

Explorando la Fotografía



PÁGINA 9

Kelvin Fernández, 9, al frente y Nathen Maura, 10, detrás, presentando su proyecto.

EXPLORING PHOTOGRAPHS Kelvin Fernández, 9, right forward and Nathen Maura, 10, presenting their Electronics vs. Nature project. PAGE 8



El Alcalde Sullivan cierra las oficinas del WIB

En una sorpresiva visita el miércoles por la tarde, el Alcalde Michael J. Sullivan ordenó que las oficinas del Workforce Investment Board (WIB) fueran cerradas.

Mayor Sullivan locks WIB offices

In a surprise move Wednesday afternoon, Mayor Michael J. Sullivan ordered the offices of the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) shut down. PAGE 2

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New Family Aquatic Center at Lawrence Branch YMCA is open

(left to right) Angelina Avila, Jay Vidal, Janelly Cruz, and Jaylynn Abrue.

Reunión informativa del MVRTA



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Joseph J. Costanzo, Administrador de la Autoridad Regional de Tránsito del Valle de Merrimack (MVRTA), explicando los cambios efectuados para mejorar el itinerario de los autobuses.

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Lantigua named new leader of Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus

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MI Scores High in Statewide Nursing Home Satisfaction Survey

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Editorial

RUMBONNEWS.COM/EDITORIAL

Los problemas de Lawrence High School

La escuela secundaria parece haber atravesado una etapa de malas noticias el año pasado. Desde las tuberías que se congelaron en el cuarto piso causando que las regaderas se dispararan causando muchísimo daño a unos 20 salones de clases en tres pisos, hasta la incidencia de armas dentro de la escuela y la violencia que continúa sin ser reportada.

Pero la más triste de las noticias ha sido saber que tres de los directores de Lawrence High School han sido afectados por el cáncer y nuestros corazones se acongojan junto al sentir de sus familiares.

Carlos G. Roselló, quien fue director de Lawrence High School desde 1988 hasta el 1991, más tarde Ronald B. Seely y más frecuentemente el Dr. Thomas Sharkey, todos habiendo sido diagnosticados con esa enfermedad.

Todo parece ser tan insignificante. Ellos merecen nuestras oraciones.

Lawrence High school, plagued by problems

The high school seems to have been going through a rash of bad news during the past year. From the frozen pipes on the 4th floor causing the sprinkler heads to burst and caused lots of damage in about 20 classrooms on three floors, to the weapons incidence within the school and the violence that goes unreported.

But the saddest news has been finding out that three recent principals at Lawrence High School have been affected by cancer and our hearts go out to their families.

Carlos G. Rosello was principal of Lawrence High School from 1988 to 1991, later Ronald B. Seely and most recently Dr. Thomas Sharkey, all having been diagnosed with the disease.

Everything else seems so insignificant. They deserve our prayers.

CARTAS AL EDITOR | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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El Alcalde Sullivan cierra las oficinas del WIB

Por Dalia Díaz



En una sorpresiva visita el miércoles por la tarde, el Alcalde Michael J. Sullivan ordenó que las oficinas del Workforce Investment Board (WIB) fueran cerradas. Frank Bonet, el director de personal del ayuntamiento se apareció en las oficinas del 60 de Island St. acompañado de tres policías y les pidió los teléfonos celulares, las computadoras y las llaves a seis de los ocho empleados que estaban presentes.

Con ellos estaba también David Camasso quien había sido asignado como Agente Fiscal al WIB por el Director de Presupuesto y Finanzas, John Griffin, bajo un contrato de 45 días a través del Departamento de Entrenamiento, el cual se venció el 31 de diciembre, 2005.

El Sr. Bonet explicó durante una entrevista telefónica que él estaba allí en representación del alcalde y los oficiales son necesarios en tales situaciones porque nunca se sabe cómo las personas afectadas van a reaccionar, pero en este caso todo salió muy bien y todos cooperaron perfectamente. Todos han sido colocados bajo licencia con pago en espera de una investigación. El Sr. Bonet dijo que él pudo alcanzar a los otros dos empleados a la mañana siguiente.

Cuando Rumbo trató de hablar con algunos de los empleados, ellos se negaron a comentar todavía afectados por el elemento de la sorpresa. Ellos ahora se preguntan quién estará al cargo de hacer esa investigación porque no debe ser hecha por alguien dentro del City Hall sino por alguien privado.

El Alcalde Sullivan eliminó a la junta directiva de 43 miembros el 18 de noviembre y las oficinas fueron cerradas exactamente dos meses más tarde. "El 75% de aquellos miembros de la junta directiva regresarán a servir en la nueva junta directiva que fue enviada al estado el jueves por la mañana. La nueva lista fue compuesta con la asistencia de los alcaldes de las ciudades y pueblos de los alrededores que son servidos por el WIB.

Mayor Sullivan locks WIB offices

By Dalia Díaz

In a surprise move Wednesday afternoon, Mayor Michael J. Sullivan ordered the offices of the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) shut down.

Frank Bonet, personnel director at Lawrence City Hall showed up at the WIB offices at 60 Island St. accompanied by three police officers and requested all cellular telephones, laptop computers and keys from six of the eight employees present.

With them also was David Camasso who had been assigned as Fiscal Agent to the WIB by the Budget and Finance Director, John Griffin, under a 45 day contract through the Department of Training which expired on December 31, 2005.

Mr. Bonet explained during a telephone interview that he was there as a designee of the mayor and the officers were necessary in such situations because no one knows how people are going to react, but in this case everything went smoothly and

everyone cooperated nicely. They have all been placed in administrative leave with pay pending further investigation. Mr. Bonet said that the other two employees were approached the following morning.

When Rumbo tried speaking to some of the employees, they declined to talk still affected by the surprise element. They wonder who will be in charge of performing the investigation because it should not be done in-house but by a private individual.

Mayor Sullivan terminated the 43-member Board of Directors on November 18 and the offices were closed two months to the day. "75% of those board members will be back to serve on the new board that was submitted to the state Thursday morning. The new list was composed with the assistance of the mayors of the surrounding cities and towns being served by the WIB.

Reunión informativa del MVRTA

Por Alberto Surís

Como anunciáramos en nuestra edición anterior, Joseph J. Costanzo, Administrador de la Autoridad Regional de Tránsito del Valle de Merrimack (MVRTA) celebró una reunión informativa sobre el nuevo horario de las rutas locales de autobuses, que entrará en vigor el lunes, 3 de abril de 2006.

La reunión, a la que asistió un buen número de usuarios del sistema, se llevó a cabo en el salón del concilio municipal del ayuntamiento de Lawrence, donde el Director Costanzo explicó las mejoras al itinerario que vienen a favorecer a aquellos que utilizan el servicio diariamente.

Los cambios de itinerario afectarán solamente en Lawrence y se producirán de lunes a viernes. "Si hubiera cambios en el itinerario de los domingos o días festivos, se llevaría a cabo, primero, en Lawrence", enfatizó Costanzo.

Las rutas en cuestión son: 01, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39A, 39B, 40 Y 41. En la actualidad, estas rutas circulan cada 45 minutos, entre los días de semana. En el plan propuesto, estas rutas circularán cada 20 minutos entre las 5:00 a.m. y 9:00 a.m. De 9:00 a.m. a 2:00 p.m., correrán cada 45 minutos. De 2:00 p.m. a 6:00 p.m., cada 20 minutos y de 6:00 p.m. a 8:00 p.m. cada 45 minutos.

La ventaja de este plan es que durante las horas de la mañana, en que la mayoría de los pasajeros están viajando de la casa al trabajo, tienen más opciones, así como en la tarde, a la hora de regresar a casa. Costanzo explicó que antiguamente los autobuses circulaban a cada hora. "El servicio actual es cada 45 minutos, pero ya esos horarios no funcionan, ya que cada día aumenta el número de pasajeros".

Acerca de los itinerarios durante los días festivos, Costanzo informó que están recogiendo información del público en reuniones como esta, para determinar la preferencia del público en cuanto a cuál día festivo es más importante que se mantenga el servicio regular. "Proveer servicio los sábados y días festivos es una oportunidad de trabajo para los que lo necesiten", dijo.

Los autobuses seguirán partiendo



Gina Garofalo, residente de Methuen, utiliza las rutas 36 y 38 todo el tiempo y estos cambios, según ella, la benefician grandemente.



Jim Fraas, residente de Lawrence, es empleado de Stop and Shop y utiliza la ruta 01 diariamente para viajar al trabajo.

desde la estación del Garage Buckley, situado en la calle Common y Amesbury. Actualmente 28 autobuses están realizando el servicio y próximamente serán aumentados a 40. "Tenemos más pasajeros

cada día y más personas están utilizando el sistema", dijo Costanzo. "Vamos a ofrecer más servicio, más opciones y lo más importante, no aumento de precio (en el pasaje)", terminó Costanzo.

Su estímulo es la ayuda de sus amigos

Por Lynne Graziosi

A pesar de su discapacidad física, Louis Rivera está caminando por las nubes. Con la ayuda de su familia y amistades Louis ha recobrado la fe y está viviendo sus sueños.

Este admirable hombre de 37 años milagrosamente se sobrepuso a los muchos retos que obstaculizaron su vida. Sufriendo de Crohn's Disease (una enfermedad en el sistema digestivo) por más de 18 años, y habiendo atravesado un promedio de 17 intervenciones quirúrgicas ya había perdido toda esperanza de poder volver a trabajar.

"Yo creo firmemente que donde hay fuerza de voluntad y solución", "el dice. "Una noche recibí una llamada de mi hermana Catherine, quien me sorprendió diciéndome que su amiga Germayna le había preguntado por mí. Ese momento cambió mi vida para siempre. Para hacer la historia corta, Germayna es ahora mi querida esposa y sabe Dios dónde estaría yo hoy si no fuera por ella."

La suegra de Louis, Aida Cora, hizo que se mudaran a Massachusetts para poder recibir la atención médica que requiere en un hospital local, Caritas Holy Family. "Después de estar bajo el cuidado del Dr. Zappala, Dr. Rehman, y Dr. Rao y todo su equipo médico, yo pude empezar a vivir de nuevo", dijo Louis. Sus riñones habían dejado de funcionar debido a las piedras que tenía. Durante su recuperación, Louis tuvo el privilegio de conocer a la trabajadora social Jeannette Contreras, quien vio su entusiasmo por tener éxito.

"Yo le expliqué a Jeannette cuánto quería regresar a trabajar para proveer por mi esposa, mis dos hijos Jeremy y Eric y mi hija Kiara. Jeannette tuvo la bondad de ir más allá de lo requerido obteniendo información sobre servicios de rehabilitación para mí."

Un par de meses pasaron y la salud de

VER **LOUIS RIVERA:**
CONT. EN LA PÁGINA 5

Community Day Charter Public School

Aceptando Aplicaciones para el Año Escolar 2006/2007

Community Day Charter Public School es una escuela pública, de matrícula gratis, que ofrece los grados Preescolar hasta Octavo y es reconocida por sus altas normas académicas y excelencia en educación. Nuestro día escolar es de 8:00 am-4:00 pm, con cuidado para los niños disponibles antes y después de estas horas.

Para ser admitidos en el Preescolar y en Kindergarten, los niños deben cumplir los 4 y los 5 años respectivamente para la fecha del 1 de septiembre del 2006. Puede recoger su aplicación en la calle Prospect #73 ó en la calle Hampshire #190, en Lawrence, o llamar a Soraya Victoria, (978) 681-9910 para ordenar su aplicación por correo.

Los estudiantes son admitidos mediante una lotería.
Para participar de la lotería, las aplicaciones deben ser recibidas antes de las 5 p.m. del viernes, 3 de marzo del 2006.

La lotería de admisiones en un evento público llevado a cabo en el Early Learning Center, calle Hampshire#190, Lawrence, de 10 am-12 pm, el jueves, 9 de marzo, 2006.



PreK-Primer Grado localizados en la calle Hampshire #190
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The owner selection process for the two permanently affordable three bedroom homes, listed above, will begin in February 2006. Anyone interested in being selected to purchase one of these homes **MUST** attend one of two information sessions, scheduled for February 15 and 19, 2006.

Applications will be available at the end of each meeting.

Preference will be given to income eligible households with 2-4 school age children, who live, work or have children in a public elementary or secondary school in Andover (including the Greater Lawrence Technical School). The owner must be income eligible, meaning total household income must be less than 80 percent (about \$50,000, depending on family size) of the area median income established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. All applicants must complete a first time homebuyer's class **BEFORE** purchasing of one of these homes.

TODO UN ÉXITO

Estreno de Proyecto Fama 2006

Telemundo-Boston escoge sus primeros semi-finalistas para PROYECTO FAMA 2006

Telemundo Boston y Juan Pascual Productions estrenaron su búsqueda de talento: PROYECTO FAMA 2006, ayer en el Punto Final Nightclub de Lawrence. Sudor, lágrimas y sonrisas, de todo había en ésta emotiva competencia. ¿Y qué quedó después de todo esto? Tres talentosos semifinalistas: el dominicano Pablo Argenis, el puertorriqueño Shalon Rodríguez, y el guatemalteco Oscar Juárez.

Puede ver los semifinalistas por su canal 60 a partir del lunes, 16 de enero.

Para la final tendremos la participación especial de celebridades como Bolívar Soto de *Con Jatna y Santo Domingo Invita*, reconocidos artistas musicales, y la doctora Ana María Polo de *Caso Cerrado*, quien hará parte del jurado de la gran final. El ganador se llevará fabulosos premios los cuales incluirán la grabación de un demo, dinero en efectivo, un viaje a la República Dominicana donde el ganador participará en el programa de televisión *Santo Domingo Invita...*

El ganador se llevará fabulosos premios los cuales incluirán la grabación de un demo, dinero en efectivo, un viaje a la República Dominicana donde el ganador participará en el programa de televisión *Santo Domingo Invita...*

productor dominicano, Negro Santos.

Proyecto Fama está en Nueva Inglaterra. Como dijo Honore de Balzac, "No existe un gran talento sin gran voluntad", así que llame ahora para inscribirse al (617) 242-4606.

Proyecto Fama está auspiciado por Juan Pascual Productions, TaxPro Financial Services, Dental Solutions y Capital Auto Auction.

COMITÉ DEMOCRÁTICO DE LAWRENCE

El caucus para elegir a los delegados que irán a la convención estatal tendrá lugar el sábado, 4 de febrero, 2006 en el Lawrence British Club, 80 Cambridge St., Lawrence, MA puntualmente a las 12:00 del mediodía. El Caucus está abierto a todos los demócratas inscritos de Lawrence.

Las inscripciones comienzan a las 11:00 a.m. El Caucus comenzará a las 12 y las inscripciones se cerrarán 15 minutos después de pasado el caucus.

Una vez que las inscripciones se cierran comenzarán a contar las boletas y cada responsable de una sección empezará el proceso de elegir a los delegados. Tome nota: Cada uno de los responsables de un ward ya debe haber recibido un folleto verde con toda la información pertinente.

La Convención Estatal tendrá lugar en el DCU Center en Worcester, 50 Foster Street el viernes, 2 de junio, 2006 y el sábado, 3 de junio, 2006.

Para recibir información adicional usted puede ponerse en contacto con el Partido Demócratico de Massachusetts, Philip W. Johnston, Chair, 56 Roland St., Suite 203, Boston, MA 02129, teléfono (617) 776-2576, website www.massdems.org o por fax al número (617) 776-2579.

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Cartas al Editor

Apoyando al Jefe de Bomberos

Recientemente, en noticieros y en las reuniones del Comité Escolar, nos enteramos que Lawrence High School ha tenido varios problemas. Hace más de un año, el alcalde admitió que algunas órdenes de la administración escolar para emplear a nuevos empleados tenían años esperando sin tomar acción.

Últimamente han encontrado problemas con moho, demasiados estudiantes sin la capacidad adecuada, estudiantes que desde el principio del curso han pasado días sin saber dónde serán sus clases, tuberías rotas, y asuntos de seguridad. No vamos a mencionar que año tras año, una gran mayoría de estudiantes que nunca alcanzarán las destrezas adecuadas.

Es vergonzoso que el alcalde de Lawrence no ponga el mismo sentido de urgencia ante los miles de muchachos que corren este riesgo académico que el que aplica a otras cosas en su administración sirviendo solamente para manchar el nombre de la ciudad. Eso es lo que encontramos cuando miramos al alcalde y la educación.

Miremos de igual forma al Jefe de Bomberos; olvídense del aspecto legal o de comunicación. El Jefe de Bomberos,

según yo he observado en el asunto que está ocurriendo, que él tiene la santidad y la seguridad de nuestros niños en el más alto nivel. El no tiene otra prioridad igual o mayor que la seguridad y bienestar de familias como la mía. La política, opinión personal y obstáculos son echados a un lado para lograr la misión de los bomberos y según yo lo veo, eso es para proteger a nuestras familias en una forma rígida.

Yo no sé quién es el Jefe de Bomberos, nunca lo he conocido; solamente he hablado con un bombero que vive en mi distrito y lo único que sé de ellos es su dedicación a mi familia y a mi comunidad.

Le digo a Lawrence, ahora es el momento apropiado para detenerse y agradecer su perspectiva en lo que es realmente importante: nuestros hijos, no la política, no lo que el alcalde piensa, sino la seguridad de los residentes de Lawrence. Al alcalde debe darle vergüenza que su dedicación hacia la seguridad de nuestros hijos no se puede comparar.

Mark Gray
Ciudadano y votante de Lawrence

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LOUIS RIVERA

CONT. FROM PAGE 3

Louis mejoró. Entonces decidió hacer una cita con el consejero Joseph Broderick en Mass Rehab. A partir de ese momento se dio cuenta que su vida estaba en el camino correcto. "No puedo alabar a Joe lo suficiente," dijo Louis. "El es totalmente dedicado a lo que hace y le agradezco mucho su apoyo." Después de una extensiva evaluación, Joe Broderick presentó la idea de regresar a trabajar en un área que Louis pudiera realizar sin interferir con su salud.

El programa de *Medical Billing and Coding* de LARE Training Center fue escogido como el ideal para él y concertaron una cita con Denise Michaud, directora del programa StarWorks de American Training. Denise identificó las necesidades físicas, emocionales, sociales y el trabajo que Louis requería para proveerle acceso a las oportunidades disponibles en American Training. "Denise me hizo sentir bienvenido desde el principio", dijo Louis. "Ella me explicó con lujo de detalles los aspectos del programa; lo que yo debo esperar y lo que el programa espera de mí. Fue un reto por mi estado de salud pero yo estaba decidido a tratar", me dijo. Como todos los programas de LARE Training están abiertos siempre, Louis pudo empezar de inmediato.

Louis se matriculó en el programa extensivo de 6 meses de Medical Billing en LARE. "Cuando conocí a la maestra del curso me quedé maravillado de sus conocimientos. Ella fue, y ha sido durante todo el programa una verdadera mentora", dijo orgulloso. "¡Ella tiene una sorprendente habilidad para explicar la

terminología médica de una forma que hasta yo pude entenderla!"

StarWorks y los consejeros de LARE trabajaron con Louis preparando su resumen, sus destrezas y atravesando una entrevista. "Ellos inclusive me proveyeron la transportación en ómnibus para que yo pudiera ir y venir a LARE. Hice buenas amistades, conocí un personal estupendo y adquirí conocimientos que utilizaré por el resto de mi vida", dijo Louis. "He logrado mi meta pero no hubiese sido posible sin la gente de American Training."

Después de terminar el programa de Medical Billing, Louis estaba listo para la próxima etapa que es el empleo. Los consejeros de LARE Training y de

Sufriendo de Crohn's Disease por más de 18 años, y habiendo atravesado un promedio de 17 intervenciones quirúrgicas ya había perdido toda esperanza de poder volver a trabajar.

conocimientos y experiencia. Louis ahora está en camino al éxito.

LARE Training Center provee programas de entrenamiento y educación para jóvenes y adultos. Con oficinas en Lawrence, Lowell y Chelsea las especialidades de LARE incluyen entrenamiento en comercio, programas de salud y de educación. Fundado en 1981, LARE ha reinventado los programas de educación y entrenamiento haciendo su lema Calidad, Educación y Diversión para los colegas que trabajan allí y los visitantes y socios a quienes sirven.

Lynne Graziosi es marketing partner en American Training.

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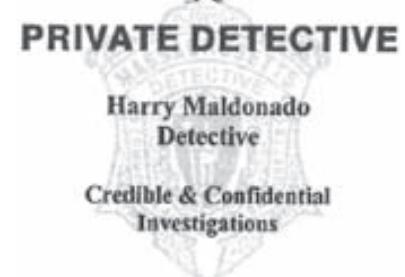
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EL CONVENTO DE ST. ANNE

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51 de la calle Lawrence*

**EL DÍA 2 DE FEBRERO DEL 2006
DE 6:00 – 7:15 PM**

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de Kindergarten de dos años”*

LAS INSCRIPCIONES ESTARÁN DISPONIBLES
DESDE EL 23 DE ENERO HASTA EL 9 DE MARZO

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN
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Se llevará a cabo reunión informativa

1/24/06, 7:00PM – 9:00PM

Lugar: Cafetería de la Escuela Superior de North Andover, 430 Osgood St.

Recepciones a celebrarse

1/25, 4-7PM - 2/1, 12-4PM

Lugar: Salón Comunitario, 2357 Turnpike St., North Andover

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North Andover Town Hall
120 Main St., No. Andover

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O por correo electrónico: meadows@jterealtyassociates.com

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Notas de su Bibliotecaria



Maureen Nimmo

Directora

Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence

Cuando usted esté leyendo este artículo ya estaremos terminando con el proyecto de renovación. En este momento, mientras escribo esta columna, me encuentro sin una oficina, sin un teléfono y sin una computadora, tratando de encontrar cualquier equipo de trabajo para poder finalizar lo que quiero escribir. (¡Bueno, estoy tratando de buscar un lugar donde pueda terminar todo!)

Quiero utilizar este artículo para reconocer a los miembros de nuestro personal, quienes han trabajado arduamente en este proyecto. En realidad todo el personal ha sido excelente, pero quiero destacar en particular algunas personas que sobresalieron en este proyecto. Damaris Lamontagne, encargada del Departamento de Servicios Técnicos, (y mi fiel traductora de estos artículos) sea ha encargado de organizar un proyecto de mover y organizar el segundo piso de nuestra biblioteca. Dirigiendo un grupo de personas como, Rebecca Domin, Ingrid Portorreal, Yvette Iglesia, Ana Santos y otros miembros del personal, ella diseñó un plan para organizar el segundo piso, algo que la compañía encargada de esto no lo pudo hacer por algunas razones lógicas.

John Tessier, nuestro técnico, también ha hecho un trabajo excelente. John estaba encargado de desconectar y conectar las computadoras, los teléfonos y las máquinas para leer las microfilmas. Como resultado, el pobre hombre ha estado saltando de un lugar a otro como pelota de ping pong, pero ha logrado mantener en función una gran cantidad de equipo.

En el área de nueva interpretación de descripción de trabajo, el premio es para las “Tres Mosqueteras” del Departamento de Niños. Estas son: Solany Muñoz, Lois Elliot y Anne Obar. Estas trabajaron como limpiadoras de ventanas, removieron pinturas,

Tendremos un período de tiempo antes de que todo vuelva a su normalidad, por eso quiero agradecer a nuestros clientes que han tenido paciencia con los departamentos que están todavía cerrados y los materiales que no están disponibles. El final está a la vista y espero verlos a todos en el nuevo espacio renovado de la Ciudad de Lawrence.

mobilizaron y también como ayudantes para el grupo del segundo piso.

Por último, quiero dar las gracias a nuestros hombres encargados del edificio, Juan Fajardo, Franklin Arias y Jorge Lavasta. Pienso que si Sharon Doyle y yo pedimos otra canasta para reciclaje o ayuda para mover algo, probablemente los tres nos caerían atrás con una sierra. Seriamente, quiero agradecer especialmente a Franklin Arias. El era el único disponible en el edificio durante el tiempo que estábamos cerrados y cuando el trabajo más pesado estaba en proceso. El estaba disponible al 100% siempre con su buen humor y su agradable comportamiento.

Tendremos un período de tiempo antes de que todo vuelva a su normalidad, por eso quiero agradecer a nuestros clientes que han tenido paciencia con los departamentos que están todavía cerrados y los materiales que no están disponibles. El final está a la vista y espero verlos a todos en el nuevo espacio renovado de la Ciudad de Lawrence. Esto pertenece a nosotros y debemos sentirnos orgullosos. Nos vemos en la Biblioteca.

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FIFI GARCÍA**

Gerente en Massachusetts con más de 10 años
de experiencia en el mundo natural.
Llame para órdenes a domicilio y le obsequia el
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“El Asesino Silencioso”

681-9129



SOVEREIGN BANK OTORGА \$10,000 A CLASS, INC.



From left to right: William A. Hardy, Merrimack Valley Regional Executive, Sovereign Bank, Yajaira Blanco, Manager of Family Services, The Arc of Greater Lawrence, James R. Warren, Vice President, Sovereign Bank, Robert Harris, President, CLASS Inc.

La Fundación del Banco Sovereign ha otorgado una dádiva de \$10,000 a CLASS Inc. para asistir con las operaciones en general de Arc of Greater Lawrence (ArcGL). Esta Fundación busca mejorar la calidad de vida de las personas que son servidas por las organizaciones localizadas en el área de servicio del Banco Sovereign.

ArcGL se concentra en proveer información y servicios de abogacía a personas con discapacidades y a sus familias. Además, Arc provee entrenamiento sobre opciones residenciales, custodia y planes futuros. El Arc of Greater Lawrence es una división de CLASS Inc., una organización que ha estado proveyendo servicios a personas con problemas de desarrollo desde 1976.

"Los empleados de CLASS se preocupan y están haciendo una diferencia con las personas que tienen incapacidades aquí mismo y todos los días," dijo James Warren, vicepresidente de Sovereign Bank.

The Sovereign Bank Foundation has awarded CLASS Inc. a grant for \$10,000 to support the general operations of the Arc of Greater Lawrence (ArcGL). The Sovereign Bank Foundation seeks to enhance the quality of life for individuals served by organizations located in the communities served by Sovereign Bank.

The ArcGL focuses on providing information and advocacy services for individuals with disabilities and their caregivers. In addition, the Arc provides trainings on residential options, guardianship and future planning. The Arc of Greater Lawrence is a division of CLASS Inc., an organization that has been providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities since 1976.

"The people at CLASS care and are making a difference for people who have developmental disabilities, right here, every day," said James Warren, Vice President at Sovereign Bank.

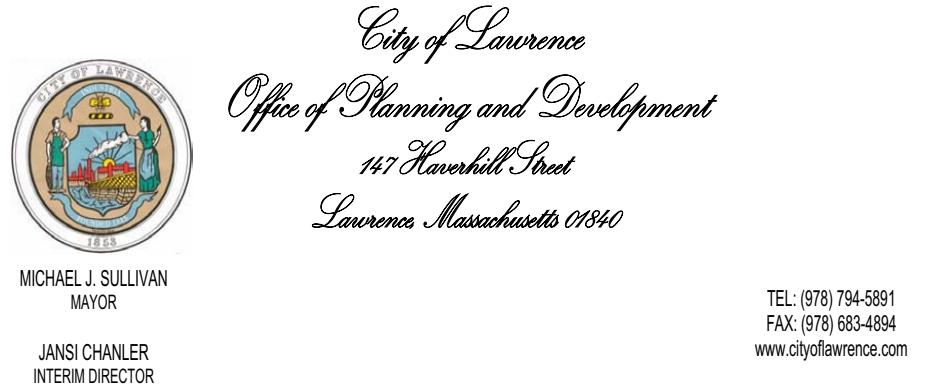
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ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEARING & WORKSHOP

The City of Lawrence, through its Community Development Department, will be conducting Public Hearings and Workshops regarding the use of approximately 3 million dollars in Federal CDBG & HOME grant funds available on or about July 1, 2006.

The principal objective of these Hearings is to provide the information on Program performance and solicit public participation to determine the needs of the City and to contribute in the decision making process with respect to the use of Federal funds. The City is soliciting proposals for activities that benefit people of low to moderate income and the homeless, address slum & blight and home ownership projects. A few examples of eligible projects include: police & fire protection, housing rehabilitation, economic development, park improvements, streets & sidewalks, demolition, recreational and cultural activities, neighborhood revitalization.

Starting January 26, 2006, proposal applications will be available at the following locations:

- Community Development Department, 147 Haverhill Street, Lawrence, MA 01841

Proposal applications can also be e-mailed when a request is sent to Marisol Colon at M_colon@cityoflawrence.com. Completed applications must be received at the City of Lawrence Community Development Department no later than 4:00 PM, Friday, February 24, 2006.

The City will hold Public Hearings and workshops to explain the process listen to your concerns and answer your questions. Technical assistance in preparing your proposals will be available upon request.

The Public Hearing & Workshop schedule is as follows:

WHERE	WHEN	PURPOSE
Lawrence Senior Center 155 Haverhill Street	Thursday, January 26, 2006 5-8 pm	Provide information on Program Performance Obtain citizen input on City's problems and needs.
Lawrence Senior Center 155 Haverhill Street	Tuesday, January 31, 2006 9-12pm and 5-8 pm	Explain the application process
Lawrence Senior Center 155 Haverhill Street	Monday, March 6, 2006 5-8 pm	Application presentations to CDAB of all proposals received and obtain input from public.

The Mayor's Community Development Advisory Board will host the meetings.

Individuals requiring information for physical accessibility and sign language interpreters are asked to contact the Luz Reyes-Mejia at (978) 794-5891 x 32 in advance of the Hearings.



Greater Lawrence Family Health Center
Presenta

Una serie de 5 partes enfocada en

La Diabetes, Prevención de Diabetes y el Bienestar

Con la Dra. Trinidad Tellez y
miembros de la Coalición de
Diabetes Hoy de Lawrence

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Jueves **Diciembre 8**
Diciembre 15
Enero 5
Enero 12
Enero 26

De 10:00am-11:00am

Exploring Photographs

By Alberto Surís and
Dalia Díaz

Nineteen fourth grade students from the Henry K. Oliver School participated in a photography and writing project about home and city.

The children, all from Ms. Mary Guerrero's class were very excited because, during the project, they had the opportunity to meet famous people, like Julie Berson, who acted as project coordinator; Oscar Palacio, renowned photographer from Phillips Academy and Bread Loaf Professor Michael Armstrong.

During the project, the students learned about taking pictures from different angles and what kind of pictures they could take at home as well as how to compare them to other pictures. Then, on Thursday, January 17th they invited their parents, friends and general public to a reception at Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitor Center, Community Room, where they could show off their talent.

One by one, the students explained their work rationalizing about the artistic portion of the picture as well as the content in a display of ingenuity and curiosity unlike fourth graders. Rangel Villar and Wellington Paulino discussed their differences. While Villar was trying to separate boys' pictures from girls', Paulino, his best friend, thought that they should be combined. "All boys pictures are about hurting people and power while girls picture are about love and beauty", reasoned Villar.

There was no argument between Kelvin Fernández, 9, and Nathen Maura, 10. They both agree that should the world continue polluting and exploiting Mother Nature, "civilization will succumb to electronics and in the end we will all end up under a tombstone". That was Maura's somber prediction.



Cristian Suárez explicando su proyecto.
Cristian Suárez explaining his project.

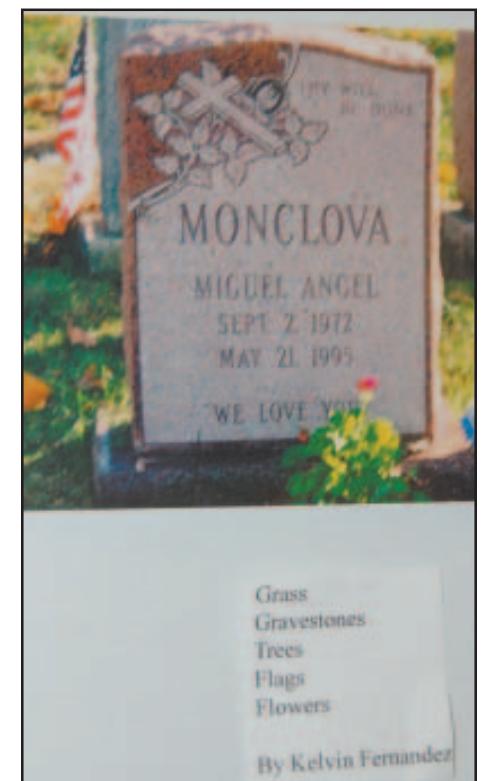
"Nature is loosing the battle against electronics", stated Maura. "People say that electronics are more interesting than nature. But nature keeps those people alive. The reason I put the photograph of the mill in the middle is because it contains both nature and electronics. The mill uses electricity to power the machines but it's surrounded by nature, like river and trees", he said.

A tree was also a theme used by Luis Pabón in his exhibit. He cleverly photographed an acorn at the base of a tree. "I thought it will be cool for its background to be the same thing but just bigger – a

grown up acorn."

"If it weren't for our Founding Father Benjamin Franklin we'd be working in the dark because he discovered electricity. With his kite and key he connected to the power of nature. Without electricity, we wouldn't have electronics," said Maura, to stress the power of nature.

Project participants were Kathryn Cormiel, Oscar Reynoso, Dennis Peña, Rangel Villar, Keisha Lebrón, Jamilex Castillo, Genesis Bettencourt, Claritza García, Alberto Camacho, Christopher Jiménez, Michael Sanchez, Luis Pabón, Nathen Maura, Tiffany Nieves, Wellington



Lápidas como esta es el resultado de la Electrónica vs Naturaleza, de acuerdo con Kelvin Fernández, 9 y Nathen Maura, 10.
Gravestones like this are the result of Electronics vs Nature according to Kelvin Fernández, 9, and Nathen Maura, 10.

Paulino, Cristian Suárez, Domini Batista-Soto, Kelvin Fernández y Marijaimin Cartagena.

The project is a collaboration between the Henry K. Oliver School, the Education Department of the Addison Gallery of American Art at Phillips Academy/Andover, and Andover-Lawrence Bread Loaf. Boston photographer Oscar Palacio's residency through the Addison Gallery is generously supported by the Edward E. Elson Artist-in-Residence Fund. British Educator and Researcher Michael Armstrong teaches at the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont.

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Merrimack Valley YMCA Branches:

Andover/North Andover Branch 165 Haverhill St. Andover, MA 01810 (978) 685-3541	Methuen Branch 129 Haverhill St. Methuen, MA 01844 (978) 683-5266	Lawrence Branch 40 Lawrence St. Lawrence, MA 01840 (978) 686-6191
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www.mvymca.org

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Name: _____

Dates: _____

Cost: **FREE (One Week Membership)**

Type of Membership: Category:
 College Teen Youth Adult Senior Family



Katerina Guerrero, hija de la maestra Mary Guerrero, admirando una de las fotos.

Katerina Guerrero, daughter of Teacher Mary Guerrero admiring one of the pictures.



Kelvin Fernández, 9 y Nathon Maura, 10, frente a su exposición.

Kelvin Fernández, 9 y Nathon Maura, 10, in front of their display.



Marijamin Cartagena tomó una foto de su muñeca Maranda, "porque ella es muy especial para mí", dijo.

Marijamin Cartagena took a picture of her doll Maranda, "because she is very special to me", she said.



Los buenos amigos Rangel Villar y Wellington Paulino, explicando sus puntos de vista.

Best friends Rangel Villar and Wellington Paulino, explaining their points of view.



Katerina Guerrero estaba disfrutando en grande.

Katerina Guerrero was having a ball.

Explorando la Fotografía

Por Alberto Surís y
Dalia Díaz

Diecinueve estudiantes de cuarto grado de la Escuela Henry K. Oliver participaron en un proyecto de escritura y fotografía, sobre el hogar y la ciudad.

Los niños, todos de la clase de la Sra. Mary Guerrero estaban muy excitados, debido a que durante el proyecto, tuvieron la oportunidad de conocer a personas famosas, tales como Julie Benson, la cual actuó como coordinadora del proyecto; Oscar Palacio, renombrado fotógrafo de Philips Academy y el Profesor Michael Armstrong de Bread Loaf.

Durante el proyecto, los estudiantes aprendieron como tomar fotos desde diferentes ángulos y qué clase de fotos podían tomar en sus casas y de cómo compararlas con otras. Entonces, el jueves, 17 de enero invitaron a sus padres, amigos y público en general a una exhibición en el salón comunitario del Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitor Center, donde pudieran mostrar su talento.

Uno por uno, los estudiantes explicaron sus trabajos, razonando acerca de la parte artística de la foto así como del contenido en una muestra de ingenuidad y curiosidad para alumnos de cuarto grado. Rangel Villar y Wellington Paulino discutieron sus diferencias. Mientras que Villar estaba tratando de separar las fotos de los varones de las que tomaron las hembras, Paulino, su mejor amigo, pensó que debían ser combinadas. "Las fotos de los varones son siempre acerca de lastimar a las personas y de poder, mientras que las fotos de las hembras son acerca del amor y la belleza", razonó Villar.

Entre Kelvin Fernández, 9, y Nathon Maura, 10, no hubo discusión posible. Ellos están de acuerdo de que si el mundo continúa contaminando y explotando a la madre naturaleza, "la civilización sucumirá en manos de la electrónica y al final, todos terminaremos bajo una lápida". Esa fue la sombría predicción de Maura.

"La naturaleza está perdiendo la batalla contra la electrónica", declaró Maura. "La gente dice que la electrónica es más interesante que la naturaleza. Pero la naturaleza mantiene viva a esa gente. La razón por la que puse la foto de la fábrica en el centro es porque contiene a ambos, electrónica y naturaleza. La fábrica usa electricidad para mover las máquinas pero está rodeada de naturaleza, como el río y los árboles", dijo.

Un árbol fue también el tema usado por Luis Pabón en su proyecto. Muy inteligentemente él fotografió una nuez en la base del árbol. "Yo creí que sería interesante que el segundo plano sea la misma cosa pero mayor – una nuez crecida".

"Si no hubiera sido por nuestro antepasado Benjamín Franklin, estaríamos trabajando en la oscuridad, porque él descubrió la electricidad. Con su cometa y su llave él conectó la fuerza de la naturaleza. Sin electricidad, no tendríamos electrónica",

dijo Maura para enfatizar el poder de la naturaleza.

Kathryn Cormiel, Oscar Reynoso, Dennis Peña, Rangel Villar, Keisha Lebrón, Jamilex Castillo, Genesis Bettencourt, Claritza García, Alberto Camacho, Christopher Jiménez, Michael Sanchez, Luis Pabón, Nathon Maura, Tiffany Nieves, Wellington Paulino, Cristian Suárez, Domini Batista-Soto, Kelvin Fernández y Marijamin Cartagena. Participaron en el proyecto.

El proyecto es una colaboración de The Henry K. Oliver School, el Departamento de Educación de The Addison Gallery of American Art situada en Phillips Academy/ Andover, y Andover-Lawrence Bread Loaf. El trabajo del fotógrafo de Boston, Oscar Palacio, fue generosamente patrocinado por el Edward E. Elson Artist-in-Residence Fund de Addison Gallery. El educador e investigador británico Michael Armstrong enseña en el Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont.

MI Scores High in Statewide Nursing Home Satisfaction Survey

Family members of residents at MI Nursing/Restorative Center are very satisfied with the care that their family members are receiving, according to recently released results of the Department of Public Health's (DPH) 2005 Nursing Home Satisfaction Survey.

The survey, mandated in the state fiscal year 2002 budget, is the first of its kind for the state. The survey collected detailed information from fifty-three questions classified into six domains that rated nursing home staff, physical environment, activities, personal care services, food and meals and residents' personal rights as well as rating overall satisfaction and ability to meet residents' needs on a scale from 1 – 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied. More than 16,000 family members of nursing home residents across the state completed the survey.

MI Nursing/Restorative Center, a not-for-profit nursing facility located in Lawrence received scores above the statewide average in all six domains. The facility's overall satisfaction score of 4.34 was well above the statewide average of 4.25.

Commenting on the results, Barbara Grant, President/CEO of MI Nursing/Restorative Center said, "We are very pleased to have scored so well on this first statewide survey of nursing home satisfaction. These high marks are consistent with the numerous compliments and expressions of satisfaction that we have received from our residents over the years. As a not-for-profit facility that is mission-focused, our bottom line is our residents, their families and the community at large.

We rely heavily on input from our residents and families to continually work on improving quality of care and quality of life for our residents.

MI Nursing/Restorative Center is a unit of Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services, a full service, Not-for-profit continuum of care serving older adults in the Merrimack



Valley which is sponsored by Covenant Health Systems, a Catholic health care and social service system founded in 1983 by The Sisters of Charity of Montreal, "Grey Nuns". Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services, founded locally by the same religious order in 1868, serves people of all faiths, races and cultures and is one of New England's largest and most advanced complexes for the care of the elderly.

MI Nursing/Restorative Center is a member of the Massachusetts Aging Services Association (MassAging), a statewide organization representing not-for-profit providers of housing and services for the aging. Like MI Nursing/Restorative Center, MassAging members scored particularly well on the survey results, averaging higher levels of satisfaction compared with the statewide averages.

"Given their emphasis on quality improvement, it is not surprising that

MassAging's not-for-profit nursing homes across the state show high rates of satisfaction from family members", said Elissa Sherman, president of MassAging.



Patricia McDermott has joined Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley as Director of Development. McDermott will oversee the people, programs and events that provide all aspects of philanthropic support to the organization.

She brings with her more than 20 years of development, public relations and marketing communications experience with her. Prior to joining Elder Services, McDermott specialized in building business relationships in both the profit and non-profit arenas. She has a bachelor's degree from Emmanuel College in Boston and has participated in the Drucker Institute's Global Leadership Development programs. She is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and also serves on the Board of Directors at Symphony by the Sea in Marblehead, MA. Patricia resides in Newburyport, MA.

LAWRENCE DEMOCRATIC CITY COMMITTEE

The caucus to elect delegates for the state convention will be held Saturday, February 4, 2006 at the Lawrence British Club, 80 Cambridge St., Lawrence, MA promptly at 12:00 noon. The Caucus is open to all registered Lawrence Democrats.

Caucus registration starts at 11:00 a.m. The Caucus begins promptly at 12:00 noon (registration closes 15 minutes past the time of the Caucus). Once registration is closed, balloting will begin and each ward chair will start the process for the election of delegates. Please note: each ward chair should have received a green booklet with all the necessary information.

The State Convention will be held at the DCU Center in Worcester, 50 Foster Street on Friday, June 2, 2006 and Saturday, June 3, 2006.

For additional information you may contact the Massachusetts Democratic Party, Philip W. Johnston, Chair, 56 Roland St., Suite 203, Boston, MA 02129, telephone (617) 776-2676, website www.massdems.org or fax number (617) 776-2579.

Joseph R. Quartarone
Chairman

OPEN GYM AT THE METHUEN YMCA

The Methuen Branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA is offering Open Gym time on Saturdays from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. Come and shoot around or play 3-on-3 or full court pick-up basketball games. A YMCA staff person will be available to referee if wanted. The Methuen YMCA is located at 129 Haverhill Street, Methuen. For more information, contact Brian Pecci at 978-683-5266. There is no cost for YMCA members and \$7 per visit for non-members.

Charity Comedy Night

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3 Popular Comedians,
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Saturday
March 11, 2006
7:00 pm - Midnight

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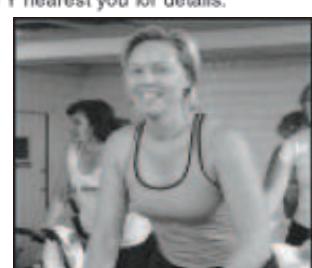


The YMCA Your 2006 "Resolution Solution"

Making resolutions is easy. Keeping them is a challenge. Let us help you. Whatever your new year's resolutions, the solution is a **YMCA MEMBERSHIP**.

To make it easy for you to get started, stop by any of our branches before January 31, 2006 and take advantage of our **FREE ONE WEEK TRIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER**.

Sign up by February 15, 2006 and be eligible to **WIN A FREE ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP**. Call or visit the Y nearest you for details.



He gets high with a little help from his friends

By Lynne Graziosi
Marketing Partner at American Training

In spite of his physical disability Louis Rivera is walking on cloud nine! Through the help of his family and friends Louis regains hope and lives his dreams.

This remarkable young man of 37 miraculously overcame many challenging obstacles in his life. Suffering from Crohn's Disease, (digestive disorder), for over 18 years, and having experienced an average of 17 surgical interventions he had lost all hope of ever returning to work.

"I strongly believe that where there is a will there is a way," he said. "It was not until one night when I received an unexpected phone call from my sister, Katherine, who surprised me by mentioning that her friend Germayna had asked about me. That moment changed my life forever," he said. "To make a long story short, Germayna is now my dear wife, without whom God only knows where I would be."

Louis's mother-in law, Aida Cora, allowed him to move in with them to Massachusetts in order for him to receive medical attention at a local hospital, Caritas Holy Family. "After being under the care of Dr. Zappala, Dr. Rehman, Dr. Rao, and their medical staff, I was literally able to live again," Louis said. Louis's kidneys had ceased to function due to kidney failure caused by kidney stones. During recovery Louis had the privilege of meeting caseworker, Jeannette Contreras, who saw his enthusiasm of wanting to succeed. "I expressed to Jeannette how much I wanted



Louis Rivera

to return to work in order to provide for my wife, two sons, Jeremy and Eric and daughter Kiara. Jeannette was kind enough to go beyond her call of duty and obtain information for me about Rehabilitation Services."

A couple of months had passed and Louis's health was better. Louis then decided to schedule an appointment with Counselor, Mr. Joseph Broderick at Mass.

Rehab. From that moment on he noticed his life was on the right path. "I can not say enough about Joe," Louis said. "He is very dedicated to what he does and I thank him for all his support." After an extensive evaluation, Joe Broderick presented the idea of returning to work in a field that Louis would be able to perform without interfering with his health.

LARE Training Center's Medical Billing

and Coding Program was the obvious choice. An appointment was made with Director, Denise Michaud of American Training/StarWorks. Denise identified the physical, emotional, social and work needs of Louis to provide access to the opportunities available to him at American Training. "Denise made me feel welcome from the very start," Louis said. "She explained in detail the aspects of the LARE billing and coding program; what I should expect and what the program expected of me. It was a challenge because of my health, but I was determined to try," he said. Because all of LARE Training programs are open enrollment Louis was able to start immediately.

Louis enrolled in an extensive 6 month LARE Medical Billing Program. "When I met the LARE billing and coding teacher I was blown away by her knowledge. She was, and has been throughout the program a true mentor," he said proudly. "She has an amazing ability to break down medical terminology in a way that even I could understand!"

StarWorks and LARE Counselors worked with Louis on resume writing, interview skills and job coaching. "They even supplied bus transportation so I could get back and fourth to LARE. I made good friends, met an amazing staff and acquired knowledge that I will use for the rest of my life," Louis said. "I have accomplished this goal but it would not have been possible without the people from American Training."

After completion in the Medical Billing Program, Louis was ready for the next stage to employment. Counselors from LARE Training and StarWorks worked diligently with Louis and on January 17th, Louis Rivera was placed in a medical billing internship to gain further knowledge and experience. Louis is now on a path to success and life fulfillment.

LARE Training Center provides award winning educational, training programs for both youth and adults. With sites in Lawrence, Lowell and Chelsea LARE's specialties include training in Business Programs, Allied Health Programs and Trade Education Programs. Founded in 1981 LARE has embarked on re-inventing the education and training industry by making the highest Quality, Education and FUN its trademark for the "Colleagues" who work there and the Guests and Partners they serve.

American Training is a diverse organization committed to bringing out the "Best" in everyone we touch. With executive offices in Lawrence, Massachusetts, the company operates at sixteen (16) sites in nine (10) cities and towns in Northeastern Massachusetts. Through on-site and classroom skill training programs, community job placements and residential and clinical supports, American Training offers the highest rewards of success with the ultimate accomplishment of life self-fulfillment. Founded in 1979 American Training has embarked on re-inventing the education and training industry by making the highest Quality, Education and FUN its trademark for the "Colleagues" who work there and the Guests, Partners and Residents they serve.



Lawrence Family Development Charter School

PRESENTS

NEW TWO-YEAR KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM AGES 4 & 5

OPENING SEPTEMBER 2006 AT NEW SITE,
THE FORMER ST. ANNE'S CONVENT,
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S DAFFODIL DAYS

Celebrate the arrival of spring by volunteering for the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days. Lend a hand to sell, pack, sort or deliver flowers during the week of March 20 for as much time as you can give. With your help during Daffodil Days, the American Cancer Society can raise the vital funds for research, education, advocacy and patient services programs, while bringing hope and help to cancer patients in your community. Please call the American Cancer Society at 1.800.ACS.2345 to be connected to a staff person in your local office.



**SEE OUR
WEB
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Letters to the Editor

In support of the Fire Chief

Recently, in the news or in the School Committee broadcast, we learned that Lawrence High School has had several problems. Over a year ago, the mayor admitted to work orders that were years old when the school administration wanted to hire into a new position.

Lately there have been mold issues, overcrowding issues, and students at the beginning of the year going days without knowing where to go for classes, broken pipes, and safety issues. Not to mention the year after year issue of the large majority of students that will never reach proficiency.

It is shameful that the mayor of Lawrence couldn't put the same sense of urgency into the thousands of children put at academic risk that he puts into any action that might reflect a public black eye on his administration. That's the bigger view, looking at the mayor and education.

Let's take an equal big view on the Fire Chief; forget the legal or communication technicalities. The Fire Chief, has as I have observed and witnessed to these current events, holds the sanctity and welfare of our children to the highest standard. He has no equal or higher priority than the safety and well being of families like mine. Politics,

Politics, personal views, and obstacles are swept away to accomplish the firefighters' mission...

personal views, and obstacles are swept away to accomplish the firefighters' mission and as I see it, that is to protect our families in uncompromising fashion.

I do not know the Fire Chief, I have never met him; I have only talked to one firefighter who lives in my district and all I know is their dedication to my family and my community.

I say to Lawrence, now is a good time to stop by and thank them for their focus on what is important: our children, not the politics, not what the mayor thinks, but the safety and well being of those in Lawrence. Shame on the mayor that his dedication to our children's welfare pales in comparison.

Mark Gray
citizen/voter of Lawrence.



EXPLORING PHOTOGRAPHS

A Photography & Writing Project about Home and City with
Mrs. Guerrero's 4th Grade Class at the Henry K. Oliver School, Lawrence

in conjunction with
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ANGELS HAVE WHEELS

All Medicare recipients should now be aware that if they suffer from conditions such as arthritis, cardiovascular disease, and respiratory disorders, and have difficulty walking or propelling a standard wheelchair, they maybe eligible to receive an electric wheelchair paid for by Medicare. For information on Medicare eligibility contact Gregory at 1-800-810-2877.

Notes from your Librarian

Maureen Nimmo

Director
Lawrence Public Library

We should be nearly finished with most of the renovation project by the time you read this. As I am writing it, however, I am without an office a phone or a computer and am wandering around trying to find any equipment on the floor that will work so I can get this column ready. (Actually, I am looking for a place to get anything accomplished at all!)

I want to use this article to recognize members of our staff who have really gone the "extra mile" on this project. Really, the whole staff has been excellent under somewhat trying circumstances but I want to particularly commend some stand-out performances. Damaris Lamontagne, head of technical services, (and my loyal translator for these articles) has taken charge of a "move-within-a-move" project. Leading a crew of Rebecca Domin, Ingrid Portorreal, Yvette Iglesia, Ana Santos and sundry other staff members she has created a new floor plan for the second floor, something that could not be done by the moving company for logistical reasons.

John Tessier, our "tech" man has also been incredible. John was in charge of all the disconnects and reconnects of computers, phones microfilm readers and whatever. As a result, the poor man has been bouncing around the building like a ping-pong ball but managed to keep the maximum number of stations functioning the maximum amount of time.

In the area of new interpretations of job descriptions, the prize goes to the "Three Musketeers" of the children's room side of the project. That would be

We will still have a period of time before things get all the way back to normal so I also want to thank our customers who have been so patient about closed rooms and temporarily unavailable items.

Solanyi Munoz, Lois Elliott, and Anne Obar. These three have served as window washers, paint removers, mini-moving crew and fill-in workers on the second floor crew.

Last but not least, I want to thank our custodial staff, Juan Fajardo, Franklin Arias, and Jorge Lavasta. I think if Sharon Doyle or I request one more recycle bin or one more last-minute move, the three of them will probably come after us with a chainsaw. Seriously though, I specially want to mention Franklin here. He was the one in the building during the time we were closed and the hardest work was being done. He made himself 100% available and flexible without ever losing his good humor and agreeable demeanor.

We will still have a period of time before things get all the way back to normal so I also want to thank our customers who have been so patient about closed rooms and temporarily unavailable items. The end is in sight and I really look forward to having all you visit the City of Lawrence's brand new redone space. It belongs to us all and we all can be proud. See you at the library.

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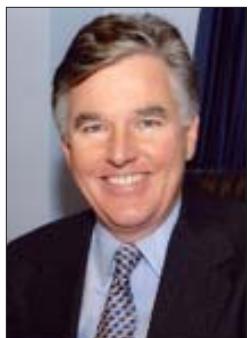


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Meehan Announces \$198,000 Grant for Northern Essex Community College



LAWRENCE, MA - Congressman Marty Meehan (D-MA) announced that Northern Essex Community Outreach Partnership Center (COPC) New Directions

Grant in the amount of \$198,343 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"This funding will allow Northern Essex to continue to work with the residents of Lawrence to improve their skill development and financial literacy," said Meehan. "Low income residents deserve these opportunities and I am pleased to announce this grant, which will provide them with the training and skills they need in order to benefit from new employment and commercial opportunities that arise through the economic revitalization of downtown Lawrence."

The funding will be used for NECC's Community & Enterprise Development Center, whose major objectives are individual and skill development and financial literacy. These activities are important to the residents of Lawrence as the city faces major economic revitalization

"This grant is going to benefit families in Lawrence who are living week to week, struggling to survive financially. It will allow us to help them get up on their feet, earn a paycheck that they can live on, and begin to plan a future. We are very appreciative of the leadership that our congressional delegation in Washington demonstrated in securing this grant for the Lawrence community."

David F. Hartleb,
President of Northern Essex

in the downtown corridor.

With the COPC New Directions grant, Northern Essex Community College plans to address two critical issues that are affecting impoverished and working class families in Lawrence. The college will

determine which skills are preventing this population from securing employment and research financial issues that are threatening their ability to grow their assets and develop their wealth.

Focusing on adults 18-years and older who are living in Lawrence Housing facilities and are predominantly Latino, the college will develop an outreach strategy and model that will generate professional development and labor opportunities for this population.

"The Center is extremely pleased with the award," said Mayte Rivera, Director of the Community and Enterprise Development Center. "We look forward to working with the Lawrence Housing Authority in outreach and workforce development services for their residents."

"This grant is going to benefit families in Lawrence who are living week to week, struggling to survive financially. It will allow us to help them get up on their feet, earn a paycheck that they can live on, and begin to plan a future," said David F. Hartleb, president of Northern Essex. "We are very appreciative of the leadership that our congressional delegation in Washington demonstrated in securing this grant for the Lawrence community."

The grant is for two-years and the college will be working in partnership with the Lawrence Housing Authority, the International Institute of Greater Lawrence, CLASS, Inc., and the Adult Learning Center.

Proyecto Fama 2006, a huge Hit!

Telemundo Boston selects the first three semifinalists for Proyecto Fama 2006

Telemundo Boston and Juan Pascual Productions débuted PROYECTO FAMA 2006 in Punto Final Nightclub in Lawrence, MA. Sweat, tears, and of course, smiles: there was a bit of everything in this emotive competition and what were we left with? Three talented semifinalists, Pablo Argenis from the Dominican Republic, Shalon Rodriguez from Puerto Rico, and Oscar Juarez from Guatemala.

You can see these semifinalists on channel 60 starting this Monday, January 16.

For the grand finale, celebrity guests include Bolivar Soto of *Con Jatna* and *Santo Domingo Invita*, renowned musicians, and Dr. Ana Maria Polo from Telemundo's number one rated show, *Caso Cerrado*, who will be part of the panel of judges. The winner will take home fabulous prizes that include a demo recording contract, \$1,000 in cash, a trip to the Dominican Republic, where they will participate in a TV program, *Santo Domingo Invita*, produced by the acclaimed Dominican producer, Negro Santos.

Proyecto Fama 2006 has arrived in New England. As Honore de Balzac once said, "A great talent doesn't exist without great

willingness," so call now to participate at (617) 242-4606.

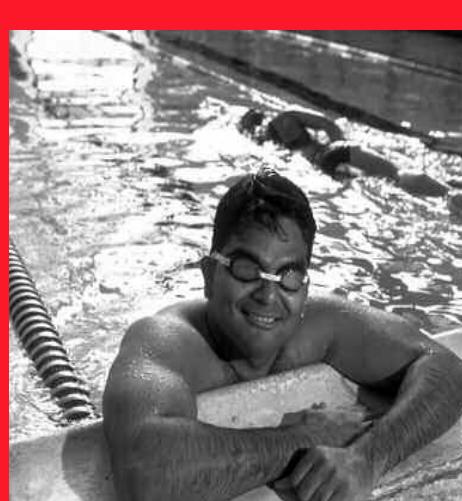
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CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL TO CELEBRATE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

January 29th-February 3rd

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated nationally from January 29th to February 3rd, 2006. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Character, Compassion Values." As has been the annual tradition at Central Catholic, the Parents Guild is sponsoring a Family Mass and Communion Breakfast to kick-off the weeklong celebration on Sunday, January 29th. Mass will be celebrated at 9am followed by a pancake breakfast prepared by members of the Lawrence Exchange Club in Central Catholic's Baroni Multi-Purpose Hall. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, children, and seniors. Tickets will be available at the door or you can pre-register by writing to: Communion Breakfast, Office of Institutional Advancement, Central Catholic High School, 300 Hampshire St., Lawrence, MA 01841.

Activities for the week also include prayer services on Wednesday, February 1st; a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast hosted by the Parents Guild on Thursday, February 2nd; and a service project on Friday, February 3rd. The service project is a Red Cross Blood Drive held in the Memorial Gymnasium from 7:30am to 2:00pm.

For more information, please contact Chuck Putney in the Office of Institutional Advancement at 978-682-0260 ext. 625; cputney@centralcatholic.net.

OPEN MIC NIGHT!

The next Open Mic Night at the Lawrence Music Clubhouse is Thursday, February 2nd from 6 to 8pm. Come and share your talent with our great community! You can sing, dance, play an instrument, act, recite poetry, tell stories and much, much more. Or you can come and check out the local talent! All ages are welcome.

The Music Clubhouse is located at the Lawrence Branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA. We are open Monday-Friday, 3pm to 8pm and Saturday, 10am to 4pm. Drop in at any time and/or participate in any of our special programs including Guitar, Keyboard, Voice, Drum and Recording Workshops.

**For questions about
Open Mic,
the Music Clubhouse
or our special workshops
contact Amy Baione at
(978) 686-6191 ext.17
or at
abaione@mvymca.org**

American Cancer Society has a Critical Shortage of Road to Recovery Drivers and Coordinators

Community urged to give the gift of hope to cancer patients

The American Cancer Society is in great need of Road to Recovery volunteers to drive local cancer patients to and from their chemotherapy and/or radiation treatments. An integral part of treating cancer successfully is making sure cancer patients receive their treatments, but many find making transportation arrangements is a challenge. The American Cancer Society provided more than 13,000 rides to local cancer patients last year, but needs new volunteer drivers and coordinators to keep up with the demand.

“Due to the departure of some of our dedicated drivers and the increasing amount of transportation requests, we have a genuine need for Road to Recovery drivers, especially those willing to drive to Boston hospitals,” said Anne Kelly Contini, Senior Vice President of the American Cancer Society in Massachusetts. “We are hoping that local communities will continue to support this valuable program by volunteering their time to help increase the number of rides we are able to provide.”

One way you can make a critical difference in the fight against cancer is by becoming a driver or volunteer coordinator for the American Cancer Society’s Road to Recovery program. Drivers use their own vehicle to drive patients to and from their treatments, and the Volunteer Coordinator coordinates requests for transportation with a network of volunteer drivers in local communities. This volunteer position can be performed in the convenience of your home or from our Weston, Massachusetts office. Candidates should be detail oriented, dependable, computer literate, compassionate, have excellent communication skills, work well independently and respectful of patient confidentiality.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a volunteer driver for the program or a volunteer coordinator, please contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345. The schedule for volunteers is flexible and treatment appointments take place weekdays during business hours.

**SEE OUR WEB PAGE
RUMBONEWS.COM**

Lantigua named new leader of Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus

State Representative William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) has been elected chair of the Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus for 2006. Lantigua has served on the Caucus since taking office in January 2003.

“It is an honor to accept the responsibility of leading this historic body,” Lantigua said. “I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on the Caucus to advance the cause of our constituents.”

Lantigua serves on the House Committee on Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, and the Joint Committee on Community Development and Small Businesses. He is also a member of the Commission to Eliminate Health Disparities among Racial and Ethnic Minorities.

In addition to Lantigua, three other Caucus members were elected to leadership positions. Rep. Gloria Fox (D-Boston) was chosen to serve as vice chair of the Caucus, Sen. Jarrett Barrios (D-Cambridge) was appointed clerk, and Rep. Linda Dorcea Forry (D-Boston) was named treasurer.

Other members of the Caucus include Rep. Byron Rushing (D-Boston), Rep. Shirley Owens-Hicks (D-Boston), Rep. Marie St. Fleur (D-Boston), Rep. Jeffrey Sanchez (D-Boston), and Rep. Benjamin Swan (D-Springfield).

The Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus was founded in 1972, when five blacks were simultaneously elected to the state legislature. Originally, these five legislators comprised the entire Caucus. Membership has since increased to as many as nine, where it stands today.

The Caucus provides a platform for black and Latino state legislators to promote the issues affecting their communities across Massachusetts. Additionally, the Caucus attempts to encourage political awareness and activism.

“Our work is more important than ever,” Lantigua said. “Urban communities are facing more complex problems, from education and health care disparities, to unemployment, to crime and gang violence. I hope our unity and strength can serve as an example to the people we represent.”

Lantigua pointed out that the Caucus voted unanimously to oppose the mandatory seat belt law, after he raised concerns that the law could contribute to the current problem of racial profiling.

The Caucus accomplishes its goals through various initiatives, including voter registration drives, newsletter circulation, press conferences, open forums and workshops, speaker services, support for community groups, and activities for non-elected members and youth. Individual members draft and file legislation designed to benefit their constituents and residents statewide.

Six of the nine current Caucus members

The Caucus provides a platform for black and Latino state legislators to promote the issues affecting their communities across Massachusetts. Additionally, the Caucus attempts to encourage political awareness and activism.

hold legislative leadership posts. Barrios is chair of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security; Rushing is Second Assistant Majority Leader; Owens-Hicks is House chair of the Joint Committee on Children and Families; St. Fleur is vice chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means; Sanchez is vice chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies; and Swan is vice chair of the Joint Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets. Fox is a longtime member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, while Dorcea Forry serves on the Joint Committee on Transportation.

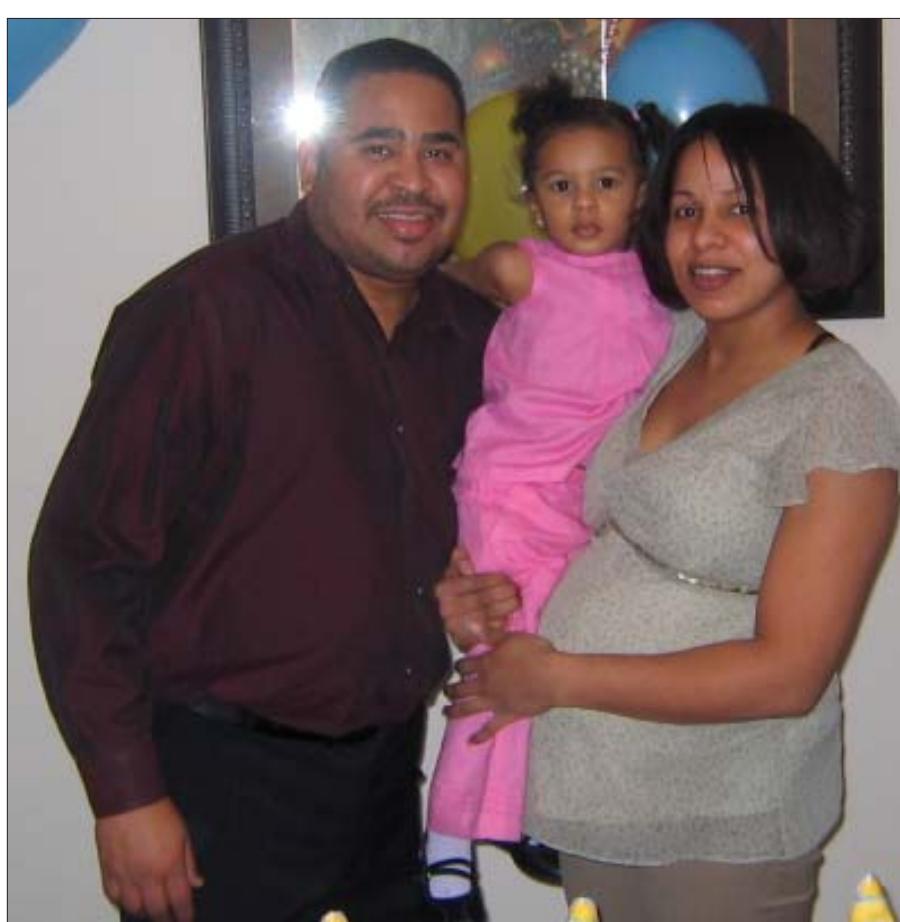
REP. LANTIGUA NOMBRADO LÍDER DEL MASSACHUSETTS BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

El Representante Estatal William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) ha sido elegido para presidir el Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus durante el 2006. Lantigua ha servido en esta organización desde que fue elegido en enero del 2003.

“Es un honor aceptar la responsabilidad de tomar las riendas de este histórico grupo,” dijo Lantigua. “Yo continuaré trabajando con mis colegas para avanzar la causa de nuestros constituyentes.”

Lantigua sirve en el Comité de la Cámara de Ways and Means (el más poderoso), el Comité de Asuntos de Ancianos, Desarrollo Comunitario, y Pequeños Negocios. También es miembro de la Comisión para Eliminar las Diferencias en la Salud entre las Minorías Raciales y Étnicas.

Esta organización fue fundada en 1972 cuando cinco personas de la raza negra fueron elegidas simultáneamente a la legislatura. Originalmente eran cinco y hoy se compone de nueve personas.



¡FELIZ CUMPLEAÑOS JEANEL!

El día 5 de enero, 2006, cumplió dos añitos la preciosa niña Jeanell Acevedo y sus padres, Jean Acevedo y Kenia Mieses le dieron una fiestecita en su casa a la que asistieron un gran número de sus amistades. El padre de Jeanell, Jean Acevedo, es Presidente de Profile Mortgage, la prestigiosa compañía de financiamiento con oficinas en el 447 de la Calle Essex, en Lawrence.

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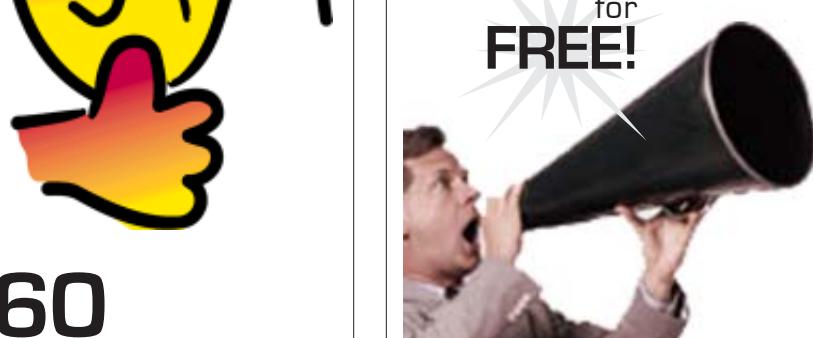
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State of Connecticut Superior Court Juvenile Matters

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C.G.S. 45a-716(c), 46b-129(a),
52-52
Pr. Bk. Sec. 11-6, 11-7

Notice to:
David Rodriguez dob- 3/12/79
Of parts unknown

A petition has been filed seeking: Comment of minor child(ren) of the above named or vesting of custody and care of said child(ren) of the above named in a lawful, private or public agency or a suitable and worthy person.

The petition, whereby the court's decision can effect your parental rights, if any, regarding minor child(ren) will be heard on: 02/08/06 at 11:50 A.M. at 81 Columbia Avenue, Willimantic, CT 06226.

Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt, in the Rumbo Newspaper, 315 Mount Vernon St. Lawrence, MA 01843 a newspaper having a circulation in the town/city of: Lawrence, Massachusetts, Fax #978-975-7922. Name of the Judge: Hon. John D. Boland. Signed (Deputy Clerk) Tracey L. Doulens.

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to pay for a lawyer, the court will provide one for you at court expense. Any such request should be made immediately at the court office where your hearing is to be held.

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New Family Aquatic Center at Lawrence Branch YMCA is open



Aquatic Director Jason Piernie starts the swimming lessons with: Jaylynn Abreu, Ethan Rodriguez, Angelina Avila, Jay Vidal, and Janelly Cruz



Angelina Avila enjoys one-on-one swim instruction from Aquatic Director Jason Piernie.



YMCA Lifeguard Alberto Castro takes time out with Alyssa Baez.



Angelina Avila, Preschool Director Amanda Enos, Alyssa Baez

Grand Opening Ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, 4:00 pm

After 16 months of construction, the Lawrence Branch of the Merrimack Valley YMCA completed the largest construction project that branch has seen since it was erected in 1880. The new \$2.7 million Family Aquatic Center consists of a new six-lane, 25 yard indoor heated pool, and has added more family changing rooms, and a new women's locker room. This new swimming pool is nearly two and a half times larger than the 90-year-old pool it replaced that faithfully served the YMCA for decades.

The new pool will give the Lawrence Branch the ability to run more child and adult swimming and aquatic safety lessons, more lifeguard training courses, and will allow the Y to plan more family fun swim time at the YMCA, bringing

families together for quality time at the YMCA. The Merrimack Valley YMCA's award winning competitive swim teams - the ANA Hurricanes and Synchers Synchronized Swim Team - will be able to expand their workout and practice time in the new pool. Additionally, the YMCA will be able to offer aquatics programming to members of our Methuen Branch.

Following the extensive building renovations to the lower level of the branch where the old swimming pool was located, the construction project included the addition of program space including a large multi-purpose room and large after-school classrooms.

Pick up a Program Guide to see new programs and classes, including:

- Expanded Pre-school and Youth Swim Instruction offerings
- Parent/Child Swim Instruction
- Teen and Adult Swim Instruction
- Aquacize Classes
- Expanded lap lanes and more lap

swimming times

- Expanded family swim times
- Expanded Lifeguarding and Water Safety Training Courses
- More opportunity to work with community groups to use the facility for recreational and/or swim instruction.
- More YMCA swim teams
- Hold your child's birthday party at the YMCA - make it a pool party!

You're invited to try the Y! Through the end of January, the YMCA is offering a free one-week trial pass. Stop by the Member Services Desk for a tour and to pick up your free trial pass. The YMCA is located at 40 Lawrence Street.

Grand opening ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, at 4:00 p.m. The public is invited. There will be tours of the new Family Aquatic Center addition, new classroom tours, a ribbon cutting ceremony, and refreshments.