



Reinado Juvenil Semana Hispana 2007

PÁGINA 10

Yaritza Brea fue coronada Reina Infantil Semana Hispana 2007 en una reñida competencia llevada a cabo en la Escuela Guilmette.

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STEPHANIE MUÑOZ: SEÑORITA REINA SEMANA HISPANA 2007

POR BEATRIZ PÉREZ
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El número mágico de este año del certamen Señorita Semana Hispana 2007 fue el 13, ya que esa fue la cantidad de participantes que compitieron para obtener la corona que acredita a una joven de origen hispano de esta comunidad como la reina que representaría el evento durante todo un año.

Las 13 jóvenes irradian el escenario del auditorio de la Escuela Guilmette el pasado sábado en uno de los certámenes más competitivos de los

Foto por Justo García/Cortesía de Semana Hispana

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Representante Estatal Barry Finegold inaugura oficina de campaña

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Memorial Day in Lawrence

Santina Nicolosi, with the help of U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jim Ogonowski placed a wreath at her son's U.S. Army Sgt. Pierre Antoine Raymond memorial place. Sgt. Raymond, from Methuen, died on September 20, 2005, of injuries suffered during combat in Iraq.

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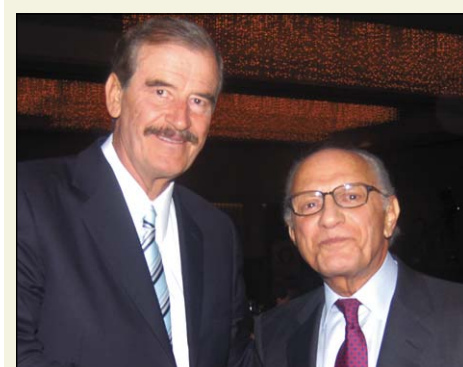
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Los premios Hispanic Media 2007

El ex presidente de México, Vicente Fox, congratula a Emilio Nicolás. El Sr. Nicolás es un pionero de la televisión en español en los Estados Unidos y recibió el Hispanic Media Ring of Honor 2007 por sus logros. El Presidente Fox fue el orador invitado de la gala.

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¡Participa y Gana!

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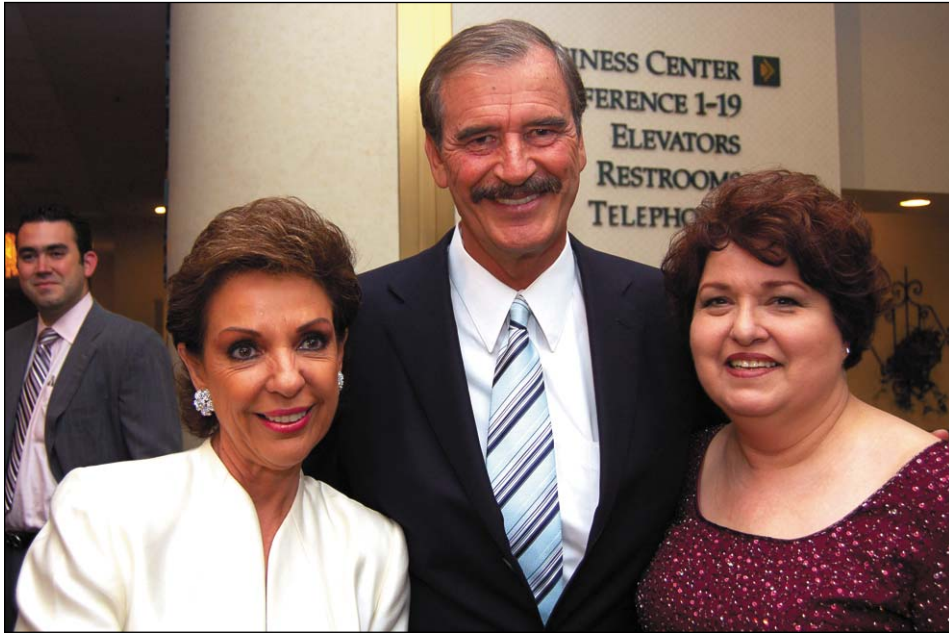
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JUNE 1ST 2007

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Los premios 2007 de Hispanic Media



El Ex Presidente de México, Vicente Fox Quesada con su esposa, Sra. Marta Maria Sahagún Jiménez (izq) con Dalia Díaz, del Periódico Rumbo de Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Former President of Mexico, Vicente Fox Quesada, his wife, Marta Maria Sahagún Jiménez (left) with Hispanic Media Honoree, Dalia Díaz, from Rumbo, Lawrence, Massachusetts.



Los anfitriones del evento, Rogelio Mora-Tagle, y Vanessa Hauc, revisando el programa.

2007 Hispanic Media Hosts Rogelio Mora-Tagle, and Vanessa Hauc going over the evening's program. Mora-Tagle is one of Telemundo International's premier news anchors. Hauc is the news anchor, correspondent and substitute host for the Telemundo Program "Al Rojo Vivo" with Maria Celeste.

+FOTOS: Más fotos en la Página 17

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 17 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS

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Los Hispanic Media Awards del 2007, un reconocimiento anual a los periodistas de la lengua hispana de más influencia en los Estados Unidos, se llevaron a cabo en el Marriott Rivercenter Grand Ballroom el 24 de mayo, 2007 en San Antonio, Texas. Este año, el ganador del premio 'Journalist and Community Award' lo fue Odilon Arambula del Laredo Morning Times mientras que Emilio Nicolas Sr., pionero de la televisión en español en los Estados Unidos recibió el Ring of Honor Award.

El ex presidente de México, Vicente Fox Quesada fue el orador invitado.

De acuerdo con The Edge, Inc., administradores de los Hispanic Media Awards, los corresponsales honrados son nominados por sus compañeros, lectores, espectadores y otros dentro de la industria y después seleccionado por un panel independiente de jueces. Ellos son reconocidos por su influencia, involucramiento comunitario y la calidad de

su trabajo. En total, el programa reconoce a 50 corresponsales y ejecutivos de los medios de comunicación del país, en radio, periodismo, televisión y otros medios.

Los Hispanic Media Awards representan los más grandes ideales e implementación del periodismo en español. Cada año, los nominados son estudiados por un panel nacional de distinguidos jueces y honrados en una cena de gala. Además, los jueces introducirán a miembros de los Hispanic Media Awards dentro del Círculo de Honor.

El Círculo de Honor rendirá tributo a miembros de Hispanic Media, tanto presentes como pasados, cuyas carreras han ofrecido un liderazgo visionario y pavimentado el camino de los reporteros, editores y ejecutivos de noticias en español.

Por más de dos siglos, los periodistas hispanos en los Estados Unidos han formado un estrecho lazo con la comunidad hispana que sirven. Los periódicos en español, revistas, noticieros radiales y sitios de Internet, no solo informan, sino que actúan como guardianes de la cultura hispana, sus valores e intereses.

El periodismo en español en los Estados Unidos está en todo su apogeo. Más americanos que nunca están obteniendo parte de sus noticias en español. Igualmente, la calidad de los reportajes en español está a una altura histórica.

EDITORIAL

DIFERENTES CULTURAS UNIDAS EN UNA VOZ

Con el mes de junio viene el tiempo de calor y los festivales de verano. El mayor de todos es el primero ya este mes: Semana Hispana.

Lawrence es conocida por sus muchos festivales y festividades al aire libre todo el año. La parada más larga por lo regular es la de San Patricio atrayendo a residentes de muchas ciudades y pueblos de los alrededores para ver a los niños de nuestro sistema escolar participar con preciosas carrozas decoradas con brillante colorido compitiendo por premios.

Cada año vemos como los grupos vietnamitas, puertorriqueños y colombianos han llegado a tener la preferencia de los miembros del jurado dando un aspecto internacional a la Parada de San Patricio pero no vemos esa reciprocidad en la Parada de Semana Hispana.

Lo mismo sucede con St. Alfio y el Festival de los Tres Santos. Si no fuera por la participación de los latinos, ya hace mucho tiempo que hubiese dejado de existir.

El lema de Semana Hispana de este año es "Diferentes Culturas Unidas en Una Voz". A través de los años ellos han estado tratando de atraer la participación de otros grupos y su vicepresidente Brian De Peña está confiado en que este año, con este lema, será el año que Semana Hispana unirá sus fuerzas con los irlandeses, italianos, vietnamitas, etc. y celebrarán la gran mezcla que Lawrence, la Ciudad de los Inmigrantes representa.

DIFFERENT CULTURES UNITED IN ONE VOICE

With the month of June come the warm weather and the summer festivals. The biggest of all is the first one this month: Hispanic Week.

Lawrence is known for its many festivals and outdoor festivities all year long. The longest parade usually takes place on St. Patrick's bringing residents from many cities and towns to watch children from our school system participate with colorful and cleverly decorated floats competing for prizes.

We have seen in recent years how Vietnamese, Puerto Rican and Colombian groups have risen to the judges' preference giving an international flair to the St. Patrick's Parade but we don't see reciprocity in the Hispanic Week Parade.

The same happens with St. Alfio and the Feast of the Three Saints. If it weren't for the participation of the Latino residents of the area, it would have disappeared long ago.

This year's Hispanic Week theme is "Different Cultures United in One Voice". Through the years they have been trying to attract the participation of other groups and its Vice President Brian De Peña believes that this year, with this theme, might be the year that Hispanic Week will join forces and unite with the Hibernians, Italians, Vietnamese, etc. and celebrate the great mix that Lawrence, this City of Immigrants represents.

Cartas al Editor | Letters to the Editor

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

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

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DESDE MI ESQUINA DESDE MI ESQUINA DESDE MI ESQUINA



Desde Mi Esquina

By DALIA DÍAZ
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¿Quiere ser policía? Depende de a quién conoce

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 19 to read this article in English

La Ciudad de Lawrence canceló la Academia de Policía que planeaba comenzar la semana pasada cuando descubrieron que la ciudad no tiene dinero. Nueve hombres que renunciaron a sus empleos para convertirse en policías ahora se encuentran desempleados y muy enojados.

El sentido común me dice que para poder incurrir en un gasto tan grande, los planes deben comenzar muchos meses antes. ¿Cómo puede ser posible que descubrieran la carencia de fondos solamente cuando estaban listos para empezar el entrenamiento?

Algo me dice que debe haber dos juegos de libros por algún lugar o dinero separado en alguna otra cuenta porque el Jefe de Policía John Romero les dijo que tuvieran paciencia por una semana más o menos mientras que él trata de encontrarlo y entonces concertará otro entrenamiento. De más está decir que ellos están a punto de demandar a la ciudad.

¡Pues, tremenda sorpresa! El Chief encontró suficiente dinero para pagar por el equipo y uniformes para los nueve reclutas. Ellos no van a recibir un salario durante las 20 semanas de entrenamiento o tan siquiera la garantía de un empleo cuando terminen. ¿Cuesta trabajo creerlo, verdad? La verdad de esto es que ellos se consideran dichosos teniendo ese entrenamiento pagado por la ciudad porque después pueden ir a trabajar para cualquier otra ciudad.

Lo interesante de esto es quiénes lograron estar en esta lista: el hermano de Tom Schiavoni que no es residente de Lawrence y Felix González, es hijo del Concejal Jorge González.

Teléfonos gratis para los Concejales de Lawrence

Una cosa divertida me sucedió durante la Observación de Memorial Day en el Cementerio de St. Mary mientras conversaba con algunos concejales. Al Concejal Jorge Gonzalez's se le cayó su teléfono al suelo y cuando se inclinó a recogerlo, el Concejal Nuncio Demarca le mostró que él tiene uno más moderno y debe cambiarlo por uno igual.

El Concejal Gonzalez dijo, "No, yo no quiero estar en Rumbo. Yo prefiero este porque es mío y yo lo pago."

Cuando lo alabé por no tener un teléfono pagado por los contribuyentes de la ciudad, el Concejal Nick Kolofoles se puso defensivo explicando que él usa su teléfono para asuntos de sus constituyentes solamente y el Concejal DiMarca trataba de hablar por encima de Nick explicando la forma en que él lo usa también. Entretanto, el Concejal González estaba disfrutando el escenario, libre de culpa.

"Sr. González, usted sí va a estar en Rumbo", le dije. "Usted es un hombre de convicciones."

Lantigua para Alcalde/Concejal/Comité Escolar/etc.

Hay tantos rumores por ahí que ya no sabemos qué creer. La gente anda regando rumores que el Representante Estatal William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) está considerando postularse para el Comité Escolar y para el Concilio de Lawrence como parte de su ambición de llegar a la silla del alcalde y él parece estarlo disfrutando.

Entre los muchos otros rumores rodando hay un movimiento para encontrar

candidatos Latinos capacitados en la comunidad para postularse para el concilio y el comité escolar en todos los distritos. Pues bien, ¿cómo es que Marcos Devers no se postula por el Distrito A? Patrick Blanchette va a correr sin oposición este año.

Reapertura de la Iglesia del Sagrado Corazón

El pasado miércoles, tuvo lugar una reunión con los residentes del área de Mt. Vernon para ponerlos al día sobre el progreso en cuanto a la reapertura de la iglesia. Según Dot Incropera, fue muy concurrida y las contribuciones están llegando aunque saben que están muy lejos de la meta. Un estimado de las reparaciones pone el costo en cerca de un millón de dólares.

Saben que va a ser una larga tarea pero hay gran entusiasmo en el vecindario por ver que esta iglesia funcione como tan de nuevo.

2007 Hispanic Media Awards

El 24 de mayo tuve el placer de haber sido incluida en una lista honrando a los mejores periodistas de habla española y personalidades de los medios en San Antonio, Texas. Cincuenta de los más conocidos nombres en la radio, televisión y periódicos fueron seleccionados de todo el país y para mi sorpresa, mi nombre estaba allí también.

Fue una noche de orgullo para muchas personas celebrando un movimiento histórico. Emilio Nicolás Sr. fue colocado en el Círculo de Honor del 2007 por haber comenzado la primera estación de televisión en español en los Estados Unidos y eso fue en San Antonio. El Canal 41 pronto se convirtió en Spanish International Network (SIN) la cual fue vendida años más tarde a Univisión. Aún cuando yo llevo más de 35

trabajando en los medios de comunicaciones, me sentí como un niño nuevo en un salón de clases, rindiendo honor a las personas que lo empezaron todo.

Blanchette demora el presupuesto de la ciudad (no es el Alcalde esta vez)

El Alcalde de Lawrence Michael J. Sullivan notificó a los miembros del concilio que no podría tener listo el presupuesto de la ciudad a la hora requerida del mediodía del jueves pero que se lo entregaría al día siguiente de seguro. El Presidente del Concilio Patrick Blanchette, presumiendo de que a él le gusta ir según las reglas, dijo que no lo aceptaría si no estaba allí a la hora debida. ¡Bravo, Blanchette, enséñale una lección!

Espere un momento. ¿Está alguien aprendiendo algo de este ejemplo o está la ciudad logrando algo de esta lucha por el poder?

El alcalde va a someter el presupuesto esta semana y el próximo martes lo van a referir al Comité de Presupuesto y Finanzas. Nadie va a mirarlo y no va a ser discutido esa noche. Negándose a aceptarlo por llegar tarde, lo único que el Presidente del Concilio logra es atrasar el proceso dos semanas más, tratando de hacer lucir mal al alcalde, haciendo que los residentes se enojen con los concejales por este comportamiento cuando la realidad es que él tomó esa decisión por su cuenta.

Sí, el Presidente del Concilio, en una forma dictatorial, decidió seguir una regla que él por costumbre rompe. Con frecuencia él presenta cosas a los miembros del concilio durante la asamblea sin aviso previo, pidiéndoles que lo pongan en la agenda para ser discutido esa misma noche.

Si este es su comportamiento ahora, imagínese cómo será si llega a ser alcalde. Su altanería es patética.

Funeraria Farrah

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Alumnos de Notre Dame Defienden a maestro y compañeros suspendidos

POR BEATRIZ PÉREZ
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Sin importarles que la decisión de realizar una protesta en apoyo a sus compañeros de clases le trajera graves consecuencias, varios alumnos de la Escuela Notre Dame se congregaron en el patio de la misma para protestar por lo que ellos consideran una injusticia y una exageración de los administradores de dicha entidad académica.

Los alumnos como una muestra de solidaridad y de apoyo con sus compañeros de clases, estudiantes se manifestaron el pasado miércoles portando carteles que exigían el regreso a clases de varios alumnos que fueron suspendidos y hoy enfrentan cargos criminales luego de redactar una nota en la cual amenazaban con quitarle la vida a varios maestros, compañeros de clases y religiosas del centro académico.

De igual manera los estudiantes exigían también el retorno del profesor Bob Kniffin, entrenador del equipo de béisbol de la escuela, a quien según ellos las autoridades escolares culpan del hecho, ya que cuatro de los seis acusados pertenecen al equipo de béisbol que dirige.

La protesta se realizó de manera pacífica y ordenada, a la entrada de la escalinata de una de las puertas que dan acceso a la escuela, en la parte trasera de la misma.

Tanto la administración de la escuela como las autoridades judiciales han manifestado que no van a permitir que casos como este ocurran en la ciudad. Sin embargo, tanto los acusados como sus propios compañeros han expresado que la redacción de la nota fue simplemente una travesura, a la que se le está dando demasiada importancia.

DETALLES DEL CASO

El pasado 11 de mayo la secretaria de la escuela Notre Dame encontró encima de su escritorio una nota acompañada de una lista con nombres de algunos maestros, alumnos y monjas del centro.

De acuerdo a la versión policial la noche anterior luego de un partido amistoso entre el equipo de pelota de la escuela y de Malden Catholic High School, seis estudiantes penetraron al interior de la institución académica y dejaron la nota en el escritorio de la secretaria.

La policía acusó formalmente a José Vargas y Kevin Valentín ambos de 18 años de edad de invasión a la propiedad y cometer felonía.

La nota elaborada dice: "People I want 2 kill" y además se leían las palabras: Death, God y la cifra 666 el que se refiere a Satanás.

Junto a Vargas y Valentín otros cuatro estudiantes han sido acusados, aunque los nombres de estos últimos se omiten por su condición de menores de edad, aunque al menos uno de ellos y quien tiene 16 años de edad enfrenta cargos de felonía y de amenaza de muerte.

En las últimas semanas tanto en escuelas de esta ciudad como en Methuen han tenido que ser evacuadas tanto por haberse encontrado notas similares a la encontrada



Alumnos de la Escuela Notre Dame durante la protesta realizada en el patio de la misma el pasado 28 de mayo, 2007.

en Notre Dame, por intimidaciones de colocación de bombas, hechos que han sido determinados como bromas de mal gusto.

La pasada semana mientras se impartían las pruebas de MCAS los estudiantes de la escuela superior de Methuen tuvieron que ser evacuados luego de recibirse una amenaza de bomba.

Asimismo, el mismo día en que se encontró la nota en Notre Dame, un estudiante de 15 años de la Escuela Superior de Methuen fue acusado de detonar una bomba casera entre los árboles de la escuela y de llevar consigo materiales para fabricar un explosivo.

REACCIÓN DE LOS ESTUDIANTES EN TORNO AL HECHO

No obstante a que el día de la protesta algunos miembros del centro educativo no permitieron que la prensa se acercara a los alumnos para conocer sus impresiones sobre este hecho, los jóvenes se la ingeniaron para manifestar su rechazo a la decisión de la escuela y manifestar que al caso se le ha dado mucha importancia ya que sus compañeros solo estaban haciendo una broma y que en ningún momento pretendían llevar a cabo lo expresado en su nota.

Durante las horas de la protesta uno de los miembros del plantel educativo al percatarse que uno de los alumnos ofrecía declaraciones sobre el incidente y la protesta a María González reportera de Univisión 27, dijo que esto le costaría una suspensión.

HABLA LA MADRE DE JOSÉ VARGAS

La señora Lourdes Vargas que estuvo en el área del patio de la escuela al momento de la protesta expresó que su hijo al igual que los otros estudiantes son jóvenes buenos, incapaces de cometer un acto como el que aparece en la nota.

Al preguntársele su opinión sobre la protesta de los alumnos dijo que quizás tenía la mejor de las intenciones y que agradecía el apoyo que estaban manifestando a su hijo.

"Esperamos que pronto todo se aclare

LOS ALUMNOS COMO UNA MUESTRA DE SOLIDARIDAD Y DE APOYO CON SUS COMPAÑEROS DE CLASES, ESTUDIANTES SE MANIFESTARON EL PASADO MIÉRCOLES PORTANDO CARTELES QUE EXIGÍAN EL REGRESO A CLASES DE VARIOS ALUMNOS QUE FUERON SUSPENDIDOS Y HOY ENFRENTAN CARGOS CRIMINALES LUEGO DE REDACTAR UNA NOTA EN LA CUAL AMENAZABAN CON QUITARLE LA VIDA A VARIOS MAESTROS, COMPAÑEROS DE CLASES Y RELIGIOSAS DEL CENTRO ACADÉMICO.

porque ahora esos muchachos están en la casa, sin poder asistir a la escuela y arrepentidos de la travesura que hicieron", afirmó.

Ella dijo que los estudiantes son buenos muchachos, incapaces de realizar un acto de esa índole.

Luego del hecho los acusados fueron detenidos y dejados en libertad exentos del pago de una fianza, pero se les prohibió el acercarse al área de la escuela y de las personas que mencionan en la lista encontrada.

Los jóvenes comparecieron ante un juez de la Corte del Distrito del Condado de Essex de esta ciudad la mañana de este miércoles, 30 de mayo.

Su abogado defensor es Louis Farrah III, quien se apersonó a las inmediaciones del patio de la institución educativa al momento de la protesta de los alumnos.

Por otro lado las autoridades escolares están llevando a cabo una investigación para determinar si realmente Valentín entró al sistema de la computadora de la escuela y cambio los grados, según un reporte policial.

Mientras Vargas a quien se le imputa ser el autor intelectual de la supuesta broma enfrenta cargos de amenaza de muerte.

La Sociedad de los Servicios Sociales Solicita la Aportación de la Comunidad Sobre Asuntos

Una coalición de agencias de servicios sociales está dando la bienvenida a la comunidad en el desarrollo de los servicios para un nuevo programa comunitario. Este evento titulado: "La Comunidad Se Preocupa", fue el primer evento comunitario creado y enfocado en el vecindario para el modelo "PATCH".

El modelo PATCH representa un cambio de organización en una visión de servicios sociales. Una determinada agencia enfocada en a las necesidades de la comunidad. El modelo PATCH envuelve la voz y la opinión de los residentes de la comunidad y su vecindario para estos servicios.

A través de este evento tuvimos la oportunidad de hablar con los residentes locales sobre situaciones de importancia y las necesidades de ellos en su vecindario, y cómo dirigirlos en las mismas. Más de 60 adultos y jóvenes participaron en este evento.

La meta es obtener miembros de la comunidad para que se envuelvan socios iguales de las agencias de servicios sociales y obtener una voz fuerte, que decida que es lo mejor para su vecindario. Muchas comunidades basadas en una misma estrategia serán envueltas en este proyecto que tomara dirección del Comité Residencial, Comité del Vecindario, Comité de Padres y el Comité Juvenil.

Este programa es en conjunto entre Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition, Community Day Care, TAM Iglesia Presbiteriana, el Departamento de Servicios Sociales y el Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc. cual es la agencia oficial para el proyecto PATCH.

SOBRE LA NUEVA OFICINA

La nueva oficina está localizada en la TAM Iglesia Presbiteriana, en el 96 de la East Haverhill Street, en el área de Prospect Hill en la Ciudad de Lawrence. Es la tercera oficina que ha sido desarrollada en el estado de Massachusetts.

El concepto de PATCH es crear una comunidad que se sientan dueños de su comunidad, esperanza, la autodeterminación y el orgullo de la comunidad donde están seguros para que los niños y las familias tengan futuros significativos con la colaboración y la responsabilidad mutua. La oficina alcanzará esta meta promoviendo el poder y la implicación de los miembros de la comunidad que buscan ayuda.

Para más información sobre este programa y el modelo del "PATCH", favor de comunicarse con Delilah Rivera, Coordinadora del Programa al (978) 975-8793.

ELECTIONS '07
UPDATE

Hasta el viernes, 18 de mayo, 2007, las siguientes personas han llenado papeles para estas elecciones municipales de Lawrence.

As of Friday, May 18, 2007, the following individuals had pulled papers for the upcoming Lawrence municipal elections.

(District) City Council

- (A): Patrick Blanchette*
 (B): Grisel Silva*
 Ruth E. Rojas
 (C): Jorge González*
 (D): Nicholas J. Kolofoles*
 Franklin Fernández
 Samuel Reyes
 (E): Matthew Brien
 Paul L. Lambert
 (F): Marie Gosselin*
 Michael P. Fielding

(At-Large)

Nilka Alvarez-Rodriguez*; Nunzio DiMarca*; Joseph W. Parolisi*, Robert Beals; Carlos Matos; Frank Moran; Michelle Polanco; Roger A. Twomey.

(District) School Committee

- (A): James S. Vittorioso*
 (B): Martina Cruz*
 Melyn Domínguez
 (C): Patricia Sánchez-Reyes*
 (D): Omaira Mejía*
 Arlene Garcia
 Samuel Reyes
 (E): Peter Larocque*
 James Blatchford
 John Drew
 (F): Greg Morris*
 Michael Kennedy

GLTHS Committee

Richard Hamilton*; Leo J. Lamontagne*; Frank Bonet; Annette Webster; James S. Vittorioso; Pamela Neilon; Ellen W. Gilbert.

*Incumbente | *Incumbent

Representante Estatal Barry Finegold inaugura oficina de campaña

POR BEATRIZ PÉREZ
 BPerez@RUMBONEWS.COM

La campaña de los candidatos demócratas que buscan ocupar el puesto que a partir de julio dejará vacante el Congresista Marty Meehan en el Quinto Distrito Congressional de Massachusetts se intensifica cada día más y la Ciudad de Lawrence por lo que se puede juzgar, jugará un papel preponderante en este proceso de elecciones, dado el fervor que han despertado en la comunidad estas elecciones especiales para la escogencia del nuevo Congresista del Quinto Distrito.

Primero fue la candidata Niki Tsongas en abrir un local desde donde se dirigirán los trabajos de su campaña, ahora le tocó el turno al Representante Estatal de Andover Barry Finegold.

Finegold quien por espacio de 11 años ha ocupado un puesto en Beacon Hill es uno de los cinco candidatos demócratas que aspira convertirse en el nuevo Congresista del Quinto Distrito.

Días atrás el aspirante realizó un acto político para dejar inaugurada su oficina de campaña, ubicado en el número 296 de la calle Essex, casi al frente del de Tsongas.

En la ceremonia de inauguración del local de campaña de Finegold estuvieron presentes los Concejales Grisel Silva y Joe Parolisi, el Jefe de la Policía John Romero y el ex Concejal Israel Reyes, quien tuvo a su cargo la presentación del candidato.

Al introducir al actual representante estatal de Andover, Reyes manifestó que se sentía satisfecho de apoyar a Finegold, a quien considera la persona idónea para

llegar al Congreso.

“En Barry Finegold tenemos la oportunidad de elegir un representante en grande, alguien quien siempre ha estado al lado de los latinos”, dijo Reyes.

Por su lado Finegold indicó que le complacía contar con una oficina de campaña en Lawrence. “Quiero trabajar por esta comunidad y por su futuro”.

Haciendo uso de su lema el aspirante demócrata señaló que su empeño de trabajar cada día por un mejor futuro, implementando ideas frescas y con una visión de cambio, las cuales han sido sus principales metas desde que llegó a la Casa de Representantes, continuarán siendo la base de su campaña en busca de un sitio en el Congreso de los Estados Unidos.

El tema de un desarrollo de liderazgo para el futuro ha sido uno de los enfoques en los cuales el Representante Estatal ha fundamentado sus aspiraciones, indicando que él es la clase de líder que se necesita para crear una economía del siglo 21 en el Quinto Distrito Congressional.

Las elecciones especiales para llenar la vacante que deja el Congresista Marty Meehan a partir del primero de julio se llevarán a cabo el 16 de octubre.

Las primarias se van a realizar el 4 de septiembre para determinar el candidato de



Representante Estatal Barry Finegold dirigiéndose a los asistentes durante la inauguración de su oficina de campaña en Lawrence.

cada partido que compiten en las finales.

Otros candidatos demócratas aspirantes al puesto de Congresista por el Quinto Distrito son: Eileen Donoghue, Jamie Eldridge, Jim Miceli y Niki Tsongas.

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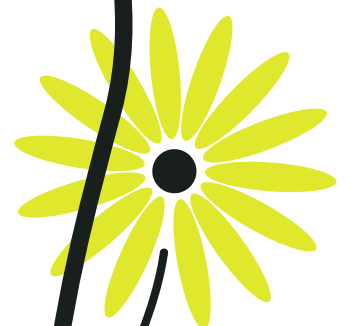
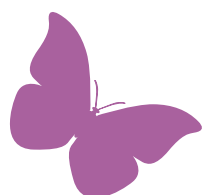
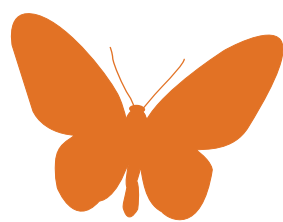
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Verizon busca aprobación de licencia en Lawrence



Representantes de Verizon en la audiencia pública realizada en el Lawrence Senior Center el Jueves 24 de mayo, 2007, Peter T. Bowma y Jim McGrail.

POR BEATRIZ PÉREZ

BPerez@RUMBONEWS.COM

Por más de un año la compañía Verizon ha estado negociando con la ciudad de Lawrence para la aprobación de una licencia que le permitirá transmitir señales de video a todas las residencias de la ciudad y presentarse como una alternativa al servicio que hoy día ofrece Comcast.

Uno de los pasos finales para poder lograr su objetivo, fue presentarse ante una audiencia pública que se llevó a cabo el pasado 24 de mayo del presente año en el Lawrence Senior Center. Alrededor de veinte personas asistieron a la reunión que fue dirigida por el Abogado de la Ciudad Charles Boddy. También estuvo presente Alcalde de la Ciudad Michael J. Sullivan y el Director de Desarrollo Económico Thomas Schiavone. Representando a Verizon en las conversaciones estaban Peter T. Bowma y Jim McGrail.

En esta reunión se hizo público el interés de la ciudad de proveerle una licencia de diez años a Verizon para que pueda ofrecer este nuevo servicio. "Estamos ansiosos de traer a nuestros ciudadanos los beneficios de una competencia en el sistema de cable, lo que va a mejorar el servicio, más adelantos tecnológicas y precios más bajos", dijo el Alcalde Sullivan.

Un tema que causó alarma ante algunos de los presentes fue la participación de Jim Ross y John Judson como los negociadores principales de este contrato. Bill Collins, quien es miembro de la Comisión del Cable (la entidad que negoció el contrato actual con Comcast) expresó su disgusto resaltando que "la participación de estos individuos es un caso muy claro de conflicto de intereses". El señor Collins también dijo no haber estado enterado de este proceso ya que dicho comité tiene mucho tiempo que no se reúne. Jim Ross es el actual presidente de organización que administra los canales de acceso público (canal 8 y 22) y el señor Judson es quien dirige el canal educativo de acceso local (canal 10).

A este comentario el Alcalde Sullivan respondió que la decisión tomada por él fue la mejor ya que le permitió a la ciudad contar con la experiencia de ellos sin costo alguno a la ciudad. El abogado de la ciudad explicó que por este proceso llevarse a cabo

de esta manera la ciudad se ahorró alrededor de 80,000 dólares.

Verizon no quiso hablar sobre este asunto ya que dicen no tener control del mismo. Pero aprovecharon la oportunidad para hablar sobre lo importante que es Lawrence para su crecimiento, pues ellos han ofrecido la suma de 350,000 dólares en dádivas a la ciudad como un incentivo para que se le otorgue la licencia. Estos fondos serán distribuidos en su totalidad en los primeros seis años de este contrato. Los fondos son dirigidos para los canales de acceso local y serán repartidos como se reparten los fondos que se reciben actualmente de Comcast: Dos tercios para el canal 10 y un tercio para los canales 8 y 22.

Otro dato importante sobre los canales de acceso local que salió a relucir fue que el sistema de Verizon será idéntico al de Comcast en cuanto a la distribución de fondos y los canales que se ven hoy día serán transmitidos también por Verizon.

Otro miembro de la Comisión del Cable que se quejó porque no se le tomó en cuenta durante las negociaciones fue John Lydon. Además, el señor Lydon habló sobre el sistema actual para que los ancianos reciban descuentos y le pidió a Verizon que una vez reciban la licencia implementaran una forma fácil de que las personas adultas puedan recibir un descuento. Este pedido final fue luego que Verizon se negara a poner en el contrato con la ciudad que le daría un descuento a los ancianos. Como razón Verizon citó la póliza nacional de la compañía.

De acuerdo a informaciones suministradas por Verizon, la empresa ha invertido millones de dólares transformando la tradicional red de teléfonos existente en esta ciudad de Lawrence en un avanzado sistema de fibra óptica que conecta directamente a las residencias y los negocios y provee video, acceso rápido al Internet y conexiones claras de voz.

El próximo paso es firmar el contrato luego de que este sea aceptado por la ciudad tomando en cuenta las preocupaciones generadas en esta reunión. Una vez aceptada la licencia, Verizon comenzará a ofrecer servicios en aproximadamente un año.

Richard A. Aybar colaboró con este artículo.

Panel informa sobre nueva legislación



Representante Estatal David M. Torrissi, (D-North Andover) Senadora Susan C. Tucker, (D-Andover), Chairwoman of the Massachusetts Housing Committee y Michael Ruderman de UMass Lowell, durante la presentación.

State Representative David M. Torrissi, (D-North Andover) Senator Susan C. Tucker, (D-Andover), Chairwoman of the Massachusetts Housing Committee and Michael Ruderman of UMass Lowell, during the presentation.

SUBASTAS (POR AÑO)	1ER CUARTO	ANUAL	1ER CUARTO % DEL AÑO
2004	14	55	25%
2005	14	79	18%
2006	23	145	16%
2007	87	544 (Proyectado)	Proyectado a menos del 16%

TENDENCIAS DE INCAUTACIONES EN LAWRENCE: Durante los tres primeros meses del 2007, los números de incautaciones en Lawrence incrementaron por aproximadamente 300% sobre el mismo período de tiempo en 2006 y aproximadamente 500% sobre el mismo tiempo en 2004 y 2005.

PETICIONES DE INCAUTACIONES HASTA EL 4/13/2007: 146

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 14 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

Un panel compuesto de la Senadora Susan C. Tucker, (D-Andover), Chairwoman of the Massachusetts Housing Committee y el Representante Estatal David M. Torrissi, (D-North Andover) informaron ante un grupo formado de representantes de la industria bancaria e instituciones hipotecarias sobre la legislación propuesta por el Representante Torrissi para reducir la incautación de bienes hipotecados.

La reunión se llevó a cabo en el Heritage State Park, el miércoles, 30 de mayo, 2007. "El estado puede jugar un papel muy importante en nivelar el riesgo de los consumidores. Debemos tratar los problemas en la industria que está a la cabeza de las incautaciones hipotecarias en Massachusetts y en Lawrence en particular," señaló la Senadora Tucker.

El proyecto de ley H 1290 patrocinado por el Representante Torrissi tiene como intención:

- Asiste a los dueños de casa para frenar el proceso de incautación de bienes raíces así como hacer el proceso más justo y establecer un fondo para asistir a los dueños de casa que están en riesgo de perderla.
- Requiere de los corredores de

ESTADO DE LAS INCAUTACIONES HIPOTECARIAS EN LAWRENCE, MA

Recopilado por el Lawrence Housing Partnership

Lawrence tiene la escala más alta de incautaciones en las ciudades de MA, entre el 2003 y el 2006.

Clasificado tercero en el estado en el total de incautaciones en el 3er. Q, 2003.

Los préstamos de más alto-APR son los que están más en riesgo. La posibilidad de que latinos obtengan esa clase de préstamos es casi 4 veces mayor.

En 2005, el 76% de los préstamos hechos a latinos para compra de casas eran préstamos de alto APR.

En 2005, 70% de todos los préstamos hechos en Lawrence para compra de casas eran de alto APR.

hipotecas a que obtengan licencias y cumplan con las prácticas del negocio definidas por el estado.

- Establece obligaciones de inversión para prestamistas de hipotecas los cuales hagan más de cincuenta préstamos residenciales al año.

"Esta legislación asegurará que los estándares por los que se rigen los prestamistas honestos son seguidos por el resto de la industria", dijo el Representante Torrissi. "También trata la necesidad crítica de los que toman prestado a tener la información que ellos necesitan para comprender lo que ellos necesitan para mantenerse al corriente en sus pagos y evitar que le incauten su propiedad".

9,100 hogares reparados por 270,000 voluntarios el Día Nacional para Reconstruir

+FOTOS: Fotos en la Página 25
BILINGUAL CONTENT
 Please see PAGE 25 to read this article in English

LA MISIÓN DE REBUILDING TOGETHER (REEDIFICAR JUNTOS) ES PRESERVAR Y REVITALIZAR VIVIENDAS Y COMUNIDADES, ASEGURANDO QUE PROPIETARIOS DE BAJOS INGRESOS, DESDE LOS ANCIANOS Y DISCAPACITADOS HASTA FAMILIAS CON NIÑOS, VIVAN EN UN AMBIENTE CÁLIDO, SEGURO E INDEPENDIENTE. EN SOCIEDAD CON COMUNIDADES, NUESTRA META ES LOGRAR HACER UN IMPACTO PERDURABLE.

Rebuilding Together, la organización de rehabilitación más grande de la nación formada exclusivamente de voluntarios, tuvo a más de 270,000 voluntarios en 1,800 comunidades que proporcionan las reparaciones necesarias en casa para propietarios de edad avanzada el sábado pasado, 28 de abril. El acontecimiento Nacional Anual del Día de Reedificar Juntos es el proyecto más importante porque es cuando una porción grande de sus 10,000 reparaciones anuales ocurren.

"Miles de voluntarios dieron su tiempo, talento y recursos, a las comunidades más necesitadas por todo el país y miles de propietarios de bajos y moderados ingresos, personas mayores y personas discapacitadas obtienen reparaciones del hogar, mejoras y modificaciones críticas a sus hogares," indicó Gary Officer, Presidente y director general de Rebuilding Together. "Muchas gracias a nuestros 245 afiliados y nuestros patrocinadores locales y nacionales por su apoyo continuo de nuestro trabajo en la comunidad de viviendas."

Los 245 afiliados de Rebuilding Together trabajan dentro de sus vecindarios para reunir y entrenar a voluntarios y solicitar los fondos necesarios para proporcionar los servicios y las reparaciones que sus vecinos de bajos ingresos y personas mayores necesitan y no pueden pagar.

Muchos de los asuntos que estas familias encaran pueden quedarse escondidos dentro de sus comunidades. Los afiliados de Rebuilding Together identifica las familias que necesitan ayuda y reúnen los equipos de voluntarios hábiles y no especializados, que donan su tiempo, energía y talentos para realizar servicios de reparaciones tales como reemplazando una caldera de calefacción vieja o desgastada o instalar las barras de agarre para un vecino de edad avanzada que tiene problemas entrando y saliendo de la ducha. Este trabajo se realiza con el apoyo de miles de compañías, asociaciones cívicas y organizaciones de la fe que patrocinan estos proyectos donando dinero, suministros, materiales y voluntarios.

CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA 1

Stephanie Muñoz: Señorita Reina Semana Hispana 2007

últimos tiempos del tradicional festival. Las candidatas fueron Elizabeth Castro, Sasha Peralta, Wilmary Peralta, Kendra Fantauzzi, Kayluz Cuevas, Valerie Alba, Beverly Cepeda, María Payano, Katherine Cruz, Stephanie Muñoz, Cesarina Burgos, Ednita Feliz y Franli Bencosme. Cada una de ellas dejó lo mejor de sí frente a un jurado que finalmente seleccionó a la candidata número 10, Stephanie Muñoz como la nueva reina Señorita Semana Hispana 2007, mientras que la virreina es Beverly Cepeda y la princesa Elizabeth Castro.

Este año el reinado que fue organizado por Víctor Acevedo incluyó la presentación de las aspirantes en trajes típicos de varios países, haciendo alarde de su lema de esta ocasión: Diferentes Culturas Unidas en una sola Voz.

Esta parte no se limitó a mostrar los trajes, sino que iba acompañada de una breve historia del país y del traje presentado por cada una de las candidatas.

Los trajes exhibidos fueron el de: México, Venezuela, Panamá, El Salvador, Perú, Cuba, Brasil, Bolivia, Puerto Rico, Haití Puerto Rico y la República Dominicana.

En la presentación de "Talento" las jóvenes no solo presentaron los consabidos bailes de merengue, salsa y regaeton, sino que hubo poesía, una recreación de la llegada de un inmigrante, un mensaje dedicado a los soldados que están en Irak y el contagioso ritmo de la música conocida como "Palos", que es parte del folclore de la República Dominicana. La ganadora en esta categoría fue María Payano.

Cesarina Burgos salió elegida como Miss Amistad; Elizabeth Castro como



Stephanie Muñoz (centro), nueva reina Señorita Semana Hispana 2007 junto a la virreina Beverly Cepeda (derecha) y la princesa Elizabeth Castro (izquierda).
 Foto por Justo García/Cortesía de Semana Hispana

Miss Cooperación, Miss Fotogénica Kendra Fantauzzi y Beverly Cepeda como Mejor Representación Cultural, por el traje típico que usó representando la fauna peruana.

Luego de esta presentación, las candidatas desfilaron en trajes de noche para ser sometidas a la primera ronda de preguntas.

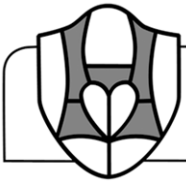
El jurado que tuvo a su cargo la selección de la nueva reina de Semana Hispana y su séquito estuvo integrado por: Henry Rosario, Dania Alexandrino, Rosa González, Manny Carrasco, Pamela Zapata, ex Señorita Semana Hispana 2005 y como contador Nazario Esquea.

La reina, virreina y princesa salientes fueron: Jashira Matos, Naed Namar Morales

y Ana Gómez, quienes recibieron becas escolares. Matos recibió una por un valor de \$2,000, la virreina \$350 y la princesa \$500.

Las becas fueron entregadas por el vicepresidente de Semana Hispana Brian De Peña en compañía de Francisco Ureña, Director del Departamento de Servicios de los Veteranos de la ciudad, en representación del Alcalde Michael J. Sullivan.




La próxima actividad dentro del calendario de eventos de Semana Hispana 2007 es la celebración de V.I.P Dinner el jueves, 7 de junio, a partir de las 6 de la tarde en el Wyndham Hotel Ballroom de Andover. El orador invitado es el Concejal de Boston Félix Arroyo.



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Hispanic Week Teen Queen 2007 Pageant

By ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

In a colorful pageant held at the Guilmette School, on Sunday, May 20, 2007, Yaritza Brea was crowned as Hispanic Week 2007 Teen Queen. Brea was chosen amongst a group of 15 other candidates, one of the largest groups ever. Karina Castro was elected as First Runner-Up, while Eliany Fana was chosen as Princess.

Other señoritas who participated in the pageant were: Yelimar Moysonet, Danetza Yachachin, Cristina Frica, Saed Morales, Emely Fana, Michelle Valdez, Laurie Toribio, Chanel Pena, Chabelly Sánchez, Anaura Sanpablo, Michel Hiraldo, Belgica Richiez and Melanie Rodriguez.

Hispanic Week Queen Yaritza Brea was also chosen as Miss Talent and shared the Miss Friendship award with Belgica Richiez. Miss Photogenic was Emely Fana. First Runner-Up, Karina Castro was also chosen as Miss Cooperation, selling 100 admission tickets to the event. Hispanic Week Board of Directors gave credit to Chanel Pena, Michel Hiraldo and Laurie Toribio, for selling 60 admission tickets each.

Reinado Juvenil Semana Hispana 2007

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

En un certamen lleno de colorido celebrado el domingo, 20 de mayo, 2007, en la Escuela Guilmette, Yaritza Brea fue coronada Reina Juvenil de Semana Hispana 2007. Brea fue escogida de entre un grupo de otras 15 candidatas, uno de los grupos más grandes hasta ahora.

Karina Castro fue elegida Virreina, mientras que Eliany Fana fue escogida Princesa.

Otras señoritas que participaron en el concurso fueron: Yelimar Moysonet, Danetza Yachachin, Cristina Frica, Saed Morales, Emely Fana, Michelle Valdez, Laurie Toribio, Chanel Pena, Chabelly Sánchez, Anaura Sanpablo, Michel Hiraldo, Belgica Richiez and Melanie Rodriguez.

La Reina Juvenil de Semana Hispana, Yaritza Brea también fue escogida como Señorita Talento y compartió el premio de Señorita Amistad con Bélgica Richiez. Emely Fana fue seleccionada Señorita Fotogénica. La Virreina Karina Castro fue también seleccionada como Señorita Cooperación, ya que vendió 100 boletos de admisión para el certamen. La Directiva de Semana Hispana destacó la labor de Chanel Pena, Michel Hiraldo y Laurie Toribio, por vender 60 boletos de admisión cada una.



Antes de seleccionar a la Reina, la Virreina y la Princesa, cinco finalistas fueron escogidas del grupo de participantes; ellas son, desde la izquierda, Eliany Fana, Danetza Yachachin, Yaritza Brea, Karina Castro y Bélgica Richiez.

Before the selection of the Queen, the First- Runner-Up and the Princes, five finalists were selected from the roster of 16 participants; they are, from left, Eliany Fana, Danetza Yachachin, Yaritza Brea, Karina Castro and Belgica Richiez.

Virreina Karina Castro; Yaritza Brea, Reina Juvenil Semana Hispana 2007 y Eliany Fana, Princesa.

First Runner-Up Karina Castro, Yaritza Brea, Hispanic Week 2007 Teen Queen and Eliany Fana, Princess.

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Una orientación gratuita para hipotecas patrocinada por la Ciudad de Lawrence y Lawrence Housing Partnership se llevará a cabo el domingo 3 de junio, de 2:00 p.m. a 4:00 p.m. en Northern Essex Community College, 78 Amesbury Street.

En un esfuerzo para combatir el aumento rápido de ejecuciones de hipoteca en la ciudad, por primera vez se está preparando este evento —orientación gratuita de hipoteca—reúne a más de 30 especialistas de hipoteca y expertos en préstamos para ayudar a propietarios locales a entender mejor sus hipotecas y para proporcionar consejos en cómo mantener sus hipotecas sanas y evitar trampas financieras comunes que pueden terminar en la ejecución de una hipoteca.

Ezra Haber Glenn, Director del Community Development Department de la Ciudad de Lawrence, enfatizó en la importancia de este enfoque preventivo. "A tratar con la crisis actual de la ejecución de una hipoteca, es absolutamente esencial que ayudemos a identificar los problemas antes que las familias caigan en esta posición. Para muchos propietarios—especialmente éstos con tasa de interés ajustable—esta orientación gratuita les ayudará a diagnosticar su situación".

Andrea Bopp-Stark, abogada de Neighborhood Legal Services en Lawrence ha estado trabajando con algunas de las

familias más afectadas. Ella acentuó la importancia de identificar los problemas de hipoteca temprano. "La gente de Lawrence ha sido golpeada duramente con préstamos hipotecarios turbios; pero la comunidad se ha reunido para enfrentar este asunto y proporcionar ayuda. Esta orientación es una oportunidad excelente para que las personas examinen su préstamo. Optimistamente, este será el primer paso a reconocer y combatir la necesidad inmensa de recursos financieros y legales para ayudar a personas que han sido víctimas de prestamistas ofreciendo esta clase de préstamos".

Todos los propietarios de Lawrence están invitados a venir a esta orientación. Proprietarios que tienen las hipotecas con el interés alto o tasas ajustables o los que no están seguros que pueden cumplir con los pagos de sus hipotecas a largo plazo deben hacer un esfuerzo especial para asistir. Proprietarios deben traer cualquier documento de la hipoteca para asegurar que obtengan el consejo más efectivo posible.

El evento es gratis y completamente bilingüe. Las personas, con prueba de propiedad también recibirán un reporte de crédito gratuito, proveído por Metro Credit Union y Sovereign Bank

Esta es una actividad para educar al público. Los prestamistas no estarán vendiendo sus productos de préstamos, ni los servicios bancarios. Los participantes no harán trámites para refinanciar, ni para nuevos préstamos; deben esperar que este sea el primer paso a asegurar que tienen una hipoteca sana y fija.

La orientación se lleva a cabo inmediatamente después de la audiencia pública sobre ejecución de hipotecas en Lawrence, auspiciada por Sue Tucker y el

representante David Torrasi. Trabajando juntos los legisladores, oficiales de la ciudad, organizaciones y comerciantes, esperan traer la opinión pública al asunto e instituir las pólizas que protegen a propietarios y proporcionan ayuda a esos en crisis.

El Lawrence Housing Partnership fue formado en la primavera del 2007 en respuesta a las necesidades de la ciudad. La misión de la Asociación es de promover

y proteger la calidad de vida, rentas económicas y propietarios desarrollando las colaboraciones que hacen una comunidad más fuerte. Actualmente facilitado por la Ciudad de Lawrence, Community Development Department, los miembros incluyen las organizaciones no lucrativas locales de la ciudad y representantes de la industria privada, especialmente bancos y unión de crédito.

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CARTAS AL EDITOR

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 24 to read this article in English

Alcalde de Lawrence no entrega su presupuesto a tiempo – otra vez

Nuevamente nuestro Alcalde en la Ciudad de Lawrence ha fallado en someter su presupuesto a tiempo para el año fiscal que comienza el 1ro de julio del 2007, a ser aprobado por el Concilio de esta ciudad. Esto no es nada nuevo con el gobierno de nuestra ciudad.

Yo soy de la opinión que esto se está haciendo intencionalmente para poner presión al Concilio y apruebe el presupuesto sin ser revisado o discutido, para así estar dentro del margen de la ley estatal. Esto mismo pasó con el presupuesto anterior sometido al Concilio, y el Alcalde tal vez piensa que esta estrategia le dará resultados otra vez.

Con el aumento de los impuestos de propiedades en un 100% en el año previo, y el más reciente aumento de un 113% en el agua y cloaca, nuestro gobierno ha puesto en peligro a una cantidad sustancial de dueños de casas, incluyendo a dueños ancianos de casas con un ingreso fijo. Ya que el alcalde sabía muy de antemano que nuestra ciudad no recibiría la ayuda estatal que normalmente recibía, yo pensaría que nuestro alcalde sería lo suficiente sensible para re-ajustar su presupuesto y tomar en cuenta esta deficiencia.

Sin embargo, nuestro alcalde sometió el presupuesto previo al Concilio sin ningún ajuste o recortes. Esta acción por parte de nuestro alcalde puso un peso innecesario sobre el contribuyente de nuestra ciudad.

Para este siguiente año fiscal nuestro gobierno tiene por objetivo tasar las

propiedades a un 100% de su valor en el mercado. Algunos opinan que nosotros los contribuyentes en la Ciudad de Lawrence, no estamos pagando nuestra parte correspondiente a los impuestos a la propiedad en comparación a nuestros vecinos en Andover, North Andover y Methuen.

Decir que un ciudadano en Lawrence que gana apenas \$15,000 anuales debería pagar la misma cantidad de impuestos que un ciudadano en Andover con un salario anual de \$150,000, o un ciudadano en Methuen con un ingreso anual de \$60,000, o un ciudadano en North Andover con un ingreso anual de \$80,000 es totalmente absurdo.

Yo, como un contribuyente de impuestos, y muchos otros en la ciudad estamos totalmente opuestos a cualquier aumento en los impuestos de propiedad. Nosotros también nos oponemos al más reciente aumento de un 113% en el agua y la cloaca. Nosotros estamos diciendo “¡Basta Ya!” Les estamos pidiendo al alcalde y a los miembros del Concilio que rechacen el aumento del agua y la cloaca y que lo reajusten a un nivel más razonable para los contribuyentes; esto disminuiría la carga y el impacto negativo que este aumento a puesto en los dueños de casas y sus inquilinos.

Es por esta razón que nosotros, un grupo de dueños de casas e inquilinos estamos convocando una protesta en contra de los aumentos del agua y la cloaca y cualquier nuevo aumento en los impuestos de propiedad para el año fiscal que comienza el 1ro de julio del 2007. Esta protesta será llevada a cabo el martes, junio 5, 2007 a las 6:00 p.m., en frente del ayuntamiento, 200 Common Street.

Si usted como dueño y contribuyente de impuestos siente que nuestro gobierno

no está siendo sensitivo a sus condiciones económicas y financieras; si usted cree que nuestro gobierno no está tomando en cuenta sus necesidades; si usted cree que nuestro gobierno ha puesto sobre usted una carga que no puede llevar, entonces venga a esta protesta y déjele saber al Alcalde y a los miembros del Concilio como usted se siente en relación a estos aumentos. Venga y dígame a nuestro Gobierno y el Concilio: “Basta Ya”.

MODESTO MALDONADO
Lawrence, MA

Respuesta a la carta de Eileen Yelle

Yo me sorprendí cuando leí una carta al editor en Rumbo, fechada 22 de mayo del 2007 por la Sra. Eileen Yelle Hughes, donde ella acusaba a la Comunidad Latina de destruir el “aspecto cultural y diseño de la ciudad”. Al parecer la Sra. Hughes no estaba aquí en los años cincuenta y sesenta, o ella estaría contenta de cómo se encontraba la ciudad en esos años y envidia que nosotros los latinos hemos hecho mejoras gigantescas en nuestra ciudad.

En caso que ella no lo sepa, yo vine a esta ciudad por primera vez durante el verano del 1965; había aproximadamente 15 familias hispanas en la Ciudad de Lawrence. En esos momentos, en la historia de esta ciudad, el alcalde en el poder, el Sr. Buckley, había dejado que la mayor parte de las industrias de tela y zapatos se mudaran de la ciudad. En nombre del “progreso” derribó vecindarios completos en el norte de la ciudad y el área de la calle Common, desplazando a las comunidades italiana y libanesa fuera de la ciudad.

La ciudad tenía varias gangas de motocicletas, de las cuales una de ellas era notoria en la esquina de la Calle Park y Hampshire. La ciudad tenía una concentración de “white trash” (Basura blanca son residentes de la raza blanca de la clase baja) en las calles Bromfield y Alma, donde la policía tenía que estar constantemente presente para resolver las peleas de estos ciudadanos. Había una cantidad sustancial de propiedades que estaban en malas condiciones y cientos

CARTAS AL EDITOR

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de propiedades abandonadas. El valor de las propiedades estaba tan bajo que usted podía comprar una casa de seis familias en la Calle Park por \$1,000 y dos casas juntas de tres y dos familias en la calle Bromfield por \$6,000. La calle Park se consideraba como el guetto de la ciudad y la cárcel local de la ciudad, en condiciones deplorables, le suplía a la ciudad una gran cantidad del elemento criminal. Esa era la condición de nuestra ciudad durante los años sesenta.

Entonces yo me pregunto: ¿A qué se refiere la Sra. Hughes cuando dice que nosotros los latinos destruimos “el aspecto cultural y el diseño de la ciudad”? Bueno, veamos: Desde que el latino llegó a esta ciudad en los años 60, 70 y 80 las gangas de motocicletas desaparecieron, las muchas barras de borrachines que plagaban la ciudad ya no existen. La policía no tiene que luchar más con la “basura blanca”, en las calles Bromfield y Alma. No hay propiedades abandonadas en la ciudad; la mayoría de las propiedades se han cubierto con vinilo, se han remodelado o se han pintado y lucen mejor que nunca antes. El valor de las propiedades ha subido de \$1,000 por una casa de seis unidades a \$400,000 por una casa de tres familias. Nuevas construcciones se ven por donde quiera llenando los solares sucios y abandonados, hay también varios festivales culturales que atraen a miles de personas de otras ciudades en Massachusetts y de Nueva Inglaterra, la mayoría de nuestras escuelas han sido reemplazadas por nuevos y más modernos edificios escolares. ¿Es esto a lo que se refiere la Sra. Hughes? Si no es esto, yo le aconsejo a la Sra. Hughes que visite la Ciudad de Lawrence más a menudo para que pueda ver los maravillosos cambios que se han logrado en nuestra ciudad desde que los latinos llegaron a Lawrence.

MODESTO MALDONADO
Lawrence, MA

información

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POR PAUL V. MONTESINO, PHD, MBA
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Baracoa: El verano y el sol que jamás se ponen

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 23 to read this article in English

El Dr. Montesino, totalmente responsable por este artículo, es el Editor de LatinoWorldOnline.com y conferenciante del Information Processing Management Department en Bentley College, Waltham, MA.

Los veranos son períodos de hacer nada y alcanzarlo todo. El sol está alto más tiempo, recientemente despertado por la primavera que se derritió y feliz de haberse escapado de las noches invernales desveladas que lo mantenía bajo frazadas; envidioso de la luna brillante. Los pajarillos lo despiertan a uno temprano en la mañana con sus chirridos vivarachos y uno se pregunta si ellos son los miembros más jóvenes de una tripulación que no ha aprendido todavía a navegar hasta que no se oyen más y nos damos cuenta que han abandonado el nido finalmente; ¡hablando de nidos vacíos!

Usted sabe que es verano cuando las multitudes estudiantiles desaparecen de nuestro campo porque se han ido a donde está el otro lado de sus conversaciones constantes de teléfonos celulares. Y uno se admira de esa quietud que existe donde antes existía tanto aprendizaje preguntándonos si volverá alguna vez. El sonido de las chancletas se ha ido.

Mientras observaba a mis sonrientes nietas gemelas persiguiendo a una mariposa blanca que estaba obviamente disfrutando la recientemente adquirida habilidad de volar como resultado de su metamorfosis liberadora de ser oruga, mi mente se fue atrás en el tiempo.

Los veranos son períodos de memorias felices para mí. Tiempos en que mi vida estaba menos complicada y mis objetivos menos ambiciosos. No era un mundo de nueve a cinco; era un mundo desde "este minuto hasta el siguiente". Estar aquí tenía un significado

completamente diferente y yo disfrutaba cada momento de ese ahora entonces.

Mi familia acostumbraba empacar y moverse temporalmente a una villa pescadora llamada Baracoa, no muy lejos de La Habana, la capital de Cuba, tan pronto mi año escolar se terminaba. La separación corta era en términos geográficos solamente porque las dos ciudades eran tan diferentes como el día y la noche, e igualmente lo eran la población y el estilo de vida. Era una experiencia inolvidable que duraba el breve período de tres meses de verano y todos los años de una vida.

Nosotros no éramos ricos, así que compartíamos el alquiler de una casa grande con parientes con los que teníamos mucho en común, como divertirse. Recuerdo que enseguida que removía mis zapatos ciudadanos para abrir mi alas ansiosas al viento oloroso a mar del lugar, mis pies no los usarían de nuevo por tres meses y se hacía muy difícil ponerlos de nuevo al regreso a la capital. Los zapatos eran los mismos, pero los pies habían crecido y se habían hinchado hasta un punto que no podían coexistir; no sin mucho empujar.

La vida en Baracoa era simple, los días tranquilos pero activos, montando bicicleta la mayor parte del día y la noche, nadando varias veces, comiendo y jugando. La costa era rocosa y la única parte donde podíamos nadar con cierto nivel de seguridad era en las "pozetas," áreas profundas bajo el agua

que se habían ahuecado con dinamita para librarlas de las rocas. No me pidan que les diga la definición de pozeta (¿pozos?) porque jamás la he visto escrita en español.

Me imagino que era como una contraseña secreta para nosotros. Eran huecos alejados de la orilla, y teníamos que caminar sobre largos muelles de madera antes que pudiéramos saltar a las profundas aguas que nos esperaban al final. Hasta hoy día, mis frecuentes baños en la piscina medio olímpica de mi universidad son resultado y consecuencias de tanta natación de entonces.

Pienso en nuestras vidas infantiles en Baracoa y me siento asociado con Tom Sawyer, el personaje de Mark Twain, y sus famosas hazañas. Pescar era una aventura que comenzaba con la búsqueda por la carnada. Recuerdo arrastrándonos bajo las casas buscando macaos para usarlos como carnada. Los macaos, que viven dentro de conchas que cargan sobre sus hombros para protección contra los predadores y la protegen con su larga tenaza, se ven forzados a abandonar esos caracoles cuando sus cuerpos crecen y necesitan una habitación mayor.

Ellos no quieren ser sorprendidos desnudos mientras cambian su habitación porque es ese el momento más riesgoso en que están expuestos en un mundo cruel de selección natural donde el pescado grande se come al más chico. A usted no le

USTED SABE QUE ES VERANO CUANDO LAS MULTITUDES ESTUDIANTILES DESAPARECEN DE NUESTRO CAMPO PORQUE SE HAN IDO A DONDE ESTÁ EL OTRO LADO DE SUS CONVERSACIONES CONSTANTES DE TELÉFONOS CELULARES. Y UNO SE ADMIRA DE ESA QUIETUD QUE EXISTE DONDE ANTES EXISTÍA TANTO APRENDIZAJE PREGUNTÁNDONOS SI VOLVERÁ ALGUNA VEZ. EL SONIDO DE LAS CHANCLETAS SE HA IDO.

agradaría ser sorprendido desnudo tampoco cuando se mueve de una casa para la otra simplemente porque se expandió, ¿no es cierto? Los vecinos no lo aprobarían: "Eh, mira a Paul, ahí va de nuevo; sin ropas, probablemente cambiando de casa otra vez." Eso no suena apropiado.

Una vez que habíamos obtenido la carne del macao tras evitar sus tenazas amenazadoras que podían cortarnos, el paso siguiente era ponerla en el anzuelo y sentarnos pacientemente hasta que un pez tratara de tragárselo. Mala idea para el pescado como sabemos.

El pez que preferíamos era la "mojarra" por razones obvias: Ellas son pequeños peces, plateados, que tienen largas bocas, lo que las hace ideales para morder anzuelos. Coger una mojarra era el momento más importante de un día de pesca. No importaba que en el proceso tuviéramos que lidiar con otras criaturas marinas problemáticas como las "morenas," criaturas serpentinadas eléctricas que no solo se satisfacían con los anzuelos sino que podían capturar nuestros dedos del pie inesperadamente mientras

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Discriminación está de vuelta en LHS

POR DALIA DÍAZ

DALIADIAZ@RUMBONEWS.COM

Un grupo de padres y estudiantes tuvo éxito concertando una reunión con el Dr. Thomas Sharkey, Director del Campus y la Dra. Terika Smith, Principal de la Escuela Internacional de Lawrence High School el pasado miércoles, porque esa escuela está empleando un sistema para deshacerse de sus estudiantes el cual ellos consideran injusto. Estamos publicando su carta en esta página.

El sistema escolar les ha pedido a los estudiantes mayores de 18 años de edad que se inscriban para tomar el examen de GED (Título de equivalencia de escuela secundaria) en español ya que no han logrado el dominio del idioma inglés. Para una persona poder tomar el examen de GED, él o ella debe estar fuera de la escuela lo cual no es el caso aquí. Estos son buenos estudiantes con buenas notas, no son estudiantes problemáticos sino que no han estado acá suficiente tiempo como para tener el dominio necesario del inglés.

Los funcionarios escolares trataron de convencerlos con la idea de que entrarían en la universidad más temprano una vez que tengan su GED y la Dra. Smith inclusive los llamó "ignorantes" por no querer aceptar esta oportunidad. Puede que suene bien pero estos estudiantes quieren aprender inglés antes de graduarse de Lawrence High School para que cuando entren en college con esos conocimientos adelantados, en lugar de tener que pasar un par de años haciéndolo antes de poder soñar con tomar cursos por crédito.

Lawrence ha encontrado una forma de deshacerse de unos cuantos pero esta vez va a fracasar porque están lidiando con familias que realmente se preocupan

del futuro de sus hijos. Estos estudiantes quieren permanecer en la escuela y hacerse de una mejor vida para ellos y sus familias. Por supuesto, en las escuelas públicas de Lawrence lo hacen todo al revés.

Una segunda reunión ha sido programada para el viernes, 1ro de junio, a las 6:30 de la tarde en la escuela secundaria y planean llevarlo a la próxima asamblea del Comité Escolar el 7 de junio a las 7:30.

Carta de un grupo de padres a la administración de Lawrence High School

1. Usted como Principal de la Escuela Internacional "Estudiantes Recién Llegados" no pueden obligar a los estudiantes a tomar un examen de GED ya que es ilegal y usted junto al Superintendente Escolar Wilfredo Laboy quieren obligar a nuestros estudiantes a tomar dicho examen sabiendo que va en contra de la ley, ya que para que un estudiante tome dicho examen tiene que estar fuera de la escuela. En días pasados usted les llamó "ignorantes" porque ellos no quisieron inscribirse para dicho examen.

2. Clases Regulares. En el programa "Newcomers" hay estudiantes que usted como Principal al igual que varios profesores conocen muy bien que hay estudiantes que tienen la capacidad y la inteligencia para estar en clases regulares ya que dominan el inglés lo suficiente tanto oral como escrito y aún usted, conociendo esa situación todavía los deja en dicho programa. ¿Qué es lo que usted quiere con nuestros estudiantes?

Además, tenemos conocimiento de una circular que está en las manos de todos los principales para que saquen a los estudiantes que no quieren tomar el GED. No quieren estudiantes recién llegados en la nueva LHS. Nadie puede quedarse atrás, dice Bush.

3. Créditos Escolares. Porque como principal de la Escuela Internacional adjunta con el Superintendente Escolar Wilfredo Laboy, no quieren otorgarles los créditos que con tanto esfuerzo y sacrificio se han ganado los estudiantes después de pasar un año de estudios. Ustedes no pueden obligar a repetir dicho grado escolar a un estudiante ya que eso es ilegal. Aquí hay estudiantes que excepto por el inglés, han pasado todas sus materias y usted como Principal lo sabe muy bien. Usted no puede obligar a los estudiantes a que permanezcan en esta escuela. Hay algunos estudiantes que quieren sus créditos para irse a otra escuela sin repetir dicho año escolar.

4. El programa Newcomer. Este programa fue diseñado para un año, eso es lo que ustedes nos dicen a nosotros los padres y luego se niegan a pasar a dichos estudiantes a clases regulares. Aquí hay estudiantes que llevan 18 meses y todavía están aquí en el programa "Newcomers" y eso es solo con estudiantes latinos. Además, el programa de "Newcomers" lo van a dejar en la escuela vieja juntos con estudiantes de segunda oportunidad. ¿O es que acaso no hay espacio para ellos en la nueva LHS?

5. Los estudiantes que duran 1 año en el Programa de Newcomer tienen derecho a elegir la escuela que ellos decidan, lo cual ustedes no permiten y esa es la razón o una de ellas por lo que ustedes no quieren darles los créditos para que ellos se vayan.

6. ¿Por qué tienen que tener diferentes uniformes a los demás estudiantes? Eso es discriminación.

Discrimination is back at LHS

By DALIA DÍAZ

DALIADIAZ@RUMBONEWS.COM

A group of parents and students succeeded in having a meeting with Dr. Thomas Sharkey, Campus Director and Dr. Terika Smith, Principal of Lawrence High School last Wednesday, because the high school is now employing a system of attrition which they deem unfair. We are publishing their letter (in Spanish) on this page.

The school system has asked students in the International School who are 18 years old and over to sign up to take the GED (General Education Diploma or high school equivalency) test in Spanish since they have not mastered the English language. In order for an individual to take the GED exam, he or she must be out of school which is not the case here. These are good students with good marks, not problem students who simply have not been here long enough to have a good command of the language.

School officials tried to lure them with the idea of entering college sooner once they have their GED and Dr. Smith even called them "ignorant" for not wanting to accept that opportunity. It may sound good but these students want to learn English before they graduate from Lawrence High School so that they can enter college with that knowledge out of the way, instead of having to spend a couple of years doing it before they can dream of taking credit courses.

Lawrence has found a way to weed them out but this time it's going to fail because they are dealing with families that truly care about the future of their children. These students want to stay in school and make a better life for themselves and their families. Of course, in Lawrence Public Schools they do everything backwards.

A second meeting has been scheduled for Friday, June 1st, at 6:30 p.m. at the high school and they plan to bring up this issue at the next meeting of the School Committee on June 7 at 7:00 p.m.

STATUS OF FORECLOSURES IN LAWRENCE:

Compiled by the Lawrence Housing Authority

Lawrence had largest spike in foreclosure rates of all MA cities between 2003 and 2006

Ranked third in the state in total number of foreclosures in 3rd Quarter 2006

Higher cost of high-APR loans are those most at risk. Latinos are nearly four times more likely to get these loans

In 2005, 76% of loans made to Latinos in Lawrence for home purchase were high-APR loans

In 2005, 70% of loans made in Lawrence for home purchase were high-APR loans

also addresses the critical necessity for borrowers to have the information they need to understand what they need to do to keep current on their payments and avoid foreclosure."

Panel reports about new legislation

+PICS: More pictures on Page 8

MATERIAL BILINGÜE
Favor ver la PÁGINA 8 para leer este artículo en Español

By ALBERTO SURIS

RUMBO@RUMBONEWS.COM

A panel made up by Senator Susan C. Tucker, (D-Andover) Massachusetts Housing Committee Chairwoman and State Representative David Torrasi, (D-North Andover) hosted a public hearing to inform on a bill being proposed by Representative Torrasi, which addresses sub prime lending and mortgage foreclosures. In attendance were housing advocates, representatives of the banking and mortgage industries, housing counselors, and people who have lost their homes to foreclosure.

The meeting was held at the Heritage Park on Wednesday, May 30, 2007.

"The state can play a constructive role in leveling the playing field for consumers.

FORECLOSURE AUCTIONS (YEAR)	1 ST QUARTER	ANNUAL	1 ST QUARTER % OF ANNUAL
2004	14	55	25%
2005	14	79	18%
2006	23	145	16%
2007	87	544 (Projected)	Projected at low of 16%

FORECLOSURE TRENDS LAWRENCE: For 1st Quarter 2007, the number of foreclosure auctions in Lawrence increased by approximately 300% over the same time in 2006 and approximately 500% over the same time in 2004 and 2005.

PETITIONS TO FORECLOSE AS OF 4/13/2007: 146

We must address the problems in the industry that are leading to record foreclosures in Massachusetts and Lawrence, in particular," Senator Tucker stated.

The bills, H 1290 sponsored by Representative Torrasi aims to:

- Assist homeowners by slowing down the foreclosure process as well as making the process more fair and establishing a fund to assist homeowners at risk of foreclosure.

- Require mortgage brokers to obtain licenses and comply with defined statewide business practices.
- Establishes housing investment obligations for mortgage lenders who make more than fifty residential loans per year.

"This legislation will ensure that the standards that honest lenders already stick to are followed by the entire lending industry," said Representative Torrasi. "It

Semana Hispana en Lawrence 2007

29th Hispanic Week in Lawrence

June 10 - 17

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unidas en una voz

Different cultures
united in one voice



www.semanahispana.org

MEMORIAL DAY IN LAWRENCE

“...that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion, that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God, ...and that government of the people by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth.”— Abraham Lincoln



Santina Nicolosi, con la ayuda del Tte. Col. de la U. S. Air Force, Jim Ogonowski puso un adorno floral en la tumba de su hijo, el Sargento del Ejército Antoine Raymond. Raymond, 28, de Methuen, falleció en el Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Landstuhl, Alemania, el 20 de septiembre, 2005, a consecuencias de heridas sufridas en combate en Ramadi, Irak, el 15 de septiembre, 2005, cuando su unidad fue atacada por fuerzas enemigas. Él había sido asignado al Batallón 228 de Reserva del Ejército, 28va. División de Infantería en Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Santina Nicolosi, with the help of U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jim Ogonowski placed a wreath at her son's U.S. Army Sgt. Pierre Antoine Raymond memorial place. Raymond 28, of Methuen, Massachusetts, died at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany, of injuries sustained in Ramadi, Iraq, on September 15, 2005 when his unit was attacked by enemy forces. He was assigned to the Army Reserve's 228th Forward Support Battalion, 28th Infantry Division, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.



Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan, during his participation.



Quianna Roy sang God Bless America.



Former Lawrence Veterans Service Director, Robert T. McCann, proudly presented an award to his grandson, Alec DiFruscia, 11, from Tewksbury. DiFruscia, a 6th grader honor student at Ryan School, traveled in April to Washington as a member of the People to People World Leadership Program and will travel to England and France this summer where he will visit favorite destinations as the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Tower of London, in London where he may have the chance to meet Queen Elizabeth and stay overnight in a castle. DiFruscia recited the Pledge of Allegiance during the Memorial Day Remembrance at St. Mary's Cemetery on May 28th, 2007.



Guest Speaker USMC (Ret.) Lt. Col. Muriel Katschker received a bouquet of flowers from City of Lawrence Veterans' Services Director, USMC-SSGT Francisco Urena. Lt. Colonel Katschker enlisted in the service in 1952 during the Korean War. She Chose the Marine Corps because of its high standards. She served 36 years for her country, retiring in 1988.



Brandon Slowikowski played Taps.

Memorial Day Remembrance's Master of Ceremony and City of Lawrence Veterans' Services Director, USMC-SSGT Francisco Urena, asked for a moment of silence for all fallen soldiers, and especially for Pvt. Byron W. Fouty, 19, of Waterford, Michigan and Army Specialist Alex Jimenez, of Lawrence, Massachusetts, captured May 12 in an ambush near Baghdad.



The 2007 Hispanic Media Awards

+PICS: More pictures on Page 3
MATERIAL BILINGÜE
 Favor ver la PÁGINA 3 para leer este artículo en Español

By **ALBERTO SURÍS**
 ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

The 2007 Hispanic Media Awards, an annual recognition of the most influential Spanish language journalists and news media executives in the United States, was held at the Marriott Rivercenter Grand Ballroom on May 24th, 2007, in San Antonio, Texas.

This year, the 'Journalist and Community Award' Honoree was Odilon Arambula from The Laredo Morning Times while Emilio Nicolas Sr., pioneer of Spanish Language TV in the United States, received the Ring of Honor Award. Vicente Fox Quesada, former President of Mexico, was the Keynote Speaker.

According to On the Edge, Inc. manager of the Hispanic Media Awards, Spanish and bilingual journalist honorees are nominated by their peers, readers, viewers, or others from within the industry and then selected by an independent panel of judges. They are recognized for their influence, community involvement, and the quality of their work. In all, the program recognizes 50 journalists and media executives from across the country in Radio, Print, Television, and other media.

The Hispanic Media Awards represent the highest ideals and execution of Spanish-language journalism. Each year's nominees are screened by a distinguished nationwide panel of judges and honored at a gala dinner. In addition, the judges will induct members into the Hispanic Media Ring of Honor. The Ring of Honor will pay tribute to members of the Hispanic Media, both past and present, whose careers offered visionary leadership and paved the way for today's Spanish-language reporters, editors and news executives. For nearly two centuries, the Hispanic news media in the United States have forged a unique bond with the Spanish-speaking communities they serve.

Hispanic newspapers, magazines, broadcasts and web sites, not only inform, but act as guardians of Hispanic culture, values and interests. Spanish-language journalism in the U.S. is at a zenith. More Americans than ever now obtain at least a portion of their news and information in Spanish. Likewise, the quality of Spanish-language reporting and news writing is at an historical apex.

Hispanic Media Award Honorees



Dalia Díaz recibiendo su placa de manos de Chris T. Day, Presidente de Hispanic Media Awards.

Honoree Dalia Diaz receiving her award from Hispanic Media Awards' President, Chris T. Day.



El Ex Presidente de México, Vicente Fox Quesada con su esposa, Sra. Marta Maria Sahagún Jiménez (izq) con Dalia Díaz, del Periódico Rumbo de Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Former President of Mexico, Vicente Fox Quesada, his wife, Marta Maria Sahagún Jiménez (left) with Hispanic Media Honoree, Dalia Diaz, from Rumbo, Lawrence, Massachusetts.



Reportando los eventos de la tarde desde San Antonio, Texas, de Telemundo, el Camarógrafo Roy Ibarra y la productora Yolanda Vasquez, con Steve Walter, de The Walker Report. (www.walkerreport.net).

Reporting the evening events from San Antonio, Texas: from Telemundo, Cameraman Roy Ibarra, Anchor Yolanda Vasquez and Steve Walker from The Walker Report. (www.walkerreport.net).



Leslie Gomez, Editora en Jefe de Somos Padres, (der) una publicación familiar para Latinos en New York, acompañada de Lesley Oviedo, publicista.

Honoree Lesley Gomez, Editor-in-Chief (right) Somos Padres, a family publication for Latinos in New York with Lesley Oviedo, Publisher.



El encuentro de dos Rumbos: Rumbo de San Antonio, Texas, representado por Mona Lisa Faz, directora de marketing y Rumbo de Lawrence, Massachusetts, representado por Dalia Díaz, editora.

The encounter of two Rumbos: Rumbo de San Antonio, Texas, represented by Mona Lisa Faz, director of marketing and Rumbo of Lawrence, Massachusetts, represented by Honoree Dalia Diaz, editor.



Los anfitriones del evento, Rogelio Mora-Tagle, y Vanessa Hauc, revisando el programa.

2007 Hispanic Media Hosts Rogelio Mora-Tagle, and Vanessa Hauc going over the evening's program. Mora-Tagle is one of Telemundo International's premier news anchors. Hauc is the news anchor, correspondent and substitute host for the Telemundo Program "Al Rojo Vivo" with Maria Celeste.



Claudia Botero, Reportera de Univisión, KMEX 34 en Los Ángeles, CA, con su Sra. Madre, Doña Blanca Lilia Botero.

Hispanic Media Honoree Claudia Botero, left, with her mom Blanca Lilia Botero. Claudia is a Univision Reporter with KMEX 34 in Los Angeles.

The Politics of Neighborhood Women: Where is the Village that Raises the Child?

By **NILKA I. ÁLVAREZ-RODRÍGUEZ, DA, MA**

LAWRENCE CITY COUNCILOR-AT-LARGE
& FOUNDER OF WOMAN'S AGENDA

On Saturday, June 9th, Woman's Agenda 2007 will hold its Ninth Annual Women & Policy Symposium at the Lawrence Senior Center, from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. This year the Symposium is dedicated to the Politics of Neighborhood Women. The inspiration for this theme stemmed from the recent trials and tribulations of Christian activist Michele and her teenage daughter Crystal (both names made up to protect their privacy). Michele and Crystal were more than mother and daughter. They were the best of friends until another mother decided that she would encourage Crystal's romantic rendezvous with her teenage son in one of the bedrooms in her home: a place where she would allow other young teenage children to engage in adult behaviors such as smoking, drugging, and drinking into odd hours of the night. Under this influence, Crystal became angry and rebelled against Michele's guidance. Michele tried several times to appeal to the other mother without success; and, then,

she turned to public and private agencies to guide Crystal out of this negative and life altering situation. All of the agencies protected Crystal's rights over Michele's parental rights. Today, 14-year old Crystal has dropped out of junior high school and is expecting a baby. Unfortunately Michele's story is becoming commonplace. Where is the outrage? Where is the support of the neighborhood woman who gives constantly to her community? Where are the neighbors who look after each others children? Where are the neighborhood politics that provide safe havens for families and children? Where is the village that raises the child?

For centuries neighborhood women are the crucial social capital that contributes to building safe and healthy communities; and, in the mid-1970s through to the late 1990s, thanks to organizations like the National Congress of Neighborhood Women in the United States and across the globe neighborhoods were recognized as the fundamental source for social policy, urban revitalization, and community organizing. While some men were active, neighborhood activism viewed as an extension of domestic responsibilities was a woman's domain. But in the most anxiously awaited new Millennium, there

is a startling decline in the importance of the neighborhood politics that tailored the political agenda for municipalities, states, nations and the world. It is, then, the purpose of Woman's Agenda 2007 to bring attention to this problem by stimulating discussion over what support neighborhood women need and should be given by government and the private sector to reestablish safe and healthy communities. That is, the type of community health that extends beyond physical wellness to spiritual, social, and economic wellbeing: jobs, housing, homeownership, community schools,

community churches, adult education and more, yes, much more. As it is the custom of Woman's Agenda not to engage in direct services but to build awareness, participants from government and the private sector will be urged to take the findings from the discussion to expand government-resident communication channels, improve service delivery, and develop community economics.

But it is not all dark, Woman's Agenda 2007 has reason to rejoice and celebrate. Still within the neighborhoods of the Merrimack Valley live classic neighborhood women and strong supporters of neighborhoods. At the Symposium, we will be celebrating and recognizing women who are excellent role models. The Woman's Agenda Maria Garcia Liriano Award for life time achievement will be presented to Political Activist M J Powell for outstanding leadership in merging social justice and social life to promote civil rights and to promote money management and pension equity for undereducated women. Women of Action Awards will be presented to ten extraordinary women: June Black, Haydee Cuadrado, Nanette Goodwin, State Representative Barbara L'Italien, Ana Rodriguez, Anabelle Rondon, Luz Santana, Gloria Schwartz, Nancy Stolberg and Martha Velez. All of these neighborhood women exhibited tremendous resolve in overcoming challenges to contribute to safe and healthy communities.

No one should miss the Ninth Annual Women & Policy Symposium, where issues will be tackled in a exhilarating, fun fill and supportive environment. Come find the village that raises the child. Join our supporting sponsors: State Senator Sue Tucker, Rumbo, Mayor Michael Sullivan, Police Chief John Romero, Lawrence Council on Aging, Lawrence Housing Authority, Lawrence Public Schools, City Councilor-at-Large Nilka Alvarez-Rodriguez, Barker Associates Inc., YWCA of Greater Lawrence, Attorney Richard Rodriguez, Lawrence-Methuen Community Coalition, Merrimack College – Women Studies Department, Women of Options Ministry and Women of Excellence Ministry.

Registration is free and so is the breakfast, lunch, and raffles. For more information and registration contact Nilka Alvarez-Rodriguez at 978-681-0662 or nilkaalvarez@comcast.net.

NO ONE SHOULD MISS THE NINTH ANNUAL WOMEN & POLICY SYMPOSIUM, WHERE ISSUES WILL BE TACKLED IN A EXHILARATING, FUN FILL AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT. COME FIND THE VILLAGE THAT RAISES THE CHILD.

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A commitment of six months and attendance at a training session are required. Trainings are held frequently. For more information, visit our website: www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org or call Sheila Carman at 978-557-2182.

FROM MY CORNER FROM MY CORNER FROM MY CORNER



From My Corner

BY DALIA DÍAZ
DALIADIAZ@RUMBONEWS.COM

Wanna be a cop? It's all who you know!

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 4 para leer este artículo en Español

The City of Lawrence cancelled the Police Academy scheduled to begin last week when it was discovered that the city has no money. Nine men who quit their jobs to become police officers now found themselves jobless and angry.

Common sense tells us that in order to plan for such a big expense, planning should begin months earlier. How could it be possible that they discovered the lack of funds only when they were ready to start training?

But something tells me that there must be two sets of books somewhere or separate monies available in some account because Chief John Romero told them to hold on tight for a week or so while he tries to find it and schedule a new training. Needless to say that they must be ready to sue the city at this point!

Well, lo and behold! The Chief has found enough money to pay for equipment and uniforms for all nine recruits. They had to agree in writing that they will not be receiving a salary during the 20 weeks of training or a job guarantee when they are finished. Hard to believe, right? The truth is that they consider themselves winners having that training paid for by the city because they can go to work for any other city.

The interesting thing is who made that list: Tom Schiavoni's brother who is not a Lawrence resident and Felix Gonzalez, son of Councilor Jorge Gonzalez.

Free phones for Lawrence Councilors

A funny thing happened during the Memorial Day Observance at St. Mary Cemetery while I was talking to some of our city councilors. Councilor Jorge Gonzalez dropped his cellular telephone on the ground and while he bend over to pick it up, Councilor Nunzio DiMarca showed him that he's sporting a more modern model and he should change it for that one.

At that point, Councilor Gonzalez said, "No, I don't want to be in Rumbo. I prefer this one because it's mine and I pay for it."

When I praised him for not having a taxpayer afforded telephone, Councilor Nick

Kolofoles became defensive explaining that he uses his telephone for constituents' business and Councilor DiMarca was trying to talk over Nick explaining the way he uses his, also. Meanwhile, Councilor Gonzalez was enjoying the scene, free of guilt.

"Mr. Gonzalez, you are going to be in Rumbo," I told him. "You are a man of conviction."

Lantigua for Mayor/ Councilor/School Committee/etc.

There are so many rumors abounding that you don't know what to believe any more. People are spreading rumors about State Representative William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) considering a run for School Committee or the City Council in his quest for the mayor's chair and he seems to be enjoying it.

Among the many other rumors making the rounds are the movement to find qualified candidates in the Latino community to run for council and school committee in all districts. Well, how come Marcos Devers is not running for District A? Patrick Blanchette will be running unopposed this year.

Sacred Heart Church reopening

Last Wednesday, a meeting with residents of the Mt. Vernon area was held to keep them abreast of the progress involved in the reopening the church. According to Dot Incropera, it was very well attended and the contributions are coming in although they are still a long way off. An estimate on the repairs puts it to close to one million dollars.

It is going to be a long haul but there is great enthusiasm in the neighborhood to see this church functioning again as it should.

2007 Hispanic Media Awards

On May 24th I had the pleasure of being included in a list honoring the nation's top Spanish language journalists and media personalities in San Antonio, Texas. Fifty of the best known names in radio, television and newspapers were selected from all over the country and to my surprise, my name

WELL, LO AND BEHOLD! THE CHIEF HAS FOUND ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY FOR EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS FOR ALL NINE RECRUITS. THEY HAD TO AGREE IN WRITING THAT THEY WILL NOT BE RECEIVING A SALARY DURING THE 20 WEEKS OF TRAINING OR A JOB GUARANTEE WHEN THEY ARE FINISHED. HARD TO BELIEVE, RIGHT? THE TRUTH IS THAT THEY CONSIDER THEMSELVES WINNERS HAVING THAT TRAINING PAID FOR BY THE CITY BECAUSE THEY CAN GO TO WORK FOR ANY OTHER CITY.

was also there.

It was a night of pride for many people celebrating a historical movement. Emilio Nicolas, Sr. was inducted to the 2007 Ring of Honor for starting the first television station in Spanish in the United States, and it happened in San Antonio. Channel 41 became the Spanish International Network (SIN) which years later was sold to Univision. Even though I have been involved in the media for over 35 years, I felt like the new kid on the block paying homage to the people who started it all.

Blanchette delays city budget (not the Mayor this time)

Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan notified the members of the City Council that was not able to have the city budget ready by the noon deadline on Thursday but said that he will be submitting it the next day for sure. Council President Patrick Blanchette, presuming that he likes to go by the book, said that he would not accept it if it was not there on time. Bravo, Blanchette, teach him a lesson!

But, wait! Is anyone learning anything from this or is the city accomplishing anything from this power struggle?

The Mayor is going to submit the budget this week and next Tuesday it will be referred to the Budget and Finance Committee. No one is going to look at it and it will not be discussed that night. By refusing to accept it for being late, the Council President will be delaying the process two more weeks, trying to make the mayor look bad, having the residents get angry at the council for this behavior when the reality is that he took that decision by himself.

Yes, the Council President, in a very dictatorial manner, decided to follow a rule that he customarily breaks. He often presents the members of the council items during the meeting without any prior notice, asking them to be placed on the agenda to be discussed that same evening.

If this is his behavior now, just imagine what it will be like if he becomes mayor. His arrogance is pathetic.

Social Services Partnership Solicits Community Input on Issues

A coalition of social service agencies welcomed the community in developing services for a new community program. "Community Cares" was one of the first community-based events to be held in a newly created, neighborhood-focused office based on the English "PATCH" model.

The PATCH model represents a shift in organizational dynamics in social service provision. Rather than agencies determining the needs of the community, the PATCH model expects grass-roots involvement by the residents of the neighborhood that the office serves.

The Open Space Forum was a way to empower local residents to express what they see as the issues and needs facing children and families in their neighborhoods, and how to address these needs. There were 60+ adults and youth who participated in this event.

The goal is to have community members be equal partners with social service agencies and have a strong voice, and stake in, deciding how best to serve their neighborhoods. Several community based strategies will evolve from the project that will take direction from community residents, Neighborhood Committee, Parent Council, and a Youth Council.

This program is a partnership between the Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition, Community Day Care, TAM Presbyterian Church, the Department of Social Services and the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council which serves as the fiscal lead agency for the PATCH Project.

ABOUT THE NEW OFFICE

The new office is sited at the TAM Presbyterian Church, 96 East Haverhill Street in the Prospect Hill area of Lawrence. It is the third such office that has been developed in the state of Massachusetts.

The PATCH concept is to create community ownership, hope, self-determination and pride where children and families are safe and have meaningful futures through collaboration and mutual responsibility. The office will achieve this goal through promoting empowerment and involvement of community members who seek support.

For additional information about this program and the "PATCH" model, please contact Delilah Rivera, Program Coordinator at (978) 975-8793.

SBA approved the first loan for 2007 flooding

We have approved our first loan for the April, 2007 floods here in Massachusetts. The loan was an individual home application, approved for an applicant in Salisbury.

For the 2006 floods the average home loan was for \$26,287 at 2.937%, the average business loan was for \$105,529 at 4%. Total loans approved for the Commonwealth for the May 2006 floods was 1,240 total loans for \$43,610,700. Our challenge this year is getting people to apply for the available assistance.

Our Disaster Loan Outreach Center at 49 Low Street in Newburyport will be there as long as there is enough activity to justify keeping it open. The hours for the center are 9AM to 6PM Monday thru Friday, until further notice. Thank you very much for your help getting the message to the victims of this disaster.

Letters to the Editor

Rumbo
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Lawrence, MA 01843
Email: rumbo@rumbonews.com

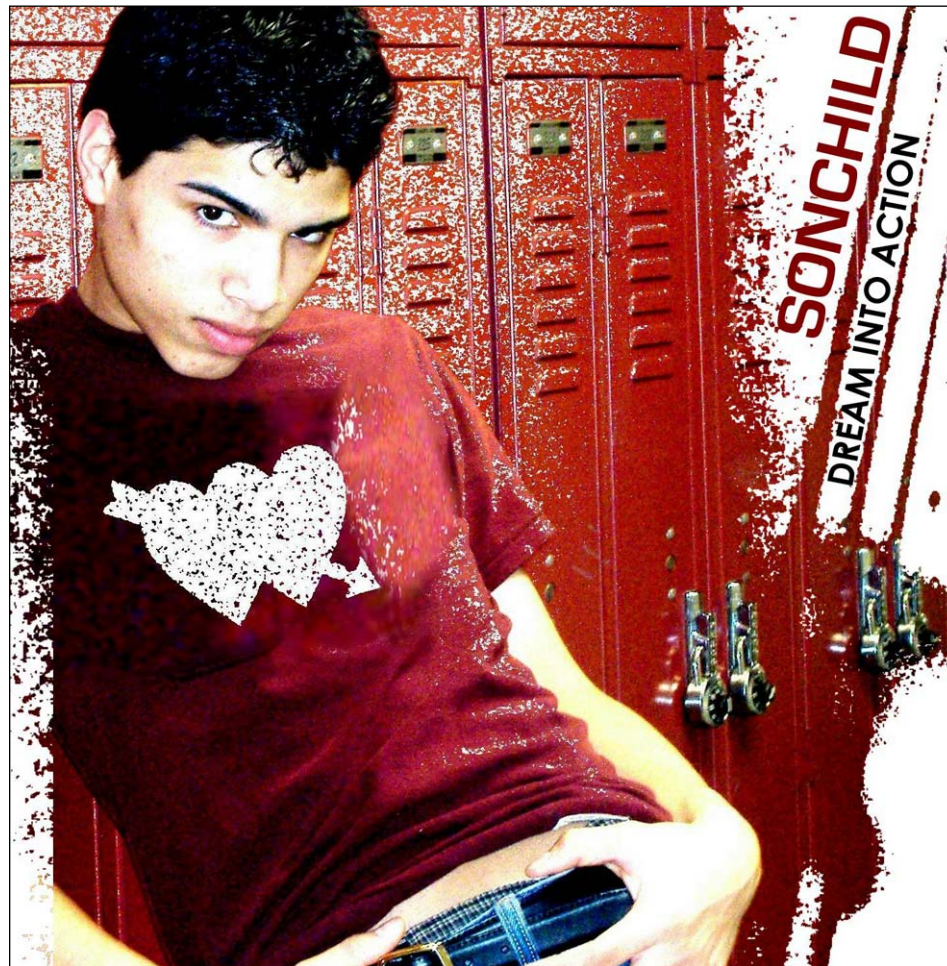
Letters must be less than 300 words in length. Please send a telephone number or email address by which we may confirm the sender.

SONCHILD: Dream into action

Back in 2002, a then 11 year old SONCHILD won the hearts of many with his cute boy looks and his infectious dance single "Merry-Go-Round". The single became an instant club favorite peaking at the # 3 position on the dance charts in the US, UK and Online. He soon was recognized by many within the dance music community as a star on the rise. In his home state of Massachusetts alone he was featured everywhere from a spread in Boston Magazine to being a guest on the popular "Matty in the Morning Show" on KISS 108. Even local bilingual news publications like Rumbo were following his career.

Back then, SONCHILD was living the dream that many kids could only dream about, meeting his idols Hilary Duff, Cyndi Lauper and Mariah Carey to traveling and performing all over the place from New York City to Miami, Florida. After everything cooled down, he sat back and said that he wanted to finish the 6th grade and at least wait until he got into high school before continuing with his music.

Now, 5 years later. SONCHILD is back! His long awaited debut full length studio album entitled "DREAM INTO ACTION" is set for release on June 12th, 2007 on Funusual Records. The album's first single "Homework" broke into the pop charts and entered the Top 40 on radio, online and in the clubs. The second single from the album is called "I GO WHERE I GO" (Featuring Dan-e). This song is about "Independence" and "Being able to do for himself without



being judged". SONCHILD and Dan-e teamed up together in Los Angeles to make this song happen. It is a very up-beat dance track with more than just a catchy hook. It has some very powerful words. Written by Bylli Crayone and Daniel Gomez.

The new album features a variety of genres that SONCHILD believes defines who he is as an artist and as a person. The album also features his own personal rendition of the Tina Turner classic "What's Love Got To Do With It". He says, "After

watching the movie of her life, I really felt bad for her and wanted to show my appreciation and support for her by redoing that song. This was my way of letting her know that I do admire her for the woman she has become". Not only is the song a great cover, but he also got a standing ovation after his first live performance of the song and from there on in, he knew had picked a great song to cover.

Another cover song on the album is a cut titled "Hooked On You". Originally done in 1988 by the freestyle dance trio Sweet Sensation. It just so happens that his manager is good friends with the lead singer "Betty Dee" of the all girl group. Betty Dee stated that it would be an honor for SONCHILD to redo the song, in fact, if he does, he would be the first male ever to do it. The song was produced by Pawel Kolinski of Poland and contains the same freestyle flavored elements as the original, just with a more modern feel ie. New School Freestyle. The song also received a powerful club remix by Brian Taylor of Chicago's B-Licious Productions. Originally made for the clubs as a heavy dance mix, however, it was later decided that this mix would also be added to the release.

As for the rest of the album, The majority of the songs were written by Funusual Label owner Bylli Crayone, (who is also the album's executive producer). All with the exception of one song called "Can't Live Without You". This song was brilliantly written by SONCHILD himself last year when he was only 15 years old. When asked what's his most favorite thing about the album, he will tell you "I got to record a song I wrote". To sum up the album, it has a very today sound designed for today's youth/teens. It features a variety with Pop, Dance and R&B styles.

Between all the recordings, school and after school activities, SONCHILD still manages to find time for himself. He is a big fan of Pop Music. In his free time, he likes to go online and look for rare CDs by his favorite artists. He has become somewhat of a CD collector. He is also a huge fan of world history, every once in awhile you will find him checking out the History Channel on TV or Googling online to find something new and interesting to learn. He also has a big thrill with collecting rare old coins and foreign money. So basically, outside from his music career, he's pretty much a normal kid.

SONCHILD is eagerly waiting for the school year to end. His freshman year in high school was everything he wanted and more. He's going to school for web / graphic design and hopes to one day land a full time job with Disney, even if he has to intern to get it. With this kid, anything is possible.

See, this is a story about a kid who was just an ordinary kid who took his dreams and made them into a reality. When it came time to name the album, of course, it only made sense to call it "DREAM INTO ACTION". He believes that you can do whatever you put your mind to and if you believe, others will also believe, follow and support.

Be sure to check out SONCHILD - SUMMER TOUR this summer. It's sponsored by BORDERS "Books & Music" and is going nationwide.

For dates and locations, visit www.SonChildMusic.com. The new CD "Dream Into Action" hits stores and online on June 12th, 2007.

Merrimack Valley YMCA Celebrates 100 Years of Camping in 2007

YMCA SEEKING FORMER CAMPERS FOR THREE CENTENIAL CELEBRATIONS

The Merrimack Valley YMCA's Camping Services Branch will be celebrating its Centennial in 2007. More than 100,000 campers over the past 100 years have been positively impacted by the time they spent at the YMCA's remarkable camps. With that in mind, the YMCA is looking to locate all former campers to be invited to various celebrations during the coming year, including events held in the Greater Boston area, as well as the Lakes Region of New Hampshire. Former campers are invited to join others to reminisce about camping days, share camp stories, and reconnect with camp friends.

Events planned to commemorate the centennial are:

ANNUAL ALUMNI PICNIC -- SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 2007

Events scheduled at Camp Lawrence and Camp Nokomis on Bear Island. Hall of Fame inductees to be announced. Enjoy lunch at the camps, special events and camp tours. Boats leave Y-Landing Marina in Meredith, New Hampshire, and travel to

the YMCA's camps on Bear Island, Lake Winnepesaukee.

FAMILY CENTENNIAL NEW ENGLAND LOBSTER AND CLAM BAKE -- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2007

Held at Camp Otter on Captain's Pond in Salem, New Hampshire, the site of the YMCA's Day Camp. Lunch under the pavillion. Activities for the whole family!

The Merrimack Valley YMCA operates two residential camps on Bear Island, Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire - Camp Lawrence for Boys and Camp Nokomis for Girls. The camps are for children ages 8 to 16. Camp Lawrence was established in 1907, and like Camp Nokomis, is home to 160 campers each two-week session. Both camps operate for 8 weeks in the summer. Camp Lawrence covers 70 acres of Bear Island and Camp Nokomis is situated on 40 acres in a sheltered cove on also on Bear Island. Because of their island locations, transportation is provided by the Bear II, the camps' 50-foot passenger launch.

The two residential camps draw campers from all over the United States, as well as youth from abroad. International campers over the years have included youth from Canada, Spain, France, Germany, Ireland, Singapore, England, Pakistan,

Austria, and Croatia

The Merrimack Valley YMCA also operates Day Camp Otter, located on Captain's Pond in Salem, New Hampshire. This camp will celebrate 50 years of service in 2007. Day campers enjoy such traditional camp activities as canoeing, kayaking, walking the nature trails, making arts & crafts projects, climbing the ropes course, playing outdoor games, and swimming in Captain's Pond.

Former Camp Lawrence, Camp Nokomis and Camp Otter campers are encouraged to contact the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Camping Services Branch with their current mailing address, email address, and phone number to be included on the invitation list for Centennial celebration events planned for next year. Email can be directed to John Shandorf, Camping Services Branch Executive Director, at jshandorf@mvymca.org <<mailto:jshandorf@mvymca.org>>. The YMCA's Camping Services Branch office is located at 7 Ballard Way, Lawrence, Massachusetts, 01843. The phone number is 978-975-1330.

For more information on any camp events, please contact the Camping Services Branch at 978-975-1330.



By ELLEN BAHAN
ELLEN@RUMBONEWS.COM

It's All About Right(s)

Welcome Back

“YOUR DREAMS WERE YOUR TICKET OUT. WELCOME BACK TO THAT SAME OLD PLACE THAT YOU LAUGHED ABOUT. WELL THE NAMES HAVE ALL CHANGED SINCE YOU HUNG AROUND BUT THOSE DREAMS HAVE REMAINED AND THEY’VE TURNED AROUND.

WHO’D OF THOUGHT THEY’D LEAD YA. HERE WHERE WE NEED YA. YEAH, WE TEASE HER LOT CAUSE WE’VE GOT HER ON THE SPOT, WELCOME BACK, WELCOME BACK, WELCOME BACK, WELCOME BACK.”

JOHN SEBASTIAN, LOVING SPOONFUL

LeeAnn Condon is back in the big house, once again connected to the spout. What is it that she has on Billy the Bridge?

For years now, LeeAnn and Mikey

have been feeding off one of the tributaries to the public trough.

The one funded by “Food and Related Items” in Sharon M.oney Pollard’s fiscal budget, that and the castle fund. Oh, and never forget when “Festival of Thieves” was held at the Tavern.

Because we all know that an event was not even thought about unless it was going to be held at the “Red Tavern”. Ahhhh...! Those were the good old days; the days of balls. Hey, Lawrence even held their Policeman Ball at the Tavern!

Old shar is out of office, and word on the street is that the Condons and the Queen/Load are currently on the outs.

The Tavern is gone and the Sweetheart Inn is all refurbished and ready to be rented by any town event that might come down the pike and who better than to steer this business into the woods, other than Lee

Ann herself?

Perhaps to go with the orange traffic cones, someone can get her one of those flashlights with the orange point on it, so she can direct prospective diners out to the woods.

Technically, LeeAnn is Bill Pare’s secretary, but I understand that she is still tweaking her official title. Watch out Billy!

I did think I heard a collective sigh from the Veterans!

Bridgeboy Manzi was hell-bent on paying off at least one favor and since it did not work out with the Veterans, perhaps no one will notice that LeeAnn is in the Recreation Department.

Mark my words BILLY, it will not be long before LeeAnn can’t help herself and draw attention. I think her take-charge attitude will turn many people off, she can use that tune with Mikey, but the taxpayers might bock.

I have one question, is she going to bring her own orange cones so she can park right up front, and save the space open if by some chance she has to leave and come back like she did at the “Red Tavern”?

Like what happens to the City Clerk Tina Touma Conway when she has to leave. Tina maybe LeeAnn will let you use her cones. On second thought I would not count on it.

And the beat goes on...and on...and on...and on!

Public document / Official Business

Did everybody happen to get the letter you paid to send yourself, “An Important Message from Congressman Marty Meehan”?

First, what has Marty ever had to say that is important? Sorry Marty, I stopped listening the moment you broke your promise... the promise you used to get elected, and overstayed your welcome. What was it? 14 years?

This letter was the introduction announcing your new place at the spout: UMass Lowell. The beautiful part was that the taxpayers funded it.

If for one moment you had a fleeting thought for the people, whom you so glowing describe yourself as having and still contributing to our “shared future,” you would have foregone this insulting letter, and coughed up the money to hold the special election, since a more optimum position at the spout is only available now and you must leave before the end of your term.

I am sure you could have finagled some sort of legislation to use your 5 million dollar war chest to defray the cost caused by your career move.

Nawww! Instead you spend the taxpayer’s money to reminisce, preen, and tell exactly where you can be reached in case someone wants to donate to your cause... I mean the university.

Good-bye, Marty.

MSPCA LAUNCHES GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN FOR CATS

Massachusetts Based Feline Advocacy Program Kicks-Off National Adopt-A-Cat Month®

The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) is launching its Campaign for Cats on June 1, 2007; kicking-off the nationally recognized American Humane Association’s Adopt-A-Cat-Month® in the Commonwealth. The mission of the MSPCA’s Campaign for Cats is to raise awareness and educate the public regarding responsible feline ownership. The Campaign focuses on the benefits of adopting adult cats, the importance of spaying or neutering cats at an early age and how to properly ID cats.

“We hope to better educate current and future cat owners through a targeted public service campaign including grassroots outreach from our website, placement of informational posters throughout the Commonwealth, and rabies and microchip clinics,” said Heather Donnelly, the MSPCA-Angell’s Assistant to the Director of Animal Care and Adoption Centers.

During June, all seven of the MSPCA-Angell’s Animal Care and Adoption Centers, including the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen, will offer free “starter kits” to anyone who adopts a cat that is six months or older. The kits include a litter pan and scoop, a collar and ID tag, nail clippers, a four-lb. bag of Hill’s Science Diet cat food and a can of Hill’s Science Diet wet food. The Boston, Methuen and Brockton Adoption Centers will also offer a 10 percent discount on in-stock interactive toys as well as scratching posts.

“During the summer months, our Adoption Centers experience a severe influx of kittens and cats,” continued Donnelly. “Over the past 20 years, we have seen a steady decline in the number of kittens coming into our Adoption Centers; however the number of cats over the age of six months is virtually unchanged. Last year alone, more than 11,000 cats were surrendered. There are hundreds of cats awaiting permanent homes at our Adoption Centers right now. Adolescent and adult cats offer numerous benefits to future owners because you know what you can expect in their appearance, personality and behavior.”

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE MSPCA’S CAMPAIGN FOR CATS, INCLUDING POSTERS AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD, PLEASE VISIT WWW.MSPCA.ORG/CATS.

Home Health VNA Awards Scholarship to Greater Lawrence Technical School Student



Home Health VNA has awarded Suhaiti Villa, a graduate from the Allied Health Technology program at Greater Lawrence Technical School, their scholarship given annually in memory of a former employee.

The \$500 scholarship was established in 1995 as a tribute to Lisa Santiago Ventura, an employee of the home care agency, who was killed during a high speed police chase. Ms. Ventura was an innocent bystander whose vehicle was fatally struck during the chase. In her memory, the agency gives the Lisa Santiago Ventura Memorial Scholarship to a graduating senior of the Greater Lawrence Technical School where she was a student.

“Each year I am so proud to offer this scholarship to a student pursuing a career in nursing,” said Joan Stygles Hull, RN, MBA, President / CEO of Home Health VNA. “Suhaiti is a wonderful example of the talented and dedicated students out there. We hope that when she completes her education she might return to our

agency to care for our patients.”

Ms. Villa, a Lawrence resident, was accepted directly into the nursing program at Fitchburg State College. She received a gold medal from SkillsUSA for community service. She was also named the Exchange Club of Lawrence’s Youth of the Year 2007.

“It was a lot of hard work, but definitely worth it,” said Villa. “I am looking forward to attending college and helping people as a nurse.”

Home Health VNA is a not-for-profit home care agency affiliated with HomeCare, Inc. and Merrimack Valley Hospice. The three agencies serve over 80 communities in Southern New Hampshire and the Merrimack Valley. Most recently, Outcome Concept Systems (OCS) named Home Health VNA among the Top 5% of Home Health Care Agencies in the United States. Home Health VNA is certified by the Joint Commission; considered the gold standard of care. To learn more about them, visit their website at www.homehealthvna.org.



Mr. B's Sports Memories

BY FRANK BENJAMIN

Do You Remember?

When we said we were going to the show, we never called it the movies or the theater.

Did you ever own a slingshot? Did you make your own from a V shaped branch? Did you ever set bottles up on a fence and tried to break them with a missile from your slingshot? Ever hit your target? How bout a pea shooter? Almost every boy I knew owned one. A Red Ryder BB gun was also owned by many kids. All these weapons could be used as you went on a hike in the woods towards where Route 93 is today.

These hikes were like a safari and although we thought we were the great white hunters we would very seldom meet any prey. Occasionally, a squirrel or a chipmunk would have us chasing it down to no avail. A skunk sometimes appeared as if to let us know we shouldn't be bothering his space and we quickly got the message.

How about neighborhood games did you play kick the can? Buck, buck, how many fingers do I have up? Did you crush your heels into empty cans and wear them around as the rims wrapped around your heels?

Did you own a high bouncer? It was a small pink ball that it seemed was meant

for playing outs on the steps of a porch. To play outs you needed an opponent who as you would do would pick a name of a team and you would have a series. Like one team would be the Red Sox and the other probably the Boston Braves (I bet you thought it would be the Yankees but to the Boston teams were always vying for the popularity of the area). Each kid knew the lineups and would send the imaginary Ted Williams, Bobby Doerrs and Johnny Peskys to the plate and the kid who had the Braves sent Bob Elliot, Earl Torgeson, Sibby Sisti and Sam Jethroe to the bat. (Sam by the way was the first black player to play in Boston.)

When the high bouncer went over the defenders head it was usually a home run, I say usually because in some porch areas we had designated lines for homers, doubles and triples, grounders when fielded cleanly were outs and you were allowed three per inning, the game was a nine inning affair. Many kids developed sore arms playing this popular game and maybe some strengthened their arms.

Tag football was played on most streets; didn't you play on your street?

Basketball wasn't too popular in

those days but some streets had baskets nailed on electric poles (a thing I found to be dangerous, and a hindrance later when I became a lineman for the electric companies). We didn't have bucket trucks when I was young and we climbed the poles physically in those days and if one came down or fell on a makeshift hoop it was no laughing matter.

The YMCA and the Boys Club (both still in operation today) had many people playing roundball in those days. Roger Twoomey the city's former License Commissioner, his brother Neil, Steve Perocchi, Carmen Martellini now a retired military man living in Seabrook these days after watching his grandchildren Charlotte and Sarah Muller weave their magic for Jim Tilsey's Andover team, Joe Hackney, and Billy Nagle and Joe Cirus were players at these venues, most were multiple sports stars.

These were the days when you got your windshield cleaned every time and your oil checked, gas pumped all for free and with out asking, some places offered a free fill up if the attendant didn't offer these services. No, this isn't science fiction or the twilight zone, this was how it was. How

about this at most places you got trading stamps to boot, this is a guess but I bet gas was about 55 cents a gallon. No, I'm not crazy. Laundry detergent had a free glass or a towel hidden inside the box or maybe a free dish.

It was a time when your Mom wore nylons that came in two pieces and a time when if they threatened to keep you back a grade if you failed, they did. I know many who were kept back at least once and still went on to a successful and well balanced life.

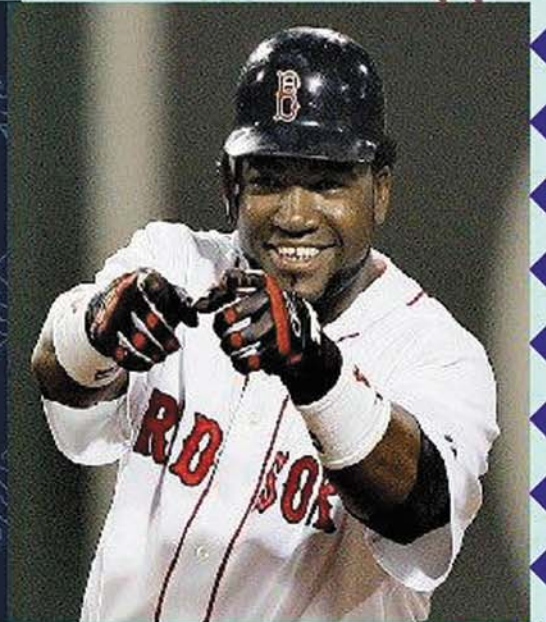
Were those the "good old days"? I don't know, but although we thought we had a hard life it seemed much simpler then. We didn't know of TV, microwaves, \$3.00 a gallon gas, drugs and stores we could call drugstores without a connotation. Are we better off? I sometimes wonder.

Was it better when we didn't have to wait for the commercial before we could talk to our family or sweetheart? Weren't ballgames on the radio just as exciting as today's games, because they made us use

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A Point of View

BY PAUL V. MONTESINO, PHD, MBA
MAILBOXOPEN@AOL.COM

Baracoa: the summer and sun that never set

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 13 para leer este artículo en Español

Dr. Montesino is a Senior Lecturer in the Information and Processing Management (IPM) Department at Bentley College, Waltham, MA, and these comments are his own opinion.

Summers are periods of doing nothing and reaching for everything. The sun is up longer, recently awakened by the melting spring and happy to be out of the long winter sleepless nights that kept it under cold wraps and envious of the shining silvery moon. Birds wake up you early in the morning with their lively chirps and you wonder if they are the youngest members of a crew that has not learned how to sail yet until you hear them no more and realize that they finally left the nest; speaking of empty nesters!

You know it is summer when the student crowds disappear from our campus because they have gone where the other sides of their constant cell phones conversations were. And you wonder how much quiet there is where there was so much learning going on before, and one wonders if it will ever return. The sound of the flip-flops is gone.

As I watched my laughing twin granddaughters chasing a white butterfly that was obviously enjoying the newly found flying ability resulting from the miraculous metamorphosis of a caterpillar, my mind went back in time. Summers are periods of happy memories for me. Times when my life was less complicated and my goals less lofty. It was not a nine-to-five world; it was actually a "this minute to the next" world. Being here now had a totally different meaning then and I enjoyed every moment of that now back then.

My family used to pack up and move part time to a fishing town by the name of Baracoa, not far from Havana, the capital of Cuba, as soon as my school year was over. That short separation was in geographic distance only because the two cities were as different as night and day, and so was the population and life style. It was an unforgettable experience that would last the brief three months of one summer and all the years of one life.

We were not wealthy by any means, so we shared living rented spaces with close relatives with whom we had a lot in common, like how to have fun. All I remember is that once I removed my city shoes to spread my anxious wings in the ocean smelling resort, my feet would not see them for three months and it would be hard to wear them again on the return to civility. The shoes were the same, but the feet had grown and swollen to a point where they could not coexist; not without much cajoling.

Life in Baracoa was simple, the days tranquil but active, riding bikes most of the

day and night, swimming several times, eating and playing games in between. The coast was rocky and the only place where we could swim with a level of security was in the "pozetas," deep areas under water that had been flattened with dynamite to make them rock-free and swimmer-friendly. Don't ask me to translate the word "pozeta" (ditch?) because I have never seen it written in Spanish. I guess it was like a secret password for us. They were holes away from the shore and we had to walk over long wood bridge spans before we could jump into the deep waters waiting at the end. To this day, my frequent laps in my college's semi-Olympic swimming pool are the after effects of so much free swimming.

I think of our childhood lives in Baracoa and feel some sort of association with Mark Twain's Tom Sawyer and his famous exploits. Fishing was an adventure that started from the moment we hunted for the bait. I remember our crawling under houses looking for macaws for fish bait. Macaws, which live in shells they carry on their shoulders protected from predators by locking its doors with their large claws, have to shed those shells as their bodies grow and need bigger living quarters.

They do not want to be caught naked when they change their habitat, because that is their weakest moment of exposure in a cruel world of natural selection where big fish eats little fish. You would not want to be caught naked either when you move from one house to the other because you outgrew it, would you? The neighbors would not approve: "Hey, look at Paul, there he goes again; no clothes, probably changing homes." That does not sound proper. Once the macaw meat was obtained after much avoidance of the threatening defensive claw that could cut our fingers, the next step was sticking it in the fishhook for lure and sit with patience for some fish to swallow the hook; bad idea for the fish as we know.

Our fish of choice was the "mojarra" for obvious reasons that will become apparent: They are small, silvery fish, having extremely protrusive mouths, which make them ideal for biting on the hooks. Catching a "mojarra" was the high point of the fishing day. Never mind that we had to deal with other troublesome sea creatures like the electric eels, snaky creatures that did not satisfy themselves with hooks but could catch your toes unexpectedly while you swam. Some were poisonous.

For several days in the middle of summer we would on occasion receive the welcome visit of a wandering circus. They were not large by any means; not Ringling Brothers stuff, but full of clowns and gymnasts that would make "Cirque du Soleil" yawn with boredom. One of my cousins, adventurous young fellow him, would make friends with a "tarugo" (roust-about) and find a way to help in exchange for a free admission ticket. We were also most amused by the various

games offered to the public for a fee. There was one roulette game in particular that we eventually imitated and used after the circus had left town.

The attendant would work with a roulette surrounded by numbered boxes with a front door, each circling a larger box lying in the center of the ring that was tied to a rope above. Inside the box the attendant's assistant, usually a bored young woman who probably wanted to be somewhere else, would place a rabbit and would ask for bets from the curious public. Folks would place money on any of the numbered boxes and wait for the rabbit to be released. The animal would run around for a while sniffing here and there and would attempt to leave the circle through the door of one of the boxes making the number of that box the winner of the roulette game and the recipient of some silly prize.

We learned and imitated the system fast and created a local version of our own that we played for our young friends for a while after the circus had left town. For boxes we used borrowed bricks and lacking a rabbit that would suit the purpose we opted for a large crab instead and asked for bets from the other youngsters. The picture of the crab running around looking for a box exit was funny if not profitable.

One day the crab, who obviously had no interest in the game, got away and disappeared under a house. We had a great time though. Once I visited Las Vegas and the image of our childhood roulette came to my mind when I saw the croupier releasing the wheel. I wondered if I could have written my "crabby" experience in an application for employment to a casino. I dropped the idea.

One of the last times I spent my summers in Baracoa we were side swiped by a fast moving hurricane. I had never spent such a stormy day in the beach and was quite shocked by the force of the approaching winds and the ferocity of the waves against the shoreline. Riding on my bike was quite a challenge. I remember sitting on it, my feet on the handlebar and letting the wind push me from the back. There was no need to pedal, honest.

Unfortunately wherever I went driven by the wind I had to return as well, and pedaling against its forces was not easy, in fact so hard that the wind pushed me down a ditch in an embankment where I hit and

CONTINUES FROM PAGE
22

BENJAMIN: Do You Remember?

our imagination? Were we better off before we knew what hula hoops or Rubik's cubes were? Were we happier when it was just the sixty four dollar question instead of the sixty four thousand dollar question or now that it is "So You Want to be a Millionaire"?

Was Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout Show a good clean talent competition show more enjoyable than the meanness of shows and panels like the American Idols Show that have rude and mean panelists whose aim is to hurt and embarrass the contestants. Are we back to the "Gong Show" days?

How many of us can name the bands of today and also enjoy the way they all look and sound alike. I'll take Harry James, Guy Lombardo, Les Brown and his Band of renown any day and how about Glenn Miller and Woody Herman and finally the off the wall sounds of Spike Jones?

Well, we've covered a broad expanse of time and I guess me and people that grew up in my time that agree with these viewpoints have earned the right to be called "old geezers".

Welcome to the club!

scratched my right leg having to return home with a bloody knee, a bruised ego and the wheel-twisted bike over my shoulders. To this day I carry the scar of that stormiest of days. But no, next time you see me don't ask me to show you my scar. Folks don't like to do that.

It was in Baracoa where my penchant for writing fiction first showed its creative head. I used to sit down after lunch with six or seven of my buddies and cousins to tell them the stories of books I had read or movies I had seen, a memory they still relish to this day as I am told. What they did not know at the time, and I would feel bad if I told them today, was that all those stories were the product of a fertile imagination, mine.

Creating a new drama every day was no minor challenge at that age, so feel no sympathy for me now when I write my points of view. That is one of the many memories I still carry and will carry on all my life, because Baracoa was the happy summer and sun that never set and never will; a memory that flows from my pen in more ways than one every time I write. Can you smell the mojarra's? I certainly can.

And that is my point of view this beginning of a warm summer day. Enjoy yours.

BELLESINI ACADEMY SEEKS TUTORS

Bellesini Academy in Lawrence is seeking volunteer tutors for their Evening Study Program on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday from 7 to 9 pm. All tutors would work one-on-one with a student.

The Academy, sponsored by Merrimack College, is a private, independent Catholic middle school (grades 5-8) dedicated to providing a quality, scholarship education to boys from limited financial means living in Lawrence. The mission of the school is to provide an academically challenging & highly structure environment that develops the potential for each student to succeed in competitive secondary schools & colleges.

For more information on volunteering as a tutor or other volunteering opportunities, contact Cathie Maloney at Bellesini Academy at 978-989-0004 or e-mail cmaloney@bellesiniacademy.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 12 para leer este artículo en Español

Lawrence Mayor fails to deliver budget on time - again

Once again our City Mayor in Lawrence has failed to submit his budget on a timely basis for the fiscal year beginning on July 2007 for the approval of the City Council. Obviously, this is nothing new with our city government.

My guess is that this is being done intentionally to put pressure on our City Council to approve the budget without much review or discussion, in order to meet the State's dead-line. The same thing happened with the last budget submitted to the Council, and the mayor is hoping that this strategy will work again.

With the increase of property taxes by 100% in the previous budget and the most recent increase of 113% in the Water and Sewer Rate, our city government has placed in jeopardy a substantial number of home owners, including elderly home owners with a fixed income. Since the mayor knew way ahead of time that our city would not receive the state aide that it normally receives, you would think that our mayor would be sensible enough to re-adjust his

budget to account for this deficiency.

Instead, our mayor submitted the previous budget to the City Council without any cuts. This action on the part of our mayor put an unnecessary burden on the city's taxpayers.

For this coming fiscal year, our city government is intending to levy the property owner in the City of Lawrence at 100% of the property's market value. Some are contending that we, the taxpayers in the City of Lawrence, are not paying our fare share of property taxes in comparison to our neighboring Towns of Andover, Methuen and North Andover.

To say that a citizen in Lawrence who earns \$15,000 a year should pay the same amount of property taxes as a citizen in Andover with a yearly salary income of \$150,000, or a citizen in Methuen with a yearly salary of \$60,000, or a citizen in North Andover, with a yearly salary of \$80,000 is totally absurd.

I, as a taxpayer, and many others in our city are totally opposed to any additional property tax increase. We also oppose the most recent increase of 113% in our Water and Sewer Rate. We are saying enough is enough. We are asking the Mayor and the City Council to roll-back the Water

and Sewer increase and to adjust the rate to a level that will be more suitable to our tax-payer, thus lessening the burden and negative impact on the home owner and their tenants.

It is for this reason that we, a group of homeowners, are calling for a protest against the increase in the Water and Sewer Rate and any additional increase of property taxes for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2007. The protest is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5, 2007, at 6:00 p.m., in front of the Lawrence City Hall, 200 Common Street.

If you feel as a homeowner, as a taxpayer, that our city government is not being sensitive to your financial and economic condition; if you feel that our city government is not taking your needs into account. If you feel that our city government has placed on you a burden that you cannot bare, then come to this protest and let the mayor and our City Council hear your voice.

Come and let our city government and City Council that "Enough is enough".

MODESTO MALDONADO
Lawrence, MA

Response to Eileen Yelle's Letter

I was totally amazed when I read a letter to the editor of Rumbo, dated May 22, 2007, by a Mrs. Eileen Yelle Hughes, where she blame the majority in the City of Lawrence, meaning the Latinos, of destroying the "cultural aspect and design of the City". Either Mrs. Hughes was not here in the late fifties and sixties, or she was happy with the way things were in those times and resents that we, the Latinos, made gigantic improvements in this City of ours.

In case she didn't know, I came to this city for the first time during the summer of 1965; there were approximately fifteen Hispanic families in the City. At this time in the history of our City, the former Mayor Buckley had allowed the majority of the textile and shoe industries to leave the city. In the name of progress, the former mayor erased whole neighborhoods in the northern part of the city and Common Street area displacing out of the city the Italian and Lebanese communities.

The city had several motorcycle gangs especially one that was very notorious in

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rumbo
315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843
Email: rumbo@rumbonews.com

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

the corner of Park and Hampshire Street. The city had a concentration of "white trash" in the Bromfield and Alma Street area, where the city police was constantly present to resolve disputes between these residents. There was a substantial amount of substandard and dilapidated housing, and hundreds of abandoned properties. Real estate value was so low that you could purchase a six family building on Park Street for \$1,000 and a two and three family building together on Bromfield Street for \$6,000. Park Street in the Arlington neighborhood was considered the ghetto of the city and a dilapidated city jail that fed the city with a substantial amount of criminal elements. This was the condition of our city during 1965.

And so I ask: What is Mrs. Hughes referring to when she says that we, the Latinos destroyed the "cultural aspect and design of our city"? Well, let's see. Since the arrival of Latinos in this City, between the years 1967, the 70s and 80s, the motorcycle gangs disappeared, the multiple drunk bars that plagued the city are no longer here, the police has no longer to contend with the "white trash" in the Bromfield and Alma Street area, there are no abandoned properties in the city, most properties have been either vinyl sided, renovated, or painted and look better than ever before. Property value hit the roof from a \$1000 six-unit building to a three-family building for \$400,000, new construction of housing in many of our abandoned city lots is evident, there are several cultural yearly events in the city that attract thousands of visitors from other parts of the state and New England, most school buildings in the city have been replaced for new and more modern ones. Is this what Mrs. Hughes is referring to? If not, she should come and visit our city more often to view the wonderful changes that have been made since the Latino Community arrived in the City of Lawrence.

MODESTO MALDONADO
Lawrence, MA

Merrimack Valley YMCA honors ten program volunteers of the year



Honored during Merrimack Valley YMCA's 2007 Volunteer Week celebration were program volunteers of the year (from left to right): Amy Brown of Bradford; Antonia Dancikova of North Andover; Peter Dodge of Methuen; Katisha Bellegrade of Methuen; John Farrington of Atkinson, NH; Heather Clark of Salem, NH; Bill Bernard of Methuen; Aaron Cerullo of Lawrence; David Freccero of Andover; and David Bamford of Methuen. To the far right are YMCA Vice President Gary Morelli and YMCA Volunteer Development Committee Chairperson Yawa Duse-Anthony.

Ten outstanding volunteers were feted at the YMCA's Volunteer Appreciation Night at Chunky's Movie Theatre.

With a membership base of 12,000 persons, the Merrimack Valley YMCA has the support of over 700 program and policy volunteers who collectively

donate thousands of hours of volunteer time each year.

"By encouraging people to give back to their communities, we can strengthen the places we call home," said Ms. Dusa-Anthony, volunteer chairman of the YMCA's Volunteer Development Committee.

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PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE

9,100 Homes Repaired by 270,000 Volunteers on National Rebuild Day

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 9 para leer este artículo en Español

REBUILDING TOGETHER'S MISSION IS TO PRESERVE AND REVITALIZE HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES, ASSURING THAT LOW-INCOME HOMEOWNERS, FROM THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED TO FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN, LIVE IN WARMTH, SAFETY, AND INDEPENDENCE. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITIES, OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE A SUSTAINABLE IMPACT.

Rebuilding Together, the nation's largest all-volunteer home rehabilitation organization, had more than 270,000 volunteers in 1,800 communities providing needed home repairs for low-income and elderly homeowners this past Saturday, April 28th. The annual National Rebuilding Day event is Rebuilding Together's signature project and is when a large portion of their 10,000 annual home repairs occur.

"Thousands of volunteers gave their time, talent and resources, to the most needy communities nationwide and thousands of low-and moderate-income homeowners, the elderly, and the disabled, received critical home repairs, upgrades, and modifications to their homes," stated Gary Officer, President and CEO of Rebuilding Together. "Many thanks to our 245 affiliates and our local and national sponsors for their continued support of our work in the housing community."

Rebuilding Together's 245 affiliates work within their local communities to assemble and train volunteers and solicit the funds needed to provide the services and repairs that their low-income and elderly neighbors need and cannot afford.

Many of the issues these families face may remain hidden within their communities. Affiliates of Rebuilding Together identify the families that need help and assistances and bring together teams of skilled and unskilled volunteers, who donate their time, energy and talents to conduct home repair services such as replacing an old or worn out furnace or installing grab bars for an elderly neighbor who has trouble getting in and out of the shower safely. This work is accomplished with the support of thousands of companies, civic and skilled trades groups and faith based organizations that sponsor these projects by donating money, supplies, materials, and volunteers.



Ron Mailoux with his son R. J. Mailoux, Michael Kimball and Kevin Schiavoni helped repairing the front porch, doing some electrical work and replacing the kitchen cabinets of a very lucky family.

Ron Mailoux con su hijo R. J. Mailoux, Michael Kimball y Kevin Schiavoni ayudaron a reparar el portal, cierto trabajo eléctrico y reemplazaron los gabinetes de la cocina de una familia muy dichosa.



Ryan McCarthy and Jay Martinoli were busy repairing the roof of a house. In Haverhill, over 300 volunteers worked on 37 homes.

Ryan McCarthy y Jay Martinoli estuvieron al cargo de reparar el techo de una casa. En Haverhill, más de 300 voluntarios trabajaron en 37 casas.

Groundwork Green Team collaborates with Lawrence youth to teach environmental values and habitat enhancement

Groundwork Lawrence's youth program, the Green Team is made up of seven teens that live in Lawrence and are committed to community service and environmental stewardship.

As part of their service learning project and to recognize International Biodiversity Day, the Green Team along with the Lawrence High School Biodiversity Club and middle school students from the Arlington, Oliver and Leonard schools will be working together to enhance bird habitats on Monday June 4th from 10-2 pm at the following sites:

1. FEMA Site located at Holly and Daisy Sts.
2. Immigrant Place located at Chestnut St.
3. Misserville Park located at Allen St.

At each site, students will be painting and installing different styles of birdhouses and planting "bird friendly" flowers, bushes and trees. Through this work students hope to attract a more diverse group of birds.

The Groundwork Green Team has a strong interest in increasing biodiversity in the City of Lawrence. Because of this, they chose a project that involves the improvement of habitats belonging to the various birds located near the city's rivers. "This project is a great way to support the city's various birds," said Jennifer Pagan member of the Groundwork Green Team. "I feel this project will create a positive image for not only the environment but also for the city itself". This project will help residents serve the community and recognize the importance of the environment. "This is a great way to teach people how to respect and value their environment," says Claudio X Rene, another Green Team member. "If you live in it, you might as well take care of it." According to Green Team member Tammie Lanier, "Many youth don't know how and where to go to start helping their community and this service project is a stepping stone in helping them be more aware of ways to help their community."

THE MERRIMACK VALLEY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE ARE OFFERING THE PROJECT GENESIS HOME BUYER TRAINING SEMINARS IN LOWELL IN SPANISH

The classes will be held at 10 Kirk St., Lowell. The next series will begin on the evenings of June 11, 18, & 25 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Participants must attend all sessions to receive a certificate of completion.

TOPICS INCLUDE

Overview of the Home Buying Process
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Las clases se llevarán a cabo en el #10 de la calle Kirk, Lowell. Las próximas clases comenzarán en junio 11, 18 y 25 de 6:00pm a 9:00pm. Se requiere asistir a las tres clases para recibir el certificado del Proyecto Génesis.

TEMAS INCLUYEN

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YWCA Tribute to Women to Honor 23 Area Women of Achievement



The 24th Anniversary YWCA of Greater Lawrence Tribute to Women luncheon, hosted by Premier Sponsor Philips Medical Systems, and Presenting Sponsor Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, was held Thursday, May 10, 2007 to recognize 23 Merrimack Valley women leaders for their professional achievements and civic contributions.

"The Tribute to Women honorees are from diverse professions but they have much in common," said YWCA Executive Director Rebecca Hall. "Their lives and achievements inspire us and reflect the YWCA's mission of creating opportunities for women's growth and leadership while striving to attain a common vision of peace, justice and freedom for all people."

The annual YWCA fundraiser had as special guest speaker Evelyn Murphy, President and CEO of The WAGE Project, Inc., who offered the keynote address. Senator Susan Tucker of Andover served as Emcee at the luncheon held at the Andover Country Club in Andover.

Since 1983, the Tribute to Women Luncheon has recognized over 500 Merrimack Valley women leaders from large and small companies in the private, public and non-profit sectors. The 2007 honorees are, in alphabetical order:

- **Priscilla Bartle**, Office Manager/Administrative Assistant at the Professional Center for Child Development in Andover, MA.

- **Barbara Brandt-Saret**, Manager of Community Relations/Fundraising at the Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. in Lawrence, MA.
- **Margaret [Peg] Campbell**, Senior Customer Services Manager of Philips Medical Systems in Andover, MA.
- **Yamira Cartagena**, Youth Build Program Manager at the Lawrence Family Development & Education Fund, Inc. in Lawrence, MA
- **Martha Cashins**, Owner/President of Mac Co., LLC dba Home Instead Senior Care in North Andover, MA.
- **Kimberly [Kim] Downer**, RN, CEN, BSN, Manager of Emergency Services, at Lawrence General Hospital in Lawrence, MA.
- **Mary-Alice Doyle**, Deputy First Assistance, at the Essex District Attorney's Office in Peabody, MA.
- **Ann Dwyer**, Chief Labor Relations, at the IRS, Andover Campus in Andover, MA.
- **Dr. Kathleen FitzPatrick**, Professor of Biology at Merrimack College in North Andover, MA.
- **Diane Gatchell**, Director of Pharmacy at the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, Inc. in Lawrence, MA.
- **Lyn Licciardello**, RN, Elder Health Clinical Nurse, at the Home Health VNA in Lawrence, MA.
- **Ana Luna**, Executive Director at Arlington Community Trabajando in Lawrence, MA.
- **Dr. Andrea Magno**, Neonatologist and Director of Special Care Nursery at Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, MA.
- **Gladys Mencia**, Community Banking Manager, at Sovereign Bank in Lawrence, MA.
- **Helène Andersen Michel**, Director of Sales & Business Development at ADTECH Systems, Inc., in Sudbury, MA, and President-Elect of the Andover Rotary Club in Andover, MA.
- **Denise Murray**, Administrative Assistant at the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce in Lawrence, MA.
- **Gisela Ramirez-Nash**, Assistant Director/Title V at Northern Essex Community College in Lawrence, MA.
- **Deedee O'Brien**, Executive Director of Ironstone Farm/Challenge Unlimited in Andover, MA.

Senator Sue Tucker Was Honored



Senator Susan Tucker was honored as Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council's AFL CIO Legislator of the year on Friday, May 11, 2007. She is pictured with LTU/Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council Delegate Michelle Lafay, LTU Vice President Patricia Driscoll, and LTU President Frank McLaughlin.

Federal Aid Programs for Massachusetts Disaster Recovery

Following is a summary of key federal disaster aid programs that can be made available as needed and warranted under President Bush's major disaster declaration for Massachusetts.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH AND AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CAN INCLUDE AS REQUIRED:

- Payment of not less than 75 percent of the eligible costs for repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, bridges, utilities, buildings, schools, recreational areas and similar publicly owned property, as well as certain private non-profit organizations engaged in community service activities. (Source: FEMA funded, state administered.)
- Payment of not less than 75 percent of the eligible costs for removing debris from public areas and for emergency measures taken to save lives and protect property and public health. (Source: FEMA funded, state administered.)
- Payment of not more than 75 percent of the approved costs for hazard mitigation projects undertaken by state and local governments to prevent or reduce long-term risk to life and property from natural or technological disasters. (Source: FEMA funded, state administered.)

HOW TO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE:

- Application procedures for local governments will be explained at a series of federal/state applicant briefings with locations to be announced in the affected area by recovery officials. Approved public repair projects are paid through the state from funding provided by FEMA and other participating federal agencies.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

- **Christina Scully**, Director of Process Technical Services at Wyeth Biotech in Andover, MA.
- **Margaret [Peg] Serley**, Retired Teacher and Executive Director at Family Service, Inc. in Lawrence, MA.
- **Dianne Sforza**, Documentation & Training Manager at Alcatel-Lucent in North Andover, MA.
- **Diane Silva**, Senior Vice President at Enterprise Bank in Lowell, MA.
- **Judith Wise**, CEO of the Girl Scouts of Spar and Spindle Council, Inc. in North Andover, MA.

ACTIVITIES AT THE Haverhill Senior Center

KING TUT

COA presents King Tut Exhibition/ Historic Philadelphia September 16-17, 2007. This Paragon Tour includes Deluxe Doubletree Hotel, Historic Philadelphia Tour, King Tut Exhibition, Dinner and Entertainment. Cost is \$229 for twin or triple and \$299 for single. Spaces are limited and will be reserved upon availability, to avoid disappointment book early. Your deposit of \$50 is due at sign up. Final payment is due on or before July 9th. The King Tut Exhibition will not come to the Boston area, don't miss this opportunity.

DOWNEAST CLAMBAKE

Haverhill COA is planning a trip to Foster Downeast Clambake in York Harbor, Maine. Menu includes New England Clam Chowder, Cultivated Mussels, Maine Clams, Maine Lobster, Corn on the Cob, Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes and Onions, Rolls and Butter, Blueberry Crumb Cake. BBQ chicken may be substituted for lobster. Tickets for this trip are \$48 per person, including motorcoach transportation. Bus will leave Haverhill at approximately 10:00 a.m. and return late afternoon.

YOGA CLASS

Haverhill Recreation Department and COA will hold Yoga class on Tuesday evenings at 6:15 at the Pentucket Bank Community Room, 1 Merrimack Street. Class will focus on needs of the mature worker and will address such issues as stress reduction, improving flexibility, and maintaining overall health. Class will demonstrate a gentle approach to the practice of Yoga with focus on breath and alignment. Yoga instructor Flynn Costello will lead the class. Fee is \$5.00. Students should wear loose clothing and bring a Yoga mat or heavy towel.

AVOID IDENTITY THEFT!!

Haverhill COA and TRIAD have purchased a shredder for City seniors' use. The shredder will be available at the Citizens Center, 10 Welcome Street, Room 30, on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

There is no charge for this service thanks to donations by TRIAD, Essex County Sheriff's Department and the Haverhill Council on Aging.

For additional information call Joel at 978-374-2390 Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00 to 2:30 p.m.

GRANDPARENT STORY HOUR

Haverhill Council on Aging, Haverhill Crossings and Winnekenni Castle will host a Grandparent Story Hour on Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at the Castle, 347 Kenoza Avenue in Haverhill. Grandparents are encouraged to bring their grandchildren to share in the joy of reading and making memories. A small craft project will be completed following the reading. Refreshments will be served. There is no charge for this program.

VOLUNTEER DJ NEEDED

Haverhill Council on Aging is seeking a volunteer disc jockey for the annual 4th of July Celebration to be held at the Crescent Yacht Club on Thursday, June 28, 2007. A disc jockey with 40's and 50's and line dancing music is needed from 12 noon until 2:00 pm.

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.

HAVERHILL NEWS

Mayor Fiorentini Awards Citation to Staś Kmiec

WORLD TRAVELER, PERFORMING ARTIST AND FORMER HAVERHILL RESIDENT

Mayor James J. Fiorentini awarded former Haverhill citizen Staś Kmiec with a citation celebrating his successful career as a performing artist and his positive representation of the City of Haverhill. Mr. Kmiec has had an incredibly successful career as a performing artist and has worked with many of Broadway's finest. As a dancer, Kmiec began his career at a young age teaching Polish dance throughout the City of Haverhill.

His strong commitment to his Polish background and his love of dance served as a starting ground to a very successful and illustrious career. Born and raised in Haverhill, Massachusetts, he began his early training locally at the Elaine McLeod Dance Studio. Locally he staged shows at Haverhill High School, The Hale Hospital Follies, founded The Lublin Polish Song and Dance Ensemble, choreographed for The Newburyport Ballet, and mounted the popular International Celebration performances at Bradford College. As a member of the Haverhill Arts Commission, he was instrumental with the institution of Septemberfest and the Holiday Downtown Stroll.



Staś Kmiec and Mayor James J. Fiorentini

A graduate of Tufts University and the University of Marie Curie-Sklodowska in Lublin Poland, he is a contributing author of Polish Folk Dances and Songs Step-By-Step Guide (Hippocrene Books, 1997), the culture editor of The Polish American Journal. His photographs have been seen in publications throughout New York.

"We are honored to have Mr. Kmiec representing the City of Haverhill throughout the world. We commend his success and look forward to seeing what his

career will bring."

Staś Kmiec is now a New York theater and dance professional, having performed on Broadway with American Dancemachine and Rudolf Nureyev's Don Quixote; The Metropolitan Opera Ballet, and The Boston Ballet. He has choreographed in many styles – musical theater dance, ballet, and folk, notably Off-Broadway, the national tour of Me and My Girl, the Irish premiere of The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, and dance consultant for star Billy Crudup in the film, Trust the Man.

Merrimack Valley Hospital has been recognized as a Community Value Five-Star Hospital by Cleverley + Associates

Merrimack Valley Hospital was recently recognized as a top-ranked Community Value Provider by Cleverley + Associates (Columbus, OH). Cleverley + Associates, a leading healthcare financial consulting firm specializing in operational benchmarking and performance enhancement strategies, released the findings as part of its new publication: State of the Hospital Industry — 2007 Edition.

"This award is a clear, objective indication of the hospital's stability, commitment to the community, and investment in advanced technology and equipment," stated Dr. George Kwass, interim CEO and hospital chief of staff. "This is a tribute to our ability to maintain a cost-effective facility dedicated to community access."

Written by William O. Cleverley, Ph.D., a noted expert in healthcare finance, the State of the Hospital Industry reports selected measures of hospital financial performance and discusses the critical factors that lie behind them. The publication focuses on the US acute-care hospital industry over a three-year time period (2003-2005).

For the fourth year, the 2007 State of the Hospital Industry reports an exclusive measure developed by Cleverley + Associates: the Community Value Index™ (CVI). The CVI is a proprietary index created to offer a measure of the value that a hospital provides to its community. The book outlines the data used to calculate the CVI as well as provides a list of the Top 100 and all Five-Star (top quintile) hospitals.

"The topic of healthcare value is increasingly being discussed. Recent highlights on hospital performance and pricing have driven the dialogue; however, interested parties have been looking for objective information regarding the issues", adds James Cleverley, co-author. "In response, the Community Value Index™ was created to provide an assessment of a hospital's performance in three areas: financial strength and reinvestment, cost of care, and pricing. Fundamentally, the CVI suggests that hospitals that are low cost, low charge, and use financial resources efficiently for reinvestment back into the provision of healthcare are operating with a high degree of community value."

Mayor; Amory Should Go To Firefighters' Credit Union

Mayor James J. Fiorentini today said that it was his recommendation that the armory building on Kenoza Avenue go to the Firefighters' Credit Union. The Mayor said the he recommended rejecting the competing bid from developers to put in a strip mall.

The Mayor said there were a number of reasons for his recommendation among them being that the firefighters had done a great deal of volunteer work on the building, the building is not zoned for commercial use and could not be used for a strip mall.

The Mayor said he would ask the council to authorize him to execute a purchase and sales agreement with the credit union. Further negotiations and concern for the preservation of the building were of the Mayor's two main concerns. Further negotiations will be necessary to pursue the best interests of the City of Haverhill.

"It is my recommendation to the city council that this building be preserved. The best way to preserve is to sell it to the Fire Department Credit Union."

The Mayor continued to say; "After conferring with our economic development and planning director, I do not believe that it would be in the city's best interest to rezone this area for a commercial strip mall. I recommend selling the building only with conditions that would allow for preservation for public use."

The final decision on the distribution of any land lies with the City Council.

Take Control of Rising Gas Prices: Don't Let Your Money Evaporate

By **RICH WHITE**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CAR CARE COUNCIL IN BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Soaring fuel prices have motorists scrambling to find ways to save money by using less gas. Sure, you can simply stop driving as much, but for many consumers, that's not an option. But you can fight skyrocketing gas prices by taking control of your vehicle's unnecessary fuel consumption.

Performing simple and inexpensive vehicle maintenance will not only save gas money, perhaps as much as \$1200 per year, but will also improve a vehicle's safety and dependability.

The Car Care Council offers these gas-savings maintenance and driving tips:

- Check your vehicle gas cap. About 17 percent of the vehicles on the roads have gas caps that are either damaged, loose or are missing altogether, causing 147 million gallons of gas to vaporize every year.
- When tires aren't inflated properly, it's like driving with the parking brake on, and can cost a mile or two per gallon.
- A vehicle can have either four, six or eight spark plugs, which fire as many as three million times each 1,000 miles, resulting in a lot of heat, electrical and chemical erosion. A dirty spark plug causes misfiring, which wastes fuel. Spark plugs need to be replaced regularly.
- An air filter that is clogged with dirt, dust and bugs chokes off the air and creates a "rich" mixture – too much gas being burned for the amount of air, which wastes gas and causes the engine to lose power. Replacing a clogged air filter can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent.
- Keep your car properly tuned. A 21st Century tune-up can improve your gas mileage by an average of four percent. Fixing a serious maintenance problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve your mileage by as much as 40 percent.

These simple vehicle maintenance steps can add up to serious savings. To learn more about how to maintain your vehicle and reduce your fuel expenses, visit www.carcare.org.

GLTS Chooses Two Ninth Graders as Students of the Month

Photos by Barbara Parente

Greater Lawrence Technical School, Andover, has announced its Students of the Month for April, recently honored at a luncheon in the school's restaurant, the Edward V. Coakley Four Winds.

Honorees are Yessica Gonzalez of Methuen and Anthony Diaz of Lawrence. They are the first members of the Class of 1010 chosen for the honor in the 2006-07 school year.

Yessica is a Marketing student who chose to major in that career area because she thought "Marketing can help me with my weak spots." With perfect attendance and an academic average that ranges between 97 and 98, Yessica doesn't have too many weaknesses, but she does have a desire to do well.

Nominated by biology teacher Rebecca Pierce and English teacher Pam Rogers, Yessica "strives to be the very best on each and every assignment," Ms. Pierce said. "She has a great work ethic and terrific manners."

Ms. Rogers noted how Yessica "brings previous knowledge about a lot of subjects into the classroom which adds to the education for everyone." Marketing instructor Michael Faris calls her a "determined and conscientious student."

After school, Yessica goes to a community homework center. She also has taken three years of Karate instruction and would like to learn additional types of martial arts, with Akito or Tai Chi next



Anthony Diaz



Yessica Gonzalez

on her list. Her future goal is to become a business owner or a nutritionist; her immediate goal is to "improve upon my thinking and become a better listener."

Anthony Diaz is a grade 9 student, but he is enrolled in a junior level algebra class where he maintains a 100% average. Nominated by algebra teacher Peter McCarthy, Anthony consistently helps other students in class and Mr. McCarthy says he is "one of the most outstanding students I have had the privilege of teaching."

Influenced by a family member in a

related electronics field, Anthony chose Electrical as his career major. He is a consistent student – Anthony also maintains a 100% average in his career area, and made the honor roll with high honors for his achievement. Electrical instructor Thomas Cronin refers to Anthony as his "most productive and helpful student."

Anthony finds the Electrical program both stimulating and enjoyable. "It is fun – you learn, but in a more relaxing way in shop." Following graduation, Anthony intends to become a licensed electrician.

Luminaria, Entertainment and Volunteers Part of Andover Relay for Life for American Cancer Society

Hundreds of luminaria will light the way for those who walk by night at the Relay for Life in Andover, to take place at Greater Lawrence Technical School June 9 and 10. A walk for The American Cancer Society, Relay For Life is an overnight event that mobilizes communities throughout the nation to celebrate survivors (anyone who has ever been diagnosed with cancer), remember loved ones, and raise money for the fight against cancer.

A busy committee is still seeking volunteers for a variety of tasks, some of which involve only two hours of service. Contact Donna Schiebel at dschi32747@aol.com or Gail Prive at gprive@glts.tec.ma.us to sign up.

There are many opportunities to volunteer, which vary in time and intensity. Volunteers are needed for registration, event setup and takedown, and cleanup. If you can help plan the survivor reception,

solicit a business willing to donate reception food, schedule entertainment, or staff the Relay Store for a few hours, Relay for Life Andover has a job for you.

Relay for Life also could use people of all ages (including children) to set up the luminaria that will line the track at Greater Lawrence Technical School for the overnight walkers. Volunteers can also help by handing out information about the American Cancer Society and the importance of cancer detection. The planning committee has been meeting since April to organize Andover's first Relay for Life.

The walk is scheduled for Saturday, June 9 beginning at 2:00 p.m. and ending at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 10. It will celebrate the lives of hundreds of local residents who have survived cancer, while offering the hope of finding a cure. Teams of eight to 15 members will gather with tents and sleeping bags to join with more than 4,000 communities nationwide that sponsor Relays. Relay For Life brings together friends, families, businesses, hospitals, schools, and churches -- people from all walks of life. Teams seek sponsorship prior to the Relay, all with the goal of eliminating cancer.

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CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA

13

MONTESINO: Baracoa: El verano y el sol que jamás se ponen

nadábamos. Algunas eran venenosas.

Por breves días en medio del verano había ocasiones en que recibíamos la bienvenida visita de un circo errante. No era muy grande; nada parecido al Ringling Brothers, pero poseía payasos y gimnastas que hubieran hecho al "Cirque du Soleil" bostezar de aburrimiento. Uno de mis primos, venturoso muchacho él, se hacía amigo de los "tarugos" del circo para que le dieran un boleto de admisión gratis. Nos divertían los diversos juegos con los que se distraía al público a cambio de unas monedas. Había un juego de ruleta en particular que eventualmente imitamos y usamos después que el circo se alejó del pueblo.

Uno de los asistentes manejaba la ruleta que consistía de cajas numeradas que tenían una puerta al frente y que rodeaban a otra caja más larga en el centro del círculo y que se hallaba atada a una cuerda colgando desde arriba. Dentro de la caja la asistente, usualmente una aburrída joven que probablemente deseaba estar en otro lugar, colocaba un conejo y pedía al curioso público que hicieran apuestas.

Los apostadores colocaban dinero en las cajas numeradas que escogían y esperaban hasta que el conejo se liberara de su escondite. El animal corría de un lado a otro de la ruleta, oliendo aquí y allá, y trataba de escapar el círculo de cajas a través de una de sus puertas haciendo que el número sobre la caja escogida como escape fuera el ganador de una bagatela de premio.

Nosotros imitamos el sistema y creamos una versión que jugábamos entre amigos por cierto tiempo después que el circo se había ido. En lugar de cajas usábamos casillas de ladrillos de construcción y como no teníamos conejos que se prestaran para la ocasión, capturamos un largo cangrejo y pedíamos apuestas de nuestro público juvenil. La imagen de un cangrejo corriendo alrededor del círculo de ladrillos buscando por una salida era risible si no lucrativa.

En uno de los juegos el cangrejo, que no tenía mucho interés en el juego, se nos escapó y se escondió debajo de una casa. Pero no hay dudas que tuvimos un tiempo divertido. Años más tarde, cuando visité Las Vegas y la imagen de nuestra ruleta juvenil me vino a la mente al ver al crupié rotando la rueda de su ruleta me pregunté

si mi experiencia "cangrejera" hubiera sido útil en una aplicación de empleo en el casino. Decidí no averiguar.

En una de las últimas temporadas que pasamos en Baracoa fuimos afectados por un rápido huracán. Jamás había pasado un día tan tormentoso como aquellos cerca de la playa y me impresioné por la fuerza de los vientos que se aproximaban y la ferocidad de las olas cuando chocaban contra la costa. Montar en bicicleta era un desafío. Recuerdo sentarme en mi bicicleta, los pies sobre el manubrio y dejando que el viento me empujara por la espalda. No había necesidad de pedalear; se los juro.

Desafortunadamente de doquiera que fuera empujado por el viento tenía que regresar pedaleando en su contra, y eso no era fácil. En realidad era tan difícil que el viento me empujó hacia una zanja en la cuneta donde golpeé y corté mi pierna derecha, teniendo que regresar a mi casa con una rodilla sangrienta, un ego herido y una bicicleta con ruedas torcidas cargada sobre mis hombros. Hasta hoy tengo la cicatriz de ese día tormentoso en mi pierna. Pero no, cuando usted me vea la próxima vez no tiene que pedirme que se la enseñe. La gente no hace esas cosas.

Fue en Baracoa donde mi interés por escribir ficción enseñó su cabeza creadora por vez primera. Acostumbraba sentarme con seis o siete amigos y primos después del almuerzo para contarles historias de libros yo había leído o películas que había visto, una memoria que todavía ellos disfrutaban hasta hoy día de acuerdo con lo que me dicen.

Lo que nunca les dije en aquella ocasión, y me sentiría muy mal si se los dijera ahora, era que esas historias eran producto de una imaginación fértil, la mía.

Crear un nuevo drama cada día era una tarea nada fácil a mi edad, así que no se commiseren por mí ahora cuando escribo mis puntos de vista. Esa es una de las muchas memorias que todavía tengo y tendré toda mi vida, porque Baracoa fue el verano y el sol que jamás se ponían o se pondrán. Es un recuerdo que fluye de mi pluma de muchas maneras cada vez que escribo. ¿No pueden oler las mojarras? Yo ciertamente las huelo.

Y ese es mi punto de vista este día de comienzo de verano. Disfrute el suyo.

MSPCA-METHUEN & RUMBO COOPERATIVE EDUCATION COLUMN

ADOPT A PET

PAWsitively Interesting Pets Looking for Adoption



CHARLOTTE, DOG - PIT BULL, SPAYED FEMALE

Charlotte is a lovable and quiet girl who loves to snuggle and cuddle. Her previous owners described her as a couch potato and the staff here definitely agrees. This girl does love to play, however, and can often be found in her kennel with a toy in her mouth just waiting for someone to take her outside for a game of fetch. Charlotte isn't doing too much running these days due to a torn ACL (anterior cruciate ligament). She had knee surgery in late-May thanks to the donations

to our Angels for Animals fund to help pay for this surgery. She will need two months of rest after this surgery so our hope is to find her a home by then to make her recovery more comfortable. Please come and meet this dog - she is such a love and deserves all the happiness in the world.

HAZEL, CAT - BROWN TIGER DLH, SPAYED FEMALE

Hazel came to the shelter back in April because there were too many cats in the house where she was living. She gets along with other cats but may do best in a quieter household. This super cute girl is looking for a home that will give her all of the love and affection she could ever need. If you think this 3 year old cutie could be right for you, visit the shelter soon to meet her. My guess is she won't be here for very long.



BUBBA, CAT - CALICO DSH, SPAYED FEMALE

Bubba is a gorgeous 11-year-old calico who came to us because the grandchildren in the household were allergic. We think she has a wonderful personality and would be great for someone with a quieter household where she won't be constantly getting her tail pulled and her whiskers tugged by screaming children. For those of you who are familiar with the "calico personality" I'm sure you can sympathize with poor Bubba. She is an extremely outgoing and affectionate cat and likes to be held and sit on laps. She has been here at the shelter since February and we are desperate to find her a home before "kitten season" sets in. Bubba might be able to live with a mellow dog but would prefer to be the only cat in the household.

NAOMI, CAT - BROWN TIGER DSH, SPAYED FEMALE

Just look at this face. Can you believe she was left behind by her owner? Neither could we! This loving and kind girl was left behind, outside and pregnant, by her owner. She likes spending time inside with people and will come to you when she feeling affectionate. She doesn't love to be picked up and would probably do best with older kids or adults. Naomi was recently spayed and is ready to start her new life - hoping to be treated like the princess she knows she is!



TOOTY, CAT - BLACK & WHITE DSH, SPAYED FEMALE

Hey everyone I'm Tooty! I'm a super great cat who absolutely loves people! I'm very affectionate and social with everyone that I meet. I love to play with toys and just hang out with you. I have lived with another cat and did well with her, and wouldn't mind sharing a home with another feline friend. I have not lived with dogs, but would probably adjust if the dog was used to cats and very calm with them. I was also in need of a dental like many other animals here at the shelter, but a nice family offered to take care of the cost! How great is that!? It's so nice to know that there are truly wonderful, kind people out there that are

willing to help animals like myself. Anyways, I just wanted to thank them personally for their generosity and kindness. Please come visit me here at the shelter, I have no doubt that you will instantly fall in love with me!

CHAMP LOO, PIT BULL/CATTLE DOG MIX, SPAYED FEMALE

Champ Loo is a beautiful and special girl. She is on the shy side and would probably to best in a quieter home as the only pet. She needs to regain some lost confidence but promises to be a loyal and faithful companion. Champ Loo is housebroken and enjoys spending lots of time indoors. She likes to watch TV when alone and play and go for walks with her owner. She needs lots of exercise but will hunker down on the couch after a busy day with her feather pillow and dream of all the fun she's had with her new family.



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 11am to 4pm, Thursdays from 12 noon to 7pm, and Sunday's from 12pm to 3pm by calling (978) 687-7453.

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.

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 - History
 - Science
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 - School Psychologist
 - Speech Pathologists
 - Occupational Therapist
 - Physical Therapists
 - Nursing Coordinator
 - RN's
 - LPN's
 - Teaching Assistants all levels
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 - Counselors Middle and High School

Interested candidates should forward a letter of interest specifying position applied for along with resume and supporting documents to: Human Resource Office, Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative, 480 Broadway, Methuen, MA 01844; fax: 978-689-7466. EOE www.glec.org

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Letters to the Editor

Rumbo
 315 Mt. Vernon Street
 Lawrence, MA 01843
 Email: rumbo@rumbonews.com

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

AVISO

ANDOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY

100 Morton Street
 Andover, MA 01810
 Tel. 978-475-2365 Fax. 978-475-0313

OPORTUNIDAD DE VIVIENDAS PARA ANCIANOS

El Andover Housing Authority está aceptando aplicaciones para la Lista de Espera 667 de Ayuda Estatal de Vivienda para Ancianos. Usted debe tener 60 años o más para calificar como anciano. TODOS LOS ANCIANOS SON ELEGIBLES PARA APLICAR. La renta es basada en un 30% de sus ingresos e incluye todas las utilidades.

Ingreso límite para 1 persona \$41,700

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Actualmente, la lista de espera es de 6 a 9 meses. El límite de bienes ha sido eliminado. Por favor, póngase en contacto con la oficina de la Autoridad de Vivienda de Andover para obtener una aplicación al 978-475-2365.

La Autoridad de Vivienda de Andover es una Agencia de Iguales Oportunidades de Vivienda.

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Francisco A. Ureña, Director
 City of Lawrence Veterans' Services

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Must have a valid US driver's license for one year and be at least 21 years of age. Vinfen provides a generous, comprehensive and highly competitive benefits package. Please fax resume to Human Resources at: 617-441-1858 or visit us online at www.vinfen.org and click on "Careers" and then "Career Opportunities".

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DISTRIBUTION:
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New Hampshire: Salem, Nashua, and Manchester



To have your event listed on this section of Rumbo, please send us an email to (and only to) calendar@rumbonews.com. The email must contain the name, date, time and location of the event. A contact email and phone number is recommended. A brief description of less than 30 words could also be included. If your message is missing any of this information, it will not be posted. Posting of your event is subject to space availability. Rumbo is not responsible for any misprinted information.

CALENDARIO

Lazarus House - Hike for Hope Team Leader Kick Off

Become a Team Leader or Town Captain for the 8th Annual Hike for Hope 1-Mile & 5-Mile Pledge Walk.

Join us on Monday, June 18th at 6:00 p.m. at the Andover Country Club for our 2007 Circle of Hope / Team Leader Kick Off (attendance is free).

To RSVP your attendance, please contact Lana Schofield at 978-269-5206 or Lana@LazarusHouse.org. To learn more about the Hike for Hope and Lazarus House, view our website at www.LazarusHouse.org

The 2007 Hike for Hope is on Sunday, Sept. 30th at Merrimack College in North Andover. It's easy to become a team leader! Recruit your friends, family and coworkers to be a part of your team and Help Bring the Homeless Home. Proceeds from the Hike go to the Lazarus House Transitional Housing Program.

Massachusetts AFL-CIO and Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council to host June 4 candidates' forum for race to succeed Marty Meehan

The Massachusetts AFL-CIO, in conjunction with the Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council, will host a Candidates' Forum on Monday, June 4th at 6:30 p.m. at Lowell High School. The forum will feature candidates seeking to replace U.S. Representative Marty Meehan (5th Congressional District).

The forum will take place in the Little Theatre at Lowell High School, 50 Father Morrisette Blvd., Lowell. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the forum will begin at 7 p.m.

The following candidates have confirmed their participation: City Councilor Eileen Donoghue, Representative James Eldridge, Representative Barry Finegold, Representative James Miceli and Niki Tsongas. All announced candidates were invited.

Robert J. Haynes, President of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, said, "This is a key Congressional position, and the voters of this district are interested in seeing how the candidates compare and contrast on key issues, particularly the issues that concern working families. We are pleased to host this event and hope there will be a great turnout."

Press is invited and encouraged to attend and cover this event, which is open to the public.

For additional information about the forum, please contact Massachusetts AFL-CIO Political Director Bob Bower at (781) 324-8230.

The Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence will host its 28th annual golf tournament on Monday, June 18 at Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover, Massachusetts.

The event raises critically-needed funds for the Club, underwriting programs that provide a safe and nurturing environment along with mentoring, educational, and cultural opportunities to over 4,000 disadvantaged young people from Lawrence and the surrounding communities.

Sponsorships are available, along with golf packages, and morning and afternoon flights are still open. Priority registrations received by Friday, May 25th are eligible to participate in the Early Bird Shootout, in which the

closest golfer to the pin on the specified hole wins a travel voucher towards the destination of his or her choice. For more information, please go to www.lawrencebgc.com/events/golfpackages or call Stephanie at 978-683-2747, ext. 123.

Merrimack Valley YMCA's 2007 Basketball Skills Clinics

Join us for a great basketball skills clinic with outstanding staff and guest lectures from local high school coaches and players. Participants will have fun while they hone their skills, and we incorporate multiple games into each day's activities. Teaching stations stress the skills of dribbling, shooting, individual defense, passing and rebounding. Held indoors at the Methuen YMCA gymnasium and outside on the full court behind the YMCA.

June 18-21, 2007
Girls ages 10 to 12, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

June 25-28, 2007
Boys ages 10 to 12, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

June 25-28, 2007
Junior Clinic - (for Boys & Girls ages 7 to 9), 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Registration forms available on the YMCA website, www.mvymca.org, or by calling the YMCA. Pre-registration is required. The Methuen Branch of the Merrimack Valley is located at 129 Haverhill Street, Methuen. For registration and program information, call Stacha Bomba at 978-683-5266. Cost is \$35 per player, and includes a clinic t-shirt.

Woman's Agenda 2007

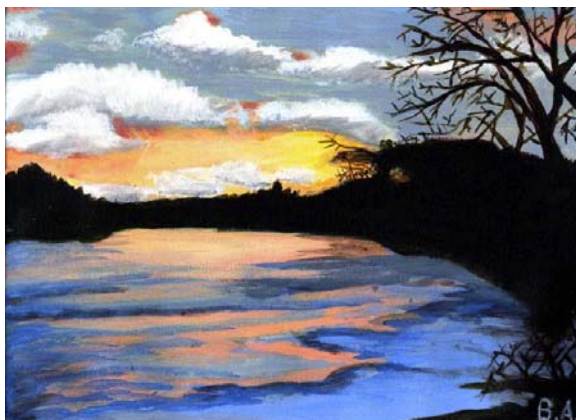
The Ninth Annual Women & Policy Symposium: The Politics of Neighborhood Women
Saturday, June 9th at the Lawrence Senior Center
155 Haverhill Street, Lawrence

To register or for more information contact Lawrence City Councilor Nilka I. Alvarez-Rodriguez
Tel. 978.681.0662
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