



5 NUEVOS OFICIALES DE POLICÍA PARA LAWRENCE

5 new Police Officers for Lawrence

From left, Kevin Schiavone, Shawn McLellan, Chief John J. Romero Guillermo Rojas, Felix Gonzalez y/and, Ariel Montas

PÁGINA 7



Methuen: Estado de la Ciudad

El jueves, 7 de febrero, 2008, el Alcalde de Methuen William M. Manzi, III entregó su Estado de la Ciudad ante un grupo de ciudadanos reunidos en el Senior Center de Methuen. Usted puede leer el texto completo de su discurso en la página 12.

Methuen's State of the City

On Thursday, February 07, 2008, Methuen Mayor William M. Manzi, III delivered his State of the City address at the Methuen Senior Center. You can read his speech on page 12.



Speaker DiMasi en Lawrence

El Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi, derecha, hizo una breve parada la semana pasada en Lawrence para unir fuerzas con el Representante William Lantigua (D-Lawrence), en apoyo a Hillary Clinton para Presidente.

Speaker DiMasi en Lawrence

Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi, right, made a brief stop in Lawrence last week to join forces with Representative William Lantigua (D-Lawrence), in support of Hillary Clinton for President. **PAGE 8**

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Comcast aumenta ayuda a B&G Club

Robert Carr, Comcast Government Affairs, y el Alcalde de Lawrence Michael J. Sullivan fotografiados con Gina Gómez, 9, alumna de 3er grado en la Frost School; Amarillis Pimentel, 9, de 3er grado en la Wetherbee School y Jazmine Jiménez, 9, de 4to grado en la Oliver School. Ellas son solo tres de los muchos niños que se beneficiarán con la dádiva de Comcast al Boys & Girls Club.

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Hockey de celebridades

Boston Bruins Defenseman's Frank Simonetti, autografía el programa a Jimmy Spearmak de Methuen, durante el Celebrity Hockey Game entre Lawrence Police All Stars y Boston Black & Gold Legends.

CELEBRITY HOCKEY Jimmy Spearmak from Methuen got his program autographed by Boston Bruins Defenseman's Frank Simonetti, during the Celebrity Hockey Game between the Lawrence Police All Stars and Boston Black & Gold Legends. **PAGE 13**

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Speaker DiMasi en Lawrence



El Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi y el Representante William Lantigua (D-Lawrence), en la esquina de la Broadway con la Calle Lowell, rodeados de simpatizantes de Hillary Clinton.

Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi and State Representative William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) are surrounded by Hillary Clinton's sympathizers while standing on the corner of Broadway and Lowell street.

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 8 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

“No cabe la menor duda de que Lawrence está con Hillary”, dijo el Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi. El Speaker DiMasi hizo este comentario mientras estaba parado junto al Representante William Lantigua (D-Lawrence), en la esquina de la Broadway con la Calle Lowell en una demostración a favor de Hillary para Presidente.

El Speaker DiMasi ha estado recorriendo el estado en apoyo de la candidatura de Hillary Clinton para presidente y el pasado sábado, 2 de febrero hizo una breve parada en Lawrence, donde unió fuerzas con el Representante Lantigua, y mostró estar extremadamente satisfecho con el entusiasmo que mostraban los chóferes que al pasar junto a ellos, sonaban las bocinas de sus autos cuando notaban al grupo parado en la esquina con carteles de Hillary para Presidente.

Resultado de las elecciones en Lawrence

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 8 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
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La observación hecha por el Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi la semana pasada durante su breve visita a Lawrence, cuando dijo: “No cabe

la menor duda de que Lawrence está con Hillary”, resultó como magia en Super Martes.

Hillary Clinton prácticamente barrió el piso con Barack Obama, especialmente en Lawrence, a pesar de los endosos hechos por los Senadores Kerry, Kennedy y el Gobernador Patrick.

	(D) HILLARY CLINTON	(D) BARACK OBAMA	(R) JOHN MCCAIN	(R) MIKE HUCKABEE	(R) MITT ROMNEY	(G) RALPH NADER
TOTAL VOTES	6,376	2,049	533	74	710	9
%	73%	24%	37%	5%	50%	60%
Total Ballots Cast in Lawrence: 10,150						

EDITORIAL

Congratulaciones al Alcalde Manzi

El Alcalde de Methuen, William M. Manzi III pronunció su discurso sobre el Estado de la Ciudad el 7 de febrero, haciendo notar los logros más importantes de su administración durante el pasado año, entre ellos, el Plan Maestro de la ciudad.

Luego de meses de duro trabajo y largas reuniones que involucraron a empleados de la ciudad, residentes y líderes de negocios, el Plan Maestro fue dado a conocer y en este momento está disponible para ser revisado por el público.

El año pasado, él fue capaz de unir a la ciudad, con el Departamento de Recursos Humanos del Departamento Escolar creando una posición de Director Combinado de Recursos Humanos, ahorrándole a los contribuyentes de la ciudad más de \$70,000 en el proceso, con la eliminación de una sola plaza.

Ahora Methuen está haciendo un buen uso de la tecnología moderna, permitiéndole al público solicitar permisos de construcción a través de la internet. Grandes mejoras se han hecho a la página cibernética de la ciudad haciéndola más informativas y mucho más fácil de navegar.

Según mencionó en su discurso, ya él está trabajando en el presupuesto 09 y según él, ha instruido a sus jefes de departamento a que sean más eficientes y que consideren consolidaciones donde estas sean apropiadas.

Estamos muy complacidos de saber que el Alcalde Manzi esté interesado en Energía Verde, algo que él dice su administración está estudiando y considerando. Algo que cada ciudad y pueblo debe estar interesado y considerando.

¡Y gracias al Alcalde Manzi por distribuir el texto de su discurso a la prensa, horas antes de pronunciarlo!

Congratulations, Mayor Manzi!

Methuen Mayor William M. Manzi III offered his State of the City Address on February 7, pointing out the most important accomplishments of his administration during the past year, among them, the City's Master Plan.

After months of hard work and long visioning meetings that involved city employees, residents and business leaders, the Master Plan was released and now is ready and available for the public's review.

Last year, he was able to merge the city and the School Human Resources Department creating a position of Joint Human Resources Director saving the taxpayer over \$70,000 a year in the process, with the elimination of one entire position.

Methuen is now making good use of technology by allowing the public to apply for building permits online. Great improvements have been done to the city's website making it more informative and easier to navigate.

As he mentioned in his speech, he's already looking into the 09 budget and have instructed his department heads to search for efficiencies and consolidations where appropriate.

We were delighted to learn that Mayor Manzi is interested in Green Energy, something he said his administration is studying and considering. Something every city and town should be interested and considering!

And thank you to Mayor Manzi, for distributing his speech to the press hours before its delivery!

Rumbo

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rumbonews.com/blogs

Desde Mi Esquina

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 15 to read this article in English



La Junta Vigilante Fiscal

La semana pasada mencioné una junta fiscal que el Alcalde Michael Sullivan ha nombrado para velar las finanzas de la ciudad y les dije que iba a averiguar quiénes son los miembros que la componen para traérselos. Ellos son: el Director Ejecutivo de American Training, Tom Connors; la ex Concejal Marie Gosselin; el ex Concejal Joseph Parolisi; el empresario Chet Sidell; y el Presidente de Corporate Express Norm Jones con su esposa. San Lupoli fue invitado pero no pudo asistir a la reunión.

Mark Andrews me dio la información y le dije de mi preocupación con los nombres en esa lista porque la comunidad no está representada. Su respuesta fue que este es un comité formado para un

propósito determinado para asesorarlo a él, no al alcalde y sujeto a ser cambiado de una semana a otra o dependiendo de qué tema se va a discutir. Esa junta en particular fue escogida porque estaban considerando la Clasificación de los Impuestos; cuando sea hora de tratar otros tópicos, invitarán a diferentes personas a tomar parte. Además, las personas que quieran participar en este comité y ofrecer su ayuda pueden llamar por sí solos para estar en este comité.

El enfatizó que “esto no es algo que Mark Andrews tiene que hacer; esto es algo que yo quiero hacer.” El quiere escuchar directamente de parte de miembros de la comunidad sobre diferentes aspectos. Es obvio que él quiere quitarle responsabilidad al alcalde pero fue Sullivan quien hizo las llamadas para invitar por lo menos a unos cuantos de ellos.

Fue nuestra esperanza que esta junta

de ciudadanos sería responsable de vigilar cómo iban a gastar el dinero de los contribuyentes pero, según el Sr. Andrews, es para asesorarlo (o a la administración) sobre cómo gastarlo y no necesariamente cómo ahorrarlo.

¡Al menos, están ahorrando aquí!

Algunos empleados municipales cobraron menos la semana pasada. Ellos utilizan sus vehículos personales en su trabajo y reciben un estipendio para compensar por la gasolina y el seguro y desgaste del auto. La semana pasada se llevaron tremenda sorpresa al descubrir que no estaba incluido con su cheque ya que la ciudad debe comenzar a ahorrar dinero.

Pues, escogieron la forma más incorrecta de hacer las cosas. Primero porque ellos tienen un contrato con un sindicato que estipula que deben recibir esa compensación. También, porque es tan injusto pretender que están tomando la acción correcta afectando a los más indefensos.

Esta administración tiene el valor de atreverse a negarse a cumplir con un compromiso que fue firmado mientras que tantos administradores en altas posiciones están recibiendo enormes estipendios que son apenas justificables.

Estado de la Ciudad - ¿Cuál?

El Alcalde de Methuen William Manzi presentó el Estado de la Ciudad el

YWCA ofrece mamografías gratis

YWCA de Lawrence & Dana-Farber/ Boston's Mammography Van Auspicarán 4ta Visita de la Unidad Móvil de Mamografías de Boston a Lawrence

La Unidad Móvil de Mamografías de la Ciudad de Boston, en colaboración con la YWCA de Lawrence y la Unidad Especial de la Alcaldía de Lawrence a Beneficio de la Salud (Mayor's Health Task Force), se complacen en anunciar la 4ta visita de la Unidad Móvil de Mamografías de Boston el sábado, 1ro de marzo del 2008, entre las 8:30am-3:30pm. Estas pruebas de mamografías se llevarán a cabo en la YWCA de Lawrence, ubicada en el 38 de la calle Lawrence, en la Ciudad de Lawrence.

La Unidad Móvil de Mamografías de la Ciudad de Boston ofrece mamografía a mujeres de 40 años de edad en adelante, residentes del estado de Massachusetts, quienes nunca hayan recibido una mamografía anteriormente o para quienes haya transcurrido por los menos un año desde su última mamografía. Toda mujer es bienvenida, incluyendo mujeres que posean seguro médico, aquellas sin seguro médico o con cobertura médica limitada, sin importar su estatus migratorio. Personal BILINGÜE estará disponible durante todo el evento.

Representantes de la Red de la Salud Femenina, el programa estatal que ofrece pruebas para la detección del cáncer de senos y cervical gratis, estarán presentes para registrar a participantes sin seguro médico o con seguro médico limitado, quienes resulten elegibles para este programa. Además, representantes de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer estarán disponibles para educar a las participantes acerca de los servicios que esta entidad ofrece, como también elegibilidad para dichos servicios.

Habrán RIFAS especiales para aquellas mujeres que se registren con anticipación, además de información, regalitos y refrigerios para todas las participantes de este evento.

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73 Prospect Street, Lawrence

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CONTINÚA EN LA PÁGINA 9

CONTINÚA EN LA PÁGINA 8

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Comcast aumenta ayuda a Boys and Girls Club

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 17 to read this article in English

Construyendo sobre una sociedad que comenzó en 2003, la Fundación Comcast anunció el viernes, 1ro de febrero la entrega de una dádiva de \$60,000 por los próximos tres años para ayudar en los esfuerzos de desarrollo literario y expandir el programa de tutoría después de la escuela del Boys and Girls Club de Lawrence. Los fondos permitirán que el club pueda ofrecer asistencia adicional en los programas de tareas a través de su Centro de Aprendizaje y lanzar un nuevo programa de tutoría. Esta dádiva aumentará la ayuda de Comcast al Centro de Aprendizaje por los próximos 5 años a un total de \$105,000.

“Nos sentimos muy complacidos de que Comcast haya elegido continuar su compromiso para con nuestro Centro de Aprendizaje”, dijo Markus Fisher, director ejecutivo del club. “Educación es una pieza crítica de lo que hacemos en el club, y estos fondos nos permitirán adquirir nuevos suministros, tales como libros, y programas de computadoras mientras que expandimos los servicios que proveemos para promover el éxito académico de nuestros niños”.

Cada día más de 150 niños vienen al Centro de Aprendizaje del Boys & Girls Club para trabajar con tutores voluntarios los cuales les ayudan con sus tareas escolares, los estimulan a leer independientemente y les ofrecen ayuda con las computadoras. El Centro de Aprendizaje también les provee un área donde los estudiantes pueden estudiar, recibir ayuda académica y proyectos escolares completos en un ambiente rico en libros, computadoras y todas las herramientas que necesiten para triunfar académicamente.

“Comcast está comprometido a invertir en la comunidad donde nuestros clientes y empleados residen”, dijo Dan Blakeman, Vicepresidente del sistema de Comcast de Northern Massachusetts. “El Boys & Girls está haciendo un poderoso impacto en Lawrence y nosotros estamos muy excitados en cuanto a profundizar esta relación y en ayudar a que este importante programa continúe prosperando”.

Ya el Centro de Aprendizaje ha proveído un gran beneficio a los estudiantes participantes y al sistema de la Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence. Recientemente, un análisis de 50 report cards de estudiantes de escuelas elementales e intermedias que frecuentan el Centro de Aprendizaje, muestra que el 44% mejoró sus notas en tres o más asignaturas. Además, 39% de los estudiantes de high school que asisten al Centro de Aprendizaje con regularidad, mostraron una mejoría en sus grados.

El Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan, que de pequeño asistió al Boys Club dijo, “El Lawrence Boys and



Yelitza Cancel, 7, alumna de segundo grado de la Frost School con sus mejores amigas, Kersten Theberge y Raquel Nova, Directora Asistente de Educación y Directora de Educación, respectivamente, del Lawrence Boys & Girls Club.



Todos quieren ser retratados con el Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan.

Girls Club no tiene comparación en su compromiso de proveer un sitio positivo de aprendizaje para nuestros jóvenes después de la escuela. Nuestra comunidad agradece a corporaciones tales como Comcast que dona valiosos recursos a una de las organizaciones más queridas de nuestra ciudad”.

Por más de cinco años, Comcast ha financiado una variedad de iniciativas designadas a expandir el Centro de Aprendizaje. Más allá de ayuda financiera, Comcast ha proveído servicio gratuito de Internet y cable al edificio, además de trabajo voluntario de apoyo proveído por más de 100 empleados de la compañía durante el pasado año, los cuales han ayudado en actividades como mentores, leyendo y dando mantenimiento al edificio del club.

ACERCA DE LA FUNDACIÓN COMCAST

La Fundación Comcast fue fundada en junio, 1999 por Comcast Corporation y es la principal fuente de ayuda caritativa a organizaciones sin ánimo de lucro que califican. Principalmente, la Fundación invierte en programas orientados a crear un impacto positivo dentro de nuestras comunidades en las áreas de trabajo voluntario, alfabetización y desarrollo de liderazgo juvenil. Desde su fundación, la Fundación Comcast ha donado más de \$43 millones a organizaciones en las comunidades que son servidas por Comcast en la nación. Más información acerca de La Fundación y sus programas están disponibles en www.comcast.com/neighborhood.

ACERCA DEL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB DE LAWRENCE

Por los últimos 117 años, el Boys & Girls Club de Lawrence ha estado a la cabeza en el desarrollo de jóvenes del Valle de Merrimack en Massachusetts, trabajando con jóvenes que provienen de familias de bajos recursos económicos. Anualmente, más de 3,000 miembros participan en una amplia variedad de actividades de “después de la escuela” en 5 áreas principales: Desarrollo de Carácter y Liderazgo; Educación y Desarrollo Profesional; Salud, Destrezas y Artes; Buena Forma Física y Recreación. Todos los programas están designados para proveer guía y dirección que puedan ayudar a los jóvenes a lograr su potencial y a crecer siendo un miembro productivo de la comunidad.

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Alicia Lugo dice:

“Ellos me destruyeron y acabaron con mi tranquilidad emocional”

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 22 to read this article in English

POR BEATRIZ PÉREZ

BPerez@RUMBONEWS.COM

Han pasado casi dos años desde que Alicia Lugo sufrió la más grande humillación e injusticia que un ser humano pueda pasar y todavía en su rostro es visible la angustia y la impotencia al recordar el día que la policía irrumpió a su hogar y la acusó de tener perros de pelea en el mismo.

Hoy su caso ha sido desestimado en la corte ya que los policías involucrados en el mismo nunca se presentaron. “Yo hubiese querido ir a juicio para ganarle este caso y para que el pueblo supiera lo que me hicieron a mí”, dijo Lugo.

Asegura la mujer que no le dieron la oportunidad de desahogarse, y que en su mente todavía están imborrables las huellas del día en que oficiales de la policía abusaron de ella y de sus hijos.

“La policía de Lawrence hace siempre lo mismo, nunca se presenta a testificar, ya que no tienen evidencias para sostener el caso y de ahí el hecho de que los cargos

sean desestimados”, destaca.

Con la mirada perdida y el rostro embargado de tristeza Alicia Lugo afirma que desde el momento en que fue abusada físicamente por la policía su vida se arruinó. “La mujer activa, con un trabajo seguro en el que estuve por 11 años, el que perdí como resultado de esta situación y propietaria de varias casas, al tiempo que administraba un edificio de 21 unidades, y manejaba toda esa contabilidad ya no existe”.

Lugo manifiesta que prácticamente no sale porque le provoca miedo el que la policía tome represalias contra ella o sus hijos. “El jefe de la policía (John Romero) es bien rencoroso y no le gusta quedar mal. A mí me gustaría que él me pidiera perdón por todo lo que he pasado por culpa de la policía”, enfatiza.

Actualmente en su mente solo ronda una idea, irse de esta ciudad, “porque no me siento segura aquí”.

Al momento de esta entrevista Alicia



Alicia Lugo sosteniendo en sus manos la urna en donde se encuentran las cenizas de su perra Destiny, la que murió estando bajo la custodia de la policía.

pues no puede asimilar cómo su caso haya terminado de esa manera.

Con la urna donde guarda las cenizas de su perra Destiny, quien muriera mientras estaba en custodia de la policía, Lugo dijo que ante todo lo sucedido su dolor más grande es no poder tener animales en su casa, los que adora. “Quisiera tenerlos, pero me pongo nerviosa de solo pensar que los vecinos se van a quejar y que llamen nuevamente a la policía”, apuntó.

Recuerda que cuando recuperó a Tyson no podía estar tranquila, debido al acoso de los vecinos, que la vigilaban por las ventanas por lo que decidió regalarlo.

“Mi vida y mi tranquilidad emocional está destruida y a todo esto no puedo ir a un doctor porque carezco de seguro médico y en mi hogar todo está como manga por

Lugo dijo que aún no tenía decidido entablar una demanda contra la policía, porque todavía estaba en estado de shock,

CONTINÚA EN LA PÁGINA
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New Police officers for Lawrence



Recién juramentado Oficial de la Policía de Lawrence Félix González con su esposa Alexa y su pequeño nene de 6 meses de edad Félix Jr. junto a su orgulloso padre y abuelo, el Concejal por el Distrito C, Jorge A. González.

Newly sworn-in Lawrence Police Officer Felix González with wife Alexa and 6-month-old son Felix Jr. with proud father and grandfather, District C Councilor Jorge A. González.



El Jefe de Policía de Lawrence, John J. Romero, centro, con el nuevo Oficial de Policía Guillermo Rojas. Rojas es el primer Oficial de la Policía de Lawrence descendiente de guatemaltecos. También en la foto aparece su esposa Jennifer, su padre Guillermo y su madre Mirna Grussi. 24 años atrás, el Oficial Rojas nació en el Hospital Holy Family de Methuen y desde entonces ha vivido en Lawrence.

Lawrence Chief of Police John J. Romero, center, with new Lawrence Police Officer Guillermo Rojas. Rojas is the first Lawrence Police Officer of Guatemalan descent. Also pictured, his wife Jennifer, his father Guillermo and his mother Mirna Grussi. Officer Rojas was born at Holy Family Hospital 24 years ago and has been living in Lawrence ever since.

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Hockey de celebridades



+FOTOS: Más fotos en la Página 13

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 13 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

Hockey en el Valley Forum en Lawrence, donde los Boston Black & Gold Legends jugó en contra de nuestra Lawrence Police All-Stars.

El viernes, 1ro de febrero, 2008, la Lawrence Police Athletic League llevó a cabo su torneo anual Celebrity

Los jugadores por el Departamento de Policía de Lawrence son: Rob Moody, Roy Vasque, Todd Allard, Alan Laird,

el Honorable Kevin Gaffney, Mark Panagiotakos, Mike McCarthy, Mike Driscoll, Dan Fleming, Bill Colantuoni, Terence Pennington, Joe Beaulieu, Greg Arvanitis. Goalie: Chris Simonds. Coach: Chief John J. Romero.

Por el equipo de los Legends, los jugadores de los Bruins eran: Andy Brickley, Ken Hodge, Bob Miller, Don Marcotte, Ken Hodge Jr., Bob Beers, Billy O'Dwyer, John "Chief" Bucyk, John "Pie" McKenzie, Frank Simonetti y Brendon Hodge. Del equipo Stockton Thunder, Brendon Hodge y el goalie, Mike Lalor, es del equipo de Montreal Canadiens.

Todas las incidencias del juego fueron grabadas para LCAT por el voluntario del Canal 8 Michael Garrihy, Asistente Especial del Jefe de Policía John J. Romero y el anunciador, jugada por jugada, fue el Oficial de la Policía Comunitaria Thomas Cuddy.

El juego atrajo cerca de 300 fanáticos de hockey, duró un poco más de una hora y terminó, Legends 14, Lawrence Police 8.

Speaker DiMasi in Lawrence

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 3 para leer este artículo en Español

By ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

“No question about, Lawrence is Hillary Country!” said Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi. Speaker DiMasi made this comment while standing next to State Representative William Lantigua (D-Lawrence), on the corner of Broadway and Lowell streets in a combined rally pro-Hillary for President.

Speaker DiMasi has been touring the state in support of Hillary Clinton for President and last Saturday, February 2, made a brief stop in Lawrence, where he joined forces with Representative Lantigua, and was extremely pleased with the enthusiasm drivers were showing by honking their horns when driving by and noticed the group holding signs of Hillary for President.

Election results in Lawrence

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 3 para leer este artículo en Español

By ALBERTO SURÍS
ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

Speaker of the House Salvatore F. DiMasi's observation during his brief visit last week “No question about it. Lawrence is Hillary Country!”

It worked like magic on Super Tuesday. Hilary Clinton practically swept the floor with Barack Obama, especially in Lawrence, despite the endorsements of Senators Kennedy, Kerry, and Governor Patrick.

Democrats: Hillary Clinton 73.28% - Barack Obama 23.55%

CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA **4**

YWCA ofrece mamografías gratis

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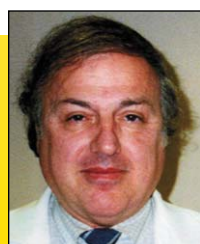
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4

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DÍAZ: Desde Mi Esquina

7 de febrero. ¿Hará lo mismo el Alcalde de Lawrence algún día? ¿Lo esconderá en el sitio de la ciudad en la Internet como hizo el año pasado?

Doctorado en horas de trabajo

Todos sabemos que a través de los años ha habido administradores en el departamento escolar utilizando su día de trabajo y el equipo de su oficina para estudiar, hacer investigaciones y trabajar en sus títulos avanzados pero nunca había llegado al nivel actual de descarado abuso.

Me cuentan que el número de administradores que están haciendo su trabajo para su doctorado durante horas de trabajo ha llegado a un máximo.

El Superintendente Wilfredo Laboy ha creado un nuevo sistema de castas: aquellos que juegan a la pelota con él y los que no.

No confío en promesas de políticos

Durante todas las elecciones me entra el mismo sentido de desconfianza cuando escucho a los políticos haciendo promesas que rara vez mantienen. Preste atención para que vez que todos suenan igual con la misma retórica sobre la pobreza,

este es un comité formado para un propósito determinado para asesorarlo a él, no al alcalde y sujeto a ser cambiado de una semana a otra o dependiendo de qué tema se va a discutir. Esa junta en particular fue escogida porque estaban considerando la Clasificación de los Impuestos;

la educación, el cuidado a la salud, el desempleo, etc. Nadie ha ofrecido un plan explicando cómo lo van a implementar – solamente dicen que lo van a hacer.

Cuando pienso en los más de 35 años que llevo votando, siempre he escuchado a los políticos hablando de eliminar la pobreza, reducir el desempleo, mejorar el sistema educacional y ¡vamos a ni mencionar el cuidado a la salud!

Fue aún muy jovencita cuando dejé de creer lo que los políticos dicen. Recuerdo cuando Fidel Castro fue acusado de ser Comunista y dijo, “Esta revolución es verde, tan verde como nuestras palmas.” Un año más tarde, ¡sorpresa!

Cuando están postulados le dicen lo que el pueblo quiere oír. Una vez que son elegidos, ¡al diablo! Por eso es que debemos mirar su récord. Mirando lo que han hecho es la mejor forma de predecir lo que podrán hacer. Después, vaya a encender una vela y a orar.

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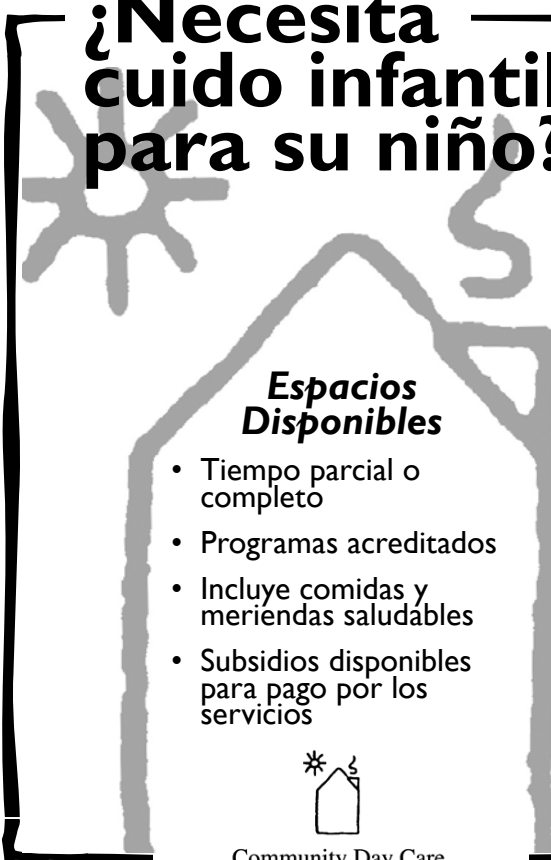


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CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA

6

PÉREZ: Alicia Lugo

hombro, porque la cabecilla de la casa que soy yo, está mal emocionalmente”, sostiene.

Su caso

El 3 de julio, 2006, la Policía de Lawrence destruyó la puerta principal de su casa, al responder a una llamada en donde se denunciaba que había perros peleando. En ese momento Lugo era dueña de dos perros de raza pitbulls, Destiny y Tyson.

Ella fue acusada de realizar peleas de perros en su casa y de crueldad animal. Ambos perros fueron llevados hasta la perrera municipal donde Destiny murió luego de supuestamente haberse infectado con el Virus de Parvo y tuvo que ser sacrificada. El animal murió en el Bulger Animal Hospital.

Al principio Lugo y su hijo Jonathan De la Rosa fueron acusados de “peleas de perros”, luego estos cargos fueron reducidos a “abuso animal”, el cual ha sido desestimado puesto que los policías involucrados nunca se presentaron a sostener su acusación.

Hay abuso Policial

Entiende Lugo que todo el tiempo la policía de Lawrence ha abusado de los ciudadanos. Ella piensa que la razón para que esto suceda se debe a que la mayoría de los residentes es de origen hispano, no habla ni escribe muy bien el idioma inglés y no tiene derecho al voto, los que los hace vulnerables al abuso policial.

Esta manifiesta que luego de que la comisión de ACLU (Unión Americana de Libertades Civiles) visitó la ciudad para escuchar las quejas de muchos residentes al respecto, la situación mermó un poco,

pero que nuevamente han resurgido, “me he enterado de unos cuantos abusos, incluyendo el caso ocurrido a una amiga”. Finalmente la mujer asevera que en más de una ocasión ha tratado de hablar con el jefe de la policía y que no ha podido. “He llamado al departamento estando estacionada al frente y me han dicho que no está, mientras yo lo observé en su oficina”, dijo.

Alicia Lugo solo quisiera decirle al jefe Romero que ella no ha hecho nada indebido y que luego de ser difamada por las autoridades solo necesita que su nombre ante la opinión pública quede limpio.

En su memoria quedan los recuerdos amargos de ese día, las consecuencias y las repercusiones que este caso ha dejado en su existencia, donde ha sido sometida al descrédito, la burla y el atropello.

Recuerda como la gente pasaba por el frente de su residencia y señalaban la casa y hacían murmuraciones. Cuenta Lugo que un día el cartero escribió en una carta que estaba dirigida a su dirección, “la casa de los perros”.

Lugo aprovechó la oportunidad que RUMBO le brinda, según sus propias palabras, para dejar saber que todo lo que las autoridades dijeron de ella y de su familia fue una vil mentira, que la convirtió en una persona temerosa de hasta salir a la calle.

**NOTAS DE SU
Bibliotecaria**

Por **Maureen Nimmo**
Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 21 to read this article in English

Saludos Amigos Lectores. Quisiera comenzar expresándoles mi más sincera compasión a todos los que han sido afectados por el fuego de la semana pasada. Espero que todos en la comunidad trabajemos juntos para ayudar a que estas personas se recobren rápidamente. Estos eventos son muy desastrosos y se hacen peor al ocurrir durante el invierno ya que el frío y el hielo añaden complicaciones. Gracias a Dios por nuestros bomberos y policías, los cuales respondieron tan rápida y eficazmente que no se llegó a perder ni una vida. Se encuentra en la biblioteca el personal del Small Business Association quienes están aquí para contestar preguntas a los damnificados y ayudarles a llenar los papeles para los préstamos y reclamaciones para los seguros. Ellos estarán aquí por tres semanas o un poco más si es necesario, así que si tienen alguna pregunta o problema relacionado con el fuego, vengan y hablen con ellos.

Estoy muy contenta al ver que el presupuesto fue aceptado la semana pasada. Les explique en mis últimos dos artículos lo que pasaría con la biblioteca si el presupuesto no hubiese sido aceptado. Todavía enfrentamos varios problemas pero no lo suficientes como para ahogarnos. Nuestro personal ha sido reducido dramáticamente, pero estamos nuevamente operando con nuestro horario regular.

Me emocioné mucho al ver la cantidad de ciudadanos que se pararon para hablar en favor de la biblioteca. Es muy gratificante el saber lo importante que esta institución es para muchas personas. Quiero agradecerles a todos los que leyeron estos artículos, lo entendieron y reaccionaron ante el problema. Estoy orgullosa del nuevo director de Presupuestos y Finanzas, mis compañeros jefes de departamentos, y por supuesto, el concilio por su diligencia en aprobar el presupuesto. Como quiera, fueron los ciudadanos quienes tuvieron la última palabra cuando expresaron sus sentimientos sobre este tema. Fue tremendo ver cómo el sistema democrático

trabaja para el bien de todos.

Estaremos ya en febrero cuando ustedes estén leyendo este artículo. Es mi creencia que esta es una buena señal, ya que el mes de febrero es corto y a la vez que comience marzo ya la primavera estará aquí. (Esto es lo que yo creo a pesar de que la evidencia dice lo contrario.) Marzo es un gran mes para la ciudad, especialmente para la biblioteca. La comunidad irlandesa cuenta con una gran celebración durante este mes y la ciudad entera está invitada a participar de esta. En la biblioteca tendremos horas de lecturas con el tema de Irlanda y contaremos con invitados especiales. George y Terri Kelly, nuestros empresarios para la serie de conciertos otoñales, personalmente harán un concierto el cual se basará en la música tradicional de Irlanda. También ofreceremos, gratuitamente, te y pan irlandés en nuestras dos sucursales en la mañana del Día de San Patricio. Ya que estoy hablando del Día de San Patricio: mi esposo y yo estaremos trabajando en el comité de la parada con la veterana Marie Gosselin. La buena noticia es que este año yo seré uno de los jueces. Los años anteriores yo trabajé como una de las “señoras con los hot dogs,” así que este ha sido un paso hacia adelante. Seriamente, la parada es una de las mejores y la Sra. Gosselin se merece la mayoría del crédito. Ella ayuda grandemente para que esta tradición continúe. No se pierdan ninguna de estas actividades, yo los mantendré al tanto de estas a través de estos artículos.

Bueno, ya saben lo que viene. Cuando lean esto ya el Super Bowl habrá ocurrido. Tengo que buscar una manera de expresarme sin usar la expresión “Go Pats,” ya que Damaris, mi amiga y traductora, dice que no se traduce tan fácilmente. ¿Puedo utilizar “Vivan los Patriotas”? No se cómo haré cuando la temporada cierre y no tenga más Patriotas para seguir obsesionándome. Todavía es muy temprano para comenzar con los Medias Rojas. ¡Nos vemos en la biblioteca!

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Bello gesto de Lowell



Lowell DPW workers Ed Patenaude, David Belanguer, City of Lowell Councilor and former Mayor Rita Mercier and John Patenaude, delivered the goods.

BILINGUAL CONTENT

Please see PAGE 20 to read this article in English

POR ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

El 28 de enero, 2008, Edward "Bud" Caulfield, Alcalde de Lowell y la Concejal y Ex Alcaldesa Rita Mercier hicieron una sorpresiva visita a Lawrence, con el propósito de entregar un camión de 24 pies lleno hasta el tope de ropa para las víctimas del fuego del 21 de enero en Lawrence, que dejara a más de 200 personas sin techo.

"Queremos agradecer a las personas de Lowell y sus alrededores por la generosidad de donar todo esto", dijo el Alcalde Caulfield señalando hacia una enorme cantidad de bolsas de plástico negras llenas de ropa que fueron entregadas en la antigua Escuela Saunders, en South Broadway.

De acuerdo con el alcalde, ellos van

a hacer otro llamado a la ciudadanía a través del concilio, esta vez por muebles. "Esta gente necesita ayuda y nosotros queremos ayudarlos. Es lo menos que podemos hacer por nuestra ciudad hermana".

La Concejal Mercier alabó el duro trabajo de los empleados del Departamento de Obras Públicas, colectando, clasificando, empacando y guardando la ropa. "Queremos agradecer a la YMCA y al Ejército de Salvación de Lowell por haber facilitado el espacio para almacenar toda esta ropa mientras se estaba colectando", dijo y añadió, "Debemos recordar que esta gente no solo necesita ropa, sino muebles y cazuelas. Vamos a regresar", dijo.

Antes de regresar a Lowell, el Alcalde Caulfield y la Concejal Mercier hicieron un recorrido por el lugar del desastre.

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Si pensaba que un anuncio pequeño no funciona, esta es la prueba de que estaba equivocado. Este pequeño anuncio ha logrado llamarte la atención y ya le ha dedicado unos segundos de tu tiempo. Los lectores de Rumbo podrían estar leyendo sobre sus 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 en la página 23. ¿Qué pondrías tú en este espacio? Comunícate con Alberto al (978) 794-5360.

Donación de Converse



Scott Fairbanks, de Converse (centro) con la ayuda de sus hijos Michael, 15, Joshua, 6, y Thomas Vallante, entregando los zapatos Converse a la antigua Saunders School.

Scott Fairbanks, of Converse (center) with the help of sons Michael, 15, Joshua, 6, and Thomas Vallante, delivering the Converse shoes to the former Saunders School.

POR ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

El sábado, 2 de febrero, 2008, Converse Inc., el fabricante de zapatos con oficinas corporativas situadas en One High Street, North Andover, MA donó 100 pares de zapatos al local de la antigua Escuela Saunders, localizada en el 243 de S Broadway, para uso de las víctimas del fuego en Lawrence el 21 de enero.

"Queremos donar unos cuantos zapatos para las víctimas pero no sabemos donde llevarlos", dijo una voz al otro lado de la línea. La voz era la de Scott Fairbanks, Manager de Global Facilities de Converse, llamando al Representante Estatal William Lantigua (D-Lawrence), el cual lo dirigió a la antigua Escuela Saunders.

Derrite el exceso de peso antes del verano

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State Of The City Address – Mayor William M. Manzi III

Methuen Board of Trade Meeting February 7, 2008

Let me begin by thanking Nancy Carace, Rachel Voiland, and The Methuen Board of Trade for hosting this great event again this year. The Methuen Board of Trade excels in bringing the community together, and this year's Senior Center event is proof positive that the Board's important mission is being fulfilled. This is my third year addressing this body, and I have much to report by way of progress. Last year, I laid out an aggressive list of priorities. I would like to begin by briefly outlining the accomplishments that we as a city have made this past year.

With so many of the city's service people stationed overseas, we continued to make a strong commitment to the city's veterans. With last year's retirement of Methuen's long time Veterans Services Director, Ed "Hoppy" Curran, a major void was left in the Veterans Department. It was a top priority to hire a well-qualified, knowledgeable person to replace Hoppy. I wanted a person who could hit the ground running and bring some new ideas and programs to the Department. Fortunately, local veteran Tom Hargreaves agreed to take the job. Tom has many years of experience in veteran's services and has already proposed some new changes to the way the Department will conduct business. I encourage any veterans out there to stop in and introduce yourself to Tom, if you haven't already. Let me also say that I am very proud of what our military families have accomplished. We pray that this year, many more will return home safely.

After months of hard work, public meetings and visioning sessions, Methuen released its new Master Plan last spring. We now have a document that embodies the community-wide vision that was brought to light during the planning and drafting process. This process has brought together city employees, residents, business leaders and other stakeholders. Now, with this document in hand, we are prepared to handle complicated issues such as residential growth, affordable housing and business development. There is a link to the Master Plan on the city's website, and I encourage you all to visit and share your thoughts on it with me.

I would like to thank the Master Plan Steering Committee along with Economic & Community Development Director, Karen Sawyer, and her team, for all their great work on the Master Plan. Karen would be happy to address any questions that you have regarding our new Master Plan.

In 2007 we saw many new businesses open in Methuen, as well as several infrastructure improvements. We had the opening of the new Mann Orchards Farm Store and the new Target on Pleasant Valley Street. Several new banks have opened or will open soon including Bank of New England, Enterprise Bank and Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union. Restaurants like New Tokyo, Fuddrucker's, Wise Guys and Subway have all chose to make Methuen their new home. And the major plumbing supply company, F.W. Webb, began work on their 120,000 square foot Methuen warehouse last fall and is on schedule to open the facility in the near future.

We have worked to better our infrastructure as well. Significant road

improvements have been made to the Pelham Street / Interstate 93 interchange. Pelham Street is fast becoming a commercial corridor with Irving's Blue Canoe retail outlet planned to break ground this year and the Guesthouse Suites under new ownership. With the help of our state delegation we were able to get a badly needed turn lane on Pelham Street to access Rt 93, helping to alleviate the severe traffic gridlock that had occurred at Pelham and Cross at Rte 93. By working cooperatively with Mass Highway, we were able to leverage a significant economic development project into a major infrastructure improvement. We have held several planning meetings regarding the redesigning of the Route 93 / 110 rotary, because, as all of us know, the current rotary is over crowded and outdated. I will continue to work with Methuen's Reps, Transportation Committee Chairman Senator Baddour and other state officials on a solution to this major transportation problem.

We continue to make strides toward improving Methuen's Historic Downtown. Last year, The Harvard Graduate School of Design announced the results of its Methuen revitalization project. During the four-hour program, the nineteen students, CEOs and business leaders from around the world assembled into four teams and presented concept and business plans, which were critiqued by Harvard faculty and a jury of businesspeople. We are hopeful that we can implement many of the ideas that the Harvard students developed. This study was undertaken at no cost to Methuen's taxpayers, and presented some new ideas about development and zoning, focusing on Methuen's downtown area.

In the heart of our downtown, a 91-unit assisted living project is underway. This will not only bring new people to our area, but will also put us 48 units away from achieving our 10 % affordable housing inventory. Next door, the Redmond house has been removed to make way for new office and commercial space. Plans to improve the in-town mall are also in discussion. We will continue to work hard in this area to bring needed change to our downtown area while maintaining sensible regulation that preserves our rich historic heritage.

Over the past years, many citizens have weighed in on the need for cable competition in Methuen. I have always believed that having more than one cable provider would lead to lower rates, better service and ultimately more choice. I am pleased to report that franchising negotiations with Verizon were completed last summer and the city and Verizon entered into a new cable contract last fall.

As a result, over half of Methuen households are able to receive Verizon FiOS services and Verizon continues to work hard to make the product available citywide. My main goal in these negotiations was to make sure that citizens retained access to local programming, and continued to receive valuable information from Methuen's local TV stations. I'm also happy to report that city staff, without the use of outside attorneys and consultants, completed the negotiations in-house. This was a big savings to our taxpayers.



Mayor William M. Manzi III

Last year, we saw the construction of a new community center in Methuen's Arlington Neighborhood. The Lena Lahey Community Center will house after-school homework programs, the Women, Infants and Children program, and many activities aimed at all of the neighborhood's residents. My thanks to the Methuen Arlington Neighborhood, who have worked so hard to improve their neighborhood and bring this project to fruition. On Tuesday, February 12th the new MAN, Inc. community center will hold its grand opening and the children will be able to use the building for the first time. I am very excited to see this long-time dream finally fulfilled.

2007 saw the initial design work on two exciting, major public projects also get under way. Several citizen meetings were held to review design plans for a new park on the site of the former Bea's Restaurant. Plans are also in the works for a riverside park that will include river access, walking trails, a picnic area and parking. Further public meetings will be held so that input can be gathered and new information can be presented.

We are also in the early stages of developing plans for a new Nicholson Stadium clubhouse that will include new locker and shower facilities as well as public restrooms and concession stands. Plans were developed last year, but due to the cost to make this a reality we will need the help of volunteers, organized labor and the surrounding business community. Our student athletes deserve the best facilities that our city can provide. If you or your business is willing to help in this effort, please contact my office.

During my first term, one of my main priorities was updating and redesigning the city's website so that it contained more information and was more user friendly. After much effort, we continued with our improvements and launched our new on-line permitting program last month. I feel this is of particular interest to the business community because it saves time and

eliminates needless travel. I encourage everyone in need of a building permit to utilize this new tool, and would welcome your feedback.

Other efforts are underway to reduce the red tape that often cost businesses time and money. I am currently reviewing the report of The Regulatory Relief Task Force that I chartered during my first term. The report focuses on streamlining several of the processes, procedures and permits in Methuen that are overly onerous, require too much paper, are out of date or are redundant. Our next step is full implementation. I look forward to making the business of government more convenient and less confusing and frustrating for our citizens and businesses.

As a direct outgrowth of the Master Plan, I have formed a committee to review and overhaul Methuen's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance for the first time in twenty years. This effort will provide the city with a modern zoning structure that reflects our long-range planning goals. This is a major undertaking, and I'm hopeful that I'll have a draft of the new Zoning Ordinance for review by the City Council within the next couple of months.

There are several critical initiatives and projects that commenced in 2007 and will be moving forward this year, not the least of which are plans for a modernized Methuen High School. Late last year, Methuen was informed that it would receive state funding for a full high school feasibility study. This is an early, but important step towards accomplishing our goal.

I have had several meetings with the state's School Building Authority and will soon be submitting the names of building committee members to the Authority for approval. My administration, with the help of Dr. Jeanne Whitten, will diligently pursue the funds needed to bring a state of the art

Celebrity Hockey



The Lawrence Police All-Stars team.

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 8 para leer este artículo en Español

On Friday, February 1, 2006, the Lawrence Police Athletic League held their annual Celebrity Hockey tournament at the Valley Forum in Lawrence, where Boston Black & Gold Legends played our own Lawrence Police All-Stars.

The players for the Lawrence Police All-Stars were: Rob Moody, Roy Vasque, Todd Allard, Alan Laird, the Honorable Kevin Gaffney, Mark Panagiotakos, Mike McCarthy, Mike Driscoll, Dan Fleming, Bill Colantuoni, Terence Pennington, Joe Beaulieu, Greg Arvanitis. Goalie: Chris Simonds. Coach: Chief John J. Romero.

For the Legends, the players from the Bruins were: Andy Brickley, Ken Hodge, Bob Miller, Don Marcotte, Ken Hodge Jr., Bob Beers, Billy O'Dwyer, John "Chief" Bucyk, John "Pie" McKenzie, Frank Simonetti and Brendon Hodge. From the Stockton Thunder, Brendon Hodge and the goalie, Mike Lalor from the Montreal Canadiens.

All the action of the game was videotaped for LCAT by Channel 8 volunteer Michael Garrihy, Special Assistant to Chief John J. Romero and play by play announcer was Lawrence Community Police Officer Thomas Cuddy.

The game attracted about 300 hockey fans, lasted one hour and ended Legends 14, LP 8.



Kids in line to have Frank Simonetti's autograph.



Anybody you know in the audience?



Channel 8 volunteer Michael Garrihy videotaping all the action of the game.



Play by play announcer Lawrence Community Police Officer Thomas Cuddy.



Some action during the game.

CONTINUES FROM PAGE
12

State Of The City Address – Mayor William M. Manzi III

high school to Methuen. I am hopeful that by next year's State of the City Address, we will be well on our way to construction.

This year, I will continue to look for more ways to create efficiencies between the city and school department. Last year, we merged the city and school Human Resources Department and created the position of Joint Human Resources Director. This consolidation eliminated one entire position and saved Methuen taxpayers over seventy thousand dollars. I will continue to look to create management synergies between the City and school sides, as well as between Methuen and our neighboring cities.

There are several new projects to look forward to in the months ahead. The Cafua Family is ready to proceed with the redevelopment of the former Rendezvous site on Merrimack Street. This will include 38,000 square feet of retail, including a Dunkin Donuts and a bank. Plans will be before the planning board this month and they are hoping to break ground this spring.

This spring, River Walk Park on Osgood Street, which was literally torn in half by the 2006 floods, will be repaired and reopened. The small portion of Route 28 that was also damaged by flooding will be repaired as well.

Methuen's state of the art water treatment facility will be fully operational

this fall after many months of construction. This fulfills our promise to bring drinking water of the highest quality to our residents.

Indications are that Methuen is in for a tight year financially. I am already looking closely at the fiscal 09 budget and have instructed my Department Heads to search for efficiencies and consolidations where appropriate. We will look for new ways to close any gaps without reducing the level of services that our citizens have come to expect. This will not be an easy task. In the future, we must encourage our state delegation to implement the entire the Municipal Partnership Act and enact revenue sharing in order to keep property taxes under control.

Although economic development, adequate public facilities and financial stability are important topics, I know that many Methuen citizens are equally concerned about so-called "quality of life issues." To that end, I find it important to balance the city's policy agenda with matters that are vital to the quality of life of our citizens.

We will continue to renovate Methuen's parks and playgrounds. Last year, we were able to install brand new playground equipment in two of the city's parks. This year we will request that the Commonwealth assist us financially so that more improvements can be planned. I have

spoken to Senator Baddour and Methuen's state representatives, Linda Dean Campbell and Barbara L'Italien, about the importance of these projects. I would like to thank them for their past help and look forward to continuing our great working relationship.

I have always been a great supporter of Methuen's Nevins Memorial Library. I'm happy to report that the city is sponsoring two new programs with the library this year. On March Fourth, Cape Wind Author Wendy Williams will come to City Hall to discuss and sign her book. I am very interested in the Cape Wind debate. Green energy is something that the city is currently studying and considering. I invite you all to attend this informative talk.

This month, the library kicked off its "Methuen Reads, 2008" campaign. The idea is to have everyone in our city read the same book and talk about the ideas, themes, characters and story they find in it. The project sponsored by the Nevins Library, the Friends of the Library, and funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum & Library Services.

The book they are sponsoring is *Digging to America* by noted author, Anne Tyler. This novel is an engaging story of two families that meet at the airport on the night they both pick up their new baby daughters being adopted from Korea. The book explores themes of what it means to belong to something, whether

it is a family, a community, or a country. Cultural differences are explored, family issues are examined, and the idea of what it truly means to be an American is a central question.

The Nevins Library will sponsor a series of events and programs centering on the themes in *Digging to America*. They will be exploring Asian culture, featuring a program on adoption resources, hosting a speaker on Middle Eastern culture, and sponsoring a U.S. Citizenship Swearing-In Ceremony. The library will also be hosting several book discussion sessions, a couple of author visits, and of course, they will have copies of the book available for people to read.

As you can see, the coming months hold much in the way of promise and possibility. I look forward to working with citizens and business people alike on the critical initiatives that I have outlined here today. Make no mistake about it, this year will hold many challenges as well, but I can assure you that I will continue to meet them head on with diligence. Ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to report that, despite these trying financial times, the state of our city is strong. With your help and support this year, I am confident that we can continue to make Methuen a desirable place to live, work and raise our children.

Thank you.



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Por/By Dalia Díaz
rumbonews.com/blogs

From My Corner

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 4 para leer este artículo en Español

The Fiscal Oversight Board

Last week I mentioned the Fiscal Oversight Board that Mayor Michael Sullivan has appointed to watch over the finances of the city and I said I was going to find out who the members of this board are in order to bring it to you. They are: the Executive Director of American Training, Tom Connors; Former Councilor Marie Gosselin; Former Councilor Joseph Parolisi; Mill Owner Chet Sidell; and the president of Corporate Express Norm Jones with his wife. Sal Lupoli was invited but could not make the meeting.

Mark Andrews gave me the information and I told him of my concern with the names on the list because the community is not represented. His answer to that was that this is an ad-hoc committee advising him, not the mayor and subject to change from one week to the next or depending on which topic is to be discussed. That particular board was chosen because they were considering the Tax Classification; when it's time to deal with other topics, different people will be invited to take part.

Also, people are welcome to call and offer themselves to be on that committee.

He emphasized the fact that "this is not something that Mark Andrews has to do; this is something that I want to do." He wants to hear from members of the community from different aspects. Obviously, he is trying to take the heat away from the mayor but it was Sullivan who made the calls to invite at least some of them.

It was our hope that this citizen board would be vigilant of how taxpayers' money is spent but, according to Mr. Andrews, is to advise him (or the administration) on how to spend not necessarily how to save.

Well, they are saving here!

Some city employees were shortchanged last week. They use their personal cars in their line of work and get a stipend to make up for the gas and wear and tear of their vehicles. They were shocked last week when that was not included because the city must now start saving money.

Well, they chose the wrong way to do things. First of all because they have a union

contract stipulating that compensation. Also, because it is so blatantly unfair to pretend that they are taking the correct action by affecting the little guys.

This administration has one heck of a nerve reneging on a fair commitment that was agreed to while so many managers in high positions are receiving huge stipends that are barely justifiable.

State of the City – Which one?

Methuen Mayor William Manzi held the State of the City Address on February 7th. Is Lawrence Mayor ever going to do the same? Would he hide it online like he did last year?

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Converse donation

+PICS: More pictures on Page 11

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 11 para leer este artículo en Español

By ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

On Saturday, February 2, 2008, Converse Inc., the shoemaker with corporate offices located at One High Street, North Andover, MA, donated 100 pairs of sneakers to the former Saunders School, located at 243 S Broadway, to benefit the victims of the Lawrence fire of January 21.

"We want to donate some shoes for the victims but we don't know where to deliver them," said the voice at the other end of the line. The voice was that of Scott Fairbanks, Manager, Global Facilities at Converse, calling State Representative William Lantigua (D-Lawrence), who directed him to the former Saunders School.

Letters to the Editor

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

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

BOSTON'S MAMMOGRAPHY VAN 4TH VISIT TO LAWRENCE!

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- ✚ Has it been at least one year since your last mammogram, or is this your first one?
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If you answer yes to any of these questions, you may be eligible to get your annual mammogram with the Boston's Mammography Van!!



Next Mammography Van Day

Date: Saturday, March 1, 2008
Place: YWCA of Greater Lawrence
38 Lawrence Street, Lawrence, MA
Time: 8am—3:30pm

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70 East Street
Methuen, MA 01844

By Ellen Bahan
rumbonews.com/blogs



It's All About Right(s)

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DÍAZ: From My Corner

Doctoral work on work hours

We all know that through the years there have been administrators in the school department using their work day and office equipment to study, research and work on their advance degrees but it had never reached the level of unabashed abuse.

I have been told that the number of administrators that are doing their doctoral work during work hours is an all-time high.

Superintendent Wilfredo Laboy has created a new cast system: those who play ball with him and those who don't.

Don't trust political promises

Every election period I get the same feeling of mistrust listening to politicians making promises that are seldom kept. Just listen how they all sound alike with the same rhetoric on poverty, education, health care, unemployment, etc. No one has outline of how they are going to accomplish any of it – just that they are going to do it.

Come to think of it, I've been voting for over 35 years and politicians always talk about eliminating poverty, reducing unemployment, improving the educational system and never mind doing something about health care!

It was in my early teens when I stopped believing anything politicians say. I remember when Fidel Castro was accused of being Communist and he said, "This revolution is green, as green as our palm trees." About a year later, surprise!

When they are running for office they tell you what the public wants to hear. Once they are elected, WHAM! That's why we must look at their record. Looking at what they have done is the best way to predict what they might do. Then, go light a candle and pray.

New dictionary word

(Thanks to the friend who emailed it to me.) **Electile Dysfunction:** the inability to become aroused over any of the choices for president put forth by either party in the 2008 election year.

of what has transpired. You can stand me up against the gates of hell and I WON'T BACK DOWN!

If the people are not warned of the impending danger, and at least given a chance to change the future, than what good is all the money and possessions in the world, if your child, or your parents get sick and the ultimate sorrow... they die before their time.

All because someone made a back room deal! Up until I started It's All About Right(s), eight years ago, that's all that existed in Methuen, these dirty backroom deals perpetrated by corrupt men and women that were hidden from the main population.

I will stand and take a bow for bringing it to the forefront. I am not bowing alone, without the diligence and courage by Dalia, Alberto and Rumbo my message would have never gotten out, and without my loyal readers again I would be dead in the water. SO THANK YOU ALL.

As for the daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and horoscope, dream on, you are nothing without Rumbo!

The Interpreters

If you have been watching the council meetings as of late, you will notice that Bridgeboy Manzi has taken up talking out of one of his other orifices. The dialogue is garbled and cannot be understood by most of us who have been watching closely over the years.

The good thing about this garbled speak is that now we have several councilors that interpret for us, they speak ass fluently. Let me name them for you... Debbie Quinn, Phil Lahey, Jennifer

CONTINUES ON PAGE
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JOB POSTINGS

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Credit Where Credit is Due

You know, my mother used to tell me that if you do not blow your own horn, no one is going to.

You'd think by watching all these blow hard, gas bag politics for all these years I would have known that, but I find their behavior so abhorrent, I would never want to emulate them.

But now as we come down to the wire, and Methuen is about to implode from a build up of too much gas, it is now time for me to take the credit of finally bringing to the forefront the massive corruption that has plagued our little town for many, many years now.

As I watch the daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and horoscope pat themselves on the back for their innovative journalism, a smile comes to my face, because some may be fooled, but most are not.

It is a well known fact that the daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and horoscope have been closet Rumbo readers for many years. Where do you think they get their information?

Rumbo has put its ass on the line, as have I, trying to get this information out to

the citizens of Methuen, so perhaps we will have a chance of changing the future.

The future as it stands now is looking rather bleak, for me and for many of us who inhabit the lovely contaminated confines of Methuen. Methuen has been raped and pillaged by those that call themselves one of us.

I do think that my loyal readers are getting the message, it is those that have decided to bury their heads in the sand, not rock the boat, go along to get along, that must now see the light and act upon it.

Never forget IT IS ALL ABOUT RIGHT(S), your individual rights as a citizen, and making sure that your elected officials do the right thing!

It has been a daunting task that I decided to undertake twelve years ago when I realized what our elected and appointed officials were up to.

It has had a devastating effect on my life and that of my family, but the crux of that matter is, if the quality of life of my family and yours is endangered by these corrupt politicians, someone has got to tell the story.

What is a little politico tax funded retribution when it comes to life and health of your family... I will answer for me only. In fact, my answer is very obvious in light

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Comcast Increases Support for Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence



They all want to have their picture taken with Lawrence Mayor, Michael J. Sullivan.

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 5 para leer este artículo en Español



Yelitza Cancel, 7, 2nd Grader at Frost School, with her best friends, Kersten Theberge and Raquel Nova, Assistant Director of Education and Director of Education, respectively, of the Lawrence Boys & Girls Club.

Building on a partnership that started in 2003, the Comcast Foundation today announced a three-year, \$60,000 grant to support literacy development efforts and expand after-school tutoring at The Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence. The funds will enable the club to offer additional homework assistance programs through its award-winning Learning Center and launch a new tutoring program. This grant will bring Comcast's support of the Learning Center over five years to a total of \$105,000.

"We are very pleased that Comcast chose to renew its commitment to our Learning Center," said Markus Fischer, the Club's Executive Director. "Education is a critical piece of what we do at the Club, and this funding will enable us to buy new supplies, like books and computer software programs, while also expanding the services we provide to promote our kids' literacy and academic success."

Each day, more than 150 children come to the Boys & Girls Club Learning Center to work with volunteer tutors who help them with homework assignments, encourage independent reading and offer computer support. The Learning Center also provides a quiet area where children can study, receive academic help and complete school projects in a supportive environment rich in books, computers and all of the tools they need for academic success.

"Comcast is committed to investing in the communities where our customers and our employees live," said Dan Blakeman, Vice President of Comcast's Northern Massachusetts system. "The Boys & Girls Club is making a powerful impact in Lawrence, and we're excited about deepening this partnership and helping this important program continue to flourish."

Already, the Learning Center has provided an enormous benefit to participating students and the Lawrence Public School system. Recently, an analysis of 50 report cards from elementary and middle school youngsters who frequented the Learning Center showed that 44 percent improved their grades in three or more subjects. Furthermore, 39 percent of high school students regularly attending the Learning Center showed improvement in

their overall grade point average.

Mayor Michael J. Sullivan of Lawrence voiced his appreciation as an alumnus of the Lawrence Club.

Mayor Sullivan said, "The Lawrence Boys & Girls Club is unmatched in its commitment to providing a positive place for after-school learning for our city's young people. Our community is grateful to corporations like Comcast who donate valuable resources to one of our city's most cherished community organizations."

Over the last five years, Comcast has funded a variety of initiatives designed to expand the Learning Center. Beyond direct financial support, Comcast has also provided complimentary Internet and cable services to the facility along with volunteer work support provided by more than 100 company employees over the past year, who have assisted with activities as varied as mentoring, reading and maintenance of the club's building.

ABOUT THE COMCAST FOUNDATION

The Comcast Foundation was founded by Comcast Corporation in June 1999 and is the company's chief source of charitable support to qualified non-profit organizations. The Foundation primarily invests in programs that work to create a positive, sustainable impact within our communities in the areas of volunteerism; literacy; and youth leadership development. Since its inception, The Comcast Foundation has donated more than \$43 million to organizations in the communities that Comcast serves nationwide. More information about The Foundation and its programs is available at www.comcast.com/neighborhood.

ABOUT THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF LAWRENCE

For the past 117 years The Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence has been in the forefront of youth development in Massachusetts' Merrimack Valley working with youngsters from disadvantaged economic, social and family circumstances. More than 3,000

"Comcast is committed to investing in the communities where our customers and our employees live," said Dan Blakeman, Vice President of Comcast's Northern Massachusetts system. "The Boys & Girls Club is making a powerful impact in Lawrence, and we're excited about deepening this partnership and helping this important program continue to flourish."

members annually participate in a broad range of after-school activities in five core areas: Character and Leadership Development, Education and Career Development, Health and Life Skills, The Arts and Fitness and Recreation. All programming is designed to provide guidance and direction that will help young people fulfill their potential and grow up to become productive and constructive members of the community.

YWCA offers free mammography in Lawrence

YWCA of Greater Lawrence & Dana-Farber/Boston's Mammography Van Hosts its 4th Mammography Van Day in Lawrence!!

The Boston's Mammography Van, a partnership between the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the City of Boston, the YWCA of Greater Lawrence and the Mayor's Health Task Force, are pleased to announce their 4th mammography van day. This screening day will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2008, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., at the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, located at 38 Lawrence Street, in Lawrence, MA.

The Boston Mammography Van offers mammography screenings for women ages 40 and older, residents in the state of Massachusetts and anyone who has not received a screening mammogram in the past 12 months. All women are welcome, including those with health insurance, the uninsured, and women with limited health coverage, regardless of their immigrant status. Bilingual English/Spanish services will be available all day.

Representatives from the Women's Health Network, the Mass. state-funded free cancer screening program, will be onsite to assist participants with eligibility assessment and to enroll those found eligible in the state program. The American Cancer Society will also be available to educate participants on their services and answer questions regarding eligibility. Participants will receive information and incentives. Light refreshments will be provided to participants throughout the day.

Early Detection is your Best Protection! An annual mammogram could save your life! Please take a few minutes to schedule your mammogram today. Do it for yourself; do it for your family!

Space is limited. Register today! For additional information and/or other eligibility requirements, please call Minerva Grullon or Martha Roman-Dumeng at the YWCA at (978) 687-0331.

This initiative is possible thanks to a generous donation by Cynthia Alekel Mohr and the Family Mobile Mammography Fund, the Boston Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc., and The Lenny Zakim Fund.



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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.

BOOK DONATIONS NEEDED!

The Lawrence YMCA's child care center is in need of new and gently-used books (for preschool to middle-school students). Donations can be brought to the Lawrence YMCA, 40 Lawrence Street. For more information: 978-686-6191.

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

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.

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.

LAWRENCE: Exhibición de Arte Dominicana

Lawrence Heritage State Park
1 Jackson Street, Lawrence MA
Date: 2/9/2008
Start Time: 2:00:00 PM
Cost Per Person: \$ 0
More Info: 978-794-1655

La galería esta abierta diario de 9a.m-4p.m. Admisión Gratis. Para mas información llamar a Gilda Duran 239 243-7252.

LAWRENCE: Dominican Art Exhibit

Lawrence Heritage State Park
1 Jackson Street, Lawrence MA
Date: 2/9/2008
Start Time: 2:00:00 PM
Cost Per Person: \$ 0
More Info: 978-794-1655

Open daily until February 29, 2008. For information call Gilda Duran at 978-794-1655.

LAWRENCE: "Lawrence City and Other Poems"

Casa Dominicana
160 Garden Street, Lawrence MA
Date: 2/9/2008
Start Time: 7:00:00 PM
Cost Per Person: \$ 0
More Info: (978) 376-9230

César Sánchez Beras (Author), Milton Amador (Illustrator), Rhina Espaillat (Translator). Book signing, poetry reading, and question and answer session.

Information: tpmpoeta@yahoo.com.ar
Beras.cesar@gmail.com
cesabe90@hotmail.com
Tel. (978) 376-9230

HAVERTHILL: Class of 1966 Reunion Haverhill Country Club

Date: 2/9/2008
Start Time: 8:00:00 PM
Cost Per Person: \$ 25
More Info: 978-374-2390

Haverhill High School Class of 1966 Reunion Committee is planning a reunion to celebrate the 60th birthday of classmates. This special reunion will be held at the Haverhill Recreation Department's 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 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 \$25.00 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 X11at 978-374-2390 for

additional information.

LAWRENCE: Lawrence Trivia Day Super Bowl

Lawrence Heritage State Park
1 Jackson Street, Lawrence MA
Date: 2/10/2008
Start Time: 2:00:00 PM
Cost Per Person: \$ 8
More Info: 978-794-1655

Local and general trivia. Open to adults, teens, and families. Come as a team or an individual. Donation \$8 per person. Bring your favorite refreshment and snacks. Coffee will be provided. For more information & to RSVP call 978-794-1655. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lawrence Heritage State Park.

LAWRENCE: 90th Lithuanian Independence Day

Corpus Christi Church
Essex and Union Streets, Lawrence MA
Date: 2/10/2008
Start Time: 11:00:00 PM
Cost Per Person: \$ 10
More Info: 978-685-4478

Lietuvos Nepriklausomybes Minejimas 11:00 AM, Mass (Bilingual). 12:30 Noon, Lithuanian Dinner (church hall, Common Street). Followed by Live Performance by Dolija, Lithuanian Folk Group. Tickets: \$10.00 available at the door. Contact: Jonas Stundzia (978)-685-4478.

HAVERTHILL: Trip to Spinelli's in Lynnfield

Date: 2/14/2008
Start Time: 10:45:00 AM
Cost Per Person: \$ 60
More Info: 978-374-2390

Haverhill Council on Aging is planning a trip to Spinelli's in Lynnfield, MA, for a fun-packed Valentine's Day party, February 14, 2008. Party includes a complete lunch of yankee pot roast or baked scrod, entertainment, live music, line dancing, and ballroom dancing.

Entertainment provided by exciting father and daughter team "Tony and Maria". Cost for this trip, including transportation, is \$60 per person. This is the perfect way to spend your Valentine's Day! Bus will leave Westgate Plaza at 10:45 a.m.

Contact Kathy Bresnahan X 11 or Rita Labella x16 at 978-374-2390 or kbresnahan@cityofhaverhill.com for additional information.

HAVERTHILL: 'A Little Bit of Ireland'

Date: 2/15/2008
Start Time: 12:00:00 AM End Time: 12:00:00 AM
Cost Per Person: \$ 67
More Info: 978-374-2165

The Reagle Players presents the 10th Edition

of 'A Little Bit of Ireland' at the Robinson Theatre in Waltham, MA on March 15, 2008. The trip includes lunch at The Chateau with meal choices of Chicken Supreme, Broiled Scrod both served with rice and green beans or Corned Beef and Cabbage. Sign up required, the cost is \$67 and final payment due February 15th.

LAWRENCE: "Personal Space, Community Risk" Seminar

Elder Services of Merrimack Valley
360 Merrimack Street, Building 5, Lawrence MA
Date: 2/26/2008
Start Time: 9:30:00 AM
Cost Per Person: \$ 0
More Info: 978-946-1496

Defining, identifying and treating Compulsive Hoarding is the focus of an innovative seminar "Personal Space, Community Risk" on Tuesday, February 26 from 9:30am to 12:00pm at Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, 360 Merrimack Street, Building 5, Lawrence. The seminar, which takes a community approach to compulsive hoarding, is approved for 2.0 Social Work CEUs.

The program will cover topics from the causes of compulsive hoarding to differentiating between hoarding and clutter, and knowing when a situation is a health or safety risk. Inspectional Services, Tenancy Preservation, Lawrence Housing Authority and Elder Services will lead panel discussions to cover a variety of issues about compulsive hoarding, and how to respond.

Because space is limited, registrants should contact Alicia Hussey at 978-946-1496 to assure seating.

The seminar is supported by a Lawrence Community Development Block Grant.

HAVERTHILL: James Vanderpol

Haverhill Public Library, Milhender Room
Date: 2/26/2008
Start Time: 2:00:00 PM
Cost Per Person: \$ 0
More Info: Haverhill Council on Aging

The Council on Aging is hosting local commentator and historian James Vanderpol on Tuesday, February 26, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the Haverhill Public Library in the Milhender Room.

Mr. Vanderpol will speak on "The State of the Union..... Dictatorship versus Democracy". He will speak on life under the Hitler regime from personal experience as well as the state of our educational system, poverty in the United States, and illegal immigration.

Please join us for a lively discussion on current events and refreshments. There is no fee for this event.

Envía tus eventos a
calendar@rumbonews.com

HAVERHILL: Trip to Williamsburg

Date: 3/1/2008
 Start Time: 12:00:00 AM End Time: 12:00:00 AM
 Cost Per Person: \$ 699
 More Info: (978) 372-1081

The Council on Aging is offering a 6-day trip to Williamsburg, Washington, D. C., and Lancaster, PA. This trip will run from April 17-22, 2008.

This trip includes five nights lodging, four dinners, and five breakfasts, 2-day ticket to Williamsburg, ticket to the Virginia Tattoo, and luxury motor coach transportation with tour guide.

Cost for this trip is \$779 pp/double, \$699 pp/triple, and \$1089/pp triple. Deposit of \$100 is required at sign-up and balance is due on March 1.

For additional information contact Kathy Bresnahan X11 or Rita LaBella X16 at 978-372-1081 or kbresnahan@cityofhaverhill.com.

What?, When?, Where?

We want to know!

To list your event on this section, send us an email to calendar@rumbonews.com



MARCH 1 Merrimack Valley YMCA's 2nd Annual Kimball Basketball Classic

The 2nd annual Walter Kimball Basketball Classic will be held on Saturday March 1, 2008, at the Methuen YMCA starting at 10:00 a.m. In addition to the games, all players will receive a Kimball Classic T-Shirt, the snack shack will be open, the game room will be open, there will be face painting and sports movies, and the music clubhouse will provide music and the play by play. Also, the Kimball Sportsmanship Awards will be presented to Youth Basketball League (YBL) players who have demonstrated the YMCA's core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility during the basketball season.

This basketball jamboree of 5- and 6-year-old basketball players was named for former YMCA Vice President Walter Kimball, honoring him as one of the "founding fathers" of YBL at the Merrimack Valley YMCA which began in the early 1970s.

The schedule for this year's tourney will be:

- 10:00 AM**
ANA 1 (Andover) vs. Hawkeyes (Lawrence)
- 11:00 AM**
ANA 2 (Andover) vs. Blazers (Methuen)
- 12 NOON**
ANA 3 (Andover) vs. Buckeyes (Lawrence)
- 1:00 PM**
ANA 4 (Andover) vs. Spartans (Lawrence)
- 2:00 PM**
Awards Ceremony
- 2:30 PM**
Heat (Methuen) vs. Nittany Lions (Lawrence)
- 3:30 PM**
Bobcats (Methuen) vs. Gophers (Lawrence)
- 4:30 PM**
Bulls (Methuen) vs. Fighting Illini (Lawrence)

For more information, contact Doug Currier at the Lawrence YMCA at 978-686-6191; Stacha Bomba at the Methuen YMCA at 978-683-5266; or Amy Quinlan at the Andover/North Andover YMCA at 978-685-3541.

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9

02/08/2008
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HOW, WHEN AND WHERE TO FIND

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CONTINUES FROM PAGE
16**BAHAN: It's All About Right(s)**

Kannan, Joe Leone, and Steve Zanni.

They hang on every syllable, and then spit out the regurgitated double speak, trying to convince the citizenry that they are looking out for your best interest. Do not be fooled, you the citizens are not even on the agenda!

It's about deals, resume building, money, power, cover up and all the smash and grab they can carry away.

Let me detail some of them for you. For starters, Joe Leone, Builder/Developer, is building a house/office for Steve Zanni's daughter. On a piece of land that magically was rezoned. How convenient, Joey can bring the plans to the council meeting and Zanni and he can go over them, hammering out the details and cost savings. You know loyal readers, they do not have to pay attention, they already know how they are going to vote, Bridgeboy has told them how!

Leone's son-in-law was just reappointed to the Community Development Board... how sweeeeeet! Why do you think Billy wanted all the appointed boards to remain the same? Tried and true and in the tank!

I also spotted Jennifer Kannan's husband work truck at one of the schools, presumably doing work, or then again it could have been innocent...NOT. If you will refer to her campaign finance list you will see that she is supported by ALL the usual suspects. Is this a favor for a favor... vote. Please someone remind Jennifer that she represents the people, I do know that is very hard to understand for a politico, but that doesn't mean we are not going to keep saying it.

Prime example of this new language Bridgeboy is speaking is the Sewer Contract the "Interpreters" just ratified with Dracut. Frank Russo an obvious graduate of "Close Book Before Striking" U, out did himself at the last meeting. Of course the "Interrupters" fully understood what he said when he was at the podium speaking fluent ass.

Citizen Jerry McCall, a long time engineer with the DEP, a respected member of the council appointed sewer and water commission (by Phil Lahey, who voted against Jerry's recommendation) made a passionate plea to the council that before this contract was approved, there were many,

many questions to be answered. Alas, his pleas fell on deaf ears, "The Interpreters", because Jerry does not, like most of us in Methuen speak ass fluently.

In fact, it was hilarious that after Jerry's long dissertation, Frank Russo slithered up to the podium and with a straight face asked just what the questions were.

Maybe Frank wasn't listening, or my assumption that Frank is in so far in over his head that not with a gun to his head can he ever understand anything about engineering. Frank needs to be cut loose!

Just look around the lovely confines of contaminated Methuen, all the traffic woes, all the flooding spots, all the houses that do not meet zoning requirements, they all have Frank's stamp on them! (Match Book U)

There were four councilors who did heed Jerry's warning, they were Jeannie Pappalardo, Jack Cronin, Larry Giordano, and Ken Willett. These councilors, loyal readers, are the true councilors that are working diligently for the citizens of Methuen trying to stop the hemorrhaging caused by this and the last two administrations.

Again this all falls back on Bridgeboy's head, all he can see is the 1.2 million dollar cash payment that Dracut is going to make to Methuen, and it is only about the money and how much this administration needs it to cover the gross mismanagement of our old queen shar, who administrated under the rape and pillage form of government. Billy is following in her footsteps.

One more thing, I understand that up on the 113 corridor, Toll Brothers are building 200 homes that are in direr need of sewage lines. Does that say it all or what? Do you think that perhaps there is a home in the making for Bridgeboy? It is not a condo on the beach in Florida, but it is a start!

I also know that the last frontier for a complete build out in Dracut is the 113 corridor, the sewer connection will seal the deal. You think there is traffic problems now, you ain't seen nothing yet, hold on to your hat and head for high ground! More on this to come in future articles.

The Littlest Load

What is it with credit cards and politicos, or politico appointments in this case. Remember back when Little Load

I will stand and take a bow for bringing it to the forefront.

I am not bowing alone, without the diligence and courage by Dalia, Alberto and Rumbo my message would have never gotten out, and without my loyal readers again I would be dead in the water. SO THANK YOU ALL.

Lussier got canned by Mitt Romney for using the Teacher's Union Pension Plan Credit Card to jet himself and his little loadett, (queen shar), all over the country to all the five star hotels with the teachers picking up the tab? They golfed and ate themselves into oblivion.

Remember when old shar took the card and took Bridgeboy Manzi on a little excursion to Washington DC? Must have been to scheme with their idols. The murderer Teddy Kennedy and the gigolo John Kerry.

Didn't the "Big Load" also use the card to buy home repair items? Seems like the littlest load, Joe Salvo has taken instruction from one of the biggest shysters going. Too bad they caught him so soon, can't you see him and Bridgeboy heading off with card somewhere... hey, maybe to Disney World for a closer look at Goofy and Grumpy!

The daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and horoscope is hot on the paper trail that hopefully will lead to criminal charges... grand larceny, on Joe Salvo.

My question is, will he have to pay back the \$30,000 kiss (severance) he received to go away. Hey, here's a message to another little Joey, that's Joe Leone: WE NEED ANOTHER RESOLUTION!

Applications Now Being Accepted

As I perused the daily record of advertising, death, Dear Abby and horoscope, what do I see but Bridgeboy's #1 rump swab, Matty K. touting just what the "Bridge" is going to talk about in his State of City address. What do I see, Bridgeboy is going to claim, for a prominent spot on

his resume, the building of the Methuen Assisted Suicide Living Project as his own.

Thatta boy, Billy! You know Bridgeboy, God is NOT going to have mercy on your soul!

I have the application to apply for a spot in the newly built, below sea level, in the flood plain, contaminated building. But loyal readers, you realize there are a few specifications that must be met.

1. It is preferable that you do not live in the area and never have, because then you will not know of all the death and illness that surrounds this contaminated parcel. You will not realize when you get sick just why you did and that will let those responsible for this project, along with our politicos the autonomy they need when shoving a rotten project of this magnitude down our throats.

2. It would also be helpful if you were poor, because remember our benevolent politicos want to do everything they can to help the poor of the area. And never forget that politicos believe that if you are poor, you must also be stupid. What better way than placing them on a contaminated parcel of land, in a wood structure, below sea level, in the flood plain. NOTHING BUT THE BEST FOR THE POOR! Whose backs our politicos will stand on, to get what they need for their illustrious resumes.

3. It would also be helpful if you are already sick, so our politicos can blame your existing illness on your untimely demise, and the contaminated site will not be mentioned.

4. It would also be helpful if you are considering suicide. I do understand there are faster and better ways to off yourself, but that would be a sin. It is better to have the sin on the politicos head than your own. So knowingly filling out the application will not count, and you will get your wish.

So applicants, be sure and print clearly, because it will probably be the last time you do so. Chemical poisoning tends to cloud the mind! Good luck, and don't be dismayed if you do not get a spot on the first round, I hear the turn over is going to be swift!

I am sure if you contact Billy he will have the pull to get you to the front of the line, as always Billy playing the politico game!

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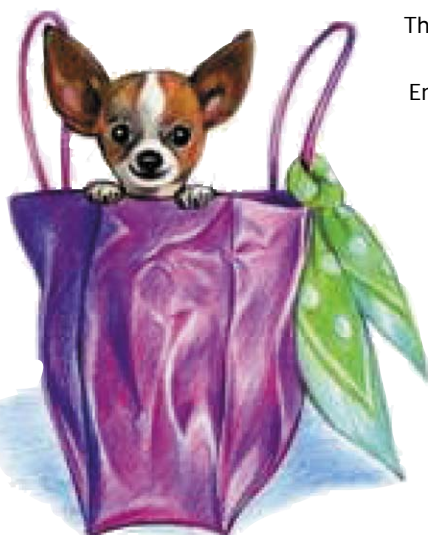
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NOTES FROM YOUR Librarian

Maureen Nimmo
Lawrence Public Library Director

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 10 para leer este artículo en Español

Hello Rumbo readers. Let me first send out my extreme sympathy to everyone who was affected by the huge fire last week. I hope that the whole community can work together to get folks back on their feet as soon as possible. Such an event is always disastrous but becomes even worse in the winter when the cold and ice add to complications. Thank God for our fire and police departments' fast and efficient response so that no lives were lost. We do have representatives here in the library from the Small Business Association who can answer victims' questions and help do paper work for loans and insurance claims. We expect to have them here for about three weeks or as long as they are needed so please come on down if you have any fire-related issues that need to be handled.

I was very happy to see our budget passed last week. I explained in my last two articles all the problems it would pose for the library were the budget not passed. We still are left with a lot of problems but the main thing is we can keep our heads above water. Our staff is diminished, but we are back to full-service operation in the evenings.

I was really touched by the number of private citizens who got up to speak for the library. It is gratifying to know how important this institution is to so many people. I really want to thank all of you who have been reading my articles and who understood the problem and reacted. I am very proud of our new Budget and Finance Director, my fellow department heads, and, of course, the Council itself for their diligence in getting the budget through. Still, I believe in the end it was the people who spoke their minds in the public hearings who played the most important role. It was great to see the democratic process work so well.

We'll be into February by the time you see this. This is a good sign for me because I figure that February is short and that once March begins it is really spring. (I, of course, hold this belief despite

I was very happy to see our budget passed last week. I explained in my last two articles all the problems it would pose for the library were the budget not passed. We still are left with a lot of problems but the main thing is we can keep our heads above water. Our staff is diminished, but we are back to full-service operation in the evenings.

years of evidence to the contrary.) March is a great month in the library and all over Lawrence. Our Irish community holds center stage for a month but all the rest of us are welcome to join in. Here in the library we will be having story hours with special guests and an Irish theme. George and Terri Kelley, our impresarios for the fall concert series will be doing a concert of their own here featuring traditional Irish music. We will also be having free tea and Irish bread on St. Patrick's Day morning at both branches. On the subject of St. Patrick's Day: my husband and I serve on the Parade Committee with long-time parade organizer, Marie Gosselin. The good news is that this year I will be a judge. Previous Years I was "hotdog lady" so this is a step up.

Seriously, the parade is always great and Mrs. Gosselin deserves a lot of credit for keeping this tradition alive. Don't miss it. I'll be keeping you all up to date with all the details of upcoming events.

All right. By now you all know what's coming. When you read this the Super Bowl will be over. I need to find a way to express what I mean without the expression "Go Pats" which my friend and translator Damaris says it just doesn't translate. How about Viva Patriots? I don't know how I will cope when the season is over and I have no more Pats to obsess about. It seems a bit premature for the Red Sox. Oh well! See you at the library.

Lowell beau geste



Lowell DPW workers Ed Patenaude, David Belanguer, City of Lowell Councilor and former Mayor Rita Mercier and John Patenaude, delivered the goods.

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 11 para leer este artículo en Español

By ALBERTO SURÍS

ALBERTOSURIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

On January 28, 2008, Edward "Bud" Caulfield, Mayor of Lowell and Former Mayor and Councilor Rita Mercier made a surprise visit to Lawrence, to deliver a 24 foot rack body truck full to the rim of clothes for the victims of the January 21 massive fire that left over 200 people homeless in Lawrence.

"We want to thank the people of Greater Lowell who came forward with all of this", said Mayor Caulfield signaling to a huge pile of plastic bags full of needed clothing delivered to the old Saunders School, on South Broadway.

According to the mayor, they are going to make another appeal to the

citizenry through the city council, for furniture. "These people need help and we want to help them. Is the least we can do for our sister city."

Councilor Mercier praised the hard work of the DPW workers in collecting, classifying, packing and storing the clothes. "We want to thank the Lowell YMCA and The Salvation Army for facilitating storage space during the collection time," she said and added, "We have to remember that they not only need clothing, but furniture, pots and pans. We will be back," she said.

Before heading back to Lowell, Mayor Caulfield and Councilor Mercier toured the site of the fire.

Letters to the Editor

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

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

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



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Alicia Lugo says:

“They destroyed me and put an end to my emotional tranquility”

MATERIAL BILINGÜE

Favor ver la PÁGINA 6 para leer este artículo en Español

By **BEATRIZ PÉREZ**

BPerez@RUMBONEWS.COM

Almost two years have passed since Alicia Lugo suffered the largest humiliation and injustice that a human being can experience and still the anguish and the impotence is visible in her face upon recalling the day that the police burst into her home and accused her of dog fighting.

Today her case has been dismissed in the courts since the police officers involved in the same arrest never showed. "I wanted to go before a judge to win this case so that everyone would learn what they did me to me", said Lugo.

The woman assured me that she was not given the opportunity to tell her side of the story and that in her mind, the images of the day in which police officers abused her and her children, still are indelible.

"Lawrence Police always does the same thing; they never show in court to testify because they do not have evidence to support the case and that is the reason for the charges to be dismissed", emphasizes.

With the empty look in her eyes and the sadness invading her face, Alicia Lugo affirmed that from the moment she was physically abused by the police her life was ruined. "The active woman, with a good job for 11 years, the one I lost as a result of this situation, owner of several houses while administering a building of 21 units, handling all that accounting, no longer exists."

Lugo states that hardly ever goes out because of fear of police retaliating against her or her children. "The Police Chief (John Romero) is very spiteful and he does not like to end up looking badly. I would like to

hear him say that he is sorry for everything that I have gone through with his men", she said.

At present there is only one idea on her mind, and that is leaving the city, "because I don't feel safe here".

At the time of this interview, Alicia said that she had not yet decided to take action against the police because she is still in a state of shock, unable to understand how this case could have ended this way.

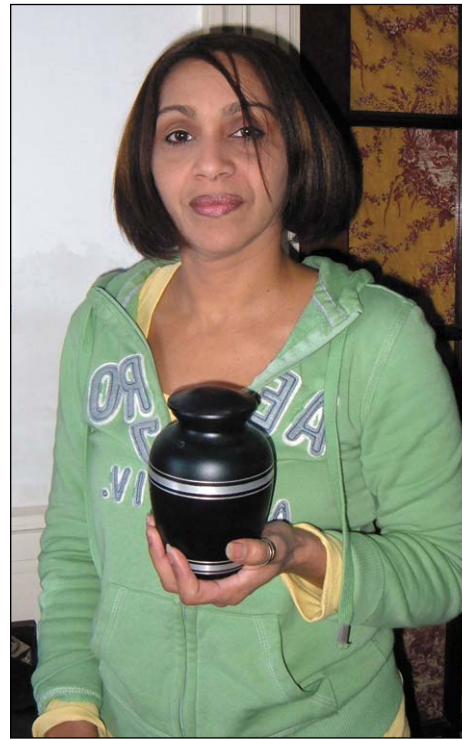
Holding the urn where she keeps the ashes of her dog Destiny, who died while in the police's custody, Lugo said that after all that has happened her worst pain is not being able to have animals in her house, because she loves them. "It would like to have them, but it makes me nervous just to think that the neighbors would complain and call the police again", she added.

Alicia recalls that when she recovered Tyson she could not be relax due to the neighbors harassment watching her through the windows so she decided to give him away.

"My life and my emotional tranquility have been destroyed and to top it off, I cannot go to a doctor because I lack medical insurance and in my home everything is upside down because I am the head of household and I am emotionally distressed", maintains.

Her case

July 3, 2006, Lawrence Police destroyed the front door of her house upon responding to a call where she was accused of dog fighting. Lugo owned two pedigree pitbulls, Destiny and Tyson.



Alicia holding the urn containing Destiny's ashes, the dog that died in police custody.

She was accused of carrying out dog fights in her house and of animal cruelty. Both dogs were carried to the municipal kennel where Destiny died after supposedly have been infected with the Parvo Virus and had to be sacrificed. The animal died in the Bulger Animal Hospital.

At the beginning Lugo and her son Jonathan De la Rosa were defendants in the "dog fighting" charges then that accusation was reduced to "animal abuse", which was later dismissed since the police officers involved never went to press charges.

There is Police abuse

Lugo believes that all this time the Lawrence Police has abused the citizens. She thinks that the reason for this is because the majority of the residents are of Hispanic origin, who cannot speak or write English

very well and do not have the right to vote, which makes them vulnerable to police abuse.

After the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) visited the city to listen to complaints of many residents on the matter, the situation diminished a little, but it has revived again, "I have been made aware of a few abuses, including the case that occurred to a friend".

Finally the woman asserts that in more than one occasion she has tried to speak with the police chief and has not been able to. "I have called the department while being parked right in front and they have told me that he is not in, while I see him in his office", she said.

Alicia Lugo only wanted to tell Chief Romero that she has not done anything wrong and having been defamed by the authorities she needs to clear her name before the public opinion.

In her memory will remain the bitter memories of that day, the consequences and the repercussions that this case has left in its existence, where she has been pushed into the discredit, the mockery and the abuse.

She recalls how the people walked by her residence and indicating the house they would gossip. One day, the mailman wrote on a letter addressed to her, "The dogs house."

Lugo took advantage of the opportunity that Rumbo offers her, according to her own words, to let everyone know that everything that the authorities said about her and of her family was a despicable lie, which turned her into a fearful being afraid of even stepping out into the street.

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– redeem this for a 2-week family membership.

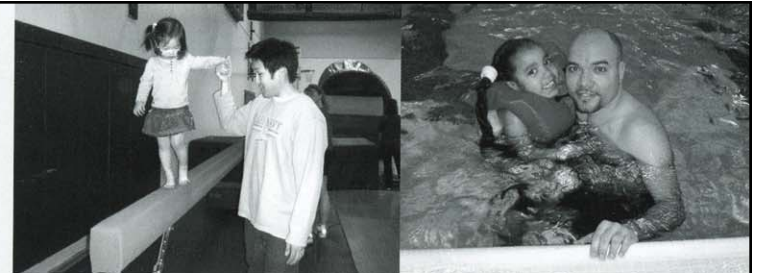
You can also redeem this for an 2-week individual adult membership.

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.
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www.mvymca.org

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

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A commitment of six months and attendance at a training session are required. There will be training in Lawrence in October.

For more information about the program, visit our website: www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org, or call or write Sheila Carman at 978-557-2182-scarman@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org.

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Letters to the Editor

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Email: rumbo@rumbonews.com

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

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DIFFICULTY: ★☆☆☆

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DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆


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DIFFICULTY: ★★★☆☆

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


No matter what you call him, no matter where you find him, he's living a valued life. Born outside, these unsterilized cats eventually form colonies, making their home wherever they can find food. Tomcats prowl for mates, females become pregnant, and the cycle of reproduction continues. To help them, Alley Cat Allies has a cost-effective plan that not only reduces feral cat populations, it also improves their lives. It's called Trap, Neuter, and Return or TNR. To learn about this smart, compassionate, proven method of population control, or to give a gift of time or money, go to www.alleycat.org.

SUPPORT TRAP, NEUTER, AND RETURN



The National Feral Cat Resource

7920 Norfolk Ave., Suite 600 • Bethesda, MD 20814
www.alleycat.org



Photographer: Molly Wald

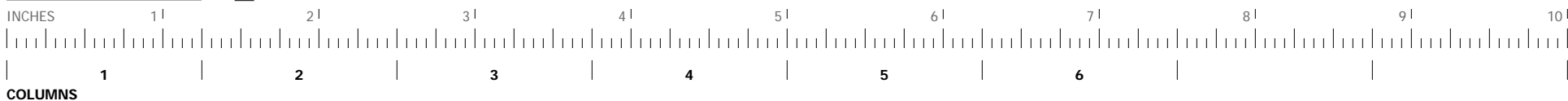
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