



HAVERHILL INAUGURA NUEVO GOBIERNO

James J. Fiorentini tomando el juramento de Alcalde que le administra la Escribana de la Ciudad de Haverhill, Margaret Twoomey. Al centro de la foto también aparece el Presidente del Concilio, Michael J. Hart.

HAVERHILL INAUGURATION

James J. Fiorentini taking the oath of office administered by Haverhill City Clerk Margaret Twoomey. Also pictured Haverhill City Council President Michael J. Hart.

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LOS VETERANOS PROTESTAN EN CONTRA DE STOKES

Barbara Jones, residente del Distrito F en Lawrence, con un cartel pidiendo la renuncia de Stokes a su posición a la cual había sido electo como Miembro del Comité Escolar, alegadamente por falsificar documentos que lo acreditan como veterano. También en la foto aparecen veteranos de los Marines procedentes de Middleton, MA que protestaron afuera de las Oficinas del Departamento Escolar, pidiendo su renuncia. **PÁGINA 3**

VETERANS PROTEST AGAINST STOKES

Barbara Jones, a Lawrence, District F resident, with a sign asking for Stokes' resignation of his elected position as School Committee Member, allegedly for forging documents crediting him as veteran. Also pictured, Marine Veterans from Middleton, MA protesting outside the Offices of the Lawrence School Department calling for his resignation. **PAGE 3**

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VIOLENT FIRE IN AN ABANDONED CHURCH

At 9:30 AM on Monday, January 14, 2008, a fire truck still pours water on the remains of an abandoned church located at 42-44 Park Street, between Bruce and Jackson Streets. The fire started on Sunday around 6:00 PM. **PAGE 9**

VIOLENTO FUEGO EN IGLESIA ABANDONADA

A las 9:30 AM del lunes, 14 de enero, 2008, un camión de bomberos todavía está vertiendo agua sobre las ruinas de una iglesia abandonada situada en el 42-44 de la Calle Park entre la Bruce y Jackson. El fuego comenzó alrededor de las 6:00PM del domingo.

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ANUNCIAN PROYECTO VECINOS EN ACCIÓN

Muy pronto, carteles como este, que devela el Oficial de la Policía Comunitaria de Lawrence Thomas Cuddy, se verán por toda la ciudad.

KICKOFF NEIGHBORS IN ACTION PROJECT

Soon, signs like this, being unveiled by Lawrence Community Police Officer Thomas Cuddy, will be all over the city. **PAGE 27**

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Greater Lawrence Family Health Center

Has Expanded Its Hours!

If you need urgent care on a weekend, the Health Center's Haverhill Street site is now open:

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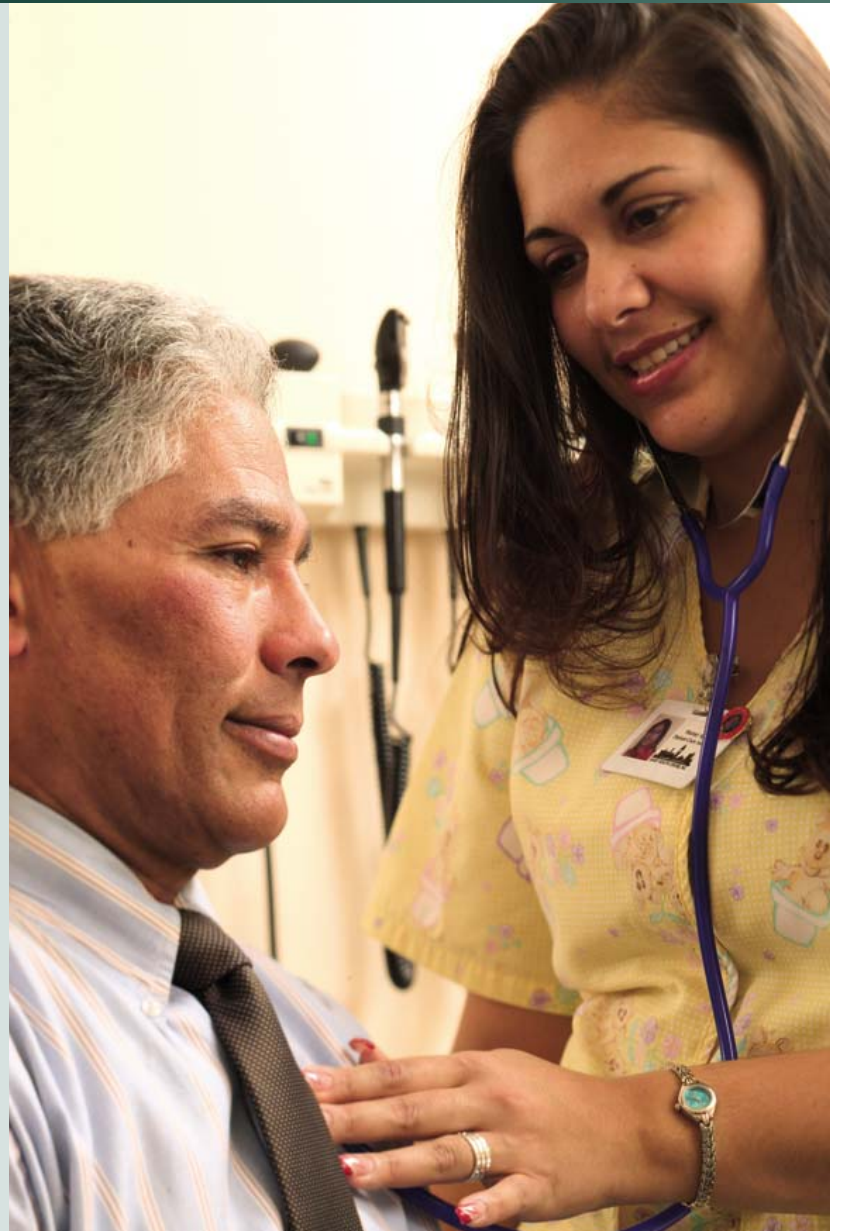
Sunday: 1:00pm–8:30pm

The pharmacy at the Haverhill Street site has also expanded its hours of operation:

Monday–Friday: 9:00am–7:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am–1:00pm

Sunday: Closed



Los veteranos protestan en contra de Stokes

POR ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

El Reverendo James F. Stokes estaba supuesto a asistir a la primera reunión del año del Comité Escolar de Lawrence, el jueves 10 de enero, 2008, de acuerdo con su promesa.

Temprano ese día, volantes comenzaron a circular por la ciudad llamando a los líderes de la ciudad y a los veteranos a venir a la reunión a hablar en contra de Stokes, el cual había sido arrestado por la Policía de Lawrence y miembros del FBI y encausado de cargos en la Corte Federal de Boston, por falsificar documentos y mentir acerca de haber servido en el servicio militar.

Los veteranos estaban terriblemente ofendidos por las mentiras de Stokes de haber servido en el servicio militar por 20 años. De acuerdo con los volantes, Stokes decía que había servido como Capitán en los US Marine Corps. También mintió cuando dijo que era un veterano de Viet-Nam y el de haber ganado medallas de servicio distinguido y hasta había recibido una medalla de Corazón Púrpura. El volante también decía de que un CORI (récord de antecedentes penales) que le había sido aplicado, revelaba que el Sr. Stokes tiene un extenso record criminal y hasta ha estado en la cárcel en Carolina del Norte.

El volante estaba pidiendo la renuncia de Stokes y si él no renunciaba, los veteranos iban a pedir a las autoridades de la ciudad que lo descalificara como miembro del comité. Los veteranos también estaban

Stokes no se presentó a la reunión. De acuerdo con la miembro del Comité Escolar Martina Cruz, él la llamó y le dijo que no vendría. Después de la reunión, el Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan sugirió ante varias cadenas de televisión de Boston que Stokes debía renunciar.

pidiendo que el Sr. Greg Morris, un veterano legítimo, que era el incumbente contra Stokes debía ser devuelto a su cargo en el Comité Escolar de Lawrence.

Stokes no se presentó a la reunión. De acuerdo con la miembro del Comité Escolar Martina Cruz, él la llamó y le dijo que no vendría. Después de la reunión, el Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan sugirió ante varias cadenas de televisión de Boston que Stokes debía renunciar. A la mañana siguiente, el Escribano de la Ciudad de Lawrence recibió, vía fax, la renuncia de Stokes. Un abogado de la ciudad y un oficial de policía de Lawrence le visitaron en su casa para certificar el documento.

Mientras nos preparamos para ir a la imprenta, el Escribano de la Ciudad William Maloney está esperando por una opinión legal del departamento legal de la ciudad sobre la situación con Greg Morris, si se le debe devolver su cargo, o si en efecto se necesita una nueva elección para decidir quien reemplazará a Stokes.

Veterans protest against Stokes

By ALBERTO SURÍS

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Rev. James F. Stokes was supposed to attend the first meeting of the year of the Lawrence School Committee which was held on Thursday, January 10, 2008, as he previously pledged.

Early that day, flyers were circulating around the city calling on veterans and city leaders to come to the meeting and speak out against Stokes, who the day before was arrested by Lawrence Police and FBI Agents, arraigned and charged in federal court in Boston, with falsifying US documents and lying about serving in the military.

Veterans were deeply offended by Stokes fabricating documents about serving in the US Military for twenty years. According to the flyer, Stokes claimed to have served as a Captain in the US Marine Corp. He also lied about being a Vietnam War veteran and having medals of distinguished service and a Purple Heart. The flyer also said that a CORI background check revealed the Mr. Stokes has an

extensive criminal background and has even been in prison in North Carolina.

The flyer was asking for Stokes' resignation and if he didn't resign, veterans were going to ask city election officials to disqualify him as a member of the Committee. Veterans were also asking that Mr. Greg Morris, a legitimate veteran, who ran as incumbent against Stokes to be reinstated on the Lawrence School Committee.

Stokes did not show at the meeting. According to Committeewoman Martina Cruz, he called telling her that he wasn't coming. After the meeting, Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan suggested to Boston television that Stokes should resign. The next morning, Lawrence City Clerk received via fax, Stokes' resignation. It took a city lawyer and a Lawrence Police officer, to get his resignation notarized.

At press time, City Clerk William Maloney is waiting for a legal opinion from the city attorneys regarding the situation with Greg Morris, if he can be reinstated in his position or if in fact, we need a special election to decide who will replace Stokes.

EDITORIAL

Dr. King, nosotros tenemos un sueño también

Fue en el año 1968, cuando el Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. fue asesinado. El impacto que ese hombre creó en el movimiento de los derechos civiles fue tan significativo que nadie pudo imaginarse que en el 2008 la Ciudad de Lawrence necesitaría un líder de su estatura pero si el Dr. King está mirando, debe estar muy desilusionado que sus enseñanzas no dieron resultado aquí.

Casi 39 años después de su muerte, el pueblo de Lawrence es víctima de brutalidad policíaca bien documentada. Seguimos eligiendo a personas que son una vergüenza para la nación poniendo sus intereses personales por delante de los del pueblo que están supuestos a representar. Hay carencia de responsabilidad en el ayuntamiento ya que nadie responde preguntas con respecto a los \$15 millones que se han perdido de la cuenta de "free cash".

Ahora Lawrence ha comenzado el nuevo año en una nota muy negativa, adquiriendo el tipo de publicidad que se encuentra en países del tercer mundo. Cuando no están de acuerdo con el resultado de las elecciones, deciden cancelarlas e imponer el deseo de alguien. En Lawrence, sugirieron eso la semana pasada. ¡Qué atrocidad!

La primera reunión del Comité Escolar fue caótica casi volviéndose un circo con cámaras de televisión de varias estaciones de Boston. Los reporteros se fueron con el sabor amargo que Lawrence tiene lo que merece pero nosotros sabemos más que eso.

Es hora de que hubiésemos alcanzado un poco del progreso del cual el Dr. King soñó en las últimas cuatro décadas. Necesitamos líderes que nos representen, no políticos en tiempo de elecciones solamente. Lawrence necesita ayuda porque nosotros tenemos sueños por completar.

Dr. King, we have a dream, too

It was 1968, the year when Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. The impact that man created in the civil rights movement was so meaningful that no one could imagine that in 2008 the City of Lawrence would need a leader of such stature but if Dr. King is looking down, he must be quite disappointed that his teachings did not take hold here.

Almost 39 years after his death, people in Lawrence are victims of well-documented police brutality. We keep electing individuals who are a discredit to the country putting their personal interests ahead of the people they are supposed to represent. There is lack of accountability at City Hall by not answering questions regarding the \$15 million missing in the "free cash" account.

Now, Lawrence has started the new year on a very negative note, gaining the type of publicity found in third world countries. When they don't agree with elections results, they choose to cancel the outcome and impose someone's will. In Lawrence, it was suggested last week. What a travesty!

The first meeting of the School Committee was chaotic almost turning into a circus with television cameras from several Boston stations. The reporters left with the sour feeling that Lawrence has what it deserves but we know better.

We should have caught up to the progress Dr. King dreamt about in the last four decades. We need leaders to represent us, not politicians at election time only. Lawrence needs help because we have unfulfilled dreams.

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Desde Mi Esquina



BILINGUAL CONTENT

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La historia de Stokes

El viernes pasado, en nuestro programa "CrossOver" Richard Aybar y yo tratamos de distanciarnos del dilema del Rev. James Stokes aclarando que no aprobamos de su acción y yo personalmente dije cuánto detesto a los mentirosos. Tuvimos una discusión muy animada porque las personas que nos llamaron pensaban que lo estábamos defendiendo. Por supuesto que no; estábamos examinando el caso.

Este es un tema que continuará por largo tiempo porque va a ser la regla por la cual se medirá la justicia. No es necesariamente una cuestión de correcto o no sino de los derechos de quiénes fueron violados, si es que la mentira se convirtió en la palanca requerida para deshacerse de él una vez que confesó que de ser elegido al Comité Escolar de Lawrence, él trataría de despedir al Superintendente Escolar Wilfredo Laboy. Si James Stokes no hubiese sido tan franco, probablemente nadie hubiese hecho tanto escándalo sobre la referencia de "Veterano" en la boleta de las Elecciones Preliminares.

El Superintendente Laboy no sabía qué otra cosa hacer para intimidarlo y hacerlo renunciar de su puesto. Lo primero que hizo fue enviarle una carta prohibiéndole entrada a las escuelas. Laboy siempre se olvida que él trabaja para el comité escolar

y él no es quien da las órdenes. También, que Stokes no está acusado de ser un predador sexual de niños para ser excluido de las escuelas. Aún cuando Jim sabía que el superintendente estaba errado, la presión resultó demasiado e hizo lo único que a estas alturas podía hacer y renunció.

Pero no tiene que finalizar ahí. Laboy tendrá de nuevo el Equipo de sus Sueños con sus Cuños de Aprobación pero nosotros llegamos a conocerlo mucho mejor esta vez. Sabemos que no se detendrá ante nada.

Este asunto continuará siendo discutido porque merece ser analizado. ¿Fueron los votantes engañados para que votaran por él creyendo que estaban votando por un veterano? No lo creo. El Rev. James Stokes ha estado activo en la política local por muchos años. La gente ha llegado a conocerlo y todos hemos escuchado los rumores de si él miente o no sobre su estatus de veterano, particularmente cuando estaba postulado para el concilio contra Marie Gosselin.

El era una figura central en las Navidades trabajando con los Marines y los Boy Scouts, distribuyendo juguetes a través del Valle de Merrimack a familias pobres. Las asociaciones de vecinos pueden verificar eso. El trabajó fervientemente por la restauración del Veterans Memorial Stadium. Su nombre está grabado

como Secretario de la Comisión de la Restauración del Estadio en la placa de bronce que se encuentra en la pared del Lawrence Veterans Memorial Stadium. Cualquier persona interesada puede pasar por allí y verlo. La gente lo utilizó cuando lo necesitaron.

Por lo tanto, cuando fueron a los colegios electorales en noviembre, ellos sabían muy bien quien Stokes era. El estatus de veterano en letras muy pequeñas que aparecía en la boleta de las Elecciones Preliminares en setiembre no tuvo efecto ninguno en su selección. Ellos estaban votando también en contra de Gregory Morris. El pueblo está cansado de la forma en que el departamento escolar está funcionando y quiere ver un cambio.

Tenemos un concejal en estos momentos acusado de haber sido arrestado de manejar borracho y nuestro propio alcalde perdió su licencia de chofer por tres meses por la misma razón mientras era concejal en esta ciudad y nadie hizo comentario alguno cuando el potencial de haber matado a alguien era muy posible. ¿Por qué este furor ahora? ¡Es pura política!

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En el asunto de Stokes Esto es Política de Grandes Ligas

Por BÁRBARA GONZÁLEZ
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La razón por la cual yo he escrito y re escrito esta columna es porque el problema a discutirse comenzó y terminó dentro del término de cinco días. Un día al miembro del comité escolar James Stokes lo arrestan y unos días después él renuncia al mismo cargo que lo eligieron. Fue como el juego de ahora me ves, ahora ya no. Y aunque había muchas personas en esta comunidad que no lo querían ver, para las que sí, los dejaron colgando.

Por muchos años la Ciudad de Lawrence ha tenido sus momentos de problemas con sus oficiales públicos. Nosotros hemos visto de todo frente a nuestros ojos por parte de todos los grupos políticos aquí. Pero nunca se había podido ver ni experimentar a primera vista el comportamiento de algunos individuos profesionales y de alto rango político como se vieron durante el problema del Sr. Stokes.

El Sr. Stokes nos mintió a todos nosotros. El firmó un documento años atrás el cual le permitió ser, en papel, alguien que él quería ser pero no podía, ser un veterano. Durante todos estos años él jugó el papel de veterano en diversas paradas, actividades sociales y hasta colectó juguetes para niños necesitados. Todo era dulce.

No fue hasta cuando al Sr. Stokes se le ocurre la idea de correr en contra de Marie Gosselin unos años atrás que todo comienza a calentarse en el sur de la

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Anuncian Proyecto Vecinos en Acción

+FOTOS: Más fotos en la Página 27

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 27 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

El martes, 8 de enero, en las oficinas de L/MCC localizadas en el 112, de la Calle East Haverhill, en Lawrence, los Capitanes de Cuadra de Neighbors in Action Project (Proyecto Vecinos en Acción) se unieron al Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan y al Jefe de Policía de Lawrence, Chief John J. Romero para hacer el anuncio oficial del comienzo de Neighbors in Action Block Watch Project (Proyecto de vigilancia de Vecinos en Acción).

Durante el pasado año, el Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition trabajó muy de cerca con el Departamento de Policía de Lawrence en un detallado plan para atraer a residentes de la comunidad interesados en mantener la seguridad en el vecindario.

Los residentes se han unido a los miembros de LMCC, representantes de los vecindarios y a la policía de Lawrence para elevar la conciencia popular acerca del programa a través de la radio, coordinando caminatas por los vecindarios con líderes de la ciudad y jefes de departamentos y facilitar una serie de entrenamientos para



El Jefe de Policía de Lawrence, John J. Romero agradece la placa que le fue entregada por Nelson González.

Lawrence Police Chief John J. Romero thanks Nelson Gonzalez for his award.

los residentes del área, de cómo reportar actividades sospechosas.

Ahora, con la colocación de la primera placa de Neighbors in Action Block Watch, los Capitanes de cuadra que han atravesado las cuatro horas de entrenamiento podrán reportar actividades sospechosas a la policía de Lawrence a través de una línea especial (Block Watch Hotline). El Programa de



Dalma Morales y Juan Vera también conocido como Capitán América, junto al pasacalles colocado frente a L/MCC.

Dalma Morales and Juan Vera also known as Captain America pictured by a Neighbors in Action banner in front of L/MCC.

Vecinos en Acción se inició a solicitud de los líderes de las asociaciones de vecindario con el objeto de iniciar de nuevo el antiguo Massachusetts Crimewatch Program, eliminado por el pasado Gobernador Mitt Romney durante su gestión.

El Programa de Vecinos en Acción recibe fondos locales a través del Lawrence Community Development Block Grant

y la Clippership Foundation. El Greater Lawrence Community Action Council sirve de agente fiscal de L/MCC. Se están planeando entrenamientos adicionales para Capitán de Cuadra.

Cualquier residente interesado en el programa debe ponerse en contacto con Harold Magoon, director de LMCC, al 978-975-8793.



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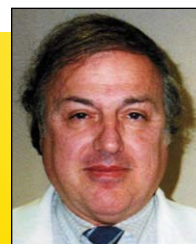


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Próxima Exhibición de Carros de Cosecha Borincana

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 18 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS

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Los miembros de Cosecha Borincana, Sara Iris Saldaña, Roberto Rivera y Domingo Meléndez se reunieron con el Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan el jueves, 10 de enero, 2008, para informarle acerca de la próxima exhibición de autos planeada para el verano.

Domingo Meléndez, presidente de Cosecha Borincana, quiso mantener informado al alcalde acerca de los problemas relacionados a la exhibición de autos, los cuales retornaron a Lawrence después de 9 años de ausencia.

A propósito del costo de la protección policíaca, Meléndez dijo que eso no sería un problema para ellos, ya que la exhibición genera suficiente dinero para pagarla. “Este año estamos trabajando con una compañía empresarial que está dispuesta a compartir sus ganancias”, dijo Meléndez. Y hablando de quien pagaría por la protección policíaca de los festivales, el Alcalde Sullivan aseguró al grupo que si el Concilio aprueba el incremento de la tasa de impuestos, tal y

como fueron presentadas a ellos, la ciudad podrá pagar por ellos. “Yo no quiero herir la economía de la ciudad, pero si no son aprobadas y tenemos que cesantear a bomberos y policías, desde luego que vamos a cortar ese gasto y ahorrar más de \$100,000.00”, dijo el Alcalde.

La manera en que los organizadores del evento recaudan dinero es cobrando una tarifa por participar y un cargo adicional por cada categoría en la que quieran participar. “Las tarifas son, \$20 a \$25 a cada auto solo por participar y \$10 por cada categoría en la que quieran entrar, tales como pintura, sonido, etc.”, dijo Rivera.

El año pasado, la exhibición se llevó a cabo en el Pemberton Park, bajo negras nubes amenazadoras de lluvia, con 198 participantes apurados por terminar. Considerando que hay una gran cantidad invertida en los autos, con algunos dueños invirtiendo hasta \$25,000 en su conversión, este año, los organizadores de la exhibición de autos quieren llevar a cabo la exposición bajo techo y quieren utilizar el centro de Transportación Buckley para ese propósito.

El Alcalde Sullivan no ve un problema con usar el garaje localizado en la esquina de las calles Common y Amesbury, ya que, de acuerdo con los organizadores, el evento se llevará a cabo un sábado. “Podemos cerrar cualquiera de los pisos que ustedes necesiten y negociar cualquier arreglo con



Los miembros de Cosecha Borincana Sara Iris Saldaña, Roberto Rivera y Domingo Meléndez, durante su entrevista con el Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan.

los inquilinos”, dijo Sullivan agregando, “y pueden contar con un trofeo de 3 pies de alto - el Trofeo del Alcalde para el ganador”.

Este año será el 10mo aniversario de la exhibición de carros y los organizadores están contando con muchos más carros y consecuentemente, con una mayor audiencia que vendrá de sitios como Connecticut, New York, y de tan lejos como California. “Esta gente está planeando quedarse aquí por 2 ó 3 días, gastando dinero comiendo en nuestros restaurantes y permaneciendo en los hoteles de los alrededores”, dijo Meléndez.

El Alcalde Sullivan aprovechó la oportunidad para promover el Hotel Holiday Inn, localizado en la Ruta 114 en la intersección con la I 495 en Lawrence. “Ellos están ofreciendo una tarifa especial para grupos y festivales. Sólo tienen que llamar a Jessica, la administradora de ventas y decirle que yo te mando”.

Esta semana, los organizadores del evento darán una gira por el garaje Buckley con el objeto de encontrar el mejor sitio en el edificio y especialmente si hay suficiente claridad en el edificio para llevar a cabo el evento.

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Obispo de la Diócesis de la Iglesia Episcopal visita a Lawrence

POR BEATRIZ PÉREZ
BPerez@RUMBONEWS.COM

Al buscar una definición sobre la Iglesia Episcopal en los Estados Unidos de América o la Iglesia Episcopal Protestante de los Estados Unidos de América, hemos de encontrar que esta es la iglesia nacional estadounidense de la Comunión Anglicana y que comprende 108 diócesis dentro de los Estados Unidos, las Islas Vírgenes americanas, Haití, Taiwán, Colombia, República Dominicana, Ecuador, Honduras, Puerto Rico y Venezuela, entre otras naciones; la que además es considerada como una iglesia católica.

La unidad básica de gobierno de la Iglesia Episcopal es la diócesis, liderado por el obispo. Otros líderes ordenados son los sacerdotes (o presbíteros) y los diáconos. Hay que destacar que los laicos participan plenamente de la vida y el gobierno de la Iglesia.

Actualmente la Diócesis Episcopal de Massachusetts la encabeza la obispo Gayle Harris quien el pasado domingo estuvo de visita en esta ciudad para participar en la misa de la Epifanía en la Iglesia Episcopal de Gracia.

Durante el servicio religioso de ese día ofrecido en inglés y en español fue dramatizada la historia de los Tres Reyes

Magos.

Terminada la misa la Obispo participó de un almuerzo en el auditorio de la iglesia donde compartió con los presentes y les habló sobre la labor que viene realizando la Iglesia Episcopal y su trayectoria alrededor del mundo.

La Obispo estuvo contestando preguntas de los fieles relacionadas con la iglesia que dirige.

Cabe destacar que en la Iglesia Anglicana o Iglesia Episcopal sus miembros son cristianos y creen que ésta es una verdadera rama de la Iglesia Católica de Cristo y están organizados jerárquicamente como la Iglesia Católica, con obispos, pero separados del Papa.

Otra característica de la Iglesia Anglicana es mantener que las Sagradas Escrituras son la única autoridad de la fe, en el sentido de que éstas contienen todo lo necesario para la salvación, y que nada que no esté contenido en ellas puede requerirse como artículo de fe.

Igualmente de la misma manera que la iglesia católica romana y la ortodoxa la episcopal cuenta con monjas y monjes, lo que las hace tan similares.

De acuerdo a Gayle Harris la diferencia



El Reverendo Ennis Duffis, la Obispo Reverenda Gayle Elizabeth Harris y el Reverendo Joel Almonó, minutos después de haber concluido el servicio religioso del pasado domingo en la Iglesia Episcopal de Gracia.

más relevante es que en esta iglesia la mujer juega un papel importante ya que ella tiene decisión y voto en la misma, pudiendo convertirse hasta en obispos.

“Somos más democráticos, creemos en

la igualdad de géneros y que todos tienen voz y voto”, destaca la religiosa.

Tampoco existe un Vaticano, regido por un Papa.

Los sacerdotes tienen la libertad de contraer matrimonio.

Ella actualmente está divorciada, lo que representa una gran tristeza, pero dice no estar cerrada a una nueva relación.

Aunque no tiene hijos biológicos se siente ser madre a través de sus hijastros: dos hembras y un varón, quienes la han convertido en abuela de dos niños.

Harris es la máxima representación de la iglesia episcopal de Massachusetts, donde actualmente funcionan 192 iglesias.

Para ella el ser obispo es de suma importancia no solo porque es un indicio de que Dios creó a la mujer con los mismos derechos, sino porque puede ser un modelo para las jóvenes que pueden verla como un ejemplo dentro de la sociedad, con poder y voz que las hace seres valiosos y extraordinarios.

“No por estar casada o tener un hombre a su lado la mujer tiene valor, sino que por el mismo hecho de ser mujer, lo tiene”, dijo la Obispo.

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Violento fuego en iglesia abandonada



Violent fire in an abandoned church

By ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

A vacant church located at 42-44 Park Street, Lawrence, went on fire around 6:00PM Sunday, January 13, 2008. The fire is under investigation.

No utilities were connected to the abandoned building, and according to Fire Chief Peter Takvorian was not until 20 minutes into the fire that they were able to douse the fire. "When I saw the fire, I knew that we could not save the structure and the lack of water pressure didn't help."

Takvorian also explained that thanks to two fire apparatus, one from Salem, NH and another from North Andover, were they able to bring water from as far as 800 to 1,000 feet away from the fire. Besides those two, apparatus from Andover, Haverhill, Lowell and Methuen came to help our firefighters.

"Flying embers ignited two roof tops in the surrounding buildings which we were able to suffocate. Fortunately there were not loss of life although one of our men received a knee injury, not life threatening, which is being checked as we speak", said Takvorian.

Por ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

Una iglesia vacante localizada en el 42-44 de la Calle Park en Lawrence, se incendió alrededor de las 6:00PM del domingo, 13 de enero, 2008. El fuego está siendo investigado.

El edificio no estaba conectado a ningún servicio, tal como gas, electricidad o teléfono y de acuerdo con el Chief Peter

Takvorian no fue sino hasta 20 minutos después de haber comenzado el fuego que pudieron rociarlo con agua. "Cuando yo vi el fuego comprendí que no podríamos salvar el edificio pero la falta de presión en el agua no nos ayudó".

Takvorian explicó que gracias a dos camiones bombas, una de Salem, NH y la otra de North Andover, ellos fueron capaces de traer agua de una distancia de 800 a 1,000 pies del incendio. Además de esos dos, aparatos de Andover, Haverhill,

Lowell, y Methuen vinieron en ayuda de nuestros bomberos.

"Ascuas que volaban prendieron pequeños fuegos en dos de los techos vecinos, que por suerte pudimos sofocar. Afortunadamente no hubo pérdida de vida aunque uno de nuestros hombres sufrió una lesión en una rodilla, sin peligro de muerte, el cual está en el hospital siendo examinado en estos momentos", dijo Takvorian.

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Complacencia en lo cercano

POR ARTURO RAMO GARCÍA
ARAMO@ADIGITAL.PNTIC.MEC.ES

El poeta latino Publio Ovidio Nasón (43 a.C. - 17 d.C.) decía: "Veo lo mejor y lo apruebo, pero sigo lo peor". Es la manifestación de la debilidad humana. Una cosa es tener claro lo que hay que hacer y otra distinta aplicarnos seriamente en su realización. San Josemaría dice en Camino: "¿Quieres de verdad ser santo? -Cumple el pequeño deber de cada momento: haz lo que debes y está en lo que haces". (Camino n.815). La voluntad significa la capacidad para hacer, para trabajar en aquello que se ha elegido como bueno, porque sus resultados serán positivos.

Uno de los mayores obstáculos en el fortalecimiento de la voluntad es buscar el éxito o el placer inmediato. Entonces el hombre es zarandeado y tiranizado por el instante más cercano y que más le apetece. Por este camino la persona no llega a vencerse y con frecuencia llega a la frustración porque no consigue lo que le pide el momento inmediato. Si no aprende a decir NO al deseo inmediato terminará entrando por el camino más fácil: el de la complacencia de lo cercano.

Pero observamos que la publicidad puede hacer un gran daño en la educación

de la voluntad estimulando precisamente el deseo de lo inmediato y creando necesidades cercanas de cosas que no satisfacen el ansia de felicidad del hombre.

Otro factor negativo es que estamos en una época confusa respecto a temas importantes. Por ejemplo se confunde el amor con el sexo, cuando son dos realidades distintas. El sexo es una condición orgánica que distingue en una misma especie dos tipos de individuos, masculino y femenino, entre los cuales tiene lugar un cambio de material genético. El amor, además de la atracción física, designa la unión de intereses, pensamientos y actos en torno a la persona amada y las manifestaciones de afecto y estimación recíproca que constituyen la base fundamental de los sentimientos de amistad, fraternidad y solidaridad. El amor cuando es auténtico implica gozos y renunciaciones, alegrías y sacrificios por el bien de la persona amada.

Estos errores crean un tipo de hombre que, aunque disponga de éxito profesional, su vida privada está rota, descompuesta, sin ejes de sujeción firmes.

Landscapes Essex Art Center presenta exposición de pinturas



Carmelo Polanco, Nancy Grice y John Mulcahy pintores que participan en la colectiva "Landscapes" en el Centro de Arte.

Con el título "Paisajes" los artistas plásticos Nancy Grice, John Mulcahy y Carmelo Polanco iniciaron el pasado viernes una exposición pictórica en el Centro de Artes de esta ciudad de Lawrence.

POR BEATRIZ PÉREZ
BPerez@RUMBONEWS.COM

La exposición que como su nombre lo indica consta de pinturas de diferentes paisajes estará abierta al público hasta el 28 de febrero.

Cada uno de los pintores plasmó en el lienzo hermosos escenarios de la naturaleza, utilizando llamativos colores y variadas técnicas, que van desde la acuarela hasta el óleo.

Durante la ceremonia de inauguración que fue llevada a cabo en la galería principal del Centro de Arte los artistas compartieron con los asistentes, muchos de ellos curiosos por conocer la historia de cada uno de los cuadros expuestos.

En "Landscapes" se puede apreciar una variedad de pinturas que van desde un ocaso, el verde intenso de los árboles, hasta la imponente presencia de edificios históricos de la Ciudad de Lawrence.

Para cada uno de estos artistas del pincel y los colores, el poder captar en la tela la belleza y enigma que encierran los paisajes, es una manera de rendir homenaje a la madre naturaleza.

Las pinturas de esta exposición han sido

realizadas en acrílicos, tomando en cuenta la importancia de utilizar adecuadamente los colores, la textura y la superficie.

El Paisaje es la representación pictórica de un espacio natural. Nació con la pintura gótica, pero fue en sus orígenes un género dependiente, que servía de fondo a composiciones de otra temática para complementarlas o añadirle sensación de profundidad. Su enfoque puede adoptar un tratamiento realista, como en el caso de las vistas de Venecia que pintaron Guardi, o Canaletto, o deformado por la propia visión de la realidad, como ocurre con los paisajes de Van Gogh o de Cézanne.

Localizado en el 60 de la calle Island el Essex Art Center es una organización sin fines de lucro, que tiene como misión inspirar y nutrir el diverso potencial artístico de la comunidad del Greater Lawrence a través de la exploración en los salones de clases y exposiciones en las galerías, logrando que la creación y el disfrute del arte sea accesible para todos.

Esta entidad fortalece las artes, sirviendo a jóvenes y a adultos del Valle del Merrimack. Además ofrece programas después de clases a niños entre 6-16 años de edad, donde participan aproximadamente cada año 1,200 niños.

De igual modo el Essex Art Center provee clases para pre-escolares en el día y clases para adultos, visitas interactivas a la galería, talleres, programas especiales para grupos de servicios sociales y escuelas alternativas y campamentos durante las vacaciones.



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Por/By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA
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Mi Punto de Vista

La semilla sembrada por un hombre llamado Martín

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.

El cuatro de abril de 1968, casi cuarenta años atrás, el Dr. Martin Luther King fue asesinado. Este mes, en enero 15 del 1929 había nacido en Atlanta, Georgia, y la nación que fue testigo de su larga dedicación y ardua senda al martirio que se ha convertido en su huella en esta tierra se detiene por unas horas para encender una vela en la tercera semana del mes y recordarlo con respeto.

No creo que sea capaz o siquiera autorizado para escribir sobre la vida de este hombre y reflexionar sobre la dimensión verdadera de su vida. Pero eso está bien. Otros han hecho lo mismo con más prosa y sabor que yo, tal vez con más derecho también. Pero yo creo que puedo compartir un pensamiento o dos con mis lectores sobre una vida que se ha convertido en un faro de esperanza para la raza humana, una luz que fue extinguida por una mano criminal que representaba lo peor en todos nosotros, pero un faro que sigue brillando hoy día.

Es fácil reflexionar sobre su vida y perder el significado verdadero de lo que hizo. Uno recuerda las caras cansadas y enojadas de aquellos que marchaban con él y podemos llegar a la conclusión errónea de que lo que hacía era luchar por una causa negra solamente. No me entiendan mal, su objetivo inmediato fue mejorar las

condiciones de vida de sus raíces y su raza, pero ese tren no se suponía que parara en esa estación. Su objetivo fue liberarnos a todos nosotros. No me importa si nuestra piel es blanca o carmelita; si sufrimos una injusticia él murió por nosotros.

Este mes, mientras nos sentábamos y observábamos las controversias que rodean al proceso de nuestra primaria electoral contemplamos una nación, los Estados Unidos del siglo 21, que toma forma en frente de nosotros y no tenemos otro recurso que no sea maravillarnos de la visión que sostuvo al doctor King en su camino a la eternidad. Ahora sabemos que mantenía esa esperanza: "Yo tengo un sueño," dijo en Washington en agosto 28 de 1963, "que mis cuatro hijos pequeños algún día vivirán en una nación donde no serán juzgados por el color de su piel sino por el contenido de su carácter." Por primera vez en nuestra historia vemos a un afroamericano y a una mujer compitiendo por la posición más elevada de nuestra nación y creemos que es posible que puedan ganar.

Desde luego, todavía existen algunos que odian y se revuelcan en el lodo del prejuicio porque no tienen otra forma de expresar sus creencias débiles y confunden la tradición con la inacción. Pero esas arenas de ignorancia y falta de entendimiento están siendo eliminadas por un tsunami oceánico de fe en el futuro de los Estados Unidos. Y hay muchos otros que están ansiosos por alzar sus ojos y ver el tope de la montaña que se convirtió en la única revelación en aquel

momento para el Dr. King. No sabemos cuales son los detalles de la dirección en que esta nueva esperanza nos va a dirigir. No podemos definir el final del camino en términos de personalidades, en realidad es irrelevante, pero estamos absolutamente seguros de que este nuevo paradigma es la cosecha de una semilla plantada por un hombre llamado Martin que no temía morir por sus sueños. La muerte, después de todo, nos afecta a todos más tarde o más temprano; la inmortalidad solo a unos pocos.

Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy.

CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA
4

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Durante el programa de la semana pasada, Bárbara González mencionó un concejal que dijo durante su campaña que era "residente de por vida de Lawrence" (lifelong resident) cuando en realidad él nació en la República Dominicana.

Recibimos varias llamadas durante la semana de personas buscando una aclaración. Llamé al Concejal at-Large Frank Moran con esa pregunta porque tengo algunas de sus tarjetas con esa frase y me dijo que él nació en la República Dominicana. Pienso que es cuestión de un malentendido de lo que lifelong significa para diferentes personas.

Yasmín Escoto, la portavoz de Laboy

La semana pasada yo di la noticia de una pelea entre dos entrenadores en la escuela secundaria y el periódico local trató por todos los medios de conseguir más información logrando solamente "Sin comentario" por parte de los entrenadores y la secretaria del Superintendente Laboy le dijo al reportero que él no puede hacer comentarios sobre asuntos de personal.

El Canal 7 tuvo mejor suerte porque su reportero contactó a Yasmín Escoto y ella le dijo que Paul Neal estuvo profundamente emocionado cuando se disculpó ante los estudiantes al día siguiente del incidente.

Yo recuerdo que unos años atrás Laboy les dijo a todos en el departamento escolar que nadie estaba autorizado para hablar a ningún miembro de la prensa. Parece que ella es la portavoz de Laboy.

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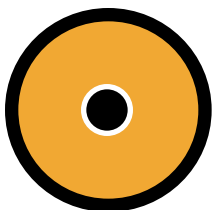
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IRS Recomienda E-File con Cambios a Leyes de Impuestos

Con los paquetes de impuestos empezando a llegar a en el correo esta semana, el Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS) recuerda fijarse en cambios tardíos a las leyes de impuestos que pudieran afectar sus declaraciones.

El IRS está enviando este mes 16.5 millones de paquetes 1040 a los contribuyentes que en el pasado declararon en papel. El número de estos paquetes ha declinado rápidamente en años recientes, siendo 34 millones menos en tan solo cuatro años. Los paquetes en papel son mucho menos comunes según surge la popularidad de la declaración electrónica.

“El año pasado, el 57 por ciento de todas las declaraciones de impuestos usaron ‘e-file’, el método mas rápido, seguro y preciso que está disponible para el proceso”,

dijo portavoz del IRS Sara Eguren. “Y este año, declarar electrónicamente será lo más sencillo y efectivo especialmente para aquellos afectados por los cambios de AMT”, añadió.

Este año, los paquetes 1040 enviados por correo a los contribuyentes no incluirán ciertas otras formas debido a los cambios tardíos a las leyes de impuestos relacionados con el “patch” del impuesto mínimo alternativo (AMT). Estas están disponibles en versión actualizada en IRS.gov. Los contribuyentes que utilizan e-file deben cerciorarse de poner al día su software de impuestos antes de declarar.

Los cambios al AMT también significan que hasta 13.5 millones de contribuyentes que usan cinco formas relacionadas con la legislación del Impuesto Mínimo

El IRS también ha aumentado las alertas emitidas acerca de estafas por e-mail, conocidas comúnmente como estafas de “phishing” por pescar información, que alegan de manera engañosa proceder del IRS. Como regla, el IRS no envía e-mails que no han sido solicitados.

Alternativo (AMT) tendrán que esperar para declarar hasta que el IRS complete la reprogramación de sus sistemas para la nueva ley hasta el 11 de febrero, pero el efecto de este retraso podrá ser minimizado pues en temporadas pasadas solamente entre 3 y 4 millones de contribuyentes presentaron declaraciones con las formas afectadas durante estas semanas tempranas en la temporada.

El retraso de febrero causado por el “patch” del AMT afectará a contribuyentes que usen estas cinco formas:

- Forma 8863, Créditos de Educación.
- Forma 5695, Créditos Residenciales de Energía.
- El Anexo 2 de la Forma 1040^a, Gastos del Cuidado de Niños y Dependientes para quienes presentan la Forma 1040^a.
- Forma 8396, Crédito del

Interés Hipotecario.

- Forma 8859, Crédito de Nuevo Dueño de Casa en el Distrito de Columbia.

El IRS ha trazado como meta potencial el 11 de febrero para que se empiecen a presentar las cinco formas, permitiendo tiempo para poner al día y probar sus sistemas sin interrumpir operaciones. Las declaraciones electrónicas relacionadas a esas cinco formas no serán aceptadas hasta entonces y quienes declaren en papel también deberían esperar. El resto de declaraciones electrónicas y aquellas en papel serán aceptadas a partir de enero.

El IRS urge a los contribuyentes afectados a que declaren electrónicamente usando “e-file” para reducir el tiempo de espera de sus reembolsos. El e-file con depósito directo otorga reembolsos en un plazo tan corto como 10 días, mientras que las declaraciones hechas en papel toman de cuatro a seis semanas. Los contribuyentes pueden declarar electrónicamente a través de un preparador, con software comercial comprado o a través del Free File del IRS, si tuvieron ingresos de \$54.000 o menos.

“La gran mayoría de contribuyentes no se verán afectados por los cambios en la ley, así que se recomienda empezar temprano y aprovechar todas las muchas ventajas tributarias a disponibles que tan a menudo se ignoran”, dijo Eguren. “El IRS por su parte está haciendo lo posible por hacer de esta temporada tan serena como sea posible para todos”, concluyó.

Los contribuyentes también deben de estar enterados de créditos tributarios importantes como el Crédito Tributario por Ingreso del Trabajo (EITC), el Crédito por Ahorros y el Crédito Tributario por Niños. Existen límites de ingresos para los tres, pero créditos como estos pueden reducir de manera significativa la deuda en impuestos o aumentar los reembolsos.

El sitio de Internet del IRS, www.irs.gov, es una fuente de información disponible las 24 horas. Los contribuyentes pueden dirigirse a 1040 Central en IRS.gov para encontrar las noticias de impuestos más recientes, información acerca de los cambios a las leyes tributarias, publicaciones e información actualizada acerca de créditos tributarios muy valiosos.

El IRS también ha aumentado las alertas emitidas acerca de estafas por e-mail, conocidas comúnmente como estafas de “phishing” por pescar información, que alegan de manera engañosa proceder del IRS. Como regla, el IRS no envía e-mails que no han sido solicitados. Quienes reciben un e-mail no solicitado alegando venir del IRS pueden remitirlo a phishing@irs.gov usando las instrucciones disponibles en IRS.gov.

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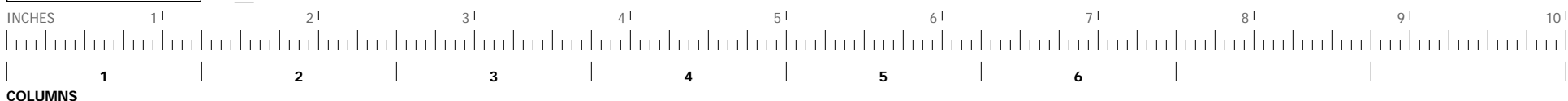
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DECIDIÉNDOSE POR *Adopción*

¡Hola! Mi nombre es Chynna

"A mi me encanta cantar. Yo quiero aprender más de la cultura latina"

BY MILTON L. ORTIZ
1-800-882-1176



Chynna es una latina de doce años muy sociable. A ella le gusta jugar en la computadora, hacer artes y manualidades,

cantar, arreglarse el pelo y maquillarse. El verano pasado, Chynna se divirtió mucho en el campamento y le gustaría volver el próximo verano. Como hermana mayor, a ella le gusta estar con sus hermanos, pero no los ve tan frecuentemente como quisiera. A ella le gustaría aumentar los contactos con ellos.

Chynna es una jovencita inteligente que puede responder bien académicamente, pero como pre-adolescente, su vida social interfiere en sus habilidades intelectuales. Ella responderá mejor con padres que se involucren con la escuela y quieran saber cuál es la tarea escolar para cada día. Debido a las pérdidas en su pasado, Chynna mira con duda el que pueda ser parte de una familia permanente.

Legalmente libre para la adopción, Chynna ha dicho que espera encontrar una familia hispana de una madre sola o una pareja, con hijos mayores o sin ningún hijo, que le ayude a seguir en contacto con sus hermanos. Ella necesita unos padres firmes y confiables que le provean la estructura que le ayuden a Chynna a madurar a su máximo potencial.

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

Fiesta Multicultural de Adopciones

Con el Objetivo de Encontrar Familias Adoptivas para Niños en Cuidado Temporario

La agencia de adopciones Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) invita a adultos y familias interesadas en aprender acerca de la adopción de niños de DSS a asistir a la Fiesta Multicultural de Adopciones, el Domingo, 10 de Febrero del 2008 en el Boys & Girls Club, 15 Talbot Ave, Dorchester, MA. La Fiesta de Adopciones, de 3:00 a 5:00 p.m., es abierta y accesible a silla de ruedas.

Cualquier persona interesada en la adopción es bienvenida a asistir. Los participantes tendrán la oportunidad de conocer trabajadores sociales y algunos niños que necesitan hogares amorosos permanentes. Habrá información sobre muchos niños disponibles para la adopción. Los asistentes también pueden aprender acerca del proceso de adopción y de los recursos disponibles, tanto como sobre los

subsidios financieros disponibles por los cuales los niños adoptados de Departamento de Servicios Sociales pueden ser elegibles.

Casi cualquier adulto puede ser considerado para adoptar un niño o un grupo de hermanos de DSS. Los futuros padres adoptivos pueden ser solteros, casados o en unión libre, dueños de casa o rentar, tener cualquier nivel de ingresos. La prioridad es encontrar una familia permanente para un niño que necesita ser adoptado. La Fiesta de Adopciones provee una atmosfera casual y divertida, con actividades familiares, incluyendo artes y proyectos manuales, refrigerios y entretenimiento.

Hay alrededor de 2400 niños en cuidado temporario en Massachusetts, con la meta de adopción. Niños de edad escolar, grupos de hermanos, niños de color y niños con necesidades especiales tienden a esperar más tiempo por familias. Las Fiestas de

Adopciones son unas de formas como MARE educa al público sobre la adopción y recluta padres para niños específicos que esperan.

Para registrarse a la Fiesta de Adopciones o aprender más acerca de la adopción de niños de DSS, contacte en español a MARE al 617-542-3678 (617-54-ADOPT) o visite la página de Eventos en www.mareinc.org.

MARE es una agencia privada sin ánimo de lucro, que trabaja para encontrar un "lugar llamado HOGAR" para NIÑOS en cuidado temporario, incluyendo grupos de hermanos y niños que tradicionalmente son difíciles de colocar. Esto lo hacemos reclutando, educando, apoyando y abogando por las FAMILIAS durante el proceso de adopción. Desde 1957, MARE ha ayudado a encontrar hogares adoptivos para más de 5000 niños.

CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA

4

GONZÁLEZ: Esto es Política de Grandes Ligas

ciudad de Lawrence. Usted ve, a Marie no le gusta que nadie corra en contra de ella. Nadie. Pero por pura suerte Marie gana esas elecciones y todo queda olvidado. Eso pensaron. STRIKE NUMERO UNO.

En el 2007, el Sr. Stokes decide correr otra vez, pero esta vez se va por el comité escolar. El saca sus letreros, va de casa en casa tocando puertas, hasta tiene una actividad gratis de recaudar fondos y hasta participa en un foro político. Todas las cosas que hace cualquier otro candidato.

En este foro le hacen la pregunta al Sr. Stokes si él le extendería el contrato al superintendente Laboy, y su contestación recae en lo negativo. Básicamente contestando que despediría de su trabajo a Laboy. STRIKE NUMERO DOS.

Por su devoción particular de participar como voluntario, el Sr. Stokes decide ser Santa Claus y confía en Marie para que le hagan un chequeo personal de su vida pasada, lo que se llama un CORI, que eventualmente revelaría cosas negativas de él. STRIKE NUMERO TRES.

Como si todos los problemas arriba mencionados no fueran lo suficiente para cobrarle al Sr. Stokes el haber corrido en contra de Marie, y además haber amenazado prácticamente a Laboy de dejarlo sin trabajo y mucho más de sus extravagancias, es cuando el problema mayor del Sr. Stokes es traído para atrás una vez más: el no ser veterano de verdad.

Yo no creo en coincidencias para nada. No hay semejante cosa. Ni mucho menos cuando la política, el poder y el dinero están envueltos en la misma oración al mismo tiempo y con las mismas personas de siempre.

Con el problema del Sr. Stokes y él no ser un veterano, creo yo que los únicos que deberían ser afectados serían los verdaderos veteranos. Aunque todavía no entiendo

cómo esta mentira pudiera afectarles de alguna manera a este grupo, entiendo yo eran ellos mismos los únicos que debieron decir algo y meter la cuchara.

Pero ellos no lo hicieron. No fue hasta que Laboy comenzó a hacer comentarios que entonces todos a su alrededor comenzaron a seguir sus pensamientos. Eso incluyó al jefe del comité escolar, a policías de la Ciudad de Lawrence, algunos principales de escuela y a otros por igual.

Estos mismos individuos son los que por mucho tiempo han sabido que el Sr. Stokes no era un verdadero veterano de las fuerzas armadas pero le permitieron su presencia en diversos eventos militares. Ellos mismos le permitieron a él hacer recolectas de juguetes para la Marina año tras año. Por estos otros individuos no decir nada por tantos años, ellos también son responsables de la mentira del Sr. Stokes. Y cuando a él lo apresaron por la misma mentira, a ellos también los apresaron.

Yo no soy veterana y nunca lo seré. Lo más cercano que yo tengo como relación son mi tíos, mi primos, un sobrino y mi suegro, que en su conjunto tuvieron la oportunidad de servirle a las fuerzas armadas en las guerras de Corea, Vietnam, Desert Storm y ahora en Irak y Afganistán. Yo hablé con algunos de ellos y les expliqué la situación de este problema aquí, simplemente para saber la reacción de ellos de su punto de vista y para mi sorpresa ninguno de ellos se enojó, habló mal o mucho menos pensó que el Sr. Stokes le había quitado algo por pretender ser veterano. De hecho, uno de ellos me indicó que lo que él había hecho por tanto tiempo es lo mismo que ahora hacen los indocumentados en este país, firmar documentos falsos y pretender ser personas que no lo son. Por la misma razón, que quieren ser alguien que no pueden ser. Y más aún me dijeron, que si con ese problema

Yo no soy veterana y nunca lo seré. Lo más cercano que yo tengo como relación son mi tíos, mi primos, un sobrino y mi suegro, que en su conjunto tuvieron la oportunidad de servirle a las fuerzas armadas... Yo hablé con algunos de ellos y les expliqué la situación de este problema aquí, simplemente para saber la reacción de ellos de su punto de vista y para mi sorpresa ninguno de ellos se enojó, habló mal o mucho menos pensó que el Sr. Stokes le había quitado algo por pretender ser veterano.

de indocumentados miramos hacia el otro lado, por qué no hacían lo mismo con el Sr. Stokes.

No fue hasta que yo les expliqué los detalles políticos detrás de este problema que entonces comencé a escuchar suspiros dentro de las conversaciones que sostuve con mis familiares.

Laboy y su grupo de seguidores se salieron con lo que querían. Feliz Navidad otra vez superintendente. Que usted pueda disfrutar de su libre paseo esta vez. Y ahora que ya están afuera las mentiras y los demonios del Sr. Stokes, y que en su tiempo se olvidarán, él podrá en el 2009 volver a recoger sus papeles de nominación y volver a correr por el comité escolar. Solamente en ese momento la verdadera intención del votante prevalecerá como lo fue en estas pasadas elecciones, sin la excusa del uso de un título falso ni una agenda política y solo entonces el verdadero candidato podrá instruirlo a usted de cómo tomar y hacer sus decisiones.

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Los residentes de Massachusetts pueden ayudar a combatir el cáncer mediante sus pedidos de narcisos

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 17 to read this article in English

El programa Flores de Esperanza (Daffodil Days®) de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer recauda fondos y esperanza para todas las personas afectadas por el cáncer

La primavera hace su llegada anticipada en nuestra comunidad este año a través del programa Flores de Esperanza (Daffodil Days) de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer. Esta campaña que ha existido por tanto tiempo, celebra la misión de la Sociedad en eliminar al cáncer como una enfermedad que pone la vida en riesgo al ofrecer narcisos a los donadores en apreciación por sus contribuciones. Por un donativo de \$10 los residentes locales recibirán un fresco ramo de narcisos para apoyar la lucha contra el cáncer y compartir la esperanza por un

futuro sin la enfermedad.

“Invito a todos a que ayuden a vestir de amarillo a nuestra comunidad con narcisos esta primavera y a mostrar su apoyo a la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer para apoyar los esfuerzos de prevención y salvar vidas, así como para aminorar el sufrimiento por la enfermedad”, declaró Holly Grant, State Vice President of Development. “Todos, desde los niños en las escuelas hasta los ejecutivos en las empresas, tienen el poder de hacer la diferencia por los pacientes de cáncer y sus familias. Al regalar narcisos, también regalamos el poder de ofrecer esperanza”.

Como la primera flor de la primavera, el narciso es el símbolo de esperanza de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer por un mundo en donde el cáncer deje de ser una enfermedad que pone la vida en riesgo. Además de los ramos de narcisos, también se cuenta con otros productos. Este año también marca la adición de Bea R. Hope, una especial osa de Boyds™ exclusivamente diseñada para el programa Bear and a Bunch™ (oso y ramo de 10 narcisos) disponible con un donativo de

\$25.

Apoye los programas de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer y regale ramos de narcisos (Gift of Hope) en floreros a los pacientes de cáncer por un donativo de \$20, una caja de 50 ramos de narcisos por un donativo de \$500 ó Bulbos de Narcisos en maceta por \$15.

El último día para hacer su pedido con antelación es lunes el 3 de marzo; los productos del programa serán entregados durante la semana del 17 de marzo.

Los dólares recaudados permiten la Sociedad a ofrecer los programas y los servicios gratuitos que ayudan a personas luchar contra el cáncer con valor y el optimismo, y proporcionar apoyo físico y emocional e información financiera para aliviar la experiencia del cáncer. Tales recursos en Massachusetts incluyen:

- Ayuda del transporte al tratamiento
- Ayuda de alojamiento al viajar larga distancias para el tratamiento
- Un programa de apoyo que empareja a sobrevivientes entrenados de cáncer de mama con esos nuevamente diagnosticado con la enfermedad para proporcionar apoyo y guía emocionales
- Una serie de clases educativas en línea para personas con el cáncer y sus amados
- Un servicio gratuito y confidencial que ayuda a enfermos de cáncer localizar un estudio de cáncer clínico basado en su situación individual
- Un programa gratuito dedicó a técnicas docentes de mujeres para ayudar a restaurar su apariencia y la imagen de sí mismo durante tratamientos de cáncer
- Un programa gratuito que ofrece información y apoyo a hombres con el cáncer de próstata
- Acceso las 24 horas del día a información reciente de cáncer por medio de una línea de información gratuita; 1-800-ACS-2345

Para más información sobre Flores de Esperanza, así como para hacer un pedido o para participar con el programa, póngase en contacto con la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer llamando al 1-800-227-2345 a cualquier hora del día o de la noche, o visite www.cancer.org/daffodils.

La Sociedad Americana del Cáncer se dedica, mediante la investigación, educación, defensa de su causa y prestación de servicios, a prevenir el cáncer, salvar vidas y reducir el sufrimiento causado por el cáncer a fin de eliminarlo como uno de los principales problemas de salud. Fundada en 1913 y con oficinas nacionales en Atlanta, la Sociedad tiene 13 divisiones regionales y oficinas locales en 3,400 comunidades, que cuentan con la ayuda de millones de voluntarios en todo Estados Unidos. Si desea más información, llame en cualquier momento a la línea telefónica gratuita 1-800-227-2345 ó visite www.cancer.org.

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Para calificar para la residencia permanente el solicitante tiene que estar casado con una persona quien lo esté abusando. El abusador no tiene que ser ciudadano americano. Aún siendo el abusador residente permanente, la víctima del abuso puede calificar para obtener la residencia permanente (Green Card). Se requiere que la persona esté casada y se haya casado válidamente. Además de estar casados, se requiere evidencia del abuso. En estos tipos de casos hay muchas maneras de poder establecer la existencia del abuso. Ejemplos típicos de evidencia que acepta el Servicio de Inmigración son: récords médicos o de hospital, récords de sicólogos, récords de albergues para víctimas de abuso, affidávit de familiares o vecinos, etc.

En algunos casos no existen moretones físicos pero el abuso mental o emocional es tan obvio que el USCIS le otorga la residencia permanente (Green Card) al inmigrante. Los casos de maltrato mental o emocional son un poco más difíciles de establecer ya que más evidencia es necesaria. Sin embargo, la ley de Inmigración reconoce este tipo de maltrato como abuso doméstico y otorga residencias permanentes a los solicitantes que califiquen.

En este país existen muchas leyes cuales protegen a personas del abuso doméstico e incluyen protección específicamente para inmigrantes. El estatus legal o la manera de entrada (por la frontera o con visa) a los EE.UU. no afectan el caso de la víctima. Tampoco afecta que el abusador no sea ciudadano americano. Si usted está en una situación donde es víctima de abuso o maltrato doméstico no espere a ser otra estadística y protéjase hoy.

SOBRE LA AUTORA:

La Abogada Sonia M. Muñoz es la Presidente de Immigration Legal Counsel, LLC.; un Bufete de Leyes localizado en el Sur de la Florida. En el Bufete trabajan con clientes por todos los Estados Unidos y otros países. El Bufete se especializa en proteger los derechos de los Inmigrantes, procesos consulares, y en asistir profesionales extranjeros a entrar y trabajar en los Estados Unidos. Puede obtener mas información sobre el Bufete, la Abogada Sonia M. Muñoz, y métodos disponibles para entrar y trabajar en los Estados Unidos visitando la pagina de web del Bufete: www.ilclawfirm.com o llamando al 1-866-482-VISA (8472). La primera consulta es GRATIS.



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Un Nuevo Año y Una Nueva Tarea para Mantenerse Sanos, Fuertes y en Forma

La campaña Sanos, Fuertes y En Forma intenta cambiar la mentalidad detrás de las dietas, promueve los hábitos alimenticios saludables a largo plazo

El comienzo de un nuevo año usualmente marca el principio de la temporada de dietas, pero los expertos están tomando la iniciativa para que el 2008 lo emprendamos de una manera diferente.

La última década se puede definir por los altos y bajos de las diferentes tipos de dietas novedosas – las cuales parecen estar fuera de moda como las hombreras -- y todavía no tienen un éxito a largo plazo. Dos de cada tres estadounidenses sufren de sobrepeso u obesidad.

Hoy se inició una nueva campaña para animar a los estadounidenses a tener una nueva actitud sobre la salud y cambiar el concepto de las dietas. En este año de elecciones, apoye más que un candidato, apoye la campaña Sanos, Fuertes y en Forma presentando una causa nueva para el país. Apoyados por America on the Move, American Academy of Family Physicians, Curves y El Programa Educativo de los Procesadores de Leche (MilkPEP), la nueva campaña se dedica a que nos enfoquemos en una dieta saludable, en vez de sólo concentrarnos en rebajar nuestro peso.

La Dra. Aliza Lifshitz, una de las doctoras favoritas de los hispanos y nacionalmente reconocida como experto médico, señaló: “Mientras la comunidad latina se despierta y se empieza a dar cuenta de los riesgos asociados con el sobrepeso, queremos que adopten hábitos saludables de comer y beber. Las mamás latinas tienen un rol todavía más importante en esta campaña dado que nuestros niños sufren de sobrepeso a niveles sorprendentes,” concluyó.

La nueva campaña educativa para mantenernos sanos, fuertes y en forma está animando a las mujeres a renunciar a esas dietas ficticias y enfocarse simplemente en dietas que promueven el bienestar y la salud a largo plazo. Los estudios indican que hasta el cambio más pequeño en la actividad física, al igual que en las calorías que consumimos, hacen una gran diferencia en nuestra salud.

La campaña se enfoca en una dieta balanceada y en mantenerse activo. Un cambio pequeño que puede tener un gran impacto en nuestra salud para mantenernos saludables es reemplazar las bebidas azucaradas por la leche baja en grasa o descremada.

Analizando la dieta de los estadounidenses

Aunque los libros de dietas siguen siendo parte de la lista de los libros más vendidos, parecería que esto está cambiando. Un reporte nuevo descubrió que las dietas ficticias están decayendo, y que ahora el factor que motiva más a las personas a estar a dieta es el querer sentirse más saludable. El nuevo reporte conducido por el grupo NPD en conjunto con el Programa Educativo de Procesadores de Leche, analizó el quién, cuándo, cómo y por qué,

de las dietas en este país. Proveyéndonos con un entendimiento más profundo sobre la forma en la cual los estadounidenses mantienen un peso más saludable, el reporte descubrió que el porcentaje de adultos que dicen estar a dieta ha disminuido: el 29 % de las mujeres reportaron estar a dieta, y un 19% de los hombres. La dieta más popular hoy en día es la que las personas se imponen ellos mismos; 34% de las personas a dieta siguen un plan personalizado; y sólo un 9% están usando “dietas extremas,” incluyendo ayunos modificados, reducción del consumo de calorías, y la eliminación de grupos alimenticios en su totalidad.

En lugar de dietas estrictas para perder peso, la mayoría de los estadounidenses dijeron que están a dieta para sentirse más saludables y rebajar de peso; 68% dicen “sentirse más sanos” es la razón de su dieta.

Aunque las personas que están cuidando su peso siguen llenando sus vasos con bebidas como el café, sodas, té y jugos azucarados, la leche es la quinta bebida más consumida – solo un 14% de todas las bebidas.

Incluir leche en el menú diario ha tenido una diferencia positiva. El “Análisis de la Dieta de los Estadounidenses” descubrió que los adultos que están a dieta y consumen leche descremada o baja en grasa tienden a tener un índice de masa corporal más saludable, y al consumir dietas de mejor calidad que contienen los nutrientes esenciales se sentían menos privados, en comparación con aquellos que no tomaron leche.

Los estudios sugieren que el tomar leche puede hacer una diferencia en su salud. Esta bebida llena de nutrientes nos suministra el calcio para prevenir la pérdida de huesos y la proteína para mantener la masa muscular – dos nutrientes que junto a los ejercicios son importantes cuando se quiere bajar de peso. Tomar los recomendados tres vasos al día de leche descremada o baja en grasa promueve un peso saludable. Los investigadores descubrieron que los adultos que tomaron los tres vasos recomendados de leche baja en grasa o descremada consumen más calcio en sus dietas diarias y son menos propensos a subir de peso.

Campaña Sanos, Fuertes y en Forma

La campaña educativa que durará un año propone que un millón de personas se comprometan a mantener un peso saludable y votar con un bigote de leche para incluirla en su dieta.

La cantante mexicana Alicia Villarreal, reconocida internacionalmente como la reina de los mariachis, se ha unido a la campaña del bigote de leche para ayudar a comunicarles a las mamás hispanas la importancia para ellas y sus familias de beber tres vasos de 8 oz. de leche baja en grasa o descremada para mantenerse sanos, fuertes y en forma.

La campaña va a empezar una gira en la



La Dra. Aliza Lifshitz, una de las doctoras favoritas de los hispanos y nacionalmente reconocida como experto médico, se ha unido a la nueva campaña educativa para mantenernos sanos, fuertes y en forma. La nueva campaña está animando a las mujeres a renunciar a esas dietas ficticias y enfocarse simplemente en dietas que promueven el bienestar y la salud a largo plazo.

primavera incorporando a miembros de American Academy of Family Physicians y Curves haciendo parada en 25 ciudades de costa a costa. Una ciudad será seleccionada para recibir \$ 25,000 para implementar un programa de obesidad educativo para los residentes. Esta competencia amigable entre las ciudades será basada en el consumo de leche y pasos documentados

en whymilk.com.

Para más información sobre la campaña para mantenerse Sano, Fuerte y en Forma, visite nuestra página www.2424leche.com donde puede asumir el compromiso y obtener consejos para mantenerse Sano, Fuerte y en Forma. Participe en la campaña y podría ganar leche gratis de por vida.

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Un mensaje de Ad Council y del National PTA.





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CrossOver

FRIDAYS 1PM - 2PM | 1110 AM WCCM

Hosted by:
Richard Aybar & Dalia Díaz

Por/By Dalia Díaz
rumbonews.com/blogs

From My Corner

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 4 para leer este artículo en Español

The Stokes saga

Last Friday, on our show "CrossOver" Richard Aybar and I tried to distance ourselves from the Rev. James Stokes dilemma stating that we don't condone his action and I personally said how much I loath liars. We had a very lively discussion because callers thought we were defending him. Not at all; we were examining the case.

This is a subject that will continue for a long time because it will become a benchmark for justice. It is not necessarily a question of right or wrong but whose rights were trampled on, whether the lie became the pivot required to get rid of him once he said that if elected to the Lawrence School Committee, he would work to fire Superintendent of Schools Wilfredo Laboy. If James Stokes had not been that frank, probably no one would have made a big deal over the reference of "Veteran" on the Primary Election ballot.

Superintendent Laboy didn't know what else to do to intimidate him into resigning from his seat. The first thing he did was sending him a letter forbidding admission into any school. Laboy always forgets that he works for the school committee and he is not who gives the orders. Also, Stokes is not accused of being a child predator to be excluded from the schools. Even though Jim knew the superintendent to be wrong, the pressure would be too much and he did the only thing he could and resigned.

But it doesn't have to end there. Laboy may have his Dream Rubberstamp Team again but we all got to know him much better this time. We know he'll stop at nothing.

This issue will continue being discussed

because it deserves to be analyzed. Were the voters tricked into voting for him believing they were voting for a veteran? I don't think so. Rev. James Stokes has been a staple in local politics for years. People know him and we all heard the rumors as to whether or not he lies about his veteran status, particularly when he was running for City Council against Marie Gosselin.

He was a key figure at Christmas time, working with the Marines and the Boy Scouts, distributing toys throughout the Merrimack Valley to poor families. The neighborhood associations can vouch for that. He worked feverishly for the restoration of the Veterans Memorial Stadium. His name is engraved in bronze as Secretary of the Stadium Restoration Commission plaque attached to a wall at Lawrence Veterans Memorial Stadium. Anyone may stop by and look at it. People were willing to use him when they needed him. He never embarrassed the Marines and always enhanced their name with his work.

So, by the time they went to the polls in November, they knew very well who Stokes was. The Veteran status shown in very tiny letters on the Primary Election back in September had no bearing on their choice. They were voting also against Gregory Morris. People were fed up with the way the school department is functioning and wanted to see a change.

We have a sitting city councilor who is facing charges after an arrest of drunk driving and our own mayor lost his driving privileges for three months for the same reason while he was a city councilor and no one made a comment about it when the potential for having killed someone was

there. Why this uproar now? It's all politics!

Also heard on CrossOver

During last week's show, Barbara Gonzalez mentioned a city councilor who claimed during his campaign to be a "lifelong resident of Lawrence" when the reality is that he was born in the Dominican Republic.

We received several calls during the week from people looking for clarification. I called City Councilor at-Large Frank Moran with that question because I have some of his cards with that statement and he told me that he was indeed born in the Dominican Republic. I believe it was a matter of misunderstanding what lifelong means to different people.

Laboy's spokesperson Yasmin Escoto

I broke the news last week about the fight between the two high school coaches and the daily paper set out to find more information only to get "No comment" from the coaches and Superintendent Laboy's secretary told the reporter that he cannot comment on personnel issues.

Channel 7 had better luck because their reporter contacted Yasmin Escoto and she said that a deeply emotional Paul Neal apologized to the students the very next day of the incident.

I remember that a few years ago Laboy told everyone at the school department that no one was authorized to speak to a member of the press. I guess she must be Laboy's spokesperson.

New Hampshire Magazine Names Sal's Pizza "Best of NH 2007"

Sal Lupoli, President/CEO of Sal's Pizza Retail and Wholesale Divisions, Salvatore's Restaurants and Riverwalk Properties is proud to announce that Sal's Pizza has been selected as "Best of NH" in New Hampshire Magazine's 2007 contest for Best Pizza and selected by the magazine's reader's poll.

New Hampshire Magazine is the state's largest lifestyle magazine. It is part of McLean Communications of Manchester, a publishing company that also includes New Hampshire Business Review, Parenting, NH.com and The Cabinet Press.

Order Your Daffodils Today American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days® Blooms in Massachusetts

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 14 para leer este artículo en Español

Daffodil Days, the American Cancer Society's annual event, ushers in the first week of spring with the distribution of beautiful blossoms that bring hope to local cancer patients and their families.

On sale now through Monday, March 3, the American Cancer Society is reaching out to individuals and businesses to order daffodils this year. "Local residents will not only bring beautiful, yellow blossoms into their homes and workplaces, but they will contribute to the preservation of vital programs and services of the American Cancer Society's Cancer Resource Network," according to Holly Grant, State Vice President of Development.

Contributions from Daffodil Days make a significant difference in services for

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Cosecha Borincana's up-coming Car Show

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 7 para leer este artículo en Español

By ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

Members of Cosecha Borincana, Sara Iris Saldaña, Roberto Rivera and Domingo Meléndez met Thursday, January 10, 2008 with Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan to inform the mayor about the upcoming car show planned for the summer. Domingo Melendez, president of Cosecha Borincana, wanted to keep the mayor informed about the issues involved with the car show, which returned to Lawrence last summer, after 9 years of being absent from the city. As far of the cost for police protection, Meléndez said that it won't be an issue, since the Car Show generates enough money to pay for it. "This year we are working with a promotional company willing to share their profits," said Melendez.

As who is going to pay for the festivals' police protection, Mayor Sullivan assured the group that if the council approves the budget as it was presented to them, the city will be able to pay for them. "I don't want to hurt the city's economy, but if the budget is not approved, and we have to layoff police and firefighters, of course that we have to cut that expense and save over \$100,000," said the Mayor.

Car Show organizers make a profit by charging the vehicle owners a fee to participate, and extra money for the categories in which they want to compete. "The fee is \$20 to \$25 to each car just to participate, and \$10 for every category they want to enter – paint, sound, etc.," said Rivera. Last year, the show was held in the open, at Pemberton Park, under menacing rain clouds with 198 participants rushing to finish. Considering that there is a lot of money invested in those cars, with some owners spending as much a \$25,000 in their conversion, this year, Car Show organizers want to hold the show under a roof and want to use the Buckley Transportation Center for that purpose.

Mayor Sullivan doesn't see a problem in using the garage located at the corners of Common and Amesbury, since according to the organizers, the show will happen on a Saturday. "We can close any of the floors you need and work any arrangements with the tenants," said Sullivan. "And you can count with a 3 foot tall trophy – The Mayor's Trophy for the winner," said Sullivan.

This year will be the 10th anniversary of the Car Show and organizers are hoping



Members of Cosecha Borincana Sara Iris Saldaña, Roberto Rivera and Domingo Meléndez during their meeting with Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan.

for a larger amount of cars and consequently, a larger audience coming from places like Connecticut, New York and as far as California. "These people are planning to stay around for 2 or 3 days, expending money eating in our restaurants and staying in the surrounding hotels," said Melendez.

Mayor Sullivan took the opportunity to make a plug for the Hotel Holiday Inn located at Rt. 114 in the intersection with

I 495 in Lawrence. "They are offering special rates for groups and festivals. Just call Jessica, the Sales Manager, and tell her I sent you."

This week, car show organizers will be walking through the Buckley looking for the best location within the building and specially if there is enough light in the building to hold a show.



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HAVERHILL INAUGURATION

January 7, 2008

On Monday, January 7, 2008, the City of Haverhill inaugurated their new government by taking oath of their office before Haverhill City Clerk Margaret Twoomey.

Mayor James J. Fiorentini led the list of officials followed by City Councilors Michael L. Hart, Robert H. Scatamacchia, William H. Ryan, William J. Macek, Mary Ellen Daly O'Brien, David E. Hall, Michael G. McGonagle, James J. Donahue, Jr. and Kenneth E. Quimby, Jr.

The Members of the School Committee are Susan D. Danehy, Scott W. Wood, Jr. and Shaun P. Toohey, James J. Donahue.



Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini, in his way to the podium, stops to kiss his mother Lucy Fiorentini.



From Left: Haverhill School Committee Members Shaun P. Toohey, Scott W. Wood, Jr. and Susan D. Danehy with City Councilors Kenneth E. Quimby, Jr., James J. Donahue, Jr. Michael G. McGonagle, David E. Hall, Mary Ellen Daly O'Brien, William J. Macek, William H. Ryan, Vice-President Robert H. Scatamacchia and Council President Michael L. Hart and City Clerk Margaret Twoomey.



Martha and Lucy Fiorentini, Mayor James J. Fiorentini's wife and mother, respectively, enjoying the ceremony. Also pictured is Fiorentini's sister Anne Savinelli who acted as usher.

Third term Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini Inaugural Address

Thank you for coming today. Let me take a moment to recognize and thank a few people in particular. To our elected officials who took the time in their busy schedules to come—thank you for your service and thank you for being here.

There are a number of former mayors who are here, and I want to thank them for their service to the city—James Waldron, William H. Ryan and Ted Pelosi. I would like to introduce my family—the first lady of the city, my wife Martha Fiorentini, my mother Lucy Fiorentini, my sister Anne Savinelli, and my many aunts, uncles and cousins, and nieces, thank you.

To our newly elected city council and school committee, I look forward to working with you. And most importantly, to the people of Haverhill, thank you for allowing me to be here today. I can't promise you miracles over the next two years, but I do promise you this: I will always remember that this is your government, not our government, and we work for you, not the other way around.

Haverhill four decades ago

Four decades ago, I was there, in the band, playing in this building, which was then Haverhill High School. The education I received here in this building opened doors for me, and allowed me to go onto Tufts University and then to law school. I pledge

to you today that I will work as hard as I can to so that our children and grandchildren have the same great opportunities I received in this building four decades ago.

As we stand here today, we face a very different city than the city I saw in the 1960s. Then, I saw a city where shoe shops and retail stores were leaving, and where our population was leaving with them. As the shoe shops left, some people lost their

jobs, and the others lost their hope.

We face a very different city today. Today, instead of people leaving in droves, they are coming back—something we should celebrate. Instead of stores leaving, today we see a city where large retail stores are moving in. Instead of our shoe shops being abandoned, today they see new life as people are moving into them. As we stand here this morning, we see a very different

city than I saw four decades ago, and a different city than the one I addressed four years ago. Today, we have:

- The lowest unemployment rate in 6 and half years.
- The greatest increase in MCAS

CONTINUES ON PAGE
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On the Stokes issue

This is Major League Politics

BARBARA GONZALEZ

BGONZALEZ@RUMBONEWS.COM

The reason I have written and re-written this column many times is due to the fact that the situation at hand started and finished within five days. On one day School Committee member James Stokes gets arrested and a few days later he resigns from his post. It was like now you see it, and now you don't. Some people in this community did not want to see it at all, and others were left hanging waiting to see.

For years, Lawrence has had its good share of issues with public individuals. We have seen everything come in front of us from all kinds of political groups, but have never had the chance to really experience at first hand the behavior of professional individuals and high ranking politicians as we did with the Stokes issue.

Mr. Stokes lied to all of us. He signed a document years ago, to allow him to become someone he wanted to be but was unable to, a veteran. During all these years that he played the part of a veteran Mr. Stokes participated in many parades, ceremonial activities, and even collected toys for needy kids. Everything was sweet.

It wasn't until Mr. Stokes decides to run against Marie Gosselin a few years back that things really got warmed up in the south part of Lawrence. You see, Marie does not like anyone running against her. Not one. By pure luck Marie wins that election and everything is forgiven. So we all thought. STRIKE ONE.

In 2007, Mr. Stokes decides to run again, but this time, for the school committee. He buys signs, goes door to door; he puts together a "free" fundraiser to meet citizens of his neighborhood and participates in a local forum. Things that any other candidate has done as well.

In this forum Mr. Stokes is asked if he would re-appoint or extend superintendent

Laboy's contract. His answer was in the negative. Basically that he will fire Laboy. STRIKE TWO.

Because of his devotion to participate in anything that requires a volunteer, Mr. Stokes agrees to be Santa Claus and trusts Marie with a personal inquiry about his past called CORI that will eventually reveal negative things. STRIKE THREE.

Since all the above issues were not enough to get back at Mr. Stokes for what he did to Marie years past, and for basically threatening to take away Laboy's ultimate power and the luxuries that go with it, Mr. Stokes veteran issue is brought back to life.

I do not believe in coincidences at all. There is not such a thing. Even more when politics, power and money are involved in the same quotation, and at the same time and by the same individuals.

With Mr. Stokes veteran issue, I believe, the only ones to be "affected" are real veterans. Though I am yet to understand how they would have been affected by this lie, but since he used a title he didn't serve for, that particular group is the only one that should have said something.

But they didn't. It wasn't until Laboy started making comments and getting everyone around him worked up that everyone started following his train of thought. That included the chair of the school committee, Lawrence finest police officers, school principals and the like. The same individuals that have known all along that Mr. Stokes was not a real veteran, but allowed his presence in all armed forces events. They even allowed him to collect the toys for the Marines year after year. By not saying anything about it all these years they too played a role in his lie. And when he got "caught" they got caught as well.

I am not a veteran and never will be.

With Mr. Stokes veteran issue, I believe, the only ones to be "affected" are real veterans. Though I am yet to understand how they would have been affected by this lie, but since he used a title he didn't serve for, that particular group is the only one that should have said something.

The closest I can relate to this is with my uncles, cousins and father-in-law, who all had the opportunity to serve the armed forces in Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and now the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. I did talk to some of them and explained the issue, just so I could get a reaction from them, and to my surprise none of them got angry, upset, or worse yet, thought that Mr. Stokes had taken anything from them or any other veteran. In fact, one of them pointed to me that what he did was very similar to what an undocumented alien does when they cross US border: They become someone they want to be but are not. He even said that if some people look the other way with those individuals they should have done the same with Stokes.

It wasn't until I explained in details the political aspect of this issue that I heard many sighs in the conversations I was having with my family members.

Laboy and his entourage got away with what they wanted. Merry Christmas again superintendent. May you enjoy your free pass this time. Now that Mr. Stokes lies and demons are out in the public and will subside after a while, he then in 2009 can pick up nomination papers for school committee and run again. Only then the intent of the voters will prevail as it did this past election, and no fake title or political agenda will interfere with the righteous candidate able to instruct you on your decisions.

Democrats to Hold Caucus in Andover

Registered Democrats in Andover will be holding a caucus at the Memorial Hall Library, Third Floor; 2 Elm Square; Andover, on Saturday, February 2, 2008, at 10:00 AM to elect delegates and alternates to the 2008 Massachusetts Democratic Convention. All interested voters and/or delegates must be in the registration line by 10:00 AM. Doors will open at 9:15 AM.

The Democratic Convention will be held on Friday, June 7, 2008 at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell. At that time, Democrats from across the state will gather to endorse candidates for the office of U.S. Senator. The names of those candidates who receive 15 percent of the state convention vote will be placed on the September 16, 2008 Democratic Primary ballot.

The caucus is open to all registered Democrats in Andover. You must be registered as a Democrat by December 31, 2007. Those not elected as Delegate and/or Alternate, who meet the qualifications, may apply to be add-on delegates in the following categories: youth, minority, and disabled.

Discrimination on the basis of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation or economic status in the conduct of the caucus is strictly prohibited. Challenges to the delegate selection process can be filed with the Massachusetts Democratic Party, 56 Roland Street, Suite 203, Boston, MA 02109 no later than ten days after the caucus date.

For caucus information, please contact Andover Democratic Town Committee Chair Paul Stolberg at 978-470-2784, or stolbs@comcast.net.

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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.

By Frank Benjamin
rumbonews.com/mrb

Mr. B's Sport Stories



The Hancock's softballers 70s

The fast pitch teams of the late sixties and early seventies had some excellent teams and made the City League very competitive. All games were played at the Hay den Schofield on Lawrence St. Some match ups would bring 1500 to 2500 fans. The Chez When/Sargent Club and Hermann Hall teams when playing each other brought great crowds and the playoffs guaranteed big crowd.

The Chez When had George Simonian a player manager, Joe D'Agata who would have been a superstar in any era. Dickie Lynch was a former Methuen great in baseball and continued in fast pitch softball. Eddie Aziz a third baseman was a slugger and a fine fielder; he works for Charlie Daher these days.

Don McLeod and Butch McFeeters were the pitchers. Mc Leod later becomes the women's hockey coach at Northeastern University. Butch came from and still resides in Wilmington.

The Hermann Hall team had Ernie Wilson and Dave Downey as hurlers. Ernie from Lowell has passed on and had a softball field in his hometown of Lowell named in his honor. Dave Miller, Willie Cartier, Irv Wermers and the great Billy Timmons had this team of aged and experienced stars ready to meet any team in the league.

Every team had their sights set on beating The Hancock's a team sponsored by the then Alderman Ray Hancock. This team and the aforementioned had been rivals for years and each game became a donnybrook, the contests created breaks in friendships and brought out the best of the players in each game. The fans loved the competition and plenty of betting went on in the stands.

The Hancock's featured the great Dick Krauss a former MHS 3 spot star and probably the league's most versatile player who could play anywhere including pitcher. Imagine have Krauss as your pitcher as DiResta catching. Dickie McCarron was at that time considered the top shortstop in the area. Dick could hit with power, run with great speed, had a cannon of an arm and was especially ready in big games.

Larry Klimas now a legend and a former LHS player on the Ed Buckley great and State Championship teams was

the second baseman. He sometimes played the outfield. Billy Bateman a CCHS Hall of Famer now would almost certainly be named to a softball hall of fame if there was one. He was one of many outstanding players of the hot corner in the league. Bobby Delduca was the baby of the team (meaning the youngest) he was an outfielder with good range and a fine arm. In all my years I've never seen anyone take to hitting a softball as hard and consistently as Bob. He became the cleanup hitter on a veteran laden team and didn't flinch at all. He was also a fine tennis player. His son "Bo" had a great career at MHS.

Frankie Ruediger was a young pitcher who has just retired from the Tribune and he had a great future in the league until his manager used him too sparingly. John Lenihan hit in every league he ever played in and this league was not an exception. A real quiet guy he came to play every game and no matter how many arguments over balls and strikes or safe or outs, John would be far away from the fray. He had that sweet picture book swing that many lefthander hitters owned.

Carmen Iannacilli was a speedster outfielder and is now in real estate in Salisbury where he now resides. He was a standout track man at CCHS and is a hall of famer at that school. He was once the principal of the now gone Kane School and an Athletic Director at LHS. John Buco was an outfielder and was a speedster and still lives in Methuen and he and Delduca was what we sometimes call "Goom Bas".

Bud Ohlin was a pitcher that was brought to me by a fan who said he "Could throw a ball through a cement wall." When I took Tommy DiResta to meet Bud and to have him pitch to tryout. He possessed a slow ball that was reminiscent to the days of "kitten ball". Tom and I kept waiting for him to become the flame thrower we heard of but it never happened, he did however have a good drop and great control. He also had a great sense of humor and won some big games for us. A trip to the mound to talk to Ohlin was an adventure for this manager, I'd be real serious and he'd have about 5 jokes to tell me. No matter the score how many men on base. He's dead now after overseeing the huge job of building the

Tribune building on route 114.

A guy that mingled with everyone and was a fun guy. Ray Gilbert was one of my coaches and he is retired now from the City of Lawrence his wife is retired and was in the nurse's department at the Greater Lawrence Technical School. Ray was part of the Inspectional Service Department for the City. Manny Lavoie was a pitcher originally from Haverhill where he starred as a hard running fullback in football. He would only pitch for me if someone came up hurt and could give us a few innings. He became the trainer for the Lawrence High teams and also the Lawrence Legion teams that had Nazy Brucato, Jimmy Twoomey, Mike Riccio, and Billy Callagy as the coaching staff.

The Hancock's was again favored to win this league but Simonian and company, Wilson, Timmons and that crew along with Dave Miller were saying, "Oh yeah, they have to beat us first". A great playoffs was on tap for all the Lawrence fans.

Sal's Pizza and Salvatore's Restaurant Name one of Phantom Favorites

Sal Lupoli, President/CEO of Sal's Pizza Retail and Wholesale Divisions, Salvatore's Restaurants and Riverwalk Properties is proud to announce that Sal's Pizza and Salvatore's Restaurant were selected as one of the Phantom Gourmet's favorite restaurants of 2007. Dave Andelman, CEO of the Phantom Gourmet sent a letter stating the honor and invited both restaurants to participate at the Phantom's Annual Restaurant Salute on January 30th. The Phantom's Annual Restaurant Salute will be held at The Estate at One Boylston Place in Boston from 6pm - 10pm. "We are truly thrilled with this honor and distinction!" said Mr. Lupoli.

Sal's Pizza has corporate-owned properties in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The business with over 30 locations has become a large retail franchise and wholesale operation serving all of New England with additional locations in California, Florida and coming soon in Virginia. Today Sal's Pizza and Salvatore's Restaurants make over 40,000 pizzas a week! Riverwalk Properties is one of the largest pieces of office and retail space in all of Massachusetts.

THE
Lawrence Police Athletic League
WILL BE SPONSORING A

"Celebrity Hockey Game"

FEATURING THE

BOSTON BLACK & GOLD LEGENDS

Former Boston Bruins

vs.

Lawrence PAL ALL-STARS

Friday February 1, 2008 7:00PM
Valley Forum Lawrence, MA

We are also publishing our Event Banner and will be soliciting businesses and residents. The proceeds will support the betterment of the organization.

The Lawrence Police Athletic League members would like to thank all those who participate.



William Benjamin
Campaign Coordinator
Lawrence Police Athletic League

This is the only association soliciting business and residents exclusively for the Lawrence Police Athletic League

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Getting Started Now is Key to Success NFCC Offers Tips for Getting Your Financial House in Order

A few simple steps can make a dramatic difference in one's financial life, and there's no better time than now to get pointed in the right direction. The National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC) recommends that consumers review where they are in order to determine where they're headed, and encourages them to consider implementing the following tips.

- Get organized. It doesn't matter if it's a full-blown home office or a shoebox, put all of your financial papers in one place. This will save you time, as you'll never have to search for misplaced documents.
- Commit to visiting your financial center at least once each week. Review any bills that have arrived, noting their due date. Plan to mail the payment 7 to 10 business days in advance of the due date if using traditional mail. Write the date that the bill needs to be mailed underneath where the stamp will go. File in chronological order and mail on time to avoid any late fees.
- Consider online bill paying through your bank. This is particularly useful for people who travel, are forgetful, or are procrastinators. The system is ideal for payments that are the same each month such as car and mortgage payments.
- Balance your checkbook each time you make a deposit. This should go a long way toward preventing overdrafts and incurring unnecessary fees.
- Reconcile your bank statement the day it arrives. This is not a task that anyone looks forward to, but it's easier to tackle it one month at a time rather than spending hours chasing down that penny from several months back.
- Create a budget. Call it a spending plan if that is more palatable. Contrary to what many think, a budget isn't restrictive. It actually allows you to spend your hard-earned money the way you want to, often stretching it even farther. Most importantly, it puts you in control of your finances.
- Track your spending. It's not the large expenses that trip us up. It's the small things, and the periodic payments. Commit to writing down every cent you spend for 30 days. Go back and review your expenses to see how much you were over or under your projected

spending for each category in your budget. Since you're now in control of your money, you can make the necessary changes to stay on track.

- Start saving. Put 10 percent of your take-home pay into an interest bearing account each month and forget it's there. This is your emergency fund. Promise yourself that you will not pull any money out short of a true emergency.
- Find money to save. Your budget's already tight, so where are you going to find the money to begin saving? Devote any windfall money to savings. This includes raises, bonuses, and birthday checks from Aunt Hazel.
- Contribute the maximum to your company's retirement plan. The maximum commitment is your goal, but short of that, make sure that you're contributing at least the amount the company will match. If not, you're throwing away free money.
- Have an insurance check-up. No one wants to be over-insured or under-insured. Schedule an annual visit with your insurance provider to make sure your policies are in line with your needs.
- Tackle debt. It is likely that credit card debt is preventing you from achieving many of your goals. When you're in a financial hole, stop digging. This means no more charging. It is impossible to become debt free while still adding to your debt load each month. Make your purchases with cash or a debit card. This way, when the money's gone, the spending stops.
- Review your credit report. Americans are allowed one free credit report from each of the major bureaus every 12 months. Go to www.annualcreditreport.com to access the reports online. Caution: there are many bogus sites with similar addresses trying to steal your personal information. Go to this site and only this site.

The NFCC provides this list of a baker's dozen tips in hopes that it encourages consumers to get their financial house in order. Professional assistance is available from an NFCC member agency. To find the agency closest to you, go call 1-800-388-2227 or go online to www.nfcc.org.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES MAKES VISIT TO YMCA'S CHILDCARE & ENRICHMENT CENTER

Mason Arcoite, age 2, of Lawrence, gets up close to an alligator.



Children pet the ferret during the Animal Adventures program at the YMCA.

Children of the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Child Care & Enrichment center had some extraordinary visitors on Friday, January 11. Some were hairy. Some were long. Some were cuddly. But, for sure, all the visitors were exotic. The students had a visit from Animal Adventures, a family zoo and science center. Children enjoyed a hands-on program which explained about the environment and our animal friends we share it with. They learned how to handle the different creatures, as well as to discover the role each of them play in the ecosystem. The children were introduced to a 3-foot corn snake, chinchilla, ferret, 6-foot boa constrictor, alligator, lizard, and bunny.

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**Richard Aybar &
Dalia Díaz**

Por/By Paul V. Montesino, PhD, MBA
rumbonews.com/blogs



My Point of View

A seed planted by a man named Martin

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 11 para leer este artículo en Español

Dr. Montesino, solely responsible for this article, is the Editor of LatinoWorldOnline.com and Senior Lecturer in the Information Processing Management Department at Bentley College, Waltham, Massachusetts.

On April 4, 1968, almost forty years ago, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. This month, on January 15 1929 he was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and the country that witnessed his long dedication and arduous path to martyrdom that has become his mark on this earth stops for a few hours to light a candle on the third week to remember him with respect.

I don't believe I am capable or even authorized to write about the life of this man and reflect about the true measure

and dimension of his life. But that is OK. Others have done so with more prose and flavor than me, perhaps with more right as well. But I think I can share a thought or two with my readers about a life that has become a beacon of hope for humanity, a beacon that was extinguished by the hand of a criminal who represented the worst in all of us, but a beacon that continues to shine to this day.

It is easy to reflect on his life and lose the real meaning and reach of what he did. One remembers the tired and angry faces of those who marched with him and may reach the erroneous conclusion that he was fighting a black cause alone. Don't get me wrong, his immediate goal was to raise the living condition of those who shared his roots and his race, but his train was not meant to stop at that station. His goal was to liberate all of us. I don't care if our skin is white or brown, if we suffer an injustice he died for us as well.

This month, as we sit and watch the normal political controversies that surround our nation's electoral primary process, we see a new nation, the 21st Century America, taking shape in front of us and we have no recourse other than to marvel at the vision that sustained Dr. King on his way to eternity. We now know what maintained his hope: "I have a dream," he said in Washington on August 28, 1963, "that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." For the first time in our history we see an African American and a woman vying for the top leadership position in the country and we believe it is possible that they might succeed.

Of course, there are still those who hate and wallow in the mud of prejudice because they have no other reason to express their weak beliefs and confuse tradition with inaction. But those sands of ignorance and misunderstanding are being wiped out by a tsunami like ocean of faith in the American future. And there are many more that are willing to raise their eyes and see now the top of the mountain that became Dr. King's sole revelation at the time. We don't know the details of where this newfound hope is going to lead us. We cannot fathom the end of the road in terms of personalities, actually that is irrelevant, but we are absolutely sure that this new paradigm is the harvest from the seed planted by a man named Martin who was not afraid to die for his dream. Death, after all, befalls us all sooner or later; immortality only a few.

And that is my point of view today.

Owner and Manager of Springfield Rental Property Fined \$18,000 for Asbestos Violations

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental (MassDEP) has levied an \$18,000 fine against Belkis DeLeon of Methuen and Raphael DeLeon of Lawrence for violating state asbestos regulations. Rafael DeLeon is the owner and Belkis DeLeon is the manager of rental property at 25 Whittier St., Springfield.

Based on a complaint that illegal asbestos removal had occurred at the rental property, MassDEP conducted an inspection on January 30, 2007 and found that an asbestos-insulated boiler was replaced with a new boiler without instituting the appropriate asbestos handling and disposal procedures. MassDEP found extensive asbestos contamination within the stairwell and basement of the building, as well as outside of the building and in the city's wheeled trash containers.

"The failure to adhere to the specific requirements regarding the management of asbestos may impact the public health and the environment," said Michael Gorski, director of MassDEP's Western Regional Office in Springfield. "The asbestos regulations are very prescriptive in terms of proper removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials so that asbestos fibers do not become airborne."

At the MassDEP's directive, Ms. DeLeon promptly retained a licensed asbestos abatement contractor to clean up the property.

Property owners or contractors with questions about asbestos-containing materials, notification requirements, proper removal, handling, packaging, storage and disposal procedures, or the asbestos regulations are encouraged to contact the appropriate MassDEP regional office for assistance. More information on asbestos, including health effects, can be obtained from MassDEP's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/air/asbguid.htm>

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills, and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.

He's not just an alley cat.
He's a street cat, porch cat,
and park cat.

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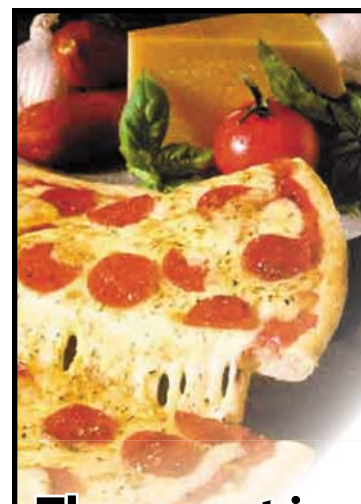


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HAVERHILL

Mayor Hires Michael Stankovich New Director of Public Works

Mayor Promotes Robert Ward to Deputy DPW Director

Mayor James J. Fiorentini today named Michael K. Stankovich as the City's new Director of the Department of Public Works. Stankovich comes to Haverhill from North Attleboro, where he has served as DPW Director for over nine (9) years. In his nine years as DPW Director in North Attleboro, Stankovich took a troubled and scandal ridden department and turned it around.

"I'm pleased to announce the hiring of Mike Stankovich as our new DPW director," announced Mayor Fiorentini. "Mike brings to Haverhill 23 years worth of experience in all facets of public works management. Mike will be working to implement the reforms and recommendations being made by our consultants, driving customer service principles throughout a more efficient, responsive, streamlined and flexible operation. Mike has the management, leadership and technical know-how to help our DPW do more with less, and do it better," the Mayor added.

Mayor Fiorentini also promoted Robert Ward to the position of Deputy Director of Public Works. An engineer, Ward has been the head of the City's Water and Wastewater Departments and has been Acting Director of Public Works since February, 2006. For this promotion to become effective, the city council must approve the reorganization plan the Mayor plans to present to them in January.

Stankovich will oversee Highway, Parks, Water, Wastewater and Engineering Departments. Michael Stankovich obtained a Bachelors of Science in Environmental Science and Forestry from SUNY-Syracuse.. He has his Masters of Business Administration from Keller Graduate School of Management in Chicago.

Stankovich has experience in all facets of public works and utilities management in 4 different states. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the International City Managers Association, the American Public Works Association, the National Association of Fleet Administrators, the American Water Works Association and the New England Water Works Association.

Stankovich is recognized for his 'no-nonsense' approach to public works management, his success in negotiating collective bargaining agreements, systems reform, as well as his technical expertise in Massachusetts Chapter 90 and 30B procurement procedures. He will be moving to the City and beginning work in February.

Fiorentini said that what impressed him most about Stankovich was his work in turning a troubled DPW in North Attleboro around.

"Nine years ago, the Department of Public works in North Attleboro was going through a series of difficulties and scandals, all too similar to the problems Haverhill is facing today. North Attleboro decided to

Stankovich will oversee Highway, Parks, Water, Wastewater and Engineering Departments...Stankovich has experience in all facets of public works and utilities management in 4 different states. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the International City Managers Association, the American Public Works Association, the National Association of Fleet Administrators, the American Water Works Association and the New England Water Works Association.

turn to an outside professional, Michael Stankovich, to turn their DPW around. In nine (9) years, he turned a troubled department into a top notch public works department, recognized as one of the best in the State. Mr. Stankovich turned around North Attleboro, and I am confident he can do the same in Haverhill."

Fiorentini said that at the same time as the nomination, he would submit to the city council a plan to reorganize the Department of Public works. The reorganization will eliminate several unfilled positions, and change the current position of Water, Waste Water director to Deputy Director of Public Works.

Fiorentini said that if the reorganization is approved, he will promote current water, waste water director Robert Ward to that position. "Robert Ward has done an excellent job in filling in a highway director, and acting director of the Department of public works." Mayor Fiorentini said. "I truly appreciate all that Bob has done and, if the reorganization is approved, I will promote him to the position of Deputy DPW director."

"Together, Mike Stankovich and Bob Ward create a 'dynamic duo' whose collective talents will positively impact the lives of all of the citizens of the City," lauded the Mayor.

Under the city charter, the appointment of Mr. Stankovich does not require city council approval. The reorganization requires council approval.

Haverhill High School Pool Opens

Mayor James J. Fiorentini and Haverhill Public Schools Superintendent Raleigh Buchanan welcomed swimmers, including



Mayor Fiorentini Names Tom Vartabedian as Artist of the Month

Award-Winning Photographer's Work on Display at Mayor's Office

Mayor James J. Fiorentini has named award-winning photographer Tom Vartabedian Haverhill's Artist of the Month for January. Fiorentini presented Vartabedian, a Haverhill resident and photographer of 35 years, with an official citation on Wednesday, January 2, 2008, at his office in City Hall. Fiorentini said: "We are honored to display Mr. Vartabedian's photographs of Haverhill and its residents at the Mayor's Office. I encourage the public to stop by and enjoy his artwork."

Although Mr. Vartabedian was born Somerville, MA, his long time residence and participation in Haverhill makes him a true "Hillie." As a student at Boston University, Mr. Vartabedian was introduced to photography. He then received an opportunity through the Holy Cross Armenian Catholic Church to study abroad at the famed Mekhitarist Monastery in Vienna, Austria, where he spent a year photographing the liturgical

life of priests and their environment.

Over the years, Mr. Vartabedian has cherished diversification of photojournalism, salon printing and wedding photography, combining all three mediums into the world he loves to see - "Peeping Tom."

He retired last January from the Haverhill Gazette, where he spent 40 years as a staff writer/photographer. He actively maintains his role as a judge and speaker at camera clubs along the North Shore.

He resides in Haverhill with his wife Nancy, a retired Haverhill School teacher and they are parents to 3 children, Sonya, Ara and Raffi and 4 grandchildren.

The Haverhill Artist of the Month was created by Mayor Fiorentini to foster Haverhill's thriving art community. Haverhill artists interested in being considered for Artist of the Month can submit copies of their work and artist's statement to the Mayor's Office.

members of the Haverhill High Boys Swim Team, back to the renovated and improved Charles White Memorial Swimming Pool and Haverhill High School today.

The Pool has seen several improvements as part of the \$27 million upgrade to the Haverhill High School facilities, designed to eliminate any possible accreditation issues. Improvements include better lighting, electrical and fire safety upgrades, increased handicapped accessibility and heating, cooling and plumbing improvements. The pool received a 60-day temporary occupancy permit while other building issues are completed. A high school swim meet regularly scheduled for today was held.

"I'm thrilled that the pool is open for swimmers, including our Haverhill High swim teams and the private clubs that pay to rent the pool from the City," exclaimed

Mayor Fiorentini. "Many unforeseen construction problems and delays affected the pool building, but I'm glad the City staff, including the Fire Chief and his Inspectional Team, our new Permitting Ombudsman and Building Inspectors worked together to get the facility open as soon as possible," added the Mayor.

"The White Pool is another signature milestone in our ongoing High School Renovation project," announced Superintendent Buchanan. "I'm looking forward to the Hillies' Swim Team regaining a 'home pool advantage' for the rest of the season in an improved facility."

The opening of the pool eliminates the need to bus swimmers to other practice facilities, and allows the City to receive rental payments from outside swim leagues. The overall high school renovation is expected to be on time and on budget.

ACTIVITIES AT THE Haverhill Senior Center

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Mayor Fiorentini's Inaugural Address

- scores in a decade;
- The highest percentage of high school graduates of any urban school district in the State.
 - The greatest influx of new retail stores in three decades.
 - A stable or declining crime rate that makes us one of safest urban areas around and,
 - The largest investment in downtown in history.

Change brings a new set of challenges

Today we have a changed city, but every change brings with it an entirely new set of challenges. Today, we are challenged to bring in new jobs at a time when our State economy teeters on the brink of recession. To do this, we need to open new industrial parks to business and we need to expand the Hildale Avenue Industrial Park. There are so many challenges to meet. I'd like to speak of one of them today.

How we preserved shoe shop era

Four years ago, I spoke to you of one the challenge of turning brownfields into greenfields and taking old shoe factory buildings and turning them into vibrant centers of commerce.

The odds were against us and they said it couldn't be done. They said that the buildings were polluted, there was no parking, and those buildings, many of which had been vacant for half a century, could never be used again. We worked together and today, the old Hamel Leather building is in the process of becoming the Forest City development, a \$70 million development, the largest investment in the history of our city.

River city

Preserving the shoe shop era was important, but the shoe shop era was not the only important era in our city and it is not the only era we should preserve. Before Haverhill was a shoe city, Haverhill was a ship building city. By the late 1700s three shipyards were working full time in Haverhill, building tall sailing ships to go out to the Atlantic. In 100 years, 252 tall sailing ships were built in Haverhill. For two hundred years, our shipyards sent ships and molasses and sturgeon to Europe and brought in goods from Europe.

Over the decades, new bridges downriver blocked our tall ships from sailing to the Atlantic. The last tall ship sailed from Haverhill in 1909—and a little over 200 years after our ship building tradition started, it was over. Then for the next 100 years, walls were built and houses faced away from the river, and we turned our back to the Merrimack. In the 1970s, this began to change. We began to clean up our river; polluters moved or cleaned up their act. Today, we are spending millions of dollars to separate storm water from waste water, and soon, the Merrimack River will be clean enough to swim in for the first time in a century. Today, instead of turning our backs along the river, we are turning towards it. Today it's clear: The



Members of the Haverhill High School Chorus sang The National Anthem.

river is back!

But like every other change, this change brings with it its own set of challenges. As we look up and down the Merrimack today, we see vast stretches of vacant land. Someday, these tracts of land will be developed. Now is time to make certain it is done right.

Today's challenge is clear: we need to revise our zoning laws so that future generations will always be able to seeing and walking along and boating along the Merrimack. We need to provide incentives for private developers to allow public views, public boating, public walkways and public trails along the river. Sometimes we will need to go further, and block development which is not in the public interest, or acquire land for parks and trails when the private industry can not.

This month, I will announce a Waterfront Development Task force, to develop those new waterfront zoning laws.

Later, I'll ask the city council to work with me to develop a Waterfront Commission, with powers to control, acquire and develop land, parks and trails along the river, using eminent domain powers if necessary, so that future generations will always be able to enjoy the river. The details are complicated and will require study and public hearings, but the overall concept is quite simple: the river belongs to all of us, not just to those private interests with the money to develop along the river. Our economic crisis

Make no mistake about it; preserving public access to the river will be difficult. It is much more difficult today because of the financial crisis facing every city in the State today.

Today, we live in the shadow of a recession, with growth slowed to a trickle. Today, every city in the State sees its fixed costs rising faster than its revenues.

On top of the challenges facing every city in the commonwealth, we have our own unique set of challenges caused by the collapse of our regional hospital, the Hale Hospital.

Managed competition

To meet these challenges, we must constantly reinvent government. This year, we'll reorganize our public works

department, and then we will introduce managed competition: we will ask private industry and government to compete for some public jobs. Our goal is a government so efficient that we can beat the bid of any private industry that wants to do city work and pays fair wages and benefits.

Managed competition worked in Charlotte North Carolina, Phoenix Arizona, Indianapolis, San Diego and in Springfield, Massachusetts. It can work here today.

Call to work together

But managed competition is only part of the answer. Solving our financial problems will require that all of us work together in a common sense of shared sacrifice to solve our common problems. Today, I invite the city council, the school committee and our municipal unions to work with us to solve the greatest financial problem we face, controlling out of control health care costs. Municipal Partnership

That municipal partnership has to include our State and Federal officials. Part of the reasons we overcame the odds of four years ago, is the assistance we received from our State and Federal officials, we thank them for their help. That spirit of working together can bring us through the next crisis as well.

Conclusion

But ultimately, this is not a government of Mayors and elected officials, this is your government. With your help, we overcame the great odds we faced four short years ago and today, Haverhill is a better and different place than it was just four years ago. Today more people are working, our children are getting a better education, we have more places to shop, and the Haverhill renaissance is alive and well.

With your help, we can overcome the odds that we face today. Now is our time, and now is your time. I can not promise you miracles, but I can promise you this. We are going to work as hard as we can over the next two years to make this city the great city we know it can be. Join with us, work with us, lend us your hand, your ideas, your energy and your input. This is a great city, and working together, we can make it better still.

Thank you.

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.

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.

Red Sox Game in Toronto

Haverhill Council on Aging and Recreation Department are planning another trip to the Sky Dome Baseball Stadium in Toronto, Canada, to see the Red Sox play the Blue Jays! The bus will leave on Friday, April 4, 2008, at 7:00 a.m. and return in the early evening on Sunday, April 6.

This trip includes a day of sightseeing at Niagara Falls and a trip to Niagara's new casino if desired. Hotel accommodations are at the Travelodge in Niagara Falls. Transportation is provided by luxury motor coach.

Cost for this trip is \$249 per person, double occupancy; \$245 for triple occupancy, and \$329 for single occupancy. All meals are on your own.

Contact Kathy Bresnahan or Rita LaBella at Haverhill COA 978-374-2390 to make your reservation or to request additional information.

Craft Class

Wingate at Haverhill and the Council on Aging are offering a craft class at the Citizen Center on Tuesday, March 4, 2008, at 12:00 noon. Participants will create a St. Patrick's Day door ornament. There is no cost for this class.

Don't miss out on the fun!

Please contact Kathy X11 or Rita X16 at 978-374-2390 for additional information.

Baby Boomer Bash

Haverhill Recreation Department is planning an encore Baby Boomer Bash at Haverhill Country Club, Brickett Lane, on Saturday, February 9, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by A Good Time DJ George Whitehouse. Enjoy a great night with new and old friends, and dance to the music of the 60's and 70's!

A cash bar as well as hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and may be purchased at the Citizen Center, 10 Welcome Street, from Kathy Bresnahan or Rita LaBella. Tables of ten may be reserved.

Please contact Kathy X11 or Rita X16 at 978-374-2390 for additional information.

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American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days® Blooms in Massachusetts

cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers. Dollars raised enable the Society to offer free programs and services that help people fight cancer with courage and optimism, while providing physical and emotional support and financial information to ease the cancer experience. Such resources in Massachusetts include:

- Transportation assistance to and from treatment

- Lodging assistance when traveling far distances for treatment
- A one-on-one support program that matches trained breast cancer survivors with those newly diagnosed with the disease to provide emotional support and guidance
- A series of online educational classes for people with cancer and their loved ones
- A free and confidential service that helps cancer patients locate a cancer clinical trial based on their individual situation
- A free program dedicated to teaching women techniques to help restore their appearance and self-image during cancer treatments
- A program that offers free information and support to men with prostate cancer
- 24-hour access to up-to-date, easy to understand cancer information via a toll free information line; 1-800-ACS-2345.

in bulk, 50 bouquets of daffodils for \$500. New this year, are potted daffodils, a multi-stem daffodil bulb, which will bloom beautifully on a desk or at home for a donation of \$15. A Gift of Hope, bouquets of golden-colored daffodils delivered anonymously to a local cancer patient or person in need, is available for a minimum donation of \$20. This year's Bear and a Bunch™, marks the addition of Bea R. Hope, a special Boyds™ Bear designed exclusively for the American Cancer Society and is available for a donation of \$25.

To purchase daffodils or for more information, please call your American Cancer Society at 1.800.ACS.2345 or visit www.cancer.org. The deadline to place an order for Daffodils is Monday, March 3, 2008.

The American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a health problem by saving lives, diminishing suffering and preventing cancer through research, education, advocacy and service. Founded in 1913 and with national headquarters in Atlanta, the Society has 13 regional Divisions and local offices in 3,400 communities, involving millions of volunteers across the United States. For more information anytime, call toll free 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

Additionally, daffodil contributions provide the Society with much-needed dollars to fund groundbreaking cancer research, educate people about the importance of cancer prevention and early detection, and advocate for meaningful public health policies that benefit the community.

Orders for daffodil bouquets are being taken now, with delivery scheduled for the week of March 17. A bouquet of ten daffodils is \$10. Businesses can purchase

Area Residents Earn Karate Ranks

After a grueling three-hour test, several area adults earned advanced ranks in Kyusho Kempo Karate at American School Kara-Te in North Andover recently. Sensei Asa Seeley II, school proprietor and lead instructor, awarded ranks to nine area residents.

Earning second-degree black belts were Louis Rodriguez of Methuen, Arthur Lauretano, MD, of Andover, and Ross Cerami of Boxford. First-degree black belts were awarded to Jamie Evans of Boston, and Rishi Vangapalli of Andover. A preparatory black belt was awarded to Kevin O'Brien of Andover. Asa Seeley III of North Reading and Adam Hardy of Andover earned purple belts. Michael Quinn of North Andover earned a green belt.

To earn their new ranks, the students had to endure a 3-hour test that included self-defense, physical endurance, grappling, and defense against knife and gun attacks. According to Sensei Seeley: "All of the students did exceptionally well. I found very little to critique them on, and I'm proud of the effort and skill they demonstrated."

American School Kara-Te is the Andover's oldest martial arts school, in continuous operation for 26 years. They offer classes for children, teens, and adults, as well as special women's fitness and self-defense courses. For more information, contact Asa Seeley at 978-686-0025 or visit ASK on-line at www.americanschoolkarate.com.

SMOKING CESSATION PROGRAM AT CARITAS HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL

If you or someone you know are ready to quit smoking, we can help. Caritas Holy Family Hospital is offering an 8-week smoking cessation program beginning Monday, October 29 through Monday, December 17. Classes will be held each week from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Participants are asked to pay \$25 at the first session. At the end of the program, all individuals who complete the class have the option to donate the \$25 to the hospital or be reimbursed.

Devote just a few hours one night a week and make a lifetime change for the better. For additional information and to pre-register, please call 978-687-0156, ext. 2301. But don't wait, space is limited.

SODUKU

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01/15/2008
rumbonews.com
Solutions on Page 31

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NECESITAN CHOFERES PARA TRANSPORTAR ANCIANOS

Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Lawrence, una coalición de comunidades de fe, agencias de servicio social y organizaciones de salud, está buscando voluntarios para llevar a ancianos a citas al médico y otras citas de calidad de vida a través del Programa de Friends in Deed de Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley.

Si usted puede, aunque sea ocasionalmente, por favor, llame a Jerry Proulx, reclutador de voluntarios, al 1-800-892-0890 ext. 463 (y mencione Interfaith Caregivers.)

Gracias de parte de Interfaith Caregivers y los muchos ancianos que necesitan de los servicios de choferes voluntarios para poder permanecer independientes en su propio hogar.

CHOOSING *Adoption*

Hi! My name is Chynna

"I love to sing. I want to learn more about the Latino culture"

BY MILTON L. ORTIZ
1-800-882-1176



Chynna is a very outgoing twelve year old Latina girl. She enjoys playing on the computer, doing arts and crafts, singing, and playing with makeup and hair accessories. Last summer, Chynna had a great time at camp and would love to do that every summer. As a big sister, she loves spending time with her brothers, but she doesn't get to see them as often as she would like. She would love to increase her contact with them.

Chynna is a very smart girl who can do well academically, but as a preteen, her social life sometimes gets in the way of her intellectual ability. She would do best with parents who are very involved in the school and know what homework she has to complete each night. Because of her past losses, Chynna is a bit leery of being a part of a family again.

Legally free for adoption, Chynna has stated that she hopes to find a single mother or two-parent Hispanic family, with older children or none at all, who will help her maintain contact with her brothers. She needs steady and dependable parents that will provide structure that will help Chynna blossom to her fullest potential.

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

Neighbors in Action Project Kicks Off

■ **+PICS:** More pictures on Page 6

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 6 para leer este artículo en Español

BY ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

On Tuesday, January 8th at the L/MCC offices located at 112A, East Haverhill St., in Lawrence, Neighbors in Action Block Captains were joined by Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan and Lawrence Police Chief John J. Romero to officially announce the beginning of the Neighbors in Action Block Watch project. Over the past year, the Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition has worked closely with the Lawrence Police Department on a comprehensive plan to engage community residents in keeping their neighborhoods safe.

Residents have joined LMCC staff, neighborhood representatives and Lawrence Police, in raising public awareness about the program through local radio, coordinating Neighborhood Block walks with neighborhood leaders and City department heads, and facilitated a series of trainings for area residents on the reporting of suspicious activities.

Now, today, with the placing of the first new Neighbors in Action Block Watch sign, Block Captains who went through a four hour training, will now report suspicious activities through a special Block Watch Hotline located within the Lawrence Police dispatch center.

The Neighbors in Action Program was initiated by the requests from neighborhood association's leaders to re-institute the program after former Governor Mitt Romney eliminated the old Massachusetts Crimewatch Program under his tenure.



El alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan agradece al Director de L/MCC Harold Magoon, por el reconocimiento recibido. A la izquierda, el Jefe de la Policía John J. Romero, observa.

Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan thanks L/MCC Director, Harold Magoon, for the Safety Recognition Award received. At left, Police Chief John J. Romero, observes.



Mientras Harold Magoon observa, el Oficial de la Policía Comunitaria de Lawrence, Thomas Cuddy, recibe una placa de manos de Don Silva. Harold Magoon watches, while Community Police Officer Thomas Cuddy received a plaque from Don Silva.

The Neighbors in Action Program is funded locally through a Lawrence Community Development Block Grant and the Clippership Foundation. The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council

serves as the fiscal agent for the LMCC.

Additional Block Captain trainings are in the planning stages, residents interested in the program should contact LMCC Director Harold Magoon at 978-975-8793.

MassDEP aerial surveillance tool reveals unauthorized alterations Methuen Resident Penalized \$10,225; Agrees to Restore Altered Wetlands

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has penalized a Methuen resident, Lisa M. Pappalardo, of 221 Tyler Street, for the unauthorized alteration of a wetlands resource area. The violations were first brought to light using aerial surveillance, a tool that has allowed MassDEP to locate valuable resource areas that were altered or destroyed without approval.

On July 13, 2007, MassDEP inspected the site where an equestrian center is operating and confirmed that 2,086 of bordering vegetated wetlands (BVW) had been filled and graded. In addition to placing a horse paddocks on the filled area, an indoor riding arena (65 x 120 feet

in diameter) was constructed in the buffer zone to the BVW.

MassDEP determined that the area was filled in 2003 with wood chips, measuring, in parts, up to 12 feet in depth. Pappalardo conducted the work without required approval from the Methuen Conservation Commission.

In the wake of that inspection, Pappalardo subsequently moved to submit a restoration plan to MassDEP for the area that was altered and that plan was subsequently approved on November 7, 2007.

"Restoration of altered land after the fact is a last resort, and no one's preferred method, but residents have to realize these resource areas serve a vital public function

and if you wish to work in or around the resource area, you need to provide the local conservation commission a written request or notice - and follow through on obtaining approval," said Richard Chalpin director of MassDEP's Northeast Office in Wilmington.

Pappalardo has agreed to submit yearly monitoring reports in order to verify the long-term viability of the restored area. MassDEP has agreed to suspend \$8,225 of the penalty pending full compliance.

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills, and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.

READ PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF RUMBO
ON OUR WEBSITE

RUMBONEWS.COM

CALENDARIO

DEIAMANO VOLUNTEER NEEDED

DELAMANO is seeking for empathic and committed volunteers to answer our domestic violence Spanish/English helpline serving victims of domestic violence in the Greater Lawrence community.

Volunteers must be fluent in spoken English and Spanish and be over 21.

Volunteers are required to attend 24 hours of training covering a variety of topics in the field of Domestic violence.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT WENDY LUZON AT 978-530-7058.

FIESTA MULTICULTURAL ADOPCIONES

Domingo, Febrero 10, 2008, Boys and Girls Club, 15 Talbot Avenue, Dorchester, MA, 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Un evento informativo gratis, abierto para toda persona considerando la adopción de niños mayorcitos, grupos de hermanos y niños de color de DSS. Los futuros padres adoptivos pueden conocer niños disponibles para la adopción y sus trabajadores sociales en un ambiente divertido e informal. Habrá información, refrigerios, actividades y entretenimiento para la familia. Contacte la agencia Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) para más información y para registrarse al 617-54-ADOPT (617-542-3678) o visite www.mareinc.org.

NOTICE

Effective February 4th, 2008
Methuen City Hall hours will change to better serve the citizens of Methuen.

New City Hall Hours
The Searles Building (City Hall) & Quinn Building (City offices)

Effective February 4th, 2008
Monday -Thursday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Friday 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Donations needed!

The Merrimack Valley YMCA is in need of raffle and auction items from local merchants. Such gifts can include: skis and bindings, golf equipment, condominium weekends, concert tickets, signed sports memorabilia, restaurant gift certificates, theater tickets, cycling equipment, resort vacation weeks, limousine service, sporting equipment, just to name a few. The evening includes a silent auction, live auction, and ongoing raffles.

Proceeds from this annual event benefit the YMCA's "Reach Out for Youth" campaign, which supports YMCA community programs including the YMCA's Financial Assistance program, youth and camp scholarships, local outreach services, and the ongoing development of special youth programs.

For further information, contact Melissa O'Brien at 978-725-6681.

Don't miss the fun! The Jumps company will again be our auctioneers! Live auction features 50 items, silent auction features more than 100 items.

Spin® Fast, Spin Long, Spin Hard Tour de Pooch & Pals

Saturday, February 9th, 2008

Health and fitness will take on new meaning for the animals at the MSPCA at Nevins Farm. On Saturday, February 9th four (4) local gyms will take part in the 5th annual spin day to raise funds for the animals at the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen. Cedardale Health and Fitness, Haverhill, Portsmouth Athletic Club, Portsmouth, NH, Latitudes Sports Club, Bradford and Natural High Fitness in Newburyport have come together for one great cause. Individuals or teams can come and enjoy a great workout with top area instructors while making a difference for animals and people in their community.

Pre-registration is required. Pledge sheets and registration information is available on-line at www.mspca.org/nevinsfarm and at each individual fitness center. Sessions will be booked on a first come – first served basis and spaces are limited. You must be 18 years old to participate.

The event's Co-Organizer and Cedardale spinning instructor Marty Silvia explains, "We're combining our love of cycling with our love for animals to help a very worthwhile organization. Two of our three dogs have

been adopted from shelters, and they have given us so much. We are just hoping to give a little back."

The MSPCA at Nevins Farm cares for more than 7,000 animals each year. It is one of the only open door shelters in the country that welcomes dogs, cats, rabbits, and hamsters as well as goats, horses, pigs and chickens. They are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that receives no state or federal funding. The MSPCA at Nevins Farm relies on the generous support of people in the community to continue their work helping people and animals.

Learning Communities Continue at NECC

Northern Essex Community College is offering three new learning communities, "Virtual YoU", "Work and Wealth", and "Comparing Civilizations II" in January for the spring semester.

Learning communities allow students to enroll in two or more courses that have a theme-based curriculum. Two or more faculty members plan the courses together. The students learn and study as a group.

The spring semester offerings include "Virtual YoU" which links Computer Applications and English Composition I, "Work and Wealth" which links English Composition I and College Reading and "Comparing Civilizations II" which links World Literature II and World Civilization II.

The spring semester begins January 22. To register for a learning community a student must co-register in both courses. For days and times of classes visit the NECC website at www.necc.mass.edu/learningcommunities. For additional information on learning communities contact Carolyn Cohen at 978-556-3385 or ccohen@necc.mass.edu

NECC Offers Transition to College Program

High School and GED recipients, nonnative English speakers and others who may need additional support before enrolling in college are invited to participate in the Transition to College Program, a free program that will be offered by Northern Essex Community College beginning Thursday, Jan.24, 2008, on the Lawrence campus.

Meeting Tuesdays and Thursday from 6 to

9 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the program is designed for students who are serious about attending college but first want to refresh their academic skills, become familiar with college culture, and research a career choice.

Students will build their math, reading and writing skills; acquire study and time management skills; get help with college admissions and financial aid applications; and participate in career choice testing. Students will also enroll in a free three-credit "Computers for Beginners" class.

"This program is designed to take the anxiety out of transitioning into college-level coursework," said Lynn Ricketts, program coordinator. "Graduates of the program will be ready to succeed in college. This program is funded through a grant from the Nellie Mae Foundation and World Education.

To register or for more information, please contact Lynn Ricketts by phone at 978-738-7622 or by email at lricketts@necc.mass.edu.

Register Now for Spring Classes beginning January 22 at NECC

It is not too late to register for classes or programs for the spring semester at Northern Essex Community College which begins January 22. In fact, you don't even need an appointment to make plans for your future education.

Just visit the NECC Career Planning and Advising Center (CPAC) to register. On the Haverhill campus it is located in the Behrakis One-Stop Student Services Center, 100 Elliott St. In Lawrence, CPAC is located in Room L135 at the 45 Franklin Street campus.

Hours are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at both locations. Additional hours have been added for Saturday, January 12, 19, and 26, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

New students are encouraged to meet with an adviser before registering for their classes. Staff members are on hand to assist with any enrollment questions or concerns.

All interested students are invited to attend weekly information sessions which are held on Tuesdays, 6 p.m., Haverhill Campus, and Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. Lawrence Campus. Call 978 556-3700 to reserve a space.

MERRIMACK VALLEY YMCA

We want your family to be part of our family. Join the YMCA!

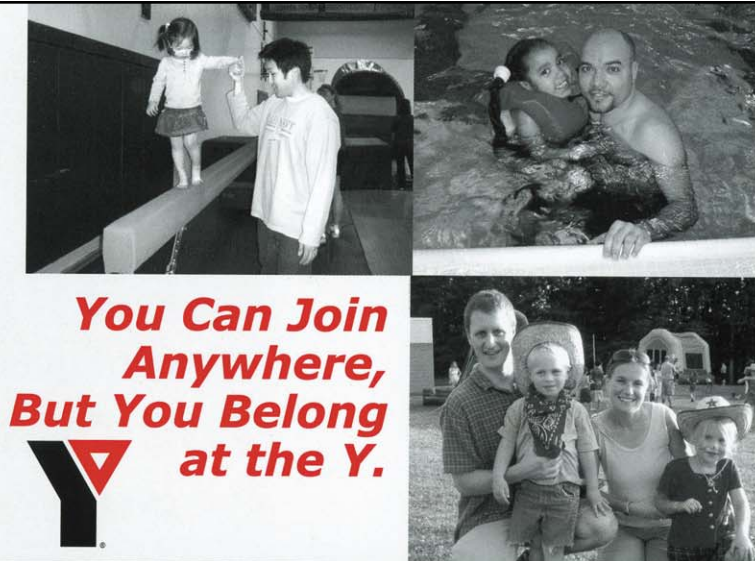
Bring this ad to the YMCA's Welcome Center – redeem this for a 2-week family membership.

You can also redeem this for an 2-week individual adult membership.

If your family joins the YMCA between now and February 15, 2008, you will receive **\$100 in Y bucks**, which can be used toward YMCA classes.

If you take out an adult membership, you will receive **\$50 in Y bucks!**

YMCA members – bring this ad to the Welcome Center. We'll give you a pass to refer a friend for this 2-week family membership. When your friend joins, you will receive \$100 in Y bucks, too!



You Can Join Anywhere, But You Belong at the Y.



- **Wellness Centers** – work out using our state-of-the-art cardiovascular and strength training equipment
- **Swimming Pools** – enjoy family fun swim, lap swim time and parent/child swim classes
- **Monthly Family Nights** – meet other families from our community
- **Child Watch** – babysitting while you work out
- **For Early Birds** – we open at 5:00 a.m. for those early morning work-outs!

- **Character Development** – values that are important to you as a parent are important to us at the YMCA. "Everybody plays, everybody wins!" – The YMCA develops character by demonstrating and teaching the core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.
- **Your YMCA membership** includes dozens of group exercise classes, Spinning classes, aerobics classes, yoga classes – all at no additional fee!

www.mvymca.org

* Some restrictions apply. For more information, stop by and speak with a Member Services Representative.

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.

Northern Essex offers day, evening, weekend, and online classes and certificate and associate degree programs in a wide variety of fields including health, criminal justice, computer technology, engineering, deaf studies, business, early childhood and elementary education, graphic design, and human services to name just a few.

For additional information call 978-556-3700 or visit the college's website www.necc.mass.edu.

VOLUNTEER TEACHERS NEEDED

The Lawrence Branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Resident Education Center offers programming which focuses on supportive services for very low income residents of the YMCA and the Greater Lawrence community.

Services include assistance in Pre-GED preparation, Basic and Intermediate Computer instruction, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, including conversational English, and assistance to accessing mainstream resources.

The classes are free to qualified participants. (However preference is given to homeless and formerly homeless individuals). When a particular class is filled, the YMCA maintains a waiting list for future classes.

For more information, please contact Luz Wheatly at 978-686-6191. The YMCA is located at 40 Lawrence Street, Lawrence.

THNA Meeting

Tower Hill Neighborhood Association will be meeting on Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at 7:00 PM at Our Lady of Good Counsel School's Judson Hall. This is an opportunity for residents to discuss quality of life issues and concerns with local government. In attendance will be Police Chief John Romero, Fire Chief Peter Takvorian and City Councilors. All residents are welcomed to attend.

La Asociación de Vecinos de Tower Hill tendrá una reunión el miércoles, 23 de enero a las 7:00 PM en la Escuela Our Lady of Good Counsel en Judson Hall. Esta es una buena oportunidad para los residentes discutir asuntos relacionados a la calidad de vida y otras preocupaciones con su gobierno local. En asistencia estarán el Jefe de Policía John Romero, el Jefe del Departamento de Bomberos Peter Takvorian y los concejales de la ciudad. Todos los residentes son bienvenidos.

"Put a Little Light in Your Life"

A photography show by the Merrimack Valley Camera Club at Lawrence Heritage State Park
1 Jackson St., Lawrence

January, 2008

Open daily, 9-4
Free admission, fully accessible
978-794-1655

MSPCA-METHUEN & RUMBO COOPERATIVE EDUCATION COLUMN

ADOPT A PET

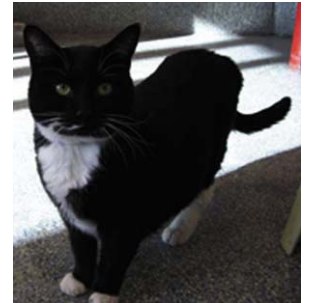


BEANO, CAT - BLACK DSH, NEUTERED MALE

Beano came to the MSPCA way back in August after being abandoned by his family in an apartment. We do know that he lived with a dog and young children in his previous home. Here at the shelter he has proven to be a wonderful cat. Beano is extremely outgoing and tolerant. He likes to be around other cats and is getting plenty of socializing time in our cat colony room. Come in and meet this handsome guy and give him the home he deserves!

FATTY, CAT - BLACK & WHITE DSH, SPAYED FEMALE

Poor Fatty got stuck with a terribly degrading name! And she's really not even that fat - just a little bit jiggle in the middle. Fatty is a great cat who came to us due to allergies in the household. Fatty is currently living in our cat colony room and she is always the first one to greet you when you walk through the door. She is extremely loving and always looking for attention. Fatty loves other animals and has lived with children in the past as well. She would prefer to go home with her brother, Alden, but would understand if an adopter is only looking for one cat. At 2 years old, Fatty is still a very young cat - she would make a great addition to any family!



KAIRO, CAT - WHITE DLH, NEUTERED MALE

Don't let these angelic photographs fool you - Kairo is a wild and crazy dude when he wants to be. He is a 2-year-old neutered male that came to the shelter because he wasn't getting along with the dog in his former household. We are recommending a home with no dogs and older children only for this frisky guy. He absolutely loves other cats but plays extremely rough with them and would not be appropriate for mellow or more stoic cats. This guy needs another rough and tumble playmate. Kairo is currently living with Elvis, who has recovered wonderfully from his hip surgery. These two complement each other and are hysterical to watch when they start wrestling - adopt them together and you will never be bored again!

BO JANGLES, DOG - PIT BULL TERRIER, NEUTERED MALE

Hi my name is Mr. Bo Jangles, and I am at the shelter because my owner wasn't taking good care of me. I am a super nice dog who is so sweet and loves to spend time with my family. I could use some training to help me gain some confidence. I know if you come down to the shelter and meet me you will fall in love!

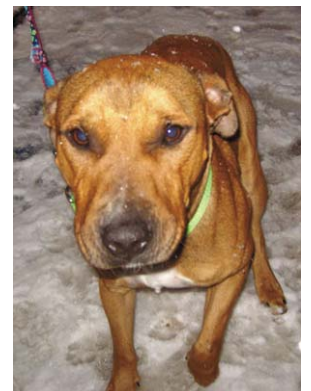


JULES, DOG - PIT BULL TERRIER, SPAYED FEMALE

Hi my name is Jules. I am a sweet girl who is at the shelter because my owner decided to move to another country and abandon me. I have no idea why because I am an awesome girl! I love to cuddle and play, and as I am sure you can tell from my pictures, I am super cute. I like other dogs, but I would prefer to be the only dog in my house. Come on down and check me out today and you'll fall in love for sure!

ROCCO, DOG - PIT BULL TERRIER, NEUTERED MALE

Hi my name is Rocco! I am here at the shelter because my owner moved to another country and couldn't take me along. I am an active young dog who loves to play. I am super sweet and affectionate and I love people so much! Come down to the shelter and meet me today!



www.rumbonews.com

Today's Knowledge Economy: Renewing the Connection in Merrimack Valley Cities

January 25, 2008
7:45AM to 11:30AM

Wannalancit Mill,
600 Suffolk St., Lowell
UMass Lowell

Please join us for a special business forum about strategies to strengthen the connection of the region's cities to the knowledge economy. The event will feature a presentation on the findings of MassINC's *Reconnecting Massachusetts Gateway Cities* research report, analysis of economic challenges and opportunities facing the Merrimack Valley region, and panel discussions with state and local experts on the keys to economic revitalization.

To register electronically to attend this event, please send an email to RSVP@massinc.org. Please be sure to write that you are RSVPing for the January 25th Gateway Cities Merrimack Valley Forum and include your full name in the email.

PRESENTING SPONSORS:

MassINC, UMass Lowell, Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council, Merrimack Valley Mayors Coalition, and Theodore Edson Parker Foundation

GATEWAY CITIES REPORT SPONSORS:

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GATEWAY CITIES EDUCATION & OUTREACH FUND:

John Adams Innovation Institute of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, MassDevelopment, and Cabot Family Charitable Trust.

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Angels for Animals

You can help an animal in need to find its forever home by donating to our Angels for Animals fund. All proceeds will go towards the medical costs of a dog, cat or small animal here at our shelter.

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.

CLASIFICADOS

ANNOUNCEMENT



CITY OF LAWRENCE

Next week, the City of Lawrence will mail its Annual Census Form to all homes in the City. The Census is now in Spanish and English for the convenience of everyone answering the Census. This information on the form is used by the City of Lawrence voters to establish local statistics within the City, and to notify this division of any changes in the household. The

Census also, provides proof of residence to the Election Division and protects an individual from being dropped from the Active Voter List. It is very important that everyone participate in this process. You should keep the following in mind when answering the Census, the Return envelope this year is prepaid.

1. Upon receipt, the Annual Census Form should be completed and returned within TEN (10) DAYS, or immediately thereafter, to the City Clerk's Office, 200 Common Street, Room 107, Lawrence, MA 01840.
2. Verify and/or complete all information listed on the form.
3. List all family or household members whose legal address is the same. Include any member of the family in the Military, away at school or confined to a rest home whose legal residence is the same.
4. Cross off any resident no longer residing at this address and list his/her new address.
5. Indicate if any individual listed has moved or is deceased.

For further information, please call the Election/Census Division at (978) 794-5807 or 978-620-3290

AVISO



CIUDAD DE LAWRENCE

En Enero 16 del presente, la Ciudad de Lawrence enviara por correo el Censo Anual a todos los hogares en la Ciudad. El Censo ahora es en español e inglés para la conveniencia de los Hispanos contestando el mismo. NO se proporciona esta información a agencias, y su sólo uso es para que la Ciudad de Lawrence pueda establecer datos estadísticos locales, dentro

de la misma y también notificar a la división de Elecciones de cualquier cambio en el hogar. El Censo, también proporciona pruebas de que Ud. esta viviendo en la Ciudad y le protege contra ser removido de la Lista de Votantes Activos. Es muy importante que todo el mundo participe en este proceso. Cuando contestes el Censo, debes llevar en mente lo siguiente:

En esta ocasión el sobre de retorno esta previamente pago.

1. Al recibo, el Censo Anual se debe completar y devolver dentro de DIEZ (10) DÍAS, ó inmediatamente, a la Oficina de City Clerk's Office, 200 Common Street, Room 107, Lawrence, MA 01840.
2. Verifica y/ o completa toda la información listada en el formulario.
3. Enumera toda la familia o miembros de la casa cuya dirección legal es la misma. Incluye cualquier miembro de la familia en el Ejército, fuera en la universidad o confinado a un hogar de descanso cuya dirección legal es la misma.
4. Tache cualquier persona que ya no vive en esta dirección y escriba su nueva dirección.
5. Indique si cualquier individuo listado se ha mudado o se ha muerto.

Para más información, favor de llamar la División de Censo a (978) 620-3290

AVISO

CIUDAD DE LAWRENCE

- La Ciudad de Lawrence sostendrá una Primaria Presidencial el 5 de febrero del año 2008. Los lugares de votación estarán abiertos desde 7:00 AM hasta las 8:00 PM.
- Habrá ayuda bilingüe disponible en cada lugar de votación de la Ciudad y de la División de Elecciones de la Ciudad.
- La División de Elecciones tendrá literatura bilingüe disponible al público en general.
- La última fecha para registrarse para votar será el miércoles, 16 de enero del año 2008.
- Las Boletas de Voto Ausente estarán disponibles en la División de Elecciones de la Ciudad. Las personas que usarán el Voto Ausente pueden votar directamente en la Oficina de la División de Elecciones hasta las 12:00 PM, del lunes, 4 de febrero del año 2008.
- Para más información, favor de llamar a la División de Elecciones al (978) 794-5807 ó (978) 620-3290, o visitarnos en el internet.

www.CityofLawrence.com
En Español

ANNOUNCEMENT

CITY OF LAWRENCE

- The City of Lawrence will hold a Presidential Primary on February 5, 2008. The Polls will be open from 7:00 AM until 8:00 PM.
- Bilingual Assistance will be available at each Polling Location throughout the City and the Election Division of City Hall.
- The Election Division shall have Bilingual literature available to the general public.
- Voter registration shall close on January 16, 2008.
- Absentee Ballots are available from the Election Division of City Hall. Individuals voting by Absentee Ballot can vote in the Election Division Office until 12:00 p.m., Monday, February 4, 2008.
- For further information, please call the Election Division at (978) 794-5807 or (978) 620-3290, or visit us on the internet.

www.CityofLawrence.com

VOLUNTEER WITH HOMELESS CHILDREN!

Horizons for Homeless Children is looking for volunteers to play with some great kids for 2 hours a week. Your time can make a world of difference for the children living in homeless shelters in Massachusetts. Many located in the Merrimack Valley including Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell and Tewksbury.

A commitment of six months and attendance at a training session are required. Upcoming trainings include Boston, July 24 and 25 and Peabody, July 30 and 31. For more information about the program, visit our website: horizonsforhomelesschildren.org, or call or write Sheila Carman at 978-557-2182 - scarman@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org.

Esta pulsera era un regalo que Amber Apodaca recibió del centro donde ayudaba a adolescentes con problemas de drogas y alcohol. La tenia puesta cuando un chofer menor de edad borracho le quitó la vida

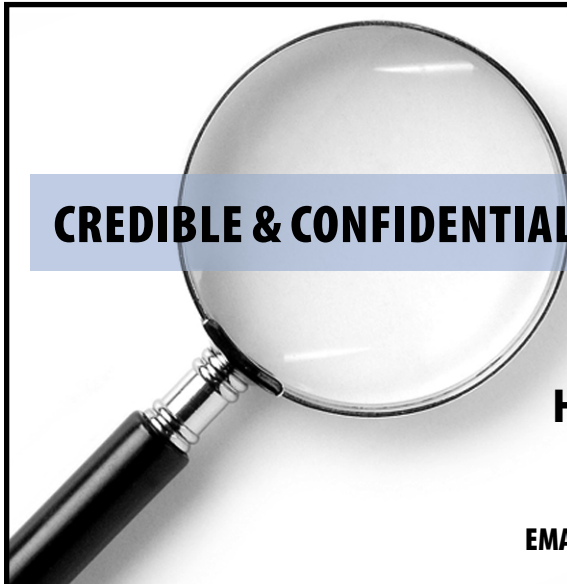
Los amigos no dejan que amigos manejen borrachos



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Si pensabas que un anuncio pequeño no funciona, esta es la prueba de que te equivocas. Este pequeño anuncio ha logrado llamarte la atención y le has dedicado unos segundos de tu tiempo. Los lectores de Rumbo podrían estar leyendo sobre tus productos y/o servicios. El costo del anuncio no es un secreto ni envuelve trucos de venta. Este lo podrás calcular con la guía que aparece debajo. ¿Qué pondrias tú en este espacio? Comunícate con Alberto al (978) 794-5360.

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The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee

Presents...

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Friday, January 18, 2008
7:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Andover Country Club
60 Canterbury St. Andover, MA
Includes a Full Hot Breakfast Buffet



Invited/Confirmed Guests:

Lt. Governor Timothy Murray

Andover ~Town Manager Reginald Stapczynski

Lawrence ~ Mayor Michael Sullivan

Methuen ~ Mayor William Manzi, III

North Andover ~Town Manager Mark H. Rees

Amesbury ~ Mayor Thatcher Kezer

Haverhill ~ Mayor James Fiorentini

Lowell ~ Mayor William F. Martin Jr.

Tewksbury ~ Town Manager David Cressman

For more information, call the Chamber at (978) 686-0900

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 Grocery Store at Street Level Coin-Op Laundry in Basement

CITY: HAVERHILL
RENT: \$650-750 - ONLY 4 UNITS LEFT
CONTACT: Peter (Owner) 978.317.1063

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 ¡Sin plomo! ¡Todo el piso es de madera!
 ¡Muchas amenidades!

¡Tienda de comestibles al nivel de la calle! Lavadora/Secadora operada por monedas, en el sótano.

CIUDAD: HAVERHILL
RENTA: \$650-\$750
SOLO QUEDAN 4 UNIDADES
CONTACTO: Peter (Dueño) 978.317.1063

Se Renta: Espacio comercial en el 466 de la calle Haverhill en Lawrence. Para más información llamar al (978) 682-3648.

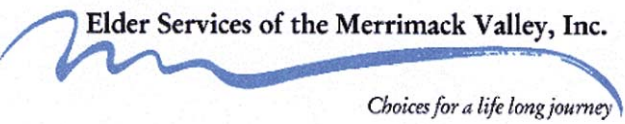
Commercial Space For Rent: 466 Haverhill Street, Lawrence. For more information call (978) 682-3648

THE ROACH HUNTER



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VOLUNTARIOS



Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc.
Choices for a life long journey

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley (Servicio a los ancianos del Valle de Merrimack) está activamente reclutando voluntarios para un número de programas y servicios relacionados con la asistencia a ancianos en el Valle de Merrimack.

NECESITAMOS VOLUNTARIOS PARA:

- Llevar a ancianos a sus visitas al médico.
- Trabajar como acompañantes en la casa.
- Ir de compras y/o hacer mandados tales como recoger medicinas de la farmacia.
- aconsejar a los ancianos sobre las opciones de seguro de salud
- Abogar por los residentes de casas de asilo

Disponibilidad de reembolso por millas recorridas. Proveemos orientación, entrenamiento y constante apoyo.

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley es una agencia privada sin ánimo de lucro. Su misión es la de crear programas y servicios que los dé fuerza a adultos para que permanezcan seguros e independientes en sus propios hogares y comunidades por el mayor tiempo como sea posible. Anualmente, más de 20,000 ancianos a través de 23 ciudades y pueblos del Valle de Merrimack reciben asistencia de varios programas ofrecidos por Elder Services. Nuestras oficinas están convenientemente localizadas en Lawrence, en el 360 de la Calle Merrimack.

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN, FAVOR DE LLAMAR AL 800-893-0890, EXT. 445 Ó 463 A NUESTRO PROGRAMA DE VOLUNTARIOS. SE ALEGRARÁ DE HABERLO HECHO.

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4	1	9	2	8	6	7	3	5
3	6	8	5	7	1	2	4	9
2	5	7	9	3	4	1	8	6
7	8	6	3	5	2	4	9	1
5	4	3	8	1	9	6	7	2
1	9	2	4	6	7	3	5	8
8	3	1	6	4	5	9	2	7
6	2	5	7	9	3	8	1	4
9	7	4	1	2	8	5	6	3

DIFFICULTY: ★☆☆

Solutions for 01/15/2008
 rumbonews.com

1	8	2	9	4	6	5	7	3
7	3	9	5	8	1	2	6	4
5	6	4	3	2	7	9	8	1
8	9	5	6	1	4	3	2	7
2	4	1	8	7	3	6	9	5
3	7	6	2	5	9	1	4	8
9	1	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
4	2	3	1	9	8	7	5	6
6	5	7	4	3	2	8	1	9

DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆

5	7	2	4	6	3	8	9	1
3	1	4	9	2	8	5	7	6
9	6	8	5	7	1	3	2	4
6	4	1	3	8	7	2	5	9
2	9	3	6	4	5	1	8	7
7	8	5	1	9	2	4	6	3
4	5	7	8	1	9	6	3	2
8	2	6	7	3	4	9	1	5
1	3	9	2	5	6	7	4	8

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

\$7.50	\$7.50
\$7.50	\$7.50

Do the Math!
 Do you have a product and/or service to advertise? Let Rumbo readers be your potential customers! If you are able to advertise your product and/or service on the FOUR columnar inches shown on the left, it will not cost you a fortune. Do the Math! Keep in mind, this is a small yet effective ad, you are reading it!

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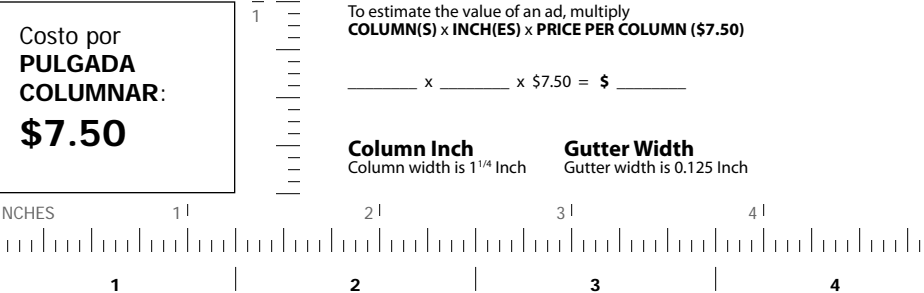
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COLUMN(S) x INCH(ES) x PRICE PER COLUMN (\$7.50)

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Column Inch
 Column width is 1^{1/4} Inch

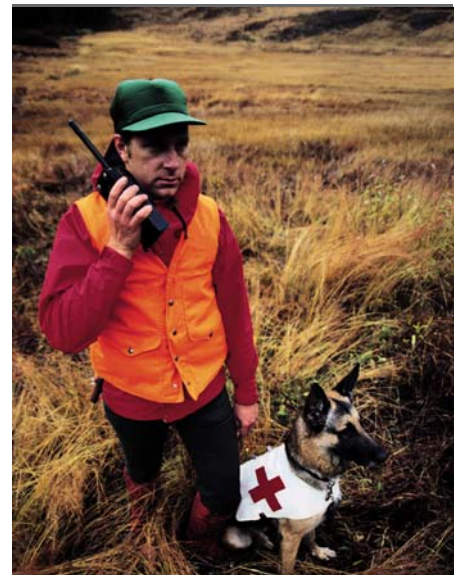
Gutter Width
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