



¡LGH Está Libre de Tabaco!

LGH banned tobacco at its grounds

In a move to promote a healthy lifestyle for its staff, patients and visitors, the Lawrence General Hospital campus went smoke and tobacco free. Effective Thursday, November 19, 2009, Lawrence General Hospital has prohibited the use of all tobacco products including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes and chewing tobacco on all hospital grounds.

"This step serves to further Lawrence General Hospital's mission to improve the health of the Merrimack Valley," said Dianne J. Anderson, President and CEO. "We've not simply prohibited the use of tobacco products; we've empowered those affected by the new policy. We've made available a robust set of tools to help them quit and better their overall health".

Lawrence General Hospital has widely promoted the start of their ban on tobacco products by internally communicating the availability of cessation resources to those who would like to seek assistance in quitting. The hospital is also a major contributor to the Mayor's Health Task Force of Lawrence and has partnered with other outside agencies for community support on this important initiative.

The tobacco free policy includes buildings, grounds and parking lots leased, owned or operated by Lawrence General Hospital. This new policy will apply to all persons on the campus, including employees, patients and visitors.

"We thank everyone for their cooperation and support as we take the necessary steps to further our responsibility of promoting a healthy community," said Anderson.

A partir del 19 de noviembre 2009, el Hospital General de Lawrence ha prohibido el uso de productos de tabaco en el hospital y áreas adyacentes. **PÁGINA 2**

LGH is Tobacco Free!

As of November 19, 2009, Lawrence General Hospital has prohibited the use of all tobacco products on all hospital grounds.



La Candidata Ruth Rojas felicita a la Candidata Electa Concejal por el Distrito B Griselda Silva luego de que los resultados del recuento fueron dados a conocer.



Recuento de Votos 2009

Familiares y amigos de la Candidata Elegida Concejal por el Distrito A, Sandy Almonte (Centro en blusa punzó) la felicitan después de conocerse el resultado del conteo. Junto a Sandy, en traje oscuro, es el Alcalde Electo de Lawrence, Representante Estatal William Lantigua. En la foto también aparecen Ana y Benjamin Levy, Mike Rivera, Brian De Peña, Mélix Bonilla, Tim Burke, Migdalia Rivas y German Lember.

Election Recount 2009

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¡Ahora en Español!
Sábados a las 11am

RICHARD AYBAR & DALIA DÍAZ



CROSSOVER

Lawrence General Hospital prohibió uso de tabaco

En un movimiento para promover un estilo de vida saludable para su personal, pacientes y visitantes, el campus del Lawrence General Hospital se declaró libre del humo de tabaco. A partir del jueves, 19 de noviembre de 2009, Lawrence General Hospital prohibió el uso de todos los productos del tabaco, incluyendo pero no limitando a cigarrillos, tabacos, pipas y tabaco de mascar en todos los terrenos del hospital.

"Este paso sirve para ampliar la misión del Lawrence General Hospital, para mejorar la salud en el Valle de Merrimack," dijo Dianne J. Anderson, Presidente y CEO. "No solamente hemos prohibido el uso de los productos del tabaco, sino que estamos ayudando a los afectados por la nueva medida. Hemos puesto a disposición de ellos un robusto conjunto de herramientas para ayudarles a dejar de fumar y mejorar su salud en general".

Internamente, el Lawrence General Hospital ha promovido ampliamente el inicio de su prohibición de productos de tabaco comunicando la disponibilidad de recursos de cesación a los que desean buscar ayuda para dejar de fumar. El Lawrence General Hospital se ha asociado a otros organismos externos de apoyo a la comunidad en esta importante iniciativa, tales como el Mayor's Health Task Force de Lawrence.

La política libre de tabaco incluye edificios, terrenos y lotes de estacionamiento alquilados, pertenecientes o gestionados por Lawrence General Hospital. Esta nueva política se aplicará a todas las personas en el campus, incluyendo a empleados, pacientes



y visitantes.

"Agradecemos a todos por su cooperación y apoyo a medida que adoptamos las medidas necesarias para aumentar nuestra responsabilidad de promover una comunidad saludable", dijo Anderson.

Comienzan recogida de alimentos

El jueves, 19 de noviembre, el Alcalde de Lawrence, Michael J. Sullivan dio comienzo a la colecta de alimentos que por 9 años se viene realizando bajo el nombre 'Lawrencianos dan Gracias'. Varias empresas locales se unieron para hacer generosas donaciones que a su vez, proporcionarán los pavos a familias locales que lo necesitan. A poco de haber comenzado, la mesa ya estaba llena de donaciones de alimentos. Las donaciones de empresas, trabajadores y ciudadanos fueron poco más de \$4,000. Las donaciones de pavos y otros alimentos continúan entrando.

El personal de la Escuela Guilmette así como los estudiantes también se han asociado con el 'Lawrencianos Dan Gracias' y han recogido una gran cantidad de donaciones. Las despensas de alimentos locales utilizarán las donaciones de alimentos para que las familias puedan disfrutar de una cena Navideña. Los organismos incluidos como beneficiarios de las donaciones de alimentos y pavos son los siguientes: Bread and Roses, Cor Unum, Daybreak Shelter, Lazarus House, Neighbors in Need and Salvation Army.

La mesa para las donaciones de alimentos se encuentra en el primer piso del Ayuntamiento y se estarán recogiendo alimentos no perecederos durante todo el mes de diciembre. Aquellos que buscan a hacer una donación para un pavo puede hacer su cheque a nombre de Colony Foods, y llevarlo a la oficina del alcalde en el tercer piso del ayuntamiento o por correo a: Oficina del Alcalde Sullivan, 200 Common Street Lawrence, MA 01840.

La colecta de alimentos 'Lawrencianos dan Gracias' se inició en noviembre del 2001, cuando a un grupo de voluntarios de Lawrence junto al fallecido David Burke se les ocurrió la idea. Desde entonces, ellos han organizado la recogida de comida cada año y han sido capaces de ayudar a los menos afortunados a través de las Navidades.

Algunos de los oradores de ayer, como Carol Ross de Bread & Roses, comentó sobre cómo se echa de menos a su amigo Dave Burke. La esposa de Dave Burke, Patricia, asistió a la ceremonia e hizo una donación y ofreció toda la ayuda en el trabajo con las despensas de alimentos locales y Colony Foods.

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

La época de regalar

Adiario nos bombardean con noticias de que la economía está muy mala, el desempleo sigue subiendo, particularmente en la Ciudad de Lawrence donde ha alcanzado el 20% de la población; hay cesantías por todas partes y las necesidades de muchas familias continúan acrecentando.

Lo único que tenemos que hacer es preguntar en cualquier comedor para saber que su demanda ha aumentado enormemente; posiblemente se haya doblado durante el último año y ellos simplemente no pueden sostener esa necesidad. ¡Hay hambre allá afuera! Por favor, lea la carta de la Senadora Susan Tucker en la página 4, rogándole a la comunidad que ayuden.

El Día de Acción de Gracias no es solamente el comienzo de la época Navideña, sino el comienzo de un período de tristeza y depresión para personas que no pueden proveer para sus familias con la felicidad esperada. Ya sea poniendo un pavo en la mesa este próximo jueves o comprando juguetes para las Navidades, los niños de todas las edades no pueden comprender por qué la situación en su hogar es diferente cuando están saturados con imágenes de buenos ratos y abundancia.

Los cínicos podrán decir que el problema es exagerado e inclusive abusado. Hemos escuchado historias de personas que cogen varios pavos o cenas del Día de Acción de Gracias desde diferentes comedores, pero no debemos permitirnos cegarnos por su avaricia.

Aún si estamos atravesando tiempos difíciles y nuestras compras Navideñas serán limitadas este año, piense en aquellos que no tendrán ninguna. Comparta un poco de comida con las tantas organizaciones que están pidiendo ayuda y contribuya a una recogida de juguetes para niños necesitados. Usted se sentirá enriquecido al poder compartir y así poner una sonrisa en la cara de alguien.

Season of giving

We are made aware on a daily basis that the economy is bad, unemployment is up, particularly in the City of Lawrence where it reached 20% of the population; there are lay offs everywhere and the needs of many families are increasing.

All we have to do is go ask any food pantry to find that their demand has increased tremendously; it probably doubled within the past year and they just cannot keep up with the need. There's hunger out there! Please read Senator Susan Tucker's letter on page 18, pleading with our community to help out.

Thanksgiving Day is not only the beginning of the holiday season but the start of a period of sadness and depression for people who cannot provide their families with the happiness expected. Whether it is putting a turkey on the table this coming Thursday or buying toys for Christmas, children of all ages are not able to understand why their home situation is different when they are saturated with images of good times and abundance.

The cynics may say that it is widely exaggerated or even abused. We have heard stories of people picking up several turkeys or Thanksgiving meals from different shelters or food pantries, but we cannot allow ourselves to be blinded by their greed.

Even if we are going through hard times and our holiday shopping will be limited this year, think of those who will have none. Share some food with the many organizations reaching out for help and contribute to a toys drive for needy children. You will feel richer just by sharing and putting a smile in someone's face.

Rumbo

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To avoid this...



Proper hand washing with soap and water

- Wet your hands with warm, running water and apply liquid soap or use clean bar soap. Lather well.
- Rub your hands vigorously together for at least 15 to 20 seconds.
- Scrub all surfaces, including the backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers and under your fingernails.
- Rinse well.
- Dry your hands with a clean or disposable towel.
- Use a towel to turn off the faucet.



Cómo lavarse las manos correctamente

- Mójese las manos con agua tibia y utilice jabón líquido o jabón en barra. Enjabónelas bien.
- Frótese las manos vigorosamente de 15 a 20 segundos.
- Asegúrese de lavar bien las partes entre los dedos, la muñeca, y debajo de las uñas.
- Enjuáguese bien.
- Seque las manos con una toalla limpia o papel desechable.
- Use una toalla para cerrar la llave del lavamanos.

Haga lo siguiente...



Evite...



POR DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

Desde Mi Esquina



READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 15

Lantigua visitó el Ayuntamiento

El Alcalde Electo William Lantigua, visitó el Ayuntamiento el viernes, 20 de noviembre, acompañado por el ex alcalde interino Lenny Degnan, sólo para saludar a los empleados en los diferentes departamentos y me invitó a venir. Fue un viaje rápido durante mi hora de almuerzo de mi trabajo diario con el conocimiento de mi supervisora. Aclaro esto en caso de que alguien se sienta tentado a escribir otra carta desagradable.

El Sr. Lantigua quedó satisfecho con la visita y muchos empleados mostraron su agradecimiento diciendo que esta es la primera vez que un alcalde entra en sus departamentos. Cuando se le preguntó específicamente sobre el Alcalde Michael Sullivan, la respuesta fue: "Él nunca ha estado aquí". Lantigua les aseguró que lo van a ver a él con frecuencia.

El alcalde-electo recorrió cada departamento conversando con los empleados, mirando a sus condiciones de trabajo y señalando la mugre por todas partes. "Esto no atrae al consumidor. Esto se supone que es la casa del pueblo y con

estas condiciones, nadie se puede sentir bienvenido", dijo Lantigua.

Se mostró especialmente preocupado por la limpieza en el baño de los hombres en el primer piso y hasta me hizo ir para comprobarlo por mí misma. Pensé que nada podría superar el baño de mujeres, el cual también inspeccionó Lantigua, pero el baño de los hombres le ganó. Los baños no tienen jabón, toallas de papel y papel higiénico.

Aunque la mayoría de los empleados fueron profesionales y amables, la hipocresía fue notable. No hay necesidad de ser específicos aquí, pero se sintió.

Algo inesperado para todos nosotros fue los muchos jefes de departamentos que faltaban a las 11 de la mañana. Por ejemplo, Lantigua, entró en la oficina del

Foto del piso del baño de los hombres en el primer nivel del ayuntamiento de Lawrence. Esta foto fue tomada por indicación del Alcalde-Electo, Representante William Lantigua.



Director de Presupuesto y Finanzas Mark Andrews, pero nadie sabía dónde estaba ni cuando debía volver. Lantigua señaló a Mr. Degnan diciendo: "Tenemos que desarrollar un sistema por el que todos sabemos cuando un empleado abandona la oficina, a dónde va y cuándo se espera su regreso." Después supimos que el Sr. Andrews no fue a trabajar en todo el día.

La Tesorera y Recaudadora de

CARTAS AL EDITOR

RUMBO
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Email: editor@rumbonews.com

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

El hambre es real

Un gran agradecimiento a Lawrencians Giving Thanks, el Rotary Club de Andover, y todos los otros grupos de servicio en el Valle de Merrimack que están recaudando alimentos en esta temporada.

Les pido a todos los que puedan hacerlo, que por favor ayuden participando en estos esfuerzos para conseguir alimentos o contribuyan a las despensas de alimentos locales.

La Congresista Niki Tsongas recientemente organizó un foro de servicios humanos para conocer de primera mano cómo la crisis económica está afectando a familias de bajos ingresos en nuestra área. Hemos escuchado una historia tras otra de personas que se han tenido que dirigir a las despensas de alimentos para alimentar a sus familias.

El hambre duele. Por favor, únase a mí para ayudar a nuestras despensas de alimentos permanecer almacenadas en esta temporada festiva y durante todo el año. Muchos de nuestros vecinos cuentan con nosotros.

Los sitios de Lawrencians Giving Thanks para dejar cajas de pasta, arroz, productos enlatados y cereales son: Lawrence City Hall, el Senior Center y la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence.

Descubra cómo participar en una de las muchas despensas de alimentos locales para ayudar a nuestros vecinos, visite el Condado de Essex en el alivio del hambre www.essexcountyhungerrelief.org o la Merrimack Valley Food Bank en www.mvfb.org.

Sue Tucker
Senadora Estatal

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POR FAVOR VEA **DÍAZ**

CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 20


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Recuento de Votos 2009

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 14
■ MÁS FOTOS EN LA PÁGINA 14

El sábado pasado, la Ciudad de Lawrence celebró un recuento electoral realizado a petición de los candidatos José Armano vs Sandy Almonte y Ruth Rojas vs la Concejal del Distrito B Grisela Silva.

Después de cinco horas de minucioso escrutinio de las boletas, tanto Almonte como Silva fueron declaradas ganadoras y certificados por los miembros del Registro de Votantes.

En el recuento, Almonte superó a Armano por 11 votos (858-847). En la elección Almonte había recibido 853 vs 843 Armano.

Silva, que había recibido 933 votos en la elección final, perdió 3 en el recuento. Para Rojas, el recuento no produjo ningún cambio. La cuenta final fue Silva 930, Rojas 912.

Esta es la segunda vez que Rojas ha pedido un recuento. Después de perder la elección del 2007 contra la Concejal Silva por 30 votos, Rojas pidió un recuento. En esa elección los totales fueron 497 Silva, Rojas 467.

"Estoy muy entusiasmada", dijo la

Concejal Electa Sandy Almonte. "Yo fui desafiada, no una sino dos veces durante este proceso. Eso demuestra que soy una luchadora y que estoy dispuesta a ser la voz de Lawrence."

Teniendo en cuenta la crisis financiera en que la ciudad está, muchos observadores se preguntaron la necesidad de gastar un estimado de más de \$15,000 dólares tratando de cambiar el resultado de una elección. "Es muy difícil con el sistema que estamos utilizando hoy en día", ha comentado Rafael Tejeda en el pasado.

"¿Dos estaciones de bomberos cerradas y gastamos el dinero en esto?", dijo el Presidente del Concilio Patrick J. Blanchette.

"Valió la pena", dijo Joseph Armano el cual ganó cuatro votos en el recuento.

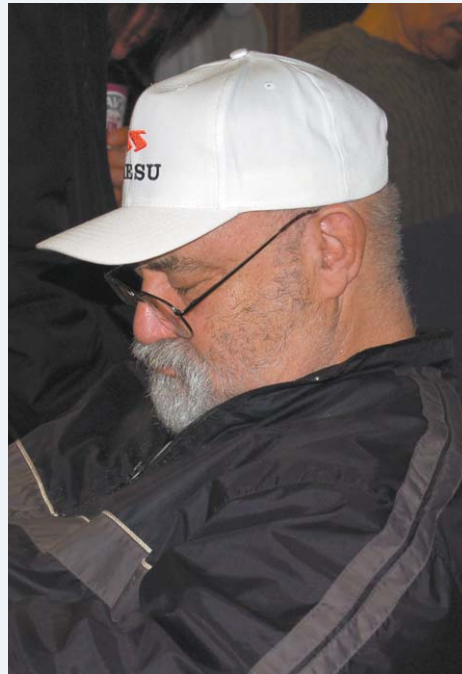
Tanto Silva como Almonte se lamentaron del gasto. El Abogado de la Ciudad Charles Boddy, está de acuerdo con ellas pero lo llamó "el derecho de los candidatos a hacerlo".

"Yo sé que es un derecho constitucional pero creo que alguien tiene que demostrar sentido común", dijo Blanchette.



El Escribano de la Ciudad, William J. Maloney distribuyendo boletas a los trabajadores del Departamento de Elecciones, desde la izquierda, Ángel Mármol, German Lambert y Mike Rivera para comenzar el conteo.

City Clerk William J. Maloney, center, distributing ballots to Election Department workers, Angel Marmol, German Lambert and Mike Rivera to start counting votes.



El conteo duró por más de cinco horas, tal vez mucho para el trabajador del Departamento de Elecciones Mike Rivera que se quedó dormido hasta que fue despertado.

The counting lasted for over five hours, perhaps too long for election worker Mike Rivera who fell asleep, until politely awakened.

#1 fm en español

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Los candidatos Joseph Armano y Sandy Almonte son todo sonrisas mientras esperan el resultado del conteo.

Candidates Joseph Armano and Sandy Almonte are all smiles at the recount requested by Armano.



Sumando los resultados del recuento se encuentran, desde la izquierda, Rafael Tejeda, coordinador del Departamento de Elecciones y el Escribano de la Ciudad de Lawrence, William J. Maloney.

Computing the result of the recount are, from left, Rafael Tejeda, Election Department Coordinator and Lawrence City Clerk William J. Maloney.



El Alcalde Electo de Lawrence, Representante William Lantigua, señalando un detalle al Abogado de la Ciudad Charles Boddy.

Lawrence Mayor-Elect, Estate Representative William Lantigua making a point to City Attorney Charles Boddy.

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HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

Food for the World continúa su obra de ayuda

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
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Mucho antes de abrir sus puertas a las 8 de la mañana del miércoles, 18 de noviembre, 2009, cientos de personas necesitadas inundaron el pantry de Food for the World, localizado en el 247 de la Calle Essex, en Lawrence.

A las 5 de la tarde, hora del cierre, había distribuido 1,175 pavos para el Día de Acción de Gracias además de bolsas de 2 Lbs. de arroz, frijoles enlatados, cajas de cereal, picadillo, etc. Cuando se les terminaron los pavos, comenzaron a distribuir pollos congelados a las personas que aún estaban en fila.

Los primeros en ser admitidos fueron aquellos que estaban en sillas de ruedas o que necesitaban ayuda para andar.

Julia Polanco, directora ejecutiva de Food for the World aprecia la ayuda de sus voluntarios, "Gracias a ellos podemos continuar ayudando a los necesitados", dijo.

Michele Polanco, William Cruz, Eliezer Rosario, Juan Ortega, Yesenia Battistini, Gualberto Vargas, Johnny Pérez, Mirta Castillo, Yelin De Los Santos, Raquel Gómez, Sandra Gómez, Anatalia



Julia Polanco, directora ejecutiva de Food for the World y el voluntario Rey López están exhaustos pero felices después de un día de trabajo bien realizado.

Exhausted but pleased for a job well done, Julia Polanco, executive director of Food for the World and volunteer Rey López.

González, Solmary Guzmán, Nitzaida Hernández, Stella Libbey, José Aponte, Jennifer Liranzo, Francisco Maldonado, Irma Martínez, Leticia Morales, Damaris Pichardo, Minerva Rodríguez, Jacqueline Santos, Ramona Suazo, Iris Turbis y los Pastores Rafael Taveras, Matías y Ventura son las personas que brindan su tiempo para mantener el centro abierto

Food for the World did it again

Long before they opened their doors at 8:00 A.M. on Wednesday, November 18 2009, hundreds of needy people gathered in front of Food for the World Pantry located at 247 Essex Street in Lawrence.

By closing time, at 5:00 P.M. they had distributed 1,175 Thanksgiving turkeys along with 2 Lb. bags of rice, canned beans, boxes of cereal, ground beef, etc. When they ran out of turkeys, the people who remained in line received frozen chickens.

First to be admitted were the handicapped and every one who needed help.

Julia Polanco, Executive Director of Food for the World appreciates the help of the volunteers. "Thanks to them we can keep helping these people", she said.

Polanco said that the center receives food throughout the Greater Boston Food Bank and cash contributions from several businesses and private citizens which help with their expenses



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Los voluntarios Iris Marte y David Lebrón, con la ayuda de la directora ejecutiva de Food for the World, entregando comida a las personas que acudieron al pantry el pasado miércoles, 18 de noviembre.



Group wants to improve the area



LEFT: Community Policing Commander Lt. Shawn Conway reading his report.

RIGHT: Association organizer Jennifer Cooper introducing the newly elected officials to the meeting.

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

The Sacred Heart / Brookfield Street Neighborhood Association held their monthly community meeting on Monday, November 16, 2009, at Carleen's Restaurant, located at 207 South Broadway, in Lawrence.

Several newly elected city officials were in attendance, such as reelected Councilor at-Large Roger Twomey; Councilor at-Large Elect Daniel Rivera; District E Councilor Elect Eileen O'Connor

Bernal and District E School Committee Member Elect Mark Gray.

Guest Speaker was City of Lawrence Inspectional Services Director Myles Burke who spoke at length about the many duties of his department.

Community Policing Commander Lt. Shawn Conway reported about area crime: Commercial Burglaries around the district, 0; citywide, 1. Mount Vernon area: theft, 4; citywide, 51.



Desde muy temprano en la mañana cientos de personas necesitadas se dieron cita frente a las oficinas de Food for the World, localizadas en el 447 de la Calle Essex en busca del prometido pavo del Día de Acción de Gracias.

Since early in the morning, hundreds of needy people gathered in front of the Food for the World pantry located at 447 Essex Street looking for the promised Thanksgiving turkey.

Salim Rodríguez Tabit

Abogado Bilingüe

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Attorneys at Law

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Bienes Raíces

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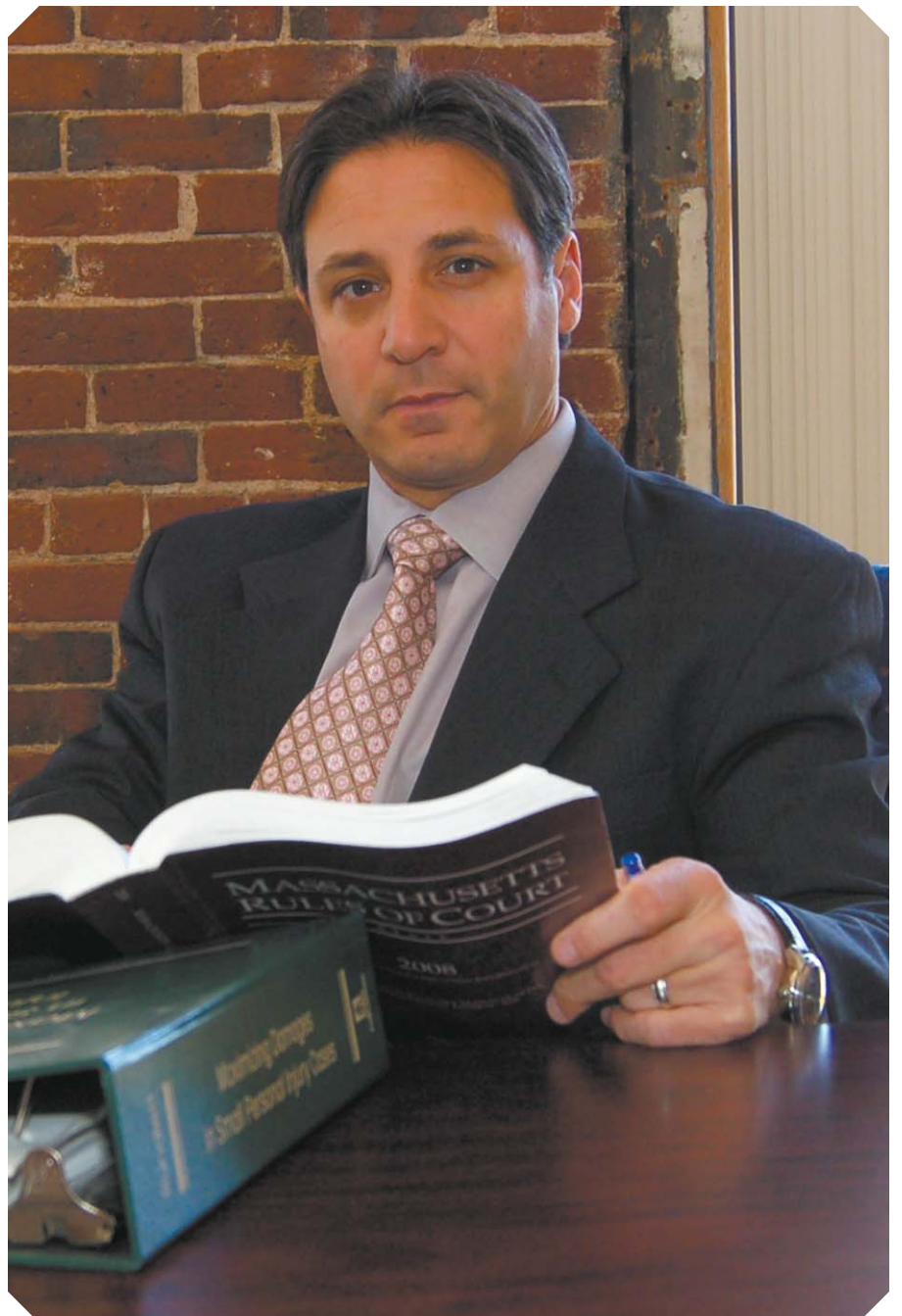
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NOTAS DE SU BIBLIOTECARIA

POR MAUREEN NIMMO

Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Saludos Amigos Lectores. Las elecciones ya pasaron, y quiero tomar un momento para darle la bienvenida a nuestro nuevo alcalde y a los nuevos concejales (y a los que regresan). Les deseo a todos mucho éxito y, a la vez, espero que se den cuenta del arduo trabajo que les espera. Los “expertos” dicen que la recesión económica terminó. Será verdad para el Wall St., pero para el resto de nosotros nos falta mucho para sentirnos cómodos. Ciudades con ingresos bajos como Lawrence continuarán sufriendo sin la ayuda del estado, de la cual siempre hemos dependido mucho, y la combinación de la alta tasa de desempleo que el estado está sobrellevando.

Anteriormente, Lawrence ha sobrevivido este tipo de tormenta y sé que podemos hacerle frente nuevamente. Lo que todos nosotros necesitamos del Sr. Lantigua y de nuestro nuevo concilio es el compromiso de cooperar y el espíritu de unidad. Esta ciudad puede lograr muchas cosas si resistimos el impulso de tomar bandos y estar unos contra otros. Nosotros necesitamos un concilio que proporcione ayuda y modere a nuestro alcalde - no que establezca una situación de discordia y enemistad, el cual ha sido la práctica en el pasado. Sé que puede sonar banal el decir que tendremos éxito si trabajamos juntos, pero es la única solución. Muchas personas no están de acuerdo en un sinnúmero de asuntos-lo que tenemos que hacer es no apartarnos de nuestra meta: el de hacer de ésta, una ciudad mejor. Yo sé que los podemos lograr.

Quiero decirle unas cuantas palabras para todos aquellos candidatos que no fueron elegidos. Les estamos muy agradecidos por todos sus esfuerzos y apreciamos todo el trabajo e intensidad con la cual presentaron sus campañas políticas. Espero que cada

uno de ustedes continúe trabajando activamente en el proceso político de Lawrence. Necesitamos la contribución de todos en la ciudad, especialmente de aquellos que tomaron de su tiempo y se esforzaron en educarse sobre los asuntos que nos conciernen a todos.

Es extraordinario que ya estemos casi en el Día de Acción de Gracias. Este otoño está pasando rápidamente... el domingo pasado gozamos del último concierto de la Serie de Conciertos Otoñales. Estuvo absolutamente extraordinaria la interpretación del dúo a piano de Wanda Paik y David Hagan. Espero que continuemos recibiendo fondos para así poder continuar proveyendo este tipo de actividades. No tan solo el público goza de estas presentaciones, pero los artistas gozan verdaderamente el de tocar aquí.

Este jueves por la mañana comienza el programa anual del alcalde Lawrence Dando Gracias. Durante la temporada Navideña constantemente se estará haciendo una colecta de alimentos no perecederos en el vestíbulo del ayuntamiento. Nuestros ciudadanos siempre han sido muy generosos ayudándose unos a los otros, y estoy segura que este año no habrá excepción.

El calendario del Grupo de los Amigos de la Biblioteca fue puesto a la venta hace unas semanas y ya me enteré por medio del presidente del grupo, el Sr. Jim Ross, que se van a mandar a hacer más de estos. Estos calendarios son un gran regalo para las Navidades, así que no se olviden de adquirir los suyos.

Bueno, por más que ame los Patriotas, tengo que admitir que el juego del domingo se perdió por una estupidez. ¡Qué se va hacer! Como quiera... ¡Arriba Patriotas! ¡Nos vemos en la biblioteca!

Be realistic about holiday expenses

BY JASON ALDERMAN

www.practicalmoneyskills.com

When I was a kid, Christmas club savings accounts were quite common. Like their close cousin, the layaway plan, these accounts encouraged people to start saving far in advance for expenses they knew were coming.

In these tough economic times, a return to savings methods that worked so well for our parents might not be a bad idea. The basic fundamentals they understood included knowing what things really cost (including taxes and finance charges), prioritizing your expenses, and being willing to postpone or forgo purchases that will upset your overall budget.

The holidays are the most challenging time of year to curtail spending, thanks to long gift lists, frantic last-minute shopping and higher-than-usual travel and entertainment expenses. Here are a few tips that can help you rein in holiday spending:

Add up expected holiday-related expenses including gifts (for family, friends and coworkers), decorations, new clothes and accessories, gift-wrapping paper, cards, special meals and year end gratuities. Don't forget travel-related expenses if you plan to leave town, and try to recall unanticipated expenses from last year that might recur.

The flipside – and more important aspect – of holiday budgeting is to calculate how much you can actually afford to spend. If you are deeply in debt, having trouble paying regular monthly expenses, worried about being laid off or haven't saved an emergency fund, this isn't the time to rack up additional debt.

So, revisit your list and look for items to trim. A few thoughts:

- Arrange gift lotteries with family members and close friends so each of you can concentrate your time, effort and money on getting fewer, nicer gifts.
- Speak candidly with friends, coworkers

and extended family about placing a moratorium on exchanging gifts. They're probably feeling the pinch too.

- If the gift-giving gesture is important to you, suggest pooling your resources with others to make a sizeable contribution to a charitable cause you all believe in.
- If you're traveling just to get away, consider a “staycation” this year.

Give the gift of time. Older relatives and friends don't need another box of chocolates, but they could probably use your help with household chores, running errands or taking them to doctor's appointments. Plus, they would probably appreciate your company. For harried young parents, offer to babysit so they can run a few errands or simply recharge their batteries.

If you need to scale back on purchases, try making some gifts and get your children involved. Whether you're creating homemade cards or baking cookies for the neighbors, they'll appreciate being able to spend more time together. Plus, you can use it as an opportunity to discuss the need for better budget management and why gifts from the heart are so important.

If you need help creating a holiday budget, visit Visa's free personal financial management program, Practical Money Skills for Life, (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/holiday) where you'll find easy-to-follow budgeting, holiday entertaining and travel planning tips as well as interactive calculators to track your spending.

Take a page from your parents' book: There are plenty of ways to enjoy the holidays without breaking the bank.

Jason Alderman directs Visas financial education programs. Sign up for his free monthly e-Newsletter at www.practicalmoneyskills.com/newsletter.

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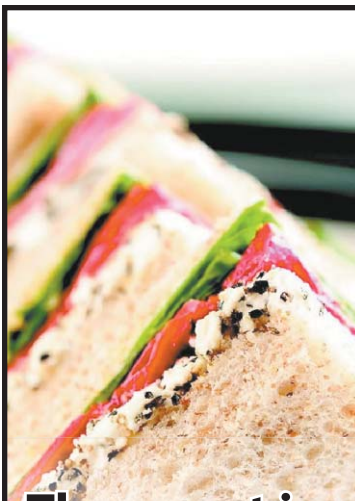
Medical Director, Dr. Edward Hatchigian, of Deaconess Hospital, Boston



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Sea realista acerca de los gastos de las fiestas

POR JASON ALDERMAN
www.practicalmoneyskills.com

Cuando era pequeño, las cuentas de ahorros para el club de navidad eran bastante comunes. Al igual que su primo cercano, los sistemas de apartado, estas cuentas incentivaron a la gente para que comience a ahorrar con antelación para gastos que se sabía que vendrían.

En estos tiempos de dificultad económica, volver a los métodos de ahorro que dieron tan buenos resultados a nuestros padres no sería mala idea. Los principios básicos que ellos comprendían, entre otros, eran saber lo que cuestan las cosas realmente (incluyendo impuestos y gastos de financiación), priorizar los gastos y estar dispuestos a postergar o privarse de compras que alterarían el presupuesto general.

Las fiestas son la época más desafiante del año para restringir gastos, debido a las largas listas de regalos, las compras frenéticas a último minuto y los gastos de viaje y agasajo más altos de lo habitual. Algunos consejos que pueden ayudarle a refrenar los gastos de las fiestas son:

Sumar los gastos relacionados con las fiestas, incluyendo regalos (para familiares, amigos y compañeros de trabajo), decoraciones, prendas y accesorios nuevos, papel para envolver regalos, tarjetas, comidas especiales y gratificaciones de fin de año. No olvide los gastos de viaje si tiene previsto salir de la ciudad y trate recordar los gastos imprevistos que tuvo el año pasado que podría volver a tener.

El otro aspecto – y el más importante – del presupuesto para las fiestas es calcular cuánto puede realmente llegar a gastar. Si se encuentra sumamente endeudado, tiene problemas para pagar sus gastos mensuales regulares, está preocupado por el despido o no tiene un fondo de emergencia, no es momento para acumular más deudas.

Por lo tanto, revise su lista y busque qué artículos recortar.

Algunas ideas:

- Organice una lotería de regalos con sus familiares y amigos cercanos para que cada uno pueda ahorrar tiempo, esfuerzo y dinero consiguiendo menos y más lindos regalos.
- Hable francamente con sus amigos, compañeros de trabajo y familiares acerca

de una moratoria para el intercambio de regalos. Ellos quizás también estén pasando apuros.

- Si la intención de obsequiar es importante para usted, piense en aunar esfuerzos con otros para hacer una contribución considerable a una causa de caridad en la que todos confíen.
- Si iba a viajar sólo para alejarse, considere tener “vacaciones en casa” este año.

Obsequie tiempo. Los parientes y amigos mayores no necesitan una caja de chocolates más, en su lugar probablemente aprovecharían su ayuda con las tareas domésticas, haciendo recados o acompañándolos a las citas médicas. Además, apreciarían su compañía. Para los atosigados padres jóvenes, ofrézcase para cuidar a los niños para que ellos puedan hacer otras tareas o simplemente recargar sus baterías.

Si necesita reducir sus compras, intente preparar algunos regalos y haga que sus hijos participen. Ya sea que haga tarjetas caseras u hornee galletas para los vecinos, ellos disfrutarán pasar más tiempo junto a usted. Además, puede aprovechar la oportunidad para conversar sobre la necesidad de una mejor administración presupuestaria – y

El otro aspecto – y el más importante – del presupuesto para las fiestas es calcular cuánto puede realmente llegar a gastar. Si se encuentra sumamente endeudado, tiene problemas para pagar sus gastos mensuales regulares, está preocupado por el despido o no tiene un fondo de emergencia, no es momento para acumular más deudas.

por qué los regalos del corazón son tan importantes.

Si necesita ayuda para establecer un presupuesto para las fiestas, visite el programa de administración financiera gratuito de Visa, Practical Money Skills for Life, (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/holiday) donde encontrará consejos sencillos para planificar presupuestos, viajes y agasajos para las fiestas además de calculadoras interactivas para mantener un registro de sus gastos.

Aprenda de sus padres: Existen muchas maneras de disfrutar de las fiestas sin necesidad de tirar la casa por la ventana.

Jason Alderman dirige los programas de educación financiera de Visa.



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SEE THE CALENDAR ON PAGE 22



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Ciudad de Lawrence PROHIBICIÓN DEL PARQUEO DE EMERGENCIA DURANTE EL INVIERNO

En caso de una tormenta de nieve antes de diciembre 15, 2009, o después de marzo 15, 2010, se le pide a los residentes que se adhieran a la ordenanza de estacionamiento alternado a ambos lados de la calle donde este sea permitido. Violadores de esta ordenanza serán remolcados a expensas del dueño. Cualquier pregunta puede ser dirigida al (978) 620-3090.

CIUDAD DE LAWRENCE DEPARTAMENTO DE POLICÍA AVISO A LOS CONDUCTORES DE VEHÍCULOS

Sec.19-72 Prohibición de estacionamiento durante algunos meses, entre las 12:01 a.m. y 6:00 a.m. en lados y días alternos de la vía pública, en algunas calles.

Durante el período de diciembre 15 a marzo 15 anualmente, entre las horas de 12:01 AM. y 6:00 A.M. diariamente, los vehículos deberán estacionarse alternativamente a un mismo lado de la calle, a menos que esté prohibido por la ley.

En los días pares del calendario, los vehículos deberán estacionarse a lo largo de los números pares de las calles. Los días nones del calendario, los vehículos deberán estacionarse a lo largo de los números nones de las calles.

De acuerdo con esta sección, el estacionamiento de vehículos será permitido solamente en las calles donde el ancho del camino entre las aceras o a lo largo de las mismas, mida no menos de 30 pies de ancho de acuerdo con los datos en poder del ingeniero de la ciudad, y no será permitido en ningún otro lugar prohibido con anterioridad.

Los vehículos estacionados en violación de esta disposición serán removidos bajo la dirección de las autoridades encargadas de remover la nieve; estos vehículos también pueden ser removidos por el Jefe del Departamento de Policía, sargentos u otros oficiales de alto rango en el departamento, designados de vez en cuando, par el Jefe de Policía

Cualquiera que pare o estacione su vehículo en cualquier lugar bajo el

control de la ciudad de manera que impida en cualquier forma la limpieza y recogida de la nieve o hielo, o en violación de cualquier ordenanza que prohíba el parar o estacionar vehículos en los caminos durante el mencionado tiempo y como se dijo, cualquiera que viole estas ordenanzas será responsable de los gastos de remolque y almacenaje de su vehículo así como a multas, en caso de ser sometido a tal castigo.

El costo por remolcar un vehículo removido por violación de esta sección y seguidamente el gasto de su almacenaje será de acuerdo con las tarifas establecidas por DPW de Massachusetts.

Todo vehículo abandonado en terrenos propiedad de la ciudad que haya sido inmovilizado por accidente o defecto mecánico, o que no esté registrado, inspeccionado o asegurado, será removido de acuerdo con las provisiones de la mencionada sección.

Las provisiones de esta sección no aplicarán a las porciones de las siguientes calles, las cuales han sido designadas como Autopistas Estatales: Calle Jackson, el norte de la Calle Berkeley hasta la línea con Methuen - Ruta 110.

Riverside Drive, oeste de la Calle Ames hasta la línea de Methuen.
Avenida Winthrop, unión de la Calle Osgood sur, hasta la carretera 495.
(RO. 1954 sec.18-744-2-56, sec. 1:2-10-76, sec.1:1-12-76, sec.1:10-1876,seG.1:12-13-76, Sec. 1:2-14-77, sec. 1:2-6-78, sec. 1:3-13-78, sec.1.)
(Lawrence 12-82) 388.2.

Estacionamiento Alterno Permitido:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Abbot St. | Cross St. | High St. (Excepto E. | Oxford St. |
| Allen St. (General St. a Angle) | Cutler St. (Chickering St. a Marlboro St.) | Haverhill St. a Ferry St.) | Packard St. |
| Allston St. | Cyr Drive | Highgate St. | Parker St. |
| Ames St. (Riverside Dr. a Haverhill St.) | Dana St. | Hillside Ave. | Patton St. |
| Amesbury St. | Danforth St. | Howard St. | Pembroke Dr. |
| Amherst St. | Dartmouth St. | Hudson Ave. | Perry Ave. |
| Andover St. | Davis St. | Hurst St. | Philips St. |
| Appleton St. | Debbie Lane | Inman St. | Pilgrim Rd. |
| Atkinson St. | Dorchester St. | Jackson St. (Canal St. a Kendrick St. & Berkeley St. a la línea de Methuen) | Pleasant St. (Ferry St. a High St.) |
| Auburn St. | Dracut St. (So. Bway a Dunstable St.) | Jamaica St. | Portland St. |
| Bailey St. | Dunstable St. | Jefferson St. | Powers St. |
| Ballard Rd. | Durham St. | Kenneth St. | Proctor Rd. |
| Barker St. | Durso Ave. | Kent St. | Prospect St. |
| Barnard Rd. | East Boxtord St. | Kingston St. | Providence St. |
| Bay State Rd. (McFarlin St. a Water St.) | East Boxtord Terrace | Laurel St. | Railroad St. |
| Beacon St. | East Haverhill St. | Lawrence St. | Richmond St. |
| Beaconsfield St. | East Kingston St. | Lebanon St. (Hampshire St. a Amesbury St.) | Rita Lane |
| Belknap St. | East Pleasant St. | Lea St. | Roberta Lane |
| Bellevue St. | East St. | Leeds Ter. | Rockwood Lane |
| Bennet St. | Easton St. (So. B'way a Jefferson St.) | Lenox Circle | Rowe St. |
| Bennington St. (Auburn St. a Chestnut St.) | Eaton St. | Lenox St. | Russell St. |
| Beresford St. | Ellis St. | Lincoln Ct. | Salem St. |
| Berkeley St. | Elm St. | Lisa Lane | Sanborn St. |
| Bigelow St. | Emerald Ave. | Lorenzo Rd. | Sargent St. |
| Blanchard St. | Erving Ave. | Loring St. | School St. |
| Bodwell St. | Essex St. (Union St. a Milton St.) | Louisburgh St. | Shattuck St. |
| Bowdoin St. | Everett St. | Lowell St. (Lawrence St. a W. Lowell St.) | Shawsheen Rd. |
| Boxford St. | Exeter Pl. | Lynn St. | Shepard St. |
| Bradford St. | Exeter St. | Manchester St. | Short St. (Chestnut a Maple St.) |
| Broadway | Exeter Terrace | Maple St. | So. Bowdoin St. |
| Brookfield St. | Fairmont St. | Margin St. | So. Broadway |
| Bruce St. | Fallon St. | Marie Lane | So. Union St. |
| Burke St. | Falmouth St. | Marion Ave. (Excepto Holly St. al Rio Spicket) | Sparkle Drive |
| Burlington St. | Farley St. | Marique Dr. | Springfield St. |
| Butler St. | Farnham St. | Mark Lane | Standish Rd. |
| Byron Ave. | Ferry St. | Market St. | Stevens St. (Mt. Vernon St. a Stevens Ave.) |
| Cabot Rd. | Forest St. | Marlboro St. | Storrow St. |
| Cambridge St. | Foster St. | Marston St. | Summer St. |
| Canal St. | Foxcroft St. | Martha Lane | Summit Ave. |
| Canterbury St. | Franklin St. | Mason St. | Sylvester St. |
| Carleton St. (Andover St. a Everett St.) | Frost Dr. | May St. | Swan St. |
| Carver St. | Furber St. | Medford St. | Taft St. |
| Castle St. | Garden St. | Melrose St. | Temple St. |
| Cedar St. | Garfield St. (Cambridge St. a Falmouth St.) | Melvin St. | Tewksbury St. |
| Chandler St. | Gilbert St. | Merrimack St. | Thomas Rd. |
| Chester St. (So. Bway a Dunstable St.) | Glenn St. | Middlebury St. (Olive Ave. a Endicott St.) | Tremont St. |
| Chestnut St. | Glenwood Drive | Mill St. | Tyler St. |
| Chickering St. (Cutler St. a Pilgrim Rd.) | Gorham St. | Milton St. (Haverhill St. a Bodwell St.) | Union St. (Canal St. a Elm St.) |
| Cleveland St. | Grafton St. | Monroe St. | Valley St. |
| Clifton St. | Grainger St. | Morton St. | Warren St. |
| Clinton Ct. | Grant Rd. | Mt. Auburn St. | Water St. |
| Colonial Dr. | Green St. | Mt. Vernon Cir. | Weare St. |
| Colonial Rd. | Greenfield St. | Mt. Vernon St. | West Hawley St. |
| Colonial Terrace | Greenwood St. | Mt. Vernon Terrace | West Kenneth St. |
| Columbus Ave. (Haverhill St. a Meadow St.) | Groton St. | Newbury St. | West St. |
| Common St. | Grove St. | Newton St. | Westchester Drive |
| Concord St. | Hamlet St. | No. Parish Rd. | Westwood Terrace |
| Congress St. | Hampshire St. (Canal St. a Arlington St.) | Oak St. (East Haverhill a Short St.) | White St. |
| Coolidge St. | Hancock St. | Oakland Rd. | Whitman St. |
| Copley St. | Haverhill St. (Excepto Jackson St. a Amesbury St.) (Excepto Broadway a la línea de Methuen) | Olive Ave. (W. Lowell St. a Ames St.) | Wilmot St. |
| County St. | Hawley St. | Orchard St. | Winston Dr. |
| Crescent St. | | Osgood St. | Winter St. |
| Crestwood Cir. | | | Winthrop Ave. |
| Crosby St. | | | Woodland St. |
| | | | Wyman St. |

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Parque Charles Storrow:

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Escuela James F. Leonard School:

Patio de juegos, lado sur

Escuela Arlington:

Calle Arlington

Escuela Leahy:

Patio solamente

Escuela Saunders:

Patio, el lado de la Calle Bowdoin

Escuela Rollins:

La Calle Platt solamente

Escuela Parthum:

El área de juego por el lado de la Calle Haverhill

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YOURSELF
AND OTHERS**



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or cough
into a tissue
or sleeve!**



**Stay home
when sick!**

Don't bring the flu to work or school.



Election Recount 2009



Desde la izquierda, el trabajador del Departamento de Elecciones Bill Collins y el Escribano de la Ciudad William Maloney con los también trabajadores del Departamento de Elecciones, Santo Acevedo y Heidi Stokes.

Left to right, Election Worker Bill Collins and City Clerk William J. Maloney with Election Workers Santo Acevedo and Heidi Stokes, in the process of organizing the ballots.

BY ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

■ **LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 6**
■ **MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 6**

Last Saturday, the City of Lawrence held an election recount at the request of District A Candidate Joseph Armano vs. Sandy Almonte and Ruth Rojas vs. District B Councilor Grisel Silva.

After five long hours of meticulous scrutiny of the ballots, both Almonte and Silva were declared winners and certified by the Board of Registrars.

At the recount, Almonte topped Armano by 11 votes (858-847). At the election Almonte had received 853 vs. 843 for Armano.

Silva, who had received 933 votes at the final election, lost 3 in the recount. For Rojas, the recount produced no change. The final tally was Silva 930, Rojas 912.

This was the second time for Rojas to request a recount. After loosing the 2007 election to Councilor Silva for 30 votes, Rojas requested a recount. On that election the totals were Silva 497, Rojas 467.

"I'm very excited," said Councilor Elect Sandy Almonte. "I was challenged not once but twice during this process. That shows that I'm a fighter and that I'm ready to be the voice of Lawrence."

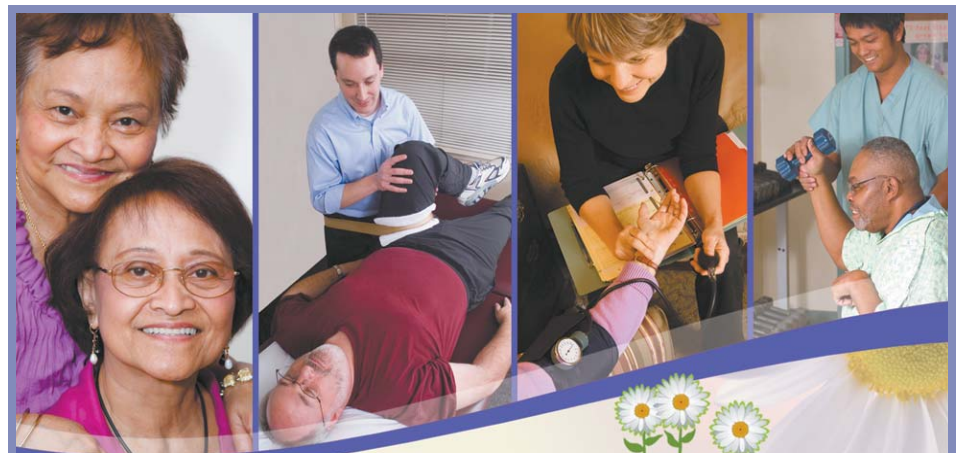
Considering the financial crisis the city is in, many observers questioned the need of spending an estimate of \$15,000 trying to overturn an election. "Very difficult, with the system we have in place," commented Rafael Tejada in the past.

"Two fire stations closed and we have to spend \$15,000 for this?" said Council President Patrick Blanchette.

"It was worth it," said Joseph Armano who picked up four votes in the recount.

Both Silva and Almonte criticized the spending. City Attorney Charles Boddy agrees but called it "the candidates' right" to do it.

"I know it's a constitutional right, but somebody has to come to their senses," said Blanchette.

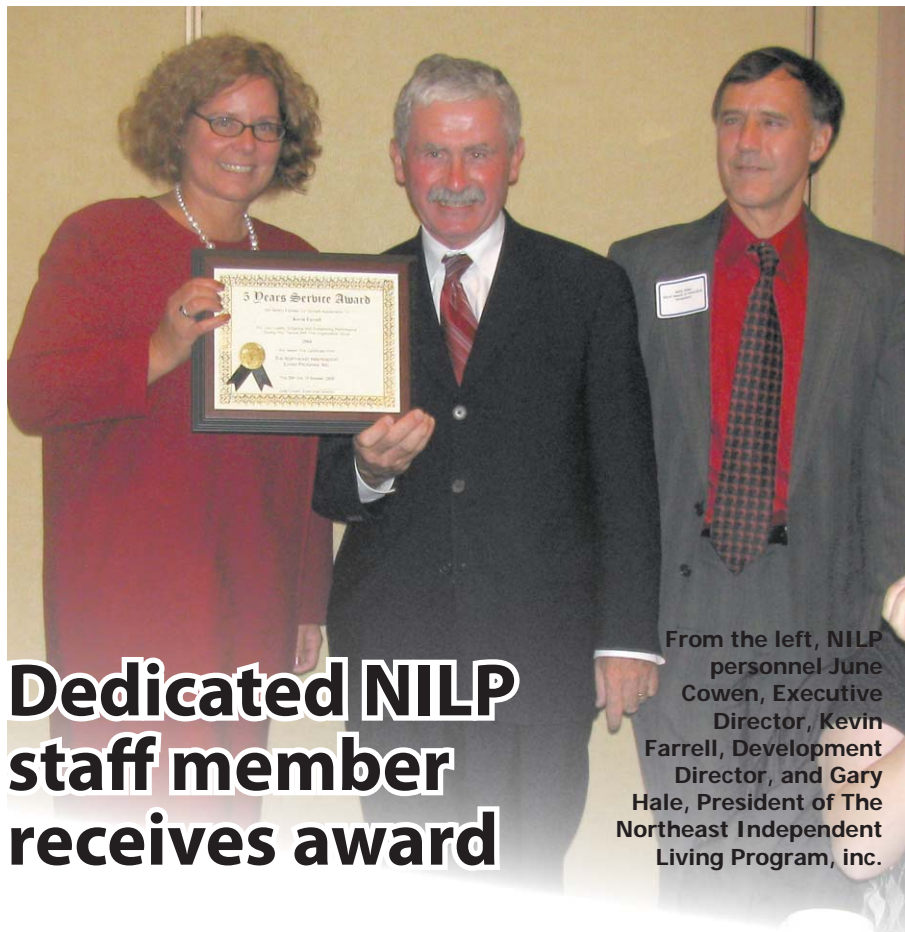


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Dedicated NILP staff member receives award

From the left, NILP personnel June Cowen, Executive Director, Kevin Farrell, Development Director, and Gary Hale, President of The Northeast Independent Living Program, inc.

Northeast Independent living Program, Inc. (NILP), of Lawrence, recently held a highly successful Annual Meeting at The Wyndham Hotel in Andover, Massachusetts.

The Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. is a consumer controlled Independent Living Center providing advocacy and services to people with all disabilities in Billerica who wish to live

independently in the community. All of our Programs and Services are interwoven; at a minimum, the four basic core services required by law to be classified as an ILC. They are Information and Referral, Peer Counseling, Skills Training and Advocacy.

The NILP presented its Five Year Service Award to Kevin Farrell, Director of Development.



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Food Drive Kick Off

Lawrence Mayor Michael J. Sullivan kicked off the 9th annual 'Lawrencians Giving Thanks' food drive on November 19th at 10:00am. Several local businesses came together to make generous donations which will, in turn, provide turkeys to local families in need. As soon as the table was set up, it was full of food donations and the donations from businesses, employees and citizens were just over \$4,000. Turkey and general food donations continuing coming in.

The Guilmette School staff and students are also partnering with the 'Lawrencians Giving Thanks' food drive and have collected a large amount of donations. Local food pantries will be utilizing the food donations so that families can enjoy a holiday dinner. The agencies included as recipients of the food and turkey donations are Bread and Roses, Cor Unum, the Daybreak Shelter, Lazarus House, Neighbors in Need and Salvation Army.

The table for food donations is located on the first floor of City Hall and they will be collecting non-perishable items through the month of December. Those looking to make a donation for a turkey may make their checks payable to: Colony Foods and bring it to the Mayor's Office on the third floor of City Hall or mail it to Mayor Sullivan's Office, 200 Common Street Lawrence, MA 01840.

The 'Lawrencians Giving Thanks' food drive began in November 2001 when volunteer and Lawrencian David Burke came up with the idea. Since then, we've hosted the food drive each year and have been able to help the less fortunate through the holiday season.

Some of the speakers, including Carol Ross from Bread & Roses, commented on how she would miss her friend Dave Burke. Dave Burke's wife, Patricia, attended the kick-off, made a donation and offered any assistance in working with the local food pantries and Colony Foods.

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

From My Corner

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

Lantigua visits City Hall

Mayor-Elect William Lantigua visited City Hall on Friday, November 20th, accompanied by former interim mayor Lenny Degan, just to meet employees in the different departments and he invited me to come along. It was a quick run through that I was able to do during my lunch hour from my day job with the knowledge of my supervisor. I clarify that in case anyone is tempted to write another nasty letter.

Mr. Lantigua was pleased with the visit and many employees showed their appreciation saying that this is the first time a mayor comes into their departments. When asked specifically about Mayor Michael Sullivan, the answer was, "He has never been here." Lantigua assured them that they will see lots of him.

The Mayor-Elect went around each department meeting people, looking at their working conditions and pointing out the filth everywhere. "This is not customer-friendly. This is supposed to be the people's home and with conditions like this, no one could feel welcome," said Lantigua.

He was particularly concerned about the cleanliness in the men's room on the first floor and even made me go to check for myself. I thought nothing could beat the ladies' room, which Lantigua also inspected, but the men's room certainly did. The bathrooms lack soap, paper towels and toilet paper.

While most employees were professional and friendly, the hypocrisy shone through. No need to be specific here but it was felt.

Something unexpected for all of us was the many department heads missing at 11 o'clock in the morning. For example, Lantigua entered the Budget and Finance Director Mark Andrews' office but no one knew where he was or when he was due back. Lantigua pointed that out to Mr. Degan saying, "We have to develop a system by which we all know when

an employee leaves the office, where he is going and when he is expected back." We later found out that Mr. Andrews was not in at all that day.

Treasurer/Tax Collector Patty Cook was in her office and answered some of the questions the new mayor had in a professional manner, but when we left, Lantigua mentioned that it is weird that her office is located on the third floor, next to Andrews' office while the two departments under her supervision are on the first floor. "She should be more accessible to her staff and the public looking for help," he said. One of her duties is filing liens on property owner who owe money to the city for property tax or water bills and she has not done any in many, many years.

What the Mayor-Elect doesn't know is that she is isolated upstairs, does not answer the telephone and does not even return calls.

The Comptroller, David Camasso was also missing. We later heard that he referred to Lantigua's visit as "threatening employees." He just looked at the carpeting

while saying 'hello' and they introduced themselves among smiles. I don't know what was 'threatening' about that.

The Department of Public Works was apparently pleased to see him and gave him a brief tour of their offices while they explained their positions there. Patty Denault, Frank McCann's administrative assistant mentioned that her boss was someplace else but didn't know when he was expected back. As we were leaving the building, Mr. McCann met Mr. Lantigua on Appleton Way because, as he said, "Patty called me."

As we walked around the different departments, Lantigua made a mental note of empty desks as a result of lay offs or retirements. That made them curious as to what may be coming with the new year but he explained that there will be changes made at City Hall, particularly in the philosophy.

Generally speaking, he believes that

PLEASE SEE **DÍAZ**

■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

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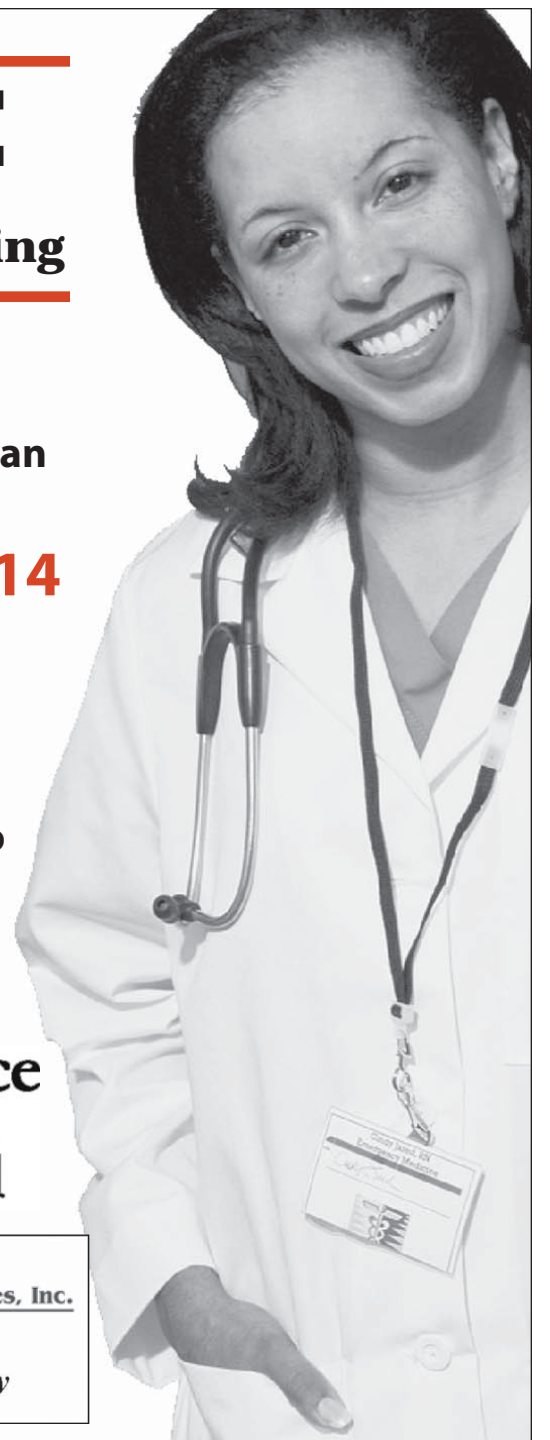
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Dr. Paul Gemis
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NOTES FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

BY MAUREEN NIMMO
Lawrence Public Library Director

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 10

Hello Rumbo readers. The elections are behind us now and I'd like to take a moment to welcome our new mayor and new (or returning) councilors. I wish all the success in the world to you but realize, at the same time, that you have a very big job ahead of you. Pundits say that the recession is over. That may be so on Wall St. but the rest of us still have a long way to go. Lower income cities like Lawrence will continue to struggle without the aid from the state that we used to be able to rely on, combined with serious unemployment issues statewide resulting from downsizing or wholesale closing of both commercial and service industries.

Lawrence has weathered the storm before and we can again. What we need from Mr. Lantigua and our new council is a commitment to cooperation and a spirit of unity. This city can do great things if we resist the urge to pit sides one against the other. We need our council to provide checks and balances on the mayor—not to create a situation of vituperation and enmity that has been the case so many times in the past. I know it may sound banal to say we will succeed if we all work together but it is the only solution. Individuals may disagree on any number of issues—the key point is keeping in sight the vision of a better city for all of us. I know we can do this.

I want to put a word in too for the candidates who ran but weren't elected. We are all grateful for your efforts and appreciate the work and intensity you brought to your campaigns. I hope each one of you remains an active part of the political process. We

need the input of everyone in the city, but especially those of you who have taken the time and effort to educate yourselves on the issues and the process.

I find it hard to believe that it is almost Thanksgiving. This fall is passing so fast.. Sunday we enjoyed the last of our Fall Concert Series performances. It was an absolutely extraordinary, dual piano performance by Wanda Paik and David Hagan. I hope and pray that we can continue to receive funding for these performances. Not only does the audience enjoy them but the performers really enjoy playing here.

In a further sign of the advancing holiday season I saw that Thursday morning is the kickoff of the mayor's annual Lawrence Giving Thanks program. There will be an ongoing collection throughout the holiday season of non-perishable food right in the lobby of City Hall. The people of our city always prove generous when helping one another and I am sure this will be no exception.

The Friends of the Library calendar went on sale a couple of weeks ago and I just heard from Friends president Jim Ross that we are already having to go into a second printing. These calendars make great Christmas presents so be sure to reserve your copy now.

Well, much as I love the Patriots I must say Sunday's game involved a certain level of boneheadedness. Oh well! Still go Pats. See you at the library.

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser a Huge Success



Mr. & Mrs. Bonanno cooked for 200+ at the Pasta Dinner fundraiser.

More than 200 came out to support local foster children in the Merrimack Valley

The Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley held its third annual Pasta Dinner Fundraiser at the Sons of Italy, Lodge 902 in Lawrence on Friday, November 6, 2009. More than 200 supporters came out to eat and help raise money to support foster children in the Merrimack Valley. Proceeds from this event go directly toward the upcoming Annual Holiday Party held every December for foster children ages birth to 18.

"We are so grateful about this year's Pasta Dinner, it was an incredible evening. We are fortunate to have such generous supporters who help push beyond our expectations every year," stated Larry Giordano, Founder of Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley. "We would also like to recognize our partners, The Sons of Italy who have been our host since we started, Mr. & Mrs. Bonanno who tirelessly cook pasta and meatballs, and Cedar's Mediterranean

How To Help Local Foster Kids this Holiday Season:

1. Become a Santa's Helper and fill a child's wish list for the holidays. Email: santashelpers@fosterkidsmv.org for more information.
2. Make a donation online on <http://fosterkidschristmas.eventbrite.com> or mail a check to:

Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley
Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition
112 East Haverhill St.
Lawrence, MA 01841

Foods who donated appetizers. We thank everyone who helped make this our most successful Pasta Dinner Fundraiser.

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.



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Hospice Staff – Going the Extra Mile for their Patients

You'll see them walking or running among the thousands in this year's Feaster Five Road Race on Thanksgiving Day. Each of them carries a different story with them, but the common thread between these three women is their passion for hospice care. Each of them works for Merrimack Valley Hospice, but also chose to participate in the race in honor of a loved one they have lost.

Merrimack Valley Hospice is a beneficiary of the race and each of these women are raising funds for the agency. They are either walking or running the 5K/5Mile course on Thursday, November 26th. Each of them brings different gifts to work each day. One is a chaplain, another is a nurse and another is a social worker. Each knows first-hand the difference a donation to Merrimack Valley Hospice can make for the patients and families they care for.

Terry Holbrook is a chaplain for Merrimack Valley Hospice and is walking in the Feaster Five to support the patients and families she serves. She has also experienced hospice personally, when her father passed away from colon cancer and her best friend died of pancreatic cancer.

"People turn to hospice for peace and comfort," said Holbrook. "Working at Merrimack Valley Hospice has given me a unique opportunity to see what an impact these donations make in the lives of our families. With support like this we are able to extend our care to everyone who needs it, regardless of their ability to pay."

Nancy DiPirro became a nurse because of the hospice experience she had when her mother died of lung and liver cancer. Following her mother's death, she enrolled in nursing school and became a registered nurse. She feels privileged to be working at the Merrimack Valley Hospice House and raising funds through the Feaster Five Road Race.

"It's a fun race, with something for



Merrimack Valley Hospice staff participating by walking and running in the Feaster Five Road Race in honor of a loved one are: Terry Holbrook, Chaplain (West Roxbury, MA), Nancy DiPirro, Hospice Nurse (Plaistow, NH) and Nancy Kidd, Social Worker (West Newbury). All work at Merrimack Valley Hospice.

everyone," commented DiPirro, who will be running the race on Thanksgiving morning. "It was easy to create an online donation page and I've had a great response from family and friends."

Nancy Kidd, a social worker for Merrimack Valley Hospice, is also making this a holiday tradition in honor of a loved one. She is collecting donations for Merrimack Valley Hospice in honor of her sister who died of lung cancer.

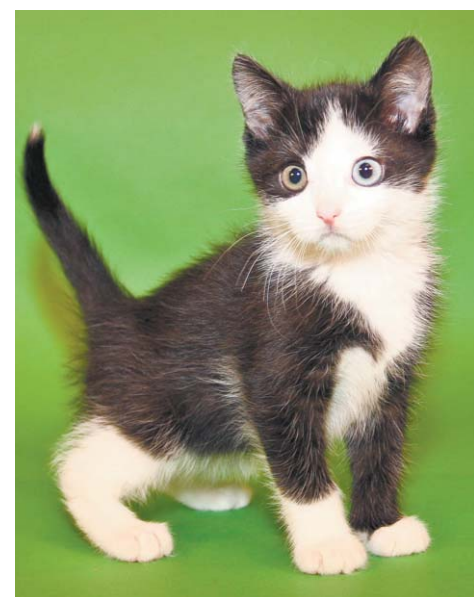
"I feel fortunate to have experienced hospice on both a personal and professional level. I jumped at the chance to give back by walking in honor of my sister," said Kidd. "Every donation made during the Feaster Five is going to make a huge difference to a patient facing end-of-life and their family."

There is still time to register for the race and raise money for Merrimack Valley Hospice. Visit www.feasterfive.com

for registration information and those wishing to collect pledges online for Merrimack Valley Hospice can visit www.merrimackvalleyhospice.org and click on the Feaster Five turkey icon to start collecting today.

Merrimack Valley Hospice is a not-for-profit agency dedicated to providing the medical, emotional and spiritual care terminally ill patients and their families need. The agency is affiliated with Home Health VNA and HomeCare, Inc. Together, the three agencies serve more than 80 communities throughout the Merrimack Valley, Northeastern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. The agency opened the Merrimack Valley Hospice House in June 2009. For more information on Merrimack Valley Hospice, visit www.merrimackvalleyhospice.org.

MSPCA at Nevins Farm Hosts "Kitten Adopt-a-thon"



Your kitten companion awaits you at the MSPCA at Nevins Farm's "Kitten Adopt-a-thon"! On Saturday and Sunday, December 5th & 6th, extra staff and volunteers will be on hand from 1:00pm-5:00pm to help you and your family members find the perfect match from over 60 kittens that are awaiting new homes. Or, if you are hoping to find an adult feline to share your life, you will be able to choose from the several hundred that are currently in the care of the MSPCA, all in search of their "forever" homes.

"This time of year is challenging for us to house and care for all of the kittens that have been born during the warm summer months, and we depend on our foster families to help us care for those that are not quite ready for adoption," says Mike Keiley, Manager of the Noble Family Animal Care & Adoption Center at Nevins Farm. "These kittens have been well loved, and are all ready to go to new homes, so we hope to find adopters willing to open their hearts and homes to some great kittens, and maybe the mom cats too!" added Keiley.

Many of the foster families will be on hand to answer questions about the personalities of their foster kittens, and assist potential adopters in making the right choice. The adoption center also has a complete line of pet supplies a new pet owner would need, with all of the proceeds benefiting the animals and programs of Nevins Farm.

The staff hopes to find homes for all of the kittens during the two day adoptathon. To prepare, they have held two days of spay and neuter clinics, so that all cats will be ready for adoption. Kittens have also received their first vaccinations, and will be micro-chipped as well, all included in the adoption fee of \$200. Potential adopters should be prepared with proof of homeownership or landlord contact information and proof of vaccinations for current pets in the home. Keiley also recommends that the entire family be present to choose their new kitten companion.

To learn more about the Kitten Adoptathon and the animals & programs of the MSPCA at Nevins Farm, call (978) 687-7453 x6101, or visit the web at www.mspca.org/nevins.

Student Dancers on Stage at NECC

Northern Essex Community College's Winter Student Dance Production, titled "Progressions", will take place in the Sport and Fitness Center on the college's Haverhill Campus, 100 Elliott St., on Friday, December 4 and Saturday, December 5 at 8 p.m.

The performance will feature "Unforgiven", a dance piece focusing on domestic violence and those who are affected by it, choreographed by four Northern Essex dance students, Kris Testa of Kingston, N.H., Kylee Bradlee of Haverhill, Kelsey Surette of Salisbury, and Kristina Koehg of Newburyport.

Another program highlight is "Run for Cover", a hip-hop piece choreographed by NECC dance coordinator Michelle Deane. Inspired by the social drama that occurs in night clubs, this high energy piece features moveable flats that the dancers hide and pop out of at random throughout the piece.

Tickets for this performance are \$7 for



adults, \$5 for students and senior citizens, and \$3 for children under 12. Tickets may be purchased in advance by contacting Julie Carey or Jane Bailey at 978-556-3360.

Bottom left to right are Melissa Brown of Atkinson, N.H., Joey Marini of Milford, N.H. and Stephanie Vibber of Tewksbury. Standing left to right, Jocelyn Papaefthemiou of Haverhill, Sarah Mosonyi of Chester, N.H., and Jamie MacDonald of Salem, N.H.



Photo credit: Eileen Margaret
 Left to Right in the photo: Mr. Juan Casado, Mrs. Yolanda Casado and Frank O'Connor, Jr., of the Community Development Department.

Mayor Sullivan Announces prestigious Yard of the Month Winner for October 2009

The Office of Mayor Michael J. Sullivan is pleased to announce that the winner of the prestigious “Yard of the Month” award for October 2009 is the Casado Family at 36 Linehan Street on Prospect Hill. Mayor Sullivan said, “The efforts of Juan and Yolanda Casado are an inspiration to the residents of Lawrence to keep the city clean and show great pride in their property.”

Juan and Yolanda Casado have made great efforts to keep their yard clean and free of litter, right out to the street. The Casado home is downhill from Ferry

Street and they painstakingly pick up the trash that blows from that busy street. It is this hard work, great creativity and much pride in its upkeep that has earned the Casado Family the coveted recognition of Yard of the Month award for October 2009.

Suggestions for next month's Yard of the Month and Storefront of the Month are accepted via email to FOConnor@CityofLawrence.com or can be submitted to the Community Development Department, located at 147 Haverhill St.

La Oficina del Alcalde de Lawrence Michael Sullivan se complace en anunciar que los ganadores del prestigioso premio “Jardín del Mes” para octubre 2009 fue la casa en el 36 de la Calle Linehan. El Alcalde Sullivan dijo, “Los esfuerzos de la Familia Casado en el jardín localizado en la Calle Linehan son una inspiración a los residentes de Lawrence a eliminar la basura y a mejorar la calidad de vida en Lawrence.”

La Familia de Juan y Yolanda Casado ha puesto mucho esfuerzo en mantener su propiedad libre de basura, hasta afuera en la calle. Ellos tienen un jardín maravilloso

con un patio bien mantenido, libre de basura, que ha ganado el premio “Jardín del Mes” de octubre 2009.

Sugerencias para el próximo mes de Jardín del Mes y Tienda del Mes son aceptadas vía correo electrónico a FOConnor@CityofLawrence.com o pueden ser entregadas al Departamento del Desarrollo Comunitario localizado en la 147 de la calle Haverhill.

De izquierda a derecha en la foto: Señor Juan Casado, Señora Yolanda Casado y Frank O'Connor, Jr., Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario. Crédito de fotografía: Elena Margarita.

CONTINUE FROM PAGE 15

DÍAZ: From My Corner

municipal employees need customer service training in order to be polite with the residents and taxpayers. Having his office next door to City Hall for a few years allowed him to learn first hand of the mistreatment people go through when trying to pay a bill or request some information. “At the same time, we will demand respect for all city workers,” he added.

No guts!

When it comes to the budget problems in the City of Lawrence, the blame has been usually placed on the Budget and Finance Director Mark Andrews. It’s true that he makes magic with numbers appearing before the City Council with solutions that we later find not to be accurate or appropriate. He is there at the mayor’s whim, spending money as the mayor decides to do, looking for solutions another day.

Comptroller David Camasso is one that annoys the blood out of my pores! He told me (more than once) when he was finally hired, that he would be an honest comptroller who would not agree to paying any bill unless there was a line item justifying it but David changed and became part of the gang.

He is a coward who would not stand up to Andrews or the mayor. If he refused to go along approving bills for payment knowing that Andrews was making illegal transfers to pay for them, I am willing to bet that the City Council would have protected his position if he was unfairly fired. Today, they have nothing but disdain for him for not having the guts to defend the city.

Seems that he was the only one who didn’t know that Sullivan’s days were numbered.

Advice for Andrea and Judi

Sunday’s Boston Globe reported about a Canadian woman on long-term sick leave for depression who says “she lost her benefits because her insurance agent found photos of her on Facebook in which she appeared to be having fun.”

We know that Andrea Traficanti has been collecting her full salary for a couple of years, yet she continues active in politics and shopping. When Patrick Blanchette won reelection in November of 2007, she ran his campaign and that night she was jubilant at City Hall celebrating yet, she had been out of work since January on work-related stress. She was recently seen at the Wyndham Hotel enjoying the Taste of the Andovers with her husband and friends.

In Judi Perkins’ case, nobody knows why she is getting her full salary because her workman’s compensation case was rejected over a month ago. Supposedly she has been collecting vacation pay since June.

According to the Globe article, Nathalie Blanchard has been on leave from her job at IBM in Bromont, Quebec, for the last year. She was diagnosed with major depression and was receiving monthly sick-leave benefits from insurance giant Manulife.

But the payments dried up this fall and when Blanchard called Manulife, she says she was told she was available to work because of Facebook. She said her insurance agent described several pictures Blanchard posted on Facebook, including ones showing her having a good time at

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RUMBO
 315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843
 Email: editor@rumbonews.com

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

Hunger is Real

A big thank you to the Lawrencians Giving Thanks, the Andover Rotary Club, and all of the other service groups in the Merrimack Valley hosting food drives this season.

I ask everyone who is able, to please help out by participating in food drives or contributing to local food pantries.

Congresswoman Niki Tsongas recently hosted a human services forum to hear first-hand how the economic downturn is affecting low-income families in our area. We heard story after story of people turning to food pantries to feed their families.

Hunger hurts. Please join me in helping our food pantries stay stocked this holiday season and throughout the year. Many of our neighbors are counting on us.

Lawrencians Giving Thanks drop off sites for boxed pasta, rice, canned goods, and cereal are: Lawrence City Hall, Senior Center y Lawrence Public Library.

Find out how to help one of the many local food pantries helping our neighbors by visiting Essex County Hunger Relief at www.essexcountyhungerrelief.org or the Merrimack Valley Food Bank at www.mvfb.org.

Sue Tucker
 State Senator

a Chippendales bar show, at her birthday party and on a sun holiday.

OUCH!

Exercise for your health

I recently attended the YMCA National Assembly in Chicago, resulting in two days of very interesting and enjoyable presentations that will help me in my personal and business life, as well. I was representing the Merrimack Valley YMCA as a volunteer board member.

A great deal of time was spent on the issue of obesity in this country thanks to the retired executive from the Center for Disease Control who offered some alarming information about the need for a program like the YMCA’s Activate America given this country’s health crisis. We know that to be a big problem in the Merrimack Valley and we try to bring the public education on the dangers of obesity and the opportunities available to exercise. Now that the YMCA has a new Membership For All program giving individuals and families the opportunity to sign up based on their income, I highly recommend it.

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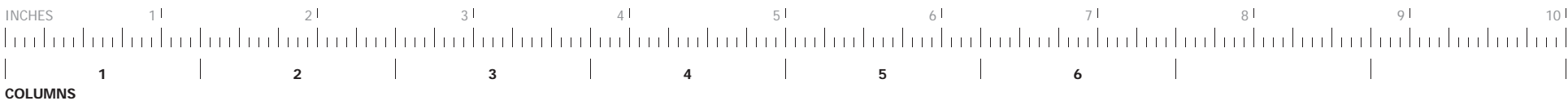
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CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 4

DÍAZ: Desde Mi Esquina

Impuestos Patty Cook estaba en su oficina y respondió a algunas de las preguntas que el nuevo alcalde le hizo de manera profesional, pero cuando nos fuimos, Lantigua señaló que es raro que su oficina está ubicada en el tercer piso, al lado de la de Andrews, mientras que los dos departamentos bajo su supervisión se encuentran en el primer piso. "Ella debe ser más accesible a su personal y al público en busca de ayuda", dijo.

Lo que el alcalde-electo no sabe es que ella está aislada allá arriba, no contesta el teléfono y ni siquiera devuelve las llamadas. Una de sus funciones es la presentación de gravámenes sobre las propiedades que deben dinero a la ciudad por impuestos a la propiedad o facturas de agua y no ha hecho nada en muchos, muchos años.

El Contralor, David Camasso también faltaba. Más tarde supimos que se refirió a la visita de Lantigua como "amenazando a los empleados." Él se limitó a mirar las alfombras a la vez que los saludaba y ellos se presentaron entre sonrisas. No sé lo que tenía de "amenazante" eso.

El Departamento de Obras Públicas, al parecer estaban satisfechos de verle y le dieron un breve recorrido por sus oficinas, mientras que explicaron sus posiciones. Patty Denault, asistente administrativa de Frank McCann, mencionó que su jefe estaba en otro lugar, pero no sabía cuándo tenía previsto regresar. Cuando salíamos del edificio, el señor McCann se reunió con el Sr. Lantigua en Appleton Way, porque, como él dijo, "Patty me llamó."

A medida que caminamos por los distintos departamentos, Lantigua hizo una nota mental de los escritorios vacíos como consecuencia de los despidos o las jubilaciones. Eso les dio curiosidad en cuanto a lo que puede venir con el nuevo año, pero explicó que habrá cambios

realizados en el Ayuntamiento, en particular en la filosofía.

En general, cree que los empleados municipales necesitan capacitación en el servicio al cliente con el fin de ser amable con los residentes y los contribuyentes. Teniendo su oficina al lado del ayuntamiento por varios años le permitió conocer directamente de las personas que pasan por malos tratos cuando se trata de pagar una cuenta o solicitar alguna información. "Al mismo tiempo, vamos a exigir el respeto hacia todos los trabajadores de la ciudad", agregó.

Sin agallas!

Cuando se trata de los problemas de presupuesto en la Ciudad de Lawrence, la culpa ha sido por lo regular puesta sobre el Director de Presupuesto y Finanzas Mark Andrews. Es cierto que él hace magia con los números cuando comparece ante el Concilio de la Ciudad con soluciones que más tarde nos encontramos que no son precisas o convenientes. Él está ahí por capricho del alcalde, gastando dinero como el alcalde decida hacer y buscando soluciones otro día.

¡El Contralor David Camasso es uno que me saca la sangre de los poros! Él me dijo (más de una vez) cuando finalmente fue contratado, que iba a ser un contralor honesto, que no estaría de acuerdo en pagar cualquier factura a menos que hubiera una línea en el presupuesto que lo justifica, pero David cambió y pasó a formar parte de la ganga.

Él es un cobarde que no se opondría a Andrews, o el alcalde. Si se hubiese negado a aceptar la aprobación de medidas para el pago de facturas a sabiendas de que Andrews hacía transferencias ilegales para

pagar por ellas, estoy dispuesto a apostar que el concilio le habría protegido su cargo si llegase a ser injustamente despedido. Hoy en día, no tienen nada sino desprecio por él por no tener las agallas para defender la ciudad.

Parece que él era el único que no sabía que los días de Sullivan estaban contados.

Consejos para Andrea y Judi

El Boston Globe del domingo informó acerca de una mujer canadiense que estaba deshabilitada por sufrir de depresión y dice que "ella perdió sus beneficios debido a que su agente de seguros encontró fotos suyas en Facebook en las que parecía estarse divirtiendo".

Sabemos que Andrea Traficanti ha estado cobrando su salario completo durante un par de años, mientras que ella sigue activa en la política y saliendo de compras. Cuando Patrick Blanchette ganó la reelección en noviembre de 2007, ella corrió su campaña y esa noche fue jubilosa al Ayuntamiento a celebrar, sin embargo, había estado sin trabajar desde enero por motivo del estrés laboral. Recientemente fue vista en el Hotel Wyndham disfrutando The Taste of the Andovers con su marido y amigos.

En el caso de Judi Perkins, nadie sabe por qué está recibiendo su salario completo porque el caso de indemnización (workman's comp) fue rechazado hace un mes. Se supone que ella ha estado cobrando pago de vacaciones desde junio.

Según el artículo del Globe, Nathalie Blanchard ha estado ausente de su trabajo en IBM en Bromont, Quebec, durante el último año. Se le diagnosticó depresión

mayor y estaba recibiendo un pago mensual por beneficios de enfermedad de la compañía de seguros Manulife.

Sin embargo, los pagos desaparecieron este otoño y cuando Blanchard llamó a Manulife, le dijeron que estaba disponible para trabajar a causa de Facebook. Dijo que su agente de seguros describió varias imágenes que Blanchard había publicado en Facebook, incluso mostrándola pasando un buen rato en un show de un bar de Chippendales en su fiesta de cumpleaños y en unas vacaciones soleadas.

¡AY!

Ejercicio para la salud

Hace poco asistí a la Asamblea Nacional de YMCA en Chicago, lo que fueron dos días de presentaciones muy interesantes y agradables que me ayudarán en mi vida personal y mi trabajo también. Yo fui en representación de la Merrimack Valley YMCA como miembro voluntaria de la junta directiva.

Una gran parte del tiempo se dedicó a la cuestión de la obesidad en este país gracias a una ejecutiva retirada del Centro para el Control de Enfermedades, que ofreció algunas informaciones alarmantes sobre la necesidad de un programa como Activate America de la YMCA ante la crisis de salud de este país. Sabemos que ese es un gran problema en el Valle de Merrimack y tratamos de llevarle educación al público sobre los peligros de la obesidad y las oportunidades disponibles para el ejercicio. Ahora que la YMCA le ofrece a individuos y familias la oportunidad de inscribirse como socios basándose en sus ingresos, lo recomiendo efusivamente.

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December 5, 2009 - March 6, 2010

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Thinking about camp for next summer? Come meet our Camp Directors and have all of your questions about our day and resident camps answered.

When:

Thursday, December 10
4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Where:

Methuen YMCA
129 Haverhill Street
Methuen, MA



Camp Lawrence for Boys and Camp Nokomis for Girls

Lake Winnepesaukee, Age 8-16

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Salem, NH, Age 6-13

Merrimack Valley YMCA

Camp Registration Office

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Lawrence, MA 01840

978.975.1330 campinfo@mvymca.org

www.mvymcacamps.org

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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.

Lights will Sparkle at Smolak Farms Smolak Farms hosts annual tree lighting festival with activities for the entire family!

On Saturday, November 28, 2009, from 11:00AM to 5:00 PM, Smolak Farms presents the annual Tree Lighting Festival. The tradition continues this year at Smolak Farms as families come out into the fields to choose and cut their very own Christmas tree! Families can choose from an assortment of pre cut trees, wreaths, Holiday gifts, decorations or baked goods! The kids craft area will include holiday crafts, face painting and coloring books!

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

11:00am - 3:00pm

Smolak Express Train ride with Mrs. Claus

12:00pm to 1:00pm

Wreath Decorating Demonstration

1:00pm to 2:00pm

Gingerbread House Demonstration

2:00 to 3:00pm

Cooking Demonstration

4:00pm to 5:00pm

Carolers will be singing holiday favorites

Santa will arrive to light the Christmas tree at 4:30pm!

Also featuring crafts for Kids throughout the afternoon along with stories with Mrs. Claus!

Come for the trees and leave with a memorable holiday experience for whole the family!

ABOUT SMOLAK FARMS

Smolak Farms in North Andover, MA, offers something fun for everyone-blending a 300 year old New England Farm complete with orchards, berry fields and family activities. The Family Farm experience goes beyond the average petting zoo! While young visitors can still meet their favorite barnyard animals, they have an opportunity to go a step further with exciting programs and activities at our rural farm located just 45 minutes north of Boston.

Smolak Farms . 315 South Bradford Street, North Andover, MA. 978-682-6332. www.smolakfarms.com.

NASHUA STROLL: A CHANCE TO HELP HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HELP FAMILIES IN NEED

An Annual Tradition Returns to the Stroll for a Good Cause

Greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity will return this year to the Nashua Stroll with its famous annual Bake Sale. The event will take place on Saturday, November 28th, from 5PM- 9 PM. It will be held at the United Methodist Church on 154 Main Street, Nashua, New Hampshire (03060). Greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity's bake sale has always been a well-known stop during the Nashua Stroll. Despite affordable sale prices on a large variety of home-made pastries and hot chocolate, last year's proceeds exceeded \$1,000. This year the organization is hoping to double that amount and will include the sale of crafts in order to help increase proceeds. Greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity is preparing to build homes for two families in the spring of 2010.

The organization seeks volunteers for baked good donations and to help run the event. The proceeds are all directed toward the Greater Nashua Habitat for Humanity and the organization's efforts to build and renovate houses, "so that there are decent houses in decent communities in which people can live and grow".

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need.

If you are interested in baking something for the sale, or volunteering to help at the bake sale, please contact Ellen Svenson at 603-883-0295 or at office@nashahabitat.org.

Fiesta de Navidad en THAN

Anote la fecha ... porque está invitado a la Fiesta Annual de Navidad de la Asociación de Vecinos de Tower Hill el viernes, 4 de diciembre 2009, de 6:30-9:30 pm, en Our Lady of Good Counsel School Judson Hall.

Como siempre, nuestras actividades son gratuitas y abiertas a todos, sin embargo, estamos pidiendo que todos los que asistan traigan un alimento no perecedero por persona. Todas las donaciones serán entregadas a la recaudación anual de alimentos de Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition. Traiga a su familia, amigos y vecinos.

Para cualquier consulta adicional, para ofrecerse como voluntario para ayudar a hacer una donación para nuestros sorteos, favor de llamar al presidente, Keith Wlodyka al 603-548-9929, o escribale a towerhillman@hotmail.com o al vicepresidente, Dan Clark, 978-902-0595, mragspicker@verizon.net.

El sitio oficial de la Tower Hill Neighborhood Association es www.thnalawrence.com.

THNA Christmas Party

Save the date... because you are invited to Tower Hill Neighborhood Association's Annual Christmas Party on Friday December 4, 2009, 6:30-9:30pm, at Our Lady of Good Counsel School's Judson Hall.

As always our events are FREE and open to everyone, however we are asking that all who attend bring one non-perishable food item per person. All donations will be given to the Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition Annual Food Basket Drive. Bring your family, friends and neighbors.

For any additional questions, volunteer to help or to make a donation for our raffles, please contact THAN President, Keith Wlodyka 603-548-9929, towerhillman@hotmail.com or THAN Vice President, Dan Clark at 978-902-0595 or mragspicker@verizon.net.

Tower Hill Neighborhood Association Official Website: www.thnalawrence.com.

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

3rd ANNUAL "ED ANDERSON" MEMORIAL FOOD DRIVE

Now accepting non-perishable food items

Throughout the months of November and December LMCC will collect non-perishable food for the upcoming LMCC holiday food basket program. Goods will be distributed to families in need during the holidays.

Items include: canned goods, soups, rice, stuffing, cranberry sauce, instant potatoes, pudding, etc. Checks will also be accepted.

Please join us as we preserve the memory of a great leader in the community through honoring his passionate work for providing to families in need. During 2008 LMCC was able to distribute over 200 dinners to families in need.

For more information please call the offices of Lawrence/Methuen community coalition at 978-975-8793. Checks will also be accepted with 100% of proceeds going towards the purchase of food.

C/o LMCC
"Ed Anderson" Memorial Food Drive
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CALENDARIO | CALENDAR

CITY OF LAWRENCE OPEN SPACE PLAN AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT

The Draft 2009 City of Lawrence Open Space and Recreation Plan is available for review and public comment at City Hall, the Community Development Department, the Lawrence Public Library (Main Branch), and the Groundwork Lawrence website (www.groundworklawrence.org/openspaceplan). The renewal of the City's Open Space Plan was managed by Groundwork Lawrence, under contract with the City of Lawrence's Community Development Department, and includes additional research as requested by the Lawrence Conservation Commission. This Plan reflects the City of Lawrence's commitment to improving the quality of life for residents through support of community initiatives and open space improvements.

The attached document reflects the community's sentiments about open space and recreation needs. On behalf of the City of Lawrence, Groundwork Lawrence conducted extensive public outreach, including individual interviews with local officials, a series of three community meetings, and distribution of bilingual (English/Spanish) surveys to residents and students across the community (with over 250 residents completing surveys). Groundwork Lawrence also met with several neighborhood associations and made presentations about the Open Space Plan renewal to the Lawrence Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Historical Commission, Board of Health, and Redevelopment Authority.

We welcome public comments now on the document through December 23, 2009. Comments should be submitted to Kathryn Prybylski, Groundwork Lawrence Project Manager, by any of the following four methods:

In writing: Kathryn Prybylski, Groundwork Lawrence, 60 Island St., Lawrence, MA 01840; By telephone: 978.974.0770; By fax: 978-974-0882; Or via email: kprybylski@groundworklawrence.org.

At the close of the public comment period (December 23, 2009) all comments will be incorporated into the final document and submitted to the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA). By renewing the Open Space and Recreation Plan the City of Lawrence will remain eligible for funding managed by the EOEEA. We look forward to receiving your comments.

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.

Venta Navideña de artículos usados

Viernes 4 de diciembre
10am - 2pm

Lawrence General Hospital presenta su venta de Navidad con los mejores productos de su tienda de artículos de segunda mano. Habrá mercancía de marca y en muy buen estado, cosas para la casa y cosas típicas de Navidad. Habrá también deliciosos productos caseros de pastelería. También celebraremos el sorteo de cestas de Navidad que contienen cosas tan valiosas como entradas para los Celtics, entradas para el Ballet de Boston "Cascanueces", \$500 en efectivo, etc. Los boletos serán vendidos a \$1 cada uno, \$5 por seis y por \$10 le damos 13. Todas las ventas ayudarán al Auxiliary (el cuerpo de voluntarios) a completar su promesa para la unidad pediátrica y la unidad de cuidados especiales de bebés.

Holiday Thrift Shop Lobby Sale

Friday, December 4th
10am - 2pm

The Lawrence General Hospital Auxiliary is hosting their Holiday Thrift Shop Lobby Sale. There is wonderful merchandise, household goods and holiday items. A Bakery Table will be available with delicious homemade baked goods. Beautiful Raffle Baskets will be displayed, including Boston Celtics Tickets, Boston Nutcracker tickets and \$500 cash! Tickets are for sale at \$1 each, 6 tickets for \$5, and 13 tickets for \$10. All proceeds will benefit the Auxiliary's pledge towards the Pediatrics Unit and Special Care Nursery.

The Arc of Greater Lawrence Presents: Ho-Ho-Holiday Hop

Friday, December 4th, 2009
7:00 - 9:00pm
West Middle School
70 Shawsheen Rd., Andover, MA
RSVP Before Nov. 30th, 2009

Arc Members: \$5. Non-Arc Members: \$10

Kitten Adopt-a-thon

Your kitten companion awaits you at the MSPCA at Nevins Farm's "Kitten Adopt-a-thon"! On Saturday and Sunday, December 5th & 6th, extra staff and volunteers will be on hand from 1:00pm-5:00pm to help you

and your family members find the perfect match from over 60 kittens that are awaiting new homes. Or, if you are hoping to find an adult feline to share your life, you will be able to choose from the several hundred that are currently in the care of the MSPCA, all in search of their "forever" homes.

To learn more about the Kitten Adoptathon and the animals & programs of the MSPCA at Nevins Farm, call (978) 687-7453 x6101, or visit the web at www.mspca.org/nevins.

Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Ballet"

Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Ballet" is set to take the stage for its 14th season at the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts, Merrimack College. Over 65 dancers of all ages from many different studios have learned their choreography and rehearsed their roles with the talented and experienced NECB company and school directors: Mrs. Phyllis George and Mrs. Roshni Pecora.

Performances will be Friday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 PM, Saturday, Dec. 12 at 2 PM and 7:30 PM and Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2 PM. Tickets may be purchased online at www.newenglandcivicalballet.org or by calling the studio at 978-975-0289. Tickets for adults are \$24 and for children and senior citizens they are \$22. Group rates are available if you have 20 or more attending one show.

The ballet centers on Clara who dreams that her special Nutcracker doll, received earlier that evening from her mysterious Uncle Drosselmeyer, turns into her prince. He saves her from a fierce battle between the mice and toy soldiers but it is she who saves him from the Mouse Queen. He carries her off through the snowy forest and takes her by sled to his Land of Sweets. There she is greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy, who rewards Clara's bravery with entertainment from talented dancers representing sweets from different countries.

Is it a dream or is it real? Come enjoy this beautiful presentation of a holiday classic

and see for yourself! The costumes, scenery, choreography, and especially the talent of the dancers of all ages will dazzle and entertain you from beginning to end.

Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Presents... A Night with Keith Lockhart and The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra!

Only \$77.00
Saturday, December 12, 2009 @ 7:30PM
Lowell Memorial Auditorium
50 East Street, Lowell, MA 01852

There are many traditions throughout the Holiday Season, but none as magical as the Holiday Pops! (and you don't have to drive to Boston). Enjoy an exciting evening with your family, friends or reward your business associates!

Great Seats-Low Price! If you are interested in purchasing tickets Please call 978-686-0900.

Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Night at the Boston Celtics

SPECIAL TICKET PRICE ONLY \$55.00

Sunday, December 20, 2009
Great Seats-Low Price. Merrimack Valley Chamber Tickets are in the Halo-these seats are in a private area across from the media seating. They are not available through the TD Bank Garden box office!

Be there to see Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen and Rasheed Wallace take on the best from the NBA! Enjoy an exciting evening with your family, friends or reward your business associates as the Boston Celtics take on Minnesota!

If you are interested in purchasing tickets Please call 978-686-0900.

¡Nuestro Calendario es Tuyo!
Envianos tu evento a calendar@rumbonews.com



Please join us for
Pet Photos With Santa
Sunday December 6th
11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Burlington PETCO
51 Middlesex Turnpike
Burlington, MA
(781) 221-7160

Your choice of
high-quality
digital photo or CD

\$20 (cash or check only)
No appointment needed

Billerica Cat Care Coalition
www.billericacatcarecoalition.org

Our Wish List

Can't join us? Perhaps you'd like to send the cats and kittens a stocking stuffer. Maybe a toy, some kitten milk replacer, or a soft bed? The BCCC kitties now have a wish list on Amazon.com. Would you like to help make their wishes come true? Go to www.amazon.com, click on Gifts & Wish Lists at the top of the page, then type our name in the search box under Find Wish Lists.

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- Emergencias atendidas el mismo día

OFERTA INTRODUCTIVA

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Niños \$124

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