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PÁGINA 14

DESAYUNO CON LOS LEGISLADORES EN SAL'S

El Senador Steven Baddour (D-First Essex District) y el Senador Bruce Tarr (R-First Essex y Middlesex) recibieron un recuerdo del desayuno de manos de Joseph Bevilacqua, Presidente/CEO, Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce. A la izquierda, Bill Ketter, Editor, Eagle-Tribune.

LEGISLATORS BREAKFAST AT SAL'S Senator Steven Baddour (D-First Essex District) and Senator Bruce Tarr (R-First Essex and Middlesex) received a memento of the breakfast from Joseph Bevilacqua, President/CEO, Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce. At Left, Bill Ketter, Editor, Eagle-Tribune. PAGE 14



PÁGINA 28

EXITOSA BUSINESS EXPO

Lisa González-Welch, Maurice L. Dubé, Director de Distrito del SBA y Orlando Salazar, miembro directivo de MVCC, durante la exposición.

SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS EXPO Lisa Gonzalez-Welch, Maurice L. Dubé, SBA District Director, and Chamber Board Member Orlando Salazar, at the Business Expo. PAGE 28



PÁGINA 15

AMIGOS DE VERÓNICA UNIDOS EN SU AYUDA

Verónica Casado, rodeada de sus hijos Sean, 4, y Valerie, 7, pidió a todos sus amigos que recen por ella.

VERONICA'S FRIENDS RALLY TO HELP With her children Sean, 4, and Valerie, 7, hugging her, Veronica Casado asks all her friends to pray for her. PAGE 15



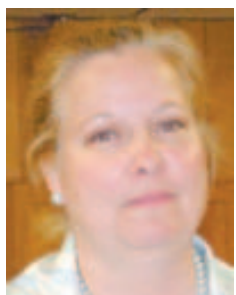
PÁGINA 3

VIGILIA POR LOS INMIGRANTES ILEGALES

El Párroco de la Iglesia Santa María de la Asunción, Reverendo Jorge A. Reyes, se unió a los manifestantes y oró por una solución justa y pacífica al problema de los inmigrantes indocumentados.

CANDLE LIGHT RALLY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Vicar, Reverend Jorge Reyes, OSA, joined the demonstrators and prayed for a just and peacefully solution to the undocumented immigrants' problems. PAGE 22



IT'S ALL ABOUT RIGHT(S)
BY ELLEN BAHAN

123 Deadlight

The council meeting of April 3, 2006 amounted to a big win for the people of Methuen.

Page 17

Cosecha Borincana se prepara para su octavo festival

Por Beatriz Pérez | Página 5

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Editorial

RUMBONEWS.COM/EDITORIAL

El dilema del seguro de salud en MA

El Gobernador Mitt Romney ha firmado la ley aprobada por la Cámara de Representantes y el Senado que requiere que cada ciudadano compre seguro de salud, haciendo de este estado el primero en la nación que provee cobertura de salud a la mayoría de sus ciudadanos.

Se requerirá que la industria privada provea seguro de salud a sus empleados y aquellos que no lo hagan, los Demócratas y los proveedores de cuidado de salud quieren imponerle una penalidad de \$295 anuales por trabajador, pagaderos al estado. El Republicano Romney vetó este requisito, creando la primera fricción de la legislación.

Todos sabemos que esto va a ser muy costoso. Entre tanto, se han creado provisiones para los pobres que no puedan pagar este seguro.

Esta fue una movida audaz de parte de los legisladores y el gobernador, ya que no se ha hecho en ninguna otra parte del país y el Gobernador Romney ha advertido que hasta que el sistema esté en funcionamiento después del 1ro. de julio, 2007, las cosas no van a ser fáciles.

Tengamos confianza que para cuando todos los detalles estén finalizados, la ley provea una cobertura asequible para todos.

The health insurance dilemma in MA

Governor Mitt Romney has signed into law a bill approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate requiring every resident to buy health insurance, making this state the first in the nation to provide health coverage to the majority of its citizens.

Private industries will be required to provide health insurance to their employees and to those that don't, Democrats and health care providers want to penalize them with a fee of \$295 per worker each year, payable to the state. Romney, a Republican, vetoed the requirement, creating the first friction of the legislation.

We all know that this could be very costly. Meanwhile, provisions have been made for the very poor who may not afford this coverage.

It was a bold move by our legislators and the governor since it has not been done anywhere else in the country and Governor Romney has warned that things may get rocky for a while as the system gets in place after July 1, 2007.

Let's remain confident that by the time all details are finalized, the law will provide everyone with affordable coverage.

CARTAS AL EDITOR | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
RUMBO 315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843
Email: rumbo@rumbonews.com

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

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

La saga nunca que termina con la televisión por cable

Por Dalia Díaz

Desde el 1999 mi esposo Alberto Surís y yo hemos venido luchando con el tema que Lawrence debe tener un canal de acceso público como el resto de las ciudades y pueblos que pagan por el servicio de cable.

La política han desempeñado un papel grande en todas las decisiones tomadas y cuando finalmente pensamos que la lucha ha terminado (incluso si no es a nuestra satisfacción), encontramos que no hemos terminado.

El problema es que no hay comunicación entre los departamentos de la ciudad. Por ejemplo, nadie le ha dicho al Presidente del concilio de la ciudad que él ya no tiene autoridad sobre el equipo o la estación. El Presidente Patrick Blanchette del concilio admitió en una conversación telefónica conmigo que él no tenía idea que el antiguo sistema había cambiado. Él continúa al cargo de la programación del canal 22, el Canal Gubernamental, aún después de haber formado una organización no lucrativa "con el fin de operar, mantener y administrar las instalaciones de televisión del canal de Acceso Público y el canal Gubernamental en la Ciudad Lawrence, Massachusetts." Eso explica muchos de los malentendidos y por qué las cosas están en tan malas condiciones. ¡Nadie está hablando!

En octubre del 2004, Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc. (LCAT) fue creado con el fin de administrar la Estación de Acceso Público (el canal 8) y la estación de Acceso del Gobierno (el canal 22). Este ha sido un camino difícil y las cosas no se han desarrollado como debía ser, principalmente que terminamos con un estudio que apenas se puede utilizar debido a su tamaño.

Mientras que usted está leyendo, tenga también presente que esta organización funciona con 100% del dinero de los suscriptores del cable. Un

Artículo 3 de los estatutos del Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc. (LCAT)

La organización Televisión de Acceso de la Comunidad de Lawrence, Inc. (Lawrence Community Access Televisión, Inc.) es una entidad caritativa no lucrativa con el fin de operar, mantener y administrar las instalaciones de televisión del canal de Acceso Público y el canal Gubernamental en la Ciudad Lawrence, Massachusetts.

La Televisión de Acceso de la Comunidad de Lawrence, Inc. se organizó para desarrollar y para promover programación de asuntos de interés público, cultural, deportes comunitarios, literario y caritativos por los canales de televisión pública y del gobierno, incluyendo entrenamiento educacional acreditado y programación.

La Televisión de Acceso de la Comunidad de Lawrence, Inc. animará el uso del público a las instalaciones de acceso a la televisión, animando la expresión de ideas y de opiniones en una amplia gama de asuntos, así como sostener talleres con el fin de enseñar destrezas de televisión a individuos y a grupos comunitarios. La corporación manejará los fondos señalados para su uso y programará el uso del canal público y del gobierno para que tengan acceso al equipo de video y a las instalaciones y asegurará que su uso no será comercial y no discriminará en el uso de las instalaciones y canales de Acceso Público y Acceso del Gobierno.

La Televisión de Acceso de la Comunidad de Lawrence, Inc. se gobernará de acuerdo con todas las leyes Federales, Estatales y Locales.

porcentaje de lo que pagamos el servicio de cable en el país se vuelve a la ciudad para operar estas estaciones.

Los trabajadores voluntarios han continuado

VER **CANAL 8:**
CONT. EN LA PÁGINA 12

The never ending saga of Cable TV

By Dalia Díaz

Since 1999 my husband Alberto Surís and I have been battling the issue that Lawrence should have a public access channel like all other cities and towns paying for cable service.

Politics have played a big role in all the decisions made and when we finally thought that the fight was over (even if not to our satisfaction), we find that it isn't.

The problem is that there is no communication

among city departments. For example, no one has told the President of the City Council that he no longer has authority over that equipment or that station. Council President Patrick Blanchette admitted in a telephone conversation with me that he had no idea that the old system had changed. He has continued

SEE **CHANNEL 8:**
CONT. ON PAGE 10

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315 Mt. Vernon Street
Lawrence, MA 01843

rumbo@rumbonews.com

WWW.RUMBONEWS.COM

Tel: (978) 794-5360
Fax: (978) 975-7922

CONTRIBUTORS:

Dalia Díaz, Directora
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

Alberto M. Surís, Director de Ventas & Circulación
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

Richard A. Aybar, Diagramación
richard@rumbonews.com

Ellen Bahan
Frank Benjamín
Corina Hopkins
Paul V. Montesino, PhD
Maureen Nimmo

Jorge L. Núñez
Milton L. Ortiz
Beatriz Pérez
Arturo Ramo García
Mayté Rivera

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Lantigua alaba nueva ley del cuidado de la salud

Comenzando una nueva era de cuidado de la salud en Massachusetts, la legislatura ha aprobado efusivamente una medida que dará cobertura a casi todos los residentes del estado que hoy no cuentan con seguro médico en el término de tres años.

Basado en el principio de la responsabilidad que comparten los individuos, las empresas donde trabajen y el gobierno esta decisión jugará un papel muy importante en asegurar acceso casi universal al cuidado médico y preservar cientos de millones de dólares en fondos federales.

“Me alegra reportar que la Legislatura

está haciendo la reforma del cuidado médico una realidad en Massachusetts,” dijo Lantigua. “Mis colegas y yo somos parte de un momento histórico para reparar un sistema deficiente y proveer una cobertura de buena calidad a buen precio.” Unos 500,000 residentes serán beneficiados como resultado de esto.

Entre las provisiones de la ley están:

MANDATO INDIVIDUAL:

Obedeciendo a la tradición de primicias en Massachusetts, esta ley crea un el primer mandato en la nación que requiere que todos los residentes que puedan pagarlo compren

seguro de salud.

RESPONSABILIDAD DEL PATRONO:

La legislación crea un nuevo sistema de Contribución Justa requiriendo que todos los negocios contribuyan hacia el costo del seguro de salud de sus empleados.

NUEVO SUBSIDIO DEL ESTADO:

La nueva ley establece un subsidio para las personas con una entrada menor del 300 por ciento del Nivel Federal de Pobreza. Los adultos con entradas de hasta el 100 por ciento del Nivel Federal de Pobreza (\$9,700) serán elegibles para obtener cobertura sin tener que pagar primas.

EXPANSIÓN DE MASSHEALTH:

La legislación expande el programa de MassHealth a incluir a niños de familias hasta el 300 por ciento del Nivel Federal de Pobreza (\$48,000 para una familia de tres). Además, restaura todos los beneficios que fueron eliminados previamente, incluyendo servicios dentales y de visión, quiroprácticos y prótesis, y también crea un programa piloto para dejar de fumar para los miembros de MassHealth.

TASA DE REEMBOLSO JUSTO:

La ley aumenta el reembolso que los hospitales, médicos y centro comunitarios de salud reciben por tratar a los pacientes del estado. Estos aumentos están atados a

la calidad y otras medidas.

“La Cámara de Representantes estima que todos debemos ser parte de la solución,” dijo Lantigua. “Dejamos claro que apoyamos el compartir la responsabilidad para asegurarnos que el gobierno, los residentes y los comercios están trabajando hacia la misma meta de reducir significativamente el número de personas sin seguro en Massachusetts y colaborar con el costo por igual. Me alegra saber que la versión final contiene estas partes esenciales.”

Una vez que sea implementado, este plan será el modelo nacional. “Massachusetts una vez más es el líder en la nación con un plan innovador que logrará la tan ansiada meta de expandir el cuidado médico para todos,” dijo el Senador Edgard M. Kennedy (D-Massachusetts). “No hubiésemos podido lograr este histórico acuerdo sin el fuerte liderazgo del Presidente del Senado Travaglini y el Presidente de la Cámara de Representantes DiMasi. Sus destrezas creando esta legislación y su dedicación de verlo hecho realidad han sido extraordinarias.”

“No es ninguna exageración decir que esta es una ley histórica,” dijo el Representante Lantigua. “Estoy orgulloso del haber sido el ejemplo para el resto del país y me siento honrado de haber podido contribuir a este esfuerzo.”

Vigilia por los inmigrantes ilegales



Miembros de Merrimack Valley People for Peace, con banderas de colores y velas eléctricas se unieron a la vigilia.

Members of the Merrimack Valley People for Peace, with colorful flags and candle lights, joined the demonstrators.

Por Alberto Surís

El pasado lunes, 10 de abril, 2006, se produjo en Lawrence la segunda demostración a favor de los inmigrantes ilegales, esta vez en forma de una pacífica vigilia. Varios cientos de participantes estuvieron parados en la intersección de la Calle Essex con la Calle Broadway por espacio de una hora, algunos de ellos portando velas

Contrario a la demostración anterior, ninguno de los dos principales organizadores de la semana pasada, Martina y José Cruz participaron de esta. En su lugar, un sacerdote católico, el Vicario de la Parroquia de Santa María de la Asunción, el Reverendo Jorge Reyes, OSA, y el Reverendo Pastor Rafael Blanco se unieron a los manifestantes y rogaron por una solución justa y pacífica a los problemas de los inmigrantes ilegales.

“Pedimos a las autoridades que hagan los cambios necesarios para tratar a estos millones de trabajadores con justicia. Ellos están aquí para engrandecer y colaborar con esta gran nación”, dijo el Reverendo Blanco.

“We are America” (Nosotros somos América), dijo Brian De Peña, cambiando el tono de la vigilia. “Hoy protestamos - mañana votamos”, dijo De Peña motivando a la multitud. De Peña le dio

crédito al ex Concejal at-Large Marcos Devers por haber sido el que consiguiera el permiso con la policía para hacer la manifestación. “Debemos mantener el orden, no se bajen de las aceras”, dijo De Peña a una multitud que mostró un comportamiento digno de admiración.

“Nosotros no estamos arrimados. Estados Unidos nos pertenece”, dijo el ex-Concejal at-Large Marcos Devers. “Este mismo presidente que nos gastamos, George Bush, admitió que estos inmigrantes engrandecen esta nación. Todos trabajamos, por eso somos dueños de esta nación”, dijo Devers.

Tom Meyers, Presidente de la Unión de Maestros de Andover, pasaba en su auto cuando vio la manifestación, estacionó y se unió a ella. “Todos somos parte de este país”, dijo Meyers. “Este país será más fuerte si respetamos los derechos de todos – QUE VIVAN LOS INMIGRANTES”, dijo Meyers en español, para deleite de la multitud.

Meyers recomienda ver la película titulada ‘Un día sin mejicanos’. “Es una comedia muy simpática pero muy real de lo que serían los Estados Unidos sin mejicanos”, dijo Meyers cuya familia, por parte de su esposa es mejicana..



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Cosecha Borincana se prepara para su octavo festival

Por Beatriz Pérez

Por espacio de 8 años la organización Cosecha Borincana celebra el aniversario del Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico con un evento donde la riqueza cultural y los elementos folclóricos de la Isla del Encanto tienen su espacio en el "Festival Cultural Puertorriqueño".

La exhibición de 500 años de historia de los Indios Tainos desde Puerto Rico hasta la República Dominicana, con el legado musical de hoy como la salsa, el reggaeton alternando con el ritmo del merengue y la bachata.

Este año Cosecha Borincana busca unificar nuestros valores como una comunidad de inmigrantes.

Este año uniendo fuerzas con el Taller Bohike, Taller Borinqueño, Las Batutas del Movimiento Puertorriqueño y por primera vez la organización le da la bienvenida al talento local y multicultural para participar en la celebración del aniversario del Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico.

El evento está programado para celebrarse el 23 de julio en el parque Campagnone. Para más información los interesados pueden comunicarse con dmelendez@lmcconline.com / Tallerbohike@comncast.net.

La junta directiva de Cosecha Borincana compuesta por Domingo Meléndez, presidente; Nolin Vásquez, vicepresidente; Sarah Álvarez, Secretaria; Rosa Cruz, Tesorera; y Angel Nazario, Relaciones, informó que este año como un modo de recaudar fondos para ayudar a aquellas organizaciones que se dedican a proyectar el trabajo de la juventud, han elaborado una oferta especial dirigida a empresarios, entidades gubernamentales y comerciantes para que se conviertan en auspiciadores del festival y con el dinero adquirido apoyar a los miembros de grupos integrados por jóvenes como: Taller Bohike, Batutas del Movimiento Puertorriqueño y Taller Borinqueño entre otras quienes en ocasiones no pueden cumplir con sus compromisos de presentación por no contar con los fondos necesarios para adquirir sus vestuarios.

De acuerdo a Domingo Meléndez, en esta ocasión el proyecto es más ambicioso y más amplio ya que entiende que el grupo que dirige existe el talento suficiente para realizar un trabajo mucho mejor y con más calidad que el realizado en años anteriores.

"Para lograr esto teníamos que enfocarnos en hacer un trabajo más profesional y más ambicioso", destacó.

Considera Meléndez, que es mucho el trabajo que falta por hacer y que aunque son un pequeño grupo en cantidad, tiene mucha calidad ya que sí responde a las necesidades y a los objetivos del Festival Cultural Puertorriqueño.

"Podemos hacer mucho y sé que vamos a lograr el éxito y la meta que nos hemos propuesto", dijo.

El poder contar con un grupo musical de renombre que cierre el festival, que pueda crear la expectativa y lograr apoyo de personas de otras ciudades es otro de los objetivos de este trabajo mancomunado de vender el libro de este año que la directiva de Cosecha Borincana está realizando.

En estos momentos el principal enfoque de los miembros de Cosecha Borincana es



Miembros de la directiva de Cosecha Borincana

poder desarrollar una efectiva campaña de mercadeo dirigida a todos los sectores y conseguir el apoyo que necesitan para hacer del Octavo Festival Puertorriqueño un éxito de todos los lawrencianos.

La misión de Cosecha Borincana aparte de conmemorar el aniversario de Commonwealth de Puerto Rico, es motivar a la comunidad puertorriqueña a compartir la historia, las tradiciones, las creencias y el folclore de su tierra nativa con otros grupos étnicos.

Asimismo promover los valores comunes con otras nacionalidades, mejorar la comunicación, la integración y el entendimiento de nuestra comunidad. Al

igual que contribuir con el desarrollo social y económico en la Ciudad de Lawrence.

"Deseamos además ver hecho realidad el sueño de una mejor calidad de vida para nuestras familias", aseguró Ángel Nazario.

Este año las personalidades de origen puertorriqueño que serán reconocidas en el Festival Cultural Puertorriqueño son: el Jefe de la Policía John Romero, el Superintendente Escolar Wilfredo Laboy, Dolores Calaf, Directora del Centro de Lawrence de Cambridge College, Frank Bonet del Departamento de Personal del ayuntamiento e Isabel Meléndez del programa hispano del Greater Lawrence Community Action Council.

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ACT RECIBE \$60,000 PARA ENTRENAR A EMPRESARIOS

El Representante Estatal William Lantigua otorgó \$60,000 a Arlington Community Trabajando (ACT). Los fondos proveerán a los comercios del vecindario de Arlington con entrenamiento y asistencia técnica a través de una iniciativa para diversificar el comercio.

La directora de la organización Ana Luna, reconoció la habilidad del Representante Estatal William Lantigua de traer dinero a Lawrence y su compromiso de seguir financiando organizaciones como ACT que están dedicadas a mejorar el vecindario de Arlington. Lantigua enfatizó que él “continuará trabajando para traer los tan necesitados recursos a nuestros vecindarios.”

Anabelle Rondón, Coordinadora del Desarrollo del Comercio, personalmente agradeció al Representante Lantigua y sus colegas por sus esfuerzos con esta iniciativa, “gracias a la labor de Lantigua, ACT ha proveído apoyo a más de 60 negocios del área. Este año usaremos estos fondos para expandir nuestros servicios enfocándonos en mujeres empresarias y poder impactar a un número mayor de comercios actuales y futuros.”

ACT tiene planeado una serie de talleres en mayo del 2006 para cualquier persona que desee comenzar un negocio. Para saber más sobre las oportunidades para voluntarios o más información respecto a Arlington Community Trabajando y sus programas, favor de ponerse en contacto con Anabelle Rondón al (978) 685-6274.

Act Receives \$60,000 to Train Local Entrepreneurs



Anabelle Rondón, Business Development Coordinator for BDI, Representative William Lantigua, and Ana Luna, Director, Arlington Community Trabajando.

State Representative William Lantigua awarded \$60,000.00 to Arlington Community Trabajando (ACT). The funds will provide Arlington neighborhood businesses with training and technical assistance opportunities through our Business Diversity Initiative (BDI).

The organization's director Ana Luna, recognized State Representative William Lantigua for his ability to bring funds to Lawrence and his commitment to keep funding organizations like ACT who are devoted to improving the Arlington neighborhood. Lantigua emphasized that

“...This year we will use the funds to expand our services by focusing on women entrepreneurs and impact a greater number of current and future businesses.”

he “will continue working to bring the much-needed resources into our neighborhoods”.

Anabelle Rondón, Business Development Coordinator for BDI, personally thanked State Representative Lantigua and his colleagues for their efforts to fund this initiative, “thanks to Lantigua's hard-work, ACT has provided support to over 60 businesses in the area. This year we will use the funds to expand our services by focusing on women entrepreneurs and impact a greater number of current and future businesses.”

ACT has planned a series of workshops in May 2006 for everyone wishing to start new businesses. For volunteer opportunities or more information regarding Arlington Community Trabajando and its programs, please contact Anabelle Rondón at 978-685-6274.

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Por Dawna Pérez

Instituciones financieras discuten las prácticas de prestamistas en Lawrence

Lawrence Literacy Works, conjunto a Northern Essex Community College y Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council, Inc. auspició un foro titulado "Banking on Literacy" (Aprendiendo Sobre la Banca) para discutir las implicaciones de un reciente estudio comisionado por el Centro de Aprendizaje Sobre Inmigrantes y auspiciado por Nellie Mae.

El estudio, por el Dr. Jorge Santiago, profesor asociado en Northern Essex Community College, se enfoca en los inmigrantes que compran casas en Lawrence y Lowell. *Compradores Inmigrantes en Lowell y Lawrence, Massachusetts: la Clave de la Revitalización de las Ciudades* detalla las destrezas que los inmigrantes traen a la economía local y los riesgos y peligros a los que se enfrentan al obtener hipotecas.

El foro fue seguido de una discusión acerca de las formas en que los bancos y las cooperativas de crédito pueden asistir a la comunidad inmigrante obteniendo educación, entrenamiento y una tasa razonable de financiamiento así como alternativas para reducir el alto porcentaje de adjudicaciones bancarias en la ciudad.



La representación de instituciones financieras en el foro incluyó Enterprise Bank & Trust, Lawrence Savings Bank, Lowell Five, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union, Northmark Bank, Sovereign Bank, Southern New Hampshire Bank, y The Savings Bank.

El Dr. Jorge Santiago con Dawna Perez y el Presidente de Northern Essex Community College, David Hartleb.

Dr. Jorge Santiago, Dawna Perez and David Hartleb, president of Northern Essex Community College.



La presentación fue hecha por el Dr. Jorge Santiago quien aparece aquí con Juan Gomez y Richard Chavez de Enterprise Bank.

Presenter Dr. Jorge Santiago with Juan Gomez and Richard Chavez of Enterprise Bank.



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FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DISCUSS MORTGAGE LENDING PRACTICES IN LAWRENCE

By Dawna Perez

Lawrence Literacy Works, in conjunction with Northern Essex Community College and the Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council, Inc. sponsored a "Banking on Literacy" forum to discuss the implications of a recent study commissioned by the Immigrant Learning Center and sponsored by Nellie Mae.

The study, by Dr. Jorge Santiago, an Associate Professor at Northern Essex Community College, focuses on immigrant homebuyers in Lawrence and Lowell. *Immigrant Homebuyers in Lawrence and Lowell, Massachusetts: Keys to the Revitalization of the Cities* details the assets that immigrants bring to our local economies and the risks and perils they face in obtaining mortgages.

The forum was followed by a discussion of ways for banks and credit unions to assist the immigrant community in obtaining education, training and reasonable financing rates as well as alternative ways to decrease the high foreclosure rates in the city.

Bank representation at the forum included Enterprise Bank & Trust, Lawrence Savings Bank, Lowell Five, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union, Northmark Bank, Sovereign Bank, Southern New Hampshire Bank, and The Savings Bank.

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Lucy Báez & Delia Durán

MUJER DEL AÑO

La organización "Nosotras: Una Fuerza Natural" está celebrando su cuarto aniversario y con tal motivo rindieron homenaje a una de sus integrantes, Lucy Báez quien unánimemente fue elegida Mujer del Año dentro de su grupo.

Lucy es una mujer de una fortaleza física y espiritual increíble. Es madre de cuatro hermosos niños. Es estudiante universitaria, esposa, a la vez que sostiene un demandante trabajo en la Ciudad de Boston. Lucy es el alma de nuestro grupo. Su continua jocosidad y forma criolla de ver la vida nos brinda un refrescante aire emocional.

Para Lucy no hay nada imposible. Es una mujer de una entereza admirable y con su dulzura y autenticidad se ha ganado un lugar especial dentro del grupo.

"GANANDO CON DIABETES"

"Ganando con Diabetes" es un programa educativo para personas diabeticas de habla hispana, mayores de 50 años que viven en la Ciudad de Lawrence.

Se ofrecerá información acerca de cómo manejar la diabetes por medio de medicinas, dietas y ejercicios.

Se servirán comidas en estilo latino, basadas en alimentos latinos y enfatizando el control de las porciones.

Para más información o para inscribirse en el programa, comuníquese con Nélide Vatcher, Coordinadora de Diabetes, al 978-794-5886.

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- Forbes Magazine, Septiembre 16, 2005

"El Examen Digital es Mejor para Encontrar Cáncer del Seno"

- Seattle Times, Septiembre 17, 2005

"Hay Pruebas Sobre los Exámenes Digitales del Seno: ¡Son Mejores!"

- Detroit Free Press, Septiembre 17, 2005



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SENIORNET COMPUTER CLASS REGISTRATION

The SeniorNet Learning Center is now accepting enrollment for the next class sessions. Classes begin the week of May 8, 2006 and finish June 26, 2006. We offer small, limited class sizes in a state-of-the-art computer lab with instructors who are sensitive to the educational experience of the older learner.

SeniorNet helps enhance the lives of older learners through the use of computers and the Internet, which enables them to share their knowledge, wisdom and friendship with other generations.

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MONDAY 5/8/06 to 6/26/06, 1-3 pm

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Tuesday, 5/9/06 to 6/27/06, 9-11 am

Managing Your Checkbook

Wednesday, 5/10/06 to 6/28/06 9-11 am

The Internet

Thursday, 5/11/06 to 6/29/06, 9-11 am

You Create It" - Computer Graphics

Thursday, 5/11/06 to 6/29/06 1-3 pm

Word Processing

Friday, 5/12/06 to 6/30/06 9-11 am

Exploring Windows XP

Meehan to Host Town Meeting on College Affordability

Congressman Marty Meehan (D-MA) will host a Town Meeting about college affordability at Northern Essex Community College on April 15, 2006. Meehan has invited all residents from Haverhill, Andover, Lawrence, and Methuen to join him and a panel of college admissions and financial aid experts for this important discussion on the rising cost of college tuition and how to improve the availability of higher education.

"For America to remain the most competitive and innovative nation, we must continue to lead the world in human talent and creativity. Investing in our education system is the key to achieving this goal," said Meehan. "Sadly, a college education is now out of the reach for many Massachusetts students. Now, more than ever, it is important that families understand federal, state and private financial aid opportunities, as well as the college admissions process."

Meehan released a report last week that analyzes the dramatic increase of college tuition in Massachusetts over the last decade. The report finds that tuition and fees at public colleges in Massachusetts increased by more than 70% in the last ten years, and nearly 60% at private colleges in the same time period, putting a college education out of reach for an increasing number of high school graduates in Massachusetts.

Meehan's report finds that the total cost of an education at a public college in Massachusetts, including tuition, mandatory fees and room and board, has nearly doubled in the last ten years, from \$3,646 in 1996-97 to \$6,215 in 2005-06. The average tuition and fees of the private schools sampled in 1996-97 was \$16,952 and in 2005-06 that figure was \$26,723.

Most startling is the fact that inflation does not account for the cost increases over the last decade. Total costs have risen more than twice as fast as inflation at both public and private institutions. At private schools, total cost rose by 53% and at public schools total cost rose by 65%, while inflation only accounted for a growth of 25%.

LIMPIEZA DE CAMP OTTER

22 DE ABRIL, 2006 - DE 10:00 AM A 2:00 PM

Favor de ayudar a la YMCA a celebrar el regreso de la primavera y despertar a Camp Otter, el campamento de verano. Serviremos una picadera ligera. Si tiene guantes, carretilla, rakes, etc. Por favor tráigalos.

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YMCA'S ANNUAL DAY OF FAMILY FUN AND FITNESS: Healthy Kids' Day 2006

Family fun and fitness was the theme of the YMCA's annual open house Healthy Kids' Day celebration. The Merrimack Valley YMCA provided an opportunity for parents and children to have fun together. More than 500 children joined in the festivities held at the Lawrence YMCA, Andover/North Andover YMCA, and Methuen YMCA on Saturday, April 8.

Healthy Kids' Day participants enjoyed such activities as indoor relay races, family wallyball, face painting, family obstacle course, moon-bounce, indoor hockey, volleyball, swimming, arts and crafts and much more.



Brianna Abru, age 10, and Narly Cabral, age 13, make a splash!



Mikaela Eisenhood, age 6, runs through the obstacle course. She's pictured with her mother Maura Eisenhood. They reside in North Andover.



Bisi Obasa and her son Deion Lightfoot, age 5, of Lawrence, are at the arts & crafts table at the Lawrence YMCA



Anushka Philip, age 2, get a uosh from YMCA volunteer Jessica McDonald. Both girls are from North Andover.

Sisters Monique Mai, age 10, and Melanie Mai, age 7, take a break from indoor soccer during the Methuen YMCA's Healthy Kids' Day celebration. The girls are from Methuen.



Greeting guests at the Lawrence YMCA is Roberto Castro.



Jocelyn Mongell gets a lift on the parallel bars by Angel Lopez of the Andover/North Andover YMCA's Sports Department during Healthy Kids' Day.



Maxwell Sullivan, age 3 of Plaistow, NH, is busy coloring at Healthy Kids' Day.

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AVISO IMPORTANTE

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Debido al día de fiesta de los Patriotas en lunes 17 de abril, la colección de basura, reciclaje, y desechos de patio será atrasada un día esa semana. La basura y los reciclables serán colectados el sábado 22 de abril. La colección de de desechos de patio será desde el martes 18 hasta el sábado 22. **Si no sabe su día, llame al número telefónico que aparece abajo.** Ponga sus desechos sólidos después de las 4 de la tarde el día anterior y antes de la 7 de la mañana el día de colección. Gracias de antemano por su cooperación.

SI TIENE ALGUNA DUDA, PUEDE LLAMAR AL DEPARTAMENTO DE OBRAS PÚBLICAS AL 978-794-5762.

GRACIAS

Isaías Rivera provee servicio comunitario en México



Isaías Rivera de Methuen, recientemente llevó a un grupo de estudiantes de Gordon College a

Tijuana, México para servir en una iglesia en El Pipila, un vecindario local, durante el receso de primavera.

El Pipila está localizado en uno de los peores vecindarios de Tijuana por motivo de gangas y drogas. Gordon College se ha unido a la visión de esta iglesia durante los últimos siete años ayudando en el vecindario.

Rivera es estudiante de Custodial Services Manager for Physical Plant en Gordon College. Este es su segundo viaje a Tijuana con un equipo de Gordon.

Gordon College es una institución nacionalmente reconocida de cuatro años, sin denominación religiosa y Cristiana para artes liberales al norte de Boston. El college ofrece 36 grados en artes liberales y ciencias. También ofrece programas graduados en educación y música. En años recientes, Gordon ha sido reconocido nacionalmente por su excelencia en general, el alto calibre de la facultad y su papel en la creación del buen carácter.

CHANNEL 8:

CONT. FROM PAGE 2

exercising undue power over what is broadcasted on Channel 22, the Government Channel after a non-profit organization was established for "the purpose of operating, maintaining, and managing the Public, and Government Cable Television access facilities in the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts." That explains lots of misunderstandings and why things are so mess up. Nobody's talking!

In October of 2004, Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc. (LCAT) was created for the purpose of managing the Public Access Station (Channel 8) and the Government Access Station (Channel 22). It has been a difficult road and things have not developed as they should have, namely that we ended up with a studio that can hardly be used for anything due to its size.

While you are reading, keep also in mind that this organization operates with 100% of cable subscribers' money. A percentage of what we pay for cable service at home comes back to the city to run these stations.

Volunteers continued working with the new administration hoping that things would settle down someday and everything is taking its course by now at Channel 8. New cameras and other equipment have been purchased by LCAT for the City Council Chamber to transmit all the meetings held there by members of the Council as well as Boards and Commissions.

Although Ginny Alexander, LCAT's station manager has been cooperative offering assistance to anyone looking for help, we have disagreements as to what belongs on Channel 8. We argue over the fact that the mayor's show "Lawrence on the Move" is being shown on Channel 8 but it belongs on the Government Channel (22).

Another point of contention is that the

Article 3 of the Articles of Incorporation of Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc (LCAT)

Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc. is a non-profit charitable organization that is organized for the purpose of operating, maintaining, and managing the Public, and Government Cable Television access facilities in the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc. is organized to develop and promote cultural, literary, charitable, community sports and public affairs programming over the Public and Government Cable Television access channels, including available accredited educational training and programming.

Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc. will encourage the use of the Public Television Access facilities, encouraging the expression of ideas and opinions on a wide range of topics, as well as holding workshops for the purpose of teaching television skills to individuals and community groups. The Corporation shall manage funds designated for its use and shall schedule the use of the Public and Government Access video equipment and facilities and shall assure non-commercial and non-discriminatory use of all Public and Government Access television facilities and channels.

Lawrence Community Access Television, Inc. shall govern itself in accordance with all Federal, State and Local laws.

El problema es que no hay comunicación entre los departamentos de la ciudad. ... nadie le ha dicho al Presidente del concilio de la ciudad que él ya no tiene autoridad sobre el equipo o la estación.

Perhaps they are waiting for me to take the lead on the subject.

We must wonder who is really in charge and why these things happen. Supposedly, the control has been given to the non-profit created to operate both stations. Who at LCAT is responsible for what happens? While Ms. Alexander is the station manager, they are run by a board of directors and it has been close to a year since the last time they held a meeting. You should be advised that these meetings were illegally held in secret. Being a public agency, supported by the public's money, every person interested in the future of the Public Access Channel should be allowed to participate – after all, it's our money!

In the end, no one's watching the hen house. Demand change.

playback equipment that is now housed in the City Council's office should be moved to the Essex St. studios where she can control what gets played. While Ginny agrees with me, nothing is happening.

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Eighth Annual Blue Ribbon Campaign Breakfast

On Friday, April 7th the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, in partnership with the Exchange Clubs of the Merrimack Valley sponsored the Eighth Annual Blue Ribbon Campaign Breakfast. The event was held at the Andover Wyndham with over 200 in attendance. The special guest speaker was Senator Steven Baddour whose work as a legislator is part of a lifelong commitment to advocacy and community service.

Special recognition was given to Faustina Deleon for her many years of dedicated service to the Michael B. Christensen Family Support Center, which included many weeks of 40-hour of volunteerism. A tearful "Tina" was given a standing ovation by all those in attendance.



El viernes, 7 de abril, el Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, en sociedad con los Exchange Clubs del Valle de Merrimack auspició el Eighth Annual Blue Ribbon Campaign Breakfast, un desayuno celebrando sus esfuerzos en la prevención de abuso infantil. La actividad tuvo lugar en el Wyndham de Andover con más de 200 personas en asistencia. El orador principal fue el Senador Steven Baddour cuyo trabajo como legislador es parte de su compromiso de antaño de servicio comunitario.

Un reconocimiento especial fue otorgado a Faustina Deleon por sus muchos años de dedicado servicio en el Centro de Apoyo Familiar Michael B. Christensen, el cual incluye muchas semanas de 40 horas de trabajo voluntario. Una conmovida "Tina" recibió una ovación por todos los asistentes.



EXÁMENES DE CÁNCER GRATUITOS

En los Estados Unidos, el cáncer es la segunda causa principal de muertes. Casi la mitad de los hombres y un poco más de una tercera parte de las mujeres padecerán de cáncer durante su vida.

En la actualidad, hay millones de personas que viven con cáncer o que han padecido la enfermedad. El riesgo de contraer la mayoría de los tipos de cáncer se puede reducir mediante cambios en el estilo de vida de la persona, por ejemplo, dejando de fumar o consumiendo alimentos más saludables. Mientras más pronto se detecte el cáncer y más rápido comience el tratamiento, mayores serán las probabilidades de que el paciente viva por muchos años.

El hospital Caritas Holy Family Hospital Centro del Manejo del Cáncer, 70 East Street, Methuen, MA estará ofreciendo exámenes gratuitos de detección del cáncer del oído y nasofaringe el 17 de abril, de 11:00 a.m. a 3:00 p.m. Para información en español llame al (781) 314-2634.

El 20 de abril, de 3:00 a 4:00 p.m. estarán ofreciendo exámenes gratuitos de detección del cáncer de la cavidad oral. Para información en español llame al (781) 314-2634.

Woman's Agenda 2006

8th Annual Women & Policy Symposium

Save the Date:

Saturday, May 6, 2006

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Women Beating a Culture of Violence:

"I'm A Survivor"

Location:

Lawrence Senior Center
155 Haverhill Street in Lawrence

To Set Up an Informational Table

Contact: Maribel Serate, Garden of Options
978-683-3030 or 978-223-0797

For Information & Registration

Patricia Sanchez-Reyes,
Lawrence School Committee Member
978-889-5829

Symposium Organizer,

Nilka I. Álvarez-Rodríguez, DA, MA
Lawrence City Councilor-At-large
978-681-0662

Women of the Merrimack Valley it is time for us to raise our voices to stop violence against women; and, to especially speak against the culture of violence in which young women are getting trapped. Join us in a celebration of our strengths and dare to make a difference.

PLANNING COMMITTEE 2006

June Black, Congressman Meehan's Office, Maribel Serate & Noris Gonzalez, Garden of Options; Janice Burkholder, Senator Sue Tucker's Office; Vilma Lora, YWCA in Lawrence; Martina Cruz, Lawrence School Committee Member; Susan Santos, Women of Excellence Ministry; Grisel Silva, Lawrence City Councilor-District B; Haydee Cuadrado, Community Activist; Patricia Sanchez-Reyes, Lawrence School Committee Member

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CANAL 8:

CONT. DE LA PÁGINA 2

trabajando con la nueva administración con la esperanza que algún día las cosas se calmarían y ahora el canal 8 al fin está encaminándose. Nuevas cámaras y otros equipos han sido comprados por LCAT para transmitir las reuniones que el concilio sostenga allí así como las Juntas Directivas y Comisiones.

Aunque Ginny Alexander, gerente de la estación de televisión de LCAT ha sido muy cooperativa con cualquier persona que busca su ayuda, nosotras tenemos desacuerdos en cuanto a qué pertenece en el canal 8. Nosotras discutimos sobre el hecho de que el programa que produce el alcalde "Lawrence on the Move" se está poniendo en el canal 8 pero en realidad pertenece en el canal del Gobierno (22).

Otro punto de discrepancia es que el equipo de la programación que ahora se mantiene en la oficina del concilio de ciudad debe ser movido a los estudios de la Calle Essex donde ella puede controlar lo que ha de transmitirse. Mientras que Ginny concuerda conmigo, nada está sucediendo. Quizás están esperando que

yo tome las riendas del asunto.

Debemos preguntarnos quién está realmente al cargo y porqué estas cosas suceden. Supuestamente, el control lo tiene la agencia sin fines lucrativos creada para operar ambas estaciones. ¿Quién en LCAT es responsable de lo que suceda? Mientras que Ms. Alexander es la encargada de la estación, la misma es operada por una junta directiva y hace casi un año desde la vez

...nadie le ha dicho al Presidente del concilio de la ciudad que él ya no tiene autoridad sobre el equipo o la estación.

última que sostuvieron a reunión. Usted debe saber que estas reuniones fueron celebradas ilegalmente en secreto. Siendo una agencia pública, apoyada por dinero del público, cada persona interesada en el futuro del Canal de Acceso Público debe permitírsele participar - después de todo, ¡es nuestro dinero!

En un final, nadie está cuidando el gallinero. Demande un cambio.

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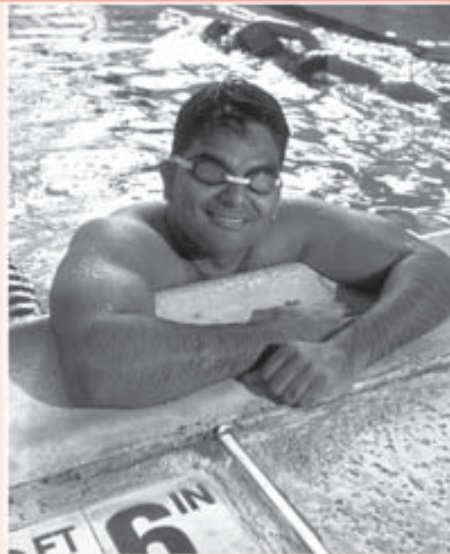
MERRIMACK VALLEY YMCA

¡Donde Cada Generación Cuenta!

LA MERRIMACK VALLEY YMCA se ha establecido como un lugar donde los miembros de la comunidad, joven y vieja, pueden participar en programas de calidad que son divertidos, innovadores y educativos. Más de 30,000 individuos participan en programas en los varios sitios de la YMCA situados en Lawrence, Methuen, Andover, Bear Island en el Lago Winnepesaukee y Captain's Pond en Salem, New Hampshire. Estas experiencias ayudan a crear el carácter, consolidar conexiones de la familia y estructura comunidades fuertes.

Merrimack Valley YMCA continúa siendo un lugar:

- Donde todos pertenecen sin importar su etnia, creencia religiosa y situación socioeconómica;
- Donde 1,600 niños e individuos visitan cada día para participar en programas de calidad y/o en una actividad sana;
- Donde casi 1,000 niños todos los días son cuidados en un ambiente sano y seguro en uno de los ocho centros de cuidado infantil de la YMCA;
- Donde niños aprenden valores de cuidado, honradez, respeto y responsabilidad, para que crezcan como adultos productivos y autosuficientes;
- Donde 1,500 muchachos y muchachas reciben la experiencia que dura una vida entera asistiendo al Camp Lawrence, un campamento residencial de verano para muchachos, Camp Nokomis, un campamento residencial de verano para muchachas, o Camp Otter, el campamento diurno para varones y hembras de la YMCA;
- Donde centenares de familias se reúnen cada semana para pasar un buen rato juntas;
- Donde los adolescentes desarrollan las destrezas que los prepara para el futuro;
- Donde la juventud puede experimentar con la música y las artes en el recién establecido Club de Música y a través de varios programas de danza y arte que tienen durante todo el año;
- Donde 73 personas sin hogar o a punto de perderlo hacen su hogar y donde ellos y otros reciben consejería, servicios básicos educacionales, destrezas para la vida y entrenamiento de trabajo;
- Donde diversas comunidades se unen para ser entrenadas y competir en natación, baloncesto y otras actividades que enfatizan el trabajo en equipo; y
- Donde 700 voluntarios ayudan a satisfacer la misión de la YMCA para poder tener niños fuertes, familias fuertes y comunidades fuertes.



¡Venga a ver todo lo que hay nuevo en la YMCA!

- El nuevo Centro Familiar Acuático está abierto en la YMCA de Lawrence. Usted está invitado a nadar en nuestra nueva piscina de 25 yardas de largo con 6 líneas.
- Estamos aquí para resolver sus necesidades de aptitud física. Un equipo cardiovascular y de entrenamiento de pesas e instructores de muy buena calidad. Estamos confiados en dar a cada niño la oportunidad de aprender a nadar. Las lecciones de natación se ofrecen durante todo el año.
- ¿Tiene tiempo para servir como mentor? Nuestros jóvenes en Teen Achievers, Youth & Government, líderes adolescentes y programas del Club de Música dependen de profesionales como usted para compartir su experiencia.
- Cuidamos a más de 1,000 niños diariamente en nuestros programas del día completo y después de la escuela.
- Nosotros atraemos a las familias. Nuestras sucursales ofrecen muchas oportunidades para que las familias pasen tiempo juntas y conozcan a otras familias de la comunidad. Venga a disfrutar de la alegría de las Noches Familiares.
- Ofrecemos a sus empleados unos pases de sociedad por una semana entera gratis.
- Póngase en contacto con su sucursal local de YMCA y hable con el director de sociedad.



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CHOOSING ADOPTION

Decidiéndose por Adopción

Hola! Mi nombre es Ángel

“Yo quiero ser un bombero... o tal vez un oficial de policía.”

Por Milton L. Ortiz

Ángel nació en Agosto de 1997 y es un jovencito latino que tiene muchos intereses. A él le gustan los juegos de video, pintar, jugar al aire libre, montar bicicleta y ver televisión. Tímido al comienzo, Ángel se muestra hablador y simpático una vez se siente comfortable. El se lleva bien con otros niños en el hogar y en la escuela.

Actualmente Ángel vive en un hogar temporario especializado en el que ha avanzado mucho. El continúa aprendiendo a aceptar límites y a expresar sus sentimientos. Ángel se beneficia de la terapia y medicina para controlar sus situaciones de comportamiento. En la escuela él se esfuerza bastante. El se ha adaptado a la escuela pública, en la que está en servicios de educación especial y recibe terapia del lenguaje.

Ángel es legalmente libre para la adopción y está listo para encontrar una familia que lo valore a él. El responde bien con una familia de uno o dos padres que le provea amor, estructura y sea predecible. Es mejor para Ángel ser el



menor en el hogar. La familia adoptiva debe estar dispuesta a asegurarle a Ángel que seguirá en contacto con sus hermanos y madre biológica.

Usted puede ayudarle a Ángel a encontrar un lugar llamado HOGAR, llamándonos a MARE al (617) 542-3678 ó a la línea gratis 1-800-882-1176 y preguntando por Milton Ortiz. También puede llamarnos si desea aprender más sobre la adopción en general o recibir una copia gratis del folleto “Decidiéndose por Adopción”. Usted también puede encontrar información en español acerca de otros niños que están en espera, en el Manual de MARE, el cual se encuentra en las bibliotecas públicas en todo el estado de Massachusetts, o visítenos en el Internet: www.mareinc.org.

Hi! My name is Angel

“I want to be a firefighter...or maybe a police officer.”

By Corina Hopkins

Born in August 1997, Angel is a young Latino who has lots of interests. He loves playing video games, coloring, playing outdoors, riding his bike and watching television. Shy at first, Angel becomes talkative and engaging once he is comfortable. He gets along well with other children at home and in school.

Angel currently lives in a specialized foster home where he has made great strides. He continues to work on accepting limits and expressing his feelings. Angel benefits from therapy and medication in addressing behavioral issues. In school, he tries very hard. He has successfully transitioned into a public school setting where he is enrolled in special education services and receives speech and language services.

Angel is legally free for adoption and is ready to find a forever family who will cherish him. He would do well with a single or two parent family who will provide him with love, structure and predictability. Angel would do best as the youngest child in the home. A family should be willing to assure Angel that he will continue contact with his biological siblings and biological mother.

To learn more about Angel, or about adoption in general, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange at 617-54-ADOPT (542-3678) or 1-800-882-1176. You can also read about other waiting children in the MARE Photolisting located at many public libraries in the state, or visit the MARE Web site at www.mareinc.org.

Enmendar su declaración de impuestos

¡Uy! Usted descubrió un error después de presentar su declaración de impuestos. ¿Qué puede hacer? Podría necesitar enmendar su planilla.

“El Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS) generalmente, corrige errores matemáticos o le solicita las formas omitidas – como W-2s o anexos. En estos casos, no necesita enmendar su declaración”, dice Sara Eguren, vocera de la agencia federal.

Sin embargo, debe enmendar su declaración si cualquiera de los siguientes datos apareció incorrectamente:

- Su estado civil para fines de la declaración
- El total de sus ingresos
- Sus deducciones o créditos

Utilice la Forma 1040X, *Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return* (Declaración Enmendada de Impuestos sobre el Ingreso Individual), para corregir la Forma 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ o la declaración electrónica presentada previamente. Esté seguro de anotar el año de la declaración que usted está enmendando en parte superior de la Forma 1040X. Si usted está enmendando más de una declaración de impuestos, utilice una Forma 1040X separada para cada año y envíe cada una en un sobre separado al centro de procesamiento del IRS para el área en la que usted vive. Las instrucciones de la 1040X incluyen las direcciones para los centros.

La Forma 1040X tiene tres columnas. La Columna A se utiliza para mostrar las figuras originales o ajustadas de la declaración original. La Columna C se utiliza para mostrar las figuras corregidas. La diferencia entre las columnas A y C es demostrada en la columna B. Hay un área en la parte posterior de la forma donde usted explica los cambios específicos

Si usted está declarando para reclamar un reembolso adicional, espere hasta haber recibido su reembolso original antes de presentar la Forma 1040X.

hechos en la declaración y la razón de cada cambio.

Si los cambios implican otro anexo o forma, adjúntelo a la 1040X. Por ejemplo, si usted está presentando una 1040X porque tiene un niño calificado y ahora desea reclamar el Crédito Tributario por Ingreso del Trabajo, usted debe adjuntar un Anexo EIC de la forma 1040 para indicar el nombre de la persona calificada, año de nacimiento y número de Seguro Social.

Si usted debe impuestos adicionales del 2005, debe presentar la Forma 1040X y pagar el impuesto para la fecha límite de abril para evitar cualquier penalidad e interés. Si usted está declarando para reclamar un reembolso adicional, espere hasta haber recibido su reembolso original antes de presentar la Forma 1040X. “Puede cobrar ese cheque mientras espera cualquier reembolso adicional”, sugirió Eguren.

Generalmente, para reclamar un reembolso, usted debe presentar la forma 1040X en un plazo de tres años a partir de la fecha usted presentó su declaración original o dentro del plazo de dos años a partir de la fecha en que usted pagó el impuesto, cualquiera sea más tarde.

La Forma 1040X y sus instrucciones están disponibles en el IRS.gov o llamando al 1-800-829-3676.

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Desayuno con los Legisladores en Sal's

Legislators Breakfast at Sal's

Por Alberto Surís

By Alberto Surís

Durante un desayuno llevado a cabo por la Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Merrimack, el 31 de marzo, 2006, en el Centro de Convenciones de Sal en el Riverwalk, cerca de 200 miembros de la cámara tuvieron la oportunidad de escuchar a los Senadores Steven Baddour y Bruce Tarr.

El Senador Baddour habló brevemente acerca de diferentes tópicos de interés general, tales como investigaciones de la célula madre, la economía en el valle y el costo de la vivienda. El favorece viviendas asequibles para el área y alabó a Robert Ansin por su proyecto en el Wood Mill. "Necesitamos más Bob Ansin que hagan más casas asequibles".

Baddour también se refirió a la situación con los chóferes jóvenes. El Senador quisiera ver más experiencia en esos chóferes y la única forma de lograrlo, de acuerdo con su opinión, es elevar la edad límite para obtener la licencia.

El Senador Tarr también está preocupado con los altos costos de los combustibles y la vivienda, razones por las cuales tantas personas están abandonando el estado. El alto costo del seguro de salud, que está tomando una gran parte de la ganancia de los negocios también le preocupa. "Si un empleado viene a su puerta y va a incrementar sus costos de seguro de salud, estoy seguro que usted no lo contratará", dijo Tarr.



After breakfast, Katharine K. Felson (right) Maybrook Operations Manager, located at 570 Broadway, had the opportunity to sit with Senators Bruce Tarr and Steven Baddour, Orlando Salazar and Joseph Bevilacqua, and ask for their help in the situation she encounters at her place since a company plans to build several hundred apartments in the building and they want her company to move out.

During a breakfast held by The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce on Friday, March 31, 2006, at Sal's Riverwalk Convention Center, close to 200 chamber members had the opportunity to listen to Senators Steven Baddour and Bruce Tarr.

Senator Baddour spoke briefly about different topics of general interest, such as stem research, the economy around the valley and cost of housing. He favors affordable housing for the area and praised Robert Ansin for his project at the Wood Mill. "We need more Bob Ansin to come up with more affordable housing".

Baddour also spoke about the situation with young drivers. The Senator would like to see more experience in those drivers and the only way it can be obtained, according to him, is by elevating the age limit of the young drivers.

Senator Bruce Tarr is also concerned with the high price of gas and housing, reasons why we are losing people in Massachusetts. Also the high cost of health care, which is taking a big chunk of business. "If an employee comes to your door and he is going to increase your costs because health care, you won't hire him", said Tarr.



Robert H. Cory, from Cory Glass Works and Patricia Karl, Executive Director, Lawrence Family Development Charter School, enjoying the breakfast.



June Black, Legislative Assistant to Congressman Marty Meehan, State Representative William Lantigua, Karen Gately and Stephanie Lane, YMCA Andover/N. Andover and Methuen, respectively.



Peter J. Matthews Jr. President/CEO, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union; Sal Lupoli, President/CEO Sal's Pizza; Richard Santagati, Merrimack College President and MVCC Chairman of the Board and Joseph S. McManus, Lawrence General Hospital President and Chief Executive Officer.

Retired Judge, Michael Stella, chatting with Dolores Calaf, Cambridge College Lawrence Center Director.



UNA CAUSA QUE NOS INSPIRA Y NOS MOTIVA

Por Beatriz Pérez

El tema del cáncer del seno es uno de los tópicos en cuanto a la salud más común y que en los últimos tiempos mayor fuerza ha tomado dado el alto índice de mujeres que son víctimas de este mal y que a diario luchan por ganar la batalla a esta enfermedad que desconoce condición social, racial y edad.

Entre las estadísticas de muertes a causa de cáncer entre las mujeres, el del cáncer del seno ocupa el segundo lugar en el área del Greater Lawrence.

Es notorio el que cada día crezca en la población en general un mayor interés de educarse sobre la importancia de una detección temprana y sobre los tres pasos más importantes para mantener la salud de los senos que son: el auto examen, el examen clínico y la realización de las mamografías.

En esta ciudad somos muchos los que tenemos nuestro pensamiento puesto en una joven madre que apenas con 36 años de edad, el pasado año, fue



Verónica Casado con sus hijos Sean, 4; Valerie, 7 and John 16, durante la fiesta que le ofrecieron sus compañeros de trabajo.

Veronica Casado with her children Sean, 4; Valerie, 7 and John 16, during the get together offered by her fellow workers.

Ella es inspiración, es un desafío a la vida, un ejemplo de madre abnegada que no ha permitido que Sean de 4 años de edad, Valerie de 7 y John de 16 la vean vencida, sino que sigue siendo el más importante símbolo de lucha y optimismo.

diagnosticada con cáncer del seno, su nombre Verónica

Casado. Una mujer que no obstante a vivir con la amenaza y las secuelas de esa enfermedad, denota paz, tranquilidad, y una fortaleza que solo puede motivarnos a verla como una inspiración, para vivir una vida alejada de los rencores y las desavenencias.

El pasado viernes cuando una gran cantidad de personas llegaron a uno de los salones de Sal's Restaurant and Convention Center, las emociones, unidas a la impotencia se conjugaron al ver entrar con una amplia sonrisa, a veces opacada por dos lágrimas que humedecían sus ojos y su rostro, a una Verónica que acompañada de sus hijos, su madre y su hermana agradecía el apoyo y las oraciones de todos aquellos que han hecho de su causa una causa propia.

Más que un evento para recaudar fondos para ayudar a Verónica y sus hijos, los que aún unidos por la esperanza y la fe, necesitan de apoyo emocional y financiero, fue un acto de amor, de solidaridad y de compromiso con el sufrimiento de una familia completa.

Esa tarde del viernes 7 de abril, fue como si la naturaleza decidiera derramar lágrimas convertidas en gotas de lluvia y clamar a Dios por la salud de una mujer que emana fortaleza por doquier.

Ella es inspiración, es un desafío a la vida, un ejemplo de madre abnegada que no ha permitido que Sean de 4 años de edad, Valerie de 7 y John de 16 la vean vencida, sino que sigue

siendo el más importante símbolo de lucha y optimismo.

Amigos, compañeros de trabajo del ayuntamiento donde ella ha sido empleada desde el 2004, miembros de su iglesia, oficiales electos, amigos y gente sensible que a pesar de no conocerla personalmente se sintieron identificados con el "Desafío de Verónica" y sin pensar no dudaron en darle la mano en la época de tanta incertidumbre y angustia que actualmente vive, se dejaron sentir en la actividad, donde aunque lo más importante era recaudar fondos a través de donaciones directas, o participando de la subasta silente y de las rifas, lo más significativo fue comprender cuán real es una enfermedad que llega sin avisar y sin el colorido que su símbolo rosado representa.

De mi parte gracias a aquellos que dijeron sí cuando les narré la historia de Verónica: Benjamín Rodríguez, de Lighthouse Lending Group; Bryan De Peña, de Tenares Tire Shop; Gumercindo Frías, de Mortgage Solutions; Johel Peña de Alto Estilo Beauty Salon; Luisa's Decorations; Dionis Mézquita de Guaranteed Home Mortgage Company; Carol Mir de Michelle's Flowers; Argentina Cruz de Lawrence Learning Center; a la misión consular dominicana en la persona del Cónsul Dominicano Dominico Cabral y a aquellos que prefieren mantenerse en el anonimato, mil gracias en el mío propio y en el de Verónica.



Frank Bonet, director de Personal, el Representante Estatal William Lantigua y el Abogado de la Ciudad Richard D'Agostino, testificando ante el Representante Peter J. Koutoujian, Chairman del Comité de Salud Pública, acerca de la propuesta recién presentada por el Representante Lantigua, apodada Verónica Casado, ya que su doctor no le proveyó a tiempo los resultados de una mamografía hecha en 2004. A consecuencia de su negligencia, ella no fue diagnosticada con cáncer del seno hasta el año pasado.

Frank Bonet, Personnel Director, State Representative William Lantigua and Attorney Richard D'Agostino, testifying before State Representative Peter J. Koutoujian, Chairman, Joint Committee on Public Health, about the bill filed by Representative Lantigua nicknamed after Veronica Casado, whose doctor failed to provide her with mammogram results in 2004 in a timely manner. As a result of his negligence, she was not diagnosed with breast cancer until last year.

NECC Opens Sleep Lab

Northern Essex Community College recently opened its new Sleep Lab which is located on the college's Lawrence Campus, 45 Franklin St., and will be used by faculty and students in the college's Polysomnography Program.

The lab features two beds with infrared video cameras that will monitor individuals while they sleep. It will be used as a teaching tool by faculty in the two-semester certificate program which was launched in the fall of 2004 and is designed to train sleep technologists to work in area sleep labs.

Valued at \$60,000, the equipment was donated by Dr. Howard Zolot, a North Andover periodontist and member of the college's Dental Assistant Program Advisory Board. After reading that the college had started a Polysomnography Program, Dr. Zolot contacted the college, offering to donate the equipment which had been left in one of the office properties he owns. "Some doors close and others open," said Dr. Zolot. "It was my pleasure to be able to donate this equipment."

Jackie Long Goding, dean of health professions at NECC, welcomed guests to the opening of the Sleep Lab and explained how the program was started. Chris Rowse, coordinator of NECC's Respiratory Care Program, and Andrew DesRosiers, director of Holy Family Hospital's Sleep Lab, met at a conference and began discussing the need for more formal training of sleep technicians. The two are now co-directors of the program.



North Andover periodontist Howard Zolot recently donated a sleep lab to Northern Essex Community College. Located on the college's Lawrence Campus, 45 Franklin St., it will be used by faculty in the Polysomnography Program as a teaching tool. Shown left to right in photo are Chris Rowse, coordinator, NECC's Respiratory Care Program, Jenna Melnicki of Dracut, NECC Polysomnography student, Dr. Howard Zolot, and Mike Enos of Lowell, NECC Polysomnography student. The "patient" is Paul Fineburg of Melrose, NECC Polysomnography student.

At the open house, student Jenna Melnicki of Dracut helped demonstrate the new equipment. Melnicki was originally interested in social work but was drawn to the Polysomnography Program because of her own sleep issues. With plans to graduate in the spring, she has already begun the interview process and is confident she will secure a job in the field.

Jobs are plentiful and pay is

"Some doors close and others open," said Dr. Zolot. "It was my pleasure to be able to donate this equipment."

approximately \$20 an hour, according to DesRosiers. "Ten years ago, just a few hospitals in New England had sleep clinics," he said. "Now, most every hospital has its own clinic or is seriously considering opening one." DesRosiers credits the growing awareness of sleep apnea—a condition where individuals stop breathing repeatedly during their sleep—and its link to hypertension and high blood pressure with creating the growing need for sleep labs.

In addition to the equipment donation, the college also received a sleep software license donation with accompanying software from Medicare Inc. of Iceland, valued at \$50,000.

For more information on NECC's Polysomnography Program, contact Chris Rowse, 978 738-7514 or crowse@necc.mass.edu.

REP. FINEGOLD PROPOSES MAKING ATTACKS ON HOMELESS A HATE CRIME

Citing a recent crime in which a homeless man was assaulted while sleeping on a park bench in Boston's North End, Representative Barry R. Finegold (D-Andover) has proposed legislation that will extend protection under Massachusetts' Hate Crime Statute to include homeless individuals.

Currently, the Massachusetts Hate Crime Statute makes it a crime to assault and cause injury to an individual with the intent to intimidate the person based on the person's race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability. Such crimes are punishable by five years in state prison and up to a ten thousand dollar fine. The proposed legislation will bring a person's housing status under the Hate Crime Statute.

Representative Finegold believes that prior to this legislation, homeless people were not afforded the same protection and recourse as other citizens, primarily due to their housing status.

"If an individual is assaulted in their home, among the many charges available to authorities are trespass, breaking and entering, or perhaps unlawful entry; all of these charges ratchet up the penalty for the assault. These are not available to authorities when a homeless person is assaulted and as a result, the punishment for the suspect may not be as severe," commented Representative Finegold.

"According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, nearly 200,000 veterans go homeless on any given night. Many homeless people suffer from mental illness or simply have not been given a fair chance in our communities. These individuals deserve to be protected by our legal system and by making it a hate crime to assault a homeless person, we will hopefully deter future attacks on homeless people," commented Representative Finegold.

"This important legislation will go a long way in protecting individuals whose only crime is not having a place to call home," commented Robyn Frost, Executive Director of The Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless.

Representative Finegold filed the legislation on Thursday of last week.



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is currently accepting applications for placement on its waiting lists for 48 units of affordable housing currently under construction. Anticipated occupancy is scheduled for late April through July, 2006 for the following unit sizes: 43 units will be rented to households at 80% or below current area median income limits (AMI) for: 3-1BR units and 40-2BR units; 5 units will be rented to households at 50% or below current area median income limits for: 1-1BR unit, 2-2BR units, 2-3BR units. In order to qualify, gross annual household income cannot exceed the following income limits per household size:

INCOME LIMITS	ONE PERSON	TWO PERSON	THREE PERSON	FOUR PERSON	FIVE PERSON	SIX PERSON	SEVEN PERSON	EIGHT PERSON
VERY LOW INCOME (50% OF AMI)	27,350	31,300	35,200	39,100	42,250	45,350	48,500	51,600
LOW INCOME (80% OF AMI)	41,700	47,700	53,650	59,600	64,350	69,150	73,900	78,650

1-BR rents \$703-\$1,087; 2-BR rents \$840-\$1,301; 3-BR rents \$966
Heat and HW is included in rent. Housing applications may be obtained at: Windsor Green at Andover Management Office, 311 Lowell Street, Andover, MA 01810 = or by telephone at (866) 818 - 5700. Applications will be accepted by mail or can be hand delivered to the above address beginning March 3, 2006

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IT'S ALL ABOUT RIGHT(S)

ITSALLABOUTRIGHTS.COM | BY ELLEN BAHAN

123 Deadlight

The council meeting of April 3, 2006 amounted to a big win for the people of Methuen.

The badly acting chief and his trusty dawwg were front and center, trying to razzle dazzle the council into approving this ill thought, half assed, half-baked little humdinger of a moneymaker.

The trouble is government is not in the business of making money, nor is it in the business of paying premiums for stockholders. Councilors, are you listening?

Government's only job is to take care of the citizens. Government's job is to correctly estimate how much vital services are going to cost the citizens, collect these funds with various methods, i.e. taxes, water and sewer fees.

I know this is very hard for the boyz and gals to understand, but their job is not to pour over the Massachusetts General Laws trying to find ways to tuck it to the people, generating more money, to hire more of their unqualified family members, friends, neighbors, or anybody who can do something for them thus forgetting about the rest of us.

These public employees job is not to make massive profits while jeopardizing the people's safety.

The red light camera was just that: Tucking it to the people.

What offended me the most was the fact the chief and his dawwg did what amounts to no investigation at all.

They let the proponents of this red light camera service write the ordinance. Solomon admitted that since the first proposal, he has done more research. Why wasn't that research done before any proposal was brought forward! We pay him handsomely, can't he think through anything.

What outraged me was the fact that Solomon had the audacity to question Solicitor McQuillan and say that he was wrong in his assessment. Talk about being sure of yourself!

Let me mention Fulya Metin. How much is it we are paying this woman because the chief and the dawwg did not follow the rules? Let us not forget that old shar also played in this scenario.

Billy was beside himself when the red light camera ordinance went down in flames; Matty K, quickly followed Billy into the inner sanctum of the council office to offer solace or maybe a share of his binky.

You see folks, Billy really needs the money; old shar has left us in a real mess!

It became evident that even though this ordinance was illegal, it did not matter to the badly acting chief and his trusty dawwg a lick. What does that tell you?

Billy was not only willing to go along with the chief and dawwg; he was part of it and was conspiring with the dawwg to pass information to the chief.

I was astonished to learn that when the chief, dawwg and Billy came up with this

little scheme of revenue enhancement, that much of the money was going to go to the police department (maybe for more cell phones, so they can ride around with one on each ear.)

Methuenites, you must never forget that those bad boyz are Billy Manzi's boyz. Billy handpicked them in spite of their unsavory past.

The meeting ended with the badly acting chief vowing to be back again after some tweaking! Perhaps he should be attending to the job at hand, not looking for ways to glean more money, even if it is illegal!

Let me reiterate, your job and your job only is to guard the safety and well-being of the citizens of Methuen. I suggest the chief and the dawwg get to it! THANK GOD I AM NOT MAYOR!

Watch MCTV It's All About Right(s)

COMING SOON

RANDOM UNCONNECTED THOUGHTS: THE TRUTH ABOUT 40BS

Legacy

That's what every politico dreams of leaving behind, long after they have been swept out of office.

Let's take old shar for instance. What do you think she would like for her legacy? I'd be willing to bet nothing of what I am going to tell you it should be.

It was six long years that the queen rode us hard and put us down wet! And by wet I mean, we have a couple of million-dollar shortfall in the budget. Supt. Phil Littlefield says we need a huge increase in teachers, but he is leaving. Leaving us with little Joey Salvo as business manager and what I expect will be a worldwide search for a new superintendent!

On the top of my list would be Mr. Nick. (Mr. Arthur Nickelson, High School, Principal, past Assistant Superintendent). Mr. Nick has gone above and beyond the call of duty when it comes to the welfare of the children.

All of Methuen's intersections are in gridlock during rush hour, due to skewed traffic studies.

We have not cleaned up any of our toxic sites. Yet we are pressing forward together to develop them.

A giant silver SUV, the queen's chariot, sits sometimes in the chief's yard, other times at town hall, with at least two years left on a lease negotiated by old shar. (It appears the badly acting chief uses it on weekends, when he has to transport extended family.

I am always amazed the way these thieving politicians think they are all that when it comes to managerial skills. I think I said it better during the election. Rocket Science!

If the truth were known, in the real world, these inadequate managers would be out the door in a very short time, it is called private sector justice. In politics they linger forever.

It took me a long time to learn this, but it is not about serving the people, it is about

serving yourself. And you have to admit old shar was a genius when it came to helping herself.

She single-handedly dwindled down our levy limit cushion to almost nothing, (I think this fiscal year will bring a proposition 2½ override), while miraculously having very little to show for the expenditure. That is of course, if you abhor, like me the big city with houses all sandwiched in tightly.

Isn't Pie Hill a beautiful development! Such lines and grace to the architecture. A true gateway, worthy of what you are going to get when you land in Methuen!

Old Shar has over-developed Methuen to the point that traversing around has become downright dangerous.

The bond she floated, 10 million dollars, for the resurfacing of the roads, has now left the roads in deplorable condition with the lip-gloss peeling up at a rapid rate.

You can see the new CVS being built down where St. Monica's original church once stood. Thank God old shar's roots where firmly planted in Historic Preservation.

Sharon M.oney Pollard should stand up and take a bow for first, ignoring the popular vote that shot down the Mar-Lin Mills housing project AKA Mills Falls and forging "Forward Together", sliding through another dangerous, corrupt tribute to the less fortunate and the children.

It becomes more evident everyday, just what old shar with her little load at her side has done for the people of Methuen. What remains to be seen, is that the people of Methuen remember this and make sure there is never another open spout at the public trough available for her again.

Too bad the \$200K mitigation money secretly diverted to the Festival of Thieves was discovered, like Taylor Armerding, I thought all along this was to pay the nefarious queen for the two years she would have to abstain from being queen! Taylor it is almost like you read my mind!

To be continued... and continued... and continued.

Look forward to It's All About Right(s), MCTV cable access for a special show.

I know this is very hard for the boyz and gals to understand, but their job is not to pour over the Massachusetts General Laws trying to find ways to tuck it to the people, generating more money, to hire more of their unqualified family members, friends, neighbors, or anybody who can do something for them thus forgetting about the rest of us.

Back Seat Mayor 2

I want my loyal readers to picture this: Billy in the driver's seat; the people put him in there. But do not fear, I have positioned myself directly behind him. Any false move and I will easily be able to slap him up side the head. Maybe bring him to his senses.

In other words loyal readers, I GOT YOUR BACK!

More things I would not be doing IF I WERE MAYOR!

I would not have hired the new Community Developer Director, whose only real experience is a high-class real estate broker for Bob Ansin, and lest we forget our new Community Developer, Karen Sawyer Faust did do a stint at Mass Development.

Mass Development, the taxpayers' venture capitalist arm of the state government. Talk about your tax dollars being squandered and misappropriated. May I again draw your attention to the Methuen Assisted Suicide Living Complex?

I suspect very much that when 40B hits the skids, an in-depth investigation into the goings on at Mass Development will soon follow. Just in the knick of time perhaps,

SEE **ELLEN BAHAN:**
CONT. ON PAGE 24



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Amending your tax return

Oops! You've discovered an error after your tax return has been filed. What should you do? You may need to amend your return.

"The IRS usually corrects math errors or requests missing forms — such as W-2s or schedules. In these instances, do not amend your return," said the federal agency's spokeswoman Sara Eguren.

However, do file an amended return if any of the following were reported incorrectly:

- Your filing status
- Your total income
- Your deductions or credits

Use Form 1040X, Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, to correct a previously filed Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ or electronically-filed return. Be sure to enter the year of the return you are amending at the top of Form 1040X. If you are amending more than one tax return, use a separate 1040X for each one and mail each return in a separate envelope to the IRS processing center for the area in which you live. The 1040X instructions list the addresses for the centers.

The Form 1040X has three columns. Column A is used to show original or adjusted figures from the original return. Column C is used to show the corrected figures. The difference between the figures in Columns A and C is shown in Column B. There is an area on the back of the form where you explain the specific changes being made on the return and the reason for each change.

If the changes involve another schedule or form, attach it to the 1040X. For example, if you are filing a 1040X because you have a qualifying child and now want to claim the Earned Income Credit, you must attach a Form 1040 Schedule EIC to show the qualifying person's name, year of birth and Social Security number.

If you owe additional tax for 2005, you should file Form 1040X and pay the tax by the April due date to avoid any penalty and interest. If you are filing to claim an additional refund, wait until you have received your original refund before filing Form 1040X. "You may cash that check while waiting for any additional refund," suggested Eguren.

Generally, to claim a refund, you must file Form 1040X within three years from the date you filed your original return or within two years from the date you paid the tax, whichever is later.

Form 1040X and instructions are available at IRS.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

Sophomore Career Fair at Central Catholic High School

On Wednesday, April 5th, professionals from over 30 career fields led presentations and discussions in their area of experience for members of the sophomore class at Central Catholic. Prior to the career fair, students were provided with a list of issues to consider when thinking about potential careers and given the opportunity to sign up for three, structured ½ hour sessions to learn first-hand about career opportunities that interest them.

Organized by the Guidance Department, this event is part of a comprehensive, four-year, developmental school counseling program that addresses the academic, career and personal/social development of all students.

Thank you to all those who participated in this event, sharing their knowledge and advice to help the students make wiser and better informed decisions for bright futures and fulfilling careers!



Dr. Leo W. Lane, a member of the Class of 1987, discusses a career in medicine with students.



Edward J. Lacerte, a member of the Class of 1978 and athletic trainer for the Boston Celtics, talks with a group of sophomores.

Lantigua heralds approval of Health Care Reform Bill

Embarking on a new era of health care reform in Massachusetts, the state's Legislature has overwhelmingly approved comprehensive legislation that would cover virtually all of the state's uninsured residents within three years, Rep. William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) has announced. The measure was then signed into law by Governor Mitt Romney.

Based on the principle of shared responsibility, individuals, employers, and government will play an active role in ensuring near-universal access to health care and preserving hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding.

"I am happy to report that the Legislature is making real health care reform a reality here in Massachusetts," Lantigua said. "My colleagues and I have seized this historic opportunity to overhaul a broken system and deliver affordable, quality coverage." Lantigua noted that the legislation would extend health benefits to more than 500,000 state residents currently without coverage.

Major provisions of the legislation include:

- **Individual Mandate:** Holding true to a long tradition of Massachusetts "firsts," the bill creates a first-in-the-nation individual mandate to require all residents who can afford it to purchase health insurance.

- **Employer Responsibility:** The legislation creates a new Fair Share Contribution by requiring all businesses to contribute toward employee health insurance costs.

- **New State Subsidies:** The bill establishes new state subsidies for individuals with incomes of less than 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Adults with incomes up to 100 percent of the FPL (\$9,700) will be eligible for coverage without premiums.

- **MassHealth Expansion:** The legislation expands the Commonwealth's MassHealth

program to include children from families up to 300 percent of FPL (\$48,000 for a family of three). In addition, it restores all previously cut benefits, including dental and vision services, chiropractic and prosthetics, and creates a smoking cessation pilot program for MassHealth enrollees.

- **Fair Reimbursement Rates:** The bill calls for long overdue increases in reimbursement rates to hospitals, physicians, and community health centers for treating the Commonwealth's MassHealth patients. These increases are tied to quality and other performance measures.

"The House feels very strongly that everyone should be part of this solution," Lantigua said. "We went on record in support of shared responsibility to ensure that government, individuals and businesses are all working towards the same

goal of significantly reducing the number of uninsured in Massachusetts and reining in costs for everyone. I am pleased that the final version contains these essential parts."

Once implemented, the consensus plan will be a national model. "Massachusetts once again leads the nation with an innovative plan that will achieve our longstanding goal of expanding health care for all," said United States Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Massachusetts). "We could not have achieved this landmark agreement without the strong leadership of Senate President Travaglini and House Speaker DiMasi. Their skill in crafting this legislation, and their dedication to seeing it through, have been extraordinary."

"It is not overstatement to call today a landmark in state history," Lantigua said. "I'm proud of the example we've set for the rest of the country, and honored to have been able to contribute to this effort."

IMPORTANT NOTICE

City of Lawrence Trash and Recycling pick up



Please be advised that due to the Patriot's Day holiday on Monday, April 17th, the city's trash, recycling, and yard waste pickup will be delayed one day that week. Trash and recycling will be collected on Saturday April 22nd. Yard waste collections will be from Tuesday April 18th until Saturday April 22nd. **Call if you do not know your collection day for yard waste.** Put out your solid waste after 4pm the night before and before 7am on the day of collection. Thank you in advanced for your cooperation.

PLEASE CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AT 978-794-5762.

THANK YOU

ISAIAS RIVERA PROVIDES COMMUNITY SERVICE IN MEXICO



Isaias Rivera, of Methuen, recently led a group of students from Gordon College to Tijuana,

Mexico to serve at a church in El Pipila, a local neighborhood, for spring break.

El Pipila is located in one of the roughest gang and drug infested neighborhoods in Tijuana. Gordon College has joined the vision of this church for the last 7 years, helping reach out to the neighborhood.

Rivera is a student of Custodial Services Manager for Physical Plant at Gordon College. This is Rivera's second time traveling to Tijuana with a Gordon team.

Gordon College is a nationally-ranked four-year, nondenominational Christian liberal arts college on Boston's North Shore. The college offers 36 majors in the liberal arts and sciences. It also offers graduate programs in education and music education, in recent years, Gordon has won national recognition for its general excellence, the high caliber of its faculty and its role in character building.



NEW EMERGENCY ROOM AT LGH

Congressman Marty Meehan (D-MA), and U.S. Senator Edward (Ted) Kennedy (D-MA), on a recent visit to the federally funded Gateway Project site in Lawrence, stopped by Lawrence General Hospital to congratulate hospital President and CEO Joseph McManus (center), on the hospital's soon-to-open 24,000-square-foot Emergency Center (in background). The new, state-of-the-art Emergency Center is scheduled to officially open in early May. Senator Kennedy and Congressman Meehan were instrumental in securing a \$1.1 million federal grant toward construction of the \$20 million hospital Emergency Center. The Gateway Project is part of an economic development initiative to revitalize downtown Lawrence and the mill district.

The Morning Wake Up

with Bruce Arnold



and Marc Lemay

Weekdays 6:00 AM - 9:00 AM



Hotline with Ronnie Ford



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Mr. B's Sports Memories

Sports briefs of 1978

By Frank Benjamin



In 1978 there was a Triple Crown winner in racing. Army beat Navy in the battle of the military academies by a score of 28/zip. A twenty-four year old with only eight fights under his belt was pitted against "the Greatest" in what was supposed to be a cakewalk for the Champ Muhammad Ali.

Apparently nobody told the toothless upstart one he didn't stand a chance and when the dust settled he took the title from Ali on a split decision. He didn't know the title was only loaned to him as Ali won it back a few months later.

In football the Dallas Cowboys beat the Denver Broncos and John Elway 27-10. Later in the year Ed "Too Tall" Jones announced he was to become a

professional fighter and intended to take on the "Great One". Of course he was looking at the money to be made on a heavyweight title bout. After some training time in the gym it was discovered that he was no better than a clumsy amateur.

Chris Evert was the number one female tennis player until she met Martina Navratilova at Wimbelton. Bjorn Borg beat Jimmy Connors also at the same venue.

Pete Rose aka Charlie Hustle had a 44 game hitting streak and when stopped before 45 people snickered that he must've had a bet on 45.

Reggie Jackson a real "hot dogger" without the mustard and relish had a candy bar named after him but it couldn't match the sales of the Babe Ruth bar a no doubt blow to Mr. October's ego.

Robert DeNiro was entering greatness with his role in the Deer Hunter. The New

York newspapers were on strike so the Empire State baseball fans had to find out that the Yankees beat the Dodgers four games to two through other media sources. In the LPGA Nancy Lopez won her 4th straight tournament. Nancy was the wife of pro baseball's Ray Knight. In a rockem sockem great boxing match Larry Holmes went 15 rounds. Yes, title fights went 15 rounds in 1978, great fight that was decided by the judges and Holmes became the WBC Champ and soon the advent of all kinds of alphabet titles was spawned to screw up the game. Big George Foreman retired from boxing to become a preacher and vowed he would never fight again. I wonder what ever became of this giant of a man who had five sons all named George. He of course made a comeback and became a shill for Meineke Mufflers and a toaster grille that made him many millions. Roberto Duran was fighting in his 21st year and kept his lightweight title with a knockout of Esteban De Jesus. This was before his "no mas" fiasco with Sugar Ray Leonard. Poland rang the bells and proudly let the world know that Pope John Paul 2 was

one of their former archbishops from their country and the first non-Italian Pontiff in 455 years.

Norman Rockwell died in 1978 he and Mark Twain described Americana better than most writers. It was in 1978 that judge ruled that women could no longer be barred from locker rooms. Of course, it was a woman judge who made the ruling her name, Constance Baker Motley. Coincidentally she died in the same year. The Yankees southpaw ace Ron Guidry aka the "gator" fanned 18 California Angels in a route going outing at Yankee Stadium the score 4-0. For the Orioles Sammy Stewart fanned White Sox in a row in his first major league start.

This sets the scene for a great American League East playoff. Both the Red Sox and the Bronx Bombers finished the season with 99 wins and 63 losses. That's right: a dead heat tie. This meant there would be a one game playoff in Fenway Park. The Sox behind former Yankee ace Mike Torres are holding a 2-0 lead going into the seventh. Chris Chambliss hits a bleeder between second base and first base it's a base hit. Roy White a line drive of the left field wall that Yaz plays well holding Chambliss at second base; it's two on and two out and in steps the light hitting shortstop Bucky Dent Torres delivers a curveball for strike one called.

Dent watches ball one high and wide, he fouls off a slider and breaks his bat; he goes to the bat rack and Willie Randolph now the Manager of the NY Mets but a second baseman then for the Yankees hands Dent one of his bats. Torres is waiting and Dent steps in. The pitch is low - a ball. Dent is ready and so is Torres and a blazing fastball right down the pike is hit high and fairly deep. It's going, going, gone! just barely making it over the Green Monster.

Yaz can only look up and then kind of try to disappear into the wall as the Fenway fans are in shock and the park is very quiet everyone knows it's over and the Yanks again are on their way to the World Series. Dents name is immortalize in Sox/Yanks history and in these parts he will always be remembered as Bucky "BLEEPING" Dent for breaking so many Sox fans hearts on that day in 1978.

New Member of Leadership Team at Central Catholic



Br. Rene D. Roy, FMS, President of Central Catholic, and Ms. Molly Bresnahan, newly named director of Institutional Advancement.

Br. Rene D. Roy, FMS, President of Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, is pleased to announce that Ms. Molly Bresnahan will be joining the Central Catholic leadership team as Director of Institutional Advancement. Previously the Major Gifts Officer at Merrimack College, she will officially assume her new position on May 1.

Ms. Bresnahan is a member of the Board of Fidelity House in Lawrence, MA, and resides in Windham, NH, with her husband Dan and their three children. Prior to working at Merrimack College, she served as the Director of Development for Lazarus House Ministries in Lawrence and worked in the corporate sector as Marketing Director for World Congress, Inc. of Burlington.

"Ms. Bresnahan's fundraising

experience, marketing talents, and proven ability to organize and maximize the efforts of volunteer leadership committees are an ideal fit for Central Catholic at this time in our history," states Br. Rene D. Roy, FMS. "This is an exciting time for Central Catholic. We have been presented with many opportunities, in addition to many challenges. Capitalizing on these opportunities and overcoming these challenges will take significant financial resources and the participation of the entire Central Catholic community in the mission of the school. Our success in this regard relies on the implementation of a comprehensive and strategic development program. Ms. Bresnahan's leadership will help bring the development efforts of Central Catholic to the next level."

SPRING CLEANING!!



Team Haverhill And Haverhill City !!
Citywide Clean UP Day
Saturday, April 22, 2006
8:00 am Registration

Earth Day

Citizen Center - 10 Welcome Street
Clean up will take place in public areas of Haverhill

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?
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AT 978- 374-2356

BRIGHTSIDE@CITYOFHAVERHILL OR WWW.TEAMHAVERHILL.COM



Easter Bunny makes early visit at YMCA's Eggsellent Easter Event

The Andover/North Andover Branch of the Merrimack Valley hosted 200 children and their parents at the annual Eggsellent Easter Event, on Saturday April 1, 2006. Families enjoyed a light breakfast, spring arts & crafts projects, and the Easter Bunny was on hand for photos.



Friends Elizabeth Lynch, age 4, and Ben Shaw, age 5, both of North Andover spend time with the bunny at the YMCA's Eggsellent Easter event, held last Saturday.



Emily Hale, age 3, creates an Easter art project at the YMCA's Eggsellent Easter event held on Saturday, April 1. Emily is from North Andover.



Anna Choi and sons Henry, 1-and-a-half years old, and Sam, age 4, are in the craft room at the YMCA.



Maddie Bamford poses with daughter Rebecca Bamford, age 13, and her friend Kristyna Cubelli, age 13. They are from Methuen.



Emily Hale, age 3, makes an Easter craft project at the YMCA's Eggsellent Easter Event. She is with her mother, Kristi Hale. They live in North Andover.

Don and Heidi Borenstein of Andover, are pictured with the children: Molly, age 5 months, Ethan, age 7, and Aaron, age 4.



Miles Fraser of Andover makes his way to visit the Easter bunny at the YMCA. Miles is age 2.





ACTIVITIES AT THE HAVERHILL SENIOR CENTER

For any of the following activities, unless noted differently, please call Kathy Bresnahan or Rita LaBella at the Council on Aging at (978) 374-2390.

ART IN BLOOM

Haverhill COA is planning a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts Art in Bloom Exhibit on Monday, April 24. April 2006 marks the 30th Anniversary of *Art in Bloom*, and it is a wonderful spring event. Please call the COA if you are interested in learning more about this exciting opportunity to visit the MFA.

40TH CLASS REUNION

Save the Date!! Haverhill High School Class of 1966 will hold its 40th Class Reunion at the Haverhill Country Club on the Saturday, April 29, 2006. Entertainment will be provided by classmate Chuck Buzzell and The Summer of '67. Spread the word, this is the year for the Class of '66 to reconnect! If you would like to work on the committee, contact Kathy O'Shea Bresnahan 978-372-1774, Jeff Xenakis 978-857-5175, or John Hannagan at 978-373-7280.

BABY BOOMER BASH

Haverhill Recreation Department and COA are planning a Baby Boomer Bash at DiBurro's Ward Hill on Saturday, May 13, at 8:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by A Good Time DJ's David O'. A cash bar as well as hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Tickets are \$20.00 per person for this great event.

MYSTERY SHOW

COA is planning a Mystery Show on Wednesday, May 17, 2006 at Luciano's on Lake Pearl in Wrentham, MA. The show will feature a musical group that had it's start in the late 1950's and featured many gold records. Tickets for this trip are \$61 including a lunch as well as the show and transportation from Haverhill. Transportation will leave from Westgate at approximately 10:00 a.m.

DOWNEASTER TO PORTLAND, ME

Haverhill COA is planning a trip to

FREE CELL PHONES

Council on Aging announces it has a supply of free cell phones for Haverhill seniors. These phones are programmed to call 911 in an emergency. This is a free service. Please call Joel Berg for additional information.

Portland, Maine, on Wednesday, June 7. Participants will depart from Haverhill at 10:30 a.m. aboard Amtrak's "Downeaster". Upon arrival participants will be transported to Old Port for lunch at DiMillo's Floating Restaurant. There will be ample time after lunch for shopping and browsing in Old Port. The bus will leave Portland at approximately 4:00 and return to Haverhill at approximately 6:00 p.m.

JIM NABORS

COA is planning a trip to Mohegan Sun to see Jim Nabors on Tuesday, June 13. Jim Nabors is most widely known for his many television appearances, yet the talented singer has also recorded over 38 albums, including five gold and one platinum. Tickets for this trip are \$64 including a \$30 gaming package and a full buffet lunch, as well as the show and transportation from Haverhill. Transportation will leave from Westgate at approximately 7:00 a.m.

WEIGHT WATCHERS

Weight Watchers is coming to the Citizen Center! Our central location and accessible parking make this the perfect site for Boomers, Seniors and others to attend informative sessions led by a knowledgeable, supportive Weight Watchers leader. Learn to make better choices and eat wholesome foods. Everyone is welcome!!

Meetings will take place on Thursdays at 4:15 p.m. Cost is \$12.00 per week for 10 weeks with \$120 payable in full, in advance. Payments can be made using cash, check (made out to Weight Watchers), money order or credit card. Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express accepted. Minimum of 15 paid members is required for the classes to begin.

MONTHLY DISCUSSION GROUP

Council on Aging is seeking members to form a monthly discussion group to be held at the Citizen Center. Day and time will be determined according to the needs of the group. Topics for lively conversations could include current events, politics, international events, local events, etc.

YOGA

Haverhill COA is offering Gentle-Wellness Yoga Classes. Restore and rejuvenate your mind, body and spirit. Participants will learn and practice gentle stretches and physical postures, breathing practices and relaxation techniques. Classes will be held at the Citizen Center, 10 Welcome St., on Tuesdays at 1:00. Cost is \$5.00 per class. Please call Kathy or Rita at 978-374-2390 to sign up for Yoga.

Mayor Names Parking Facility Task Force

Mayor James J. Fiorentini today announced the creation of the "Downtown Parking Facility Task Force". The task force will review the Preliminary Engineering work being done on proposed sites for an Intermodal Transit Parking Facility. They will make recommendations as to the final location of a new parking facility to be built in the downtown Haverhill area.

Through the efforts of Congressman Marty Meehan, the city received last summer a \$7.6 million dollar appropriation for an Intermodal Transit Facility. The grant can cover only 80% of the total project costs. The remaining 20% of the project costs must be paid for with non-federal funds. The City will partner with the Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority to develop this facility. One of the City's main goals in this partnership is to get the structure built without using taxpayer funds for construction.

Fiorentini stated that he wanted a broad-based inclusive committee to determine the location of the facility:

"Our committee reflects a broad cross-

section of the community. I was looking for residents and business people. I was looking for people who were in the downtown every day and understood its needs and especially its parking needs. The committee includes both technical and non-technical people. This will be a challenging task and I appreciate the willingness of these volunteers to serve."

Named to the committee are architect Martha Briggs, businessman Peter Carbone, former City Councilor Robert Des Marais, downtown restaurant owner John Fahimian, medical secretary Cate O'Hara, City Engineer John Pettis, Economic Development Director Bill Pillsbury, Haverhill PD Captain Alan Ratte, and City Councilor Robert Scatamacchia.

Mayor Fiorentini said, "I want a facility that meets the Federal funding requirements and helps relieve our downtown parking needs. The City will do everything it can to speed this process along. I look forward to working with our state and federal official to make this project a success."

Candlelight rally for illegal immigrants

By Alberto Surís

Last Monday, April 10th, Lawrence produced the second demonstration in favor of the illegal immigrants, this time in a form of a peaceful vigil. Several hundreds of demonstrators stood at the intersection of Essex and Broadway for about an hour, some with candle lights.

Contrary to the previous demonstration, neither of the main organizers of last week's demonstration, Martina and José Cruz participated this time. Instead, a Catholic Priest, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Vicar, Reverend Jorge Reyes, OSA, and Reverend Pastor Rafael Blanco joined the demonstrators and prayed for a just and peaceful solution to the illegal immigrants' problems.

"We ask the authorities to make the necessary changes to treat these millions of workers with justice. They are here to make this county bigger and to collaborate with this great nation", said Reverend Blanco.

"We are America", chanted Brian De Pena, changing the tune of the vigil. "Today, we protest - tomorrow we will vote", said De Pena, motivating the crowd. De Pena gave credit to former Councilor Marcos Devers for being the one who got the permit from the police to demonstrate. "We should keep the order, though, don't get down from the sidewalk", said De Pena to a very well behaved crowd.

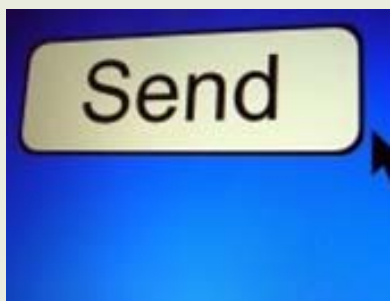
"We are not here leaned to anybody. The United States is ours", said former Councilor at-Large Marcos Devers, who said that even President Bush admitted that



Tom Meyers, President, Andover Teachers Union at the mic. Also pictured, Ana Lantigua, State Representative William Lantigua's mother.

these immigrants are making this nation greater. "We all work, that's why we are the owners of this nation", said Marcos Devers. Tom Meyers, President, Andover Teachers Union, was driving by and when he saw the demonstration, he stopped and joined them. "We are all part of this country", said Meyers. "This country will be stronger if we respect everybody's rights - ¡Que vivan los inmigrantes!" (Long live the immigrants), said Meyers in Spanish, to the delight of the crowd.

Meyers strongly recommended the movie 'A day without Mexicans. "It's a funny comedy, but it tells what the U.S. would be without Mexicans," said Meyers, whose family is Mexican on his wife's side.



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Five GLTS Students Win Medals at SkillsUSA District Competition



Greater Lawrence students display the medals they earned at the recent SkillsUSA North District competition. They are (from left) Kristin Maglio, Stephen Lebel, Rafael Sanquintin, John Provencal, and Astrid Parra.

Senior John Provencal of Lawrence made school history at the recent SkillsUSA North District competition, becoming the first Greater Lawrence Technical School student to earn a gold medal in cabinetmaking.

John was one of five GLTS students to earn medals at the event. The others were juniors Stephen Lebel of Methuen (silver, Electronics Applications), Astrid Parra of Lawrence (bronze, First Aid/CPR), Kristin Maglio of Lawrence (bronze, Nurse Assisting), and Rafael Sanquintin of Lawrence (bronze, Office Computer Applications).

"In October, I started working for a cabinetmaking shop," John said. "Between that, and my teachers here at the school, I was well-prepared for the competition."

John is a member of Greater Lawrence Tech's Cooperative Education Program. Co-op students alternate weeks at the school with weeks working for an employer in their field. During his co-op weeks, John works for Acorn Wood Products in North Lawrence.

The district contest consisted of two written tests: one assessing knowledge in a student's career major, and the other assessing SkillsUSA organizational knowledge. John, for instance, answered questions on cabinetmaking terminology, and "how to" questions on different cuts and hinges.

About 500 students compete at four SkillsUSA district events across the Commonwealth. The top three winners in each category go on to the Massachusetts SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference April 27-29, where they compete in hands-on activities in their major, as well as in a variety of leadership categories.

In addition to its five medal winners, Greater Lawrence will send approximately 17 other students to the state conference to compete in leadership events and other skills events that begin at the state level. Those events include Community Service, Tech Prep, Entrepreneurship, and Customer Service.

"The students who are going to the

In addition to its five medal winners, Greater Lawrence will send approximately 17 other students to the state conference to compete in leadership events and other skills events that begin at the state level. Those events include Community Service, Tech Prep, Entrepreneurship, and Customer Service.

state conference are among the top students in their career areas," Greater Lawrence SkillsUSA advisor Linda Cote said. "They demonstrate high level skills that will benefit them as they move into the workforce, or postsecondary education."

Kristin Maglio credited Ms. Cote with helping her claim a bronze medal in Nurse Assisting at the District competition.

"Ms. Cote gave me practice problems to help me prepare," she said. "I had to answer questions about basic nursing skills, like how to take care of an elderly patient, how to make sure they're safe, proper hygiene, how to apply a dressing, and nursing terminology."

In addition to Ms. Cote, Ilene Karnow serves as a Greater Lawrence Technical School SkillsUSA advisor.

Greater Lawrence is a "total participation" school, involving all its students in the SkillsUSA process. The SkillsUSA Professional Development Program used at GLTS teaches students skills that ensure a smooth transition from school to the work world. Among other topics, students are taught goal setting, communication skills, and career awareness.

Giordano Family MKA Participates in Almedia Goodwill



31 Merrimack Valley Students Compete and 11 Take First in Annual Karate Tournament

Shihan Larry F. Giordano of Giordano Family Methuen Karate Association (MKA) and his students traveled to New Bedford last month to compete in the annual Almedia's Goodwill Invitational Karate Tournament. The Giordano Family MKA students have been competing in this tournament since its inception in 1968. Giordano Family's formidable team won several divisions with eleven (11) MKA students taking first place in the competition.

MKA students competed in three disciplines of Kyokushin Karate:

- Kata to demonstrate proper form in understanding the foundation of movement in Kyokushin-style karate
- Kumite to demonstrate an individual's ability to spar against another opponent
- Weapons expertise to demonstrate mastery of Karate weapons.

Students who placed first and second in the tournament include:

BLACK BELT DIVISION:

Sempai John Goddard: Black Belt Division: 1st Place Kumite

Sempai Peter Kish: U-18 Black Belt Division: 3rd Place: Kata

Jr. Black Belt Jena Kish: 1st Place Kata, 1st Place Kumite

FIRST AND SECOND PLACE:

Nicholas Berube: 2nd Place Kumite
Allyson Bull, 1st place: Weapons, 2nd Place: Kata

Andrew Capless: 1st Place: Kata
Angela Folley: 1st Place: Kumite, 2nd Place: Kata

Joseph Folley: 1st Place: Kumite, 2nd Place: Kata

Kurt Johnson: 1st Place Kumite
Derek LesCarbeau: 2nd Place: Kumite

Lilly Matthews: 1st Place: Kata
Paige Matthews: 1st Place: Kata

Michael Pieroni: 2nd Place Kata
Mary Pieroni: 1st Place: Kumite

Jamal Sarakis: 2nd Place: Kumite
Francesco Tondo: 2nd Place Kata

Andrea Tondo: 1st Place Kumite, 2nd Place Kata

"This year MKA had one of our strongest showings in the Almeida Tournament" said Shihan Giordano. "With more than 30 students competing, we dominated both the Kumite and Kata divisions. Our students are focused and disciplined, and this was their opportunity to demonstrate their hard work both as individuals and as a team. I'm proud of the way they represented our school and the Merrimack Valley."

About Giordano Family MKA

Giordano Family MKA, formerly known as MKA, was founded in 1968 by Shihan Larry F. Giordano. The "school of the rooster's" mission is to promote the traditional, spiritual, and educational goals of karate do through the discipline

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y se lo diseñamos a la medida que
desea.

Llame hoy para más información
978-794-5360



ELLEN BAHAN:

CONT. FROM PAGE 17

then Diane Sullivan will emerge from the shadows to profess her innocence!

If I was mayor, I would have hired the previous interim community developer, who my sources tell me was imminently qualified. In fact, I hear that this woman has been hired as a consultant to our \$90,000K unqualified Community Developer.

Billy, back away from the buffet table and get your head back into the game! I know this is going to be hard to fulfill 81,000 worth of campaign promises, but think of the "less fortunate and the children", they are on the other side of the bridge!

Billy, I feel a slap to the back of the head coming. You are not serving the people. The people need accountability, reform and performance. You are acting just like our old queen, who only filled positions by patronage.

If I were you I would be rethinking my connection to Mass Development! I smell an investigation coming on!

I would not have influenced the vote to elect Steve Zanni chair of the council. By the way, he is a lousy chairman; he does not know the procedure or protocol, but acts like he does. Unlike you Billy, who did know it all!

In fact, Zanni is already using the chair to campaign. The daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and Horoscope reported that the vote on the red light cameras was unanimous against the ordinance.

I know you did not hear this Jason, but when all was said and done, Zanni, leaned over to the council secretary and said, "I'll be recorded as yes". Thinks he can buy the police force. I think his coonskin cap is too tight!

I hear that old shar is getting ready to come out and support Zanni so he can slide into Broadhurst's seat. Figures! Personally Steve, I think it is the kiss of death.

Zanni instead of acting so pompous and all knowing needs to bone up on Robert's Rules of Order. It is apparent he needs some education. What is that old adage, "to open ones mouth and remove all doubt"?

Billy, tell me, do you have any regrets in swaying the election of chair? Be careful what you lobby for!

Let Us Give Thanks

At the last council meeting, the people of Methuen almost got bamboozled!

First, thank you Solicitor Peter McQuillian, for doing your job, sticking to your guns, not being intimidated, standing by the law and representing the people of Methuen.

Thank you Councilor Jack Cronin, for pulling no punches, saying it like it is and also sticking up for the people of Methuen.

Thank you to those who took time to research the issue, attended the meeting, and had the courage to get up and speak.

And last, but certainly not least, thank you chief of staff, Matty K. for taking care of Billy after his first flaming loss! "It's OK boss. It's OK. By the way, your hair is sticking up."

GLTS Announces February Students of the Month

By Graham Entwistle

Greater Lawrence Technical School, Andover, has announced its Students of the Month for February. They are seniors Diego Paschoal and Daniel Jimenez, and junior Ana Burgos, all of Lawrence.

The three students were recently honored at a luncheon in the school's restaurant, the Edward V. Coakley Four Winds.

Diego Paschoal, who is the son of Denise Lima of Lawrence, majors in Plumbing. He was attracted to Greater Lawrence because of the opportunity to learn a trade, in addition to receiving a traditional academic education.

"I've gotten more than I ever expected out of the program," Diego said. "I've got great teachers, who are also mentors and friends. I can count on them when I need help."

Diego, who was also named a student of the month during his sophomore year, has been an honor roll student with good attendance. He competes in the shot put and discus with the school's spring track and field team, and has been a member of the indoor track squad. Diego participates in the GLTS Cooperative Education Program. Co-op students alternate weeks at the school with weeks working for an employer in their field.

"I've learned responsibility at Greater Lawrence, as well as skills like soldering, brazing, and mathematical reasoning," he said. "I love everything about plumbing, just mapping out what I have to do to get from this fixture to that fixture."

All-Time Top Five

Plumbing instructor Kenneth Henrick nominated Diego to be a student of the month.

"He is one of the top five all-time students in the history of the Plumbing Department," Mr. Henrick said. "His co-op company representative feels Diego is not only a well-prepared and accomplished worker, but also just a 'great kid.'"

Diego works for Reid Mechanicals of North Andover. "We do air conditioning, heating, and ventilation systems," Diego said of his co-op job. "I'm learning about refrigerants, heating units, and air cooling."

Diego plans to go to Middlesex Community College in the fall, and then transfer to the University of Massachusetts Lowell where he intends to enroll in an engineering program.

Outside of school, Diego is the vice president of his church youth group, engaging in charitable work to help supply food and clothing to a sister church in Brazil.

Ana Burgos, the daughter of Maria Rodriguez of Lawrence, is a Cosmetology major.

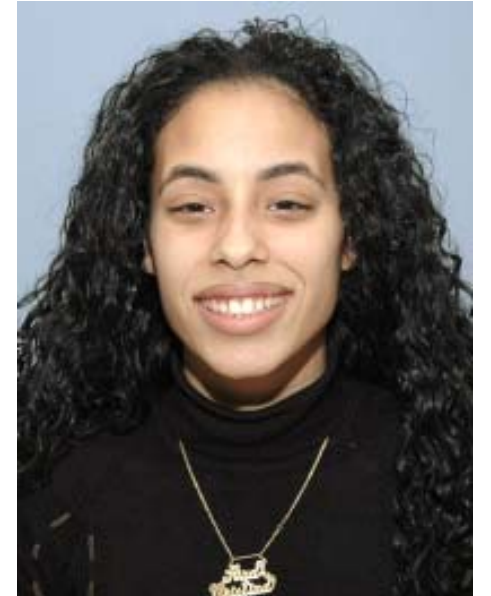
"I've always been interested in cosmetology," she says. "Every since I was a little girl, I've played around with people's hair."

Ana is an honors student with a perfect attendance record this year. As a freshman, she received a medal for being among the top students on the GPA (Grade Point Average) list.

She played junior varsity softball her freshman year, and is currently a two-year varsity player. Ana runs the 50-meter dash



Diego Paschoal of Lawrence



Ana Burgos of Lawrence



Daniel Jimenez of Lawrence

during the indoor track season, and has competed with the school's cross country squad. She is also a member of the ski club, and the GLTS SkillsUSA chapter. She has volunteered her time to help clean the local riverfront, and give school tours.

"I like Greater Lawrence because you can get an education plus a career," she said. "The administrators here really care about you. They try to help you with any problems you have. I've made great friends, and the teachers are awesome."

A+ Math Student

Math teacher Robert Niceforo nominated Ana, saying she received the highest grade (a 106, A+) for term two that he has ever given.

"Ana's willingness to help struggling classmates is exemplary," Mr. Niceforo said. "She is a hardworking student, who exhibits many leadership skills." Cosmetology Instructor Cecelia Smith noted that Ana is a perfectionist in her career area with a great attitude.

Outside of school, Anna likes to spend time with family and friends.

"My stepfather takes me out to the driving range, to play mini-golf, and to the batting cages," she said. "I also like to travel. I go to Puerto Rico every year."

After she graduates, Ana would like to study architecture at a four-year college. Down the road, she expects to work in both the cosmetology and architectural fields. Math and history are her favorite academic subjects.

Daniel Jimenez, who is the son of Jose and Juana Jimenez of Lawrence, majors in Electrical.

"I've always wanted to be an electrician, and this school has the best electrical program in the area," he says. "It's a good school. It prepares you for life."

Tennis Star

Daniel is an honors student with good attendance. He is a four-year member of both the boys soccer and tennis teams. He plays midfield in soccer, and took over the number one singles spot on the tennis team during his junior year.

His GLTS education has been everything he hoped it would be and more, he says.

"I've learned the basics, what to expect

when you go into the trade, and how to advance," he said. "I've learned a lot about commercial, industrial, and residential wiring."

Through the school's House Building Program, Daniel has been able to hone his skills by working offsite to help construct affordable housing in Lawrence and Andover, and he is also a member of the school's Cooperative Education Program.

"I do pre-fabrication work for Interstate Electrical of North Billerica," he said of his co-op job. "It's good experience, and I also earn money for college. It's given me a taste of what it's like working out in the field." Daniel's Electrical department instructors — Tom Cronin, Gary Sonia, and Ralph Cameron — nominated him, along with Department Chair Tom Ciulla.

"He is always on time, willing to help his classmates, and very respectful," Mr. Cronin said, while Mr. Cameron added, "Dan exemplifies all that a Reggie should be. He is bright and energetic."

After graduating, Daniel plans to go to college to earn a degree in electrical engineering, possibly at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Outside of school, he has volunteered to help with cleanup projects for the City of Lawrence.

The Student of the Month program was begun nine years ago to familiarize the Greater Lawrence communities with the school's outstanding students and their achievements. Marilyn Fitzgerald administers the program.

Graham Entwistle Photos

If you have any questions regarding this section or anything else, please get in touch with the shelter during regular work hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am to 4pm, Thursdays from 12 noon to 7pm, and Sundays from 12-3 pm by calling (978) 687-7453.

MSPCA Online
Find our page in the Internet:
methuen-mspca.org
The animal shelter is located at 400 de Broadway, Ruta 28 en Methuen.



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PAWSITIVELY INTERESTING

MSPCA - Methuen & Rumbo Cooperative Education Column

PETS LOOKING FOR ADOPTION



Ripley, Greyhound, Age: 6 years old, Sex: Neutered Male
Come in and meet Ripley. He came to us from Greyhound Friends. Greyhounds have gentle dispositions and make wonderful companions and this definitely describes Ripley. He is very playful and gregarious. He loves to give hugs! We are looking for a wonderful home for him that is very active. He gets along great with other dogs and may do well with children. Stop by to give him a treat!

Katana, Mastiff, Pit Bull Terrier Mix, Age: 9 years old, Sex: Spayed Female

Come on in and give a big "WOOF" to Katana! She is a wonderful dog who came to the MSPCA because her previous owners moved. We feel very lucky to have her because she is so great! Her favorite thing in the world is to have her belly scratched. Well her favorite thing may actually be food, as she has had plenty of it during her life. Her new owners will have to help her stick to her diet and exercise plan to shed a few pounds. But with her high energy it shouldn't be too hard! She is housebroken and gets along great with older kids and possibly other dogs. This great companion has been spayed and is up to date with all her shots, so you can take her home today!



Bigfoot, Tabby - Brown, Domestic Long Hair-white Mix, Age: 7 years old, Sex: Spayed Female

Come in and meet Bigfoot! Like the mythical creature, this cat is very furry and likes to hide. Once he gets over being shy and gets to know you he will offer up BIG love! He gets along great with other cats and may do well with kids and dogs. His personality is very mellow and he loves to lounge around. Come in today to feel how soft his coat is!

Sir Antonio DiVenc, Domestic Long Hair-gray Mix, Age: 7 years old, Sex: Neutered Male

My name is Sir Antonio di Vincenzo. I am quite a handsome cat, with a beautiful coat and a loud purr. I am looking for a family to love as much as my previous owners, who could no longer care for me. I do need some dental work, but that doesn't interfere with the huge smile on my face when you pet me. I could pay you back with lots of love! I get along well with other cats and have been neutered. Please come by and visit me today. I love to play games and I promise to let you win... sometimes!



Clyde, New Zealand Mix, Age: Adult, Sex: Neutered Male

Clyde was brought to the shelter after being found as a stray. Domestic rabbits can not survive outdoors and should never be let loose to fend for themselves. Clyde is a social, outgoing and friendly bunny. He would do well in most homes and is happy to be handled and especially likes to be given treats. His favorites are red peppers and dandelion greens. If you are looking for a new addition to your home, Clyde could be the perfect choice for you. Stop by the shelter to meet him and say hello!

ANA Synchers Achieve Personal Bests at Junior National Championships

The ANA Synchers were represented by three athletes at the Speedo Junior National Synchronized Swimming Championships, held on April 6th-8th at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center in Minneapolis. The three swimmers qualified for the right to compete in 4 events at this elite meet, the most in the team history. The Synchers achieved personal best ratings and qualified to attend the U.S. National Championships in Fort Lauderdale, FL on April 26th-29th.



More than 300 elite athletes ages 14-18 vied at this competition for Junior National Titles in the solo, duet, trio and team events. Also up for grabs were 10 spots on the 2006 U.S. Junior National Team which were named at the conclusion of the meet. The Junior National Team will go on to compete in the X FINA Junior Synchronized Swimming World Championships October 26-29 in Guangzhou, China.

For the ANA Synchers, outstanding performances were delivered by trio swimmers Stephanie Garcia-Restrepo, 16, of Billerica, Rita Gillan, 18, and Ashley Cohen, 16, of Andover, earning them a 14th place finish. Gillan and Garcia-Restrepo finished 23rd for their duet, and 23rd and 24th, respectively, for their solo routines, qualifying them for the U.S. Nationals at the end of April.

The ANA Synchers is the synchronized swimming team sponsored by

the Andover/North Andover branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA. The team has grown from 15 swimmers ten years ago to close to 60 swimmers today. In addition to its growth in numbers, over time the ANA Synchers have risen rapidly through the ranks to qualify for an increasingly elite level of competition. In addition to the U.S. National Championships, the Synchers expect to send 35 athletes competing in 12 events to the Age Group Championships in Seattle, WA in June, and 18 athletes competing in all 5 events to the international U.S. Open Championship in Orlando, Florida in July.

If you would like to see the ANA YMCA Synchers in action, they will be hosting an exhibition performance at the Andover-North Andover YMCA on April 29-30, 2006. For ticket information, please call Charlie O'Connor at 978-790-2093.



The Cat's Meow Chocolate Tasting

Sample decadent sweets from premium chocolatiers such as Lindt, Godiva, Starbucks, Haagen Dazs, The Belgian Truffle House, Flibbertigibbet Hand Made Chocolates and Sweetest Memories, then bid on indulgences in the silent auction throughout the evening!



Friday, May 19, 2006 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Middlesex Canal Museum
71 Faulkner Street, North Billerica, MA

Live jazz by "Moon Glow"

Tickets: \$25 per person. Proceeds fund work of Billerica Cat Care Coalition, a 100% volunteer, non-profit organization.

For ticket info, visit: www.billericacatcarecoalition.org

Or Rolf's Pet Grooming, 131 Boston Rd., North Billerica.



SAVE LIVES: GET YOUR PET SPAYED OR NEUTERED

Reduced SNAP fees are made possible through generous donations of time and resources by participating veterinarians who believe in the importance of spaying and neutering as part of a complete pet health care program.

PLEASE NOTE: This program is with participating Massachusetts veterinary practices only. If you live elsewhere, please contact SpayUSA for a low cost program in your area: www.spayusa.org. For more information, please visit <http://www.mspca.org>. Brochures available in English and Spanish.

SALVE VIDAS:
ASEGURESE DE CASTRAR A SUS ANIMALES

Meehan to Host Town Meeting on College Affordability

Congressman Marty Meehan (D-MA) will host a Town Meeting about college affordability at Northern Essex Community College on April 15, 2006. Meehan has invited all residents from Haverhill, Andover, Lawrence, and Methuen to join him and a panel of college admissions and financial aid experts for this important discussion on the rising cost of college tuition and how to improve the availability of higher education.

"For America to remain the most competitive and innovative nation, we must continue to lead the world in human talent and creativity. Investing in our education system is the key to achieving this goal," said Meehan. "Sadly, a college education is now out of the reach for many Massachusetts students. Now, more than ever, it is important that families understand federal, state and private financial aid opportunities, as well as the college admissions process."

Meehan released a report last week that analyzes the dramatic increase of college tuition in Massachusetts over the last decade. The report finds that tuition and fees at public colleges in Massachusetts increased by more than 70% in the last ten years, and nearly 60% at private colleges in the same time period, putting a college education out of reach for an increasing number of high school graduates in Massachusetts.

Meehan's report finds that the total cost of an education at a public college in Massachusetts, including tuition, mandatory fees and room and board, has nearly doubled in the last ten years, from \$3,646 in 1996-97 to \$6,215 in 2005-06. The average tuition and fees of the private schools sampled in 1996-97 was \$16,952 and in 2005-06 that figure was \$26,723.

Most startling is the fact that inflation does not account for the cost increases over the last decade. Total costs have risen more than twice as fast as inflation at both public and private institutions. At private schools, total cost rose by 53% and at public schools total cost rose by 65%, while inflation only accounted for a growth of 25%.

Calendario de Eventos

Calendar of Events



Central Catholic Production of Guys and Dolls Dedicated to Longtime English Teacher and Former Guild Director Karen Moynihan



Over the weekend of April 6th, 7th, and 8th, the Central Catholic Theatre Guild presented the popular Broadway classic *Guys and Dolls*. A reprise of a 1986 production, the three performances were dedicated to beloved English teacher and former Guild director Karen Moynihan, who has taught at Central for 28 years (and directed for over 20.)

The show featured the talents of junior Michael J. Twomey as Sky Masterson, junior Abigail R. Sullivan as Sarah Brown, senior Kelly W. Buck as Adelaide, and junior Matthew P. Keleher as Nathan Detroit. Also playing major roles were senior Andrew P. LaPrade as Nicely-Nicely Johnson and senior Jaymes W. Witham as Benny Southstreet. Senior Linda Kucukistipanoglu was the stage manager.

The play was directed by Sharman Merrill (English teacher and St. Mary alumna who was in the 1986 production), and the assistant director was Kristina Keleher (Director of Library Services). The Acting Coach & Production Assistant was Ashleigh L. Ward (English/Drama Teacher). Ronald R. Russo (Religious Studies teacher) is the Technical Director.

The Central Catholic Theatre Guild is completing its 35th year and is comprised of over 75 students who are in either the cast or crew. The 2005-2006 Guild was led by an Executive Board comprised of a president, Jaymes W. Witham; vice-president, Linda Kucukistipanoglu; secretary, Andrew P. LaPrade; and treasurer, Kelly W. Buck (all seniors).

THE LAWRENCE/METHUEN COMMUNITY COALITION INVITES YOU TO A MEETING TO SHARE INFORMATION ON WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD. YOUR PRESENCE IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL THE MEETINGS, PLEASE CALL DOMINGO MELENDEZ AT THE L/MCC OFFICES AT (978)975-8793

LOWELL/ELIZABETH STS.
Monthly Meeting
Thursday, April 20th, 2006
6:30 PM
BRUCE SCHOOL
135 Butler Street, Lawrence

INVITED GUESTS:
Mayor Michael Sullivan; Peter C. Takvorian, Lawrence Fire Chief; John Romero, Lawrence Police Chief; District B Councilor Grisel Silva; District C Councilor Jorge Gonzalez

TREMONT & CROSS STREET
Monthly Meeting
Monday, April 24th 2006
6:30 PM
SAINT MARY GYM
Hampshire Street, Lawrence

INVITED GUESTS:
Mayor Michael Sullivan; Peter C. Takvorian, Lawrence Fire Chief; John Romero, Lawrence Police Chief; Andrea Traficanti, Lawrence Department of Public Works; District B Councilor Grisel Silva; District C Councilor Jorge Gonzalez

TOWER HILL
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, April 26th
7:00pm
ST. AUGUSTINE'S JULIE HALL
531 Lowell Street, Lawrence

INVITED GUESTS:
Mayor Michael Sullivan; Peter C. Takvorian, Lawrence Fire Chief; John Romero, Lawrence Police Chief; Andrea Traficanti, Lawrence Department of Public Works; District B Councilor Grisel Silva; District C Councilor Jorge Gonzalez

ALMA/BROMFIELD, WHITMAN/ARLINGTON & SAUNDERS/PARK NEIGHBORHOODS
April 27th, 2006
6:30 pm
ARLINGTON SCHOOL
150 Arlington Street, Lawrence

SPECIAL GUESTS:
District B Councilor Silva and District C Councilor Gonzalez
Police, fire and city officials will be present!

YMCA CAMP OTTER EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

APRIL 22, 2006
10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

Help us celebrate the return of Spring and the waking of Camp Otter
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
Bring rakes, gloves, and wheelbarrows, if you have them

TO BE DONE:

Brush removal and trimming, light carpentry and maintenance, opening of cabins, and track pick up
CONTACT: Bronwyn Crocker for more information at (978) 975-1330.


CAMP OTTER IS LOCATED ON HOOKER FARM ROAD, SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE. ON THE BANKS OF CAPTAIN'S POND

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ENTRY-LEVEL CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FIREFIGHTER, MUNICIPAL SERVICE

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Human Resources Division will hold an Entry-Level Civil Service Examination for Firefighter, Municipal Service, on June 10, 2006.

Applications must be filed or postmarked no later than April 24, 2006. Applications and information about eligibility requirements, application fees, and the examination process are available at the Human Resources Division, One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108 or by calling the Examination Hot Line at (617) 878-9895 or toll-free at 1-800-392-6178. You may also apply on line at <http://www.mass.gov/civilservice>.

The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority has released the following schedule to be in effect on:

PATRIOT'S DAY | MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2006

- No local bus service
- No EZTRANS service
- No Call and Commute Service
- No Ring and Ride Service in Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Methuen, Salisbury, and West Newbury
- No MVRTA Boston Commuter Bus
- Commuter rail will operate on a Sunday schedule

¿QUIERE MEJORAR SUS DESTREZAS EN INGLÉS?



Lawrence Family Development Charter School en West Street está ofreciendo tutoría en inglés. Los solicitantes han de tomar un examen en inglés para saber a qué nivel están. El costo es \$50 por un término de 13 semanas que es el programa menos costoso en toda el área. Las clases son por la noche de 6 a 8 pm, de lunes a jueves. Los estudiantes toman clases de Inglés como Segundo Idioma en dos de esas noches. Pregunte por Sandy en el (978) 689-9863.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Parents Helping Parents, a child abuse prevention agency, is looking for bi-lingual volunteers with good interpersonal skills and a commitment to strengthening families to facilitate support groups Lawrence. Volunteers must commit to spending five hours a week for a period of one year as a facilitator. Training and ongoing supervision and support is provided by Parents Helping Parents. Call 1-800-882-1250 to request application materials or for more information visit our website at www.parentshelpingparents.org.

MAKING WAVES SUMMER PROGRAM 2006



\$35 per child per week for Lawrence Residents
\$45 per child per week for those living outside of Lawrence
This program is open to children entering grade 1 – children entering grade 6 only!

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack | Weekly Field Trips
- Sports instruction | A Varied Arts Program

Facility has a large gym, a computer lab, and an indoor pool
July 10th-August 18th
8:30am-4:30pm

Adelante is located at 245 Hampshire St., Lawrence, MA
(978)687-9432

CURRENT MEMBERS OF ADELANTE'S AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM MUST RE-REGISTER IN ORDER TO BE A PART OF OUR SUMMER PROGRAM!

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PREGUNTA:

¿Cuanto cuesta un anuncio de este tamaño en RUMBO?

RESPUESTA:

2 1/4 CENTAVOS

Le diseñaremos su anuncio a sus especificaciones

GRATIS!

LLAME HOY PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN Y DETALLES

978-794-5360

COSTO BASADO EN CANTIDAD DE PERIÓDICOS IMPRESOS EN LA EDICIÓN REGIONAL

Exitosa Business Expo

El miércoles, 5 de abril, 2006, el Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, tuvo su feria anual Spring into Business Expo and Job Fair en Pat's Function Hall en Haverhill. De acuerdo con los organizadores, fue un complete éxito. Aquí, algunos de los comercios que tuvieron su puesto de exhibición.

Raichelle Kallery taking care of a member at the Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union booth.



Tina Viveiros was manning the Sovereign Bank booth.



MVRTA Director of Marketing Timothy M. Thurrott chats with North of Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director, Julie McConchie.



WCCM Marc Lemay interviewing Daniel Harty from Covanta Haverhill, Inc.



From Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, located at 115 Amesbury Line Road, Haverhill, are Beverly Hollins DeSalvo, Co-op Coordinator and Dennis LaBranche, Coordinator of Community Education.



At the United States Postal Service booth, we found John T. Foye, Business Service Network Coordinator; Wendy Mullen and Paul Bresnahan.



MVCC President/CEO Joseph Bevilacqua; Lisa Gonzalez- Welch, SBA Economic Development Specialist and Maurice L. Dubé, SBA District Director, at the fair.

SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS EXPO

On Wednesday, April 5, 2006, the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce held their annual Spring into Business Expo & Job Fair at Pat's Function Hall in Haverhill. According to the organizers, it was a complete success. Here are some of the merchants who had booths at the fair.