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The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley (NH) Salem, Nashua, Manchester

GRATIS



Desayuno con legisladores en el Senior Center

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
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■ FOTOS EN LA PÁGINA 3

Preocupados acerca de la situación económica, el Merrimack Valley Council on Aging Directors Association invitó a los legisladores de la región a un desayuno para oír de ellos como los proyectados cortes presupuestarios afectarán a nuestros Senior Centers.

Roseann Robillard, directora de Newburyport Council on Aging and President of the Merrimack Valley Council

on Aging Directors Association, coordinó el evento conjuntamente con el director del Council on Aging de Lawrence, Bernard J. Reilly y llevaron a cabo la reunión en el Senior Center de Lawrence.

POR FAVOR VEA **SURÍS**

■ CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 14

El Senador Steven A. Baddour, D-Methuen, de pie mientras hablaba. También en la foto aparecen los Representantes William Lantigua D-Lawrence (Izq.), y William G. Greene, D- Billerica, al centro.

Legislators Breakfast at the Senior Center

Senator Steven A. Baddour, D-Methuen, standing while speaking at the meeting. Also pictured are Representatives William Lantigua, D-Lawrence, at left and William G. Greene, D-Billerica, at center. **PAGE 3**



ABDOO IS IN!

¡ABDOO ENTRO EN LA CARRERA!

Al cierre, recibimos una corta nota de prensa de David C. Abdo informando que, “Después de pensarlo mucho y consultarlo con mi familia, he tomado la decisión de postularme para el cargo de Alcalde de la ciudad de Lawrence. Estoy muy excitado y esperanzado en perseguir y lograr este cargo. Creo que mi liderazgo y experiencia en mi vida adulta me ha colocado en esta situación”, dijo el concejal por el Distrito E en su corta nota.

David y su esposa Stephanie viven en Lawrence son sus hijos Elizabeth y Michael.

At closing, we received a short press release from David C. Abdo informing that, “After much thought and consultation with my family, I have made the decision to run for the Office of Mayor in the City of Lawrence. I am excited to pursue and hopefully attain this office. I believe that my leadership experiences in my adult life have led me to this moment in time,” said District E Councilor in his short notice.

David and his wife Stephanie, live in Lawrence, with their daughter Elizabeth and son Michael.

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Estudiantes de la Charter School | 6 celebran el Día Nacional de Lectura

Los estudiantes de Lawrence Family Development Charter School celebraron el Día Nacional de la Lectura el 3 de marzo, en reconocimiento de cumpleaños del Dr. Seuss. Dr. Seuss fue Theodor Seuss Geisel quien nació el 2 de marzo de 1904 en Springfield, MA.

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Legislators Breakfast at Senior Center



Laura Mailman, directora, Merrimack Council On Aging hablando en la reunión. También aparecen en la foto, Bernard J. Reilly, director, Lawrence Council on Aging y Phil DeColagero, asistente legislativo de la Representante Estatal Bárbara A. L'Italien, D- Andover.

Laura Mailman, director, Merrimack Council On Aging making a point. Also pictured, Bernard J. Reilly, director, Lawrence Council on Aging and Phil DeColagero, legislative assistant to State Representative Barbara A. L'Italien, D- Andover.

BY ALBERTO SURÍS
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■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 1

Concerned about the economic situation, the Merrimack Valley Council on Aging Directors Association invited the region's legislators to hear from them over breakfast, and how the projected cuts will affect our senior centers.

Roseann Robillard, director, Newburyport Council on Aging and President of the Merrimack Valley Council on Aging Directors Association, coordinated the event together with the Lawrence Council on Aging director Bernard J. Reilly and held the meeting at the Lawrence Senior Center on Friday, March 13, 2009.

Representative William Lantigua, D-Lawrence, was the first to speak, followed by Representatives William G. Greene, D-Billerica, and Bradford Hill, R-Ipswich, and also Senator Steven A. Baddour, D-Methuen, who was the last one to speak. Neither one gave good news; instead, they spoke about severe cuts due to budgetary deficits. "If the economy turns around it will help, but the numbers don't look good now," expressed Baddour.

Robillard noted that when budgets are tight, the first to be laid-off are senior centers and library personnel, since nobody wants to touch the police or the fire departments. "Senior Centers in small towns are the social service department for people who need services, such as wheelchairs, ambulances, etc., we are not just bingo and dance for elders. We are their life line of information," she said.

Laura Mailman, Town of Merrimack Council on Aging Executive Director expressed disappointed with the situation they are confronting at Merrimack with the School Department. Mailman said that while the town may have to lay-off employees, since the town has a shortage and no place to get it from, the school department is giving raises to theirs. "I don't think is fair," she said and added: "Wearing another



Roseann Robillard, directora, Newburyport Council on Aging and President of the Merrimack Valley Council on Aging Directors Association, coordinó el evento en el Lawrence Senior Center.

Roseann Robillard, director, Newburyport Council on Aging and President of the Merrimack Valley Council on Aging Directors Association, coordinated the event at the Lawrence Senior Center.

hat, why Credit Unions don't pay taxes like banks do?" Laura Mailman questioned the legislators.

Senator Baddour agrees, "We have to give mayors and town managers the tools to be able to control the schools. They should share the cuts too."

"People are getting fed up with the superintendents managing their budgets," said Representative Hill, who said he had received many calls from his constituents with that complaint. "The people from Merrimack have to step-up. We have hit bottom and this is the time to do reforms."

"News is not positive. This was not an upbeat meeting —we have to live with the cuts. We have to do more with less," said Bernard J. Reilly, director, Lawrence Council on Aging.

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

La verdad se supo

Tal como reportáramos con anterioridad, la Escuela Robert Frost en Lawrence fue escenario de una reunión de solidaridad comunitaria a la que asistieron aproximadamente 100 residentes del área que rodea la Escuela Saunders en el sur de Lawrence. La reunión se llevó a cabo el 14 de febrero, a solicitud del Concejal del Distrito E, David Abdo y fue para escuchar la propuesta de Peabody Properties, Inc., esperanzados en transformar la Escuela Saunders en un complejo habitacional para familias desposeídas.

El plan de Peabody Properties, Inc., consiste en la construcción de un edificio adicional en el estacionamiento de la escuela para poder acomodar 27 apartamentos. Aunque la idea encontró una fuerte oposición entre los vecinos, la reunión se llevó a cabo en una forma civilizada.

La principal queja de los vecinos era la congestión de tráfico que se intensificaría con la adición de 27 apartamentos, escasez de espacio para estacionamiento así como de un área de juego para los niños que eventualmente vivirán allí.

La semana pasada, miembros de la comunidad se reunieron de nuevo, esta vez en el Senior Center, para escuchar una nueva propuesta de los representantes de Peabody Properties. Respondiendo a las aprehensiones del vecindario, los constructores habían abandonado la idea de construir un edificio adicional en el parqueo, reduciendo con esto de 27 a 16 unidades de dos habitaciones. El nuevo plan añadirá espacios para estacionamiento y abundante espacio para los niños jugar.

Con esta nueva propuesta se conoció la verdad. Los vecinos se encontraron sin excusas para rechazar el proyecto, ya que la nueva propuesta de los constructores se basó en sus quejas originales. En su lugar, voces como "pónganlo en su vecindario, no en el mío", fueron escuchadas causando disturbios en la reunión.

Ante este comportamiento, creemos que los concejales no podrán encontrar una razón convincente para rechazar el proyecto y no podemos culparlos.

The truth came out

As previously reported, the Robert Frost School in Lawrence was the scene of a neighborhood solidarity meeting with approximately 100 residents of the area surrounding the Saunders School, in South Lawrence. The meeting, held on February 14, and called by District E City Councilor David Abdo was to listen to proposals from Peabody Properties Inc., hoping to transform the Saunders School into a supportive housing complex for homeless families.

The Peabody Properties, Inc. plans called for a construction of an additional structure on the school parking lot in order to accommodate 27 apartments. Although the idea found strong opposition among abutters, the meeting was conducted in a civilized manner.

The main complaint from the neighbors was the congestion of traffic that will be intensified with so many apartments in such heavy crossroads, lack of parking and enough playground space for the children that eventually will be living in the complex.

Last week, members of the community gathered again, this time at the Senior Center, to listen to new proposals from the representatives of Peabody Properties. Responding to neighborhood concerns, the developers have scratched the plan of the additional building in the parking lot, thus reducing the project from 27 to 16 two-bedroom units. The new plan will add parking spaces and plenty of room for children to play.

With this new proposal, the truth came out. The abutters find themselves without excuses to reject the project, since the builders' new proposal was exactly in response to their original concerns. Instead, voices like "put it in your neighborhood, not in mine," were heard, disrupting the meeting.

After there behavior, we believe the councilors will not find a convincing reason for denial of the project and we cannot blame them.

Rumbo

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Desde Mi Esquina



■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 19

¿Es demasiado tarde para sacar a Sullivan?

A pesar de que se encuentra al final de su segundo mandato, los residentes de Lawrence deben demostrar que no vamos a seguir aguantando. Si el Alcalde Michael J. Sullivan pasa la vergüenza de ser sacado aunque sea una semana antes de que su plazo termine, nos habremos fortalecido como comunidad. También enviará un mensaje al próximo alcalde que todos los ojos estarán sobre él o ella vigilando cada uno de los movimientos de su sucesor para evitar que las mismas cosas sucedan.

El Alcalde Sullivan está visiblemente aburrido con el trabajo. Su arrogancia implica que ninguno de nosotros somos merecedores de su tiempo. Nadie lo ve a menos que sea codeándose con la élite o compañeros de política. La gente se queja, incluso en la radio, que no responde a las llamadas telefónicas o mensajes de correo electrónico y todos los departamentos de la ciudad están operando a la deriva sin supervisión.

A través de estas páginas se han enterado que los empleados municipales llegan a la hora que les da su gana, van de compras durante el día, o eligen quedarse en casa y "trabajar" desde allí, algo claramente prohibido por las normas de la ciudad.

El Concilio de la Ciudad es un circo repugnante que sirve solamente para ordenar señales de STOP y cuando no quieren discutir un problema lo posponen por una eternidad. Sin ese liderazgo, debíamos tener un alcalde que les pusiera presión para que tomen decisiones y lo apoyen para lograr hacer el bien por la ciudad, pero ni el alcalde ni el concilio se preocupa lo suficiente para imponer los intereses de la comunidad que representan.

El peor ejemplo se puso de manifiesto el pasado jueves por la noche, 12 de marzo. El Alcalde Sullivan tiene una nueva táctica para evitar la sesión de la participación pública de la reunión del Comité Escolar por lo que llega tarde. El vicepresidente del Comité Escolar, Greg Morris presidía la

reunión en su ausencia, pero a la llegada del alcalde, se le dijo que siguiera y el alcalde sólo se convirtió en un espectador. Mientras tanto, el Sr. Morris, a quien le han dado más autoridad de la que su diminuta estructura craneal puede acumular porque ya está lleno de banalidades está disfrutando convertirse en tirano. Cuando una estudiante trató de hablar, él la mandó a callar en forma irrespetuosa.

Los estudiantes que se presentaron en la anterior reunión del Comité Escolar hace dos semanas, fueron intimidados para que no vinieran esta semana. Su presencia la primera vez fue una vergüenza para la administración por su buen comportamiento. De una manera muy formal y respetuosa, expresaron su preocupación con respecto a la profesora de lengua italiana, pero no lo haría de nuevo. El miedo y la intimidación reinan en las Escuelas Públicas de Lawrence.

Resultado de los MCAS en Lawrence

Laboy ha estado en el poder durante ocho años y los resultados del MCAS son testimonio de que lejos de hacer su trabajo, nuestra comunidad se ha atrasado terriblemente, porque nuestros niños se están quedando atrás del resto del estado según las estadísticas del Departamento de Educación. El daño que ha causado es imperdonable y él debe ser juzgado ante los tribunales por negligencia.

Fíjese en los resultados de la Ciudad de Chelsea, una ciudad que conozco muy bien. Tiene la misma composición que Lawrence, pero Chelsea está entre los líderes del estado para mejorar el aprendizaje de los estudiantes.

Un artículo del Boston Globe el 24 de septiembre de 2008, dijo: "El DOE informó que 'la población estudiantil en la Escuela Hooks es casi el 90 por ciento de bajos ingresos, el 25 por ciento tiene limitaciones con el inglés y el 12 por ciento de los estudiantes tiene discapacidades. Casi el 78 por ciento de sus estudiantes son hispanos y un poco más de 9 por ciento son afro-americanos'".

Lo que hizo la diferencia allí fue, "su enfoque en la enseñanza unidos, entrenamiento de liderazgo para los administradores y la dependencia de la evaluación formativa para guiar la intervención individual de los alumnos en matemáticas y lectura", continuó el artículo.

Busque en el cuadro mostrando los resultados de los MCAS para ver cómo cada una de las escuelas secundarias terminó el año pasado en Inglés, Matemática y Ciencia. Compare el promedio estatal con nuestros números en cada asignatura en las columnas desde Avanzado, Experto, Necesita Mejorar hasta Aviso/Fracasando. Los resultados fueron desastrosos en cada grado.

"Lo que hace que esta escuela tenga éxito es la gente que entrega estos servicios a nuestros niños", dijo el Superintendente Escolar de Chelsea Thomas Kingston. "La combinación de liderazgo sólido y buenos maestros asegura que todos nuestros niños tengan la oportunidad de tener éxito".

Liderazgo, un pensamiento noble, algo de lo que Lawrence carece.

El contrato está por vencerse

Laboy debe estar escogiendo ya su nuevo auto porque el contrato de arrendamiento está por vencerse y de acuerdo con su contrato, deberá obtener un auto nuevo cada dos años. Usted diría que, dadas las condiciones económicas que se ofrecería a mantener este que tiene solamente dos años un año más y ahorrar dinero. Pero él no lo haría porque no va con su imagen.

Recuerde que este es el hombre que se mudó para Methuen porque no había una casa en Lawrence suficientemente digna para él. No podemos esperar que se monte en un coche que tiene dos años.

POR FAVOR VEA **DÍAZ**

■ CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 27

Payano nombra Subdirectores

La trayectoria trazada por Pedro Payano durante su vida cívica en la Ciudad de Lawrence, siempre apegada a los más altos y nobles principios, fue el factor determinante para que sus amigos y allegados visualizaran a este maestro de escuela como un candidato idóneo para la alcaldía. De ahí surgió la posibilidad de lanzamiento de su candidatura. Pedro, siendo un servidor público innato y comprometido siempre con su comunidad, aceptó la propuesta, no sin antes consultar a su esposa e hijos. Los hombres y mujeres que constituyen este proyecto son los responsables de los planes y estrategias.

El proyecto ha entrado en una nueva fase donde se enfatiza una mayor relación con los sectores pujantes de nuestra comunidad entre los cuales figura el sector de los pequeños empresarios. Este sector es la piedra angular del desempeño económico de Lawrence y mucho más a sabiendas de la crisis económica que estamos viviendo.

En ese sentido nos hemos aprestados a nombrar a Brian de Peña y la señora Oneida Aquino como primer "Subdirector de Campaña" y segunda "Subdirectora de Campaña", respectivamente.

El señor Peña bien es sabido que es un próspero comerciante que ha luchado en favor de los pequeños empresarios llegando a ser Presidente de su organización. También ha ostentado la Presidencia y Vice Presidencia de la Semana Hispana en varias ocasiones, además de que su participación política en la Ciudad de Lawrence ha sido muy notable.

De igual manera, la señora Oneida Aquino ha logrado éxitos en su vida empresarial. No obstante su corta edad, sus cualidades empresariales y liderazgo la han llevado a dirigir la Semana Hispana con mucho éxito.

Al tener estos señores la capacidad requerida y así ha quedado demostrado por el éxito que han tenido en sus respectivas carreras empresariales, además de su apego a los mismos principios propugnados por nuestro candidato Pedro Payano, no vacilamos en poner en sus hombros la responsabilidad de ser parte de los principales líderes nuestra campaña. Hemos de estar seguros de que la honestidad y el buen conocimiento de estos dos pilares, las necesidades de Lawrence serán atendidas.

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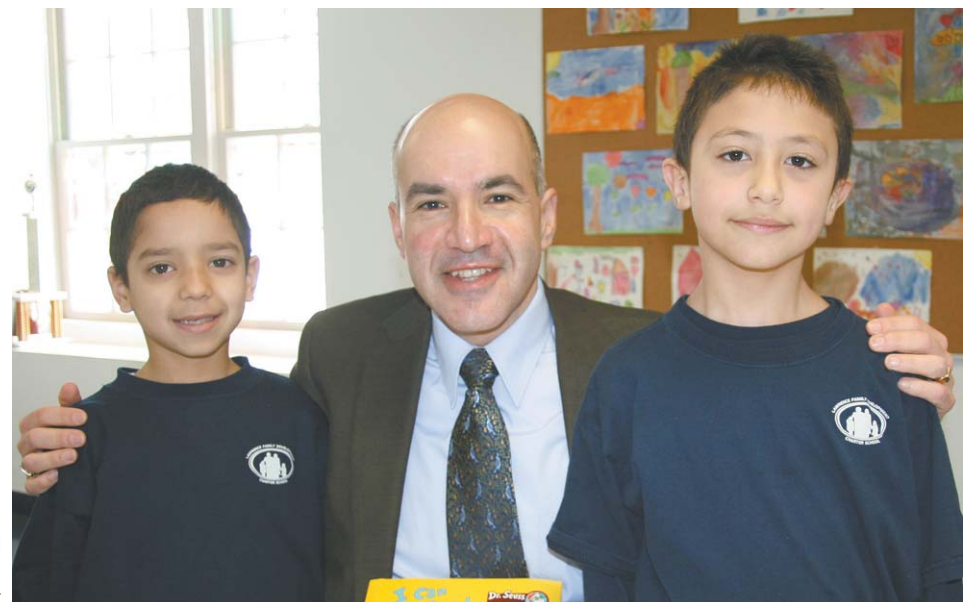
Estudiantes de la Charter School celebran el Día Nacional de Lectura

Los estudiantes de Lawrence Family Development Charter School celebraron el Día Nacional de la Lectura el 3 de marzo, en reconocimiento de cumpleaños del Dr. Seuss. Dr. Seuss fue Theodor Seuss Geisel quien nació el 2 de marzo de 1904 en Springfield, MA. Él es el escritor y dibujante más conocido por sus clásicos libros infantiles, incluyendo The Cat in the Hat, Huevos verdes con jamón, ¿Cómo el Grinch se robó la Navidad y One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish. Sus libros son famosos por sus rimas divertidas y simpáticos caracteres.

En total, 240 estudiantes desde kindergarten hasta el segundo grado leyeron más de 300 libros durante el evento. Padres, líderes de negocios locales y otros dignatarios, como la Senadora Susan Tucker y el Representante Estatal Barry Finegold compartieron su placer en la lectura con los estudiantes leyéndoles sus libros favoritos del Dr. Seuss. Los estudiantes también leyeron a sus invitados y cada niño recibió una copia gratuita de un libro de Dr. Seuss del grado adecuado para la biblioteca de su casa.



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Senator Susan Tucker



Representative Barry Finegold

Lawrence Family Development Charter School Students Celebrate Read Across America Day

Lawrence Family Development Charter School students celebrated Read Across America Day on March 3rd, in recognition of Dr. Seuss's birthday. Dr. Seuss was born Theodor Seuss Geisel on March 2, 1904 in Springfield, MA. He is the American writer and cartoonist best known for his classic children's books, including The Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs and Ham, How the Grinch Stole Christmas and One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish. His books are famous for their funny rhymes and whimsical characters.

POR FAVOR VEA **READ**
CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 18

Sesenta y cinco estudiantes de kindergarten participaron en las actividades de bienvenida a una invitada muy especial en la escuela Biblioteca de la Familia Foley. La candidata a la alcaldía y ex Concejala de la Ciudad Julia Silverio, propietaria de la Agencia de Seguros Silverio, visitó a los estudiantes y leyó The Cat in the Hat con ellos. La Sra. Silverio habló con los estudiantes sobre la importancia de la

lectura todos los días para que puedan convertirse en mejores lectores y discutió la importancia de la experiencia presentada en este libro.

La escuela Lawrence Family Development Charter School opera como una escuela pública desde el kindergarten hasta el octavo grado y su Director/Superintendente, Ralph Carrero, dijo a los reunidos en la actividad que "el nuevo

programa de dos años de Educación Temprana en la Infancia hace gran hincapié en el aprendizaje de la lectura en una muy temprana edad porque las investigaciones demuestran que los niños que leen a nivel en el tercer grado tienen garantizado el éxito académico por el resto de su educación formal."

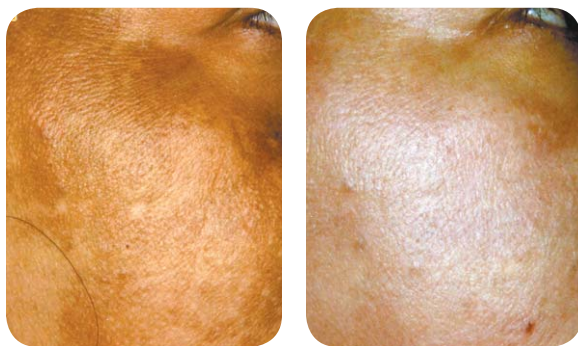
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Desayuno en el Club de Papás

Al igual que muchas otras escuelas, la Community Day Charter School ha intentado muchas formas de fomentar la participación de los padres en la escuela a través del Consejo Asesor de Padres (Parents Advisory Board - PAB.)

En una reciente reunión del Consejo, Susan LaPlante una de las madres, sugirió la creación de un "Club de Desayuno para Papás", similar a un club creado en el sistema de escuelas públicas de Boston. El club original de Boston fue diseñado para fomentar la participación de los padres en las escuelas después que los estudios sugirieron que hay una correlación directa entre la participación de los padres en las escuelas de sus hijos y el éxito académico.

Aunque el titulado "Club de Desayuno de Papás", la invitación se extendió a todo hombre en la familia - padre, abuelo, tío, amigo - que tiene un papel especial dentro de esa familia. Los acontecimientos futuros pueden ser planificados en torno a la hora del almuerzo o la tarde, para garantizar la continuidad de la participación del mayor número "papás" como sea posible.

"Esta es la primera vez que me he reunido con muchos de estos padres", dijo Pat Teichman, jefe del Early Learning Center. "Muchos preguntaron si la próxima vez les permitirá más tiempo en el aula y algunos sugirieron que deben hacerlo más a menudo!"



First grader Sara Petrakis and her father, Nick Petrakis, work on a puzzle with friends.

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Rep. William Lantigua reads a book with his son, first-grader William Lantigua, Jr.

Dads' Club Breakfast a Success at the Community Day Charter Public School's Early Learning Center

Like many other schools, the Community Day Charter School has tried many different ways to encourage parental involvement in the school through its Parents Advisory Board ("PAB").

At a recent PAB meeting, parent Susan LaPlante suggested creating a "Dads' Club Breakfast", modeled after a similar club created in the Boston public school system. The original Boston club was designed to encourage participation by fathers in schools after studies suggested a direct correlation between

Los "padres" fueron invitados al Early Learning Center de la CDCPS el viernes, 13 de febrero del 2009, para el desayuno, conversación o juegos con sus hijos. Dado que este fue el primer evento de su tipo para el Consejo, los organizadores no estaban seguros de qué tipo de participación podían esperar.

Superando todas las expectativas, aproximadamente 43 hombres se presentaron para celebrar y pasar tiempo en las aulas. Para Nick Petrakis, padre de

Sara Petrakis en el primer grado, esta fue una oportunidad demasiado buena para dejarla pasar. "Yo trabajo por las noches por lo que no sucede a menudo que tengo la oportunidad de pasar tiempo en el salón de clase de mi hija y cumplir con sus maestros, así como padres de sus compañeros de clase."

Muchos "padres", adoptaron una mesa completa de niños en cada salón de clase, leyendo un libro o armando un rompecabezas con los muchachos en su mesa. Los padres

trajeron frutas, productos de panadería, café y jugo.

"Al ver la sonrisa en la cara de mi hijo cuando yo entré en su clase fue inestimable", dijo el Rep. William Lantigua, padre de William Lantigua, Jr. de primer grado. "Eventos como éste permiten a los padres estar más involucrados."

Para más información sobre Community Day Public Charter School, visite el sitio web de la escuela en www.cdcp.org.

POR FAVOR VEA **DADS' CLUB**

CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 18



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4 Chambers' Mixer

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce joined forces with the Chamber of Commerce of Haverhill, Lowell and Salem, NH, and held a mixer at DiBurro's Function Facilities, in Ward Hill in Haverhill, MA on Thursday, March 12, 2009.

The event attracted many members and friends of the four chambers who were able to network and exchange business cards while participating in an exciting raffle for door prizes.



Enjoying the mixer are Laurie Gulla, of OT Works 4 Kidz; Linda Eaton, Greystone Farms; Patti Rivers, Greystone Farms; Tracey Hamlin-Landry, Greystone Farms; Susan Denopoulos, World Health Center; Carol Salvatore, Greystone Farms; and Amy Stafford, OT Works 4 Kidz.

La Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Merrimack se unió a otras cuatro cámaras del comercio de Haverhill, Lowell y Salem, NH, en un mixer en DiBurro's Function Facilities, en Ward Hill, Haverhill, el jueves, 12 de marzo, 2009.

La actividad atrajo a muchos miembros y amistades de las cuatro cámaras de comercio quienes pudieron darse a conocer a otras personas e intercambiar tarjetas de presentación mientras participaban en muy buenas rifas.

Lisa Fitzpatrick from Haverhill was the lucky winner of two tickets to the Celtics. Next to her, the one who pulled her business card from the basket: Wilfred N. Carpenter, MVCC Vice President, Sales & Service.



Denise Murray, administrative assistant of the MVCC going for a second sample being prepared specially for her by DiBurro's Chef, Steve Greenlaw.

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Front row, L/R: James P. Jajuga, president/CEO, Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce; Jeanne Osborn, president/CEO, Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce; Joseph J. Bevilacqua, president/CEO Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce; Donna Morris, executive director, Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce; Richard C. Dewhirst, MVCC Chairman of the Board and president Charles F. Dewhirst Funeral Home; John E. Bukala, Chairman Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce and vice-president, Enterprise Bank & Trust Company; Robert Iannaco, Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce and administrator, Whittier Rehabilitation Hospital; and Mary Reese, Greater Salem Chamber's Chairman of the Board, sponsors of the mixer.

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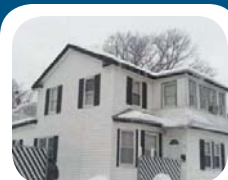
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Un abrazo para todos y disfruten esta hermosa reflexión del maravilloso libro "Me Declaro Vivo" por Luis Espinosa (Chamalú) 1994.

SABOREO CADA ACTO

Antes cuidaba que los demás no hablaran mal de mí, entonces me portaba como los demás querían y mi conciencia me censuraba.

Menos mal que a pesar de mí esforzada buena educación siempre había alguien difamándome. ¡Cuánto agradezco a esa gente que me enseñó que la vida no es un escenario! Desde entonces me atreví a ser como soy.

El árbol anciano me enseñó que todos somos lo mismo. Soy guerrero: mi espada es el amor, mi escudo el humor, mi hogar la coherencia, mi texto la libertad.

Si mi felicidad resulta insoportable, discúlpeme, no hice de la cordura mi opción. Prefiero la imaginación a lo indio, es decir inocencia incluida.

Quizás solamente teníamos que ser humanos.

Sin Amor nada tiene sentido, sin Amor



estamos perdidos, sin Amor corremos el riesgo de estar de nuevo transitando de espaldas a la luz.

Por eso es muy importante que sea el Amor lo único que inspire tus actos.

Anhele que descubras el mensaje que se encuentra detrás de las palabras;

No soy un sabio, sólo un enamorado de la vida.

La mejor forma de despertar, es hacerlo sin preocuparse porque nuestros actos incomoden a quienes duermen al lado.

La meta no existe, el camino y la meta son lo mismo. No tenemos que correr hacia

ninguna parte, sólo saber dar cada paso plenamente.

Cuando somos más grandes que lo que hacemos, nada puede desequilibrarnos. Pero cuando permitimos que las cosas sean más grandes que nosotros, nuestro desequilibrio está garantizado.

Quizá sólo seamos agua fluyendo; el camino nos lo tenemos que hacer nosotros.

Mas no permitas que el cauce esclavice al río, no sea que en vez de un camino tengas una cárcel.

Amo mi locura que me vacuna contra la estupidez. Amo el amor que me inmuniza ante la infelicidad que pulula por doquier, infectando almas y atrofiando corazones.

La gente está tan acostumbrada a ser infeliz, que la sensación de felicidad les resulta sospechosa.

La gente está tan reprimida, que la espontánea ternura le incomoda y el amor le inspira desconfianza.

La vida es un canto a la belleza, una convocatoria a la transparencia.

Os pido perdón pero... ¡me declaro vivo!" - Chamalú. Indio Quechua

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¡Hola! Mi nombre es Jeffrey

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By MILTON L. ORTIZ
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Jeffrey es un niño latino de ocho años activo, amable y considerado. Su personalidad amigable y ambiciosa le

ayuda a lograr lo que quiere. Jeffrey disfruta haciendo muchas y diferentes actividades, que incluyen dibujar, hacer artes y manualidades, nadar, jugar baloncesto y especialmente, leer.

El está respondiendo bien actualmente en su hogar de crianza y se lleva bien con los otros niños en el hogar. Jeffrey está en una escuela con énfasis terapéutico, en la que se beneficia del apoyo que recibe. El acaba de terminar el segundo grado, en el que progresó mucho y continúa desafiándose a sí mismo a hacer bien. El está a nivel de su grado y le gusta la escuela mucho. Jeffrey también disfrutó mucho el campamento de verano, en el que se esforzó por hacer amigos.

Jeffrey necesita una familia que le pueda ayudar a seguir en contacto con su madre biológica y hermanos. Legalmente libre para la adopción, Jeffrey está listo para una familia activa que le pueda dar la estructura y estabilidad que necesita para ayudarlo a alcanzar su máximo potencial.

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POR LETICIA JÁQUEZ

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Es lo único que le da la vida alguna forma de sentido.

¡SONRÍE!

¡Sonríe por la maravilla de vivir!

Piensa en lo que te hace sonreír,

y piensa en él siempre,

aunque sea una persona,

un momento,

o una vista.

Estás completamente inconsciente,

de que cautivadora es tu sonrisa.

Simplemente no sabes

del bello parpadeo de tus ojos.

Yo lo he visto una vez.

No es nada menos que extraordinario.

¡Ríete!

¡Estállate de la risa!

¡Ríete hasta que te duela!

¡Absolutamente no hay tiempo

para estar enfurruñado!

¡Ríete!

¡Sonríe!

¡Ama!

¡Goza!

¡Estos son los mejores sentimientos

que la vida te ofrece!

POR PAUL V. MONTESINO, PhD, MBA
buzonabierto@aol.com

Mi Punto de Vista



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

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 21

MI AMANTE LA NIEVE, DE NUEVO

Corrió otra vez. Después de haber desaparecido de mi vida, miedosa de un clima más cálido que podría derretir su condición básica ella regresó. Como les dije en otro artículo de un par de años atrás, yo tengo un romance con la nieve. Para aquellos de ustedes que viven lejos me temo que no lo comprenden, así que trataré de explicarme.

La nieve es como una mujer voluble y caprichosa (no discriminación intentada aquí.) Ella no le es fiel a nadie, yendo y viniendo como le place. No se sabe de seguro donde va a hallarse la próxima vez. Está hoy aquí o ida y deritiéndose mañana. A veces está quieta, otras veces feroz y enojada, siempre apasionada. Uno nunca sabe cuando va a estar lo uno o lo otro. Ese es parte de su encanto, lo inesperado. Entonces, de repente, se va de nuevo.

Otro día regresa súbitamente y ofrece toda clase de excusas, se enrolla alrededor de árboles y arbustos y posa vestida para fotos inocentes de Navidad. ¡En otras ocasiones usa "nadita"! Por eso es que seguimos vinculándonos con ella. No podemos vivir con ella; pero tampoco podemos vivir sin ella. Puede ser blanca de pureza en un instante, carmelita y pecadora en el siguiente. Ella es tierna, acuosa, trivial, adulta.

Usted no puede palear la nieve, usted la tiene que acariciar y abrazar. Uno no la pisa con los pies, uno baila con ella a puntillas en una danza de ballet amorosa o tal vez en un paso de tango romántico donde su cara y la suya

se acercan cada vez más. Ella le permite que la toque y la sople al aire como si fuera pétalos de una flor. Entonces, tan pronto llega la primavera, desaparece una vez más para irse a alguna parte que no sabemos o siquiera nos imaginamos. ¡Cómo la extrañamos! Solo quedará atrás, recostada en una pared, la pala triste que nos recuerda que la nieve volverá algún día de nuevo pidiendo atención. Mi amante la nieve; ella está aquí ahora con toda su belleza, todo su

vigor. Y veo nuevamente ciertos síntomas de impaciencia en su cara.

Después de un día empujando y apaleando a esta magnífica nieve amante mía uno se siente cansado, exhaustado. ¿Pero no es eso lo que una buena amante hace por nosotros? Bueno, ¿cómo puedo yo resistir apaleando mi nieve? Pero, ¿puedo confiar en ella?

Y ese es mi punto de vista hoy.

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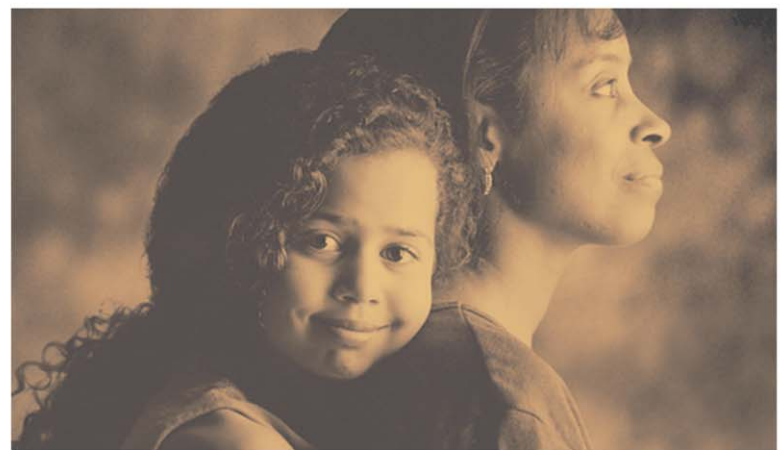


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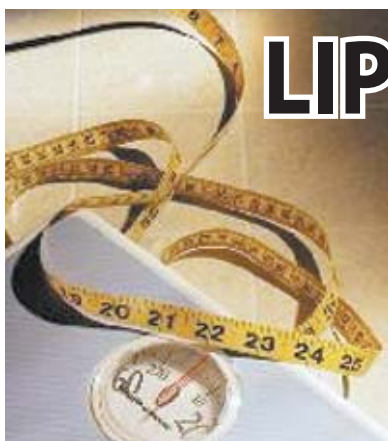
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Venga hoy y le daremos una gira. Usted puede hacerse miembro de cualquier lugar, pero usted pertenece en la Y.



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Programa Luzca Bien... Siéntase Mejor busca voluntarios

La Sociedad Americana del Cáncer necesita voluntarios de cosmetología y especialistas en belleza que ofrezcan su tiempo y talento para mejorar las vidas de mujeres que viven con cáncer. *Luzca Bien...Siéntase Mejor®* es un programa gratuito que enseña técnicas para manejar los efectos secundarios relacionados con el aspecto a las personas bajo tratamiento activo contra el cáncer. Para muchas mujeres en tratamiento, Luzca Bien...Siéntase Mejor se ha convertido en un programa de ayuda emocional hacia su camino a la recuperación.

Cosmetólogos y especialistas en belleza tienen la oportunidad de usar sus talentos y enseñar a las mujeres sobre el maquillaje, cuidado de la piel, cuidado de las uñas y formas de sobrellevar la pérdida de cabello, tales como las pelucas, los turbantes y las bufandas. Los voluntarios dirigen pequeños grupos a través de sesiones prácticas. Las mujeres que asisten a las sesiones encuentran que el grupo es uno de apoyo y las técnicas de belleza son una ventaja adicional.

Los voluntarios de cosmetología y especialistas en belleza proveen creatividad, entusiasmo, y dedicación haciendo el programa significativo y divertido para todas las mujeres que asisten al programa. Todos los cosmetólogos voluntarios que forman parte del programa asisten a una clase de certificación que cubre los materiales del programa, expectativas y oportunidades del voluntario, los efectos del tratamiento de cáncer y como los cosmetólogos pueden usar sus talentos para minimizar estos efectos. Después de la clase de certificación, los voluntarios facilitan o co-facilitan el mínimo de cuatro clases al año. Las clases son de dos horas.

"Me gusta ser una voluntaria para *Luzca Bien...Siéntase Mejor* porque es algo positivo que se le ofrece a las mujeres

que están pasando por dificultades físicas y emocionales durante su tratamiento de quimioterapia", dice Mary Aframe de Leominster, una voluntaria de siete años. "Juntos en un grupo compartiendo y apoyando [el uno al otro] hace desarrollar un grupo de amistades. Esto es realmente una maravillosa experiencia para todos."

Luzca Bien...Siéntase Mejor es un programa de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer; el Concejo Sobre Productos de Cuidado Personal; y la Asociación Nacional de Cosmetología. Las clases y los materiales son gratuitos para mujeres bajo tratamiento activo contra el cáncer.

Luzca Bien...Siéntase Mejor es uno de los programas ofrecido por la Red de Recursos contra el Cáncer de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer, que ofrece una serie de programas y servicios para todos aquellos tocados por el cáncer. "Hacemos todo lo que podemos para mejorar la calidad de vida para pacientes, sus familias y sobrevivientes del cáncer durante y después del diagnóstico y tratamiento," dice Janet McGrail, la Vicepresidenta del Control de Cáncer para la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer.

Todos los servicios de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer son ofrecidos gratuitamente. Para más información, 24 horas al día, 7 días a la semana, o para hablar con un especialista en información sobre el cáncer llame a la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer al 1-800-227-2345 ó visite nuestra página en Internet www.cancer.org.

Para más información acerca de los recursos de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer o para ser un voluntario para el programa *Luzca Bien...Siéntase Mejor* llame al 1-800-227-2345 o visite nuestra página en Internet www.cancer.org

■ CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 1

SURÍS: Desayuno con legisladores en el Senior Center



Laura Mailman, directora, Merrimac Council On Aging hablando en la reunión. También aparecen en la foto, Bernard J. Reilly, director, Lawrence Council on Aging y Phil DeColagero, asistente legislativo de la Representante Estatal Bárbara A. L'Italien, D- Andover.

Laura Mailman, director, Merrimac Council On Aging making a point. Also pictured, Bernard J. Reilly, director, Lawrence Council on Aging and Phil DeColagero, legislative assistant to State Representative Barbara A. L'Italien, D- Andover.

El Representante William Lantigua, D-Lawrence, fue el primero en hablar, seguido de los Representantes William G. Greene, D-Billerica, Bradford Hill, R-Ipswich y también el Senador Steven A. Baddour, D-Methuen, que fue el último en hablar. Ninguno dio buenas noticias; en su lugar, hablaron de severos cortes debido a déficits presupuestarios. "Si la economía cambia, ayudará, pero por ahora los números no lucen buenos", expresó Baddour.

Robillard hizo notar que cuando el presupuesto es escaso, los primeros que pierden sus trabajos son los trabajadores de las bibliotecas y de los Senior Centers ya que nadie toca a la policía o a los bomberos. "En

los pequeños pueblos, los Senior Centers son el departamento de servicios sociales para las personas que necesitan servicios, tales como sillas de rueda, ambulancias, etc. No solo brindamos bingo y danza a los ancianos. Somos su línea de información", dijo la Sra. Robillard.

Laura Mailman, Directora Ejecutiva del Town of Merrimac Council on Aging expresó su disgusto ante la situación que están confrontando en Merrimac con el departamento escolar. Mailman dijo que mientras que el pueblo tendrá que despedir empleados ya que tienen un presupuesto muy pequeño sin sitio de donde sacar para aumentarlo, el departamento escolar está dando aumento a los suyos. "No creo que es justo", dijo y añadió, "Y poniéndome otro sombrero, ¿Cómo es que las Credit Unions no pagan impuestos como los bancos?, preguntó a los legisladores.

El Senador Baddour está de acuerdo, "tenemos que darles a los alcaldes y managers de pueblos las herramientas que les haga posible controlar las escuelas. Ellos también debían compartir los cortes".

"La gente se está cansando con la forma en que los superintendentes manejan sus presupuestos", dijo el Representante Hill, que dijo haber recibido incontables llamadas de sus constituyentes. "La gente de Merrimac tiene que protestar. Hemos tocado el fondo del barril, es hora de hacer reformas."

"Las noticias no son optimistas. Esta no ha sido una reunión positiva, tenemos que vivir con estos recortes. Tenemos que hacer más con menos", dijo Bernard J. Reilly, director, Lawrence Council on Aging.



Scouting ... una Profesión con un Propósito

Desde 1910, la organización Boy Scouts of America (BSA) ha ayudado a formar a los futuros líderes de este país, combinando actividades educativas y de aventura al aire libre con diversión y valores perdurables. Aunque BSA se ha enfocado primordialmente en el desarrollo de los jóvenes, BSA también tiene programas coeducativos tales como Venturing, que se enfoca en los jóvenes de ambos sexos. La participación que ha establecido Boy Scouts of America en conferencias como *League of United Latin American Citizens—LULAC* (Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos), *Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities—HACU* (Asociación Hispana de Colegios y Universidades), *National Council of La Raza—NCLR* (Concilio Nacional de La Raza) y *U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce* (Cámara de Comercio Hispana de los Estados Unidos) demuestra nuestro sólido compromiso con las familias y comunidades latinas/hispanoamericanas.

Qué Hacen los Scouters Profesionales

Varios miles de Scouters profesionales orientan, guían y facilitan los esfuerzos de más de un millón de adultos voluntarios en quienes el programa Scouting depende para llevar a cabo su misión. Es la labor de un Scouter profesional, el inspirar, reclutar, capacitar y apoyar a los voluntarios de BSA, además de trabajar con líderes de la comunidad y conseguir el apoyo del público para las actividades Scouting.

Aprenda Más

Los valores familiares que usted puede brindar a Scouting impactarían directamente las vidas de jóvenes a lo largo de todo Estados Unidos. Para aprender más acerca de trabajar para Boy Scouts of America como un ejecutivo, visite la página de empleos de nuestro sitio Web en www.scouting.org o escriba a Executive Selection Service, S416; P.O. Box 152079; Irving, TX 75015-2079.

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Charter School Conduce Lotería para Seleccionar Clase del 2019

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 21

Cada año en marzo, las escuelas públicas están obligadas a celebrar un sorteo público de las plazas reservadas que podrían estar disponibles para el próximo año escolar. Este año más de 60 padres ansiosos se reunieron en la escuela Lawrence Family Development Charter School, el miércoles, 11 de marzo para participar en la lotería de la escuela para la clase de 2019.

Ellos esperaban que su hijo o hija fuera seleccionado de entre un grupo de 154 solicitantes de un jardín de infantes de las 39 plazas disponibles en septiembre de 2009. Veintiún otros puestos en el programa ya habían sido ocupado por los hermanos de los alumnos actuales. Después de la selección de 39 nuevos estudiantes, el resto de 115 nombres fueron colocados en la lista de espera en el orden en que se extrajeron.

Ralph Carrero, Superintendente Escolar de la Charter School, dijo a los padres que, "La demanda de plazas en el programa de Kindergarten de dos años en la escuela es alto debido a que la escuela tiene una reputación de excelencia y preparación académica en la comunidad que ha evolucionado de su dedicación a temprana de desarrollo del idioma inglés, preparación de los jóvenes estudiantes a aprender, y el apoyo que la escuela da a las familias."

A medida que la lotería avanzaba, los padres aplaudieron cada vez que el nombre de su hijo era seleccionado para entrar en la escuela en el otoño. Otros padres de familia siguieron esperanzados de que sus hijos se beneficiarían de admisión de la lista de espera.

Un representante de la comunidad



Proud father celebrating the selection of his daughter for fall admission.

Brian DePena drawing names of applicants for admission to LFDSCS.

siempre es seleccionado para participar en la lotería mediante el sorteo sacando los nombres de los estudiantes de un tambor. Este año, el Sr. Brian DePeña, un exitoso hombre de negocios en la Ciudad de Lawrence, que fue también Presidente de Semana Hispana y el actual Presidente de la Cámara de Comercio Hispana, fue quien sacó los nombres.



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Estrategias para la supervivencia financiera durante un despido

POR JASON ALDERMAN
practicalmoneyskills.com

Si alguna vez fue despedido, sabe lo paralizante que puede ser preocuparse por qué hacer después. Debido a que es probable que no encuentre un nuevo puesto inmediatamente, a continuación le brindamos varios pasos que debe seguir de inmediato para protegerse financieramente:

Investigue sobre los beneficios por despido. A pesar de que su empleador no está obligado a proporcionar los beneficios por despido a menos que no sean parte de un acuerdo de empleo, no hace ningún daño preguntar. Es prudente conocer las políticas de despido de su compañía por adelantado como una base para las negociaciones.

Los beneficios por despido pueden incluir:

- Indemnización por despido, generalmente en base a su pago anual y años de servicio.
- Uso temporal de los recursos de la compañía, tales como el espacio o equipo de la oficina.
- Asesoramiento de asistencia para la reinserción laboral, que puede incluir ayuda para escribir el CV, desarrollo

de las habilidades para la entrevista y búsquedas laborales.

- Prolongación de la cobertura de la atención de la salud o ayuda para pagar las primas del seguro de COBRA.

Solicite los beneficios para desempleados. Según la duración de su empleo y otros factores, puede calificar para los pagos del seguro por desempleo. El período de espera se basa en cuando presenta la solicitud, no cuando pierde su trabajo, así que solicítelo inmediatamente. Según el proyecto de ley de incentivos recientemente aprobado, los beneficios por desempleo han aumentado en \$25 por semana y la elegibilidad se prolonga a 46 semanas. También, los primeros \$2.400 en beneficios del 2009 no están sujetos al impuesto federal sobre los ingresos.

Reduzca los gastos. A menos que haya acumulado ahorros de emergencia considerables, puede quedarse corto de efectivo y tener dificultades para pagar las cuentas. Analice su presupuesto con cuidado, haga un seguimiento de todos los gastos y busque recortar los no esenciales (vehículos innecesarios, salir a comer, TV

por cable, ropa nueva, etc).

Administre sus cuentas. Habitualmente, hacer pagos adicionales de una hipoteca, préstamo y tarjeta de crédito es una gran estrategia financiera, pero si enfrenta el desempleo, es probable que tenga sentido reducir los pagos para aumentar sus ahorros disponibles para pagar las cuentas. (Sin embargo, siempre realice al menos pagos mínimos – a tiempo – o de daños para riesgos de su calificación crediticia).

Busque un ingreso adicional. Considere alquilar una habitación vacía, vender artículos que no son necesarios o tomar un trabajo de medio tiempo. Sin embargo, tenga en cuenta que el ingreso de un trabajo de medio tiempo puede tener impacto sobre sus beneficios de desempleo, así que examine las reglas con cuidado.

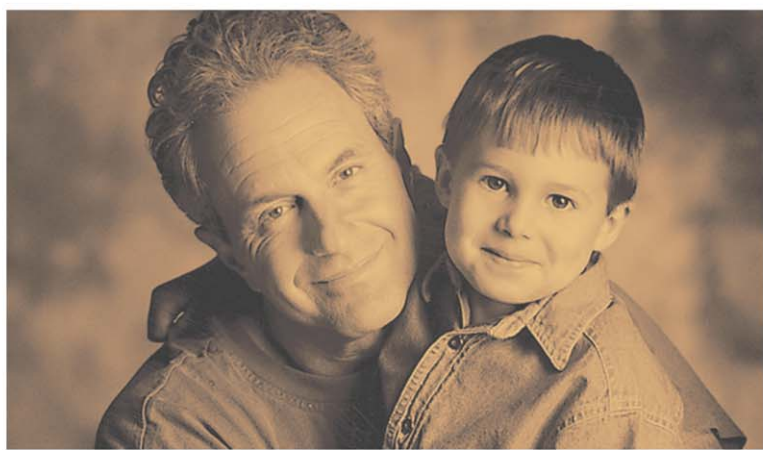
Proteja su plan 401(k). Tiene varias opciones para el saldo del 401(k) después de un despido:

- Si se lo permiten, déjelo en el plan de su empleador (aunque si es menos de \$5.000, es probable que le soliciten el cierre de la cuenta).
- Transfíralo al plan del nuevo empleador, si tiene alguno.

- Transfíralo a la Cuenta de jubilación individual (IRA) regular o tipo Roth (con la tipo Roth, pagará impuestos a la renta sobre la cantidad cuando presente los impuestos de este año; sin embargo, no le cobrarán impuestos sobre las ganancias posteriores a su retiro).
- Tome un pago en efectivo de una suma global.

A pesar de que la última opción puede parecer tentadora, especialmente si tiene poco efectivo, casi nunca es una buena idea. No sólo reducirán significativamente los ahorros de la jubilación, sino que también enfrentará consecuencias impositivas severas: adeudará el impuesto a las ganancias federal (y posiblemente estatal) sobre el monto, además de una multa por retiro anticipado de 10 por ciento a menos que tenga más de 55 años de edad o esté discapacitado.

También note que los préstamos extraordinarios del 401(k) se deben devolver, generalmente dentro de los 30 días o enfrentará el pago de impuestos



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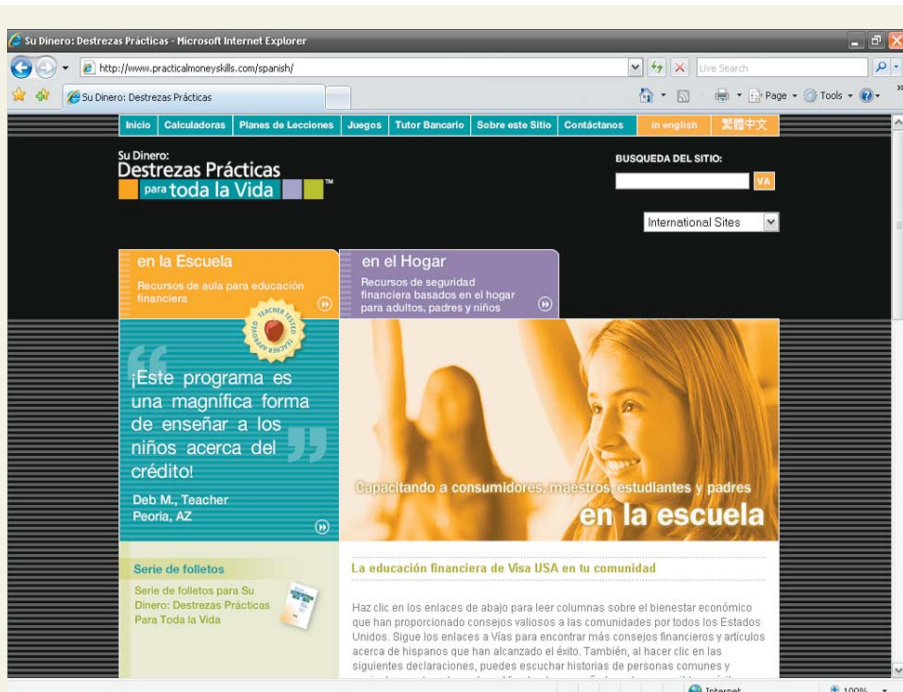


¡Felicidades Gabe!

Queremos felicitar a Gabriel "Gabe" Rodríguez por haber cumplido 11 años el pasado 11 de marzo. "Gabe" como él prefiere que lo llamen, va a la Christa McAuliffe School en Lowell.

Su deporte favorito es el baseball y el año pasado jugó como pitcher de los Orioles en la South Lawrence East Little League, llevándose el Premio MVP. Su hobby es coleccionar todo lo que tenga que ver con Star Wars.

Los felicitan su mama Ely Nieves, sus hermanos Mike y Aslan, su abuelita María, sus tíos y primos. ¡Que cumpla muchos más!



Para participar en una Cumbre sobre introducción y educación financiera en línea, gratuita, vaya a <http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/summit2009>.

y la multa por distribución anticipada si tiene menos de 59 ½ años de edad. Para obtener más información sobre las consecuencias financieras de las distribuciones del 401(k), consulte a un profesional en finanzas.

Otra fuente buena de información sobre el 401(k) es el sitio gratuito de gerencia financiera personal de Visa Inc., Destrezas Prácticas para el Manejo de Dinero de por Vida (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/benefits). El

sitio también cuenta con consejos sobre qué hacer si pierde su trabajo o enfrenta otros eventos de la vida inesperados (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/unexpected).

Jason Alderman dirige los programas de educación financiera de Visa. Para participar en una Cumbre sobre introducción y educación financiera en línea, gratuita, vaya a [<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/summit2009>].

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CONTINUES FROM PAGE 25

READ: LFDCS Students Celebrate Read Across America Day



Overall, 240 kindergarten through second grade students read more than 300 books during the event. Parents, local business leaders and other dignitaries such as State Senator Susan Tucker and Representative Barry Finegold shared their joy of reading with students by reading their favorite Dr. Seuss books to them. Students also read to their guests and every child was given a free copy of a grade appropriate Dr. Seuss book for their home library.

Sixty-five kindergarten students participated in the activities by welcoming a very special guest reader to the school's Foley Family Library. Lawrence Mayoral candidate and former City Councilor Julia Silverio of Silverio Insurance Agency visited the students and read *The Cat in*

the Hat with them. Ms. Silverio spoke with the students about the importance of reading every day so they can become better readers and discussed the important lessons presented in this book.

Lawrence Family Development Charter School operates a kindergarten through eighth grade public charter school and its Director/Superintendent, Ralph Carrero, told those gathered at the event that "the school's two year Early Childhood Education Program places great emphasis on learning to read at a very young age because research shows that children reading at grade level by the time they reach third grade ensures they will achieve academic success for the rest of their formal education."

CONTINUES FROM PAGE 25

DADS' CLUB: Dads' Club Breakfast a Success at the CDCPS's Early Learning Center



participation in schools by fathers and their children's academic success.

Although entitled the "Dads' Club Breakfast", the invitation was extended to any male in a given family – father, grandfather, uncle, friend – who holds a special role within that family. Future events may be planned around lunchtime or late afternoon, to ensure continued participation by as many "Dads" as possible.

"This is the first time I have met many of these dads," stated Pat Teichman, head of the Early Learning Center. "Many asked if the next event would allow them more time in the classroom and some suggested we do this more often!"

The "Dads" were invited to the CDCPS's Early Learning Center, on Friday, February 13, 2009, for breakfast, conversation or games with their child. Since this was the first event of its type for the PAB, the organizers were unsure of what type of turnout to expect.

Exceeding all expectations, approximately 43 men showed up to celebrate and spend time in the classrooms.

For Nick Petrakis, father of first-grader Sara Petrakis, this was an opportunity too good to pass up. "I work nights so it is not often that I have the opportunity to spend time in my daughter's classroom and meet her teachers, as well as fathers of her classmates."

Many "Dads" adopted a whole table of children in each classroom, reading a book or constructing a puzzle with the table's occupants. Parents provided fruit, baked goods, coffee and juice.

"Seeing the smile on my son's face when I walked into his class was priceless," said Rep. William Lantigua, father of first-grader William Lantigua, Jr. "Events like this make it possible for more fathers to be involved."

For more information on the Community Day Public Charter School, visit the school's website at www.cdcps.org.

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Progress on Hospice House

To the Editor:

The fulfillment of a dream is never attained simply through wanting. Patience, hard work, perseverance and, most importantly, the commitment of believers is what turns a dream into reality. For years the staff and trustees of Merrimack Valley Hospice dreamed of building a Hospice House to offer compassionate, comprehensive end-of-life care to patients who cannot remain at home during their final days. Our dream is almost realized, with the construction of a Hospice House on North Avenue in Haverhill nearing completion. We didn't do this alone – our friends across the Merrimack Valley, through gifts large and small, donated nearly \$4.4 million in support of this important project. We're almost there, but not quite. Now, we need your help to reach our \$5 million goal. The Hospice House has been meticulously designed and will include 14 private suites for patients and their families, as well as unique shared spaces that create a tranquil feeling including living rooms and gathering areas, a family kitchen, library, sanctuary and beautiful gardens. Two of the rooms can be converted to children's rooms complete with a crib and rocker.

In the coming weeks we'll be writing to our friends and neighbors asking for support of this important project. Please give thoughtful consideration to this request and know that donations of all sizes matter and will help. Your contribution will help us bring comfort to a husband with young children who is struggling to care for his ailing wife, a frail, elder hoping to remain by her dying husband's side, or an ill child needing round-the-clock care..

To make a gift today, please call Vicki Kelley at 978-552-4162 or visit www.merrimackvalleyhospice.org. Your gift of any size matters and will make a difference.

On behalf of the patients and families that will find comfort in this special house, thank you for your consideration of support. We remain dedicated in our belief and ever grateful to all who join us in achieving this dream.

Sincerely,

JOAN STYGLES HULL RN, MBA
President/CEO
Merrimack Valley Hospice

EDITOR @
RUMBONEWS.COM

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

From My Corner

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

Is it too late to recall Sullivan?

Even though he is at the end of his second term, the residents of Lawrence should make a stand that we are not going to take it any more. As long as Mayor Michael J. Sullivan leaves in disgrace the week before his term ends, we would have grown stronger as a community. It will also send a powerful message to the incoming mayor that all eyes will be on him or her pending every move of his successor to avoid the same things from happening.

Mayor Sullivan is visibly bored with the job. His arrogance implies that we are all undeserving of his time. Nobody sees him unless it is rubbing shoulders with the elite or political peers. People complain even on the radio, that he does not answer telephone calls or emails and all city departments are running wild without supervision.

Through these pages you have learned how municipal employees make their own hours, go shopping during the daytime, or choose to stay home and "work" from there, something clearly forbidden by city rules.

The City Council is a disgusting circus good only to order new STOP signs and table matters into eternity whenever they don't want to discuss an issue. Without that leadership, we should have a mayor who would pressure them into making decisions and support him in doing the right things for the city; but neither mayor nor city council cares enough to impose the interest of the community they represent.

The worst example was evidenced last Thursday night, March 12th. Mayor Sullivan has a new tactic for avoiding

sitting through the public participation portion of the School Committee meeting so he comes in late. Vice chair of the committee, Greg Morris was chairing the meeting in his absence but upon the mayor's arrival, he was told to continue and the mayor became just an spectator. Meanwhile, Mr. Morris who has been given more authority than what his diminutive cranial structure can hold because it is already filled with banalities is enjoying becoming a tyrant. When a student tried to speak, he unceremoniously shut her up.

The students who showed up at the previous School Committee meeting two weeks ago, were intimidated into not coming this week. Their showing the first time was an embarrassment for the administration for their good behavior. In a very formal and respectful manner, they expressed their concerns regarding the Italian language teacher, but would not do it again. Fear and intimidation reign on the Lawrence Public Schools.

Last year's MCAS results

Laboy has been in power for eight years and the MCAS results are testimony that far from doing his job, our community has fallen terribly behind because our children are lagging way behind from the rest of the Commonwealth according to the statistics of the Department of Education. The damage he has caused is unforgivable and he should be brought up in charges for negligence.

Take a look at the City of Chelsea, a city I know very well. It has the same composition as Lawrence, yet Chelsea was one of the state's leaders in improving student learning.

A Boston Globe article of September

24, 2008, said, "The DOE reported 'the student population at the Hooks school is nearly 90 percent low income, 25 percent limited English proficient and 12 percent of the students are listed with disabilities. Nearly 78 percent of its students are Hispanic and just over 9 percent are African American.'"

What made the difference there was, "their team teaching approach, leadership training for administrators and reliance on formative assessments to guide individual student intervention in math and reading," continued the article.

Please check in the chart showing the MCAS results how each high school finished last year in English, Math and Science. Compare the state's average with our numbers in each subject in the columns from Advanced, Proficient, Needs Improvement through Warning/Failing. The results were disastrous at each grade level.

"What makes this school work is the people delivering the services to our children," said Chelsea Superintendent Thomas Kingston. "The combination of solid leadership and great teachers ensures that all of our children get an opportunity to succeed."

Leadership, a noble thought; something lacking in Lawrence.

The lease is up

Laboy must be picking out his new car because the lease is up and according to his contract, he should get a new car every two years. You would say that given the economic conditions he would decide to keep that two-year-old car for another

PLEASE SEE **DÍAZ**

■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 27

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Salem, MA Author to Speak at NECC

The Women's Network at Northern Essex Community College will celebrate Women in History Month with a book reading by New York Times best selling fiction writer Brunonia Barry of Salem, MA. Barry will read from her 2008 novel, *The Lace Reader*, on Wednesday, March 25 from noon until 1 p.m. in the Technology Center on the college's Haverhill Campus, located at 100 Elliott St. This event is free and open to the public.

Towner Whitney, the self-confessed unreliable narrator of *"The Lace Reader"*, hails from a family of Salem women who can read the future in the patterns in lace, and who have guarded a history of secrets going back generations. The disappearance of two women brings Towner home to Salem and the truth about the death of her twin sister to light.

"*The Lace Reader*" is a mesmerizing tale that spirals into a world of secrets, confused identities, lies, and half-truths in which the reader quickly finds it's nearly impossible to separate fact from fiction, but as Towner Whitney points out early on in the novel, "There are no accidents."

Born and raised in Massachusetts, Barry studied literature and creative writing at Green Mountain College in Vermont and at the University of New Hampshire. She has created Brain Teaser puzzles for Smart Games and lives in Salem, Massachusetts, with her husband and their beloved golden retriever, Byzantium.

Books will be available for purchase and signing by the author. To reserve seats or for additional information, contact Ginny Anderson at the Women's Network, 978-556-3736 or ganderson@necc.mass.edu .



Red Hat Society and Ron Chase to Appear at NECC

Northern Essex Community College's Life Long Learning program, along with the Red Hat Society, will sponsor a party on Thursday, March 19 at 2 p.m. in the Technology Center on the Haverhill campus, 100 Elliott St.

Ron Chase, of Belmont, NH, will perform country-western music as he sings and plays along on the keyboard to entertain the sizable crowd.

Attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to the event to be donated to a local food pantry. Attendees are also encouraged to bring a plate of their favorite cookies or dessert to share.

Entrance to this event costs \$2 and is open to the public. For more information or to receive a free calendar of upcoming events, contact Charlene Boucher, Life Long Learning program coordinator, at cboucher@necc.mass.edu or 978-556-3825.

Life Long Learning at Northern Essex Community College is a program of lectures, study groups, and trips geared toward adults who are 50 years and older, but open to all interested individuals.

Homes for Families to honor Senator Sue Tucker

Homes for Families, a grassroots social change agency working to end family homelessness through collaborative policy making, hosted their Annual Meeting at which time they honored Senator Sue Tucker with the 2008 Inspiring Leadership Award for a policy maker. The meeting was held at Sproat Hall, Cathedral Church of St. Paul/Episcopal City Mission, 138 Tremont Street, Boston MA.

Senator Sue Tucker represents the City of Lawrence and the towns of Andover, Dracut, and Tewksbury in the Massachusetts Senate. She is Chair of the Housing Committee, a member of the Senate Ways & Means Committee and several other Joint Committees. Her work as a legislator is part of a lifelong commitment to advocacy and community service.

Senator Tucker was a key member of the Commission to End Homelessness and provided a strong voice for system change to better serve families at risk of homelessness. She has been a champion for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program, and sponsored both the 2008 MRVP Cookie Day and an amendment



for increased funding to help low income working families, the disabled, seniors and others experiencing housing uncertainties to avoid entering shelter and to quickly move

homeless households into stable housing, providing a cost-effective alternative to shelter that bridges the widening housing affordability gap for low income residents.

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Lawrence Family Development Charter School Conducts Lottery to Select Class of 2019

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 15
■ MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 15

Each year in March, public charter schools are required to hold a public lottery for any seats that might be available for the next school year. This year over 60 anxious parents gathered at Lawrence Family Development Charter School on Wednesday, March 11th to participate in the school's lottery for the Class of 2019.

They were hoping that their son or daughter would be selected from a pool of 154 applicants for one of the 39 kindergarten seats available in September 2009. Twenty-one (21) other seats in the program had already been filled by siblings of current students. After selecting 39 new students, the remaining 115 names were placed on the waiting list in the order that they were drawn.

Ralph Carrero, Superintendent of the Charter School, told the parents that "Demand for seats in the school's two year kindergarten program is high because the school has a reputation of academic preparation and excellence in the community that has evolved out of its dedication to early English language development, preparing young students to learn, and the support the school gives to families."

As the lottery progressed, parents cheered when their child's name was selected to enter the school in the fall. Other parents remained hopeful that their child would gain admission from the waiting list.

A community representative is always selected to participate in the lottery by drawing the names of students from a drum. This year Mr. Brian DePena, a successful businessman in the City of Lawrence who is also the past President of Semana Hispana and the current President of the Lawrence Hispanic Business Chamber, drew the names.

BY PAUL V. MONTESINO, PhD, MBA
mailboxopen@aol.com

My Point of View

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

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 13

My lover the snow revisited

It happened again. After having disappeared from my life afraid of a warmer climate that might melt her very essence she came back. As I told you in an article of a couple of years ago I have a romance with the snow. For those of you who live far away I am afraid you don't understand, so I will try to explain.

Snow is like a fickle and capricious woman (no discrimination meant here.) She is not faithful to anyone, coming and going as she pleases. No one knows for sure where she will be going next. She is here today and gone and melting away tomorrow. Sometimes she is peaceful and quiet, others ferocious and angry, always passionate. You never know when she will be either. That is part of her charm, the unexpected. Then, suddenly, she will be

gone again.

Some day she will return and offer all kinds of apologies for the long absence, wrap herself around trees and bushes and pose innocently dressed for white Christmas pictures. Other times she will wear "nutting!" That is why we keep dealing with her. You can't live with her; but again, you can't live without her either. She can be pure white at one point and brown and sinful the next. She is soft, watery, childish, and adult like.

You can't shovel the snow, you have to caress and embrace it instead. You don't step on it, you tip toe around it in a sophisticated ballet dance with her or perhaps in a romantic tango step where her face and yours get ever closer. She allows you to touch her and blow her into the air

like petals of a flower. Then spring will be here and she will disappear one more time to go somewhere we don't know or even imagine. We will miss her. There will only be a shovel leaning sadly against a wall to remind us that some day she will be back again asking for attention. My lover the snow; she is here now with all her beauty, all her strength. But I can see signs that she is getting impatient again.

After a day of pushing and shoveling this wonderful snow lover of mine, one feels tired, exhausted. Isn't that what a good lover does to us?

Well, how can I not like shoveling my snow? But, can I trust her?

And that is my Point of View Today.

Mayor Fiorentini Names Elizabeth Persing as March Artist of the Month



Mayor James J. Fiorentini and March Artist of Month, Elizabeth Persing.

the Discovery Club at the Whittier and Consentino Middle Schools to create 2 murals that will be installed on the side of George's Restaurant on Washington Street. The images displayed in the Mayor's office are photographs of her much larger pieces. Her work can also be found on her website: www.elizabethpersing.com.

Mayor Fiorentini stated: "I am pleased that Ms. Persing is showing her fine work in my office this month. Her work is found in homes, businesses and even downtown streetscapes and now it can also be seen in City Hall. In addition, her assistance at the Middle Schools is a wonderful gift for Haverhill and our budding artists. I invite all Haverhill residents to stop into my office and see the fine art of Elizabeth Persing."

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

Bradford muralist and decorative painter

Mayor James J. Fiorentini today named Elizabeth Persing as March Artist of the Month. Ms. Persing is the owner/proprietor of Elizabeth Persing, Murals and Decorative Painting. She accepts public, private and corporate commissions and recently has been part of the Haverhill Mural Project. Her mural "Soda Shop" is displayed at England's MicroCreamery at 109 Washington St, Downtown Haverhill.

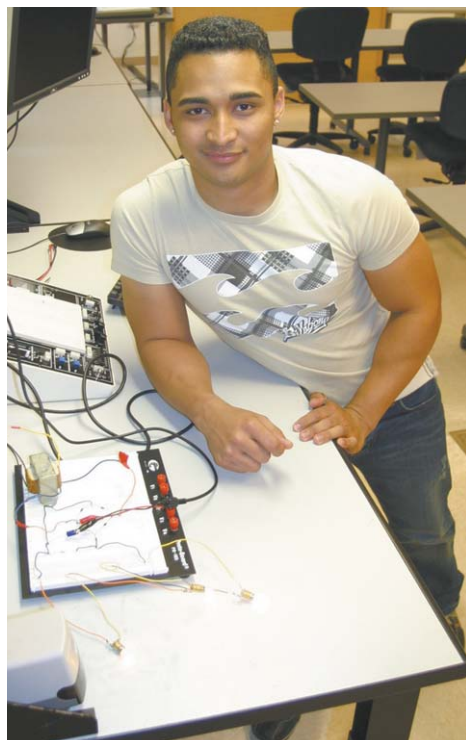
Ms. Persing is currently working with

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Spring Enrollments are Up at NECC



In an uncertain economy, more recent high school graduates are choosing to get their start at a community college. Lauren Carroll, a 2003 graduate of Triton Regional High School, graduated from Northern Essex Community College in 2007 and transferred to Salem State College. She's now a key accounts manager for O'Rourke Hospitality Marketing in Newburyport. "I'm 23 and have a 4-year degree and no college loans whatsoever," says Carroll, who recently bought her own home. Northern Essex's enrollments were up 6.6% last fall and 6% this spring.



Oliver Rosario, a Lawrence High School graduate and Iraq veteran, will graduate from Northern Essex Community College this spring with an associate degree and plans to transfer to the engineering program at UMass Amherst. Northern Essex's Hispanic enrollments increased 12% this semester. The student population is currently 23% Hispanic.

Like other community colleges across the country, Northern Essex Community College is experiencing unprecedented enrollment growth. There are 351 more students on campus this spring, a 6% increase over last spring when there were 6072 students studying at the college. This growth comes on the heels of record fall enrollments, which were up 7.6% over the previous fall.

A portion of the enrollment growth is fueled by younger students who are working toward a bachelor's degree but want to start at the community college to save money and avoid graduating with large student loans. The number of students aged 25 or younger studying at Northern Essex this spring is up 7%, building on a trend which shows a 25% increase among this population in the past five years. The cost of attending Northern Essex fulltime (15 credits a semester) for one year is \$3500. According to the College Board, a two-year degree at Northern Essex and two years at a public four-year college cost \$22,830 as compared to \$32,460 for four-years at a public college and \$120,600 for four years at a private college. These figures cover tuition and fees only.

The college is also seeing a record number of adults, many recently unemployed, who are looking to change careers or those who are currently employed but want to get the skills and the credentials to succeed in their current careers. These students are heading toward computers, business, education, and health care, according to Grace Young, the college's

dean of academic advising, transfer, and articulation.

Other interesting enrollment trends include: a 16% increase in the number of students studying online and a 12% increase in Hispanic enrollments. Also, the number of students studying fulltime is up 7% as compared to a 5% increase for those studying part-time.

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

For more information on enrolling at Northern Essex Community College, visit the college's website www.necc.mass.edu or contact Enrollment Services at 978 556-3700.

With campuses in Haverhill and Lawrence and extension sites in Andover and Methuen, 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.



Silver Goes to ANA Synchers at East Zone Junior Championship

Local athletes from the ANA Synchers, the synchronized swim team of the Andover/N. Andover YMCA, traveled to New Canaan, CT last weekend for the annual East Zone Junior Championship. When the medals were awarded, the silver went to the ANA Synchers, who missed capturing the gold medal by less than half a point. Under intense competition, the ANA Synchers were also able to place two trios, three duets and 2 solos in finals.

The Silver medal for the team routine was awarded to Rebecca Ely, Caitlyn MacGregor, and Laina Gray of

N. Andover, Candace Ju, Emily Stone and Sheila Cremin of Andover, Jennifer Flanagan of Boylston, and Janine Kopeski of Sterling.

Laina Gray was also given special recognition for making the East Zone 13-15 Age Group All Star Team.

The ANA Synchers offer Learn to Synch classes and currently have openings in the Novice team program. For more information please contact Coach Svetlana Malinovskaya at 978-685-3541 Ext 47, smalinovskaya@mvyymca.org or visit ANA Synchers online at www.anasynchers.org.

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You Have to Live!

BY LETICIA JÁQUEZ

That grin,
so far from a smile,
so grim,
and more of a look of amusement.

You are an outsider looking in.
A wallflower.

Days come and go,
and no one hears your laughter.
All we see,
is your solemn melancholic face,
on the few days
you leave your dark hole of a room.

LIVE!
You have to live!
Let your melancholy go!
Wash the sadness and distrust
from your very soul.

Fill,
fill your heart with love.
It's the only thing that gives
living any sense!

SMILE!
Smile from the joy of living!
Think of the one thing
that makes you smile
and think of it always.
Be it a person,
a moment,
or a sight.

You are unaware
of how enchanting your smile is.
you do not know of
that beautiful twinkle in your eye.
I have seen it
once upon a time.
Nothing short of amazing.

LAUGH!
Laugh your heart out!
Laugh until it hurts!
There's absolutely no time
to sulk around.

LOVE!
LAUGH!
SMILE!
ENJOY!

They are the most amazing feelings
life has to offer.

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MR. B'S SPORT STORIES

BY FRANK BENJAMIN

THE 1972 RANGER BASEBALL TEAM FALLS JUST SHORT

While posting a great 12 win and 2 loss league season the Walter "Skeets" Scanlon coached team took its place with the all-time great teams in the school's history.

Picked as dark horses in the MVC, even the fine coach wasn't sure if they could reach the State Class "B" finals. The Billerica Indians finally knocked off Scanlon's kids after 12 wins, when they met again, Methuen croaked the Indians 11-1. The Methuen coaching staff with former pitching star and pupil Chuck McNulty and Methuen teacher Jim Smith sitting next to the fabled Scanlon, saw this team amass a 15 win and 2 losses overall record.

The tourney wins made the record 18 & 3. Smith is still a Methuen resident and so is Coach Scanlon, both are retired from the Methuen School System. Skeets still loves the area and its closeness to ski country a pastime he and his good buddy John Weir still very often do. Scanlon says that he thinks this record his team attained is most probably the most wins for a Methuen baseball team. The coach gave his final regular stats for his team, and to no one's surprise, Timmy Napolitano led the team with a .500

batting average with 58 at bats, 26 hits and 16 RBI. John Gallagher was second hitting 309, with 55 at bats 17 hits and 19 RBI.

Next Jeff Petrillo at 297, with 37 at bats and 3 RBI; then Jeff Mackor and both Jeff's kids played baseball at St. John's Prep and later at Boston College. Young Jeff also played tight end in football for the Prepsters and had a major league kicking leg for field goals. He still plays minor league ball these days. A bad leg injury cut younger brother Tommy's career much too short. Jeff Sr. hit 276 for the Blue and White with 58 at bats with 16 hits and 12 RBI.

Freddie Simm hit 273 and as an underclassman it was probably the lowest average he ever hit in his baseball and softball career. A three-sport star and nowadays a fine high school sports official, he still lives in the area. He had 44 at bats 12 hits and 6 RBI.

Tom Benjamin followed at 265 with 55 at bats and 15 hits with 14 RBI. Also a three-sporter, Tom is a Las Vegas resident these days.

John Bogannan another multi-sporter hit 250 with 40 at bats 10 hits and 3 RBI.

Gary Kuchar hit 229 with flat bats and 11 hits with 7 RBI. Larry Phillips later becomes a Methuen cop and he only had

one at bat and was hitless. So did John Rosetti, Tom Byron now retired from the correctional system on Marsden St., Paul Paris still local and coaching and umpiring softball in the area, Rick Pilz is a Methuen cop these days and was an underclassman with the above players.

Scanlon had lots of praise for this team and of course the bulk of it to Napolitano, his record was 14-2 hurling 110 innings striking out 161, walking only 42, and had a 1.04 ERA. Tim led at the plate according to "Skeets", getting 40 hits in 70 turns and scoring 16 runs with 6 doubles, 3 triples, 2 homers, 19 RBI and a stratospheric batting average of .563. The coach also singled out Mackor for his great job behind the plate and also his record of 4 & 1 on the mound.

Danny Massesa played a fine second base for this team, hit 294, with 15 for 51 and 10 RBI.

The coach says, "Benjamin is the best defensive first baseman in the area and has saved our infielders many errors with spectacular pickups and stretches throughout the year".

A great season comes up one game short for a great coach a great guy and a bunch of great high school student athletes in 1972.



The Sleeping Beauty Ballet

BY PAT WENTWORTH
New England Civic Ballet

You're invited to Princess Aurora's special 18th birthday party, complete with an evil witch carrying out her curse and a wise Lilac Fairy who makes it end happily. The dancers of New England Civic Ballet, a non-profit dance company which holds open auditions to cast the roles for its productions, are in the midst of rehearsals and will perform The Sleeping Beauty Ballet, at the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts at Merrimack College. Performance times are Saturday, March 21 at 2 P.M. and 7:30 P.M. and Sunday, March 22nd at 2 P.M. Tickets go on sale Friday, February 6. Please call the studio (978-975-0289) or order online at www.newenglandcivicalballet.org.

The ballet begins as Aurora celebrates

her 18th birthday with family and friends. The celebration is joyous until an invited, mysterious, guest, presents a bouquet with a hidden needle to the young princess. The spirited and gracious princess dances with the bouquet in hand until a single prick sends her dancing dizzily under the spell of the Evil Witch Carabosse, who reveals herself as the mysterious guest. Eventually she faints and her family and friends are saddened and shocked to realize that the curse placed upon the infant Aurora on her Christening Day by the Evil Witch Carabosse has come true. The wise Lilac Fairy reminds everyone that she is only in a deep slumber awaiting her true love's kiss. The Lilac Fairy puts everyone under a spell to wait the day of the kiss.

100 years later, the Lilac Fairy shows a

handsome young prince Florimund a vision of Aurora in the Forest. She leads him to the princess who lies asleep with all her family in slumber around her. He awakens her with a kiss. The ballet finishes with a wedding celebration that their friends, family, court members, and childhood fairytale friends (Bluebird, Red Riding Hood and the Wolf, Puss n' Boots) and fairies attend.

Don't miss this spectacular ballet. New costumes, scenery, choreography and talented dancers from all over the area promise to make this a memorable production.

For more information regarding the ballet, performances, and other information, contact the director, Mrs. Phyllis George, at the New England Civic Ballet school studios 978-975-0289.



Greater Lawrence Technical School SkillsUSA District Team 2009

SkillsUSA District State Leadership Conference

GLTS Captures Six Medals

More than 60 career and technical students from Greater Lawrence were tested against 500 students from Massachusetts in the ultimate career competition on Wednesday.

Six of those students – more than ever before - came home with medals in trades ranging from health care to computer applications.

The students spent about two hours testing their knowledge in employability, OSHA and their trade during the District 4 Skills USA competition held in Greater Lowell Technical School. The gold and silver medal winners will head to the state competition next month.

Massachusetts SkillsUSA is a state association of the national SkillsUSA program, an organization serving more than 250,000 high school, college students, and professionals enrolled in training



The medal winners are from left to right: Silver, Heather Le, Cosmetology Nail Care; Gold, Jamlech Ortega, Health Care; Gold, Heather Walter, Cosmetology Over 500 Hours; Gold, Leandro Valdez, Technical Computer Applications; Bronze, Brandon Pimentel, Residential Wiring; Silver, Jennylee Sosa, Food & Beverage.

programs in technical, skilled, and service occupations.

SkillsUSA has the active support of more than 1,000 corporations, trade associations, businesses and labor unions at the national level. SkillsUSA provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship, and character development. It builds and

reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes, communications skills, and emphasizes total quality at work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education and pride in the dignity of work.

SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free enterprise system and involvement in community service activities.

CHOOSING ADOPTION

Hi! My name is Jeffrey

"I like to challenge myself with reading. I want to do well in school"

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



Jeffrey is a kind, considerate and active eight year old little boy of Hispanic heritage. His friendly and ambitious personality drives

him to want to succeed. Jeffrey enjoys doing many different activities that include drawing, arts and crafts, swimming, basketball and especially reading.

He is doing well in his current foster home and gets along well with the other children in the home. Jeffrey is in a therapeutic school setting where he benefits from the supports he receives. He has made great progress and continues to challenge himself to do well. He is currently performing at grade level and enjoys school very much. Jeffrey also enjoyed summer camp this past summer where he worked hard at making friends.

Jeffrey needs a family of any constellation who is able to help him maintain contact with his birthmother and his siblings. Legally free for adoption, Jeffrey is ready for an active family that can give him the structure and stability that he needs to enhance his positive outlook and to help him reach his full potential.

To learn more about Jeffrey (reference #3307) or about adoption in general, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange at 617-54-ADOPT (542-3678) or 1-800-882-1176. You can also read about other waiting children in the MARE Photolisting located at many public libraries in the state, or visit the MARE Web site at www.mareinc.org.

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80's In Your Face

Did the 80s ever end? Sure the decade may be gone but the music lives on forever. Local dance music recording sensation BYLLI CRAYONE launched what has quickly become one of the hottest 80s related websites on the internet. The website is www.80sInYourFace.com.

So what exactly is "80s IN YOUR FACE"? The name was chosen because the site needed something that would grab immediate attention. You have to admit, 80s IN YOUR FACE, sounds a lot better than 80sToday.com lol... boring.

80sInYourFace.com is a website that caters to the artists of the 80s and focuses on all their work past, present & future. The site launched on January 11th, 2009. Within a two month period, the site already has over 200 registered users. But that is nothing compared to the amount of hits the site receives on a daily basis.

The site is 100% Interactive. It's kind of like a MySpace, but dedicated to the 80s. Fans can go to this site, sign up, create a profile, make new friends and see and hear all things going on today with their favorite 80s artists and bands. There is no limit when it comes to the genres. In fact, Bylli Crayone has already interviewed some of the biggest names within that decade. Names include RUN DMC, Taylor Dayne, The Fat Boys, and Debbie Deb, among others.

The site started as an informative website, but then he reached out to artists who were still releasing music and asked if they would be interested in doing a Interview for his new website. The answer has been yes on every level. The month of March features Gloria Estefan as the Spotlight artist. This means that there is an exclusive interview with her along with a contest to where fans can enter for a chance to win cool prizes by the featured artist. With Gloria Estefan, it's a chance to win one of three autographed LPs all submitted to Bylli Crayone by Gloria Estefan herself to be used as contest prizes for the website.

Last month it was an Autographed CD from Taylor Dayne, the month before that was a autographed CD from JJ Fad. Artists and bands see that there is something special about this website and contribute in anyway they can. In fact, last week alone packages were received from Samantha Fox, Nu Shooz, The Fat Boys and Howard Jones.



STORIES OF YESTERYEAR

BY CHRISTINE LEWIS | CHRISTINELEWIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

GEORGE LABLANCHE: THE LAWRENCE YEARS

Author's note: This article and in fact, much of my research into the history of Lawrence boxing has been made easier by the real Lawrence boxing historian, Peter Dugan. Although Peter no longer resides in Lawrence, his heart belongs in all the dusty gyms and rings that thrived in this city. Peter shared the memories he collected over the years, which has helped enormously in fleshing out dry newspaper stories. Without him, I would never know what kind of cigars "Bengy" smoked (Vincent Bencivenga and they were Blackstones) or whose picture Andy Callahan carried in his wallet (Mickey Walker, the original Toy Bulldog). The following story is about a famous boxer who died in Lawrence. If it happened in Lawrence and it related to boxing, Peter picked up on it. So thank you, Peter Dugan, here's the (Lawrence) story of George LaBlanche, The Marine.

Born George Blais in Point Levi, Quebec on December 19, 1856, George LaBlanche, as he became known, would go on to boxing infamy with a famous illegal maneuver named the "Pivot Punch." Although slight in size, 5ft 6 inches tall and weighing between 140 to 160 pounds, LaBlanche was powerfully built, good with both hands and began his career fighting men in the heavyweight class. He was scrappy and he was fearless having learned much of his trade in rough lumber camps and later the Canadian military. In 1883 he joined the US Marines at Charlestown, MA and thereafter he was known in the ring as "The Marine."

On June 11, 1884, LaBlanche was discharged from the USMC and began traveling to rings around the country in earnest. His career lasted about 15 years and was sporadically interrupted by time spent in jail for a variety of petty offenses. LaBlanche's career coincided with the sport's move away from bare knuckle fighting to fighting with gloves under the Queensbury rules.

In August of 1889, George LaBlanche met up with the six year Middleweight title-holder, Jack "The Nonpareil" Dempsey in San Francisco. This was to be a Championship of the

World title fight but LaBlanche weighed one pound over the limit so it was declared a non-title bout. Dempsey had the lead for much of the fight, and it was somewhere in the 26th round (yes, you read that correctly... fights would drag on till one person couldn't get up) that LaBlanche first used his Pivot Punch on Dempsey, this time hitting him in the neck to no avail.

The Pivot Punch, as it has been described, is a punch delivered by spinning like a top... the puncher would miss with a left, spin on around and smack the punchee with a fierce right, using the power of momentum. A punch like this would be similar to hitting someone with a sledgehammer or baseball bat. In the 32nd round, LaBlanche delivered his second Pivot Punch and Dempsey went down for a long, long time. It has been said that LaBlanche learned the punch, which had never been ruled illegal before this fight, from a British pugilist named Jimmy Carroll.

The Pivot Punch, or the LaBlanche Swing was quickly ruled illegal, and although there was no way, on so many levels, that LaBlanche could be ruled a champion, he managed to claim the title whenever possible. The boxing world would remain stunned by this fight for many years to come.

Rules were a bit more fluid then, and he rode high for a while on the fame, but it would appear either that sudden fame got to be too much, or that he was unofficially sanctioned by the professional boxing community. George's career began a downward trajectory. It was reported that he kicked an opponent during one fight and his life out of the ring got even more chaotic.

A year prior to his match up with Dempsey, LaBlanche had done some jail time (3 months) for promoting a brutal



prizefight between two women in Buffalo. The seven round fight lasted an hour and a half and it was said that "both women were severely punished."

LaBlanche limped along, fighting here and there until 1900 when his professional career officially ended. He would be arrested on a regular basis and given that his name was well known, his indiscretions would make the national papers. Robbing fellow drunks was the most common offence committed by LaBlanche. In 1908 a reporter from the Fitchburg Sentinel was called to the police station in that city, a beat cop had arrested a rather odorous individual with no means of support who had arrived

PLEASE SEE **LEWIS**

CONTINUES ON PAGE 26

VOLUNTEER WITH HOMELESS CHILDREN!

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

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

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Whether you sell a product or provide a service, it is essential for your business to have a Website. Your customers are already using the Internet to shop for goods and services, and if they aren't finding you online, you are losing business to your competitors every day.

If you're serious about the success of your business, you owe it to yourself to look at the comprehensive Internet business solution my company offers. Please contact us to learn more about how a Website can improve your business!

All of our Websites offer:

- Hundreds of professional design choices
- WYSIWYG editing tools
- Complete e-commerce functionality
- Extensive product catalog
- Real time, secure credit card processing
- Expanded selection of billing options
- Advanced pricing options
- Custom shipping, discount, and tax rules
- Online inventory management tools
- Site Translation tool for 12 languages
- Customizable Flash pages and components
- Site Promotion / Search Engine tool
- Up to 500 MB of storage space
- Unlimited bandwidth
- Free technical support
- Free software upgrades

MSPCA at Nevins Farm Hosts Tag Day

Calling cat and dog owners...
Affordable rabies vaccinations and microchipping

On Sunday, April 5th, from 9 am to 12 pm, Nevins Farm will be hosting their annual Tag Day clinic for the pets of area residents, providing affordable rabies vaccinations and microchipping, a form of permanent identification. Rabies vaccinations will be \$12 and Micro chipping will be \$25. If done together, the cost will be \$30. Nail clipping will also be provided for \$5 per animal thanks to the Grooming Emporium of Lowell. Appointments are not required and clients will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. All proceeds will benefit the animals and programs of the MSPCA at Nevins Farm.

Noble Family Animal Care & Adoption Center Manager Mike Keiley believes that this clinic is a perfect opportunity for the public to take advantage of affordable services, particularly in a challenging economy that forces people to cut corners. "We really want pet owners to understand

that even in such hard times, taking care of your beloved animals should continue to be a priority. In 2008, Nevins Farm saw nearly 1200 animals in the center as strays, and over 1000 of those were cats. Nationally less than 1% of stray cats are reunited with their owners. The MSPCA strongly recommends both permanent and visual identification for all animals to insure they remain as part of their family." Keiley also stressed that residents should schedule regular wellness visits with their veterinarian.

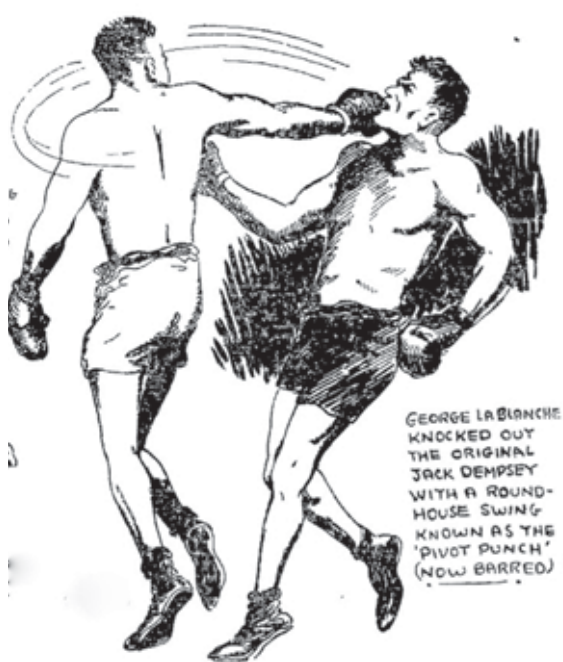
Pet owners will also be encouraged to stop by the Nevins Farm retail shop to purchase leashes, collars, tags, and training items, to ensure their pet's continued safety. Personalized ID tags will be available on site for pets, as well as free custom fittings for EZ Walk Harnesses. All dogs must be on a leash and all cats must be in a carrier. Please bring proof of previous and current

vaccination to be eligible for a three year rabies vaccination. Cash and credit cards will be accepted. Don't forget to license your dog with your city or town.

One of seven MSPCA Animal Care and Adoption Centers statewide, the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen cared for more than 8,000 animals last year. The MSPCA does not receive state or federal funding and continues its work based solely on the generosity of its supporters. The Noble Family Animal Care & Adoption Center at Nevins Farm is located at 400 Broadway, Rte. 28 in Methuen and is open to the public from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays; 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays & Fridays; 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. To contact the MSPCA at Nevins Farm regarding adoptions and programs please call (978) 687-7453 x. 6101 or on the Web at: www.mspca.org/nevins.

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LEWIS: George LaBlanche



by train in Fitchburg.

LaBlanche regaled his growing audience with tales of his days in the big rings and "sprang from his bench and illustrated the celebrated so-called pivot punch." He also told his audience that he had been roaming the country since his 1889 fight with Dempsey, and couldn't remember how or when he arrived in Fitchburg.

The reporter showed some heart when he said: "His (LaBlanche) plight is another instance of the changes that beset a man throughout his life, for in the George LaBlanche who sits in the cell at the central station, few would recognize "The Marine" who once pushed his way towards the middleweight championship and was winning money by the handful." (Fitchburg Sentinel, 12/19/1908.)

Reports would surface periodically about LaBlanche spending time drying out in Tewkesbury but on May 3, 1918, at age 62 George LaBlanche passed away in the

Municipal Hospital in Lawrence. George's visits to Lawrence happened because his sister, Adeline Gagnon, lived in Lawrence with her husband, Esdras. The Evening Tribune reported: "LaBlanche had been a frequent visitor to Lawrence. Several times he has been reported dead but he appeared shortly after to prove he was still very much alive."

What happened afterwards speaks well of the character of Lawrencians and the deep affection they have always displayed for their athletes, (and LaBlanche had become one of their own by this time): the ex Mayor William White made a "stirring appeal" at a Boston fight for funds to help bury the indigent Marine. \$177 was raised and applied toward burying LaBlanche here in the Sacred Heart Cemetery. A mass was held at St. Anne's and officiated by Father Henri Girard. White served as a pallbearer along with fight promoters Billy Bell, James Crilley, Alderman Maloney, Eugene

McCarthy and B.J. Keaveny.

George LaBlanche never fought professionally in Lawrence but would often pass through the city during his later years. He was a scrappy fighter, an underdog and a bit of an eccentric – qualities that Lawrencians have always found irresistibly endearing. Although he wasn't a homegrown hero, he brought the best of Lawrence boxing together in 1918 to honor him and celebrate his life.

Christine Lewis is researching the history of boxing in Lawrence, Massachusetts. She is hoping to eventually put a boxing exhibit together in Lawrence showcasing the city's fighters, famous opponents, boxing events and boxing venues. Christine Lewis is a member of the International Boxing Research Organization (IBRO) and can be reached by email at Rumbo. Special thanks to BoxingTreasures.com and Dan Cuoco of IBRO for making their LaBlanche photos available.

ADOPT A PET

MSPCA-METHUEN & RUMBO COOPERATIVE EDUCATION COLUMN

ROWDY: MALE AIKITA

Rowdy is a 2 year old Akita who was surrendered to the MSPCA because his owner was dealing with health problems. He is a nice dog who did well in his previous home. His owners described him as being friendly, obedient, and a "big baby." The MSPCA will only consider experienced owners that live in an adult-only home.



RAZ: MALE BEAGLE

Raz loves everyone: kids, dogs, cats, you name it! This eight year old sweetheart loves treats, especially sausages! He is looking for a home where he can be with his family most of the time as he tends to get anxious when left alone. He is a staff favorite here at Nevins Farm.



BOODA: YELLOW LABRADOR RETRIEVER MIX

This one and a half year old male might be the happiest dog around. He's super excitable and can get rambunctious and jump on people so he would do best in a home with kids that are teenagers or in a home with hearty adults willing to give him the exercise and training he needs. He is always smiling, and knows basic commands.



NUBIAN GOATS

Come meet Frank, Beans, Herbie and Barney! These big boys are a riot and love attention! They are all 4 year old neutered males and are extremely friendly. If you are interested in adopting, please give the barn a call at 978-687-7453 Ext. 6113 (dial 8 before the extension) or e-mail us at Barnstaff@mspca.org.



SMORES AND ORO: FEMALE GUINEA PIGS

These five year old cuties are very special. They are both calm and friendly- in part due to their advanced age. Smores is an Agouti/White Short Hair and Oreo is an English Crested. They have been together all of their lives and the MSPCA would love to see them go to a family with piggy experience. They love to sit on human laps and are very inquisitive.



PEACHES: FEMALE GERBIL

This lovely princess would like to be the only Gerbil as she did not get along with her former cage mate. She is social, interactive, and curious- not to mention beautiful!



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

■ CONTINUES FROM PAGE 19

DÍAZ: From My Corner

year and save money. But he won't do that because it is not part of his image.

Remember, this is the man who moved to Methuen because there was not a house in Lawrence dignified enough for him. We cannot expect him to ride a car that is two years old.

Another slap on the face

On April 23 and 24, Dr. Terika Smith, embattled principal of the International High School will be presenting a seminar entitled "Raising the Bar – English Language Learners and Beyond" at the College Board Inspiring Minds, Educating Latinos for the Future of America Conference. It will take place at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

Terika Smith of all people, talking about inspiring minds and educating Latinos! I'm sure Laboy will be there, too.

How long are we going to allow these dictators enjoy a year-long vacation on our dime? This is the same woman who just returned from a trip to Italy with a group of students. Look how caring, sensitive and responsible she is that on that trip to Europe, a female student was left behind and she allowed her to travel alone from Massachusetts to Philadelphia, catch another flight and meet them in Italy. A teenager traveled to Europe all by herself under the directions of her principal. Dr. Smith was not about to delay her own trip to wait for the student and accompany her or assign another chaperone to wait for her.

In preparation for last Thursday's meeting, Laboy sent a letter to all of the high school administrators ordering them to show a sign of support for Terika Smith in view of the "no confidence" vote taken by the teachers' union.

As long as we continue allowing them to rob us a salary and the future of our children, we are just as guilty.

■ CONTINUÍA DE LA PAGINA 4

DÍAZ: Desde Mi Esquina

Otra bofetada en la cara

El 23 y el 24 de abril, la Dra. Terika Smith, directora de la Escuela Secundaria Internacional va a presentar un seminario titulado "Elevando los Límites – Estudiantes del Idioma Inglés y más allá" en la Conferencia Inspirando Mentes, Educando a los Latinos para el Futuro de América, la cual tendrá lugar en el Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotel en Orlando, Florida.

¡Nada menos que Terika Smith, para hablar de inspirar y educar a las mentes de los latinos! Estoy segura que Laboy estará allí, también.

¿Hasta cuándo vamos a permitir que estos dictadores gocen de un año entero de vacaciones a costa nuestra? Esta es la misma mujer que acaba de regresar de un viaje a Italia con un grupo de estudiantes. Fíjense cuán cuidadosa, sensible y responsable es ella que en ese viaje a Europa, una estudiante se quedó atrás y permitió que viajara sola

LAWRENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District summary | Results for individual schools

These results for Lawrence Public Schools, released in September 2008, are for the MCAS exams taken in the spring of 2008. Source: Massachusetts Department of Education.

DISTRICT SUMMARY

All Students	Spring 2008 Exam	% of students at each performance level				No. of students tested
		Advanced/ Above Proficient	Proficient	Needs Improv.	Warning/ Failing	
Grade 3						
English	District	4	21	47	28	938
	State	14	41	33	11	70,282
Mathematics	District	12	32	30	26	935
	State	25	36	25	14	70,397
Grade 4						
English	District	2	22	47	28	899
	State	8	41	39	13	71,159
Mathematics	District	11	22	41	26	904
	State	20	29	38	13	71,454
Grade 5						
English	District	2	20	54	24	859
	State	13	48	30	9	70,644
Mathematics	District	4	12	35	49	866
	State	22	30	30	17	70,748
Science & Tech	District	2	11	51	36	865
	State	17	33	38	12	70,689
Grade 6						
English	District	3	29	43	25	944
	State	15	52	24	8	71,572
Mathematics	District	5	16	30	49	952
	State	23	33	26	18	71,678
Grade 7						
English	District	2	36	44	18	1005
	State	12	57	23	8	72,782
Mathematics	District	2	11	26	61	1009
	State	15	32	29	24	73,167
Grade 8						
English	District	2	45	35	18	986
	State	12	63	18	7	73,267
Mathematics	District	4	15	26	55	990
	State	19	30	27	24	73,367
Science & Tech	District	0	7	35	58	986
	State	3	36	39	22	73,205
Grade 10						
English	District	5	32	44	19	747
	State	24	51	21	4	71,478
Mathematics	District	10	20	31	39	734
	State	43	29	19	9	71,176
Science & Tech	District	0	6	46	47	624
	State	14	43	31	12	72,219

desde Massachusetts a Filadelfia, tomara otro vuelo y se reuniera con ellos en Italia. Una adolescente viajó a Europa por sí misma en virtud de las instrucciones de su directora. La Dra. Smith no iba a retrasar su viaje y esperar para acompañarla, ni dejó que otro adulto la esperara y fuera su

chaperona.

En preparación para la reunión del pasado jueves, Laboy envió una carta a todos los administradores de la escuela secundaria ordenándoles que fueran a la reunión del Comité Escolar para mostrar apoyo hacia Terika Smith en vista del

voto de la unión de maestros de no tenerle confianza.

Mientras sigamos permitiendo que nos roben el salario y el futuro de nuestros hijos, somos igual de culpables.

CALENDARIO | COMMUNITY CALENDAR

RUMBO'S COMMUNITY CALENDAR IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



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Expires 3/22/09

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From Downtown Lawrence: Continue on Marston Street towards Methuen. Take a U Turn before Commonwealth Drive. Follow the Dunkin' Donut Signs.

From Methuen: Continue on Marston Street towards Lawrence. Dunkin' Donuts will be on Right Hand Side.

From Route 495: Take Commonwealth Drive Exit. Turn left once on Marston Street.



AMERICA RUNS ON DUNKIN'™

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.

LEA EDICIONES PREVIAS
DE RUMBO EN NUESTRO
WEBSITE
PERIODICORUMBO.COM

Free Nicotine Patches for Veterans

Massachusetts veterans are now eligible for a FREE quit-smoking offer from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Massachusetts veterans and their family members and survivors who call the Massachusetts Smokers Helpline at 1-800-Try-To-Stop will receive a free four-week supply of nicotine patches valued at \$100 retail, along with informational resources on the benefits of quitting smoking, and tips on how to stop. Program participants can also receive free telephone support to help them quit.

The nicotine patch giveaway program will run through June 30, 2009.

Massachusetts veterans smoke at a higher rate than the general adult population: 24% as opposed to 18%, when adjusted for age (based on figures from 2005-07). This new quit-smoking offer for veterans is a joint effort of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services.

More information is available online at www.makesmokinghistory.org/veterans.

Citizenship Preparation Classes

12:00:00 AM
Asian Center
1 Ballard Way, Lawrence MA
978.683.7316 Ext. 11
Online: www.asiancentermv.org

Enrollments are now being taken for citizenship preparation classes held on either Wednesday mornings or Thursday evenings at the Asian Center, 1 Ballard Way, Lawrence, MA 01843. Morning classes cost \$50 for a ten-week session and run from 9 AM to 11 AM. Evening classes are held from 6 PM to 8:15 PM and they have no fee as they are funded through the Department of Education.

Classes are open to anyone interested in preparing to become a US citizen. Classes will cover US government and history and practice questions for the citizenship interview. Call the Asian Center at (978) 683-7316 x 11 or check out the Asian Center's website at www.asiancentermv.org for directions and more details.

Estas clases están disponibles a todo el que esté interesado en hacerse ciudadano de los Estados Unidos. Las clases cubren desde el gobierno de los Estados Unidos, hasta la historia y preguntas de práctica para la entrevista. Llame al Seton Asian Center al (978) 683-7316 x 11 o busque en la página del Internet en www.asiancentermv.org para encontrar instrucciones para llegar y otros detalles.

HCOA: St. Patrick's Day Party

3/16/2009
Haverhill Council on Aging
Citizens Center, 10 Welcome St., Haverhill MA
Tel. 978-374-2390
Kathy Bresnahan X11 or Rita Labella X16

TIME: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Faith and Begorrah, St. Patrick's Day is just around the corner!

Haverhill Council on Aging announces its Senior Citizen St. Patrick's Day Party will be held on Monday, March 16, at DiBurro's of Ward Hill from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. E. J. Ouellette and the Irish Maggies will provide live entertainment, and a traditional Irish meal of corned beef and cabbage will be served. Doors will open at 10:45 a.m.

The presentation of the prestigious D. Raymond Taffe Award will take place at the luncheon. Last year's recipient were the members of the Comedy Masque Revue. Members of the Revue have brought smiles to many faces and have performed song and dance routines for thousands in the Greater Haverhill and Northeast area.

There are 300 tickets available for Haverhill

South Common Central Neighborhood Association

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

South Common Central Neighborhood Meeting will be held at the police sub station in the Transportation Building at the corner of So. Union Street and Merrimack Street. Start time is 6:30pm. Ample, free parking is in the train station garage. Police and fire representatives will be on hand to answer questions and concerns. The guest speaker will be Rose Gonzalez from Groundwork Lawrence. All are welcome to attend. For more information call 978-557-5550.

seniors at \$7.00. Addition seniors, non-seniors and out-of-town seniors may purchase tickets for \$16.00. Tables of ten may be reserved.

MVCC: Business Networking Mixer

3/17/2009
Wyndham Andover Hotel
123 Old River Road, Andover MA
TIME: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

The Merrimack Valley Chamber Of Commerce will hold on Tuesday, March 17, 2009, "Luck of the Leprechaun" Business Networking Mixer, hosted by Wyndham Andover Hotel and co-sponsored by Greater Lawrence Kiwanis Club.

The event will feature hors d'oeuvres, beverages, door prizes. The public is invited. Member cost is \$10, non-members price is \$25. For more information call 978.686.0900 or visit our website at www.merrimackvalleychamber.com.

Vigilia @ Andover Old Town Hall

3/19/2009
TIME: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Merrimack Valley People for Peace está organizando una vigilia de 7 a 8 PM al frente de Andover Old Town Hall el jueves, 19 de marzo, en observación del aniversario de seis años de Guerra en Irak. La vigilia busca la paz, traer las tropas de regreso y poner fin a la ocupación. Lo invitamos a que traiga sus velas y se una a nosotros.

Lawrence, Massachusetts: A First American Home

"Lawrence, Massachusetts: A First American Home", was created for temporary display at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, the National Park Service's pre-eminent site for interpreting the history of immigration in America. Ellis Island, in New York harbor, was the primary arrival and processing center for millions of immigrants during the peak years of immigration, from the 1890s to the 1920s.

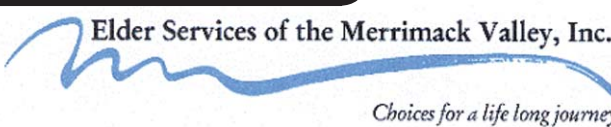
This exhibit was there for a few months in 2003, and was seen by many thousands of visitors. The Lawrence History Center leads a bus trip from Lawrence to New York to see the exhibit there and to tour the Immigration Museum with Lawrence-born guide Tom Bernardin. The group also saw the Lower East Side Tenement Museum and the world-famous Katz' Deli.

The exhibit was displayed here in 2005, and opened with a rousing performance of "An American Journey" by the Revels' Circle of Song.

The high quality, large-scale printmaking was done by Greg Welch of Oaktree Press of Lawrence.

We bring it back to provide an opportunity for Lawrencians to see it again, and for NEW Lawrencians to see it for the first time.

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.

Adopt a Cat

Our foster homes are full of wonderful cats and kittens waiting to be adopted. In order for BCCC to help more cats, we need to find homes for these terrific "fur kids". Please visit our website to see who is available for adoption, or feel free to pass this message along to anyone you know who may be interested in adopting one of our "fur kids". Thank you for your support.

www.billericacatcarecoaliton.org



CrossOver

Hosted by: **Richard Aybar & Dalia Díaz**

FRIDAYS 1PM - 2PM
1110 AM WCCM



Classic Irish Soda Bread

AMOUNT	MEASURE	INGREDIENT
4	cups	Flour
4	teaspoons	Baking Powder
1	cup	Sugar
1/2	teaspoon	Salt
1	teaspoon	Caraway Seeds
1 1/2	cups	Raisins
2	Eggs -- beaten	
1	cup	Butter or Margarine -- melted
1	cup	Milk

PREPARATION METHOD

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a loaf pan. Place raisins and caraway seeds in a large bowl. Sift together flour, baking soda, sugar and salt. Pour sifted mixture over raisins. Add butter, eggs and milk to the bowl; mix well. Mold dough into a loaf shape on a floured board. Place dough in greased pan and bake for one hour, or until bread tests done.

Candlelight Vigil @ Andover Old Town Hall

3/19/2009

TIME: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Merrimack Valley People for Peace is sponsoring a 7 - 8 PM candlelight vigil for peace in front of the Andover Old Town Hall on Thursday, March 19, the observance of the anniversary of six years of war in Iraq. The vigil is a witness to pursue peace, bring the troops home and end the occupation. We invite you to bring your candles and join us.

MVCC: Controlling the Costs Associated with On-the-Job Injuries

3/19/2009

Andover Inn
4 Chapel Street, Andover MA

TIME: 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Presented by Merrimack Valley Chamber's Human Resource Association

The Merrimack Valley Chamber's Human Resource Association presents on Thursday, March 19, 2009 "Controlling the Costs Associated with On-the-Job Injuries". This program is co-sponsored by Encore Staffing. Attendees to this program will learn the proper procedures for managing workplace injuries, and the planning involved in getting employees back on the job safely and in a timely, cost effective manner.

MV Human Resource Member \$22.00. \$25.00 MV Chamber Member. \$35.00 Non Chamber Member. Call the MV Chamber to Register (978) 686-0900. For more information about the Merrimack Valley Chamber or its Human Resource Association, call 978-686-0900 or visit our website at www.merrimackvalleychamber.com

MVCC: "The Massachusetts Economy"

3/27/2009

Salvatore's Riverwalk Conference Center
354 Merrimack Street, Lawrence MA

TIME: 7:30 AM - 9:15 AM
MORE INFO: Call 978.686.0900

The Massachusetts Economy: A Report from the Massachusetts State Senate

The Government Affairs Committee of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce will host on March 27, 2009, A Report from the Massachusetts State Senate, with Senator Steven Baddour, Senator Sue Tucker & Senator Bruce Tarr. The Program will be held from 7:30 - 9:15 AM at Salvatore's Riverwalk Conference Center, 354 Merrimack Street, Lawrence, MA. Sponsors of this program are: Covanta Energy; Devine Millimet & Branch; National Grid; Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems; Sheehan, Phinney, Bass & Green; Trinity Emergency Medical Services; and Wheelabrator, North Andover. The Cost is \$25 per member and \$35 for non-members.

Online: www.merrimackvalleychamber.com

Celtic Celebration

3/29/2009

The Lawrence Public Library
51 Lawrence Street, Lawrence MA

TIME: 2:00 PM

Presented by The Irish Foundation and the Friends of the Lawrence Public Library

Andover musicians George and Terri Kelly will present a program including: Tales of the Ancient Celts, Celtic music ranging from Ancient Gaelic Airs to Current Songs, and a Sing Along of Irish Favorites. Terri Kelly will be playing the Library's beautiful 1914 Steinway Piano. Admission is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the concert.

YWCA Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon

5/14/2009

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence is holding its 26th annual Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Philips Healthcare, on Thursday, May 14, 2009 at the Andover Country Club to recognize Merrimack Valley women leaders for their professional achievements and civic contributions. Emceed by Senator Susan Tucker, with Keynote Speaker Dr. Carol Leary, President of Bay Path College, the luncheon begins at 12:00 p.m.

Since 1983, Tribute to Women has recognized over 600 Merrimack Valley women leaders from large and small companies in the private, public and non-profit sectors. The luncheon also serves as one of two major annual fund-raisers hosted by the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, with proceeds going to fund women and youth service programs.

To make a nomination, sponsor or attend the event, visit www.ywcalawrence.org to view the Tribute to Women Nomination and Sponsorship & Reservation Forms, or contact Susan McNeff at smcneff@ywcalawrence.org or call 978.687.0331 x1029.



COSTELLO PARK/SHAWSEEN RIVER CLEAN UP

SATURDAY APRIL 11TH, 2009
9:00 AM-12:00

MEET AT 8:30 AM IN COSTELLO PARK BY THE TENNIS COURTS
SATURDAY APRIL 11TH, 2009
(RAIN DATE SATURDAY APRIL 18TH, 2009)

When and Where is your next event?

Send it to us at calendar@rumbonews.com

V-Day Lawrence Joins A Global Effort to Stop Violence Against Women And Girls
A V-Day 2009 Campaign Event

DelStar Productions Presents
A Benefit Production of Eve Ensler's

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES



Change the Story of Women!

Friday, April 24 & Sat. April 25
Show Starts at 8:00 PM (Doors Open at 7:00 PM)
South Lawrence East School - Auditorium
165 Crawford Street, Lawrence, MA 01843 - \$10.00 ticket
Reserve your tickets @ vdaylawrencetix@yahoo.com
or call 978-397-5851
Proceeds Benefit: YWCA of Greater Lawrence

"Probably the most important piece of political theater of the last decade..."
-The New York Times

Further Information About V-Day Can Be Found @ www.vday.org

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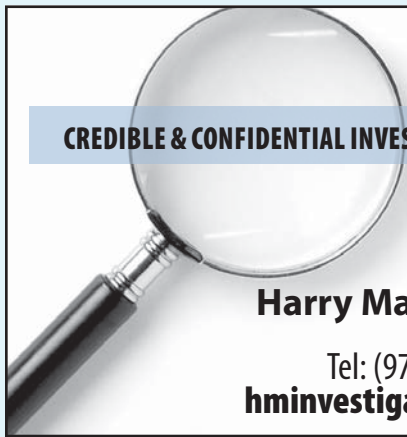
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**Teens • Friends • Families
Come to our YMCA events!**



Friday March 20th - Open Auditions
(5-8pm) (Ages 13-18 only)

Friday March 27th - 'Hollywood Round'
(5-8pm)

Friday April 3rd - TOP TEN COMPETITION
(6-8pm)

CLUBHOUSE IDOL GOES REGIONAL!

This year's Clubhouse Idol and
Runner-Up will also compete
against Boston's three other
Music Clubhouses to be
crowned the ULTIMATE
Clubhouse Idol.



The winner and runner up will attend workshops at
the renowned Berklee College of Music in Boston and
learn from the pros what it takes to be a
professional singer.



Contestants will be competing for
additional prizes not to mention the
experience of being on the Berklee stage!



Win an iPod Touch

**Clubhouse Wide
REGIONAL
COMPETITION**

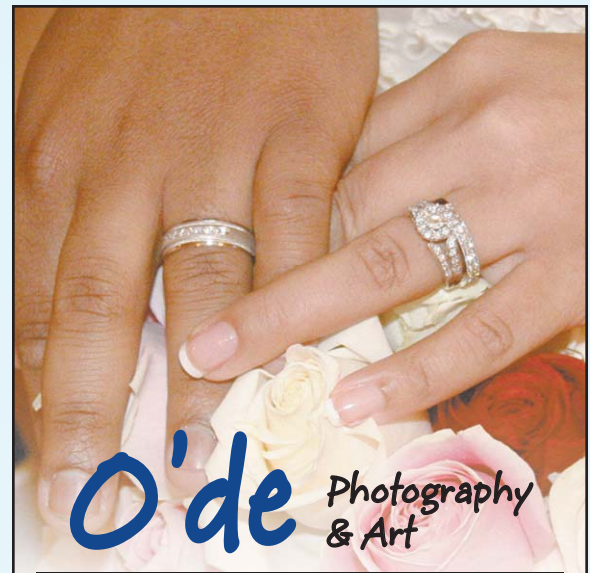
Saturday April 18th 2pm
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www.lawrencemusicclubhouse.org or 978-686-6191 for more details



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BUSCA COMPAÑERO

Señora respetable de mediana edad quiere conocer a un hombre que como ella sea positivo de VIH con intenciones de establecer relaciones. Por favor, llame al 978-687-1836.

JOB OPENING

JOBS AVAILABLE

The U. S. Census Bureau is hiring for the 2010 Census. These temporary, part-time jobs offer good pay, flexible hours up to 40 hours a week, and the chance to work near home. Call toll free 1-866-861-2010 for more information. Visit our website at <http://www.2010censusjobs.gov>.

EMPLEO

EMPLEOS DISPONIBLES

La Oficina del Censo 2010 esta empleando para el Censo 2010. Estos empleos temporales ofrecen buena paga, horas flexibles hasta 40 horas semanales, y la oportunidad de trabajar cerca a casa. Llame gratis 1-866-861-2010 para mayor información. Visite nuestra pagina Web <http://www.2010censusjobs.gov>

JOB OPENING

SALES PROFESSIONAL WANTED

Bilingual person needed for business development sales

Requirements: computer with internet access, business phone with voice mail, great organization and communication skills.

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NOTICIA PARA EL PUBLICO

La compañía Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA) tendrá una reunión pública el miércoles, 25 de marzo, 2009 a las 10:30 a.m. en la Cámara del Concilio en el ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Lawrence.

La razón para esta reunión es para presentar un cambio en la frecuencia de todas las (11) rutas básicas que tiene la MVRTA en la Ciudad de Lawrence. La razón para este cambio es por la construcción que va estar en efecto por el Massachusetts Highway Department en el puente de la calle Broadway y el Duck Bridge en Union St. entre los próximos cuatro años. Por esta construcción las rutas serían desviadas causando que las guaguas corran tarde, cambiando la frecuencia del servicio dará más tiempo a las guaguas para correr los viajes completos y a tiempo.

Lunes - Viernes

Servicio de Horas	PRESENTE Frecuencia	PROPUESTO Frecuencia
5am - 9am	25 minutos	30 minutos
9am - 2pm	45 minutos	60 minutos
2pm - 6pm	25 minutos	30 minutos
6pm - 8pm	45 minutos	60 minutos

Sabado

Servicio de Horas	PRESENTE Frecuencia	PROPUESTO Frecuencia
7am - 7pm	45 minutos	60 minutos

Las siguientes rutas serán afectadas por este cambio de frecuencia y habría un cambio para cada ruta en su agenda:

- 01 Haverhill / Methuen / Lawrence
- 32 Andover
- 33 North Andover
- 34 Prospect Hill / Lawrence General Hospital
- 35 Water Street
- 36 Lawrence Street / Holy Family Hospital
- 37 Beacon Street
- 39A Colonial Heights / North Andover Mall
- 39B Phillips Street / North Andover Mall
- 40 Methuen Square
- 41 Lawrence / Lowell

Comentarios serán aceptados en la reunión pública en persona o por escrito. Comentarios también podrían ser mandados por escrito a MVRTA, 85 Railroad Avenue, Haverhill MA 01835 ó por correo electrónico a marketing@mvrta.com.


NECESITAN CHOFERES PARA TRANSPORTAR ANCIANOS

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

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

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

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Send us this information:
Event Name and Date
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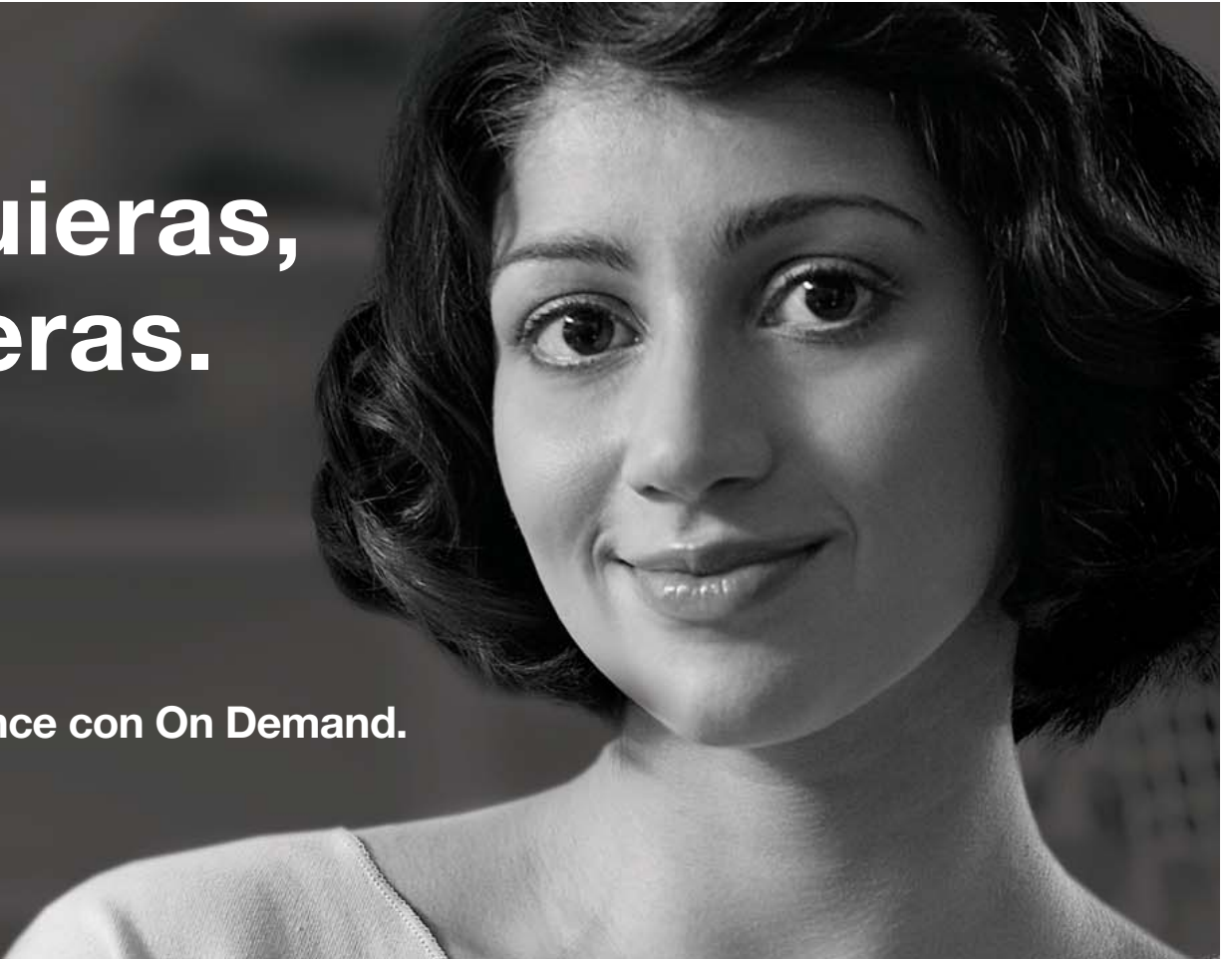
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Oferta válida hasta 30 de Junio 2009, no disponible en todas las áreas y se limita a clientes residenciales que cumplan con los criterios de elegibilidad. Oferta limitada a Comcast Starter Digital Cable con Canales Selecto y servicio HD (alta definición), Internet de Alta Velocidad con 6.0 Mbps Performance Plus y el servicio ilimitado Digital Voice de Comcast, y precio anunciado requiere suscripción a los tres servicios. DESPUÉS DEL PERIODO PROMOCIONAL DE 12 MESES O SI EL SERVICIO ES CANCELADO O BAJADO DE NIVEL, CARGOS REGULARES SE APLICAN A NO SER QUE EL SERVICIO SEA CANCELADO. PARA CANCELAR SU SERVICIO LLAME AL 1-800-COMCAST. Cargo mensual actual para el Comcast Starter Digital Cable con caja HD, 6.0Mbps Performance Plus High-Speed Internet y servicio de Digital Voice de Comcast es \$134.99. Cargo mensual actual para Canales Selecto es \$8.95 y es adicional a otros servicios. Digital Cable con conversor HD, Canales Selecto y Internet de Alta velocidad limitados a una sola toma. Servicio sujeto a las condiciones y términos estándares de Comcast. Los precios mostrados no incluyen cargos de equipos e instalación, impuestos, cargos de franquicia, Tarifa Reguladora de Recuperación o otros (Llamadas internacionales o cargos por cada llamada). Aplica un cargo de activación de \$29.95 para el Digital Voice de Comcast. No es permitido combinar con otras ofertas. **Servicio de Cable:** Algunos servicios están disponibles por separado o como parte de servicios de otra categoría. Se requiere suscripción al Servicio Básico para recibir servicios de otro nivel. Se requiere un convertidor digital y un control remoto para recibir ciertos servicios. Programación HD limitado a programación disponible a Comcast en formato HD. Las selecciones On Demand están sujetas al cobro indicado al momento de la compra. No toda la programación está disponible en todas las zonas. **Servicio de Internet de Alta Velocidad:** PowerBoost® brinda aumentos de velocidades de carga y descarga de datos para los primeros 10MB y 5 MB de un archivo, respectivamente. Muchos factores afectan la velocidad. Las velocidades reales varían y no están garantizadas. Se requiere Cable modem. No todos los programas, incluyendo McAfee, son compatibles con sistemas Macintosh. **Digital Voice de Comcast:** El precio del paquete ilimitado aplica únicamente a llamadas marcadas directamente desde la casa a lugares en los Estados Unidos, Canadá, Puerto Rico y otros territorios de los Estados Unidos. No hay una conexión de larga distancia por separado disponible. El servicio Digital Voice de Comcast (incluyendo el 911 y los servicios de emergencia) podría no funcionar después de un corte de luz prolongado. Se requiere EMTA (\$3.00 al mes.) Llámennos para restricciones y detalles completos o visite www.comcast.com. Comcast ©2009. Todos los derechos reservados. Todas las demás marcas registradas son propiedad de sus respectivos dueños. BCX1H-1P-020209V1-A1NE