



Lantigua Juramentado

Lantigua sworn-in

- 02 | Discurso inaugural del Alcalde William Lantigua
- 14 | Mayor William Lantigua's Inaugural Speech

El Alcalde de la Ciudad de Lawrence, Honorable William Lantigua, saluda al público asistente estimado en más de 1,500 durante su discurso de inauguración llevado a cabo en el Auditorio de la nueva escuela secundaria de Lawrence. "Quiero ser recordado como el mejor alcalde que esta ciudad ha tenido", dijo Lantigua a la jubilosa multitud.

The Mayor of the City of Lawrence, Honorable William Lantigua, salutes the large crowd estimated at more than 1,500 during his inaugural address, held at the Performing Arts Center of the Lawrence High School. "I want to be remembered as the best mayor the city ever had," said Lantigua to the jubilant crowd.

Photo courtesy of John Mejia



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Fiorentini took Oath of Office

Haverhill Mayor Re-elect James J. Fiorentini taking oath of office administered by Presiding Justice of the Haverhill District Court, the Honorable Stephen S. Abany.



| 07

Northern Essex Community College will offer six courses infused with an eco-friendly theme, beginning in January, including Professor Paul Chanley's "Green Technology" course which will be offered on Monday and Wednesday mornings.

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RICHARD AYBAR & DALIA DÍAZ



CROSSOVER

Discurso inaugural del Alcalde William Lantigua

Enero 4, 2010

Hola familia... Buenas noches amigos.

Reverendo Clero, Congresista Tsongas, Gobernador Patrick, Fiscal del Distrito Blodgett, Senadora Tucker, Senador Pichardo, Representantes Torrisi, Finegold, y L'Italien, Sheriff Cousins, Sheriff Glodis, concejales de la Ciudad, Miembros del Comité Escolar, mis amigos que viajaron desde la República Dominicana, compañeros alcaldes y distinguidos invitados.

Hoy es día de dar gracias. Hoy les doy gracias a la gente de esta gran Ciudad de Lawrence, por permitirme estar aquí esta noche y este juramento especial del cargo. Es un honor y no voy a defraudarlos.

Que gran país este en que vivimos.

Que gran ciudad esta en que vivimos.

Hoy es un día histórico.

Algunas personas decían que no se podía hacer. Hace tres años, el Estado de Massachusetts eligió el primer Gobernador afro-americano. No porque él es afro-americano, sino porque era la mejor persona para el trabajo.

Algunas personas dicen que no se podía hacer. Hace un año, nuestro país, Estados Unidos, eligió al primer presidente afro-americano. No porque él es afro-americano, sino porque era la mejor persona para el trabajo.

Algunas personas dijeron que no se podía hacer. El verano pasado, la primera latina fue elegida para servir en la Corte Suprema de Estados Unidos, no porque ella es una latina, sino porque era la mejor persona para el trabajo.

Algunas personas dijeron que no se podía hacer. Hace dos meses, mis amigos, los residentes de esta gran ciudad de Lawrence eligieron el primer alcalde latino en el Estado de Massachusetts. No porque yo soy un latino, sino porque he ganado su confianza y usted cree que yo soy la mejor persona para este trabajo.

Me siento honrado por este momento histórico, pero permítanme ser muy claro con todos ustedes. Estoy muy feliz de ser el primero, pero al ser el primero es sólo una coincidencia. Ser la primera sólo es importante para los que escriben sobre la historia. Para mí, ser el primero es insignificante. Lo que va a ser importante para mí es que cuando mis días hayan terminado en el ayuntamiento y los libros de historia se escriban, se lea que William Lantigua fue el mejor alcalde de la ciudad ha tenido siempre, y por cierto... da la casualidad de que era latino.

Esta noche tomé un juramento aquí, pero recuerde que esta ceremonia es mucho más importante que una sola persona. Es más grande que el juramento de un hombre. Esta noche es un juramento de compromiso de todos nosotros con la gran ciudad de Lawrence.

Hoy en día, les pido a todos que nos unamos como una gran ciudad por una causa común y un propósito común. Hoy debemos estar por encima de nuestras diferencias, que pueden ser de carácter político o personal, para enfrentar los retos del futuro y establecer nuestras metas para el mañana, con el fin de hacer eso, todos debemos darnos cuenta de dónde venimos



"Lo hice a mi manera. Lo hicimos a nuestra manera", dijo Lantigua mientras la música interpretaba la famosa canción de Frank Sinatra.

"I did it my way. We did it our way," said Lantigua while the music played Frank Sinatra's famous song.

y hacia dónde queremos ir.

No hay un día que pasa que yo no pienso en cómo llegué al lugar en que hoy me encuentro.

Por eso estoy eternamente agradecido a los Estados Unidos y de la gran Ciudad de Lawrence y a todos ustedes por permitir que un niño de 19 años llegara aquí desde la República Dominicana y se les ofrecieran las mismas oportunidades que a todos los estadounidenses, tener un trabajo, formar una familia, postularse para un cargo, y ser elegido como Alcalde de la ciudad más grande del estado de Massachusetts. Hoy también quiero honrar y rendir homenaje a aquellos que vinieron antes que nosotros. Quiero agradecer a aquellos que trabajaron con nosotros, codo con codo, a lo largo del viaje.

Quiero agradecer a mi madre, Ana Soto y toda mi familia.

También quiero dar las gracias a mi jefa de oficina, voluntaria y querida amiga Annette Webster y a Tom Vallante. Además, a Teresa Polizotto y también quiero reconocer al número uno de mis aficionados, el también voluntario, por su ayudar en muchas otras actividades de la ciudad... Jude Charles... haga el favor de ponerse de pie... quiero un aplauso para Jude Charles.

POR FAVOR VEA **LANTIGUA**

■ CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 20

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

Medidas severas son necesarias

Durante su discurso inaugural, nuestro recién electo Alcalde de Lawrence dijo haber recibido el mandato de la ciudadanía para corregir nuestros problemas económicos y que él había aceptado esa responsabilidad.

Él admitió que para corregir nuestros problemas se requería una fuerte disciplina fiscal, drásticas decisiones, consolidación de departamentos y renegociar contratos. El dijo que estaba dispuesto a dirigir ese esfuerzo.

A la mañana siguiente, en su primer día de trabajo, Lantigua y su equipo hicieron buena sus palabras dichas en su discurso cuando dejaron cesante a varios jefes, mientras consolidaban sus departamentos. ¡Y hay más en camino!

Nadie quiere ver a las personas perder sus trabajos, especialmente en esta economía pero la realidad es que la ciudad debe de ser manejada como un negocio y cuando el negocio está flojo, el presidente (en este caso el alcalde) no tiene más remedio que tomar drásticas decisiones.

Por mucho tiempo hemos venido llamando la atención a la anterior administración de que la solución para balancear el presupuesto no es elevar los impuestos sino antes controlar los gastos.

Lo cierto es que ese despilfarro se extendió por mucho tiempo, que controlar los gastos no solucionará el problema de por sí y que vamos a terminar pagando impuestos más altos aún.

¡Esta es la herencia que nos dejó la administración anterior!

Severe measures are necessary

During his inaugural speech, our newly elected Mayor of Lawrence, William Lantigua said that he received a mandate from the citizens of Lawrence to address and fix our economic problems and that he has accepted that responsibility.

He conceded that to fix our problems will require strong fiscal discipline, tough decisions, consolidating departments, and renegotiating contracts and that he was ready to lead in that effort.

The next morning, his first day at work, Lantigua and his team made good on what he meant in his speech by terminating some department heads while consolidating their departments. And more are coming!

Nobody wants to see people losing their jobs, especially in this economy but reality is that the city, has to be run as a business and when business is slow, the CEO (in this case the mayor) has to make extremely hard decisions.

For a long time we have been calling on the former administration that in order to balance the budget, the solution was not in raising taxes but controlling expenditures.

The truth now is that mismanagement went on for so long, that controlling expenses won't solve the problem by itself and we may end up paying higher taxes anyway.

That is what we inherited from our old administration!

Cartas al Editor | Letters to the Editor

Rumbo

315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843

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.

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

Rumbo

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POR DALIA DÍAZ
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Desde Mi Esquina



■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 15

¡A su manera!

Durante la inauguración del Alcalde William Lantigua, hubo un giro inesperado cuando inmediatamente después de la ceremonia de juramento, se escuchó la voz de Frank Sinatra cantando "My Way". La gente comenzó a especular sobre su significado o propósito, sin poder encontrar la correlación con un evento de este tipo.

Es simple. Él no cedió a la presión y las críticas y corrió la campaña como él quiso.

La Administración de Lantigua; cambios de personal

La siguiente lista de cambios de personal fue emitida en el primer día de la administración de William Lantigua. El Alcalde Lantigua se reunió con los concejales por separado y les explicó las razones para haber tomado unas decisiones

tan drásticas antes de que se reunieran en una asamblea ordinaria del Consejo de la Ciudad el martes, 5 de enero. Les explicó que los problemas que enfrenta nuestra ciudad son devastadores, alcanzando un punto crítico y que requiere un cambio inmediato para su supervivencia.

Mientras que el nuevo alcalde planea una reorganización total de varios departamentos de la ciudad, la eliminación de estos puestos es necesaria en este momento:

Myles Burke, Comisionado de Servicios de Inspección
Linda Schiavone, Directora del Departamento de Recreación
Michael Sweeney, Director del Departamento de Planificación

Ellos han sido puestos en licencia administrativa pagada hasta la votación final del Consejo de la Ciudad.

Hubo también el nombramiento de Patrick Blanchette, como Director Interino de Desarrollo Económico y Frank Bonet como Director de Personal Interino.

Martha Vélez ha sido nombrada Directora Suplente del Consejo de Ancianos mientras que seguirá manteniendo su posición actual.

Mientras tanto, los empleados del Departamento de Servicios de Inspección y los empleados del Departamento de Recreación estarán bajo Frank McCann, Director de Obras Públicas. Los empleados del Departamento de Planificación reportarán a Patrick Blanchette, el Jefe de Director de Desarrollo Económico, mientras que los empleados de la división de estacionamiento se dirigirán a Leonard Degnan, el Jefe Oficial Administrativo.

Hubo otras sorpresas como haciendo que Peter Blanchette regrese a su antiguo puesto de Inspector de Construcción para la ciudad; él recibió lay-off hace unas pocas semanas. Luego, en otra notificación fue nombrado Comisionado Interino de Construcción en el Departamento de Servicios de Inspección.

Lantigua revocó el nombramiento de Alex Vega, como Presidente de la Junta de Asesores y permanecerá como Asesor de la Ciudad de Lawrence. El reportará a la Sra. Breda Daou, a quien nombró como presidenta de la junta.

La inauguración

Asistí a la inauguración del nuevo gobierno municipal el pasado lunes y estaba muy impresionada con el Centro de Artes Escénicas y Lawrence High School en general.

Como Wilfredo Laboy, el ex superintendente escolar me tenía prohibida la entrada a todos los edificios escolares, aproveché de oferta de Franklin Fernández, para darme una gira en lugar de socializar en la cafetería.

Franklin es maestro en la Escuela Internacional y tomó de su tiempo para mostrarme los alrededores por lo cual estoy muy agradecida.

Si hay un mundo...

Le recomiendo que lea la columna de Maureen Nimmo, "Las Notas de su Bibliotecaria" en la página 10, para que vea que cuando la gente quiere cooperar, encuentra la manera de hacerlo.

Su esposo es Norm Nimmo, el coordinador de reciclaje en la ciudad y se le ocurrió mencionar que hay residentes en la ciudad que no pueden recoger etiquetas de barriles de basura y poder utilizarlos para reciclaje porque el ayuntamiento está abierto en horas muy inconvenientes para las personas que trabajan. Ella sugirió tenerlas a su disposición en la Biblioteca Pública, que está abierta hasta tarde en la noche y los fines de semana.

¡Esa es la actitud correcta! Gracias, Maureen.

El Gobernador Patrick presenta legislación para ayudar a la Ciudad de Lawrence a recuperar su seguridad fiscal

Para ayudar a la Ciudad de Lawrence a controlar extremos desafíos fiscales, el Gobernador Deval Patrick presentó hoy una legislación que dará a la ciudad nuevas herramientas para ayudar a equilibrar sus libros y fijarse el camino hacia un futuro económico sólido.

La Ciudad de Lawrence se enfrenta a un déficit en el año fiscal actual en el presupuesto operativo de aproximadamente \$9.5 millones y un déficit de proyectos de capital de \$8 millones. Lawrence también se enfrenta a un déficit presupuestario previsto en el año fiscal 2011. La ciudad no será capaz de resolver estos déficits presupuestarios sin la autoridad para pedir préstamos, que los funcionarios no pueden hacer bajo la ley actual. Sin la acción del Estado, la Ciudad de Lawrence será incapaz de seguir financiando las operaciones críticas de la ciudad para esta primavera.

"Esta es una manera responsable de ayudar a la comunidad de Lawrence a volver a ponerse en pie", dijo el Gobernador Patrick. "A través del apoyo y la supervisión estricta, este proyecto de ley puede poner a Lawrence en un curso de estabilidad fiscal a largo plazo y duradera."

"Esta ley provee que al nuevo alcalde y al Concilio de la Ciudad tiempo y herramientas para reparar el presupuesto de Lawrence. Hay mucho trabajo duro por hacer. Este proyecto de ley crea el marco para una asociación fuerte entre la ciudad y el Estado para garantizar la estabilidad financiera de Lawrence en el futuro", dijo la Senadora Susan Tucker.

"Este es un paso hacia adelante para la ciudad en la dirección correcta", dijo el Representante Barry Finegold.

"Le estoy agradecido al Gobernador Patrick por su liderazgo y los esfuerzos para poner a Lawrence en una base financiera segura", dijo el Alcalde-Electo William Lantigua. "Espero seguir trabajando con él y con todos nuestros socios para equilibrar el presupuesto de la Ciudad y fortalecer a nuestra comunidad para hoy y mañana".

La amplia legislación presentada hoy requiere que la Ciudad cumpla con determinadas condiciones para conseguir volver a una senda responsable en el presupuesto y para evitar la necesidad que el Estado implemente una junta de control en Lawrence.

Concretamente, la legislación permite a la Ciudad a pedir prestado dentro de un déficit de hasta \$35 millones para equilibrar su presupuesto FY10 y FY11, lo que permite

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POR FAVOR VEA **LEGISLACIÓN**

■ CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 20

William Lantigua, en su primer día de trabajo como Alcalde de Lawrence

William Lantigua's First day at work as Mayor of Lawrence



El Alcalde de Lawrence, William Lantigua y su personal reunidos con la Delegación de Lawrence el día 5 de enero, 2010, durante su primer día de trabajo. Desde la izquierda: Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua and staff, meet the Lawrence Delegation on January 5th, 2010, during his first day at work. From the left:

State Representative Barry R. Finegold; Mayor's Chief of Staff Lenny Degnan; Interim Economic Development Director Patrick J. Blanchette; City of Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua; State Representative David M. Torrisi and State Senator Susan C. Tucker.



El Alcalde de Lawrence, William Lantigua, durante su primer día de trabajo conferencia brevemente con su Secretaria Confidencial, María Cruz.

Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua during his first day at work confers briefly with his new Confidential Secretary, Maria Cruz.



El Alcalde de Lawrence, William Lantigua a la entrada de su oficina.

Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua at the entrance of his office.



El Director de Personal Interino Frank Bonet, (derecha) también durante su primer día de trabajo con la nueva administración, revisando unos documentos con el Abogado de la Ciudad Richard D'Agostino.

Interim Personnel Director Frank Bonet, right, also on his first day at work for the new administration, going over some documents with City Attorney Richard D'Agostino.

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VOLUNTARIOS

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POR RICHARD A. AYBAR
richardaybar@rumbonews.com



¡Felicitaciones al Alcalde Lantigua!

Y también a la Ciudad de Lawrence por adquirir en él por lo menos la esperanza de que como ciudad podrán salir de hoyo económico en que se encuentran. Hace cuatro años que la Administración Sullivan no brindaba esperanzas. Este es un nuevo comienzo y es muy merecido.

Ahora bien, la "solución" momentánea es la de tomar prestado lo que debe la ciudad. Esto según la legislación que sometió el gobernador al congreso estatal. Esto no es realmente una solución, ¿o sí? No es el mismo hoyo, pero es otro hoyo. Es cuestión de a quien le debes. En el momento que escribo esta nota no se sabe ni siquiera a qué interés.

La solución, sin embargo, no está muy lejos del alcance del Alcalde Lantigua. Se trata de matemática simple. ¿Cuánto recauda la ciudad vía todas sus fuentes de ingreso? ¿Cuál es el gasto de mantener los servicios necesarios para los residentes de Lawrence? Esta administración no solo que no podrá exceder el gasto de su ingreso como la administración pasada, sino que tendrá que gastar por debajo de ese ingreso para poder pagar el préstamo.

La única forma de la ciudad generar ingreso es vía impuestos y tarifas a los residentes. Lo que falta lo completa el Estado (si es que tiene). La única forma de cortar gastos es de reducir personal, el cual reducirá los servicios que la ciudad provee a más básicos aún. Cuando el Alcalde Lantigua les dice a ustedes en su discurso que "tenemos que trabajar juntos", les está diciendo que tienen que estar dispuestos a pagar más y a recibir menos. Ni él ni ustedes tienen de otra.

La incógnita es la siguiente, ¿podrá la Administración Lantigua hacer más de lo que pudo la Administración Sullivan con los recursos que tiene la ciudad? Si la respuesta es sí, entonces su administración será un éxito y estará en camino a ser "el mejor alcalde de Lawrence" como él desea. Si la respuesta es no, la el Estado está dispuesto a venir en un año y medio a hacer ese mismo trabajo. La verdad es que los lawrencianos no tienen la opción de elegir, pero díganme realmente, si se ven forzados a colaborar, ¿Cuál sería su preferencia?

Desde ya eficientes

Las cosas han cambiado. Es hoy el primer día de trabajo del Alcalde Lantigua y ya la página de Internet de la ciudad dice su

¡Búscalo en el Blog!

Para ver estas publicaciones, favor de visitar nuestra sitio de Internet <http://www.rumbonews.com>.

En el 2010... All you need is Love

¡Feliz Año Nuevo! Llegó el 2010 y como resolución me he propuesto mantener mis observaciones al día en mi blog y en el periódico Rumbo. Muchas de las cosas que me gusta observar están relacionadas con el Internet y sé que el blog será más apropiado para muchos de mis escritos. ¡Para muestra un botón! Aunque lo siguiente puede mal interpretarse como un anuncio, es sin duda una forma tradicional de anunciarse y ayudar al mismo tiempo. El siguiente video es un esfuerzo de Starbucks, la cadena de cafeterías, de ayudar a recaudar fondos y sacar a relucir más información sobre el problema del SIDA en Africa. A exactamente la misma hora, en 156 países del mundo, comenzaron a cantar la canción "All you Need is Love" y este video es el resultado. En su página de Internet tienen un archivo de cada país por sí solo. El video de República Dominicana está muy "poco dominicano", ¡me hubiese gustado una bachatica! Encuentra tu país y dime lo que piensas.

Lo que piensan los grandes...

... Periódicos regionales principales del área. He aquí un enlace a lo publicado por el Eagle-Tribune, The Boston Globe, y el Boston Herald (Traducción al Español).

nombre. Los nombres y contactos de todos los nuevos concejales ya también están actualizados. Ahora solo hace falta que la ciudad utilice mejor esta fuente de información.

CITY OF LAWRENCE ELECTED OFFICIALS

2010 to 2012

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HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

HAVERHILL

Inaugural address: Our best days lie ahead

Mayor James J. Fiorentini

Elected officials, Judge Albany, Reverend clergy, members of the public: -- thank you, all of you for coming here today.

Thank you to our clerk, Peggy Toomey, thank you Judge Albany for swearing me in, and thank you to our inaugural committee. To our knowledge, this is the first time in our history when the entire inauguration was done without spending one dime in government money, all the inauguration was paid for privately. I thank our committee and I would like all of you to come by this evening for the citizen's reception at the Public library.

I would like to take a moment to introduce some folks who took the time to come.

My family: my wife Martha, my daughter Christina, my mother, sisters Anne and Susan, aunts uncles and cousins, thank you for being here today.

There are family members who went before me—particularly my Dad, -- and I pause to remember that without my Dad's help, encouragement and advice over the years, I would never be standing here today.

I wish my grandparents could be here today to see what a great country this is, where the grandson of impoverished immigrants is sworn in to be the Mayor

of this great city.

We are honored to have our Congresswoman, Nikki Tsongas, here today.

A number of our State legislative delegation are here today, and I thank them for their hard work for our city: State Representative Brian Dempsey, State Senator Steven Baddour and State Representative Barbara L'Italien.

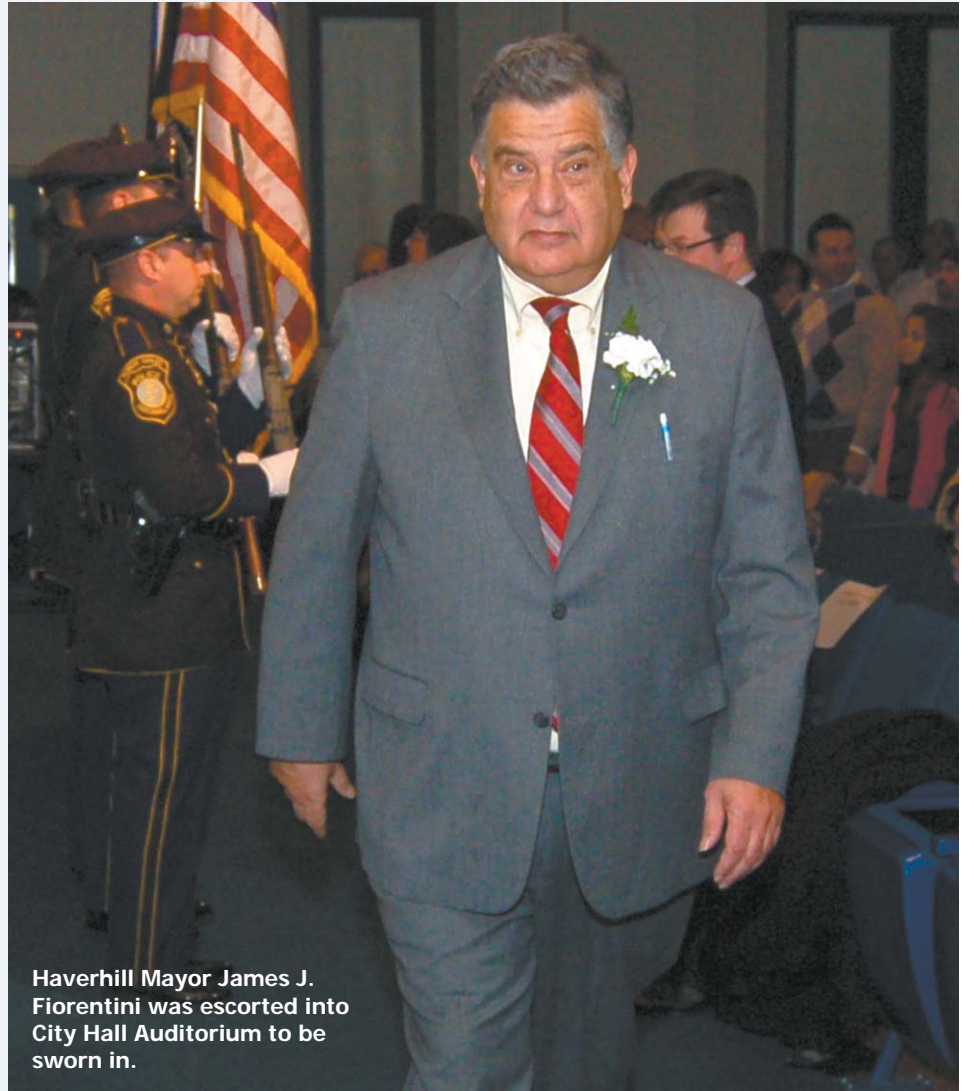
I thank the city council and the school committee for their service to the city and I look forward to serving with you to solve Haverhill's problems.

We have a number of former Mayors, who are here, and I would like to recognize and thank them for their service to the city

We have a number of people here from the trade unions, the carpenters, the plumbers, the pipefitters, laborers and other trade unions, thank you for being here today and thank you for your unwavering support.

We are honored to have with us one of our returning servicemen from Afghanistan, Richard Poore.

Sadly, three Haverhill servicemen have paid the ultimate price for our freedom— Nicholas Schiavoni, Dimitrious Gavriel and Evan O'Neil. We are very honored today to with us the gold star parents of our fallen heroes and I would like to welcome and



Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini was escorted into City Hall Auditorium to be sworn in.



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ask you to join me in honoring the Gold Star families: Chris Gavriel, Barbara O'Neill, Michael O'Neil, Suzanne Swartz, Stephanie Kern and Cheryl Chalmers. The city will never forget the sacrifice of Nicholas, Dimitrious and Evan.

We are much honored to have you here today.

And to all of you who took the time to come on this cold snowy Monday, thank you.

GREAT PROGRESS IN PAST SIX YEARS

As I stand here today, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to for 2 more years – and I understand – that this awesome opportunity comes with special responsibilities. I am reminded of the words of President Kennedy: “from those to whom much is given, much is required.” My obligation, and obligation that comes with the responsibility of being Mayor, is to listen to all and to lead. I will try my best.

When I was first handed that responsibility six years ago, the city of Haverhill stood on the brink of financial disaster because of the collapse of the last municipally owned hospital in the State that served an entire region.

Six years ago, I offered you a vision and a plan where factory buildings could be remade into upscale housing and restore areas of the city that had been forgotten for decades and turn them back onto the tax rolls. I called it the Haverhill renaissance.

Today, we have \$100 million in new investment in our downtown, a new

boardwalk, with new jobs and new business, with a parking garage ready to break ground in the spring. We can say with confidence the Haverhill Renaissance is alive and well and we will not allow the recession to kill the Haverhill renaissance.

OUR GREATEST DAYS LIE AHEAD

But, for all of our progress, our best days lie ahead.

WHAT I SEE AHEAD—MY VISION FOR A GREATER HAVERHILL

Ahead, I see a great city, with more and better jobs, improved schools and better parks and playgrounds: a great place to live, and a great place to work.

But none of this will happen by itself. Building the future for great city will require hard work and short term sacrifices. Building the future will require us to be bold and innovative and to take chances as we strive to bring new business to our city. The safest way is surely to do nothing, but we do not want to be like the person described by the Ancient Roman Poet Horace: “He who feared he would not succeed sat still.” This term, we will not sit still. We will work hard and we will make jobs for Haverhill a key focus in this term.

New Tools for Economic Growth

Every day, I am reminded of the need to bring new jobs to our city.

I am reminded when I meet the woman who used to work at Lucent, who now works for minimum wage with no benefits.

I am reminded when I meet the couple who both lost their jobs and lost their house

as a result.

I am reminded every day, when I meet the young person who has to put their future dreams on hold, or the old person who has to decide between rent and medicine: jobs have to be our top priority.

Bringing in jobs is never easy. It is particularly difficult in a recession—it is hard to go up when the escalator is going down. But even in a recession, we need to put the tools in place so that when the recession ends and business is ready to expand again, Haverhill is ready and is first in line to recruit these new businesses.

To be ready, we will need some new tools and new ideas and we will need some new uses of our old tools.

Tomorrow, I will issue an executive order today consolidating several downtown and zoning committees into a new downtown planning committee. I ask them to examine the zoning laws for downtown, to eliminate red tape and regulatory barriers, and establish design standards for downtown so that when business is ready to reinvest in our downtown, Haverhill is ready to make it easy for them.

Later this spring I will ask the city council to join me in establishing an economic development corporation, similar to the ones used successfully in New Bedford and Providence with the powers to raise and lend money as well as other powers to help bring jobs to the city.

I'll establish a new business ambassador program, and ask the CEO's of businesses we brought to the city to join me in telling new businesses that Haverhill is the place to expand.

Downtown, we'll use our Federal grant to improve downtown, and starting this

summer, you'll see a fresh new look and new appearance to your downtown.

We'll work with the MVRTA so that the promise of a new parking garage downtown becomes a reality.

But we recognize that the main ingredient in any downtown isn't government, it is private business. To help them we'll create a new façade improvement program, and use some of our Federal block grant money to lend money to downtown businesses willing to improve the facades of their business.

LOOKING AT ZONING

Downtown is important symbolically to our city, but the heart of job creation is in our industrial parks. This year, I will propose that we rename our industrial parks as business parks, and examine the zoning laws in these industrial parks to remove red tape and regulatory barriers that might discourage businesses from locating there.

A FRESH NEW LOOK AT OUR ZONING LAWS

To help keep our city competitive I will establish a zoning task force to take a fresh new look at the zoning laws of this city. We will ask them to take advantage of the new technologies for low impact development, and to develop rules that encourage development that has a minimal impact on our environment and discourage development that takes

PLEASE SEE **HAVERHILL**
CONTINUES ON PAGE 10

Salim Rodríguez Tabit

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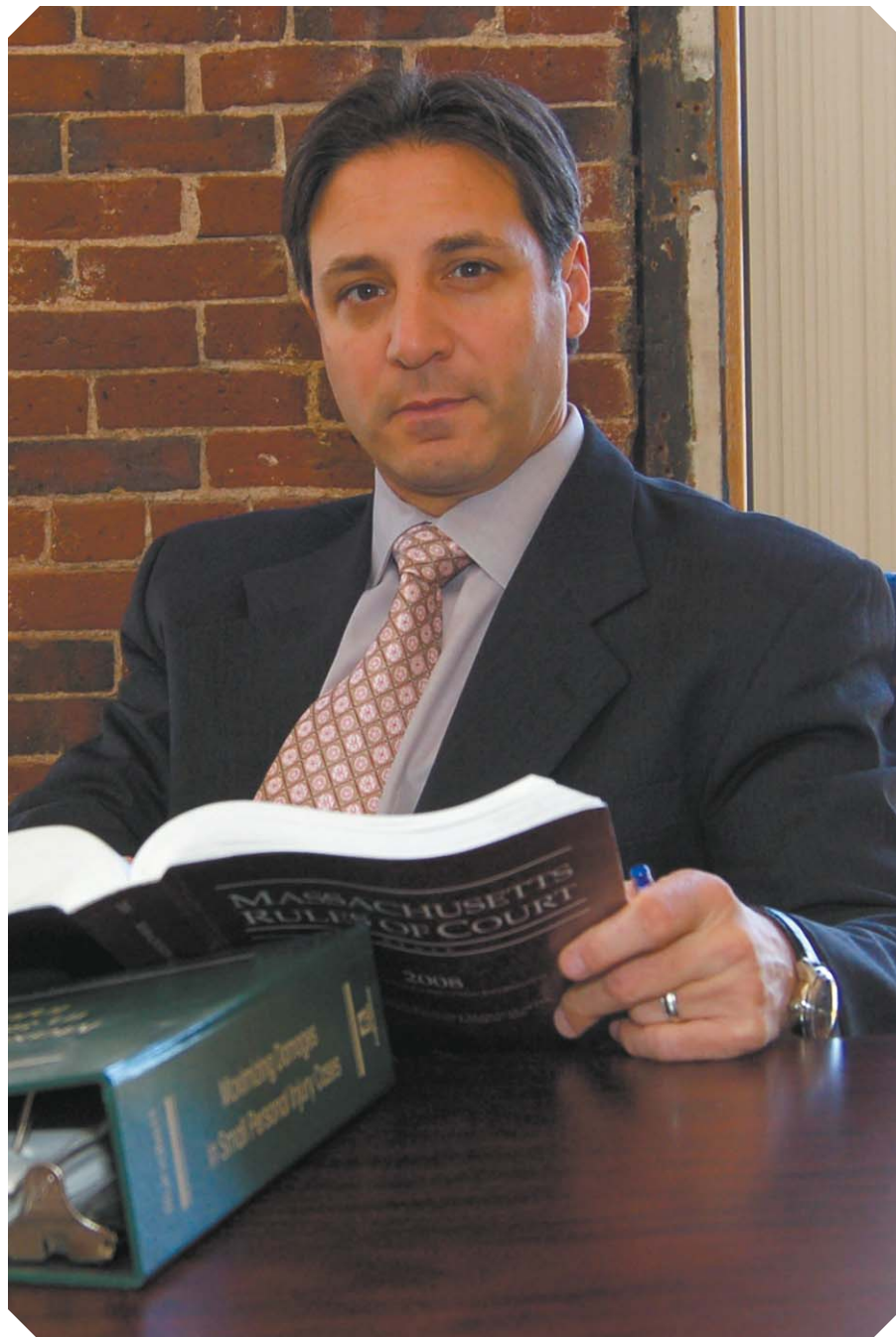
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POR MAUREEN NIMMO

Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Saludos Amigos Lectores. Feliz Año 2010. Se terminaron los días feriados de la época de Navidad; por un lado es un alivio el de tener todo otra vez normal. Es difícil lograr algo en particular a la vez que estamos en el mes de diciembre, ya que parece que todo el mundo "está en otro lugar," ya sea física o mentalmente. Dios sabe lo difícil que es el mes de enero (frío y mucha nieve) pero al menos uno tiene un sentido renovado de atención y concentración.

En el momento en que usted esté leyendo este artículo, tendremos nuestro nuevo gobierno en lugar. Se va a sentir extraño el tener un nuevo grupo de contactos y colegas, y una nueva estructura de poder. Una gran cantidad de cambios, por supuesto, se deben a la elección que se llevó a cabo durante el otoño, pero algunos son cambios debido a jubilaciones y nuevas posiciones. Me gustaría decir un adiós especial a tres caballeros que no van a estar con nosotros en el futuro: Mark Andrews, Chief Takvorian y Barney Reilly. Mark tiene un nuevo trabajo en Wareham; Barney y Takvorian se están jubilando. A través de los años, especialmente durante la temporada del presupuesto, jefes de departamentos tienden a verse mucho y desarrollan un sentido de camaradería con sus semejantes. Sé que he compartido muchas risas - aunque a veces es un humor negro -con mis tres amigos antes mencionados. Quiero desearles a los tres éxito y muchas felicidades.

En el frente de cargos por elecciones populares, espero llegar a conocer y trabajar con el nuevo equipo, mientras que sé que voy a extrañar a mis amigos que no fueron reelectos. Muchas gracias a los concejales Abdo, Fielding, Blanchette, Kolofoles, González y Álvarez por la ayuda que me han dado y el servicio que han ofrecido a la ciudad en los últimos años. De igual manera, a mi amigo el Alcalde Sullivan: que todos sus futuros esfuerzos tengan mucho éxito. Bienvenido el Alcalde Lantigua

y los nuevos concejales. Usted tiene algunos problemas difíciles de afrontar, pero confío en usted, y trabajando juntos, todos vamos a tener éxito.

Como les he mencionado en artículos anteriores, mi marido es el coordinador de reciclaje de la ciudad. Naturalmente, él y yo discutimos lo que pasó durante el día de trabajo. Anoche estábamos hablando de uno de nuestros ciudadanos que necesitaba el distintivo adhesivo oficial para que pudiera usar su cubo de basura viejo como contenedor de reciclaje. Sus horas de trabajo son las mismas horas de trabajo del Departamento de Obras Públicas, creándole un problema a esta persona. Le sugerí a mi marido el de facilitar dichos permisos en la biblioteca y así este material estaría disponible al público hasta las 8:00 de la noche más los sábados y domingos.

Tendremos estos documentos disponibles aquí e información sobre el proceso de reciclaje. Esta conversación con Norm, mi marido, me hizo pensar: todos los departamentos de la ciudad son sólo parte de un cuerpo mayor. ¿Por qué no podemos encontrar maneras de hacer que todo sea más eficiente? Si ciertos formularios están disponibles en cierto departamento hasta la hora que cierran, ¿por qué no tenemos los mismos formularios disponibles en la biblioteca hasta la hora que cerramos? ¿Por qué no tenemos los contenedores de entrega de libros y películas de la biblioteca en otros lugares de la ciudad? Estos son tiempos difíciles para todos, y todos estamos tratando de hacer más con menos. Creo que si somos creativos, hay muchas maneras de mejorar y racionalizar los servicios de la ciudad que no requieren ningún gasto adicional.

Bueno, los Patriotas llegaron hasta los playoffs. Esperemos que sean capaces de mantenerse vivos por mucho tiempo. ¡Nos vemos en la biblioteca!

■ CONTINUE FROM PAGE 15

HAVERHILL: Inaugural address - Our best days lie ahead



Katie Amaro, a member of the Haverhill High School singing 'Proud to be an American' to the audience's delight.



At the inauguration, Robert D. Garipey, III sang 'America the Beautiful.'

away what we love best, the beauty of Haverhill.

The rail trail

Our plans for a new and better Haverhill start with zoning, but that is only the beginning.

Two years ago, I announced plans to reorient Haverhill towards the Merrimack River.

Today, our new boardwalk behind Washington Street is open, and the boardwalk on Merrimack Street has been rebuilt.

We used a State grant, and purchased portions of an abandoned rail line in Bradford—the first steps towards creating a walkway and series of parks along the river in Bradford.

This spring, we'll take the next step. We'll ask for volunteers, led by the Friends of the Bradford Rail Trail committee, to start clearing the trail so that people can start to walk along it. We'll begin working on a grant application to build a new set of trails and parks along the river. Someday, our children and our grandchildren will be able to walk along our own string of parks and walkways along the river. When they do, they will know we kept our promise to them, to keep the river – our greatest asset-- for everyone, not just for those fortunate enough to own land next to it.

THE SCHOOLS OF TOMORROW

Building the Haverhill of tomorrow means building first class schools today.

In the past six years, we've made great progress in our schools but there is more to be done. We've improved MCAS scores; our children attend some of the top colleges and universities in the world. Our Classical Academy is the envy of communities throughout the State.

At the high school, our \$32 million renovation project is nearing completion. We should be proud indeed that while other communities spend up to \$200 million on new high schools, our high school will get a complete makeover for far less. We will complete that project this term.

THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY

The Haverhill of tomorrow, the city I see ahead with jobs and economic opportunity, walkways along the river and top quality schools, will take time, and lots of hard work.

But as we consider the bright promise of our future, we cannot ignore the hard times that exist all around us today.

GETTING BY THIS YEAR MAKE CUTS AND REINVENT GOVERNMENT

This year, we face enormous challenges. Our unfunded mandates will cause us to spend millions we do not have on projects we do not want to spend them on. Pension costs are rising. The Hale debt is still with us and we remain the one community required to pay for a hospital that served the entire region.

But the greatest immediate challenge is that the global recession has caused revenues to plummet downward at the same time that health care costs are spiking upward.

To meet the challenge of providing good services with less money, we will need to continue to reinvent government, and we will need the continued help of our State and Federal partners.

We'll need to make use of new tools and new technology to make government more efficient.

We'll also use some old tools, and go

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A group of Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts lead the audience into the Pledge of Allegiance.



Haverhill Mayor Re-elect James J. Fiorentini taking oath of office administered by Presiding Justice of the Haverhill District Court, the Honorable Stephen S. Abany.

into your neighborhoods, meet regularly with citizens. We will remember always that the heart of Haverhill isn't here at city hall, and it isn't downtown. The heart of Haverhill is its neighborhoods and its people, and we will be in your neighborhoods to serve you better.

To meet those challenges, we will have to start by reforming our health care system. The sad truth is, we can no longer afford the employee health care system we have. The stark truth is this: If we do not change our municipal health care system, then we will have to make cutbacks in every other area of government to pay for an outmoded health care system.

Cutbacks and health care reforms have to be our first step, but they cannot be our only step. Our challenges this year are so great that we will also have to look for other sources of revenue other than the property tax.

Our citizens demand and deserve good service from their city. If we are going to deliver to our citizens what they need and deserve, we need to use of the tools at our disposal.

DAWN ON THE HORIZON

In this recession, it is easy to fear tomorrow. When I start to feel that way, I am reminded of the words of President Roosevelt at the start of the depression: "we have nothing to fear but fear itself." No one can say when the recession will end, but we can certainly say that following this long dark night of a recession there will be the new dawn of a recovery.

Today, we see signs of that dawn on the horizon. We see that our unemployment

rate has gone down two months in a row. State tax revenues have begun to go back up. We see a few jobs starting to come back, and we see hope starting to return. No one can say for certain when dawn will come, but we can say for certain that it will.

When dawn finally arrives, and it will, I see a city with jobs and hope for tomorrow. I see a city with cleaner streets, safer streets and better schools. I see a city that is oriented towards the river, a city we are proud to live in, proud to work in and proud to send our children to school in.

We can make that happen if we work together for the common good.

But this is not just about government, this is about you. To make this great new city work and work better, we need your help. We need citizens to work with us, to be on volunteer boards, to help our schools as tutors and mentors, to help our newly revitalized Brightside program. Working together, there is nothing we can't accomplish. Working together, our best days lie ahead.

THANK YOU

A few moments ago, I raised my right hand, and was sworn in for a fourth time, and I made a solemn pledge uphold the law of the land.

I now make a separate pledge, to you and to every person in the city, no matter who you are, no matter where you live, and no matter who you voted for in the last election: I will work night and day on your behalf to make this city better. Thank you.



Are you a Breast Cancer Survivor?

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence has the perfect program for you—completely FREE of Charge!

The YWCA Encoreplus II Program is offering a specialized exercise program that helps women regain their physical strength and mobility through supportive water and land exercises, following their cancer treatment.

Exercise helps women regain their physical strength and mobility of the affected area, as well as promotes their mental and emotional recovery. Participants are also able to share their concerns related to the breast cancer treatment and recovery, as well as receive education, guidance, support and referrals from specialized staff, while also receiving peer support from other women survivors.

The next cycle of activities starts on January 4, 2010. Sessions will be offered on Mondays, 6:00—7:00pm at the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, 38 Lawrence Street, Lawrence, MA.

For more information or to register for this program, please contact Minerva Grullón or Carla McCormick at (978) 687-0331.

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence—working for the wellbeing of women in our community!"

The YWCA Encoreplus Program is funded in whole by the Massachusetts Affiliate for the SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE MONEY. PARTIAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS ALSO PROVIDED BY THE LATINO CEED: NEW ENGLAND. The YWCA of Greater Lawrence is a member of United Way of MA Bay & Merrimack Valley.



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¡La YWCA de Lawrence tiene el programa perfecto para usted totalmente GRATIS!

El Programa Encoreplus II de la YWCA ofrece un programa especializado de ejercicios dentro y fuera del agua para mujeres que han concluido su tratamiento para el cáncer de seno.

Estos ejercicios ayudan a recuperar la fuerza física, el movimiento y flexibilidad del área afectada, como también a promueven su recuperación mental y emocional.

Durante estas actividades, las participantes podrán además compartir inquietudes relacionadas con el tratamiento y recuperación del cáncer de seno, y obtener educación, guía y referidos de manos de un personal especializado, mientras reciben el apoyo de sus compañeras sobrevivientes.

El próximo ciclo de actividades comienza el 4 de enero del 2010, y será ofrecido los lunes de 6:00—7:00pm en la YWCA de Lawrence, localizada en 38 de la calle Lawrence, en Lawrence, MA.

Para más información o para registrarse para este programa, llame a Minerva Grullón, o a Melissa Ospina al (978) 687-0331.

¡La YWCA de Lawrence—trabajando por el bienestar de las mujeres de nuestra comunidad!"

Este Programa es financiado por el Mass. Affiliate of the SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE. FONDOS PARCIALES TAMBIÉN RECIBIDOS POR LATINO CEED: REACH NEW ENGLAND. LA YWCA DE LAWRENCE ES MIEMBRO DE LA ORGANIZACIÓN FONDOS UNIDOS DE LA BAHIA DE MASS. Y EL VALLE DEL MERRIMACK.





Ing. Emanuel Escaño, Mayor of Tenares, Dominican Republic; Rev. Jorge Reyes, O.S.A. and Luis Santiago, IT Consultant at the inauguration.



Tom Vallante, Ruth Marrero and Annette Webster. Vallante works at Representative Lantigua's office and Webster is the Office Manager. They both volunteer their time at the representative's office.



Four powerful women at the inauguration. From the left: Congresswoman Niki Tsongas; District E City Councilor Eileen O'Connor; Senator Susan C. Tucker and State Representative Barbara L'Italien.



Newly elected District A City Councilor Sandy Almonte chats with Governor Deval Patrick, School Committee Member Martina Cruz and former Lawrence City Councilor Israel Reyes.



All smiles are Alfonso García and Dr. Mary Lou Bergeron, Acting Superintendent of Schools.



Re-elected District A School Committee Member James Vittorioso, right, congratulates Lenny Degnan for his appointment as Chief of Staff of the new Mayor William Lantigua.



Re-elected City Councilor at-Large Frank Moran; newly elected District A City Councilor Sandy Almonte and re-elected District B City Councilor Grisel Silva. Councilors Morán and Silva were voted President and Vice-president of the Council, respectively.



Former City Councilor and Mayoral Candidate David Abdo; Former N.H. State Representative Carlos Gonzalez, Northern Essex Register of Deeds, Robert Kelley and Frank G. Cousins Jr., Sheriff of Essex County.



Les Bernal with his wife, newly elected District E City Councilor Eileen O'Connor Bernal and their children Maggie and Andrew.



Frank Tejada, Vice Consul Dominican Republic; Lic. Juan López, General Secretary Santo Domingo East and Dominican Republic General Consul Dominico Cabral, representing Leonel Fernandez, President of the Dominican Republic.



Father Jorge Reyes, O.S.A. shakes hands with Mrs. Brenda Martinez, wife of Lawrence Police Officer José Martínez.



Raquel D. Brooks singing God Bless America. Raquel is the daughter of Lawrence Police Officer Richard Brooks and his wife Deborah.



R.I. Police Inspector Luis del Rio sang the National Anthem.



Former City Councilor President Patrick J. Blanchette, right, congratulates Mayor William Lantigua after he finished his speech.



Re-elected School Committee Member Martina Cruz with newly elected District E School Committee Member Mark Gray.

Mayor William Lantigua's inaugural speech

January 4, 2010

Hola Familia... Good Evening my friends.

Reverend Clergy, Congresswomen Tsongas, Governor Patrick, District Attorney Blodgett, Senator Tucker, Senator Pichardo, Rep. Torrisi, Rep. Finegold, Rep. L'Italien, Sheriff Cousins, Sheriff Glodis, City Councilors, School Committee members, my friends who have traveled from the Dominican Republic, fellow mayors and distinguished guest.

Today is a day for thanks. Today I thank the people of this great city of Lawrence for allowing me to stand here tonight and take this special oath of office. It's my honor and I will not let you down.

What a great country we live in.

What a great city we live in.

Today is a historical day.

Some people said it could not be done.

Three years ago, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts elected the first African American Governor. Not because he is African American, but because he was the best person for the job.

Some people said it could not be done.

One year ago, our country, America, elected the first African American president. Not because he is African American, but because he was the best person for the job.

Some people said it could not be done.

Last summer, the first Latina was chosen to serve on the United States Supreme Court. Not because she is a Latina, but because she was the best person for the job.

Some people said it could not be done.

Two months ago, my friends, the residents of this great City of Lawrence elected the first Latino Mayor in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Not because I am a Latino, but because I earned your trust and confidence and you believe that I am the best person for this job.

I'm honored by this historic moment, but let me be very clear to all of you. I am very happy to be the first, but being the first is only a coincidence. Being the first is only important to those who write about history. To me being the first is insignificant. What will be significant to me is that when my days are over at city hall and the history books are written, they will read that William Lantigua was the best Mayor the city ever had, and by the way... happens to be a Latino.

Tonight I took an oath here on this stage, but remember that this ceremony is far more important than one person. It's larger than an oath of one man. Tonight is an oath of commitment by all of us to the great City of Lawrence.

Today, I am asking all of us to come together as one great city for a common cause and common purpose. Today we must rise above our differences, may they be political or personal, to face the challenges ahead and set our goals for tomorrow. In order to do that, we must all realize where we came from and where we want to go.

There is not a day that goes by that I don't think about how I got to the place I am today.

For that I am forever grateful to America and to the great City of Lawrence and to all of you for allowing a 19-year-old boy to arrive here from the Dominican Republic and be offered the same opportunities as all Americans, have a job, raise a family, run



for office, and to be elected as Mayor of the greatest city in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Today I also want to honor and pay tribute to those who came before us. I want to thank those who worked with us, side by side, along the journey.

I want to thank my mother, Ana Soto and my entire family.

I also want to thank my Office Manager, volunteer and dear friend Annette Webster and Tom Vallante. Also, Teresa Polizotto and I also want to recognize my number one supporter, who also volunteers to help many other city activities...Jude Charles... will you please stand up... I want a round of applause for Jude Charles.

I know like Jude Charles there are many other people that worked on our team to move the city forward, you worked day in and day out without asking for anything in return, you know who you are and more importantly the people know who you are, Thank you all!

I must also remember those who are no longer with us but helped me along the way. Let us remember Americo "Rick" DiZazzo and our dear friend Elsa Pichardo (La Muñeca). She did a lot to help me.

My friends, I wish I could keep this historic moment tonight and speak of all the great things ahead, but I have to be very clear with all of you. The challenges we face as a city are very real. The problems we face are many and they are very serious. They will not be fixed in a short time. But please know this, they will be fixed!

Our administration will work day in and day out to make sure that this city is put back on track.

Let's face it, our budget deficit is real. The number is \$17.5 million; it is not a laughing matter.

Let's face it; hundreds of homes have been lost in this city to foreclosure.

Let's face it; unemployment rate in Lawrence is the highest in the State of Massachusetts.

Let's face it; our School Department performance has been under question for a long time.

Let's face it; we have seen a spike in crime due to our economy.

Let's face it; our streets and sidewalks are literally a mess.

And let's face... Much more important

to me is the lack of trust, the lack of confidence that the people of this city have in our local government. There is a lack of morale in city hall these days by many of our hard working men and women who are desperate for leadership in these tough times.

Well, Leadership Has Just Arrived!

Ladies and gentlemen on November 3rd, you gave me a mandate to address our problems and tonight I stand before you to accept that responsibility.

Now, I know many of you are concerned about the future, but, please be assured that my duty in the upcoming days is to find out what part of our government is working. The areas that are working, we will continue and support, but the areas that are failing our city will end immediately. Our duty is to restore the public trust in our local government and bring in the sunshine through the doors and windows of city hall.

As of this moment, the expressions of doubt must end – Some say Lawrence is not governable. Some say City Government is not manageable or some say the hell with Lawrence... some say it's not worth it. All of this nonsense must end, let's come together and not talk that way anymore.

Now is the time to remove the doubt and show people that are our problems can and will be solved.

With that said, let me tell you a little bit about our Community working plan.

As you know, I have already taken the proactive step asking for assistance from our state government. It has been made very clear to me that the fiscal problems that I am inheriting and I repeat I'm inheriting after years of mismanagement, are too deep to fix on our own. I have taken the unusual step to ask Governor Patrick to put any and all resources and guidance behind our city. Governor Patrick, thank you for being part of our recovery team. In the immediate days I will be asking our City Council to work hand in hand with me to allow our city to deficit borrow after my colleagues in state house pass special legislation.

This will require strong fiscal discipline on our part and I am ready to lead in that

Governor Patrick Files Legislation to Help the City of Lawrence Regain Its Fiscal Footing

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

To help the City of Lawrence rebound from extreme fiscal challenges, Governor Deval Patrick today filed legislation that will give the city new tools to help balance its books and set itself on a path to a strong economic future.

The City of Lawrence is facing a current fiscal year operating budget deficit of approximately \$9.5 million and a capital project deficit of \$8 million. Lawrence is also facing a projected budget gap in Fiscal Year 2011. The City will be unable to resolve these budget deficits without the authority to borrow, which officials are unable to do under current law. Without state action, the City of Lawrence will be unable to continue to fund critical city operations as early as this spring.

"This is a responsible way to help the Lawrence community get back on its feet," said Governor Patrick. "Through support and strong oversight, this bill can put Lawrence on a course toward long-term and lasting fiscal stability."

"This bill provides the new Mayor and City Council time and tools to repair Lawrence's budget. There is a lot of hard work that needs to be done. This bill creates the framework for a strong partnership at the City and State level to ensure Lawrence's financial stability for the future," said Senator Susan Tucker.

"This is a step forward in the right direction for the City," said Representative Barry Finegold.

"I appreciate Governor Patrick for his leadership and efforts to put Lawrence on strong financial footing," said Mayor-Elect William Lantigua. "I look forward to continue to working with him and all of our partners to bring the City's budget into balance and to make our community strong for today and tomorrow."

The comprehensive legislation filed today requires the City to meet certain conditions to get back on a path to responsible budgeting and to avoid the need for the state to implement a control board in Lawrence.

Specifically, the legislation allows the City to borrow into deficit up to \$35 million to balance its FY10 and FY11 budgets, allowing it to generate a steady cash flow, and to meet payroll and other commitments. The City would be able to borrow for up to 20 years. The bill

PLEASE SEE **LANTIGUA**
■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

PLEASE SEE **DÍAZ**
■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

Merrimack Valley YMCA Announces "Membership for All"

Y now offers membership rates based on household income

The Merrimack Valley YMCA announced the start of a new membership initiative designed to help make Y memberships more affordable for individuals and working families who may struggle to make ends meet in one of this country's most expensive places to live.

"For middle income families, many of whom are struggling in this difficult economy, our YMCA wants to continue to be accessible to all. Everyone deserves the opportunity to be part of the YMCA, to get healthy, stay physically active, and strengthen family bonds. We can help all people afford that opportunity," said Stephen C. Ives, Merrimack Valley YMCA President/CEO. "The YMCA is able to offer this sliding fee scale thanks to the generous donors whose contributions to our 'Reach Out for Youth & Families' annual campaign enable us to realize our mission of being open and accessible to all," he said.

The Merrimack Valley YMCA's facility branches in Andover, Lawrence and Methuen offer state-of-the art wellness centers with cardiovascular and strength training equipment, dozens of group exercise classes (including Zumba, cardio kickboxing, Spinning, Step, Yoga, and more) gymnasiums for organized ball play or individual practice, and monthly family nights and special seasonal and holiday celebrations.

In addition, the Andover/North Andover Branch and Lawrence Branch offer indoor swimming pools, for swimming lessons, family fun swims, aquatic workouts, and opportunities for organized, competitive swim teams.

The YMCA's new initiative, Membership for All, is a membership structure based on household income. Individuals making less than \$25,000 and families making less than \$55,000 based on household income are eligible for the Y's new structure. "It's middle income working individuals and families that we hope to reach with our new initiative," Ives said. "We believe strongly in our mission to serve 'all' and that is what we intend to do."

This new pricing structure will not replace the Merrimack Valley YMCA's current financial assistance program, which takes into consideration the members' overall situation, including the number of dependents and monthly income. The goal of "Membership for All" is to consider the financial situation of each individual and family in our community.

For information or to apply for YMCA "Membership for All," please stop by the Welcome Center at any branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA: Andover/North Andover YMCA, 165 Haverhill Street, Andover; Lawrence YMCA, 40 Lawrence Street, Lawrence; or Methuen YMCA, 129 Haverhill Street, Methuen. Additional information is also available at www.mvymca.org.

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

From My Corner

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

His way!

During Mayor William Lantigua's inauguration, there was a surprising twist when right after the swearing-in ceremony, we heard Frank Sinatra's voice singing "My Way". People began speculating the its meaning or purpose, unable to find the correlation with such an event.

It's simple. He didn't cave in to the pressure and criticisms and ran the campaign as he wanted.

Lantigua Administration; personnel changes

The following list of personnel changes were issued on the first day of the William Lantigua administration. Mayor Lantigua met with councilors separately and explained the reasons for such drastic decisions prior to their regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, January 5th. He explained that the issues facing our city are devastating, reaching a critical point and requiring immediate change for its survival.

While the new mayor plans a total reorganization of several city departments, the elimination of these positions is necessary at this time:

Myles Burke, Commissioner of Inspectional Services
Linda Schiavone, Recreation Director in the Recreation Department
Michael Sweeney, Planning Director, Planning Department

They have been placed on paid administrative leave until the City Council's final vote.

There were also the appointments of Patrick Blanchette as Interim Economic Development Director and Frank Bonet as Interim Personnel Director.

Martha Velez has been named Acting Director of the Council on Aging and continues to hold her current position.

Meanwhile, Inspectional Services Department employees and Recreation Department employees will report to Frank McCann, Director of Public Works. The Planning Department employees will report to Patrick Blanchette, the Chief of Economic Development Director, while the Parking Division employees will be directed to report to Leonard Degnan, the Chief Administrative Officer.

There were other surprises like recalling Peter Blanchette from lay-off status to return him to his old position of Building Inspector for the city. Then, on another notification he was appointed Acting Building Commissioner in the Inspectional Services Department.

Lantigua revoked the appointment of Alex Vega as Chairman of the Board of Assessors and will remain as Assessor for the City of Lawrence. He will report to Ms. Breda Daou, the newly appointed Chairman of the Board.

The Inaugural

I attended the inauguration of the new municipal government last Monday and I was very impressed with the Performing Arts Center and Lawrence High School in

general. Since I had been banned from entering all school buildings by Wilfredo Laboy, the former superintendent of schools, I took advantage of Franklin Fernandez's offer to give me a tour instead of socializing in the cafeteria.

Franklin teaches in the International High School and took time to show me around for which I am very grateful.

If there's a world...

I recommend that you read Maureen Nimmo's column, Notes From your Librarian on page 16, to see how when people want to cooperate they find ways to do it.

Her husband, Norm Nimmo, is the recycling coordinator in the city and he happened to mention that there are residents in the city who cannot pick up recycling stickers for their trash barrels because City Hall is open at very inconvenient times for working people. She suggested having them available at the Public Library which is open late at night and weekends.

That's the spirit! Thank you, Maureen.



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Location
Time
Fee (if Any)
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Event Description

SEE THE CALENDAR ON PAGE 22

NOTES FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

BY MAUREEN NIMMO

Lawrence Public Library Director

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 10

Hello Rumbo readers. Happy 2010. In a way it is sort of good to have the holidays over and things back to normal. It seems difficult to get anything really done once one is deep into December because everyone is “somewhere else” either physically or mentally. God knows January is dreary but at least one has a renewed sense of focus and concentration.

By the time you are reading this we will have our new government in place. It is going to feel strange to have a new batch of contacts and colleagues and a new power structure. A lot of changes, of course are due to the election in the fall but some are just retirements or new positions. I'd like to say a special goodbye to three fine gentlemen who will no longer be with us—Mark Andrews, Chief Takvorian and Barney Reilly. Mark is moving to a new job in Wareham and Barney and the chief are retiring. Through the years, especially through budget seasons, department heads see a great deal of one another and one develops a sense of camaraderie with one's fellows. I know I have shared a lot of laughs—even if it was sometimes gallows humor—with my three friends listed above. I wish all three every success and happiness.

On the elected office front, I look forward to getting to know and work with the new crew while knowing I'll also be missing our departing friends too. Thank you Councilors Abdoo, Fielding, Blanchette, Kolofoles, Gonzales, and Alvarez for the help you have given me and the service you have offered the city over the years. Likewise to my friend Mayor Sullivan: may all your future endeavors be successful. Welcome to Mayor Lantigua and the new councilors. You have some

difficult challenges to face but I am confident you are up to it and, working together, we will all succeed.

I have mentioned in previous articles that my husband Norm is the city's recycling coordinator. Naturally he and I discuss our jobs and how our days went in the evenings.

Last night he was talking about one of our citizens who needed an official sticker so she could use her old trash bin as a recycling container. She was working at all the times City Hall and the DPW offices were open so had a problem getting the sticker. I suggested to Norm that he give the library a supply of stickers and perhaps even recycle bins thus having the material available to the public till 8:00 in the evenings and also on Saturdays and Sundays.

I will have the stickers available here and update you about the rest, but the conversation with Norm got me thinking: all the city departments are just part of a greater whole. Why can't we find ways to make that whole more seamless? If certain forms are available at City Hall till it closes why shouldn't the same forms be available at the library till our closing time? Why can't we have book and DVD return boxes at other locations in the city? These are hard times for everyone and we're all trying to do more with less. I think if we are creative there are lots of different ways to improve and streamline services in the city that require no additional expense.

Well the Pats made it to the playoffs. Let's hope they are able to keep it alive deep into the postseason. See you at the library.

Environmentally Friendly Courses Offered to NECC Students

Northern Essex Community College students have always been friendly, now they will have the opportunity to be eco-friendly.

Beginning with the spring semester, as part of the college's green initiative, students will be offered a series of green courses infused with an eco-friendly theme. At least 15 percent of each course will be “green” focused and students will have the opportunity to either perform environmentally friendly service learning, develop a green project, or present a green presentation.

“These courses are one of the ways in which Northern Essex is addressing the need for a more environmentally sustainable society,” according to NECC professor Paul Chanley. “Federal, state, and local governments, businesses, and non-profit organizations are realizing that such a green approach is not only good for the planet and people, but good for the economy and jobs. It is clear that many professions and careers—including business, engineering,

science, computers and technology—will require knowledge and understanding of environmental sustainability issues, policies, and practices. Such a background may provide a significant advantage for NECC graduates in the job market”.

The six spring courses are being offered by the Business, Math, Science and Technology Division, but it is hoped that faculty in other academic areas will join the effort in future semesters so students can explore issues of environmental sustainability from as many perspectives as possible, Chanley said.

Some of the work in the spring courses will be showcased in a Green Open House sponsored by the Business, Math, Science and Technology Division to be held in April 2010.

The six courses being offered include Introduction to Biology II, Introduction to Business, Integrated Computer Applications, Green Technology, Environmental Issues, and Statistics.

This offering is in keeping with



MKA Promotes Two Black Belts

Giordano Family Methuen Karate Association (MKA) promoted two students, Mark Hicks to Shodan (first degree black belt) and Sara Hines to Kohai (junior grade black belt) in December 2009. Mark Hicks, from Haverhill, started his Karate studies as a youth in Indiana. He began studying Kyokushin Karate at Methuen Karate in 2001 and volunteers as a karate teacher at the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence. In January he will be teaching at the Haverhill YMCA. Sara Hines (13) is in the 7th grade at the Tenney Grammar

School. She has been training at MKA for 5 years. MKA has graduated more than 66 black belts since its inception.

“I am very proud of these students,” stated Shihan Larry F. Giordano. “Achieving the level of black belt is quite extraordinary, and requires a level of commitment and love for the sport. There are no secrets to success. It is the result of hard work, preparation and learning from failure. They deserve the recognition for their hard work.”



Justin Grasso of Andover examines the Savonius turbine he created with Professor Chanley of Wakefield.

the current scientific, public, business and government interest in the issue of environmental sustainability. Faculty and staff from throughout the college community have been working for more than a year regarding this issue. As a result, the college is responding in several different ways. On the academic side it has become clear that students need to understand the environmental challenges facing society in general. In addition, NECC wants to help

them think about how these challenges will affect their academic disciplines and potential careers. Northern Essex's aim is to begin to infuse content about environmental sustainability into as many of our courses as is appropriate. This will begin with the six “green” course offerings.

For additional information contact Bill Heineman, NECC dean of business, math, science, and technology at 978-556-3339 or wheineman@necc.mas.edu.

Ten Years and Nearly Two Thousand Bears Later

Ten years ago two sisters Kelly and Kristen Klemarczyk of Haverhill couldn't think of anything they really needed for Christmas. They asked their mother Kim to give the money she would have spent on them to charity. Instead of having their mother simply write a check, the girls decided to help one local organization so that they could make a difference in the lives of young children. They chose the youngest patients at Home Health VNA and started what became the Guardian Angel Teddy Bear Project.

Together with their mom, Kelly and Kristen spent their holiday shopping time that year looking for perfect teddy children who were receiving Home Health VNA care and services. After countless trips to department stores and hours of choosing just the right 'friend' for a sick child, they chose not one or two, but dozens of teddy bears. Home Health VNA nurses then made special deliveries to their patients – a soft, cuddly bear to help them through an illness or recovery.

Kelly and Kristen had so much fun during that holiday they decided to continue their project over the next ten years. Each year they invited family and friends to join them in the endeavor. During their high school years at Central Catholic their classmates helped them amass these "Guardian Angels" and it didn't stop once the girls went away to college. Kelly and Kristen's annual holiday donation turned into a year long distribution of Teddy Bears to children facing illness and recovering from surgery.

"In the past ten years I think we've collected at least 1,800 bears!" said Kelly, now 25 years old. "We've really enjoyed this project and we know that our bears are finding their way to just the right owner."

Her sister, Kristen, 23, always seems to find a special bear amongst the bunch.

"This year my favorite is a bear named Pudding," Kristen laughs as she cuddles the soft, brown, floppy bear. "He'll definitely find a good home. We really take the time to pick the softest, sweetest bears. It has been a lot of fun."

The sisters have given such a generous donation of teddy bears (and other plush friends) that Home Health VNA was able

"As soon as Kelly and Kristen dropped them off our nurses began choosing bears for their patients," said Raymond. "It's fun to see our team sort through them and find just the right friend for their patient. We'll be making our special deliveries through the Christmas holiday and beyond."

to extend the recipients to include elders suffering from dementia who are in need of a close, comforting friend and the children of hospice patients being served by Merrimack Valley Hospice.

"We've been so fortunate to be the recipient of this family's generosity," said Emily Raymond, RN, Maternal Child Health Manager for Home Health VNA. "Our nurses enjoy bringing a little comfort to our patients who are dealing with illness. We see some of the agency's frailest patients and just being able to offer them something to hold on to is truly remarkable."

Raymond has already started distributing the bears to her team of nurses.

"As soon as Kelly and Kristen dropped them off our nurses began choosing bears for their patients," said Raymond. "It's fun to see our team sort through them and find just the right friend for their patient. We'll be making our special deliveries through the Christmas holiday and beyond."

Home Health VNA is a not-for-profit agency affiliated with HomeCare, Inc. and Merrimack Valley Hospice. Together, the three agencies serve more than 80 communities throughout the Merrimack Valley, Northeastern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire from their offices in Lawrence, Newburyport, Lowell, Peabody and North Hampton, New Hampshire. For more information visit www.homehealthvna.org.

Mayor orders full inspection of Woolworth Building

After a piece of the front façade of the former Woolworth building fell to the sidewalk on Monday, Mayor James J. Fiorentini ordered city inspectors to conduct a full and thorough inspection of the building to make certain it is safe.

On Monday, a small piece of the front façade of the Woolworth building, located at 2 Merrimack Street, fell on the sidewalk in front of the building. Police and highway crews were called. The highway crew used a bucket truck to do a cursory inspection of the roof. That cursory inspection showed what appeared to be a portion of the roof deteriorating and potentially being open to intrusion.

Mayor Fiorentini said he received a report about the building early Tuesday morning and went down personally to look at it. Fiorentini said that he then ordered

city inspectors to take steps to gain access to the building and took to conduct a more thorough inspection and investigation.

"This building is in a prime location in our city," explained Mayor Fiorentini. "It is important that the building be safe, not open to intrusion and well-secured so it presents no safety hazard either to the public onto public safety personnel who may be called there in the event of a fire."

"For that reason, I have asked our inspection services code inspection team to meet with the building owners and to conduct a full and thorough investigation of the structure to make certain it is safe," the Mayor declared.

The Woolworth building has been vacant for approximately 40 to 45 years. It is considered by many to be an eyesore in the Gateway area of the city.



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CONTINUES FROM PAGE 14

Mayor William Lantigua's inaugural speech

effort. I know by working together to make tough budgetary decisions, consolidating departments, and renegotiating contracts, we can and will be successful.

In the upcoming weeks, I will work side by side with our School Committee members to refocus our effort on educating our children and directing resources to improve our classroom. We must instill integrity and leadership throughout, to ensure that our students are the focal point each and every day, as they deserve no less from us. I will ask our School Leaders to work with City Hall to find creative ways to consolidate and reduce spending in all areas without interrupting classroom learning. We must empower our school principals and teachers to focus on school based learning concepts to improve our children's future.

In the upcoming days, I will ask our Planning and Community Development Departments as well as non-profit organizations to work closely with homeowners in danger of losing their homes. We must keep our homeownership and stop the foreclosure crisis. For that I also thank Governor Patrick for supporting our nonprofits in Lawrence to address this

critical issue.

Soon, I will meet with my Economic Development Team, business leaders and our Workforce Development Agencies, to put a long term plan in place for job training and job creation. We must tap into our workforce to create additional jobs for ALL Lawrencians. I will also work with small business to build a strong and vibrant downtown along Broadway, Union, South Union and Essex Street.

Starting tomorrow I will be working with our DPW department to develop a city repair program to address the needs of our streets and sidewalks. We will work block by block in an effort to make our city safer. We will also be reviewing the new garbage collection procedure, which seems not to be working properly for the whole city. That process needs to be improved.

Tomorrow morning, I will be meeting with our Police Chief John J. Romero to make sure his department has the tools to keep our city safe. I will be presenting some ideas that we feel will improve public safety, and the relationship between the police and our community. I will also be asking for Sensitivity Training for our Public Safety

Officers to attend on a voluntary basis to better serve our community. At first, this training will be voluntary and I know most officers will take part. However, this training will soon be mandatory.

Starting tonight I am committed to working with the Lawrence City Council. I want to be part of your agenda and I want you to be part of mine. We must work together to move this city forward and I pledge tonight open communication with all of you. In return, I ask you to give me a chance to make change. Don't let those who fear change to stop the process before it begins. By working together we can accomplish great things for the people who placed their trust in us.

Despite the tough steps that we must take to remove our budget deficit, be sure that I will take them, we in Lawrence can still plan for great things.

Now, you all know me... I'm your friend... Willy Lantigua and I have to talk straight to all of you tonight. Things are not going to be easy. Times are tough in our country, in our state and in our city. But I do see better days ahead and I ask you to join me tonight to make our city a better place. Regardless of whom you voted for in November.... no matter what bumper sticker was on your car.... join us on this quest, as our success depends on all of you. You see, no matter how much government can do and should do, the ultimate success of this city depends on your actions and your beliefs.

As one of our greatest President John F. Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." So as your friend Willy Lantigua, I want to present a challenge to each and every one of you... it doesn't matter how small or how large your action is, please do something that helps our city. That something might be sweeping in front of your house, shoveling your sidewalk, being respectful to your neighbors at all times, or volunteering at a food pantry or your local community center. Feel proud to be a Lawrencian. I ask you to take ownership of our city. Lawrence needs all of us!

Remember, Lawrence is not a city of Latinos or Anglos or Blacks or Asians or green or blue, Lawrence is a city made up of ALL of us. It is in this spirit that tonight as your new Mayor that I invite all races and cultures to join together to bring our City of Lawrence back to the greatness of its past and work together for the success of our future.

CONTINUE FROM PAGE 15

LEGISLATION: Governor Patrick Files Legislation to Help the City of Lawrence Regain Its Fiscal Footing

also increases state oversight of the City's finances by providing for a state-appointed fiscal overseer who will work cooperatively with the new mayor and city council. The overseer will report directly to the Secretary of Administration and Finance and will be paid for by City funds.

The bill requires the overseer to assess the ability of City government to manage the City's fiscal challenges and develop a three year financial plan. If the City is not able to balance its FY11 budget before January 31, 2011, the overseer will report this to the Secretary of Administration and Finance. If the state overseer concludes that the City is unable to achieve a balanced budget and fiscal stability after that time, the Secretary of Administration and Finance may appoint a finance control board with extensive powers.

In addition, the bill requires the City to act to move to GIC or a regional health purchasing group if it will save the City money and requires the consolidation of municipal and school business functions.

Once again I want to remind you that being the first is only a coincidence. Being the first is only important to those who write about history. To me being the first is insignificant. What will be significant to me is that when my days are over at city hall and the history books are written, they will read that William Lantigua was the best Mayor the city ever had, and by the way... he happens to be a Latino.

Thank you for this honor tonight, let's get this party started, but mañana - let's put our plan in place and move our city forward... together!

God Bless America and God Bless each and every one of you and God Bless the Great City of Lawrence!

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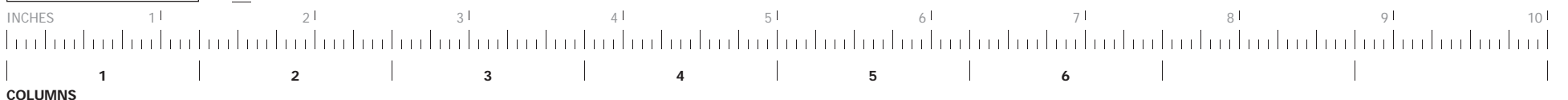
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CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 4

Discurso inaugural del Alcalde William Lantigua

Al igual que Jude Charles hay muchas otras personas que trabajaron en nuestro equipo para mover la ciudad hacia adelante, que trabajaron día y noche sin pedir nada a cambio. Ustedes saben quiénes son y lo que es más importante, la gente sabe quiénes son ustedes. ¡Gracias a todos!

También debo recordar a quienes ya no están con nosotros, pero me han ayudado en el camino. Recordemos Américo "Rick" DiZazzo y nuestra querida amiga Elsa Pichardo (La Muñeca). Ella me ayudó mucho.

Amigos míos, me gustaría poder mantener este momento histórico esta noche y hablar de todas las grandes cosas por delante, pero tengo que ser muy claro con todos ustedes. Los desafíos que enfrentamos como ciudad son muy reales. Los problemas que enfrentamos son muchos y son muy graves. No van a arreglarse en un corto tiempo. Pero sepan esto, se van a arreglar.

Nuestra administración trabajará día y noche para asegurarse de que esta ciudad se recupere.

Seamos realistas, nuestro déficit presupuestario es real. El número es \$17.5 millones de dólares y no es motivo de risa.

Seamos realistas, cientos de casas se han perdido en esta ciudad a la ejecución hipotecaria.

Seamos realistas, la tasa de desempleo en Lawrence es la más alta en el Estado de Massachusetts.

Seamos realistas, el rendimiento de nuestro Departamento Escolar ha estado bajo investigación durante algún tiempo.

Seamos realistas, hemos visto un aumento en la delincuencia, debido a nuestra economía.

Seamos realistas, nuestras calles y aceras son, literalmente, un desastre.

Y seamos sinceros... Mucho más importante para mí es la falta de confianza, la falta de confianza que la gente de esta ciudad tiene en nuestro gobierno local. Hay una falta de moral en el Ayuntamiento en estos días por muchos de nuestros hombres y mujeres trabajadores que están desesperados por liderazgo en estos tiempos difíciles.

¡Bueno, el liderazgo acaba de llegar!

Señoras y señores: el 3 de noviembre, ustedes me dieron un mandato para abordar nuestros problemas y esta noche me presento ante ustedes para aceptar esa responsabilidad.

Sé que muchos de ustedes están preocupados por el futuro, pero pueden estar seguros de que mi deber en los próximos días es averiguar qué parte de nuestro gobierno está trabajando. Las áreas que están trabajando, vamos a seguir apoyándolas, pero las áreas que no están terminarán de forma inmediata. Nuestro deber es restablecer la confianza pública en nuestro gobierno local y permitir que la luz del sol penetre a través de las puertas y ventanas del ayuntamiento de la ciudad.

Apartirdeestemomento, las expresiones de duda, deben terminar - Algunos dicen que Lawrence no es gobernable. Algunos dicen que el Gobierno de la Ciudad no es manejable y algunos dicen que, al diablo con Lawrence... algunos dicen que no vale la pena. Todas estas cosas sin sentido deben terminar, debemos unimos y no hablar más de esa manera. Ahora es el momento para eliminar la duda y mostrar a la gente cuales son nuestros problemas y que pueden y serán resueltos.

Con eso dicho, déjenme decirles un poco sobre nuestro plan de trabajo comunitario.

Como ustedes saben, ya he dado el paso proactivo para pedir ayuda de nuestro gobierno estatal. Se ha dejado muy claro que he heredado los problemas fiscales que hoy tenemos y lo repito que he heredado después de años de mala gestión, son demasiados profundos para ser arreglados por nuestra cuenta. Me he tomado la inusual medida de pedir al Gobernador Patrick poner todos los recursos y la orientación posible detrás de nuestra ciudad. Gobernador Patrick, gracias por ser parte de nuestro equipo de recuperación. En los próximos días pediré a nuestro Ayuntamiento trabajar codo con codo conmigo para que nuestra ciudad pueda obtener un préstamo para cubrir el déficit después de que mis colegas en la Casa del Estado hayan aprobado una legislación especial.

Esto requerirá una fuerte disciplina fiscal por parte nuestra y estoy listo para dirigir en ese esfuerzo. Sé que trabajando juntos podremos y será un éxito, hacer difíciles decisiones presupuestarias, la consolidación de departamentos, y la renegociación de los contratos.

En las próximas semanas, voy a trabajar codo con codo con nuestros miembros del Comité Escolar para reorientar nuestros esfuerzos en educar a nuestros hijos y dirigir los recursos para mejorar nuestras aulas. Debemos inculcar la integridad y liderazgo en todo, para asegurar que nuestros estudiantes sean el centro de coordinación cada día, ya que no se merecen menos de nosotros. Pediré a nuestra Escuela de Líderes a trabajar con el Ayuntamiento para encontrar formas creativas para consolidar y reducir el gasto en todas las áreas sin interrumpir el aprendizaje en el aula. Debemos capacitar a nuestra escuela de directores y profesores de la escuela para centrarse en el aprendizaje basado en los conceptos para mejorar el futuro de nuestros hijos.

En los próximos días, voy a pedir a nuestros Departamentos de Planificación y Desarrollo de la Comunidad, así como a organizaciones no lucrativas para trabajar en estrecha colaboración con los propietarios de viviendas en peligro de perder sus hogares. Debemos mantener nuestra propiedad de la vivienda y poner fin a la crisis hipotecaria. Por eso yo también quiero agradecer al Gobernador Patrick por apoyar a nuestros grupos sin fines de lucro en Lawrence para que puedan abordar esta crítica cuestión.

Pronto me reuniré con mi equipo de Desarrollo Económico, líderes de negocios y nuestra fuerza de trabajo de agencias de desarrollo, para poner un plan a largo plazo de capacitación laboral y creación de empleo. Debemos aprovechar nuestra fuerza laboral para crear puestos de trabajo adicionales para TODOS los lawrencianos. También voy a trabajar con pequeñas empresas para construir un fuerte y vibrante centro de la ciudad a lo largo de Broadway, y de la Calle Unión del Sur y la Calle Essex.

A partir de mañana voy a trabajar con nuestro departamento de DPW para desarrollar un programa de reparación de la ciudad para atender las necesidades de nuestras calles y aceras. Vamos a trabajar, bloque por bloque, en un esfuerzo para hacer a nuestra ciudad más segura. También vamos a analizar el nuevo procedimiento

de recogida de basura, que no parece estar funcionando correctamente para toda la ciudad. Ese proceso debe ser mejorado.

Mañana por la mañana me reuniré con nuestro Jefe de Policía John J. Romero para asegurarnos de que su departamento tiene las herramientas para mantener nuestra ciudad segura. Le voy a presentar algunas ideas que creemos que mejorará la seguridad pública, y la relación entre la policía y nuestra comunidad. También voy a pedirle por un entrenamiento de sensibilidad para nuestros oficiales de Seguridad Pública para asistir de forma voluntaria para servir mejor a nuestra comunidad. Al principio, esta capacitación será de carácter voluntario y sé que la mayoría de los oficiales tomarán parte. Sin embargo, este entrenamiento, pronto será obligatorio.

A partir de esta noche me he comprometido a trabajar con el Consejo de la Ciudad de Lawrence. Quiero ser parte de su programa y quiero que su programa sea parte del mío. Debemos trabajar juntos para mover hacia adelante esta ciudad y esta noche me comprometo con ustedes a mantener una comunicación abierta. A cambio, les pido que me den la oportunidad de hacer el cambio. No deje que los que temen el cambio, detengan el proceso antes de que comience. Trabajando juntos podemos lograr grandes cosas para las personas que depositaron su confianza en nosotros.

A pesar de las duras medidas que debemos tomar para eliminar el déficit presupuestario, y pueden estar seguros de que voy a tomarlas, en Lawrence todavía podemos planear para grandes cosas.

Ahora todos me conocen... Yo soy su amigo... Willy Lantigua, y yo tengo que hablarles claro a todos ustedes esta noche. Las cosas no van a ser fáciles. Los tiempos son difíciles en nuestro país, en nuestro estado y en nuestra ciudad. Pero veo mejores días y le pido que se unan a mí esta noche para hacer de nuestra ciudad un mejor lugar. Independientemente de por quién usted votó en noviembre... no importa que calcomanía había en su carro... únase a nosotros en esta búsqueda, ya que nuestro éxito depende de todos ustedes. Ya ven, no importa cuánto el gobierno puede hacer y debe hacer, el éxito final de esta ciudad depende de sus acciones y sus creencias.

Como dijo una vez John F. Kennedy, uno de nuestros más grandes presidentes: "No preguntes qué puede tu país hacer por ti, pero lo que puedes hacer por tu país." Así como tu amigo Willy Lantigua, quiero presentar un desafío para todos y cada uno de ustedes... no importa cuán pequeño o cuán grande es tu acción, favor de hacer algo que ayude a nuestra ciudad. Ese algo puede ser barriendo por delante de tu casa, palear la nieve de la acera, ser respetuosos con sus vecinos en todo momento, o como voluntario en una despensa de alimentos o en su centro comunitario local... Siéntase orgulloso de ser un lawrenciano. Le pido que tome posesión de nuestra ciudad. ¡Lawrence necesita de todos nosotros!

Recuerde, la Ciudad de Lawrence no es de los latinos o los anglos o los negros o los asiáticos o verde o azul, Lawrence es una ciudad formada por todos nosotros. Es en este espíritu que esta noche como el nuevo alcalde que invito a todas las razas y culturas que se unen para traer a nuestra ciudad de Lawrence de vuelta a la grandeza de su pasado y trabajar juntos para el éxito de nuestro futuro.

CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 4

LEGISLACIÓN: El Gobernador Patrick presenta legislación para ayudar a la Ciudad de Lawrence a recuperar su seguridad fiscal

generar un flujo de efectivo constante y para cumplir con la nómina y otros compromisos. La ciudad sería capaz de pedir prestado hasta por 20 años. El proyecto de ley también aumenta la supervisión estatal de las finanzas de la ciudad mediante el establecimiento de un supervisor fiscal designado por el Estado que trabajará en cooperación con el nuevo alcalde y el concilio de la ciudad. Dicho supervisor reportará directamente al Secretario de Administración y Finanzas y será pagado por fondos municipales.

El proyecto de ley requiere que el supervisor evalúe la capacidad del gobierno municipal de manejar los desafíos fiscales de la ciudad y desarrollar un plan financiero de tres años. Si la ciudad no es capaz de equilibrar su presupuesto para el año fiscal del 2011 antes del 31 de enero 2011, el supervisor estatal informará de ello a la Secretaría de Administración y Finanzas. Si el supervisor del Estado llega a la conclusión de que la ciudad no es capaz de lograr un presupuesto equilibrado y la estabilidad fiscal después de ese momento, el Secretario de Administración y Finanzas podrá designar un órgano de control de las finanzas con amplios poderes.

Además, el proyecto de ley requiere que la Ciudad adopte el GIC que es un sistema regional de salud o un grupo de compra si eso va a ahorrar dinero a la ciudad y requiere la consolidación de departamentos municipales y escolares.

Una vez más quiero recordarles que ser el primero es sólo una coincidencia. Ser el primero sólo es importante para los que escriben sobre la historia. Para mí, ser el primero es insignificante. ¿Qué va a ser importante para mí? Que cuando mis días hayan terminado en el ayuntamiento y los libros de historia se escriban, se lea que William Lantigua fue el mejor alcalde que la ciudad ha tenido siempre, y por cierto... resultó que era latino.

¡Gracias por este honor esta noche, vamos a esta fiesta que comenzó, pero mañana, vamos a poner en marcha nuestro plan y avanzar a nuestra ciudad adelante... juntos!

¡Dios bendiga a América y que Dios bendiga a todos y cada uno de ustedes y que Dios bendiga a la gran Ciudad de Lawrence!

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

To have your event listed on this section of Rumbo, please send us an email to (and only to) calendar@rumbonews.com. The email must contain the name, date, time and location of the event. A contact email and phone number is recommended. A brief description of less than 30 words could also be included. If your message is missing any of this information, it will not be posted. Posting of your event is subject to space availability. Rumbo is not responsible for any misprinted information.

Horizons for Homeless Children need volunteers

Did you know that 1 in every 50 children in the U.S will go to sleep without a home this year? Horizons for Homeless Children is looking for energetic and enthusiastic volunteers to play with children living in family homeless shelters in Northeastern Massachusetts. If you have an extra 2 hours a week and a desire to make a difference in the lives of some wonderful children, then we have the volunteer opportunity for you! A six month commitment is required. Attendance at one of our training sessions is mandatory.

Horizons for Homeless Children is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing programs and services for homeless children throughout Massachusetts. Horizons for Homeless Children's Northeast Region continues to recruit new volunteers to work with homeless children living in family homeless shelters and domestic violence shelters in Lawrence, Lowell, Haverhill, Tewksbury, North Chelmsford, Salem, Peabody, Lynn, Revere, Gloucester and Malden. They work with shelters in and around your neighborhood and are eager to connect with people within the community you serve.

UPCOMING TRAININGS:

January 30, Saturday, 9:00 AM - 4:30PM
Location: TBD, Boston

February 6, Saturday 9:30 - 4:30 PM
Location: TBD Lawrence

February 27, Saturday 9:30 - 4:30 PM
Location: TBD Worcester

Contact Heidi Reinhard at (978) 557-2182 or at hreinhard@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org for more information and an application, or fill one out online at www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org.

Horizontes para los Niños sin Hogar necesitan voluntarios

¿Sabía usted que 1 de cada 50 niños en los EE.UU. Se irá a dormir sin un hogar este año? Horizontes para Niños sin Hogar está buscando voluntarios enérgicos y entusiastas para jugar con los niños que viven en refugios para familias indigentes en el noreste de Massachusetts. Si tiene disponibles dos horas a la semana y un deseo de hacer una diferencia en las vidas de algunos maravillosos hijos, entonces tenemos la oportunidad de servir como voluntario para usted! Un compromiso de seis meses es necesario. La asistencia a una de nuestras sesiones de capacitación es obligatoria.

Horizontes para Niños sin Hogar es una organización no lucrativa dedicada a proveer

programas y servicios para los niños sin hogar en todo Massachusetts. La Región del Noreste de Horizontes para Niños sin Hogar sigue reclutando nuevos voluntarios para trabajar con niños sin hogar que viven en albergues y refugios para familias víctimas de violencia doméstica en Lawrence, Lowell, Haverhill, Tewksbury, North Chelmsford, Salem, Peabody, Lynn, Revere, Gloucester y Malden. Ellos trabajan con refugios en su vecindario y alrededores y están ansiosos de conectar con la gente dentro de la comunidad en la que usted sirve.

PRÓXIMOS ENTRENAMIENTOS:

30 de enero, sábado, 9:00-4:30
Ubicación: TBD, Boston

6 de febrero, Sábado 9:30-4:30
Ubicación: TBD Lawrence

27 de febrero, Sábado 9:30-4:30
Ubicación: TBD Worcester

Póngase en contacto con Heidi Reinhard (978) 557-2182 o en hreinhard@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org para más información y una solicitud, o llene una a través del Internet en www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org.

Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Night at the Boston Celtics!

Friday, January 22, 2010 @ 7:30PM
Purchase Your Tickets Now by calling (978) 686-0900.

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 the Portland Trail Blazers at the TD Bank Garden.

The seats are in a private area across from the media seating. They are not available through the TD Bank Garden box office. Ticket price is \$70.00 per person and payment must accompany ticket order. No refunds, no cancellations after tickets have been ordered. Thank You.

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
112A East Haverhill St.,
Lawrence, MA 01841



We build STRONG kids, STRONG families, STRONG communities.

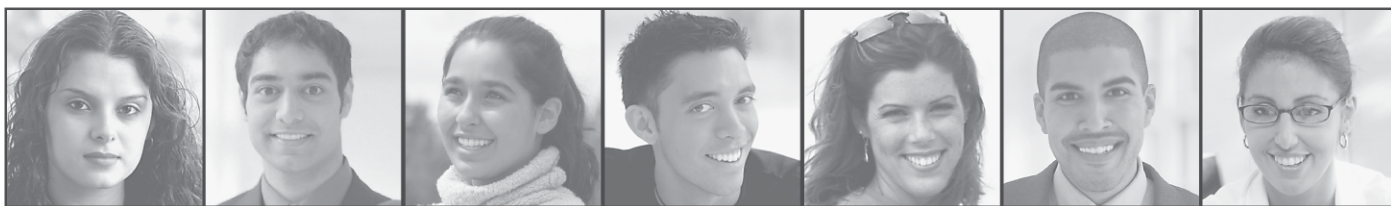
Merrimack Valley YMCA
Lawrence Branch | Andover/North Andover Branch
Methuen Branch | Camping Services Branch
978.725.6681 | www.mvymca.org

When and Where is your next event?

Send it to us at calendar@rumbonews.com

Send us this information:

- Event Name and Date
- Location
- Time
- Fee (if Any)
- Contact Information
- Event Description



Scouting ... una Profesión con un Propósito

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

Qué Hacen los Scouters Profesionales

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

Aprenda Más

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



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.

When and Where is your next event?
Send it to us at calendar@rumbonews.com

CALENDARIO | CALENDAR

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

Mayor's Artist of the Month Program: Methuen artists interested in being considered as Artist of the Month should contact Matt Kraunelis in the Mayor's Office at 978-983-8505. If chosen, the artist will be asked to display several works of art in the Mayor's Office reception area, and will receive special recognition from Mayor William Manzi.

GUIDELINES

- Artists must live or work in Methuen or be a member of a Methuen-based arts group.
- We generally hang six to eight pieces of art depending on size. We prefer framed work. Artwork must have a cord on the back so that it can be properly displayed.
- Artists are responsible for hanging and removing their work.
- Artists must submit a brief bio in electronic form to be used in a press release.

"Summoning artists to participate In the august occasions of the state Seems something artists ought to celebrate. Today is for my cause a day of days."

From the poem "Dedication" by former Methuen resident and teacher, Robert Frost.

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.

Essex Art Center Galleries Exhibitions

January 8 - February 19, 2010
Gallery hours: M - F 10-6. Call for additional evening hours. Closed: January 18 and February 15

The reception and galleries are free and open to the public

WHO: The Essex Art Center: Chester F. Sidell Gallery and Elizabeth A. Beland Gallery

WHAT: Exhibitions
Chester F. Sidell Gallery: The Vase in Winter 2010 – Ceramic vases filled with flowers by Mary Barringer (MA), Hayne Bayless (CT), Scott Goldberg (ME), Paul Heroux (ME)

Elizabeth A. Beland Gallery: Waking with you – New embroidery drawings on antique linens and photography by Joetta Maue (NY)

WHEN: January 8 – February 19, 2010, with an opening reception on Friday, January 8, 5-7 p.m.

WHERE: The Essex Art Center is located at 56 Island Street, Lawrence, MA.

Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Night at the Boston Celtics!

Thursday, January 14, 2010

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 the Chicago Bulls! At the TD Bank Garden.

Great Seats-Low Cost-Purchase Your Tickets Now! Merrimack Valley Chamber Tickets are in the Balcony-seats are all together so that you can enjoy the game with your fellow MVCC Members. Ticket price is \$85.00 per person and payment must accompany ticket order. No refunds, No cancellations after tickets have been ordered.

Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce Presents... WHEN ELMO GROWS UP

Sunday, January 24, 2010 @ 1:00PM
Lowell Memorial Auditorium
50 East Street, Lowell, MA 01852
Tickets are only \$33.95

Enjoy an exciting evening with your family, friends or reward your business associates! Merrimack Valley Chamber Seats are in the 5th and 6th row on center floor. No cancellations, no refunds after tickets have been ordered.



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Group exercise classes are free for members.

Some exclusions. Expires 2/28/09.

Merrimack Valley YMCA
Branches include
Andover/North Andover . Lawrence . Methuen

www.mvymca.org
978.725.6681



We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

Dondequiera que estés
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Where do I find Rumbo?

Rumbo is printed four times a month on the following schedule:

1st & 15th of every Month

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(MA) Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, Andover, North Andover, and Lowell
(NH) Salem, Nashua, and Manchester

8th & 22nd of every month

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(MA) Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, Andover, and North Andover

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