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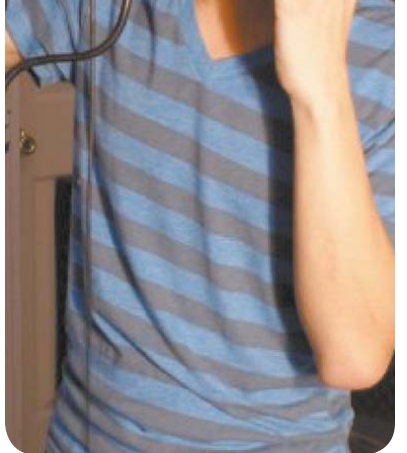
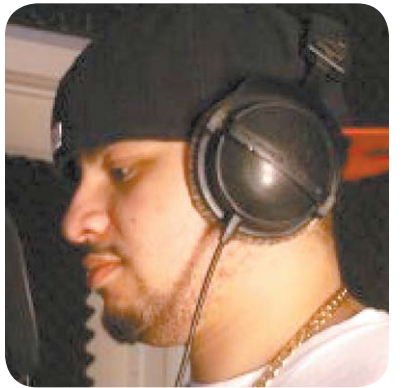


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Comenzó la carrera en el Distrito 16

POR ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

Después de la renuncia del representante William Lantigua a su puesto en la Casa del Estado, el viernes 12 de febrero, 2010 antes de completar su término, la ley dice que una elección especial debe realizarse con el objeto de cubrir su posición.

De acuerdo con Rafael Tejeda, Coordinador del Departamento de Elecciones, House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo debe convocar la elección, de acuerdo a lo establecido en el Capítulo 54, Sección 141 de las Leyes Estatales.

"Otra cosa que todavía está por determinarse es si los candidatos que ya sacaron papeles de nominación para el Distrito 16, para las Primarias de septiembre 14, y las Elecciones Finales de noviembre 3, podrían utilizar estos mismos papeles para la especial o si necesitan sacar nuevos", dijo Tejeda.

Tejeda dijo que la fecha de la elección especial es también muy importante, ya que los candidatos necesitan saber cuándo deben regresar los documentos con las firmas y el Departamento de Elecciones necesita tiempo para imprimir las boletas.

El Ing. Marcos Devers, quien recibió el apoyo de Lantigua el mismo día de su renuncia y Rafael Gadea, un electricista que trabaja para la Ciudad de Lawrence son, según Tejeda, los dos únicos candidatos que ya sacaron papeles de nominación.

Tejeda entiende que Lesly Meléndez, Francisco Brea y Enrique Matos están considerando lanzarse a la contienda y que hay una posibilidad de que algunos de los candidatos no se presenten en la elección especial, sino sólo en la elección ordinaria.

"Espero que tengamos algunas respuestas la próxima semana", finalizó Tejeda.

District 16 race started

BY ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

After the resignation of Representative William Lantigua to his seat in the House of Representatives, on Friday, February 12, 2010, before completing his time, the law calls for a special election should be held to fill his position.

According to Rafael Tejeda, Election Division Coordinator, the election has to be called by House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo, as established in Chapter 54, Section 141 of the State Law.

"Another thing that still needs to be determined is whether the nomination papers for District 16 already pulled by the applicants for the September 14th Primary and the General Election of November 3rd could be used for the Special Election or need to pull new ones," said Tejeda.

Tejeda said that the date for the special election is also very important, since the candidates need to know when to return the papers with the signatures and the election department needs time to print the ballots.

Ing. Marcos Devers, who received Lantigua's endorsement the same day of his resignation and Rafael Gadea, an electrician working for the City of Lawrence are, according to Tejeda, the only two candidates who already pulled nomination papers.

Tejeda's understanding is that Lesly Melendez, Francisco Brea and Enrique Matos are considering running and that there is a possibility that some of the candidates might not run in the special election, but only in the regular election.

"Hopefully we will have some answers next week," ended Tejeda.

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

¡Entre más mejor!

Debido al fallecimiento del Senador Edward M. Kennedy, Massachusetts tuvo que atravesar una elección especial para elegir a su reemplazo. Los residentes de Lawrence tuvieron un papel activo en esa campaña y tal parece que hemos estado en tiempo de elecciones desde noviembre 2009.

Ahora, debido a la renuncia del Representante Estatal William Lantigua a su puesto en la Casa de Gobierno, nos enfrentamos a la posibilidad de otra elección especial antes de la ordinaria que se celebrará en septiembre y noviembre de este año.

En el momento en que escribimos esto, parece que los legisladores no han sido oficialmente informados de tal renuncia ya que se fueron de vacaciones escolares. Esperemos que esta semana sepamos si a Lawrence se le permitirá obtener el préstamo de hasta \$35 millones que ha estado en las noticias todos los días.

En cuanto a los residentes del Distrito 16 que desean solicitar el puesto vacante, Rafael Tejeda del Departamento de Elecciones ha identificado a Marcos Devers y a Rafael Gadea, como los dos únicos posibles candidatos que ya han retirado papeles. También mencionó la posibilidad de que Lesly Meléndez, Francisco Brea y Enrique Matos se postulen.

Es refrescante ver nuevos nombres de mujeres y hombres dispuestos a abordar los problemas de Lawrence. Con sólo añadir sus nombres a la lista de candidatos merecen nuestra admiración. ¡Les deseamos la mejor de las suertes!

The more the better!

As a result of Senator Edward M. Kennedy's passing, Massachusetts went through a special election to choose his replacement. Lawrencians took an active role on that campaign and it looks like we have been in election mode since November 2009.

Now, because of the resignation of State Representative William Lantigua to his post at the State House, we are facing the possibility of another special election before the regular one to be held on September and November this year.

At the time we are writing this, it appears that legislators have not been officially informed about such resignation since they went on school vacation. Hopefully, this week we will know if Lawrence will ever be allowed to deficit-borrow up to \$35 million that seems to have been in the news forever.

As far as residents of District 16 wanting to apply for the vacant job, Rafael Tejeda of the Election Department has identified Marcos Devers and Rafael Gadea, as the only two potential candidates who have already pulled papers. He also mentioned that Lesly Melendez, Francisco Brea and Enrique Matos are possible runners.

It is refreshing to see new names of women and men ready to tackle Lawrence's problems. Just adding their names to the list of candidates deserves our admiration. We wish them all the best of luck!

Cartas al Editor | Letters to the Editor

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POR DALIA DÍAZ
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Desde Mi Esquina



■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 15

¿Podríamos tener una elección especial?

Si bien los medios de comunicación estaban exigiendo a gritos la renuncia de William Lantigua de su posición como Representante Estatal del Distrito 16, de repente se callaron dando por sentado que fue un hecho el viernes, 12 de febrero. ¿No sería divertido si Lantigua recupera la carta diciendo que él cambió de idea? ¡Por supuesto, sólo estoy bromeando! El hecho es que él presentó su carta al Presidente de la Cámara Robert DeLeo y él la archivó, pero la Legislatura no la ha leído, y mucho menos aceptado.

Si Lantigua hubiese renunciado después del 31 de mayo, no sería un problema; pero como quedan más de seis meses de su mandato, debe celebrarse una elección especial hasta que un representante permanente pueda ser elegido en el otoño para el período oficial de dos años a menos que la Cámara decida otra cosa.

Ahora bien, hay un signo de interrogación en cuanto a si habrá o no una elección especial en Lawrence para llenar la posición del Representante Estatal. La

Cámara de Representantes se encontraba de vacaciones escolares y se reunirá esta semana para discutir si se trata de ser aprobada (después de aprobar la renuncia de Lantigua).

Dada la situación financiera de Lawrence, algunos funcionarios de la ciudad esperan que la Cámara de Representantes decida esperar a la Primaria de septiembre y las Elecciones Generales de noviembre. Se ha sugerido en la Casa de Estado que la Ciudad de Lawrence no está representada por un solo miembro y los Representantes Barry Finegold y David Torrisi, así como la Senadora Susan Tucker pueden proteger los intereses de nuestra ciudad, en caso de haber una necesidad de representación.

Una solución que no preferida, ni está siendo discutida es la de nombrar a un representante estatal en forma provisional hasta las elecciones de otoño.

CAPÍTULO 54. ELECCIONES

PROCEDIMIENTO EN CASO DE NO ELEGIR, Y VACANTES EN LAS OFICINAS DEL ESTADO

Capítulo 54: Sección 141. Representantes en el tribunal general, las vacantes

Sección 141. Cuando haya una vacante en el cargo de representante en el tribunal general o en caso de fallo en elegir, el presidente de la Cámara de Representantes deberá emitir preceptos a los concejales de cada ciudad y los regidores de cada municipio que comprende el distrito o parte de él, indicando el tiempo en que la Cámara de Representantes ordenará una elección para cubrir dicha vacante; siempre que si la vacante se produce durante un receso entre los periodos de sesiones anuales primero y segundo del tribunal general, el presidente puede fijar la fecha para una elección para cubrir dicha vacante. Todas las elecciones se celebrarán un martes. Tras la recibo de tales preceptos, los concejales o los regidores deberán convocar a elecciones, que se celebrarán en conformidad con los preceptos.

Los comentarios del Concejál Laplante

Al final de la reunión del concilio el miércoles pasado el Concejál del Distrito F Marc Laplante leyó una declaración quejándose del Alcalde William Lantigua, por no querer dirigirse a los medios en el idioma Inglés. Estamos de acuerdo.

Si Lantigua no quiso conceder entrevistas durante la campaña (por la razón que fuere) al "periódico oficial", como él la llamó, él es ahora el alcalde de una ciudad que necesita mucho apoyo. Abriéndose a los medios de comunicación en inglés es la mejor manera de eliminar las mentiras y las conjeturas de que estamos tan cansados de escuchar a nivel local como a través de los medios de comunicación de Boston.

Le recomendamos que lea la declaración de Laplante en la página 9 y note lo irónico que parece cuando dice que quiere abolir "haciendo política como de costumbre", pero está bien siempre que sea para complacer a "los corredores de poder de Beacon Hill", como él llama a nuestros políticos estatales. Eso me suena a haciendo política, como de costumbre.

Ahora bien, permítanme aclarar algunos puntos que hizo allí. No sé lo que define "el diario de registro." ¿Es el más grande? ¿El de mayor circulación? Bueno, Rumbo cubre Lawrence y con respecto a los residentes del Distrito F "que no entienden español," quizás el Concejál Laplante nunca ha leído Rumbo porque se habría dado cuenta de que es bilingüe en español e inglés. Así que, intentando alcanzar a los residentes a través de Rumbo, el Alcalde Lantigua ha llegado a todos los residentes, no sólo los

City of Lawrence Elected Officials 2010 to 2012

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POR FAVOR VEA **DÍAZ**

■ CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 18

Rumbo

The BILINGUAL Newspaper of the Merrimack Valley

Talento de Lawrence se une en canción de caridad

Hace unas semanas, Bylli Crayone de Lawrence, quien es una sensación dentro de la música bailable, se le ocurrió la idea de grabar una canción de caridad con todos los ingresos destinados a Haití y se la presentó a varios de los artistas de la zona representando varios géneros de la música.

Los artistas establecidos, así como los que apenas están comenzando en la escena musical, veinte artistas, cantantes y raperos se reunieron durante semanas para analizar la canción, escribir un plan, el proceso de la grabación y el proyecto global en sí. En pocos días, la radio local, periódicos y la televisión estaban apoyando el proyecto. De hecho, Bylli Crayone y el grupo se reunió con el Alcalde William Lantigua, quien les dio su bendición y mostró un gran apoyo.

El sábado, 20 de febrero, la Ciudad de Lawrence hizo historia en la música. Los 20 artistas fueron a Insight Studios en Manchester, NH para grabar la canción "Trust And Believe" (Confiar y Creer). Fue producido por Jerel "Proff" Norris y Bylli Crayone. Bylli Crayone también fue director musical de este proyecto orientando y dirigiendo a los artistas.

Originalmente, Bylli no quiso estar involucrado con esa parte de la canción ya que él ya tenía bastante trabajo con toda la publicidad y la promoción del proyecto. De hecho, ni siquiera quería estar en la canción. "Yo quería ser como Quincy Jones, el hombre detrás de la escena cabiéndolo todo posible", dijo Bylli. "Escribí el coro y eso es todo lo que quería hacer, pero en el último minuto, las cosas cambiaron: yo estoy en la canción", agregó.

El sábado fue una sesión de grabación de todo el día, de 11am a 8pm. Todos los artistas se unieron como si fueran de la familia. "No hubo egos, no hubo drama, no hubo problemas. Todo resultó muy fácil", dijo Bylli. "El proceso de grabación fue mágico! Cuando todos estaban en la cabina cantando a coro por primera vez, nos entraron escalofríos y nos sorprendió la energía que todos ellos añadieron a la canción", agregó.

Los 20 artistas en la canción son: Dramatik, DJ Erkel, Casi Adrian, SonChild, Toni Pino, SDOT, Dairon Skye, Erin Marie, Patrick Starr, C-Flow, Lian, Xiomy, 6th Dimenzion, Fre\$co, Da Chief, Loida, Destiny, Show Divine, Hidden Agenda y,



The LawTown group visits Mayor Lantigua's office.



The Girls Chorus: Erin Marie, SDOT, Xiomy, Loida and Destiny.

por supuesto, Bylli Crayone.

La canción "Trust And Believe" (Confiar y Creer) tendrá su debut pronto en www.LawTownVoice.com. El CD, DVD y un lanzamiento digital estarán disponibles dentro de un mes o dos. El CD estará disponible en muchas tiendas minoristas locales, Power 800, Amazon.com y varios otros lugares.

Dado que esta canción ha sido incluida en un álbum, otros artistas locales que no

podieron asistir a la sesión de grabación de la canción están contribuyendo para que sea incluida en el álbum. Los artistas incluyen Domenic Marte y 4 Ever.

Además, dos de los artistas, Lian y Destiny se han unido para grabar su primera canción que se incluirá en el álbum. La canción es "Casi el Paraíso", de la película "Footloose" de 1984. Esa canción también se estrenará pronto en www.LawTownVoice.com.

Lawrence talent unite for charity song

A few weeks ago, dance music sensation Bylli Crayone of Lawrence, came up with the idea of recording a charity song with all proceeds going to Haiti and reached out to several of the area's recording artists from various genres of music.

Established artists as well as new comers to the music scene, twenty artists, singers and rappers met for weeks discussing the song, writing plans, recording process and the overall project itself. Within days, local radio, newspapers and television were supporting the project. In fact, Bylli Crayone and the group met the Mayor William Lantigua who gave them his blessings and showed great support.

On Saturday, February 20th, music history was made for the City of Lawrence. The 20 artists went to Insight Studios in Manchester, NH to record the song "Trust And Believe". It was produced by Jerel "Proff" Norris and Bylli Crayone. Bylli Crayone also was music director on this project guiding and giving direction to the artists.

Originally, Bylli did not want to be involved with that part of the song since he already had his plate full running all the publicity and promotion on the project. In fact, he didn't even want to be in the song. "I wanted to be like Quincy Jones, the man behind the scenes putting it all together," said Bylli. "I wrote the chorus and that's all I wanted to do, but at the last minute, things changed: I am in the song," he added.

Saturday was an all day recording session from 11am to 8pm. All the artists came together as if they were family. "No egos, no drama, no problems. It all ran so smoothly," said Bylli. "The recording process was MAGIC! When everyone was in the booth together singing the chorus for

PLEASE SEE **SONG**
CONTINUES ON PAGE 14

Heart Depot

- **Gratis:** evaluación de colesterol, azúcar en la sangre y presión arterial
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Honran Independencia de Lituania



Ed Rostosky, Dona Chernesky-Cunningham, Steve Rostosky, Gail Cunningham, Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini, Kevin Masys, Joseph Naudzunas and Ed Chernesky, posed with the proclamation before raising the flag in front of City Hall.

POR/BY ALBERTO SURÍS
albertosuris@rumbonews.com

El 16 de febrero se cumplió el 92 aniversario de la restauración de la independencia de Lituania. Habiendo sido ocupada por tropas de la Rusia Comunista durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial, no fue sino hasta 1991, que los ciudadanos de Lituania finalmente alcanzaron la independencia de su democrática nación según fue declarada

en 1918.

El 17 de febrero de 2010, el Alcalde de Haverhill James J. Fiorentini, junto a un grupo de descendientes lituanos residentes de Haverhill, conmemoró el Día de la Independencia Lituanizando su bandera y entregándoles una proclama.

“Siento gran orgullo en reconocer este día para nuestros residentes descendientes

de lituanos. Haverhill está formado por inmigrantes de todas partes del mundo, y para todos nosotros, este es un evento para celebrar la democracia. Yo invito a todos los ciudadanos a recordar las luchas por la democracia a través del mundo, tanto ahora como en el pasado”, dijo Fiorentini.

Lithuanian Independence Day honored

February 16th was the 92nd Anniversary of the 1918 restoration of independence to Lithuania. Having been occupied by Communist Russian troops during the Second World War, it was not until 1991, that the citizens of Lithuania finally achieved the restoration of their free, independent and democratic nation as declared in 1918.

On February 17th, 2010, Haverhill Mayor, James J. Fiorentini commemorated Lithuanian Independence Day along with Haverhill residents of Lithuanian descent, by raising their flag after delivering a proclamation to the group of residents.

“I am proud to recognize this day for our citizens of Lithuanian descent. Haverhill is made up of immigrants from all over the world and for all of us the celebration of democracy is an event to be recognized. I invite all citizens to remember the struggles throughout the world for democracy, both now and in the past,” said Fiorentini.

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Text of the Proclamation

Whereas, February 16, 2010, marks the 92nd anniversary of the 1918 restoration of independence to Lithuania; and,

Whereas, That hard-won independence was short lived for the Lithuanian people, as invading Communist Russian troops overran the small Baltic nation; and,

Whereas, Despite unimaginable suffering and sacrifice, including policies of genocide, the Lithuanian people never forgot the February 16, 1918, independence proclamation and their love and desire for independence, liberty, justice, and freedom of thought and action – principles which we as American citizens and our fellow citizens in democratic nations are fortunate to enjoy; and,

Whereas, After decades of struggle, mass demonstrations, nation-wide strikes and courageous referendum votes for freedom, on March 11, 1991, the citizens of Lithuania finally achieved the restoration of their free, independent and democratic nation as declared in 1918; and

NOW, THEREFORE I, JAMES J. FIORENTINI MAYOR of the City of Haverhill, Massachusetts, do hereby declare February 16, 2010 Lithuanian Independence Day.



A group of Haverhill residents of Lithuanian descent stand next to Haverhill Mayor James J. Fiorentini (extreme right) while Joseph Naudzunas raised their flag at Haverhill City Hall.

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HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

Alcaldía anuncia ganador del “Jardín del Mes” de enero

La Oficina del Alcalde William Lantigua de Lawrence se complace en anunciar que el ganador del prestigioso premio “Jardín del Mes” en enero 2010 es la Familia Contreras, residentes en el 21 de la Calle Bromfield. El Alcalde Lantigua dijo, “Los esfuerzos de la Familia Contreras han sido una inspiración a los residentes de Lawrence para eliminar la basura y mostrar orgullo en su propiedad.”

La señora Leandra Contreras, con la ayuda de sus hijos, Jarell y Darwin, han puesto mucho esfuerzo en mantener su propiedad libre de basura, hasta afuera en la calle. El hogar de los Contreras está frente a un lote vacío que es usado para botar basura. Todos los días, la familia con la ayuda del padre de la Sra. Contreras, arduamente recoge la basura que vuela hacia su patio y el de los vecinos. También han hecho un trabajo excelente removiendo la nieve y el hielo. Esto mantiene las aceras frente a su casa seguras para que los niños caminen rumbo a la escuela.

Es este arduo trabajo, gran creatividad y tanto orgullo en su mantenimiento lo que ha hecho a la Familia Contreras merecedores del reconocimiento del Jardín del Mes en enero del 2010.

Sugerencias para el próximo mes de Jardín del Mes y Tienda del Mes son aceptadas vía correo electrónico a FOConnor@CityofLawrence.com o



pueden ser entregadas al Departamento del Desarrollo Comunitario localizado en el 147 de la Calle Haverhill.

Frank O'Connor, Jr., Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario, Jarell (con el premio), Darwin y la señora Leandra Contreras. Crédito de fotografía: Eileen Margaret

Mayor's Office Announces January's Yard of the Month Winner

The Office of Mayor William Lantigua is pleased to announce that the winner of the prestigious “Yard of the Month” award for January 2010 is the Contreras Family at 21 Bromfield Street. Mayor Lantigua said, “The efforts of the Contreras Family have been an inspiration to the residents of Lawrence to keep the city clean and show great pride in their property.”

Ms. Leandra Contreras, with the help of her sons Jarell and Darwin, have made superb efforts to keep their yard clean and free of litter, right out to the street. The Contreras home is across from a vacant lot which has been used for dumping. Each day the family, with the help of Ms. Contreras’ father, painstakingly picks up the trash that blows into their yard and neighbors’ yards. They have done an excellent job with snow and ice removal, also. This keeps the sidewalk in front of their home safe for children to walk to and from school.

It is this hard work, great creativity and much pride in its upkeep that has earned the Contreras Family the coveted recognition of Yard of the Month award for January 2010.

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



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Comentarios ante el Concilio de la Ciudad de Lawrence

POR CONCEJAL MARC L. LAPLANTE
17 de febrero 2010

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 17



La razón más importante para poner este tema en la agenda del día fue para abordar el mayor obstáculo que impide que la Legislatura del Estado permita que nuestra ciudad continúe autónoma y conservar así la voz de nuestra comunidad - ese obstáculo era el alcalde que ocupaba dos puestos como alcalde y representante estatal. La Legislatura del Estado envió una señal muy fuerte de que si el alcalde no renunciaba a una de sus posiciones, le quitarían al Concilio y el Alcalde la habilidad de fijar la política de nuestra ciudad. El viernes, el alcalde tomó la decisión correcta y renunció a su escaño como representante estatal. Esperemos que, esta acción ayudará a la ciudad a mantener su autogobierno. Doy la bienvenida a un supervisor del estado, y creo que si escuchamos la experiencia de este gerente profesional, podemos seguir gobernando libremente, dar a nuestros constituyentes una voz en la toma de decisiones, y,

finalmente, tomar las decisiones difíciles que mejorarán la condición financiera de nuestra ciudad.

Sin embargo, no se equivoquen que cuando hablamos, nuestra audiencia no es sólo nuestros constituyentes, sino también las fuerzas en Beacon Hill y en Wall Street. Beacon Hill, a través de la ayuda estatal, no sólo contribuye con más del 70% de nuestros ingresos, sino que también afectarán directamente a nuestro estilo de gobierno representativo cuando regresen de las vacaciones de febrero. Así que si nuestro objetivo es continuar autónomos con un supervisor, debemos adoptar nuevas medidas que deben dar confianza al resto del estado de que podemos y debemos gobernarlos.

1. Tenemos que sanarnos.

Después de las elecciones de noviembre, parecía que el alcalde no quería hablar con el diario oficial. Aplaudo que el alcalde llegue a los medios de comunicación de habla española, pero también debería llegar a los medios de comunicación de habla inglesa. Francamente, los medios de comunicación de habla inglesa son leídos por los que tienen el control en Beacon

Hill y Wall Street y afectará de forma significativa sus opiniones. El alcalde debe ser lo más accesible a los medios de comunicación en inglés como lo es para los medios de comunicación en español. Esto no sólo nos ayuda a comunicar un mensaje positivo a Beacon Hill, sino que también permite al alcalde a comunicarse con las miles de personas en mi distrito que no entienden español.

2. Tenemos que mostrar Beacon Hill que Lawrence no está haciendo política, como de costumbre.

El alcalde tiene una oportunidad de mejorar nuestra cultura política. La política al estilo antiguo requiere que cualquier sospecha de un enemigo político debe darse por terminado, y amigos o conocidos serían contratados para reemplazarlos. Sin embargo, en estos momentos únicos, esta conducta es contraproducente ya que Beacon Hill y la gente que representamos, esperan más. Hasta el momento, el alcalde ha despedido a un individuo (que el Concilio votó a favor de mantener), y ha despedido a varios otros, todo en nombre de ahorrar dinero. Sin embargo, muchas de estas posiciones han sido publicadas para

emplear a otras personas. Esto cuestiona la explicación de ahorro y permite la crítica de que los despidos fueron venganzas políticas. Además, los anuncios de trabajo no se publicaron en el periódico oficial que tiene una amplia difusión a través de su impresión y lectores en la Internet. Además, estamos a 45 días de la Administración y el alcalde tiene jefes de departamentos trabajando en calidad de "suplente" o "provisional" sin enviar sus nombres ante el Concejo Municipal para su aprobación tal como exige la Constitución de la Ciudad. Beacon Hill conoce de estas acciones y por desgracia, promueve una opinión poco halagüeña de nuestra ciudad.

Concejales, como líderes, tenemos que animar al alcalde a tomar medidas que no sólo sanen a nuestra ciudad, sino también repudiar la política al viejo estilo. Beacon Hill está vigilando y los agentes de bonos municipales de Wall Street están mirando. El alcalde tomó la decisión correcta al renunciar a la posición de representante estatal y necesita seguir tomando acciones que promuevan la confianza no sólo entre nuestros constituyentes, sino también entre los agentes del poder en Beacon Hill y Wall Street.

Salim Rodríguez Tabit

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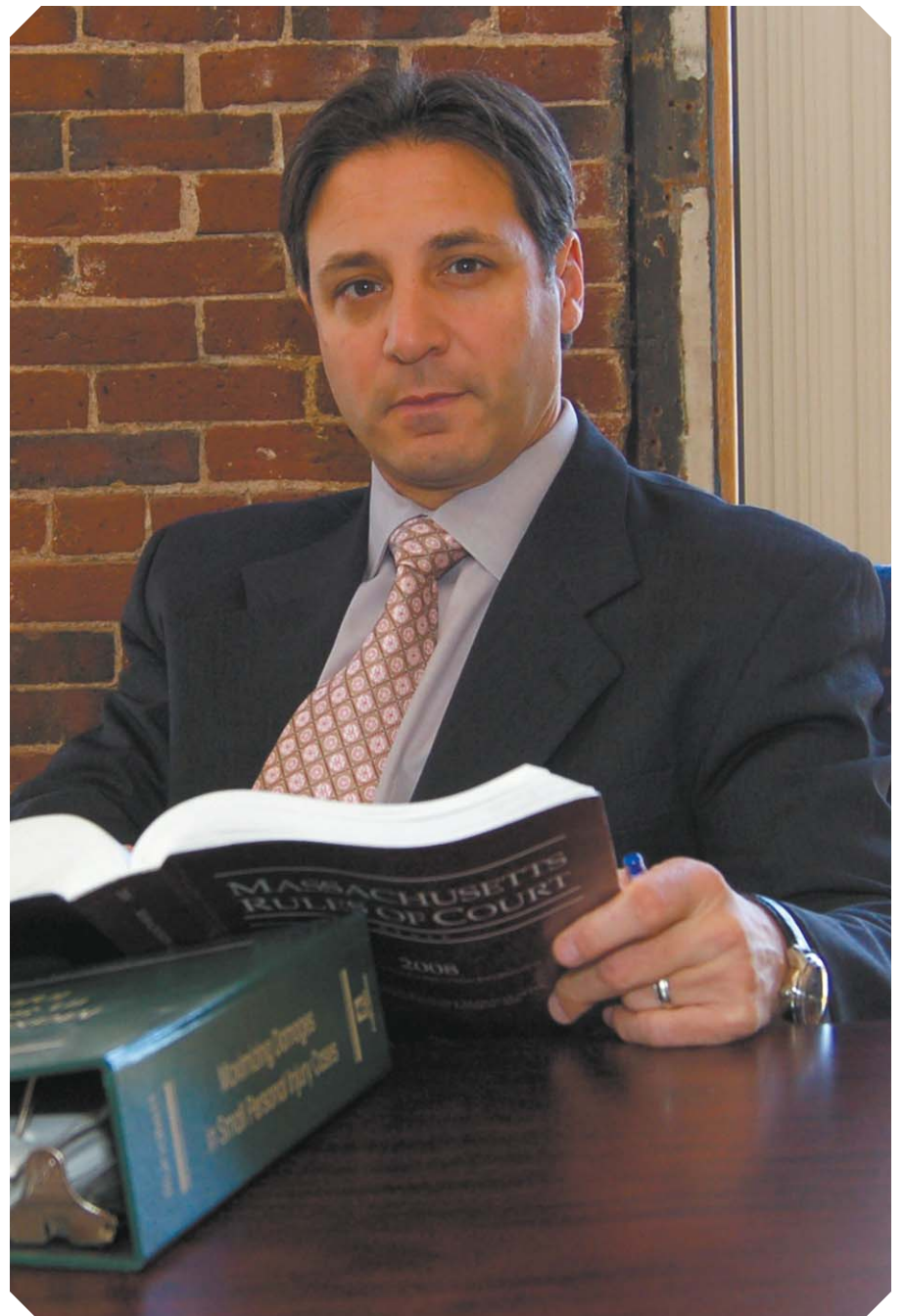
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POR MAUREEN NIMMO

Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence

■ READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Saludos Amigos Lectores. Me encuentro sentada, mirando la nieve acumularse y tratando de consolarme al decirme a mí misma que solo faltan treinta y dos días para que se termine el invierno. ¡No importa cuánto lo repita en mi mente, no está funcionando! Un día de estos me voy a escapar para coger un descanso, aunque sea a pie, y no voy a para hasta que llegue a Nueva Orleans.

Las cosas siguen sin resolverse en el frente de la ciudad. Nadie sabe si vamos a recibir la aprobación del estado para coger prestado hasta \$35,000,000 para superar nuestras deudas y mantener la ciudad en una base de pago. Incluso, si recibimos el dinero, no se sabe cómo será administrado. El plan se puede ejecutar de diferentes maneras; desde la quiebra hasta el control local regular. La mayoría de las personas piensan que el control compuesto por el alcalde, el presidente del concejo y tres personas nombradas por el estado, sea el escenario más probable. Comoquiera, todos estos comentarios son suposiciones, y nadie está seguro de nada. Por eso, es muy difícil para mí predecir lo que ocurrirá en el futuro inmediato de la biblioteca.

Dentro de toda esta explicación, tengo que disculparme con mis lectores. Hasta que algo se decida en la ciudad, no tengo muchas noticias y futuros eventos para informarles. Las dificultades en el Departamento de IT de la ciudad hacen que sea imposible para mí predecir cuándo la actualización del laboratorio de computadoras se llevará a cabo por no hablar de qué servicios van a permanecer y/o cuáles podrán ser mejorados.

Cuando la situación económica se establezca, espero que caigamos de inmediato en la preparación del presupuesto. Este no es un proceso fácil, pero hay que hacerlo. Me gustaría aprovechar la oportunidad para hablarles sobre nuestra sucursal del sur de

Lawrence, especialmente cuando veo que sucursales de la Biblioteca Pública de Boston están siendo amenazadas. El caso es diferente aquí en Lawrence. Nosotros no empleamos personal adicional para ejecutar el trabajo en esta - Maureen y Rosemary, las dos personas que trabajan en este edificio, son parte de nuestro personal permanente y estarían trabajando de todos modos las mismas horas por el mismo pago. El costo de mantener el edificio se compensa (casi exactamente dólar por dólar) con el ahorro que nos damos al abrir este edificio para la horas de los domingos (mandato estatal) en vez de abrir el edificio principal. El lado positivo es que proporcionamos un servicio muy popular (y creciente) a la zona sur de nuestra ciudad. En nuestra sucursal también contamos con la hermosa colección irlandesa, la cual es la mejor colección de este tipo en el área norte de Boston. El mantenimiento de la sucursal está lleno de ventajas y ningunas desventajas.

Quiero tomar un momento (y sé que me querrá matar por hacer esto), para informarles a todos ustedes que nuestra querida Directora Asociada, Sharon Doyle, se jubilará a finales de este mes. Sharon ha servido a la Ciudad de Lawrence en esta biblioteca por más de cuarenta años. Dos veces ha intervenido y ha actuado como directora interina. Bien conocida en toda la ciudad, le echaremos muchísimo de menos. Sin embargo, si alguien merece una jubilación tranquila es Sharon; y así quiero aprovechar esta pública oportunidad para expresar qué gran trabajadora ella ha sido y lo mucho que ha contribuido en nuestro edificio durante todos estos años.

Por cierto, ¡felicidades a los Santos de Nueva Orleans! ¡Nos vemos en la biblioteca!

Diez Hechos Acerca de Reclamar Donaciones Hechas a Haití

Si dona a esfuerzos de auxilio por el terremoto en Haití, usted pudiera tener derecho a reclamar una deducción en su declaración de impuestos del 2009.

“Al mes del terremoto en Haití, el IRS le recuerda que aún tiene unos días para hacer una donación de dinero efectivo y obtener una deducción este año”, recalcó la portavoz del IRS Sara Eguren.

Aquí hay 10 hechos importantes que el IRS desea que usted tenga presente acerca de esta disposición especial.

1. Una ley nueva le permite reclamar donaciones hechas para el auxilio de Haití en su declaración del 2009, la que estará presentando este año.
2. Las contribuciones deben ser hechas específicamente para auxiliar a las víctimas en zonas afectadas por el terremoto en Haití del 12 de enero.
3. Para calificar para una deducción en la declaración de impuestos del 2009, las donaciones deben haberse hecho después del 11 de enero de 2010 y antes del 1 de marzo de 2010.
4. Para ser deducibles, las contribuciones deben ser hechas a caridades calificadas y no pueden asignarse para el beneficio de personas o familias específicas.
5. La nueva ley solo se aplica a contribuciones de efectivo.
6. Contribuciones de efectivo hechas a través de mensajes de texto, cheques, tarjetas de crédito o de débito pueden ser reclamadas en su declaración de impuestos federales.
7. Usted debe detallar sus deducciones para reclamar estos donativos en su declaración de impuestos.
8. Usted tiene la opción de deducir estas contribuciones ya sea en su declaración de impuestos del 2009 o del 2010, pero no en ambas.
9. Contribuciones hechas a organizaciones extranjeras por lo general no pueden deducirse. Usted puede obtener información acerca de organizaciones ayudando a víctimas del terremoto en Haití de agencias tales como U.S. Agency for International Development (www.usaid.gov).
10. La ley federal requiere mantenga un récord de cualquier donación deducible

Ten Facts About Claiming Donations Made to Haiti

If you are donating to charities providing earthquake relief in Haiti, you may be able to claim those donations on your 2009 tax return.

“A month after the earthquake in Haiti, the IRS reminds you that you still have a few days to make a cash donation and get a tax deduction this year,” said IRS spokeswoman IRS Sara Eguren.

Here are 10 important facts the Internal Revenue Service wants you to know about this special provision.

1. A new law allows you to claim donations for Haitian relief on your 2009 tax return, which you will be filing this year.
2. The contributions must be made specifically for the relief of victims in areas affected by the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti.
3. To be eligible for a deduction on the

PLEASE SEE **IRS**

■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

que efectúe. Para las donaciones hechas por mensajes de texto, una factura telefónica cumplirá con el requisito de mantener un record si muestra el nombre de la organización que recibe su donativo, la fecha de contribución, y el monto dado. Para las contribuciones de efectivo por otros métodos, guarde un récord bancario, como un cheque cancelado o un recibo de la caridad. Los recibos deben mostrar el nombre de la caridad, la fecha y el monto de la contribución.

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Renombrado autor latino en NECC



Los latinos se han convertido en la minoría más grande de este país, pero ¿se ha traducido esto en una mayor voz política y cultural para los latinos? El autor latino Sergio

Troncoso examinará esta y otras preguntas en una charla titulada "Buscando nuestra voz: el papel de los latinos en los debates culturales y políticos de los Estados Unidos" el jueves, 25 de febrero a las 12:30 pm. (Esta charla será en inglés.) Este programa es parte de una cooperación entre la White Fund y Northern Essex Community College en una serie de presentaciones gratuitas que se llevarán a cabo en el Centro Educativo Louise Haffner Fournier, ubicado en el 78 de Amesbury St. en Lawrence.

Troncoso, el hijo de inmigrantes mexicanos, nació en El Paso, Texas, y ahora vive en Nueva York. Después de graduarse de la Universidad de Harvard, fue becario Fulbright en México y estudió relaciones internacionales y filosofía en la Universidad de Yale.

Sus cuentos han aparecido en varias antologías, incluyendo "Hit List: The Best of Latino Mystery", "Latino Boom: An Anthology of U.S. Latino Literature", "Once Upon a Cuento", "Hecho en Tejas: An Anthology of Texas-Literatura Mexicana", "Salvaje Ciudad: Ensayos y relatos acerca

de la Naturaleza Urbana" y "New World: Young Latino Writers". Su trabajo también ha aparecido en "Encyclopedia Latina", "Newsday", "El Paso Times", "Pembroke Magazine", "Hadassah Magazine", "Other Voices", y muchos otros periódicos y revistas.

En 1999, Tortilla su libro de cuentos, "The Last Tortilla and Other Stories", ganó el Premio Aztlán, como el mejor libro por un escritor chicano nuevo, y el Premio al Libro del Suroeste de la Asociación de Bibliotecas en la Región Fronteriza. Su novela, "La Naturaleza de la Verdad", fue publicada en el 2003, y es una historia acerca de un estudiante de Yale, quien descubre que su jefe, un profesor de renombre, esconde un pasado nazi.

Su galardonado sitio web está en www.SergioTroncoso.com. Él escribe un blog semanal, www.ChicoLingo.com, sobre la escritura, la política y las finanzas.

El objetivo del White Fund es tener una serie de presentaciones interactivas gratuitas para adultos, jóvenes y niños en el área de Lawrence. El público es alentado a buscar la sabiduría, el enriquecimiento cultural y el enriquecimiento intelectual por parte de la asistencia y participación. Financiado por una generosa contribución monetaria de el Honorable Daniel Appleton White, la Serie de la White Fund ha proporcionado conversación cultural con profesores muy conocidos en ámbitos como historia, literatura, viajes, artes y política.

Para obtener direcciones para llegar al Louise Haffner Fournier Education

Center, ubicado en la calle 78 de Amesbury, visite www.necc.mass.edu sitio web de la universidad y haga clic en los mapas y direcciones en la parte superior de la página de inicio. Aparcamiento disponible detrás del edificio. Hay estacionamiento adicional disponible en el garaje de Buckley, que está al otro lado de la calle del campus. El estacionamiento es gratuito para los asistentes a eventos de NECC.

Para obtener información adicional o para recibir un calendario de próximos eventos en la White Fund Enlightenment Series, llame al 978-738-7403.

Con recintos en Haverhill y Lawrence y sitios de extensión en Andover, Methuen y North Andover, Northern Essex Community College es una universidad estatal, ofreciendo más de 70 programas de grado asociado y de certificados, así como cientos de cursos de crédito no diseñados para el enriquecimiento personal y crecimiento de carreras. Cerca de 13,000 estudiantes que van desde recién graduados de escuela secundaria a los trabajadores empleados a nivel local asisten a clases de día, tardes y fines de semana. Northern Essex es la única universidad estatal ubicada en la parte inferior de la Región del Valle de Merrimack en Massachusetts.

Renowned Latino Author to Appear at NECC

Latinos have become this nation's largest minority group but has this translated into a greater cultural and political voice for Latinos? Latino author Sergio Troncoso will examine this question and others in a talk titled "Finding our Voice: the Role of Latinos in the Cultural and Political Debates of the United States" on Thursday, February 25 at 12:30 p.m. Part of Northern Essex Community College's White Fund Enlightenment Series, this program is free and will be held in the college's Louise Haffner Fournier Education Center, located at 78 Amesbury St. in Lawrence.

Troncoso, the son of Mexican immigrants, was born in El Paso, Texas, and now lives in New York City. After graduating from Harvard College, he was a Fulbright Scholar to Mexico and studied international relations and philosophy at Yale University.

His stories have been featured in many anthologies, including "Hit List: The Best of Latino Mystery",

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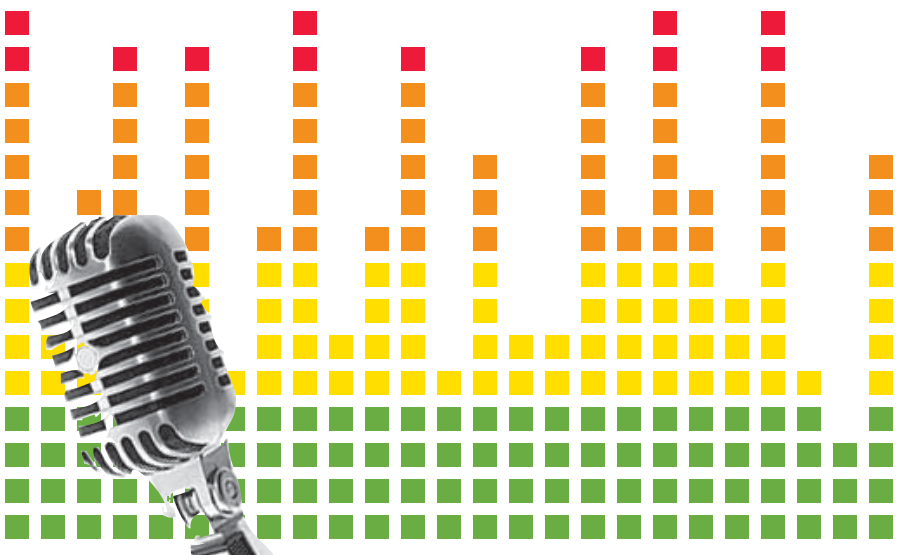
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Fiesta del Amor y la Amistad



Desde la izquierda, la Coordinadora del Comité, Carmenza Bruff; la Cónsul Colombiana, Bibiana Gómez; el Vicecónsul Colombiano, Fabian Paternina; la Coordinadora del Comité Colombiano, Claudia Delgado y el fundador del comité Nunzio DiMarca.

Organizado por el Comité Cultural Colombiano del Valle Merrimack

La Fiesta del Amor y la Amistad se realizó el día 13 de febrero en el Salón del Restaurante Maria's en la Ciudad de Haverhill, este evento tenía como finalidad recaudar fondos para otorgarle una beca estudiantil a un joven Latino Americano que esté terminando la escuela secundaria y desee ingresar en la universidad. Este es el segundo año que el Comité Colombiano otorgará una beca para beneficio de los jóvenes de la comunidad.

“Contamos con una acogida del público maravillosa; nos acompañaron personas de todas partes de Massachussets y tuvimos la casa llena disfrutando de excelente música

con nuestro DJ Palacios”, dijo Carmenza Bruff, coordinadora de la fiesta. “El sensacional cantante Alex Deras que nos deleitó con su repertorio de canciones muy variadas desde salsa, vallenatos, tropical hasta canciones rancheras”, añadió.

También hubo concursos de baile entre los enamorados. “El concurso de los solteros y solteras resultaron siendo muy divertidos”, dijo Claudia Delgado. “Logramos integrar a todos nuestros invitados de una forma muy familiar y amena. También tuvimos rifas que mantuvieron a la gente a la expectativa, ansiosos de llevarse una de ellos a casa. En pocas palabras fue una noche sensacional.”



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CALENDARIO DE EVENTOS

Más listados en las páginas 22 & 23

Seminarios para Primeros Compradores en Español

El Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership se complace en anunciar que estamos ofreciendo en Lowell el Proyecto Génesis, Seminarios para Primeros Compradores de Casa en Español.

Las clases se llevarán a cabo en el #10 de la calle Kirk en Lowell. Las próximas clases serán sábados, marzo 13 y 20, 2010 de 8:00 a.m. a 12:30 pm. Se requiere asistir a las dos clases para recibir el certificado del Proyecto Génesis. Costo \$60 por familia.

Temas Incluyen: El Proceso de Comprar una Casa, Guía de Hipoteca del Banco, Aspectos Legales, Inspección de La Casa, Programas de Asistencia para el Depósito, Información de Crédito.

Llame a nuestra oficina al 978-459-8490 para registrarse. www.mvhp.org.

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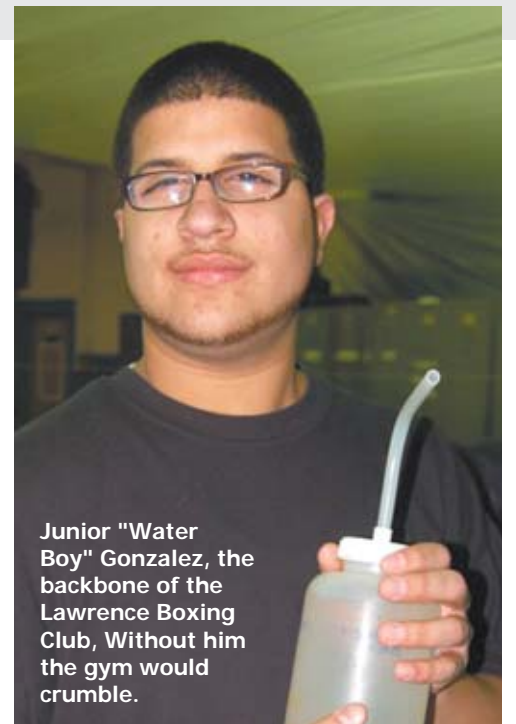
LOCAL BOXING NEWS

BY CHRISTINE LEWIS | CHRISTINELEWIS@RUMBONEWS.COM

Some local faces you will see in and around the boxing circles of Lawrence. One face is missing that deserves mention and that is Ignacio Jerez of Lawtown. Mr. Jerez has been dazzling at the Golden Gloves this year with a great display of speed and punching power that has had many of his opponents running for cover. We here at Rumbo are hoping to catch Igacio in one place long enough to get a picture. It was wonderful to see and hear the hometown cheering section this past Friday night at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. Great job, Ignacio!



Lawrence's Lightning Santana gives words of encouragement to the fresh-faced Erik Carranza at the Lawrence Boxing Club.



Junior "Water Boy" Gonzalez, the backbone of the Lawrence Boxing Club, Without him the gym would crumble.



Lawtown's Carlos Candelario Jr. will make a fine showing at the Exchange Club of Lawrence's 20th Annual Fite Nite for Charity on Thursday, April 8th at the Wyndam Hotel in Andover.



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■ CONTINUE FROM PAGE 5

SONG: Lawrence talent unite for charity song

the first time, everyone got chills and was amazed by the energy that they all brought to the song together," he added.

The 20 artists on the song are: DraMatic, DJ Erkel, Almost Adrian, SonChild, Toni Pino, SDOT, Dairon Skye, Erin Marie, Patrick Starr, C-Flow, Lian, Xiomy, 6th Dimenzion, Fre\$co, Da Chief, Loida, Destiny, Show Divine, Hidden Agenda and of course, Bylli Crayone.

The song itself "Trust And Believe" will get its debut soon at www.LawTownVoice.com. The CD, DVD and Digital release will be available within the next month or two. CDs will be available at many local retail outlets, Power 800, Amazon.com and various other locations.

Since the single has upgraded to an album, other local artists who were unable to attend the recording session are contributing songs to be featured on the album. Artists include Domenic Marte and 4 Ever.

Also, two of the artists, Lian and Destiny have teamed up to record their first song ever which will be included on the album. The song being "Almost Paradise" a cover from the 1984 film "Footloose". That song will also debut soon at www.LawTownVoice.com

An interview with Sonchild and Almost Adrian

BY BYLLI CRAYONE
www.lawtownvoice.com

Lawrence singers Sonchild and Almost Adrian both take time out of their busy day schedules to do an interview for Rumbo. Both of these artists are involved with "LawTown Voice" Charity music project for Haiti. More on them and the project at www.LawTownVoice.com

What can you tell us about yourself to break the ice since this is your first interview?

SONCHILD: Well, this actually isn't my first interview, but one of the many that I am grateful to take part in. My real name is Julio, I am 18 years old. I am going to school for Graphic Design and I have a history in music. I have been singing since I was six years old and I had my first release back in 2002 with a song called "Merry-Go-Round" that went top ten on the UK dance charts. In 2007, I released my first full length album called "Dream Into Action" on Funusual Records.

ADRIAN: My name is Adrian, I am 17 years old, born and raised in Lawrence and my dad is Latin superstar Domenic Marte. I am a junior in the Performing Arts in Lawrence High.



What made you get into music? Was it something you always wanted to do?

SONCHILD: I have been a fan of music for a long time. My mom calls me a "Disney Freak" because I always listen to Hilary Duff, Jonas Brothers and Jesse McCartney. I would sing their songs all the time and it really made me want to be just like them.

ADRIAN: It was something I always wanted to do. My father has been a big inspiration to me and this is something I just wanted to go for because music is in the family and, of course, to support the cause.

Who do you like as far as singers?

SONCHILD: Celine Dion, Mariah Carey, Hilary Duff, Michael Bolton and Lady Gaga.

ADRIAN: Jaunes, Chase Coy, Neyo and Usher.

Have you ever performed in public before?

SONCHILD: OMG! YES! I have done night clubs when I was only 11 years old. I have performed in Miami, Boston, Chicago and New York. I took part on the Radio Disney Summer promotional tour and I also had a summer tour in 2007 to promote my album Dream Into Action, sponsored by Borders Music & Books.

ADRIAN: Yes, The New England Conservatory, Semana Hispana, YMCA Club House Idol, at Borders Open Mic and the Lawrence Boys & Girls Club Talent Show where I won first place.

If you were to sing with any of today's artists, who would you want to sing with?

SONCHILD: Mariah Carey, Celine Dion and Jesse McCartney.

ADRIAN: Selena Gomez and Usher.

Both of these artists are involved with "LawTown Voice" Charity music project for Haiti. More on them and the project at www.LawTownVoice.com

What are some of your dreams or goals?

SONCHILD: I want to get a master's degree in graphic communication and visual arts. My goal is to become an intern at Disney for graphic design and evolve into an "Imagineer". For those who don't know, an "Imagineer" is the person who thinks of the next "Big Thing" for Disney, whether it is a new movie, cartoon character, doll, song, amusement ride, etc.

ADRIAN: My ultimate dream is to become an international rock star and raise a family of six. Own a big house next to a waterfall and have a Giant Tree House in the back yard.

What was your first thought when you found out about the LawTown Voice music project?

SONCHILD: I was all for it. I wanted to do my part as an artist of Funusual Records and come together with other local artists to create something phenomenal that only Bylli Crayone could put together. I knew there was going to be something special about this project and all I can say is... "Trust & Believe."

ADRIAN: Sweet! I would love to help and take part in such an amazing project. I know Bylli Crayone since I was a kid, my dad is long time friends with him and I felt it was an opportunity not only to help others but to help myself break into the business as an artist.

Lawrence Animal Control is joining forces with the MSPCA at Nevins Farm and The Merrimack River Feline Rescue Society to offer affordable spay-neuter surgeries and vaccines to the cats and dogs of Lawrence families in need of financial assistance.

Canine Spay or Neuter \$75

Services for Dogs include:

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Contact the Merrimack River Feline Rescue Society for an appointment at (888) 495-7729

This program is made possible through a grant from the Massachusetts Animal Coalition. To learn more about the MAC and their license plate program, through which this grant was awarded, visit their website at www.massanimalcoalition.org.

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Mayor William Lantigua Announces Board Appointments

Mayor William Lantigua is happy to appoint the following individuals to the 2010 Community Development Advisory Committee:

- 1) **Mr. Frank Moran**,
City Council President
- 2) **Ms. Sandy Almonte**,
City Councilor District A
- 3) **Mr. Gregory Morris**,
School Committee District F
- 4) **Mr. Steven Kfoury**,
Community Resident
- 5) **Ms. Yakaira Inoa**,
Community Resident
- 6) **Ms. Ana Medina**,
Community Resident
- 7) **Mr. Joseph Quartarone**,
Community Resident
- 8) **Mr. Gary Yancey**,
Community Resident

The Community Development Advisory Board advises the Mayor concerning the formulation of policies and plans, and identification of projects in order to carry out the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program. Specifically:

- To maintain familiarity with the current federal, state, and local regulations affecting community development and to advise on policies and programs in which the City may have an interest
- To assess the community development and housing needs of the City and to propose and evaluate City plans and programs to meet those needs in cooperation with City Boards and Departments or other bodies, both public and private
- To ensure citizen participation in all phases of the CDBG and HOME programs according to federal requirements.

The Board reviews community human service needs, establishes criteria for funding, evaluates applications, and arrives at recommendations for the distribution of the City's annual allocation of CDBG for human services along with HOME Funds.

"I'm very excited with the members of this year's committee, I feel that we have a great group of community residents and elected officials to move this process forward", stated Mayor Lantigua. "I know that our Community Development Director James Barnes will work well with this group to advise me on our plan moving the city in the right direction", Lantigua further added.

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

From My Corner

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

Would we have a Special Election?

While the media went into a frenzy demanding William Lantigua's resignation from his position as State Representative of District 16th, they suddenly went quiet taking it for granted that it was a done deal on Friday, February 12th. Wouldn't it be funny if Lantigua retrieves the letter saying that he changed his mind? Of course, I'm only kidding! The fact remains that he tendered his letter to the Speaker Robert DeLeo and he filed it but the Legislature has not read it, let alone accepted it.

Had Lantigua resigned after May 31, there would not be a problem; but because we have more than six months left in his term, a special election must be held until a permanent representative can be elected for the official two-year term in the fall unless the House decides otherwise.

Now, there is a question mark as to whether or not there will be a special election in Lawrence to fill the position of State Representative. The House of Representatives was on school vacation and will be meeting this week to discuss if it is to be approved (after they approve Lantigua's resignation).

Given the financial situation of Lawrence, some city officials are hoping that the House of Representatives decides to forgo that process and wait for the September Primary and November General Elections. There have been suggestions at the State House that the City of Lawrence is not represented by only one member and Representatives Barry Finegold and David Torrisi, as well as Senator Susan Tucker can protect the interests of our city, should there be a need of representation.

A solution that is neither wanted nor being discussed is that of appointing a state representative on an interim basis until the fall elections.

Councilor Laplante's comments

At the end of last Wednesday's City Council meeting, District F Councilor Marc Laplante read a statement complaining about Mayor William Lantigua for not reaching out to the English-language media. We agree.

If Lantigua did not want to grant interviews during the campaign (for whatever the reason) to the "newspaper

of record," as he called it, he is now the mayor of a city that needs a lot of support. Opening up to the media is the best way to eliminate the lies and conjectures that we are so tired of hearing locally and through the Boston media.

We recommend that you read Laplante's statement on page 17 and notice how ironic it seems that he wants to abolish "doing politics as usual" but is OK to pander to "Beacon Hill power brokers" as he calls our state politicians. That sounds to me like doing politics as usual.

Now, let me clarify some points he made there. I don't know what defines "the newspaper of record." Is the biggest? The most widely circulated? Well, Rumbo covers Lawrence and with regard to the residents of District F "who do not understand Spanish," perhaps Councilor Laplante has never read Rumbo because he would have noticed that it is bilingual in Spanish and English. So, by reaching

CHAPTER 54. ELECTIONS

PROCEEDINGS UPON FAILURE TO ELECT, AND VACANCIES IN STATE OFFICES
Chapter 54: Section 141. Representatives in general court; vacancies
Section 141. Upon a vacancy in the office of representative in the general court or upon failure to elect, the speaker of the house of representatives shall issue precepts to the aldermen of each city and the selectmen of each town comprising the district or any part thereof, appointing such time as the house of representatives may order for an election to fill such vacancy; provided, that if such vacancy occurs during a recess between the first and second annual sessions of the same general court, the speaker may fix the time for an election to fill such vacancy. All such elections shall be held on a Tuesday. Upon receipt of such precepts, the aldermen or the selectmen shall call an election, which shall be held in accordance with the precepts.

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



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NOTES FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

BY MAUREEN NIMMO
Lawrence Public Library Director

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 10

Hello Rumbo readers. I am just sitting here watching the snow pile up and trying to console myself that there are only thirty-two days left of winter. It is not working very well. One of these winter days I am going to make a break for it and run away on foot. The plan is not to stop till I hit New Orleans.

Things remain unresolved on the city front. No one knows whether we will receive the right from the state to borrow up to \$35,000,000 to overcome our debts and maintain the city on a paying basis. Even if we do receive the money it is uncertain how it will be administered. The plan can run to anything from receivership to regular local control. Most people seem to think a five person control board, made up of the mayor, the council president and three state appointed people is the likeliest scenario. Still these are all just guesses and no one is sure of anything. As a result, it is very hard for me to predict what will be happening in the immediate here at the library.

All this is a long way around getting to an apology to my readers. I don't have a whole lot of news or upcoming events until something is decided citywide. The difficulties in the city IT department make it impossible for me to even predict when the public computer upgrade will take place let alone what services can remain in place or be enhanced.

Whenever the financial situation does stabilize, however I expect we will plunge right away into budget preparation. This is never easy for anyone but it needs to be done. I would like to take an opportunity to preempt the inevitable issue of the Branch Library, especially as I see more of the Boston Public Branches are being threatened. The case is different here in Lawrence. We employ no extra personnel to run the Branch—Maureen and Rosemary

I don't have a whole lot of news or upcoming events until something is decided citywide. The difficulties in the city IT department make it impossible for me to even predict when the public computer upgrade will take place let alone what services can remain in place or be enhanced.

who work there are on our regular staff and would be working anyway for the same hours at the same rate. The cost of keeping up the building is offset (almost to the exact dollar) by the savings we realize by using the Branch instead of the Main Library for our state-mandated Sunday hours. On the plus side we provide a very popular (and growing) service to the south side and we house the beautiful Irish collection which is the finest such one north of Boston. Maintaining the Branch is all advantage—no disadvantage.

I wanted to take a moment (and she is going to kill me for doing this) to let you all know that our dear Associate Director, Sharon Doyle will be retiring at the end of the month. Sharon has served the City Of Lawrence in this library for over forty years. Twice she has stepped in and acted as Interim Director. Well known and loved by people throughout the city, she will be very sorely missed. Still, if anyone deserves a peaceful retirement it's Sharon and I wanted to take advantage of a public opportunity to express what a fine worker she is and what a great contribution she has made to our building over the years.

By the way, great going New Orleans Saints. See you at the library.

Kingston Veterans Club Donates to Hospice



Gail and Jeff Martin, members of the Kingston Veterans Club, were known for being active in their community; helping out with many of the club's community programs. When Jeff passed away at the Merrimack Valley Hospice House in Haverhill, Massachusetts, it was natural for the New Hampshire club to want to give back in his memory.

The club held a golf tournament on September 5th at the Apple Hill Golf Club in East Kingston, New Hampshire. They raised \$2,300 at the golf tournament and the club donated the proceeds to the Merrimack Valley Hospice House in Jeff's name.

Karen Trabucco, chairperson of the golf event, and her husband, Paul Trabucco, Past President, recently joined Gail at the hospice house to present the check to President / CEO Joan Stygles Hull and Hospice House Director Starr Shallow.

"It means the world to us that this club wanted to make such a generous gift in honor of Jeff," said Hull. "This gift is a tribute to the person he was. This donation will help us continue our mission of providing end-of-life care to patients with terminal illness and their families."

Gail praised the organization for the care both she and Jeff received while he was a resident of the Merrimack Valley Hospice House.

"Without the staff at the Hospice House I wouldn't have been able to go through this," recalled Gail of her time spent with Jeff while he was at the Merrimack Valley Hospice House. "They were truly amazing, and helped me through the whole thing."

The Kingston Veterans Club is located in Kingston, New Hampshire. The club was established in 1946, by a group of

local, returning, WWII Veterans. They are a nonprofit organization that supports our local community through various events and programs. Membership to the club is open to all honorable discharged veterans.

The Merrimack Valley Hospice House opened in June 2009 and serves terminally patients and their families. It is located at 360 North Avenue in Haverhill and features fourteen private suites for patients with accommodations for visitors who are welcome 24 hours a day. Each patient suite includes a private dressing area and bathroom, a family sitting area, sleeper-sofa for overnight guests, and private patio with views to surrounding nature. The suites are also equipped with a microwave, refrigerator, flat screen TV, and CD/DVD player. Common areas include a sanctuary, indoor and outdoor dining areas, libraries, living rooms and common gathering areas, play area for visiting children, spa/massage water therapy treatment room and gardens and walkways. A remembrance walkway wraps around the house and individuals can make a donation for a brick in memory of a loved one.

The hospice house is staffed with specially trained nurses who provide 24 hour care in collaboration with a team of physicians, aides, social workers, chaplains and volunteers.

Merrimack Valley Hospice, the trusted name in end of life care for more than 30 years, is affiliated with HomeCare, Inc. and Home Health VNA. Together the three agencies serve more than 80 communities throughout the Merrimack Valley, Northeastern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. For more information, visit www.merrimackvalleyhospice.org.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

More events on page 22 & 23

YWCA Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence is holding its 27th annual Tribute to Women Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Philips Healthcare, on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at the Andover Country Club to recognize Merrimack Valley women leaders for their professional achievements and civic contributions. Emceed by Senator Susan Tucker, with Keynote Speaker Dr. Yvonne Spice, VP for Technological Literacy at the Museum of Science, the luncheon runs from 12:00 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Since 1983, Tribute to Women has recognized over 700 Merrimack Valley women leaders from large and small companies in the private, public and non-profit sectors. The luncheon also serves as a major fund-raiser hosted by the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, with proceeds going to fund women and youth service programs.

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

EAC February Happenings

MUSEUM VISIT

We have planned our next Museum Visit for Tuesday, February 23, to Decordova Museum in Lincoln, MA. We will meet at Essex Art Center at 9:00 a.m. to board the Art Center van, to travel to Lincoln, where we have a guided tour of "The 2010 Decordova Biennial", a sample of New England's contemporary art scene, emphasizing the quality and vitality of the art being made in this region. We will break for lunch and return to Essex Art Center by 3:30 p.m. The cost to join this tour is \$20 per person. Lunch and museum admission of \$12 (\$8 Seniors) is on your own. Space is limited. Please register by February 19. For more information, Contact: info@essexartcenter.com or 978-685-2343.

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Comments before the Lawrence City Council

BY COUNCILOR MARC L. LAPLANTE
February 17, 2010

■ **LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 9**



The most significant reason for placing this item on the agenda was to address the biggest obstacle preventing the State Legislature from allowing our City to continue self-governing and therefore retaining the voice of our community – that obstacle was the Mayor occupying dual positions as mayor and state representative. The State Legislature sent very strong signals that if the mayor did not resign one of his positions, that they would take away the Council and Mayor's ability to set policy for our city. On Friday, the mayor made the right decision and resigned his seat as a state representative. Hopefully, this action will help the city retain self governance. I welcome a state overseer, and believe that if we listen to the experience of this professional manager, we can continue to self govern, give our constituents a voice at the decision making table, and ultimately make the tough decisions that will dramatically improve our City's financial condition.

However, make no mistake that when we speak, our audience is not only our constituents, but also the powers on Beacon Hill and Wall Street. Beacon Hill, through state aid, not only contributes over 70% of our revenues, but they will also directly impact our representative style of government when they reconvene after their February break. So if our goal is to continue self governing with an overseer, then further steps need to be taken to provide confidence to the Commonwealth that we can and should self govern.

1. We need to heal.
After the November election, it appeared that the mayor did not want to speak to the newspaper of record. I

applaud the mayor for reaching out to the Spanish speaking media, but he should also reach out to the English speaking media. Frankly, the English speaking media is read by the power brokers on Beacon Hill and Wall Street, and significantly impacts their opinions. The mayor needs to be as accessible to the English speaking media as he is to the Spanish speaking media. Not only will this help us communicate a positive message to Beacon Hill, it also allows the Mayor to communicate to the thousands in my district who do not understand Spanish.

2. We need to show Beacon Hill that Lawrence is not conducting politics as usual.

The mayor has an opportunity to improve our political culture. Old style politics would require that any perceived political enemies be terminated, and friends or cronies would be hired to replace them. However, in these unique times, this conduct is counterproductive since Beacon Hill, and the people we represent, expect more. So far, the mayor has laid off one individual (who the council voted to retain), and has fired several others, all in

the name of saving money. However, many of these positions have been posted to be re-filled. This questions the costs savings explanation, and allows for the criticism that the terminations were political vendettas. Also, the job postings were not published in the newspaper of record, which has a wide circulation through its print and web readership. In addition, we are 45 days into the Administration's term, and the Mayor has department heads working in "acting" or "interim" capacities without sending their names before the City Council for approval as required by the City Charter. Beacon Hill knows of these actions, and it unfortunately promotes an unflattering opinion of our City.

Councilors, as leaders, we need to encourage the mayor to take the actions that will not only heal our city, but also repudiates old style politics. Beacon Hill is watching and the municipal bond brokers on Wall Street are watching. The mayor made the right decision to resign from the State Representative's position, and he needs to continue taking actions that build confidence not only among our constituents, but also the power brokers on Beacon Hill and Wall Street.



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CONTINUE FROM PAGE 14

DÍAZ: From My Corner

out to the residents through Rumbo, Mayor Lantigua has tried reaching every resident, not just Latinos, but only if they choose to pick it up for free.

By the way, the job postings published in Rumbo were printed in English and they are published on our website also free of charge, contrary to his statement that "the newspaper of record, which has a wide circulation through its print and web readership." The ads are not found on their website.

Laplante goes on to criticize the Lantigua Administration for being 45 days into its term and has department heads working in "acting" or "interim" capacities and has not sent them before the council. According to the City Charter, those positions cannot last more than 90 days, even if Tom Schiavone did for eight years. That was politics as usual! Let's see how Lantigua is going to handle that. We know what to expect at future council meetings.

If you ask me, Lantigua is not doing politics as usual – and that's the problem for some people.

Correction

Last week I mentioned in this column that Bryan Cahoon owns CBE Technologies. He was hired as a temporary employee by the City of Lawrence through CBE Technologies. He was partner in Aliptia, LLC with John Griffin.

CONTINUE FROM PAGE 10

IRS: Ten Facts About Claiming Donations Made to Haiti

2009 tax return, donations must be made after Jan. 11, 2010 and before March 1, 2010.

4. In order to be deductible, contributions must be made to qualified charities and can not be designated for the benefit of specific individuals or families.
5. The new law applies only to cash contributions.
6. Cash contributions made by text message, check, credit card or debit card may be claimed on your federal tax return.
7. You must itemize your deductions in

order to claim these donations on your tax return.

8. You have the option of deducting these contributions on either your 2009 or 2010 tax return, but not both.
9. Contributions made to foreign organizations generally are not deductible. You can find out more about organizations helping Haitian earthquake victims from agencies such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (www.usaid.gov)
10. Federal law requires that you keep

a record of any deductible donations you make. For donations by text message, a telephone bill will meet the record-keeping requirement if it shows the name of the organization receiving your donation, the date of the contribution, and the amount given. For cash contributions made by other means, be sure to keep a bank record, such as a cancelled check or a receipt from the charity. Receipts should show the name of the charity, the date and amount of the contribution.

CONTINUE FROM PAGE 11

AUTHOR: Renowned Latino Author to Appear at NECC

"Latino Boom: An Anthology of U.S. Latino Literature", "Once Upon a Cuento", "Hecho en Tejas: An Anthology of Texas-Mexican Literature", "City Wilds: Essays and Stories about Urban Nature" and "New World: Young Latino Writers". His work has also appeared in "Encyclopedia Latina", "Newsday", "The El Paso Times", "Pembroke Magazine", "Hadassah Magazine", "Other Voices", and many other newspapers and magazines.

In 1999, his book of short stories, "The Last Tortilla and Other Stories", won the Premio Aztlán for the best book by a new Chicano writer, and the Southwest Book Award from the Border Regional Library

Association. His novel, "The Nature of Truth", was published in 2003, and is a story about a Yale research student who discovers his boss, a renowned professor, hides a Nazi past.

His award-winning website is at www.SergioTroncoso.com. He writes the weekly blog, www.ChicoLingo.com, about writing, politics, and finance.

The White Fund's purpose is to have a free series of interactive presentations for Lawrence area adults, youth, and children. The audience is encouraged to seek wisdom, cultural enrichment, and intellectual enhancement by attending and participating. Funded by a generous financial gift from the Honorable Daniel Appleton White, the White Fund Enlightenment Series has provided cultural conversation featuring well-known lecturers in fields such as history, literature, travel, the arts, and politics.

For directions to NECC's Louise Haffner Fournier Education Center, located at 78 Amesbury Street, visit the college's

website www.necc.mass.edu and click-on maps and directions at the top of the home page. Parking is available behind the building. Additional parking is available at the Buckley Garage which is across the street from the campus. Parking is free to those attending NECC events.

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

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

CONTINÚA DE LA PAGINA 4

DÍAZ: Desde Mi Esquina

latinos, pero sólo si así lo quieren y recogen una copia ya que es gratis.

Por cierto, los anuncios de trabajo publicados en Rumbo fueron impresos en inglés y son publicados en nuestro sitio web también de forma gratuita, contrariamente a su afirmación de que "el periódico de referencia, que tiene una amplia difusión a través de su impresión y lectores de la Web". Los anuncios no se encuentran en su página en la Internet.

Laplante pasa a criticar a la Administración de Lantigua por tener 45 días en su mandato y todavía tiene a jefes de departamento que trabajan en capacidad de "suplente" o "provisional" y no los ha enviado ante el concilio Según la Carta Constitucional de la Ciudad, las posiciones no pueden durar más de 90 días, aunque

Tom Schiavone la ocupó durante ocho años. Eso sí era hacer política como de costumbre. Veamos cómo Lantigua va a operar en ese aspecto. Ya sabemos qué esperar en el futuro en las reuniones del concilio.

Yo pienso que Lantigua no está haciendo política como de costumbre - y ese es el problema para algunas personas.

Corrección

La semana pasada mencioné en esta columna que Bryan Cahoon es el dueño de CBE Technologies. El fue empleado como trabajador temporario por la Ciudad de Lawrence a través de CBE Technologies. El es socio en Aliptia, LLC con John Griffin.



LAS PERSONAS QUE VIENEN AQUÍ A PERDER POR LO REGULAR TERMINAN GANANDO.

Muchas personas se hacen miembros de la YMCA del Valle de Merrimack con la idea de bajar de peso. Y, por lo regular, lo logran. Lo simpático de eso es que en el proceso se convierten en más esbeltas, más fuerte. Descubren cosas. Hacen nuevas amistades. Empiezan a verse de una forma completamente nueva. Y en cada repetición, en cada gota de sudor – una tonelada de auto estima es alzada. Así que venga a ver lo que una sociedad en la YMCA del Valle de Merrimack le ofrece. Encontrará que es un ejercicio simple que fortifica su interior.

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CITY OF LAWRENCE PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF LAWRENCE PUBLIC HEARING
DOC. 26/2010

In City Council
February 17, 2010



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 in the Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input to the proposed amendment to Revised Ordinances of the City of Lawrence to **DELETE** the following paragraph of **Section 10.36.010** of the Municipal Code (Parking Prohibited at All Times):

Lowell Street, south side, from Hampshire Street to a point two hundred twenty eight (228) feet east of the intersection of Hampshire Street.

And inserting in it place and stead the following paragraph, to be **ADDED** and inserted in alphabetical order:


Lowell Street, south side, from Hampshire Street to a point one hundred ninety (190) feet easterly of the intersection of Hampshire Street.

Persons wishing to be heard on this matter will be afforded the opportunity.
Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk

CITY OF LAWRENCE PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF LAWRENCE PUBLIC HEARING
DOC. 27/2010

In City Council
February 17, 2010



Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 in the Council Chambers, 200 Common Street, Lawrence, MA at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of said hearing is to gather testimony, information, and public input concerning the proposed amendment to Revised Ordinances of the City of Lawrence by adding the following new paragraph to **Section 10.36.350** of the Municipal Code (Police Visitor Parking), to be inserted in the proper alphabetical order:

Lowell Street, south side, from a point one hundred ninety (190) feet easterly of the intersection of Hampshire Street easterly to a point two hundred sixty (260) feet easterly of the intersection of Hampshire Street.

Persons wishing to be heard on this matter will be afforded the opportunity.
Attest: William J. Maloney, City Clerk



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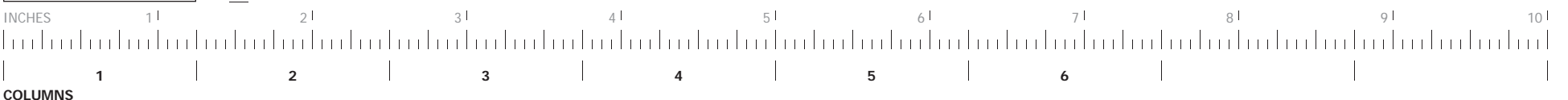
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Governor Patrick Keeps Focus on Reducing Small Business Health Care Costs, Launches Second Set of Hearings

Insurance Commissioner to lead statewide sessions with business leaders; Effort part of Governor's work to improve business climate, create jobs

Continuing his focus on reducing small business health care costs, Governor Deval Patrick today announced that the Commissioner of Insurance will launch a second set of hearings to review the double-digit premium increases burdening small businesses across Massachusetts. This effort - the latest in a series of initiatives the Governor has introduced to improve the state's business climate - is designed to control costs and fuel the job creation that will drive the Commonwealth's economic recovery.

"Small businesses and working families need relief from skyrocketing health care costs and they need it now," said Governor Patrick.

The hearings will take place on Monday, March 1st in Hyannis; Tuesday, March 2nd in Boston; Wednesday, March 3rd in Pittsfield; Thursday, March 4th in Lawrence; Friday, March 5th in Framingham; and Monday, March 8th in Fitchburg. Locations will be available later this week at www.mass.gov/doi.

"These sessions with business leaders will continue our conversations with a variety of stakeholders about the root causes of premium increases," said Insurance Commissioner Joseph G. Murphy.

"In this tough economy, small businesses and their employees have been disproportionately hit with double digit health insurance premium increases, the levels of which have not been felt by big business and big government purchasers," said Jon Hurst, President of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts. "At a time when we require everyone to have health insurance, it is imperative that we have the tools available to make insurers give small employers comparable coverage for comparable premiums. We thank the Governor for making this a top priority of his Administration."

At the Governor's direction, the Division of Insurance launched its first set of statewide hearings in November. The hearings, which took place in Lowell, Bridgewater, Worcester, Springfield and

Boston, examined factors that are leading to health insurance premium increases, concentrating on small group premiums and actions that carriers are taking to address costs.

Simultaneously, the Division held a series of special sessions on group purchasing cooperatives. The cooperatives would allow small businesses and individuals to combine their purchasing power and seek lower premiums through a larger entity, while also including protection from membership restrictions and allowing the cooperatives to choose and sponsor their own health products and health promotions.

In an address to the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce on February 10th, Governor Patrick unveiled his small business jobs incentive plan aimed at helping small businesses hire new workers and reduce the cost of doing business. The proposal includes the following measures designed to control health care costs:

- Using existing authority, the Governor directed the Insurance Commissioner to immediately file an emergency regulation requiring health insurance companies to file proposed changes in small business premiums with the Division of Insurance in advance of their taking effect so the Commissioner can review and disapprove rates that are excessive or unreasonable in relation to the benefit provided.
- Legislation to trigger a presumptive disapproval of health insurer rates that are significantly above the Consumer Price Index for Medical Services. The Governor's bill also provides for similar oversight of provider rates to ensure shared responsibility for controlling costs.
- Gives smaller companies the choice of more affordable plans beginning this July by requiring health insurance carriers in

the small group market to offer at least one selective network plan with premiums that are at least 10 percent lower than the premiums for the full network product. The Governor's proposal also allows insurers to set up bi-annual open enrollment periods to encourage people to get and keep health insurance.

- Grants the Insurance Commissioner the authority to examine small business health insurance premiums and prevent any duplicative or unjustified administrative charges that drive up costs for small businesses. The Governor's plan also empowers the Commissioner to protect small businesses from drastic increases in their premiums driven by changes in the composition of their workforces (particularly the age of their workforces).

Governor Patrick has maintained a strong focus on creating the conditions for business growth and job creation since the start of his administration. The Governor has lowered the corporate tax rate, streamlined permitting and cut state permitting time to six months or less and invested in the state's broken roads and bridges by putting people to work on hundreds of infrastructure projects across the state.

Additionally, he has invested in the Life Sciences, Clean Energy and other innovation industries that promise to be the Commonwealth's anchor employers of tomorrow and are driving the state's recovery today. Just last week, the Governor signed legislation to provide immediate relief to Massachusetts businesses by freezing their contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund at current levels. The new law prevents a scheduled rate hike from taking effect, saving businesses almost \$400 million this year. Learn more about the Governor's efforts at www.mass.gov/governor/jobs.



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 (NH) Salem, Nashua, and Manchester

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Identity theft has topped the FTC's list of consumer complaints for the past eight years.

Now, a new survey shows a record 9.9 million Americans were victims of identity theft last year – a shocking 22% increase over the prior year – according to Javelin Strategy & Research.

The message is clear: in the wake of the global economic crisis, identity theft is a big business. It's up to consumers to take steps to protect themselves.

That's why for a limited time, LifeLock, the industry leader in identity theft protection, is offering 30 days of guaranteed identity theft protection FREE.

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CALENDARIO | CALENDAR

ENHC Partnership Grant Application Deadline

The Essex National Heritage Commission is currently accepting on-line proposals from municipalities and qualified nonprofit organizations for the 2010 Essex Heritage Partnership Grant Program. Essex Heritage's Partnership Grant Program is a matching grant program created to foster and support the stewardship activities of organizations that share the Commission's mission to preserve and promote the historic, cultural and natural resources of the Essex National Heritage Area. Essex Heritage will award \$2,500 grants to ten (10) qualified applicants who apply for funding in one of three categories: Education, Interpretation, and Preservation. Essex Heritage will accept applications for eligible projects online only until 11:59 PM on Sunday, February 28, 2010.

For more information including guidelines, criteria, deadlines, FAQs and application materials, please visit www.EssexHeritage.org/partnershipgrants or call Essex Heritage at 978-740-0444.

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.

South Lawrence West Little League Registrations

Dear Parents and Friends of South Lawrence West Little League (Mount Vernon Park): Registrations for the 2010 Season will be held at the Lawrence Knights of Columbus, 1 Market Street, on the following dates and times:

Saturday, February 27th from 9AM to 12PM
Saturday, March 6th from 9AM to 12PM; and
Saturday, March 13th from 9AM to 12PM.

There may be additional Registration dates and times and locations; but for now, these are the only dates and times.

For more information please contact our registrar, Cindy Rebinskas via e-mail at crebinskas@gmail.com; or our new President, Daniel Halloran via e-mail at ddhalloran@gmail.com.

Help the Lowell Humane Society Win a \$10,000 grant!

The Animal Rescue Site is hosting a special challenge with Petfinder.com and are awarding grants to shelters and rescue groups up to \$10,000! All you have to do to help us win is click to help rescued animals, and then vote in The Animal Rescue Site \$100,000 Shelter+ Challenge. Both of these actions are absolutely free! You can vote once a day, every day, from January 18th through April 18th, 2010. Every time you vote, or tell a friend to vote, you are making a huge difference for us. Vote today!

Last year we took in over 2,500 animals. It costs \$1,500 a day to operate the Lowell Humane Society, and things such as unforeseen medical costs can increase this number by hundreds of dollars every day. Thank you for your help and don't forget to vote every day!

Visit: TheAnimalRescueSite.com

NECC Sponsors Annual Peace Poetry Contest

Students in grades kindergarten through 12, from both public and private schools, are invited to participate in Northern Essex Community College's Second Annual Peace Poetry Contest and Reading. Participants may create and submit original poems on the subject of peace.

The deadline for submission is Monday, March 15. Some 80 poems and accompanying artwork will be selected for publication in a small book of poetry to be published later in the spring. In addition, selected entrants will be invited to take part in a poetry reading from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, May 7 in the Technology Center on the Haverhill campus.

NECC students are collaborating on the project and have developed a website, designed posters and award certificates, and will be hosting the public reading.

Entries can be submitted to peacepoetry@necc.mass.edu or NECC Peace Poetry Contest, 100 Elliot St., Spurr 317H, Haverhill, MA 01830-2399.

For additional information contact Saint-Amand at 978-556-3307, psaintamand@necc.mass.edu or visit the webpage at http://www.necc.mass.edu/service_learning/poetry.

Holistic Non-credit Courses Offered at NECC

More than a dozen non-credit mind, body, and soul courses, including three new courses, The Power of Aromatherapy, Mind Set for Success, and A Life Map, will be offered this spring through Northern Essex Community College's Corporate and Community Education Center.

Yoly Harmuth, certified clinical aromatherapy practitioner and holistic nursing educator, will teach the Power of Aromatherapy. The history of aromatherapy will be discussed as well as how essential oils are obtained, where to purchase them, and how to blend your essential and carrier oils. This four-week course meets Mondays 7 to 9 p.m. May 3 through May 24 at Veasey Park in Groveland. The fee is \$104.

Mind Set for Success is a one-day workshop that explores living a life by your own design. Participants will learn how the mind can play a powerful role in moving your life forward. This course meets Saturday, Feb. 20, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in North Andover at the Osgood Street campus. Fee is \$40.

In a Life Map, participants will create a map for their own life. This one-day workshop will be held Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. April 10 in North Andover.

Both the Mind Set and Life Map course are taught by Christine Clarke-Swift, MS, CH, Certified National Guild of Hypnotists, OnTrac Wellness Center, Atkinson, NH.

Other mind, body and soul courses offered include Cutting Ties to the Past, Reiki I and II, Foot and Hand Reflexology, Self-help Techniques to Alleviate Headache Pain, Hypnosis for Weight Loss, Smoking Cessation-Kick the Habit and Stop Smoking, The Law of Attraction in Action, Want to Know Who You Were? Explore a Past Life. For more information call 978-659-1200. To register, call 978-556-3700. For a complete list of noncredit courses go to www.necc.mass.edu/noncredit.

Reunión de la Asociación de Vecinos de Tower Hill

La Asociación de Vecinos de Tower Hill tendrá su reunión mensual el 24 de febrero a las 7:00 PM en la Escuela Our Lady of Good Counsel School's Judson Hall, 526 Lowell St. Lawrence. La reunión es una oportunidad para los residentes discutir asuntos de la calidad de vida y preocupaciones. Dignatarios invitados: el Jefe de Policía John Romero, el Jefe de Bomberos Suplente Brian

Holy Family Hospital Helps Keep Community Healthy

Learn Sun Smarts, Avoid Falls, Manage Pain and Diabetes with Free Events
FREE Community-wide events include:

"FALL PREVENTION AND OSTEOPOROSIS" AT THE LAWRENCE YMCA, 40 LAWRENCE STREET

Wednesday, March 10, 12:30-2:30 pm

Learn how to reduce your risk of falling, for those with and without osteoporosis.

DIABETES AWARENESS SCREENINGS

- Tuesday, March 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the Methuen Adult Learning Center, 36 Boylston Street
- Tuesday, March 23, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Lawrence YMCA, 40 Lawrence Street

Includes blood glucose test, blood pressure check, waist circumference measurement.

DIABETES AWARENESS PROGRAM FREE COMMUNITY LECTURES

The lectures--also open to the public--consist of four, 90-minute classes on behavioral change, self-management, and self-care. All lectures are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Childcare and food provided.

DATES AND TOPICS ARE:

- March 4, 2010: "Know Your Resistance"
Learn about insulin resistance and its underlying cause.
- March 11, 2010 "Know Your Nutrition"
Learn nutrition tips for good health and managing blood sugar levels.
- March 18, 2010 "Know Your Healthy Steps"
Learn how to safely begin an exercise program.
- March 25, 2010: "Know Your Options"
Learn what you can do to stay healthy with diabetes.

The Diabetes Awareness Program is supported by Holy Family Hospital-Merrimack Valley YMCA Community Health Partner Series, and a grant from Caritas Christi Health Care.

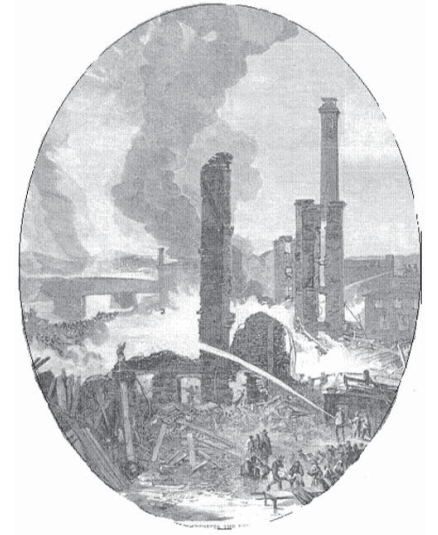
A complete schedule of the Community Health Partnership series activities will be available at participating YMCA locations, or on the Holy Family Hospital website, www.CaritasHolyFamily.org.

Murphy, concejales y otros funcionarios municipales que quieran asistir.

Las reuniones de THNA están abiertas al público, ofrecemos refrigerios y para más información puede visitar www.thnalawrence.com o ponerse en contacto con Keith Wlodyka, presidente al 603-548-9929 (cell) o llamando a Dan Clark, vicepresidente al 978-902-0595.

Tower Hill Neighborhood Association meeting

Tower Hill Neighborhood Association's monthly meeting will be held WEDNESDAY February 24 at 7:00 PM at Our Lady of Good Counsel School's Judson Hall, 526 Lowell Street, Lawrence. The meeting is an opportunity for residents to discuss quality of life issues and concerns. Invited dignitaries; Police Chief John Romero, Acting Fire Chief Brian Murphy, City Councilors and other willing city officials.



El Grupo de Amigos de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence PRESENTA:
Pemberton Mill: 10 de Enero, 1860 - 4:46 pm

El público está invitado a una exposición que relata los detalles de uno de los peores desastres industriales de nuestra historia.

LAWRENCE HERITAGE STATE PARK VISITOR CENTER

1 Jackson Street, Lawrence, MA
Febrero 6 hasta Marzo 31, 2010
Abierto todos los días, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Admisión gratuita, totalmente accesible.
Para mas información llame al 978-794-1655 www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/northeast/lwhp.htm

Financiado por el Grupo de Amigos de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence. El trabajo y los materiales fueron donados.

The Friends of the Lawrence Public Library PRESENT:

Pemberton Mill: January 10, 1860 - 4:50 pm

The public is invited to an exhibit that will tell the story of one of the worst industrial disasters in history.

LAWRENCE HERITAGE STATE PARK VISITOR CENTER

1 Jackson Street, Lawrence, MA
February 6 through April 30, 2010
Open Daily, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Free Admission, fully accessible. For information call 978-794-1655
<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/northeast/lwhp.htm>

Funding by the Friends of the Lawrence Public Library. Labor and materials donated.

THNA meetings are open to everyone, light refreshments available, for more information visit: www.thnalawrence.com or contact Keith Wlodyka, President at 603-548-9929 (cell) or Dan Clark, Vice President at 978-902-0595.

Intermediate Conversational Spanish

Notre Dame Education Center
354 Merrimack St., Entrance C, Suite 210
Lawrence, MA, 01843
Phone: 978-682-6441 ext. 202
www.ndeclawrence.org
Email: programmanager@ndeclawrence.com

Don't miss out on your opportunity to learn SPANISH

This course aims at developing student ability to make oral presentations, to retell stories, participate in face to face conversations on topics going beyond the most immediate needs. Students will identify the main ideas and factual information in level-appropriate listening passages. Students will also increase their vocabulary.

Cost: \$150 for ten classes- 2 hours per class plus \$13 for the book. \$50 deposit (\$25 of

CALENDARIO | CALENDAR

which is refundable up to the start of the class). Remaining \$100 and \$13 for the book should be paid by the first class.

Dates: Feb. 24 March 3, 10,17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 28, & May 5

Hours: 6:00-8:00 (one hour in classroom and one in computer language laboratory). Class size 10 students (limited space, first come first serve; register Monday-Friday 9:30 to 4:30 Tues. Thurs 6:30 to 7:30).

LACE COMPUTER CENTER - WORKSHOPS

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. announces its 2 hour Workshop computer classes and regular 6 week classes at the Lace Computer Learning Center, "Learn About Computer Classes" located at 360 Merrimack Street, Lawrence. They are now accepting registration for these classes beginning the week of February 22, 2010. All classes are based upon the Windows Vista Operating System. All classes are opened to all adults age 20 and older. Please call 1 800-892-0890 ext 1516.

WORKSHOPS One 2 hr session COURSE NAME (All \$15.00 each)

Are ready to smile & say digital
Wed. 2/24 | 9 to 11

Should we be fearful to Facebook
Tues. 3/2 | 12:30 to 2:30

Be a virtual Travel Agent
Wed 3/3 | 9 to 11

You have a laptop computer –what next?
Tues 3/9 | 12:30 to 2:30

Using Kodak easy share gallery
Wed 3/10 | 9 to 11

Maintaining your computer
Tues 3/16 | 12:30 to 2:30

Exploring Picasa
Wed 3/17 | 9 to 11

Keyboard shortcuts
Fri. 3/19 | 12:30 to 2:30

Is e-mail blind?
Tues 3/23 | 12:30 to 2:30

Internet Bargain shopping
Wed 3/24 | 9 to 11

WordArt & clip Art How using them will enhance your documents, publication
Thurs. 3/25 | 9 to 11

Health info. Available on the internet
Wed 3/31 | 9 to 11

Where's my stuff
Wed 3/31 | 1 to 3

Violent Conflict during the Bread and Roses Strike

Saturday, Feb. 27, 1-4 pm
Lawrence State Heritage Park
One Jackson Street
Lawrence, MA

Join historians Robert Farrant and Jim Beauchesne for an introduction to the Great Strike of 1912 and a tour of selected locations. Then, view excerpts from the documentary film, John Brown's Holy War, followed by a discussion of Brown's choice for armed conflict.

Free and open to the public. Refreshments provided. Preregistration not necessary. Questions? Call (413) 588-1606

Women initiated the Bread and Roses Strike, and many turned militant as hunger and cold took their toll during the harsh first three months of 1912. They were seen as "radicals of the worst sort.: But when more than 200 militia prevented strikers from sending children to sympathetic families in other cities on February 24, the ensuing melee turned public opinion. Clashes continued until the strike was won in March.

Where does keeping law and order shade into state suppression? How culpable are we when we do nothing while violence happens in our name?



Please
“Save the Date”
For the annual
**Merrimack Valley
YMCA's
Reach Out for
Youth & Families Auction**




Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 6:00 pm
\$50 per person, includes dinner

*Our event will be held at the
Wyndham Boston Andover Hotel in Andover, Massachusetts*

*If you have any questions or wish to donate an item or services,
please contact Melissa O'Brien, Director of Special Events, at
978.725.6681 or at mobrien@mvyymca.org*



**MERRIMACK VALLEY YMCA
REACH OUT
for Youth
& FAMILIES**

“If you love the Y, love a great time and want to make a bid to help so many in need, please join us for the premier night on our YMCA calendar. The Auction brings together the joy of giving with the fun of winning in a good time atmosphere.”

*- Marko Duffy,
Chairman of the Auction Committee*



Making healthier lives achievable for everyone.

Presented by Mass Humanities in partnership with: Lawrence Heritage State Park, Lawrence History Center and Lawrence Public Library.

Merrimack Valley YMCA 2010 Kimball Classic Schedule

Saturday March 6, 2010

10:00 AM
NC State (Lawrence) vs. ANA 1, Court 1
Mizzou (Methuen) vs. ANA 2, Court 2

11:00 AM
Georgia Tech (Lawrence) vs. ANA 3, Court 1
North Carolina (Lawrence) vs. ANA, Court 2

12:15 PM
Awards Ceremony

12:45 PM
BC (Lawrence) vs. Texas (Methuen), Court 1
Kansas (Methuen) vs. Florida State (Lawrence), Court 2

1:45 PM
Baylor (Methuen) vs. Miami (Lawrence), Court 1

3:00 PM
Lawrence 13-16 Year Old Championship, Full

Court
All games this year are to be held at the Lawrence Branch YMCA, 40 Lawrence Street, Lawrence, MA.

Home Buyer Training Seminar in Spanish

The Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership is pleased to announce that we are offering the Project Genesis Home Buyer Training Seminars in Lowell in Spanish.

The classes will be held at 10 Kirk St., Lowell. The next series will be held on Saturday mornings, March 13 and 20, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants must attend all sessions to receive a certificate of completion. \$60.00 per household.

Topics include: Overview of the Home Buying Process, Bank Mortgage Guidelines, Legal Aspects, Home Inspections, Down Payment Assistance Programs, Information on Credit.

Please call the office at 978-459-8490 to register. www.mvhp.org.

Winter Recreational Programs 2010

Presented by the The Arc of Greater Lawrence in collaboration with the Lawrence Boys and Girls Club and the Department of Education.

The program will run from Jan. 26, 2010 until the week of March 25th, 2010

Tuesdays: Swimming 4-5pm and 5-6pm
Learn the basic of swimming and gain confidence in the water.

Music 4-5pm and 5-6pm
Experience different rhythms by using percussion instrument.

Thursdays: Arts and Crafts 4-5pm and 5-6pm
Create original artwork through age-appropriate hands on activities.

DENTAL *dreams*

dentistry for KIDS and ADULTS



Aceptamos MASSHEALTH para niños y adultos.

- Validamos la mayoría de seguros privados y MASSHEALTH, Network Health, Neighborhood Health Plan, Boston Medical Center y Senior Whole Health y CMSP Unicare/Wellpoint
- Servicio dental general para niños y adultos
- Lo atendemos sin cita
- Abrimos los Sábados y noche
- Atendemos emergencias

¿Cuándo fue la
última vez que
USTED y los
NIÑOS fueron
al **DENTISTA?**

Al lado de Family Dollar y
Market Basket Shopping Center

700 Essex St.
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978.683.2200

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Español**

OFERTA INTRODUCTORIA

Adultos \$124
Niños \$124

Incluye: Examen, pulida de dientes,
2 rayos-x y consulta (Es un valor de \$140)

40% de Descuento
En todos los trabajos dentales

Dr Sameera Hussain DMD and Assoc.



- Video juegos
- Cine para niños
- Area de juegos

DENTAL *dreams*

dentistry for KIDS and ADULTS

Al lado de Family Dollar y Market
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700 Essex Street
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