



ANTIGUO PUENTE DE FERROCARRIL AHORA PARA PEATONES

Kane Weber y Kathleen Marinelli abren el camino después de cortar la cinta que dejó inaugurado el puente sobre el Canal del Norte. **PÁGINA 3**

OLD RAILROAD BRIDGE REOPENED FOR PEDESTRIAN USE

Kane Weber and Kathleen Marinelli lead the way after cutting the ribbon leaving the bridge over the North Canal inaugurated. **PAGE 3**



SEMANA HISPANA CELEBRA NOCHE CULTURAL

Eliliana Javier, Mabel Valenzuela y Mariela Sánchez, Princesa, Reina y Virreina, respectivamente, del Desfile Dominicano 2007, muestran con orgullo algunas de las deliciosas frutas frescas que su país caribeño produce, durante la celebración de la Noche Cultural de Semana Hispana, llevada a cabo en el gimnasio de Central Catholic High School.

HISPANIC WEEK CELEBRATES CULTURAL NIGHT

Eliliana Javier, Mabel Valenzuela and Mariela Sanchez, Desfile Dominicano 2007 Princess, Queen and Second Runner-up, respectively, proudly showing delicious fresh fruits from their Caribbean country, during the Hispanic Week celebration of Cultural Night, held at Central Catholic High School's gymnasium. **PAGE 12**



DESCENDIENTE DE LIBANESES DONA BIBLIOTECA

"Y esta es mi tía Blanche", dijo Cynthia Mohr, apuntando a la foto de las hermanas Adamy, la cual será colgada en la pared de la biblioteca de Lawrence Family Development Charter School, donada por ella.

LEBANESE DESCENDANT DONATES LIBRARY

"And this is my aunt Blanche," said Cynthia Mohr, pointing to the picture of the Adamy sisters, which will hang at the Lawrence Family Development Charter School library donated by her.

"Irene, Rosalie y Blanche, yo sé que hoy ustedes estarían orgullosas de ver a los niños de Lawrence, muchos nacidos de padres inmigrantes como fueron ustedes, teniendo similares sueños y esperanzas como ustedes tuvieron, mostrando tanta promesa como ellos tratan de alcanzar las estrellas"

EDITORIAL

ENGLISH

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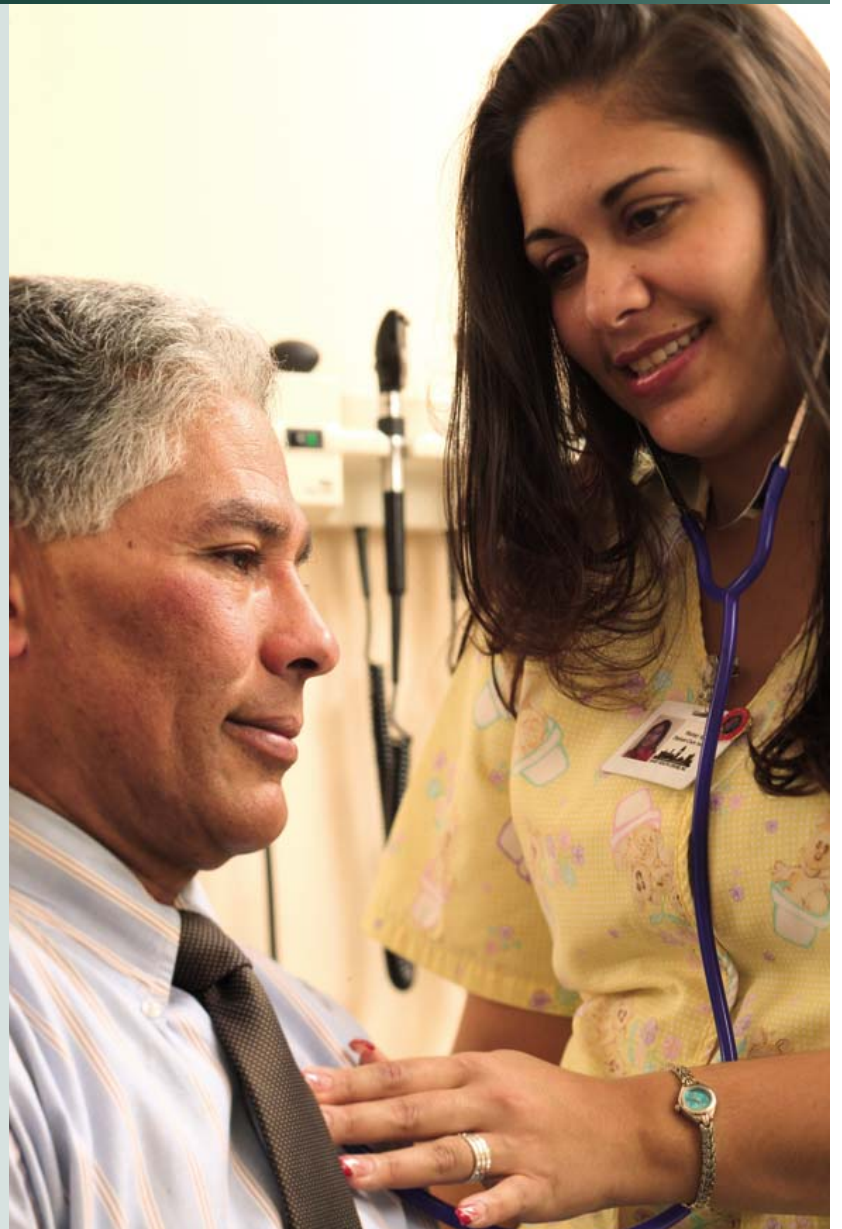
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Antiguo puente de ferrocarril ahora para peatones



At the count of three, Kane Weber and Kathleen Marinelli cut the ribbon, while Ellen Minzner, Community Development Manager; Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, Ed Warnshuis, Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan and Lawrence Chief of Police John J. Romero look on.

Por/By Alberto Surís
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

El Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan, acompañado de la Congresista Niki Tsongas y con la ayuda de Kane Weber y Kathleen Marinelli, que escribieron ensayos ganadores sobre el futuro de Lawrence, inauguraron el recientemente renovado puente que conecta la Calle Canal con las fábricas que se encuentran al otro lado el viernes, 18 de abril, 2008.

“Antiguamente este era un puente de ferrocarril que conectaba las fábricas con el Lawrence Machine Shop al otro lado del Canal del Norte”, dijo Jim Beauchesne, Supervisor del Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitor Service mientras caminaba por el puente.

Fondos para este proyecto, en la

intersección de las calles Canal y Unión, a un costo de \$1 millón de dólares (\$100,000 en solo removerle el plomo), según informó Ellen Minzner, Community Development Manager, provinieron del State Department of Housing y Community Development CDAG y el programa de HUD Community Development Block Grant.

Antes de la reapertura del puente, la Ciudad de Lawrence llevó a cabo un concurso entre los niños de 7mo y 8vo grado de las escuelas de Lawrence, y les pidieron que expresaran sus pensamientos acerca de lo que este puente significaba para ellos. Los ganadores fueron Kathleen Marinelli, alumna de 7mo grado de la Escuela San Patrick y Kane Weber, alumno de 8vo de la Escuela Parthum.

Y para los ganadores, la promesa de cortar la cinta y de ser los primeros en atravesar el puente, delante de todas las autoridades de la ciudad y público en general.

Old Railroad Bridge reopened for pedestrian use

On Friday, April 18, 2008, Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan in the company of Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, and with the help of Kane Weber and Kathleen Marinelli, who wrote winning essays on the future of Lawrence, inaugurated the recently refurbished bridge that connects Canal Street with the mills on the other side.

“It used to be a railroad bridge that connected the mills to the Lawrence Machine Shop, at the other side of the North Canal,” said Jim Beauchesne, Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitor Services Supervisor while walking across the bridge.

Funding for this project at the intersection of Union and Canal Street, at a cost of \$1 million was funded by the State Department of Housing and Community

Development CDAG program and HUD Community Development Block Grant program (\$100,000 alone for lead removal), as informed by Ellen Minzner, Community Development Manager.

Prior to the reopening of the bridge, the City of Lawrence held an essay contest amongst 7th and 8th graders from the Lawrence schools, asking them to express their thoughts about what this bridge mean to them. The winners were Kathleen Marinelli, a 7th grader at St. Patrick School and Kane Weber, an 8th grader at Parthum School

And for the winners, the promise of cutting the ribbon and be the first ones to walk over the new bridge, ahead of the city officials and general public in attendance.

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

Semana Hispana va por buen camino

La Noche Cultural que tuvo lugar el pasado sábado 19 en Central Catholic High School es tan solo el preámbulo de que la celebración de Semana Hispana este año promete ser mucho mejor.

Los organizadores de Semana Hispana se han puesto en contacto con las embajadas y consulados de los diferentes países latinoamericanos y su respuesta ha sido muy entusiasta. Algunos se han comprometido ya para ayudar este año, mientras que otros, según Brian De Peña, Vicepresidente de Semana Hispana, están dispuestos a ponerlo en su presupuesto el año próximo.

En otra área en la cual los organizadores han estado trabajando fervientemente es con la juventud. Semana Hispana es probablemente la organización local con el mayor grupo de jóvenes envueltos en diferentes actividades desde eventos culturales hasta responsabilidades comunitarias. El trabajo que ellos hacen con nuestra gente joven es admirable. Ellos tratan de involucrarlos en nuestras tradiciones, la importancia de permanecer en la escuela para obtener una educación mientras que al mismo tiempo aprendemos de ellos lo que en realidad es importante para nuestros jóvenes de hoy.

Hispanic Week is on the right track

The Cultural Night held last Saturday 19 at Central Catholic High School is the preamble of what the celebration of Hispanic Week this year promises to be and beyond.

Hispanic Week organizers have been contacting Embassies and Consulates from different Latin American countries and their responses have been very enthusiastic. Some, have already committed to help this year, while others, according to Hispanic Week Vice President Brian De Peña, are willing to budget the expenses for next year.

In another area where Hispanic Week organizers have been working fervently are the youth. Hispanic Week is probably the local organization with the largest group of youngsters actively involved in different activities ranging from cultural events to community responsibility. The work they do with our young people is commendable. They try getting them involved in our traditions, the importance of staying in school and acquiring an education while at the same time learning from them what is important to our young people today.

Cartas al Editor | Letters to the Editor

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

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Publicación de SUDA, Inc.
315 Mt. Vernon Street Lawrence, MA 01843

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Transición a Televisión Digital

NAB Lanza una Nueva Serie de Iniciativas de Educación a los Consumidores Cuando ya Falta Menos de un Año para la Transición Digital (DTV)

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) está expandiendo sus iniciativas de educación a los consumidores esta semana con una variedad de nuevos esfuerzos para ayudar a la comunidad hispana a prepararse

para el cambio a Televisión Digital. El enfoque a la comunidad hispana se debe a que el 31.8% de la población hispana obtiene su señal con antenas aéreas, y de ese porcentaje el 41.5% es de hogares donde el primer lenguaje es español.

“Los locutores están encabezando el camino para educar a los consumidores en cuanto a la transición de la televisión a digital (DTV).” dijo David K. Rehr, presidente y dirigente de la Asociación Nacional de Locutores (NAB). “Cada red

de transmisión y cerca de 1500 estaciones de televisión a nivel nacional están participando en una campaña masiva y multifacética que incluye espacios televisivos educacionales, compromisos de oradores en diferentes localidades y una variedad de otras iniciativas educacionales.”

De acuerdo con un estudio realizado por Nielsen un 17.3% de hogares hispanos aún no están listos para la transición DTV siendo el grupo más grande dentro de los no preparados, comparado a un 8.8% de hogares de familias estadounidenses.

Para ayudar a los consumidores a estar más informados acerca de las cajas convertidoras y el programa de cupones para las cajas convertidoras del gobierno federal, la NAB ha producido nuevos espacios en televisión que están siendo televisados nacionalmente. La NAB también está produciendo un programa educativo de 30 minutos acerca de la transición a televisión digital que saldrá al aire en estaciones televisivas a finales de este mes.

La acción de calle DTV de la NAB, que incluye dos camiones diseñados a semejanza de televisores análogos gigantes, es otra iniciativa importante que está ayudando a los consumidores a prepararse para la transición digital. Los Camiones DTV han estado cruzando la nación desde el otoño pasado, y viajarán 95,000 millas a 600 localidades en 200 mercados antes del 17 de febrero del 2009, cuando todas las estaciones de televisión de alta potencia son requeridas a transmitir únicamente en formato digital.

“Las iniciativas de los locutores en educar a los consumidores en cuanto a DTV están funcionando claramente,” dice Rehr. “Pero hay más por hacer, y las estaciones televisivas están comprometidas en asegurarse que cada consumidor está preparado para el cambio digital.”

Si usted quiere que alguno de nuestros oradores de alguna de sus televisoras locales, vaya a una de sus reuniones a explicar sobre la transición. Contacte María F Echeto a mecheto@crosbyvolmer.com ó (202) 232 6632.

Para más información visite www.dtvanswers.com/español o llame al 1-888-DTV-2009.

División de Elecciones de Lawrence agradece colaboración

La División de Elecciones de Lawrence aprecia toda la asistencia proveída por los medios de comunicación con asuntos relacionados a la diseminación de importancia al formulario del Censo Municipal del 2008. La distribución extensa de información a la ciudad en relación a este asunto es de tremendo beneficio para la comunidad de Lawrence y el apoyo de ustedes y sus colegas, Líderes Comunitarios, Líderes Ecuménicos, varios grupos comunitarios y otras personas interesadas en la Ciudad de Lawrence son gratamente apreciados. Como resultado de estos esfuerzos, la Ciudad de Lawrence está cerca de obtener aproximadamente 10,000 formularios de censo devueltos lo cual no había ocurrido desde el 2001.

Para poder continuar comunicando la importancia de contestar el censo de la Ciudad, la División de Elecciones de la Ciudad desea recordarle a los lawrencianos que hasta el momento no nos han devuelto su formulario del Censo Municipal para el 2008, que lo completen y nos lo devuelvan lo antes posible.

La próxima etapa del proceso del Censo Anual envuelve el envío formal de “Aviso de Confirmación” a aquellos individuos que no han devuelto su formulario del Censo para el 2008. Esta notificación será enviada por correo (con franqueo prepago para ser enviado y devuelto) y se espera que tome lugar aproximadamente la segunda semana del mes de mayo del 2008. A los residentes se les recuerda la importancia que tiene el completar y devolver el formulario de Censo del 2008 ya que evitará la necesidad de enviar un “Aviso de Confirmación”.

Nuevamente, gracias por su atención y asistencia en relación a este asunto. Favor de no privarse de llamar a la División de Elecciones de la Ciudad si usted tiene alguna pregunta. La División de Elecciones de la Ciudad puede ser localizada llamando al 978-620-3290 y está abierta de lunes a viernes de 8:30 a.m. a 4:30 p.m.



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Marina Cedeño plasma en el lienzo el color y el enigma del Flamboyán

Por **Beatriz Pérez**
beatrizperez@rumbonews.com

El colorido, la majestuosidad, el porte y la sombra que regalan los flamboyanes estarán expuestos con todo su atractivo en la exposición pictórica de la artista plástica Marina Cedeño Pecunia, quien abre su vigésimotercera exposición individual este viernes 25 en los salones de Casa Dominicana.

Flamboyanes de mi Tierra es el título de la exposición que recrea paisajes en base a estos hermosos árboles que encierran una belleza muy especial.

El evento que es auspiciado por Casa Dominicana y Rumbo va a permitir apreciar en todo su esplendor el enigma de unos cuadros que presentan no solo el árbol del Flamboyán, sino también los colores de sus flores, cuya hermosura se puede palpar en pueblos y ciudades tropicales alrededor del mundo.

Las flores son de color rojo brillante, mientras sus pétalos se presentan en blanco y amarillo. Aunque cuando el sol los baña, el rojo intenso se transforma en un amarillo-anaranjado.

El nombre botánico de este árbol es *Delonix regia*. Es conocido en inglés como Flame tree, flamboyant o royal poinciana y pacayer en francés.

Cedeño tendrá en exposición unos 16 cuadros, los cuales de una forma u otra son un homenaje a una ciudad que ama y que lleva muy profundamente en su corazón: Lawrence.

“Amo a esta comunidad en la que viví por muchos años, la que fue y sigue siendo mi compañera fiel en noches de soledad y ha sido testigo de mis logros, mis tristezas, mis alegrías y mis angustias”, dijo la artista

plástica.

En el camino recorrido para ver concretizado este sueño, en el cual poner en perspectiva la esencia de lo que es como artista del pincel Marina Cedeño ha encontrado personas que no han pensado un solo minuto en tender la mano.

“Me siento agradecida del apoyo de Casa Dominicana, del periódico Rumbo, de Richard Aybar y de todos aquellos que de una forma u otra han estado ahí para ayudarme”, destaca.

Gracias a Casa Dominicana, y a su presidente Julio Meran Cedeño no solo ha encontrado un lugar en donde exponer sus cuadros, sino que además cuenta con un espacio en donde ha podido pintarlos, luego de que se le fuese acondicionada un área para tal fin.

“También estoy impartiendo unos talleres de clases de pinturas, tarjetería y decoración de velas aromáticas”, dijo.

La pintora está pensando seriamente en la posibilidad de volver a radicarse en la Ciudad de Lawrence. Luego de la exposición y de concluidos los talleres que está impartiendo viajará a Miami, Florida por asuntos personales y para organizar algunas cosas, y luego volver a Lawrence.

Marina Cedeño se considera una persona realizada en todos los aspectos, es una artista que de acuerdo a ella ha tenido la dicha de pintar lo que quiere y lo que le gusta.

“A pesar de que en ocasiones me alejo del entorno de la naturaleza y proyecto otros elementos en mis pinturas, es la naturaleza mi fiel amiga y es una de las cosas que más amo”, afirma.



Marina Cedeño junto a Génesis Duran, una de sus estudiantes de pintura en Casa Dominicana.

Su realización personal está en la dicha de poder ser madre, abuela y bisabuela y de tener la satisfacción de contar con verdaderos amigos.

Para ella las artes plásticas representan la mejor forma de dar a conocer todo lo que siente como ser humano y como artista, “es poder lograr plasmar en un lienzo lo que es

la naturaleza misma”.

Marina Cedeño es una artista que ha encontrado en la combinación de los colores y trazos la mejor manera de sentirse satisfecha con su condición de ser humano. Es una persona que pluraliza con los pinceles y que puede conjugar tristezas y alegrías en todos los tiempos.

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Descendiente de libaneses dona biblioteca

Por **Alberto Surís**
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

La Lawrence Family Development Charter Upper School, localizada en el 400 de la Calle Haverhill hoy tiene una nueva biblioteca, gracias a la generosidad de Cynthia Mohr, una de sus miembros de la junta directiva.

El viernes, 18 de abril, 2008, un grupo de más de 30 personas compuesta por miembros de la facultad, amigos y estudiantes se congregaron alrededor de Mohr en el momento en que ella dedicaba la biblioteca a las hermanas Adamy: Irene, Rosalie y Blanche, su madre y tías.

“Esto es lo que me viene a la mente sobre mi madre Rosalie y mis tías Irene y Blanche,” dijo Cynthia Mohr mientras leía lo siguiente:

“Las tres hermanas Adamy nacieron en Lawrence, descendientes de inmigrantes libaneses en la primera mitad del siglo pasado. Hace ya casi ochenta años cuando esas hermanas eran jóvenes, sin embargo, sus luchas, sus sueños y esperanzas no eran distintos a las de los hijos e hijas de los inmigrantes de hoy. Su madre era soltera y tuvo que trabajar en una fábrica por largas horas y poco salario para criar a sus hijas. Como los nuevos padres inmigrantes en Lawrence, mi abuela tenía grandes sueños de una mejor vida para su familia. Ella

trabajaba duro, resistió mucho y se sacrificó enormemente por sus hijas.

La vida era ciertamente dura. Había una aplastante pobreza complicada con el temor por el futuro de la familia, pero mi abuela nunca vaciló. Ella se las arregló para lograr una vida alegre y decente en su hogar en Lawrence, donde sólo había agua fría. Mi Abuela Almaza (a la que yo conocía como ‘Sito’) era fuerte, determinada y orgullosa mujer, una verdadera sobreviviente. Ella pasó a sus hijas el valor del trabajo duro, la perseverancia y la integridad.

A pesar de las escuálidas condiciones de vida en las casas de vecindad y muchas privaciones, mi abuela se las arregló para encontrar alegría y amigos íntimos durante su vida. Ella disfrutaba el tiempo que pasaba con sus hijas. Mi madre recuerda que su madre disfrutaba cuando sus hijas le leían los periódicos, ya que le gustaba estar informada pero nunca aprendió a leer inglés.

Los vecinos, la familia y los amigos se reunían con frecuencia para compartir comidas, las cuales eran ocasiones felices donde las mujeres libanesas trabajando juntas, preparaban platos de la cocina del medio este que les traían memorias de su país lejano y de su querida herencia cultural.

En aquellos días no era vergonzoso ser pobres ya que todos alrededor de ellos lo eran. Mi madre y mis tías aprendieron sus valores de su madre, a valorar la herencia del medio este, a estar orgullosas de sus



Cynthia Mohr y su hija Ashley con Estudiantes Embajadores, alumnos de 8vo grado Anndy Diaz, Emmanuel Castañeda, Rosiee Gómez, Eric Acosta y Melissa Marroquin, posan junto al retrato de las Hermanas Adamy el cual será colgado de la pared de la biblioteca por los años venideros.

Cynthia Mohr and her daughter Ashley with 8th grade Student Ambassadors Anndy Diaz, Emmanuel Castaneda, Rosiee Gomez, Eric Acosta and Melissa Marroquin, posing by a portrait of the Adamy sister which will hang on a library wall for the years to come.

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raíces y de estar orgullosas también de que eran ciudadanas americanas viviendo en esta gran Ciudad de Lawrence.

Con una madre fuerte y orgullosa dándoles seguridad y estabilidad, las hermanas Adamy crecieron con una increíble confianza en sí mismas y en su valor. Ellas eran, en muchas formas, unas mujeres modernas, especialmente mi madre y mi tía Blanche las cuales eran mujeres de carrera con deslumbrante personalidad.

Mi tía Irene, la mayor y más tranquila de las hermanas tenía un problema de sordera, pero se las arregló para ser enormemente productiva, siempre aprendiendo nuevas destrezas y adquiriendo un gran interés en la naturaleza y un gran talento para la jardinería.

Las tres hermanas tenían una personalidad sociable y brillante. Desde muy temprana edad, aprendieron a como relatar una buena historia. En efecto, a las tres les encantaba entretener a sus amistades manteniéndolas hechizadas o muertas de risa con historias de su juventud y/o desgarradoras experiencias.

Blanche, Irene y Rosalie debieron aprender a expresarse tan bien por sí mismas porque siempre estaban leyendo. Mi madre podía leer una novela de 400 páginas en una noche. Ella era una consumada, rápida lectora. Ella pudo haber enseñado el curso de lectura rápida de Evelyn Wood, tan popular en aquellos días.

Mis tías y mi madre solían decirnos que cuando ellas estaban creciendo la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence, era el



El Padre Jorge Reyes, OSA conversa con Cynthia Mohr, poco después de la inauguración de la biblioteca.

Father Jorge Reyes, OSA, chats with Cynthia Mohr, after the dedication of the library.

edificio más bello que ellas habían entrado. Era un refugio de la agitación que las rodeaba. Ellas encontraron libros que eran un escape a las privaciones, del sufrimiento durante la Gran Depresión y de las profundas pérdidas de la Segunda Guerra Mundial de tantos jóvenes de los vecindarios.

No cabe la menor duda de que las muchachas Adamy sabían lo que sucedía en el mundo alrededor de ellas. Ellas leían y se mantenían informadas. Hasta cuando envejecieron, se mantuvieron políticas y socialmente activas. Ellas tenían opiniones fuertes sobre cualquier materia y no vacilaban en darte a conocer cuál era su modo de pensar. Después de todo, ellas tenían una gran confianza en sí mismas y se formaban de opiniones porque leían.

Revisando la historia de las hermanas Adamy, sus ordinarias y a la vez extraordinarias vidas, comprendo que tuvieron un tremendo impacto en formar mi

personalidad. Ellas, como su madre antes que ellas, me inculcaron una actitud de 'puedes hacerlo', respeto por el trabajo duro y la educación, amor a la lectura y facilidad para contar historias. Es por ellas y por toda la alegría y sabiduría que trajeron a mi vida, que les dedico esta biblioteca.

Irene, Rosalie y Blanche, yo sé que hoy ustedes estarían orgullosas de ver a los niños de Lawrence, muchos nacidos de padres inmigrantes como fueron ustedes, teniendo similares sueños y esperanzas como ustedes tuvieron, mostrando tanta promesa como ellos tratan de alcanzar las estrellas".

Lebanese descendant donates library

By Alberto Surís
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

The Lawrence Family Development Charter Upper School, located at 400 Haverhill Street has a brand new library, thanks to the generosity of one of their board members, Cynthia Mohr.

On Friday, April 18, 2008, a group of over 30 friends, faculty and students gathered around Mohr as she dedicated the library to the Adamy sisters: Irene, Rosalie and Blanche, her mother and aunts.

"Here are my thoughts on my mother Rosalie and my aunts Irene and Blanche," said Cynthia Mohr as she read this statement:

"The three Adamy sisters were born in Lawrence to Lebanese immigrants in the early part of last century. It was nearly eighty years ago when these sisters were young. Yet their struggles, their dreams and hopes are not unlike those of the immigrant children in this city today. They had a single

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CONTINUES ON PAGE 15

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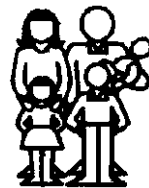


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WIB honra a educadores

El pasado miércoles, Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board se unió a la Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Merrimack para honrar a los maestros y administradores que participaron en el programa "Merrimack Valley Means Business – Educational Development Initiative" (Merrimack Valley significa Comercio – Iniciativa para el Desarrollo Educacional) en un Desayuno Educativo Conjunto, el cual precedió a la reunión trimestral de la MVWIB en Michael's Function Hall en Haverhill.

La meta del programa era trabajar con los maestros del Valle de Merrimack de tal manera que tuviera efecto a corto y a largo plazo en nuestros estudiantes y que a su vez beneficiara a nuestra fuerza laboral y en un final a la industria privada. Estos maestros, representando a 27 diferentes áreas de estudios de 8 diferentes distritos escolares, terminaron con una herramienta que les provee un programa continuo de mejora de calidad que las compañías exitosas deben usar para mantener su ventaja competitiva en esta economía del Siglo 21.

El programa tuvo un efecto acumulativo en 26 maestros que fueron expuestos a las técnicas más modernas en los principios de manufactura, los cuales tienen el potencial



de impactar a más de 280 estudiantes de

escuela secundaria que en la actualidad toman clases de estos maestros y más tarde tendrán el mismo efecto en cientos de

estudiantes. Los maestros también tuvieron la oportunidad de hacer un "externado" en una variedad de empresas privadas que les

Desde la izquierda, Thomas Schiavone, Economic Development Director, City of Lawrence; Sal Lupoli, CEO, Riverwalk Properties; Joseph J. Bevilacqua, MVCC President; Peter Matthews, CEO, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union; y Frederick T. Carberry, MVWIB Executive Director.



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permitieron regresar a los salones de clases con una comprensión de las necesidades, presiones y recompensas de los empleos en el sector privado, y llevar estos conocimientos a sus estudiantes. En otras palabras, ellos pudieron traerles la realidad de los centros de trabajo a las aulas.

El Sr. Joseph Bevilacqua, Presidente de la Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Merrimack, el Sr. Frederick Carberry, Director Ejecutivo del Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board y el Sr. Keith Westrich, Director de Connecting Activities Program del Departamento de Educación Elemental y Secundaria de Massachusetts presentaron los reconocimientos.

También reconocidos en la reunión trimestral de MCWIB fueron Peter Matthews, President/CEO de Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union, Sal Lupoli, CEO de Riverwalk Properties y el Alcalde de Lawrence Michael J. Sullivan por su participación en el "Merrimack Valley Means Business – An Economic Development Program That Works" (Merrimack Valley significa Comercio – Iniciativa para el Desarrollo Educacional). Esta presentación tuvo lugar durante el foro anual de la Asociación Nacional de Juntas Laborales en Washington, DC el pasado mes de febrero.

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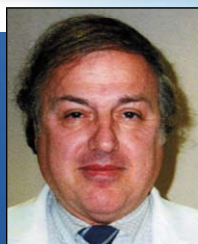


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NOTAS DE SU BIBLIOTECARIA

READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 21

Por Maureen Nimmo

Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence

Saludos Amigos Lectores. Hoy contamos con otro precioso día de primavera, por los cuales estoy muy agradecida. Este invierno pareció interminable.

Recibimos buenas noticias de la Fundación Gates. La biblioteca es elegible para una beca que actualizará todas las computadoras del servicio al público. La beca nos ofrece dieciocho computadoras en el próximo año fiscal y otras dieciocho el año siguiente. Nosotros tendremos que contribuir el tercio del costo total, así que estamos muy contentos. Bryan Cahoon, director del Departamento de IT (Tecnología Informativa) de la ciudad, me ayudará a entender y sacar provecho de esta gran oportunidad. Para poder actualizar nuestras computadoras con el sistema de la ciudad, tenemos que adquirir el sistema informático que concuerde con las especificaciones del moderno sistema que ellos utilizan, y Bryan es la persona adecuada para ayudarnos a que hagamos esta transacción correctamente.

Esta beca tiene la meta de ayudar a las bibliotecas de áreas de ingresos bajos, a que se mantengan al día con la tecnología. Yo siempre he declarado que las ciudades, como la nuestra, necesitan las bibliotecas más que las comunidades de altos ingresos y aún más cuando la economía está en malas condiciones. La comunidad tiene el derecho de contar con una biblioteca que le pueda proveer los recursos para los residentes que no pueden darse el lujo en sus propios hogares. Estoy bien agradecida con la Fundación Gates por reconocer esta necesidad y asegurarse de que las comunidades de bajos ingresos sean servidas apropiadamente.

Acentúo este tema particularmente ahora ya que la ciudad se encuentra en los comienzos de las negociaciones de su presupuesto anual. Espero que este año las cosas salgan con menos incidentes que el año pasado, aunque reconozco que hay grandes problemas y difíciles decisiones para hacer. Los residentes de esta ciudad estuvieron fantásticos cuando hablaron en favor de la biblioteca. Espero que podamos seguir contando con el apoyo de todos ustedes. Este es el peor momento para despojar a la gente de Lawrence de los servicios gratuitos y de gran calidad que le ofrece su biblioteca.

¡Ya comenzamos con nuestros Círculos

Espero que este año las cosas salgan con menos incidentes que el año pasado, aunque reconozco que hay grandes problemas y difíciles decisiones para hacer. Los residentes de esta ciudad estuvieron fantásticos cuando hablaron en favor de la biblioteca. Espero que podamos seguir contando con el apoyo de todos ustedes.

Conversacionales! En estos momentos los grupos son pequeños; esto se debe a que tuvimos que comenzar el programa de prisa y no tuvimos suficiente tiempo para anunciarlos. Esto significa que contamos con espacios disponibles para todos aquellos que estén interesados. Así que espero ver a mucha gente sacando provecho de esta gran oportunidad. Simplemente vengan a la biblioteca principal los martes a las 4:00 p.m. para que participen. El segundo grupo se reúne los jueves a las 4:00 p.m. en el Centro Asiático localizado en el Ballard Way en el Sur de Lawrence. Permítanme aclarar que aunque deseamos que nuestros residentes asiáticos participen de este programa y este segundo grupo se reunirá en su centro, esto no significa que tienen que ser asiático para participar. Los dos grupos están abiertos para el público en general.

Quiero informarles que lamentablemente, nuestra coordinadora de servicios especiales al público del Departamento de Niños, Terry Farish, nos ha dejado. No tengo palabras para expresar lo grandiosa que fue su ayuda para esta institución y para los programas de alfabetismo a través de toda la ciudad. Le deseamos todo lo mejor en su nueva posición, aunque la extrañaremos mucho—ella definitivamente no es de la clase de persona que pueda ser fácilmente remplazada.

Bueno, recuerdo que terminé mi última columna mencionando cuán bien había comenzado la temporada de las Medias Rojas. Entonces jugaron en Toronto y perdieron todos los juegos, ¡así que para estar segura de no “echarles mal de ojos” prefiero ni hablar de ellos! ¡Nos vemos en la biblioteca!

Devers reacciona a la crisis de los “Foreclosures”

Por Marcos Devers

marcosdevers@comcast.net

Incumbentes que están enfrentando fuertes retos salen a última hora con ideas demagógicas para simular que están buscando soluciones a problemas que ya ellos habían ignorado.

Ese es el caso del actual representante del Distrito 16 quien se unió a otros incumbentes que están proponiendo una moratoria de seis meses a los embargos de propiedades.

Uno de los proyectos legislativos propone permitir que los inquilinos vivan en las propiedades embargadas por un año y un tercer proyecto legislativo propondría que le permita a los propietarios pelear sus embargos en los tribunales.

Algunos legisladores locales, como la Senadora Susan Tucker, dicen que esta clase de legislación que ellos proponen puede asustar a los bancos. Tucker le dijo al diario The Eagle-Tribune que “Nosotros no podemos arriesgarnos a perder los bancos,” “Nosotros necesitamos crédito (para que la gente pueda comprar casas).”

De igual modo, el representante Bradley Jones Jr. le dijo al mismo periódico que “me pongo nervioso cuando nosotros (los legisladores) nos entrometemos con el mercado”.

El incumbente del Distrito 16 dijo que es un problema que llega a tu comunidad tarde o temprano, y sin tomar acción, la crisis aumentaría. Pero la crisis ha abarcado tanto a todo Lawrence que ya esta ciudad tiene más de 800 casas embargadas. Y la razón principal es que en Lawrence necesitamos trabajo y generar empleos para los residentes, y el incumbente ha fallado al no garantizar el desarrollo económico en el

Distrito.

Lawrence tiene una tasa de desempleo de doble dígito y la mayoría de los empleos en Lawrence los tienen personas que no viven aquí y tampoco pagan impuestos a la ciudad.

Aunque es verdad que esta es una crisis nacional, hay un dicho que dice “cuando otras ciudades tienen gripe, Lawrence tiene neumonía”. Esta es una crisis cuya solución dependerá principalmente de regulaciones y medidas federales urgentes que apuntalen al mercado hipotecario en general con el gobierno federal asumiendo su responsabilidad.

Estos incumbentes, con Lantigua montándose en el camión para figurear, están diciendo que la ley firmada por el gobernador Patrick el pasado noviembre, la cual le da a los dueños de casas tres meses para ponerse al día en sus pagos antes del embargo, no es suficiente. Pero lo que ellos están proponiendo, ellos mismos ya saben que no es realista y lo que están precisamente haciendo es aprovechar la crisis para calmar a los votantes engañándolos con trucos demagógicos. A nivel de todo el estado esto no es ni siquiera un tipo de solución con curita para la desesperación que están pasando los dueños de casas.

Lo que nosotros necesitamos es asegurar que los dueños de casa cuyas propiedades han sido depreciadas por debajo del valor de la hipoteca puedan refinanciar a una tasa de interés más baja y fija. Esto puede realizarse mediante la creación de un seguro provisto por el gobierno federal y el estatal que asegure la diferencia entre el valor actual de la propiedad y el que deben a la compañía hipotecaria. Esto garantizará que la compañía hipotecaria refinance el valor total de la hipoteca con un riesgo menor.

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Por Israel Ortega
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O sea eso es lo que nos cuentan los políticos que se las pasan viendo en como poder explotar los miedos del pueblo. En esta, la temporada de culpar a todos, es fácil darse cuenta porque nuestros oficiales elegidos quieren hacer algo para dar la impresión que están respondiendo. ¿Pero no será, que nuestro país será mejor servido si nuestros políticos dibujan un plan más sensible y responsable, aunque no sea el más popular?

Una tumultuosa bolsa de valores, altos precios de gasolina y un incremento en el número de aquellos sin trabajo, todo ha contribuido a la percepción que nuestra economía está en caos. Y mientras los economistas continúan argumentando si estamos en una recesión o una depresión, o si una, ya empezó, haríamos bien en frenar un poco para entender cómo es que llegamos hasta aquí. Adicionalmente,

deberíamos ver con escepticismo aquellos que nos prometen una respuesta sencilla.

Mucha de la culpa por la situación económica se debe al sector de viviendas que ha visto un dramático incremento en el número de aquellos que no pudieron cumplir con sus obligaciones financieras. Como mi colega Ron Utt nos explica en su más reciente informe, las semillas fueron sembradas en los 90s cuando instituciones financieras empezaron a otorgar préstamos a familias con crédito malo.

Aunque el número de propietarios de casa creció, ahora nos estamos dando cuenta que el próspero exterior estaba escondiendo un sector de vivienda precario. Hoy sabemos que cuando familias pararon de pagar sus casas, inversionistas en los mercados financieros tuvieron que pagar los gastos.

En lugar de poner los frenos en este camino, parece que la respuesta congresional

Complicando el desastre, es la reciente acción del gobierno federal en asistir con ayuda financiera la venta de Bear Stearns (empresa en Wall Street) a otro banco inversionista. Aunque hay argumentos válidos en cómo reaccionó el gobierno, ¿no hubiera sido mejor que el libre mercado resolviera la situación en lugar del gobierno? ¿O tendrán razón aquellos que nos dicen que así evitamos una crisis en la forma como respondió el gobierno?

aprueba el seguir haciendo malas decisiones financieras. Un buen ejemplo es el proyecto de ley del Senado titulado, "Foreclosure Enhancement Act" que incluye provisiones para volver a escribir contratos, créditos de impuestos para hogares que no han sido pagados y billones de dólares para gobiernos estatales. En términos sencillos - aquellos que hicieron malos préstamos serían perdonados, y nosotros, los que pagamos impuestos, seríamos responsables para pagar la cuenta.

Complicando el desastre, es la reciente acción del gobierno federal en asistir con ayuda financiera la venta de Bear Stearns (empresa en Wall Street) a otro banco inversionista. Aunque hay argumentos válidos en cómo reaccionó el gobierno, ¿no hubiera sido mejor que el libre mercado resolviera la situación en lugar del gobierno? ¿O tendrán razón aquellos que nos dicen que así evitamos una crisis en la forma como respondió el gobierno?

Y "Ahí está el detalle," como diría Cantinflas, en como responde el Congreso a la actual situación financiera. Aunque la tentación sea grande para apoyar la expansión masiva del gobierno federal para sacarnos de este lío, es muy posible que el recompensar decisiones irresponsables solo agravará la situación actual.

Cuando éramos niños, nuestra mamá nos decía que era necesario tomar la medicina aunque supiera horrible.

Tal vez no queremos escucharlo pero si no paramos de apoyar a políticos que están más interesados en decirnos lo que queremos oír, en lugar de lo que nos deberían decir, el fin de nuestra enfermedad financiera solo será más inalcanzable.

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Las sesiones del EYF para el verano del 2008 son 19 - 24 de julio y 26 - 31 de julio. El último día de cada sesión, los padres asisten a un taller que los ayuda a preparar a sus estudiantes para la vida después de la escuela secundaria.

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World Martial Arts Federation 2008 Spring Tournament

El pasado 13 de abril la Academia Kokusai Kempo Karate Do, mma, ubicada en el 620 de Essex St, participó en el torneo World Martial Arts Federation 2008 Spring Tournament, donde Darlyn Ovalle en categoría cinta verde obtuvo primer lugar en pelea y segundo en Kata.

La joven Federliza Rosario obtuvo primer lugar en pelea y segundo en Kata; Estefany Castro ganó el primer lugar en pelea y segundo en Kata; Juan Paulino terminó en el tercer lugar en pelea; Efrain Morales segundo en pelea y primero en Kata; Danny Veloz, Jr. el tercer lugar

en pelea; Rody Guerra quedó en primer lugar en Kata; Manauri Rosario, segundo en Kata y tercero en pelea; Valerio Pena ganó la primera pelea y perdió la otra.

Simón Díaz obtuvo cuarto lugar en pelea, en la categoría cinta negra avanzada; Tashii Dany Veloz Sensei quedó en segundo lugar en Kata y ganó la primera pelea, la segunda la perdió pues las peleas fueron muy fuertes.

Nos acompañaron Sempai Juan Grullon y el Sempai Manuel R. Castro. Nuestro próximo torneo Kokusai Kempo Karate Do, Torneo Open Amistad será el día 13 de julio.

Un encuentro agradable



Libby Zisson, Padre Jorge Reyes y su pequeña hermana Ana Cárdenas.

Libby Zisson, Father Jorge Reyes and his little sister Ana Cardenas.

Por Alberto Surís
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

Ana Cárdenas (derecha) no podía creer que Libby Zisson, su maestra de Kindergarten la reconociera después de tantos años. El encuentro sucedió durante de ceremonia de dedicación de la Biblioteca Irene, Rosalie and Blanche Adamy en la Lawrence Family Development Charter School, el pasado viernes, 28 de abril.

Cárdenas tenía 6 años cuando entró por primera vez a la clase de kindergarten

de Zisson, una maestra acabada de graduar, enseñando por primera vez en la Escuela Rosenbold, en Fields Corner en Dorchester. "Yo sólo tenía 18 años", dijo Zisson, ahora retirada.

Libby Zisson es muy buena amiga de Cynthia Alekel Mohr y vino a Lawrence a celebrar la ocasión de que su amiga había donado una biblioteca a la Charter School. Ya ella había visto al Padre Jorge Reyes, hermano mayor de Ana en otra ocasión.

Pleasant encounter

By Alberto Surís
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

Ana Cárdenas (right) could not believe she could be recognized after so many years by Libby Zisson, her kindergarten teacher. It all happened during the Irene, Rosalie and Blanche Adamy Library dedication ceremony, at the Lawrence Family Development Charter School, last Friday, April 28.

Cárdenas was 6 years old when, for the

first time, she entered the kindergarten class of Zisson, a just graduated teacher, teaching for the first time at Rosenbold School at Fields Corner in Dorchester. "I was only 18," said Zisson, now retired.

Libby Zisson is a very good friend of Cynthia Alekel Mohr and came to Lawrence to celebrate the occasion that her friend had donated a library to the Charter School. She had met Father Jorge Reyes, Ana's older brother, in a previous occasion.

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Semana Hispana celebra Noche Cultural

El sábado, 19 de abril, durante una noche de celebraciones de culturas, miembros de diferentes países de Latino América se reunieron en el gimnasio de Central Catholic High School. Muchos fueron solo para disfrutar de la música, los bailes y regocijarse en los deliciosos platillos típicos de sus países. Otros, organizaron exhibiciones con artículos elaborados a mano, representativos de sus países. Las siguientes fotos se explican por sí solo.

Hispanic Week celebrates Cultural Night

During a night of celebration of cultures, members of different Latin American countries gathered at Central Catholic High School's gymnasium, on Saturday, April 19, 2008. Many just went to rejoice in the music, the dances and the typical dishes offered. Others organized an exhibit with handcrafted items representative of their countries. These pictures speak for themselves.



El consulado dominicano presentó su mesa promoviendo el turismo y para dar información allí se encontraba Diana Severino, con la ayuda de Nelson Silvestre.

Promoting tourism, the Dominican Consulate had its own table, manned by Diana Severino with the help of Nelson Silvestre.

Los puertorriqueños usaron esta oportunidad para promover las candidatas de su próximo concurso para elegir a la reina del Movimiento Puertorriqueño. Rodeando a Rosanna Nieves, reina del 2007, se encuentran Samantha García, Marinel González, Kimberly Román, Melixa Pérez y Lizbeth Guerrero.

Puerto Ricans used the opportunity to promote the candidates to their upcoming Puerto Rican Movement pageant, surrounding Rosanna Nieves, 2007 Queen are: Samantha García, Marinel Gonzalez, Kimberly Roman, Melixa Perez and Lizbeth Guerrero.



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Representando a Colombia, se encuentran Claudia Delgado, Amanda Jiménez, Sara Sanabria, Emilia Marin, Seydyss Bareto y Gloria Arango.

Representing Colombia, are Claudia Delgado, Amanda Jiménez, Sara Sanabria, Emilia Marin, Seydyss Bareto and Gloria Arango.



Por primera vez los venezolanos muestran sus colores en una Noche Cultural con una exhibición. En la mesa se encuentran Yesica Aguirre, Angi Brancato y Carmen Bongiovanni.

For the first time, Venezuelans show their color in a Cultural Night exhibit. At the table are Yesica Aguirre, Angi Brancato and Carmen Bongiovanni.



En la mesa de Casa Dominicana se encontraban (sentadas) Elizabeth Díaz, Grace Corporan, Marina Cedeño Pecuña y Xiomara Silvestre. (De pie) Gertrudis Cuevas y Adriana Silvestre.

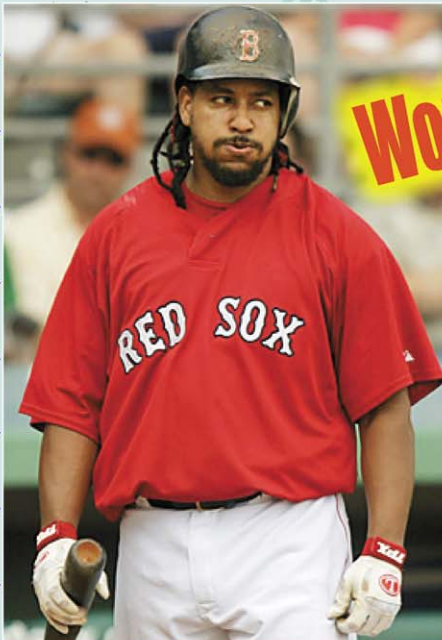
At the Casa Dominicana's table were (sitting) Elizabeth Díaz, Grace Corporan, Marina Cedeño Pecuña and Xiomara Silvestre. (Standing) Gertrudis Cuevas and Adriana Silvestre.



El Vicepresidente de Semana Hispana, Brian De Peña, derecha, aparece en la foto con Jude Charles and Arnelle Morales, miembros de la Alianza Cultural Haitiana.

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Local Pianist Brings Bernstein Back

A daughter of Lawrence, Terri Kelley, will perform selections and share stories of a beloved son of Lawrence, Leonard Bernstein, during a White Fund Enlightenment Series Lecture titled "Lenny of Lawrence - Bernstein, of Course," on Sunday, April 27, at 2 p.m. in the Lawrence Public Library at 51 Lawrence St., Lawrence. This series is presented by Northern Essex Community College.

Bernstein, conductor, composer, teacher, and genius, was both loved and scorned. Flamboyant in style, his rise to fame was meteoric; his life was heroic and tumultuous; and it all began in Lawrence.

Kelley, pianist, organist, and teacher, will regale the audience with stories of Bernstein's towering talents, triumphs, torments and music legacy. She will perform selections on the library's 1914 Steinway.

Kelley began her music studies at age three with her father, a musician. She continued formal music studies throughout her life with various teachers. She holds both bachelor's and master's degrees as well as several diplomas in classical piano performance. She was a faculty member at Lawrence High School for many years and currently teaches piano, organ, and voice at her Andover Studio. She is an instructor with the Andover Department of Community Services and is artistic director of the classical music series at the Lawrence Public Library. Kelley lives in Andover.

The White Fund's purpose is to have a free series of interactive presentations for Lawrence area adults, youth, and children. The audience is encouraged to seek wisdom, cultural enrichment, and intellectual enhancement by attending and participating.

Funded by a generous financial gift from the Honorable Daniel Appleton White, the White Fund Lecture Series has provided cultural conversation featuring well-known lecturers in fields such as history, literature, travel, the arts, and politics. The White Fund is collaborating with Northern Essex on this series.

For additional information or to receive a calendar of upcoming events in the White Fund Enlightenment Series, call 978-738-7403.

With campuses in Haverhill and Lawrence and extension sites in Andover, Methuen, and North Andover, Northern Essex Community College is a state-assisted college, offering over 70 associate degree and certificate programs as well as hundreds of non credit courses designed for personal enrichment and career growth. Close to 13,000 students ranging from recent high school graduates to workers employed locally attend classes days, evenings, and weekends. Northern Essex is the only state college located in the lower Merrimack Valley Region of Massachusetts.

OPENING DAY FOR South Lawrence West Little League Saturday, April 19, 2008



A little player is call to action. Behind him, some of the 24 SLW teams ready to play



Mike Kobrenski, (left), coach of the Nationals and David Michaud (right) League Equipment Manager helps William Medina, Jr. make up his mind about which one of the 4 bikes raffled that morning was best for him.



5-year-old first baseman of the SLWL Instructional Brewers, Michael Abdo receiving help with his hot dog from his coach and dad, District E Councilor David Abdo.

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Lawrence Residents, Save On Water Bills

Residents can save on monthly water bills by installing additional meter

It is not well known or advertised to any great length, but Lawrence home owners have the option of installing a separate water meter, at their own expense, in order to reduce the sewer charges which are presently incorporated into every water bill. The installation of an additional water meter will not benefit everyone, however residents who have swimming pools and sprinkler systems will benefit.

The homeowner will be responsible for the installation fee by a plumber of their choosing, along with the cost of the meter.

In the water department's abstract of rules and regulations, it states, "An adjustment to sewer charges will be made for any user consuming metered water which is not discharged into the wastewater collection system provided that a separate seale meter, approved by the city, is provided at the user's expense to measure this water."

If you would like more information regarding this topic, I would be more than happy to answer your questions or provide you with additional information.

VOLUNTEER WITH HOMELESS CHILDREN!

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

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.

JOB POSTINGS

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CONTINUES FROM PAGE 7

SURÍS: LEBANESE DESCENDANT DONATES LIBRARY

mother who labored in a textile mill for long hours and for little pay to support her daughters. Like the new immigrant parents in Lawrence, my grandmother had great dreams for a better life for her family. She worked hard, endured much and sacrificed plenty to provide for her girls.

Life was difficult indeed. There was grinding poverty coupled with fear for the future of her family, but my grandmother never wavered. She soldiered on... Somehow she managed to make a happy, decent home in their cold water tenement in The Plains of Lawrence. My grandmother Almaza (known to me as 'Sito') was a strong, determined, proud woman, a real survivor. She passed on to her daughters the value of hard work, perseverance and integrity.

Despite the teaming, squalid conditions of tenement life and so many deprivations, my grandmother managed to find joy and close friendships in her life. She loved spending time with her daughters. My mother recalls that her mom enjoyed having her daughters read the newspaper to her since my grandmother wanted to be informed but never learned to read English.

Neighbors, family, and friends often gathered together to share meals which were big, happy occasions where the Lebanese ladies would work together preparing all these labor intensive middle eastern dishes that comforted them with memories of their far away country and their beloved heritage.

In those days there was no shame in being poor because everyone around them was poor. My mother and aunties learned from their mother to value their Middle Eastern heritage, to be proud of their roots and to be proud, too, that they were American citizens living in the great City of Lawrence.

With a strong, proud mother giving them security and stability, the Adamy sisters grew up with an incredible sense of confidence and self worth. They were in many ways modern women, especially my mother and Aunt Blanche who were outspoken career women with dazzling personalities.

Aunt Irene, who was older and quieter than her two younger sisters was hearing impaired, but she still managed to be engaging and enormously productive,

always learning new skills and acquiring a great interest in nature and a real talent for gardening.

All three sisters were personable, social and bright. These girls learned at a young age how to tell a good story. In fact, all three loved to entertain by holding their audience spellbound or in stitches with stories of their youthful adventures or heartbreaking experiences.

Blanche, Irene and Rosalie must have learned to express themselves so beautifully because they always were reading. My mother could read a 400 page novel in a night! She was the consummate speed reader. She could have taught the Evelyn Wood speed reading course that was so popular back in our day.

My aunts and mother used to tell us that when they were growing up the Lawrence Public Library was the most beautiful building they had ever entered. It was a refuge from the turmoil around them. They found books to be a welcome escape from hardship, from the suffering during the Great Depression and from the profound loss during WWII of so many neighborhood boys they once loved.

There was no question that the Adamy Girls knew what was going on in the world around them. They read and they were connected. Even as they aged they were engaged politically and socially. They had strong opinions on everything and never

My mother and aunties learned from their mother to value their Middle Eastern heritage, to be proud of their roots and to be proud, too, that they were American citizens living in the great City of Lawrence.

hesitated to let you know how they felt. After all, they were confident about all those opinions they formed because they read!

Looking back on the Adamy sisters, their ordinary yet extraordinary lives, I realize that they had a tremendous impact on forming me and the person I have evolved into being. They, like their mother before them, instilled in me a "can do" confidence, a respect for hard work and education, a love of reading and a gift for storytelling. It is to them and all the joy and wisdom they brought into my life that I dedicate this library.

Irene, Rosalie and Blanche, I know you would be so proud to see today the children of Lawrence, many born of immigrant parents as you were, having similar hopes and dreams as you did, showing so much promise as they strive to reach for the stars."

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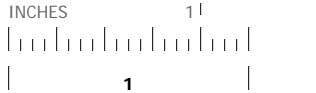
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OPINION

It's All About Right(s)



By Ellen Bahan
ellenbahan@rumbonews.com

Driving Mr. Daisy

Usually I do not stick my two cents worth in on what is happening in surrounding communities, but the article in the daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and horoscope conjured up a picture in my mind that I cannot get out, until I let it out to my loyal readers.

If ever, there was a reason to support Carla Howell's Initiative Petition to eliminate the Income Tax, THIS IS IT!

It is obvious that these politicians have way too much money.

Let me get this straight. Wilfredo Laboy, Superintendent of the Lawrence School System, a school system totally funded by the taxpayers of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has a driver... a chauffeur, Wilfredo Laboy has his own boy graciously funded by us; it does not get any better than this!

You'd think Wilfredo Laboy is driving in from Hawaii. In essence he is only tooling in from Methuen. Hey, does he have his license? Don't tell me he failed that test too?

You know Lawrencians, as I keep

harping on my own Methuenites... THIS MARLARKY HAS GOT TO END!

Until then, when you see Wilfredo, does he sit in the back or the front? Give him a finger, a big thumbs up for me. I love it when a politician really rub in our faces, it proves how right I have been all along. Maybe, just maybe, we can all get together and effect change!

I understand that Mark Rivera, Wilfredo Laboy's driver also doubles as bodyguard, parting the crowd, (does he throw rose petals down), so Mr. Daisy can make an entrance.

Hey, he needs that big hat and a SCEPTER like the guy that gets paid 40K to open the doors of the House and Senate chambers for the members. You'd think they were royalty and made of money. No, we are!

That (the outfit) should be included in the coming budget; after all, it's on the State. Are you outraged yet? Have you figured that you the people are the State, TAKE A STAND OR SHOULD I SAY TAKE A BOW.

Whether we are paying for the guy in the big hat and the suit, or Wilfredo Laboy's driver, it really doesn't matter, either is outrageous, as gas prices climb by the minute! Time to eliminate the pork! SUPPORT CARLA HOWELL ON THE INITIATIVE PETITION TO ELIMINATE

THE INCOME TAX. Give yourself a tax break, give yourself a raise, you can do better with your hard earned money than they can.

The proof is all around, just look at Mr. Daisy and keep looking.

But you know, I still have my doubts

Reading in the Daily record of advertisement, death, Dear Abby and horoscope about Jimmy (chips) Jajuga "Democrat of the Year". Hey, didn't he at one time support a Republican, Paul Cellucci? You know, for that fateful job as Public Safety Director and didn't he get rode out of town on a rail. Wasn't it something about a big screen TV purchase? Wasn't it also about grant fraud, or misappropriation or missing money?

Democrat of the year...it figures!

Did he wear the black robe when he received his award?

You know folks, there is no honor among thieves... I mean politicians and obviously it does not matter if you are Republican or Democrat.

Methuen straw poll, shows that the straws used were taken from the floor of the stall!

Privatization

Oh, yes a dirty word. But loyal readers if 77K in retirement funds for someone that has bilked the system, fleeced the citizens of Methuen, and has downright participated in criminal activities is a stellar reason to privatize.

How else are we going to be able to get out from under what these past mayors have set us up for.

First, it was the Chief of Police Yahoo Solomon, who I hear is on his way out. Maybe this year, maybe next year, but I hear he is on the way out.

Loyal readers you all need to give Bridgeboy Manzi a call and tell him to get off his thumbs. Grow some, take action MANZI.

Next, it was all the nincompoops that Sharon M.oney Pollard, Bridgeboy Manzi and chief yahoo, (is he ex-chief or is he chief on the shelf, could-be chief, chief on deck, past chief, what do we call him?), has put in place.

May I refer to the fact that a criminal, was elected President of Patrolman's Union, remember he had to be voted in! Which one of you guys voted for this bum? I want a list.

When are the patrolman and the brass that are clean, going to ask the question of where their dues are going?

You know the legal defense pot is only so big. How these rogues, Solomon, Alaimo and now Aiello using the lion's share of the money to defend the indefensible.

Methuen Joins the EPA's Energy Challenge in Time for Earth Day

The City of Methuen has joined EPA's Community Energy Challenge, pledging to work with the environmental agency to improve its municipal energy efficiency. By joining the Challenge, Methuen has committed to assess energy use, take action to improve energy efficiency, save money and seek out renewable energy choices that reduce air pollution.

"Energy use is the largest source of air pollution in the region and the country. Through the Community Energy Challenge, municipalities can identify simple and cost-effective measures to increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources," said Robert W. Varney, regional administrator of EPA's New England office. "This is an opportunity for New Englanders to come together to save energy, reduce air pollution and improve our energy independence. The payoffs for participating can be big."

In 2006, Mayor William M. Manzi, III created Mayor's Commission On Energy Efficiency and Green Government and named former State Senator, Sal Albano, as its Chairman. After meeting with EPA officials, the group unanimously recommended that Methuen join the Community Energy Challenge in time for Earth Day, April 22nd. Mayor Manzi agreed.

"Fixed energy costs are a real budget-buster for fiscally strapped cities like Methuen," said Mayor William M. Manzi, III. "We recently committed to reducing Methuen's energy consumption by 10 percent in coming years. The EPA Community Energy Challenge provides us the tools and support we need to track our progress on this important initiative - and we're glad to participate."

Methuen will be measuring, or benchmarking, building energy use in schools and municipal buildings using the ENERGY STAR "Portfolio Manager" tool. EPA New England is collaborating with regional utilities, non-profits, businesses, and others to promote cost effective energy efficiency measures to communities participating in the Challenge. As a result, Methuen also has access to a network of resources that can help it improve energy efficiency and take advantage of renewable energy resources.

The New England Community Energy Challenge is a regional program of the ENERGY STAR Challenge, a nationwide campaign to improve energy efficiency in commercial and industrial buildings across the United States by 10 percent or more. Nationally, the ENERGY STAR, across all of its programs, saved Americans \$14 billion and prevented 37 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions in 2006 alone.

Recently, the U.S. Conference of Mayors formally endorsed the national ENERGY STAR Challenge as a key strategy to meet the goals of the Conference of Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement. As part of this resolution, the organization encourages its members to support and take the ENERGY STAR Challenge.

Billerica Cat Care Coalition Presents the 4th Annual
Cat's Meow Chocolate Tasting & Silent Auction

WHEN: Friday, May 16, 2008, 7:00pm - 9:30pm
WHERE: Radisson Hotel, 10 Independence Drive, Chelmsford, MA

- Dip fresh fruit into an overflowing fountain of chocolate.
- Sample various chocolate creations.
- Take in the cool sound of live jazz by *Moon Glow*.

To benefit Billerica Cat Care Coalition.

Tickets cost \$25.00 and can be purchased in advance at our Website, www.billericacatcarecoalition.org or at the following locations:

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BCCC
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PLEASE SEE BAHAN
CONTINUES ON PAGE 22

Smart Sports in Lawrence



Keeping the Learning Momentum Going this Summer





A partnership between Merrimack Valley YMCA & Lawrence Public Schools

The summer of 2008 will hold promise for 150 middle school children. Students from Lawrence will attend a 7-week program focusing on much-needed reading, writing, and other life-long skills taught through literature and physical fitness.

Designed for students entering grades 6 through 8, children's early experiences and interest in sports as a way to increase literacy, teach positive values, and raise self esteem. Taught by certified teachers, the program will incorporate books from the summer reading lists, and will focus on literacy skills, summarization and clarification of reading, and book reports. Each week's lessons integrate reading, writing, speaking and thinking skills during the morning curriculum. Students explore the curriculum in a number of ways, including dialogue and discussion, cooperative teams, role-plays, journal writing, brainstorming and, of course, sports.



The Monday through Thursday schedule will be:

-  10:00 a.m. to 12 noon - **Reading and classroom work** - held in classrooms at the former Lawrence High School
-  12 noon to 12:45 p.m. - **Lunch** served through Massachusetts Department of Education's Summer Food Service Program
-  1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - **Afternoon basketball league**, coached by Lawrence High School Basketball Team
-  **Field trips on Friday** - in collaboration with the Lawrence Recreation Department and the Lawrence YMCA - may include swimming, boating lessons through the greater Lawrence Community Boating Program, trips to other local venues.

Following the morning lessons, Teen Achievers from the Lawrence High School Basketball Team will coach these students, acting as mentors and role models for the younger students. The LHS students will be paid coaches and referees, with a money management workshop provided to them by a local banking professional.

All students will be provided with YMCA summer memberships, allowing them access to the swimming pool, teen center and gymnasiums.

There will be no charge for students who participate in Smart Sports in Lawrence.



How can you help? Sponsors are needed! For more information, contact YMCA District Executive Director Frank Kenneally at 978-686-6191.

YMCA. We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.



State Champs Honored in Boston

The Division I State Champion Central Catholic Boys Basketball team was honored at the State House by Senators Sue Tucker and Steven Baddour and Representatives Linda Dean-Campbell, Barry Finegold, William Lantigua, Barbara L'Italien and David Torrisi on Thursday, April 10, 2008. The team received an official recognition from both chambers during their respective formal sessions as well as citations from both branches.

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CALENDAR

Para listar su evento en esta sección de Rumbo, favor de enviarnos un correo electrónico a (y solo a) calendar@rumbonews.com. Este debe incluir el nombre, fecha, hora y lugar del evento. Se recomienda un número de información o dirección de correo electrónico. Una breve descripción de de menos de 30 palabras puede ser incluida. Si su mensaje no incluye la información requerida no será colocado en el calendario. Su aviso será listado solo si hay espacio disponible. Rumbo no se hace responsable de cualquier información errónea que sea publicada.

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.

RUMBO

Upcoming Rumbo Editions:
The **Regional Edition** will print on **Thursday May 1st**. Material Deadline is **Monday April 28th**.

The **Lawrence/Methuen Edition** will print on **Thursday May 8th**. Material Deadline is **Monday May 5th**.

CLASSIFIEDS | 23

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La liga de pelota The South Lawrence East Little League tendrá sus festividades por el Día de Apertura el sábado, 26 de abril a las 12 del mediodía. Estamos muy alegres este año porque nuestra liga ha crecido a aproximadamente 300 niños. También por vez primera, hemos creado una División de Retadores para niños con discapacidades. Somos la única liga en la ciudad que ofrece esto a nuestros niños. Espero verlos a todos allí. **Greg Morris**, Presidente

Fight Back Against Cancer!

Join us at the Relay for Life of Andover and Greater Lawrence

June 21 & 22, 2008
2:00 p.m. till 8:00 a.m.
Greater Lawrence Technical School
59 River Road, Andover

Relay for Life is an event to raise money and awareness of the programs and service of the American Cancer Society. Friends, co-workers, and family members form teams and hold fundraisers and collect contributions for the event. On Relay Day, teams pitch their tents on the field and take turns walking around the track celebrating cancer survivorship. Remembering those we lost to cancer and fighting back against cancer for the duration of the relay. Please join us in our fight against cancer in this area!

Relay for Life es una actividad para recaudar fondos y aumentar los conocimientos sobre los programas y servicios de la American Cancer Society. Las amistades, compañeros de trabajo y familiares forman grupos para recaudar

fondos con este fin. El día del Relay, ponen sus casas de campaña en el terreno de la escuela y se turnan caminando alrededor de la pista celebrando a los que han sobrevivientes del cáncer, recordando a aquellos que perdimos al cáncer y luchando contra el cáncer por la duración de la actividad. Por favor, únase a nosotros en nuestra lucha contra el cáncer en esta área.

For more information contact Event Co-Chairs:
Para más información póngase en contacto con las siguientes personas:

Steve Iskra: saiskra@comcast.net, 978-808-3823
Donna Schiebel: dschi32747@aol.com, 978-685-9312
Randi Holland: randi.Holland@cancer.org, 781-314-2643

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NEWBURYPORT: Mundo y Palabra

Newburyport, MA
04/25 - 04/27
MORE INFO: newburyportliteraryfestival.org

Mundo y Palabra: Una celebración de Literatura, Lectura y Escritores abril 25 al 27 del 2008 en Newburyport, MA

El Festival Literario de Newburyport del 2008 se complace en anunciar que el festival del 2008 honrará a la poeta y traductora Rhina P. Espailat. Uniéndose a Espailat estarán los poetas Dana Gioia, presidenta del Nacional Endowment for the Arts; X. J. Kennedy, autor de diez colecciones de poesías y ampliamente conocido por sus antologías, traducciones, versos sencillos, y preciosos trabajos para niños; así como Lewis Turco quien se unirá a

la celebración de Espailat en el Festival.

El Festival Literario de Newburyport del 2008 tendrá lugar desde el viernes 25 hasta el domingo 27. Una celebración de tres días de lectura, escritura y el amor por los libros, el festival de este año presentará a más de 50 escritores que se han distinguido en ficción y no-ficción incluyendo escritores de cuentos cortos, autores infantiles, biografías, naturaleza, críticos, poetas, novelistas y periodistas, quienes leerán y discutirán su trabajo en diferentes lugares por todo el centro histórico de Newburyport. Para más información, favor de entrar en su página del Internet www.newburyportliteraryfestival.org.

NEWBURYPORT: The World and the World

Newburyport, MA
04/25 - 04/27
MORE INFO: newburyportliteraryfestival.org

The World and the Word: A celebration of Literature, Readers, and Writers April 25-27, 2008 Newburyport, MA

The 2008 Newburyport Literary Festival is pleased to announce that the honoree for the 2008 festival is poet and translator Rhina P. Espailat. Joining Espailat are the renowned poets Dana Gioia, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; X. J. Kennedy, author of ten poetry collections and widely known for his anthologies, translations, light verse, and beloved works for children; and essayist and poet Lewis Turco will join the celebration of Espailat at the Festival.

The 2008 Newburyport Literary Festival runs from Friday, April 25, through Sunday, April 27. A three-day celebration of reading, writing, and the love of books, this year's festival will feature more than 50 writers of distinguished fiction and non-fiction-including short story writers, children's authors, biographers, nature writers, critics, screenwriters, poets, novelists, and journalists-who will read and discuss their work in venues throughout Newburyport's historic downtown. For more information go to www.newburyportliteraryfestival.org.

HAVERTHILL: Trip to Museum of Fine Arts

4/28/2008
TIME: 9:30:00 AM - 5:00:00 PM
FEE: \$ 30
MORE INFO: Call 978.374.2390

Back by popular demand!!!! Haverhill COA is planning a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts Art in Bloom Exhibit on Monday, April 28. April 2008 marks the 32th Anniversary of Art in Bloom, and it is a wonderful spring event. The bus will leave Westgate at 9:30 a.m. and return to Haverhill at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Tickets for this event are \$30.00 per person for seniors. MFA members and non-seniors should call the COA for additional information.

Please call the COA if you are interested in learning more about this exciting opportunity to visit the MFA. Contact Kathy or Rita for additional information.

LAWRENCE: NILP Fundraiser

4/29/2008
Texas Roadhouse Restaurant

Merrimack Valley YMCA

Spring Training



Give the Y a Try!

9 FREE Visits to the YMCA
(think 9 innings in baseball 🏆)

1 Free YMCA Gift
And a chance to win
4 Lowell Spinners Tickets

Stop by any Merrimack Valley YMCA between March 20th and April 30th to learn more!

Andover/North Andover Branch • Lawrence Branch • Methuen Branch
(978) 685-8541 (978) 686-6191 (978) 683-5266
www.mvymca.org

Merrimack Valley YMCA

Spring Training

Make your workout a homerun with some motivation from the YMCA!

Win a Lowell Spinners "Gator Pit" package including 4 box seat tickets and a BBQ lunch!

Break A Sweat For Your Chance To Win!

Workout three times each week from March 20th thru April 30th to be entered to win!*



* See Member Services Desk for details!

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.

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

Deadline pushed back for CCHS Hall of Fame nominations

Central Catholic High School has extended the deadline for accepting nominations for the 2008 Athletic Hall of Fame. The deadline is Wednesday, April 30.

The induction ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 15. Athletes who graduated before 2003, coaches and administrators are eligible. For a nomination packet, please contact Peter Paladino, Director of Athletics, at 978-682-0260 ext. 640 or ppaladino@centralcatholic.net.

The South Lawrence East Little League will be holding Opening Day Festivities on Saturday, April 26th at 12:00pm. We are very excited this year as our league has grown to approximately 300 children. Also for the first year we have created a new Challenger Division for handicap children. We are the only league in the city to offer this to our kids. I look forward to seeing everyone there. **Greg Morris**, President

424 Broadway, Route 28, Methuen
 TIME: 4:00:00 PM - 9:30:00 PM
 FEE: \$ 0
 MORE INFO: Call 978.687.4288

A fundraiser night to benefit the Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. of Lawrence, a 501©3 non-profit serving people with disabilities in the Merrimack Valley region, will take place at the Texas Roadhouse Restaurant, 424 Broadway (Rte 28) in Methuen, on Monday, April 29, 2008 from 4:00PM to 9:30:PM

Coupon flyer must be presented to restaurant Servers so that 10% of the check will go to the Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence, MA 01843 Pick up flyers there or will E-mail to you. For more information, call (978) 687-4288 Or E-mail kfarrell@nilp.org

HAVERHILL: "Boston's Julie Andrews"

4/30/2008
 Haverhill Senior Center
 10 Welcome Street, Haverhill

TIME: 1:00:00 PM
 FEE: \$ 0
 MORE INFO: Call 978.374.2390

The Haverhill Cultural Council and the Haverhill Council on Aging have joined together and are pleased to announce the appearance of singing star Ruth Harcovitz, "Boston's Julie Andrews", in a forthcoming program.

Ms. Harcovitz, who is in constant demand throughout the country for her charm, beautiful voice, and warm personality, has appeared as soloist with orchestras, in summer stock, and in resorts. Recently returned from a successful singing tour in Florida, here in Massachusetts she is known for her wide variety of thrilling programs, which always draw large crowds.

Ms. Harcovitz will be appearing in her program, APRIL IN PARIS, featuring French songs that became popular in America in their English versions.

The program will take place at the Haverhill Senior Center at 10 Welcome St., on Wednesday, April 30, following a tea that begins at 1 PM. All are cordially invited to attend, and urged not to miss, this very special event.

It is open to the public and free of charge. For information and reservations, call the Haverhill Senior Center at (978) 374-2390.

This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Haverhill Cultural Council, a local agency of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

HAVERHILL: Jazz @ NECC

5/1/2008
 Technology Center
 100 Elliott Street, Haverhill
 TIME: 6:00:00 PM
 FEE: \$ 0
 MORE INFO: Call 978.556.3521

Jazzy Music Program Rocks at NECC
 The new Northern Essex Community College jazz/rock ensemble will present an Evening of Jazz and Rock on Thursday, May 1, at 6 p.m. in the Technology Center on the Haverhill campus, 100 Elliott St.

The five-member ensemble includes Sam Allen of Newburyport on bass and guitar, Tim Davis of Haverhill on guitar and vocals, Eric Giribaldi of Haverhill on guitar and drums, Matt Klawitter of Hampstead, N.H., on guitar, and Alexi Watts of Georgetown on vocals.

The group will perform two jazz standards,

"Autumn Leaves" by Johnny Mercer and "Satin Doll" by Duke Ellington, as well as two rock songs, "Fire" by Jimi Hendrix and "Superstition" by Stevie Wonder.

Admission to this event is free and open to the public. For additional information contact Michael Lecuyer, director of the jazz/rock ensemble, at 978-556-3521 or mlecuyer@necc.mass.edu.

LAWRENCE: National Day of Prayer Service

5/1/2008
 South Congregational Church
 198 South Broadway, Lawrence
 TIME: 12:00:00 PM
 FEE: \$ 0
 MORE INFO: Call 978.686.4012

National Day of Prayer Service on May 1st Communities Together (formerly The Greater Lawrence Council of Churches) will sponsor an interfaith service in recognition of the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 1 at 12:00 noon at South Congregational Church, 198 South Broadway in Lawrence. This year's theme is "Prayer! America's Strength and Shield." The homilist will be Reverend William Waters, OSA, pastor at Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Representatives from Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim faith communities will be participating. This is the only interfaith gathering for this event in greater Lawrence. Please plan to join us for this service, followed by a light lunch (free of charge). For more information, please call the Communities Together office at (978) 686-4012.

ANDOVER: Fundraising Gala

5/2/2008
 Andover Country Club
 TIME: 6:00:00 PM
 FEE: \$ 70
 MORE INFO: Call theprofessionalcenter.org

The Professional Center for Child Development
Celebrating 35 years of helping children and their families

"Celebrating our Past, Present and Future" is the theme for our Gala, a premiere dinner and dance event scheduled for May 2, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Andover Country Club, Andover, MA. Tickets are \$75 each or a table of 10 for \$700. Our theme comes from rich history of serving children, our exceptional

programs and our exciting plans for the future.

Our programs include a Developmental Day School for medically fragile children aged 3 to 7 years, Early Intervention, which includes multi-disciplinary services for at-risk newborns and toddlers and "Two by Two" our unique integrated play groups for children of all abilities. Learn more about our programs at www.TheProfessionalCenter.org.

LAWRENCE: May Day at the Park

5/3/2008
 Heritage State Park
 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence
 TIME: 12:00:00 PM - 4:00:00 PM
 FEE: \$ 0
 MORE INFO: Call 978.794.1655

Join us for a traditional May Day Celebration at the Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitor Center.

Music and dancing around the May Pole by the Acting Out Theater Company. Performances by youth dance groups, Passport stamp rubbings, Dedication of the new flag pole, Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard. Hot dogs, ice cream and drinks will be available.

Historic tour of Lawrence by trolley from the Visitors Center every hour: Noon - 3:00 PM

Sponsored by the Staff, Advisory Board, Massachusetts Cultural Council, and Friends of the Lawrence Heritage State Park. All are welcome

HAVERHILL: Boston Ballet's "Swan Lake" Trip

5/10/2008
 Bus Leaving Citizen Center at Noon
 FEE: \$ 80
 MORE INFO: Call 978.374.2390

The Haverhill Recreation Department and Council on Aging are planning a trip to the Boston Ballet matinee performance of Swan Lake on Saturday, May 10, 2008. You will not want to miss the return engagement of one of the world's most beloved ballets, danced to Tchaikovsky's beautiful score. Tickets are \$80.00 per person, including transportation.

Contact Kathy Bresnahan X11 or Rita LaBella X16 at 978-374-2390 for additional information.

SUDOKU | SUDOKU

4/22/2008 | SOLUTIONS ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.RUMBONEWS.COM
 Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

El objetivo es rellenar toda la cuadrícula de 9x9 celdas sin repetir ninguna cifra en ninguna fila, columna o subcuadrícula de 3x3. Usa tu paciencia y dotes lógicas para resolver el Sudoku.
 Busca los resultados en nuestra página de internet:
www.periodicorumbo.com

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

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				9				8
						9		2
9	5	1					3	4

DIFFICULTY: ★☆☆

DIFFICULTY: ★☆☆

DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆

NECC Celebrates Environmental Awareness

On Friday, April 25, Northern Essex Community College will present talks on environmental issues by two local individuals with national reputations, professor of philosophy and film Allan Casebier and graphic artist Lance Hidy. Casebier will speak on environmental ethics from 11 a.m. to noon and Hidy will speak on photographer Ansel Adams as an environmentalist from noon to 1 p.m. Both lectures are free and open to the public and will be held in the Technology Center on the college's Haverhill Campus, 100 Elliott St.

A resident of Newburyport, Dr. Allan Casebier is emeritus professor, University of Southern California, and visiting scholar, University of Miami. He has been a Fulbright Scholar to India and has lectured at various colleges and universities in the United States and around the world.

A resident of Merrimack, Hidy will show slides from Adam's long and esteemed career along with a description of the effect his work had on environmental legislation, and as a wake-up call for the environmental movement in the 1960s.

Adams served on the board of the Sierra Club for 38 years, and was awarded the Medal of Freedom in 1980 by President Carter for his environmental work. Hidy worked with Adams in 1977-78 on the book "Yosemite and the Range of Light", and is designing a new book, "Ansel Adams: 400 Photographs", due out this fall.

Lance Hidy teaches art and design at NECC as well as operates his own studio.

These programs are part of a weeklong Environmental Awareness Celebration at Northern Essex. For additional information contact Elaine Mawhinney at 978-556-3395 or emawhinney@necc.mass.edu.

WIB honors educators



Participating in the breakfast were from left to right, Ann Ormand, Chairperson, MVWIB Nominating Committee; Frederick T. Carberry, MVWIB Executive Director; Pedro Arce, MVWIB Chairman; Keith Westrich, Program Director, Mass. Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education; Joseph J. Bevilacqua, MVCC President; Richard Dewhirst, MVCC Chairman; Sal Lupoli, CEO, Riverwalk Properties. Seated are: James Carnivale, Chairman, MVCC Education & Workforce Development Committee; Peter Matthews, Chairman, MVWIB Planning Committee; and Cal Williams, Vice-Chairman, MVWIB Youth Council.

This past Wednesday, the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board joined forces with the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce to honor teachers and school administrators who participated in the "Merrimack Valley Means Business - Educational Development Initiative" at a Joint Education Breakfast, preceding the MVWIB's quarterly meeting at Michael's Function Hall in Haverhill.

The goal of the program was to work with Merrimack Valley teachers in such a way that would have some effect, both long and short-term, on our students, that would in turn bring benefit to our future workforce and ultimately to private industry. These teachers, representing 27 different subject areas from 8 different school districts, came away with an educational tool that provides insight into Continuous Quality Improvement programs that successful companies must use to maintain their competitive advantage in this 21st century economy.

The program had a cumulative effect on 26 teachers, being exposed to the latest techniques in lean manufacturing principles,



From the left, Frederick T. Carberry, MVWIB Executive Director; Joseph J. Bevilacqua, MVCC President; Mary Ellen Janeiro, Teacher, Lawrence High School; Wilfredo T. Laboy, Superintendent of Schools, Lawrence Public Schools; and Keith Westrich, Program Director, Mass. Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education.

which in return had a potential of impacting over 280 high school students, currently taking classes from these teachers and the residual effect of impacting hundreds of future students as well.

Teachers were also given the opportunity to "extern" at a variety of private businesses which enabled them to go back to the classroom with an authentic feel for the needs, pressures, and rewards of the private sector workplace, and bestow these insights upon their students. In other words, they were able to bring the actual context of the workplace into their classrooms.

Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, President of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Frederick Carberry, Executive Director of the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board, and Mr. Keith Westrich, Director of the Connecting Activities Program for the Massachusetts Department Elementary and Secondary Education, presented the awards.

Also recognized at the MVWIB quarterly meeting were Peter Matthews, President/CEO of the Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union, Sal Lupoli, CEO of Riverwalk Properties, and Mayor Michael J. Sullivan of Lawrence for their participation in the "Merrimack Valley Means Business - An Economic Development Program That Works". This presentation was delivered at the National Association of Workforce Boards annual forum in Washington, DC this past February.

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NOTES FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 9

By **Maureen Nimmo**
Lawrence Public Library Director

Hello Rumbo readers. It is another lovely spring day and I'm grateful for every one of them. This winter seemed endless.

Well, we have had wonderful news from the Gates Foundation. We are eligible for a grant to update all the library's public use computers. The grant offers eighteen computers in the coming fiscal year and eighteen more in the next. We would have to contribute just a third of the cost, so it is pretty exciting for us. Bryan Cahoon, city IT director, will help me figure out how to best take advantage of this opportunity. We need to have any new computer hardware correspond to the specifications of the city-wide upgrade and Bryan is the guy to go to make sure we do it all correctly.

This grant is aimed at making sure that libraries in lower income areas are able to keep up to speed with advancing technology. I always plead that cities like ours need libraries even more than wealthier communities. In tough economic times this is even more true. The community has the right to count on the library to provide resources that not all of our residents can afford in their own homes. I am grateful to the Gates Foundation for recognizing this and helping ensure that lower income communities are properly served.

I emphasize this particularly at this time as the city is going into the early stages of budget negotiations. I am hoping things go a little more smoothly than last year but I recognize that there are real problems and really difficult choices to be made. The people of this city were fantastic last year in speaking out for the library. I hope we can

continue to count on your support. This is the worst time to deprive the people of Lawrence from free, quality services that they have come to expect from the library.

We have begun our Conversation Circles. The groups are very small right now because we had kind of a rush start and have not publicized them sufficiently. That means there is plenty of room so I hope to see a lot of people taking advantage of this opportunity. Just come down to the main library on Tuesdays at 4:00 to participate. A second group meets on Thursdays at 4:00 at the Asian Center on Ballard Way in South Lawrence. Let me stress that while we certainly want our Asian speaking residents to participate, there is no implication that because we are at the Asian Center that one must be Asian speaking to participate. Both groups are open to all.

On a sad note, our wonderful children's outreach coordinator, Terry Farish, is leaving us. I can't stress enough what a positive force she has been for this building and for literacy programs all across the city. While we all wish her well in her new position she will be greatly missed—definitely not the sort of person who can easily be replaced.

Well, as I recall I ended my last column by mentioning that the Red Sox were off to a good start. They promptly went to Toronto and got swept so I am probably safer not going there. I don't want my bad sports karma to affect their chances! See you at the library.

Devers Speaks Out on Foreclosures Crisis

By **Marcos Devers**
marcosdevers@comcast.net

Incumbents that are facing strong challenges come up at last minute with demagogic ideas to simulate that they are looking for solutions to problems that they had already ignored.

That is the case of the current representative for the 16th district who joined other incumbents that are proposing a six-month moratorium on foreclosures.

One of the bills is aimed at allowing tenants to live in foreclosed properties for one year and a third bill that would allow homeowners to contest their foreclosures in court.

Some local lawmakers, like Senator Susan Tucker, say that kind of legislation that they proposing could scare away lenders. She said to the Eagle-Tribune that "We can't afford to lose any lenders," "We need the credit (so people can buy homes)."

Also Rep. Bradley Jones Jr. told the same paper "I get very nervous when we take steps to interfere in the marketplace."

The 16th district incumbent said that it's a problem coming to your community sooner or later without action the crisis would spread. But the crisis is already spread in Lawrence with more than 800 foreclosures. And the main reason is that

in Lawrence we need jobs and generate employment for the city residents and the incumbent has failed in guaranteeing economic development to the district.

Lawrence has an unemployment rate in the double digits and most of the jobs in Lawrence belong to outsiders who do not pay taxes to the city.

Although it is true that this is national crisis, there is a saying that when other cities have flu Lawrence has pneumonia because the leadership is in the hands of representatives that are not focused on strengthening economic health within their districts.

This is a crisis whose solution will depend chiefly on urgent federal policies and regulations to shore up the mortgage market across the board by the federal government assuming its responsibility.

These incumbents, with Lantigua hopping on the wagon looking for grandstanding, are saying that the law signed by Governor Patrick last November that gives homeowners a three-month window to catch up on payments before foreclosures proceedings is not enough. But what they are proposing what they already know is unrealistic and they are just taking advantage of the crisis to grandstand with demagogic tricks to cheat the voters. At state level this is not even a band-aid type solution to the desperation homeowners are going through.

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CONTINUES FROM PAGE 16

BAHAN: IT'S ALL ABOUT RIGHT(S)

How do you defend a criminal cop that has more than one strike against him, that has a history of doing the wrong thing!

Let me answer that for you: rigorously, vigorously, thoroughly and with lots of dough. Hey, boys kiss the fund away! Remember it is a lawyer who is mounting the defense. It is going to take a lot to achieve this goal.

It would be a totally different story if these guys were coughing up their own defense money. I think they might be much more frugal. Nawwwwww! It is on the backs of the unions that are ponying up the money. **SO THE SKY IS THE LIMIT!**

You know guys and gals, it really could be better. Just think, all the takers that have been installed by the current corrupt brass, could be eliminated in one fell swoop!

We could start all over and reward those tried and true. Please tell me I am not dreaming! It has got to turn around to serve the people, the citizens who have been funding this mess, forever!

The Billy Bridge

Mr. Daigle, loved your letter in the daily record of advertisement, Death, Dear Abby, and horoscope, and wanted to update you on the fact that the City of Methuen is on the hook for the handicap accessibility of the Billy Bridge.

Something went askew in the design, even though they were thoroughly aware that the pitch to the edge of the river is too

steep for a wheel chair. Go figure!

And coupled with the fact that anything that is state or federally funded **MUST BE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE!** And this is where the problem lies! The Billy Bridge is 80% federally and 20% state funded. DRAT, I hate when that happens. Now (YOU) Methuen has to foot the bill.

But you must look on the bright side. The nip machine that I have ordered as my grand opening present for Bridgeboy Manzi has not arrived yet. It is a custom piece and they do take forever!

I doubt that Billy being as shameless as he is, would ever forgo the grand opening/gala event to the Billy Bridge/Gateway to liquor, lottery, butts and favors. And let us not forget once it was a sub police station, of course that's when the mayor and the boyz hung together. That's where many a scheme was born and implemented.

It will be sometime this summer. Think about it, Billy getting to hang a big plaque with his name on it, just like Sharon used to do. And you can tell Billy learned well from Sharon.

I can see it now, but maybe again, it will be a big blinking neon light. It will say Billy Bridge with a giant arrow pointing to the liquor store.

Thank God I am going to be home all summer, I would not miss this event for the world!

One more thing, tokens for the nip machine will be available soon at Billy's Liquor Store, stock up!

Coming soon by special request, **RANDOM UNCONNECTED THOUGHTS** and boy, oh boy! Do I have many!

Future Home of the Methuen Assisted Suicide Living Complex

Coming soon to 4 Gleason Street, Methuen Massachusetts.

This project, ultimately funded by the taxpayers, enabled by the politicians is well underway. It is in my neighborhood, so I am going to be able to keep a keen eye on it and let my loyal readers in on the progress.

If you will all notice on the corner of the lot, near Rte. 28 is a huge mound of dirt that has been dug up from under the foundation of where the old warehouse once stood.

This dirt is highly contaminated (I own the documents), and with all the wind we have had lately, is being blown around the street, and especially in the faces of those union workers in close proximity, who are picketing outside the site. Not to mention those citizens frequenting the post office, and the other construction workers erecting the McBank on the other side, in the old Friendly's site.

Hell, for that matter, all those cops eating for half price in the Methuen Family Restaurant, the patrons of the new CVS constructed on the ruins of the St. Monica's property, are getting contaminated, too.

I would suggest that those men get some masks and suits to protect themselves from the fate of death and destruction that has long plagued the neighborhoods that surround this toxic site.

After all, it has the prestigious "Dirty Dozen Award", awarded by the Toxic Action Group. You know you have to be down and dirty to receive this award!

Methuen has two sites that have qualified; and you were all wondering just what our politicians are doing!

You know, when the Methuen Assisted Suicide Living Complex is complete, a tribute to our elected and appointed politicians, I think those that inhabit it should be given a house warming gift of hermetically sealed suits with breathing apparatus. It is the least they can do!

Celebrating Arbor Day in Massachusetts

Residents of Massachusetts will celebrate Arbor Day 2008 on April 25. While some states chose to celebrate Arbor Day on a different date that coincides better with their growing season, National Arbor Day is celebrated on the last Friday in April by many states such as Massachusetts.

Massachusetts has 88 Tree City USA communities. Tree City USA is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, and was established to recognize communities that are committed to its trees. More than 120 million Americans live in a Tree City USA community. To see a list of Tree City USA communities, go to www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA.cfm.

The first Arbor Day was celebrated in Nebraska on April 10, 1872, thanks to a resolution proposed by Nebraska City, Neb., resident J. Sterling Morton. Morton, a civic leader, agriculturist, and former newspaper editor, urged Nebraskans to "set aside one day to plant trees, both forest and fruit." The tree-planting holiday was so popular that by 1920, more than 45 states and U.S. territories annually celebrated Arbor Day. Today, Arbor Day is observed in all 50 states and in many countries around the world.

The state tree of Massachusetts is the American elm, adopted in 1941. This particular tree was chosen to commemorate when General George Washington took charge of the Continental Army underneath one on Cambridge Common in 1775.

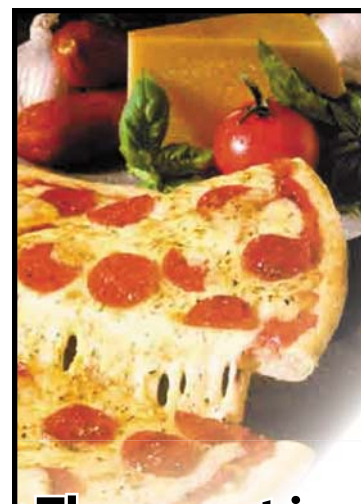
The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation organization of nearly one million members, with a mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs or ways to celebrate Arbor Day can be found at www.arborday.org.



"FOR TOO LONG OUR CULTURE HAS SAID, 'IF IT FEELS GOOD, DO IT.' NOW, WE WANT TO BE A NATION THAT SERVES GOALS LARGER THAN SELF. WE HAVE BEEN OFFERED A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY. WE MUST NOT LET THIS MOMENT PASS. MY CALL IS FOR EVERY AMERICAN TO COMMIT TO THE SERVICE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS AND YOUR NATION. BY DOING THIS, WE SUSTAIN AND EXTEND THE BEST THAT HAS EMERGED IN AMERICA."

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassHighway to discuss the proposed Hampshire Street over the Spicket River bridge replacement project in Lawrence, MA

WHERE: City Council Chambers
Lawrence City Hall
200 Common Street
Lawrence, MA 01840

WHEN: Monday, May 5, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Hampshire Street over the Spicket River bridge replacement project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of replacing the existing structure with a prestressed box beam and concrete deck superstructure set on top of integral abutments in the same approximate footprint of the existing bridge. The bridge structure will be closed to traffic during construction and a detour route will be implemented. The work on each approach will consist of reconstruction of the existing pavement, minor vertical alignment improvements, sidewalk reconstruction, drainage improvements, and safety improvements such as proper guardrail transitions to the bridge, pavement markings and safety signing.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The City of Lawrence is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassHighway's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassHighway subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout is available on the MassHighway website listed below.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Frank A. Tramontozzi, Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Highway Department, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. The final date of receipt of these statements and exhibits for inclusion in the public hearing transcript will be ten (10) days after this Public Hearing.

The community has declared that this facility is accessible to all in compliance with the ADA / Title II. However, persons in need of ADA / Title II accommodations should contact Angela Rudikoff by phone VOICE (617) 973-7005, TDDY (617) 973-7306 or email angela.rudikoff@eot.state.ma.us. Requests must be made at least 10 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

In case of inclement weather, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHighway website <http://www.mass.gov/mhd>.

LUIA PAIEWONSKY
COMMISSIONER

FRANK A. TRAMONTOZZI, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER

Boston, Massachusetts

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VOLUNTEERS

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley is recruiting volunteers to help elders throughout the area with activities that will enable them to remain safe and independent in their own homes. Volunteers are needed to provide the following services:

Transportation

Includes driving elders to medical appointments.

Companionship

Includes keeping company with elders who live alone and/or helping with day-to-day tasks.

Advisors

Providing elders with information about health insurance options.

Advocates

Focused on nursing home residents who need someone to champion their needs.

ESMV offers a mileage reimbursement along with orientation, training and ongoing support for each role.

Please call 800.892.0890 ext. 445 for more information.

VOLUNTEER WITH HOMELESS CHILDREN!

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

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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As part of our expansion programme, a small company is looking for part time Work from home account managers and sales representatives, it pays \$2700 a month plus benefits and takes only little of your time. Please contact us for more details.

REQUIREMENTS

Should be a computer literate. 2-3 hours access to the internet weekly. Must be over 20yrs of age. Must be Efficient and Dedicated. If you are interested and need more information, Please send e-mail to smith_david111@yahoo.com

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

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



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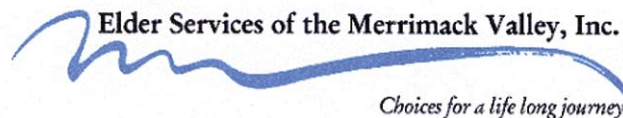
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VOLUNTARIOS



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

NECESITAMOS VOLUNTARIOS PARA:

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

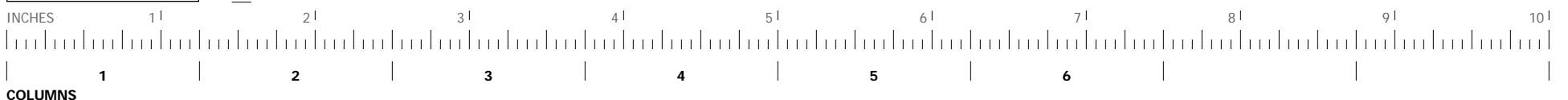
Disponibilidad de reembolso por millas recorridas. Proveemos orientación, entrenamiento y constante apoyo.

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

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

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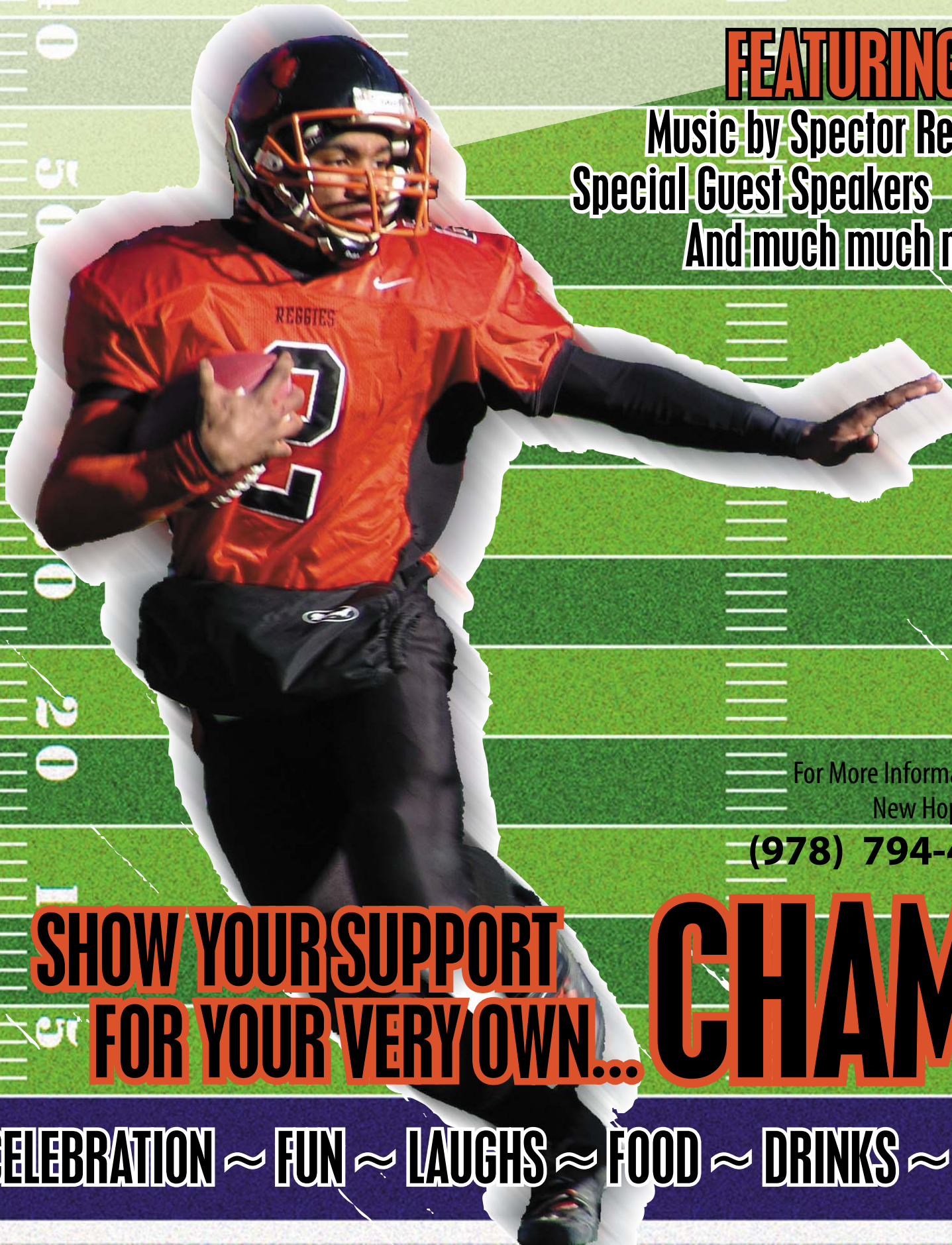
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