente, enrojecida, seca o húmeda
- Pulso rápido y fuerte
- Confusión, dolor de cabeza o pérdida del conocimiento
- Náuseas

Mantente activo, pero con cuidado

La actividad física sigue siendo esencial para la salud del corazón, incluso durante los meses de verano. Puedes caminar, nadar, andar en bicicleta, patinar, armar una pista de obstáculos en el patio o organizar un partido de fútbol en el vecindario. Incluso la jardinería, empujar un cochecito o pasear al perro cuentan. Sin embargo, en pleno verano, tal vez sea mejor intentar hacer ejercicio temprano por la mañana o al atardecer, cuando hace menos calor, o trasladar las sesiones de entrenamiento a espacios cerrados con aire acondicionado, como gimnasios o centros comunitarios.

Encuentra más información sobre cómo cuidar tu corazón durante el calor en heart.org (sitio web en inglés).

Acerca de la American Heart Association

La American Heart Association es una fuerza incansable que trabaja por un mundo con vidas más largas y saludables. La organización ha sido una fuente líder de información sobre salud durante más de cien años y su objetivo es garantizar la equidad en la salud en todas las comunidades. Con el apoyo de más de 35 millones de voluntarios en todo el mundo, financiamos investigaciones vanguardistas, defendemos la salud pública y proporcionamos recursos fundamentales para salvar y mejorar las vidas afectadas por enfermedades cardiovasculares y ataques o derrames cerebrales. Trabajamos incansablemente para promover la salud y transformar vidas cada día mediante el impulso de avances y la implementación de soluciones comprobadas en las áreas de ciencia, políticas y cuidados. Comuníquese con nosotros en heart.org (sitio web en inglés), Facebook o X, o llame al 1-800-AHA-USA1.

Write In
Ken Willette

★ CANDIDATE FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★

JOIN ME FOR COFFEE!
Coffee Time with Ken Willette

WHEN: August 18th
TIME: 9 am - 11 am
LOCATION: Methuen Senior Center
77 Lowell St, Methuen, MA 01844

Let's discuss how we can make our community better, over coffee.

CONTACT KEN WILLETTE
Phone: (508) 954-7384
Email: kentwinsbk2008@gmail.com

Paid By The Campaign To Elect Ken Willette State Representative

Boost Your Natural Beauty

Esthetics and wellness treatments for every body

369 Merrimack St, Suite 6, Methuen, MA 01844
Telephone: 978-450-0222 / Email: hello@untamedmedspa.com
Website: www.untamedmedspa.com

NECC and UMass Dartmouth Partner to Strengthen the Nursing Workforce

New dual admissions agreement creates a seamless path from associate to bachelor's degree in nursing

UMass Dartmouth and Northern Essex Community College have entered into a new dual admissions agreement designed to make it easier for aspiring nurses to continue their education and advance their careers through UMass Dartmouth's fully online RN-BS program.

The partnership provides eligible Northern Essex nursing students with early, conditional admission to UMass Dartmouth while they complete their Associate Degree in Nursing. After earning their associate degree and obtaining RN licensure, students can seamlessly transition into UMass Dartmouth's online RN-BS program, allowing them to complete their bachelor's degree while balancing work and personal commitments.

"This partnership signals a commitment by both NECC and UMass Dartmouth to supporting students working in the field to advance their education," said NECC Vice President of Academic Affairs Austin Gilliland. "The dual admissions agreement honors the foundation students build at NECC in the Associate Degree in Nursing Program along with the experience they build in the field as they become registered nurses."

The agreement reflects both institutions' shared commitment to preparing highly qualified nurses and expanding access to affordable, flexible educational opportunities for students across the Commonwealth.

"At UMass Dartmouth, we're committed to creating opportunities that help students achieve their educational and professional goals," said Anne Berriault, Assistant Director of Admissions for UMass Dartmouth Online. "Our partnership with Northern Essex Community College provides nursing students with a clear, supportive pathway to earning their bachelor's degree while continuing to serve their communities as working professionals."

In addition to a simplified transfer process, eligible Northern Essex Community College graduates may also benefit from UMass Dartmouth Online's Success by Degrees program, which provides a tuition credit for qualifying community college graduates enrolled in fully online undergraduate programs.

By removing barriers to transfer and creating a structured academic pathway, the agreement helps students continue their education with confidence while addressing the growing demand for bachelor's-prepared nurses throughout Massachusetts.

Northern Essex has a variety of dual admissions agreements, seamless transfer pathways and transfer agreements with four-year institutions. Learn more by visiting the webpage or contacting NECC Associate Dean for Academic and Advising Thomas Cole.



Sports with Northern Essex Community College

By Dan Blair, Director of Athletics

Men's Soccer Grabs Pre-Season #5 National Ranking

Haverhill, MA (August 10, 2026) – The defending Region 21 and Northeast District Champion Northern Essex Community College men's soccer team has been ranked fifth in the NJCAA Pre-Season poll as released by the NJCAA soccer committee on Monday.

The Knights are coming off of a 13-4-1 campaign where they captured their second straight region and district championships on their way to their first ever national tournament win where they defeated Raritan Valley to capture a tie for fifth place at the national tournament.

NECC will be tested early in the season as they will open the regular season on the road against pre-season number six ranked Suffolk County (NY) Community College on August 30th in Selden, NY.

Top returners for the Knights will include striker Thomas Kotas (Methuen) and midfielder Rayann Bhalla (Methuen) among nine returners.

Head Coach Eusebio Marote is expecting to welcome a crop of 24

newcomers to the roster highlighted by Matheus Martins (Malden), Cristian Lopez (Chelsea) and Alan Melara (Lynn).

The Knights 16 game regular season schedule will eight home and eight road games. Following the opening road game at Suffolk, NECC will open the home portion of its schedule on Tuesday September 1st hosting Kingsborough Community College at 7:00pm at Whittier Tech High School.

The Knights will wrap up regular season action on Tuesday October 20th. The post-season tournament will be played on Tuesday October 27th, Friday October 30th and Sunday November 1st with the higher seed having home field advantage throughout the tournament.

The regional and district champion will advance to the eight team NJCAA National Tournament scheduled for November 12 – 15 in Dallas, TX on the campus of Dallas College-Mountain View.

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

Propiedad de vivienda asequible oportunidad en 41 Curtis Street, Haverhill, MA

Essex County Habitat for Humanity ofrece una vivienda dúplex de tres dormitorios en Hamilton para vender a compradores aprobados.

Para obtener más información sobre este programa un, mire una sesion de información grabada en:
www.essexcountyhabitat.org/opportunities-haverhill/

Para solicitar la propiedad de vivienda:
Visite www.essexcountyhabitat.org/application/ para obtener una solicitud e instrucciones para presentar la solicitud. Las solicitudes también están disponibles en Haverhill Public Library y Haverhill City Hall.

Las solicitudes serán aceptadas y aprobadas por orden de llegada.
Plazo de solicitud ampliado hasta el 10 de septiembre de 2026.

Para calificar:

- Debe ser un comprador de vivienda por primera vez (con algunas excepciones)
- Debe tener un ingreso familiar que cumpla con los requisitos (vea la tabla).
- Debe estar dispuesto a aportar entre 240 y 360 horas de trabajo en su casa vivienda o de otras viviendas de Habitat.

Costo para usted:

- Precio de venta: \$245,000
- 3% de pago inicial y aproximadamente \$5,000 en costo de cierre.
- Impuestos, seguros y cuotas de condominio son aproximadamente \$1,900 - \$2,100*/mes

Se proporcionará un servicio de traducción gratuito a pedido.

nueva fecha limite: 10 de septiembre

INCOME DE CASA		
# de Persona	Mínimo	Máximo
3	\$ 68,560	\$ 92,580
4	\$ 68,560	\$ 102,840
5	\$ 74,080	\$ 111,120
6	\$ 79,560	\$ 119,340

Basado en ingresos de hasta el 60% del ingreso medio del área definida por HUD en 2026. Sujeta a cambios.

Essex County Habitat for Humanity
14 Park Street, Danvers MA 01923
(978) 681-8858
essexcountyhabitat.org for more info

De acuerdo con la Ley de Igualdad de Oportunidades de Crédito y la Ley de Vivienda Justa, Habitat para la Humanidad del Condado de Essex no discrimine por motivo de raza, color, religión, origen nacional, sexo, discapacidad, estado civil, estado civil, recepción de ingresos, de asistencia pública o edad siempre que el solicitante tenga capacidad para celebrar un contrato vinculante.

*Todas las cantidades enumeradas anteriormente están sujetas a cambios.

Affordable Homeownership Opportunity at 41 Curtis Street, Haverhill, MA

Essex County Habitat for Humanity is offering a 3-bedroom duplex home in Haverhill for purchase to qualified buyers.

To learn more about this unique program, watch a recorded information session at:
www.essexcountyhabitat.org/opportunities-haverhill/

To apply for homeownership:
Visit www.essexcountyhabitat.org/application/ to get an application and instructions for applying. Applications are also available at Haverhill Public Library and Haverhill City Hall.

Applications will be accepted and approved on a first-come, first-served basis.
Application deadline extended to September 10, 2026

To qualify:

- You must be a first-time homebuyer (with some exceptions)
- You must have a qualifying household income (see chart)
- You must be willing to contribute 240-360 hours of "sweat equity" working to build your home or other Habitat homes.

Cost to you:

- Sales Price: \$245,000
- 3% down payment and approximately \$5,000 closing costs
- Mortgage, taxes, insurance, and condo fees are approximately \$1,900 - \$2,100*/month

A free translation will be provided on request.

New Deadline: September 10

QUALIFYING HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
Household Size	Minimum	Maximum
3	\$ 68,560	\$ 92,580
4	\$ 68,560	\$ 102,840
5	\$ 74,080	\$ 111,120
6	\$ 79,560	\$ 119,340

Based on 40%-60% of 2026 HUD-defined Area Median Income. Subject to change.

Essex County Habitat for Humanity
14 Park Street, Danvers MA 01923
(978) 681-8858
essexcountyhabitat.org for more info

In accordance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and the Fair Housing Act, Essex County Habitat for Humanity does not discriminate with regards to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, familial status, marital status, receipt of public assistance income or age (provided that the applicant has the capacity to enter into a binding contract).

*All amounts listed are subject to change.

Bread and Roses: Revelación del Logo de este año

Una vez más, el Festival ha colaborado con jóvenes de Movement City y Lawrence CommunityWorks para diseñar el logotipo de este año. Estén atentos a los anuncios sobre cómo pueden comprar la mercancía de este año.

La diseñadora del logotipo de este año, Franny, tiene esto que decir sobre su diseño:

¡Hola! Soy Franny, y soy estudiante de primer año de secundaria. He sido estudiante en Movement City durante tres años. He participado en todos los talleres que ofrece Movement City. He bailado, rapeado y creado arte digital y tradicional. Estos últimos tres años en

el programa han sido los mejores de mi vida, Movement City ha visto crecer mi confianza.

La inspiración para este logo provino de mi conexión con el edificio de Movement City, específicamente, la forma en que están dispuestos los ladrillos. La palabra "comunidad" también me recordó a mi propia comunidad en Movement City. Elegí diseñar manos porque siento que es la forma más sencilla de representar a la comunidad de Lawrence. "Construido por Trabajo Impulsado por la Comunidad" es un título que representa que solo las personas cercanas a ti son las que te apoyan a ti y a tus creaciones.



Bread and Roses Unveiling this year's Logo

Once again, the Festival has partnered with youth at Movement City and Lawrence CommunityWorks to design this year's logo. Stay tuned for announcements about how you can purchase this year's merch.

This year's logo designer, Franny, has this to say about her design:

Hi! I'm Franny, and I am a freshman in high school. I have been a student at Movement City for three years. I have participated in every workshop Movement City offers. I've danced, rapped, and created both digital and traditional art. These last three years in the program have been

the best of my life, Movement City has watched my confidence grow.

The inspiration for this logo came from my connection to the Movement City building itself specifically, the way the bricks are arranged. The word "community" also reminded me of my own community at Movement City. I chose to depict hands because I feel it is the simplest way to represent the community of Lawrence. "Built by Labor Powered by Community" is a title that represents that only the people that you're close with are the people that support you and your creations.

"Honor al soldado y al marino de todas partes que defienden con valentía la causa de su país. Honor, también, al ciudadano que se preocupa por su hermano en el campo de batalla y sirve, como mejor puede, a la misma causa".

"Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause."

Abraham Lincoln

EARLY-STAGE SUPPORT GROUP OPEN FORUM & DISCUSSION ON ZOOM



Wednesday, July 29 | 11 a.m.

Wednesday, August 26 | 11 a.m.

Wednesday, September 30 | 11 a.m.

A dementia diagnosis can be overwhelming. We invite those with early-stage dementia to join us for a guided conversation to connect with others who truly understand the specific challenges and emotions that they may be going through.

Join Bridges® memory care professionals to ask questions, share your concerns and connect with others who are coping with early-stage dementia – people who understand what you're experiencing.

Our experts will provide resources, information about the disease, and practical tips and advice to help you live a full, rewarding life while planning for the future.

TO REGISTER:
Bridges by EPOCH info@bridgesbyeepoch.com

Caregivers are invited to join in-person support groups.
Reach out to your Senior Advisor for details.



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978.289.4100
254 Lowell Street
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Arts**

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FEDERAL RESERVE PLAZA
600 ATLANTIC AVE, BOSTON, MA
SEPTEMBER 10
5:30 - 7:30 PM
REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY JULY 27, 2026 ON EVENTBRITE.COM

REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH AREA BELOW WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE:

- ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN
- HUMAN RESOURCES
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- CYBER
- LINGUIST
- INTELLIGENCE ANALYST
- SURVEILLANCE
- PARALEGAL

- MECHANIC
- FORENSIC ACCOUNTANTS
- SPECIAL AGENTS
- MEDIA
- VICTIM SERVICES
- NURSING
- EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR

PLEASE BRING VALID U.S. ID AND KEEP PROHIBITED ITEMS HOME (IE. WEAPONS, DRUGS, ETC)

Find us in / Búsqúenos en Facebook/**Rumbo**

Ken
Willette



Candidate for
State Representative,
4th Essex District

WE THE PEOPLE

VOTE FOR ACCOUNTABILITY & REFORM

1.

FULLY SUPPORT THE AUDIT.
Demand Transparency and Accountability on Beacon Hill

2.

REFORM STATE GOVERNMENT
and Redirect Savings to Local Aid and Schools.

3.

END THE MBTA COMMUNITIES ACT.
Protect Local Control and Character.

4.

REDUCE FEES IN UTILITY BILLS.
Lower Costs and Keep More in Your Pocket.

5.

REDUCE THE INCOME TAX FROM 5% TO 4%.
Put More of Your Hard-Earned Money Back in Your Pocket.

"I fully support Auditor Diana DiZoglio's
courageous efforts!"



Independents and Republicans are
encouraged to request a Republican ballot.
In the 4th Essex Representative race,
put in **Kenneth Willette**,
10 Burnham Road, Apt. 506A, Methuen.
Please Darken the Oval.
You have a voice on September 1st!

CALL KEN WILLETTE
AT (508) 954-7384

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Paid By The Campaign To Elect Ken Willette State Representative



DIVERSE
UNDERSTANDING

EDUCANDO • COMPRENDIENDO •
TRANSFORMANDO COMUNIDADES

COMPRIENDIENDO A
NUESTROS JÓVENES:
MÁS ALLÁ DE LA
CONDUCTA DESAFIANTE



PADRES,
CUIDADORES,
EDUCADORES Y
COMUNIDAD:
ESTE TALLER
ES PARA USTED.



TALLER COMUNITARIO PARA PADRES,
CUIDADORES, EDUCADORES Y
MIEMBROS DE LA COMUNIDAD

Muchos jóvenes enfrentan hoy desafíos emocionales, familiares, sociales y académicos que pueden manifestarse a través de conductas desafiantes, oposicionales, agresivas o de riesgo.



Lo que a menudo vemos como
"mal comportamiento" puede
ser la expresión de **necesidades
no atendidas** y experiencias
que merecen ser comprendidas.



¿POR QUÉ PARTICIPAR?

Porque comprender es el primer
paso para ayudar.
Cuando entendemos lo que hay detrás de
la conducta, podemos responder con
herramientas, apoyo y esperanza en lugar
de frustración y castigo.



Trastorno de Conducta



Impacto del trauma en el
comportamiento juvenil



Ansiedad, depresión y
regulación emocional



Influencia de las redes sociales
y la presión de grupo



Estrategias efectivas para
padres y cuidadores



Recursos comunitarios
disponibles para las familias



SOLOS NO PODEMOS HACERLO.
JUNTOS PODEMOS MARCAR LA DIFERENCIA.



AÚN NO SE HA DETERMINADO LA FECHA
Esperaremos al interés y suscripciones
de la comunidad para programar este
importante evento.
¡Regístrate hoy!

Regístrate para recibir información sobre la fecha,
ubicación y más detalles del evento.

SCAN ME!



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OUR PERUVIAN ROOTS!

Peruvian
NIGHT

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TRADITIONAL DANCES

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HANDCRAFTS & MORE

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SUNDAY
30
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2026

2:00 PM
TO
7:00 PM

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Massachusetts Cultural Council

Dedicado a Max Rosa

TORNEO de
ARROYO
vs
ARROYO
#44

FECHA: Sept 5, 2026

Donde: Hayden Schofield Playstead

178 Lawrence St.
Lawrence, MA

HORA: 8:30 AM

Info: Marisel Sevilla

Envia un menssje de texto al:

978-985-3942

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ReStore the Earth

REUSE & RECYCLE DRIVE

Saturday, September 19, from 10am - 1pm
at Habitat ReStore
647 Andover Street, Lawrence
in back parking lot
(Andover Street to Shepard Street, left into lot)

Stop by to donate:

Homegoods
including:
housewares, small
furniture, tools, lamps,
lawn & garden

Metal
including:
steel, aluminum, iron,
copper, brass, stain-
less, precious metals

Childrens
Items
including:
baby, children and
teen clothing, diapers
and baby equipment

Books/CDs
including:
hard and soft cover
books, audio books,
CDs, DVDs, video-
games

Please note: There is no dumpster on site.
If an item isn't accepted, please be prepared to bring it home.

Thank you to our partners:

ReStore.
Essex County Habitat for Humanity

BAY STATE

Community
Giving Tree

For more information visit:
<https://www.essexcountyhabitat.org/donation-drive/>

open to
residents
of all
towns!

250

America 250 / Lawrence Mass. 2026

The Lawrence Historical Commission (LHC)
will host a **FREE** America 250th event called,
**" 1776's PATRIOTS WITHIN
PRESENT DAY LAWRENCE, ITS
PEOPLE & PLACES"**

Our LHC presenters are Kate Hernandez, David
Meehan and Jonas Stundzia

Our guest speakers are from Historic Methuen
(J.Bella), North Andover Historical Society
(J. Callantine Kerr), & Andover Center for History &
Culture (M.Tubinis). Historical exhibit by the LHSP.

SAT. SEPT. 12, 2026 @ 1:30

LAW. HERITAGE STATE PARK

ONE JACKSON ST. LAWRENCE

JOIN US FOR THIS FREE EVENT