



Warren visitó Lawrence

|5

La candidata a Senadora Elizabeth Warren visitó Lawrence el pasado jueves, 23 de febrero, 2012. Aquí aparece en la foto con el Alcalde de Lawrence William Lantigua en su oficina.

Warren visited Lawrence

|5

Senate candidate Elizabeth Warren visited Lawrence on Thursday, February 23, 2012. She is pictured with Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua in his office.

Hermanas de Lawrence camino al éxito Pg. 15



Laura Monegro, 15, y Angie Monegro, 14.

Las buenas calificaciones y buena ciudadanía permitió que dos hermanas de Lawrence ganaran importantes becas de cuatro años para Fryeburg Academy, una academia de la ciudad en Fryeburg, Maine, donde educan a estudiantes de todo el mundo. Ahora quisieran compartir su experiencia, y las claves para el éxito, con otros adolescentes de la localidad.

Lawrence Sisters on the Road to Success

Good grades and good citizenship enabled two Lawrence sisters to earn significant four-year financial awards to Fryeburg Academy, a town academy in Fryeburg, Maine that educates students from around the world. Now they would like to share the experience, and their keys to success, with other local teens.

Bylli Crayone to record with Gloria Estefan



Crayone and Gloria Estefan have been friends since 2009. In fact, this past August, Gloria sponsored Bylli Crayone's 5th Annual 'Back 2 School' Charity, one of the 3 charities he belongs to. Now they are planning a record together.

Bylli Crayone grabará con Gloria Estefan

|13

Crayone y Gloria Estefan han sido amigos desde el 2009. De hecho, el pasado mes de agosto, Gloria patrocinó 'Bylli Crayone's 'Back 2 School Charity', una de las 3 obras de caridad a las que pertenece. Ahora están planeando hacer una grabación juntos.

"Somos Lawrence" Reunión y Marcha Detalles, página 7

"We are Lawrence" Rally & March Details on page 6

Tuesday, March 13, 3:30

Pemberton Park

(Off Amesbury St, near the corner of Canal)

Fighting against illegal dumping / Lucha contra la basura - Pg. 11

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EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

Nada Nuevo

Hemos leído un artículo recién publicado por la revista Boston Magazine, escrito por Jay Atkinson, titulado: "Lawrence, MA: Ciudad de los Condenados".

Eso no es nada nuevo. Lo hemos venido leyendo en el diario local desde que nos radicamos en esta ciudad a fines de la década de los ochenta.

El artículo continúa diciendo: "La delincuencia se ha disparado, las escuelas están fallando, el gobierno ha perdido el control, y Lawrence, el lugar más olvidado de Dios, en Massachusetts, nunca ha estado en peores condiciones."

Eso no es nada nuevo. Ya lo hemos leído en el diario local probablemente con un vocabulario distinto.

Y el artículo finaliza diciendo: "Y aquí está la verdadera mala noticia: le toca al controvertido Alcalde William Lantigua, para arreglarlo todo."

De nuevo, con distintas palabras ya se han escrito editoriales en el diario local acerca de esto.

No tratamos de restarle importancia al artículo de Boston Magazine ni a los otros muchos publicados en el diario local, lo que sí nos preocupa es que algunos de los entrevistados por la revista tengan información tan exacta acerca de la delincuencia en la ciudad —gangas, drogas, prostitución - y no la compartan con las autoridades.

El artículo narra sobre un intercambio de saludos entre dos jóvenes y el Párroco de la Iglesia de San Patricio, Rdo. Paul O'Brien, donde ellos saludaron al sacerdote blandiendo sendas pistolas.

También está el caso del chófer del camión de Sheehan's Towing, Orlando Rosario, que dice conocer las calles de Lawrence mejor que nadie. Especialmente las de mala fama.

Y por último, el Jefe de Policía, John J. Romero, el cual desde que Lantigua tomó posesión de su cargo ha visto su fuerza reducida drásticamente debido a cortes presupuestarios.

"Después de las reducciones, los crímenes graves, incluyendo asesinato, violación, robo, asalto agravado, robo, incendio, hurto y robo de autos, subieron un 23 por ciento respecto al año anterior", declaró Romero para la revista.

Todo esto es cierto, pero si consideramos que un chofer de camión sabe donde están todas las casas donde se trafica con drogas en la ciudad y el pastor de una iglesia puede identificar a jóvenes armados y los califica de "es casual el portar armas en estos días", es de suponer de que el Jefe de Policía también debe saberlo.

No podemos esperar a que "Lantigua lo arregle todo" ni al resultado de otro Recall, que está esperando por buen tiempo para comenzar de nuevo.

Es hora de que el Chief Romero, actúe. Él es responsable de la seguridad de la ciudad y de todos sus ciudadanos. Si no tiene la fuerza suficiente, que pida ayuda a la Policía Estatal. No creemos que puedan negársela. Ya ellos han estado aquí en años anteriores con magníficos resultados.

EDITORIAL | EDITORIAL

Nothing New

Recently we read an article published in Boston Magazine, written by Jay Atkinson, entitled: "Lawrence, MA: City of the Damned".

That's nothing new. We've been reading that in the local paper since we settled in this city back in the late eighties.

The article continues: "Crime is soaring, schools are failing, government has lost control, and Lawrence, the most godforsaken place in Massachusetts, has never been in worse shape".

That's nothing new. We've read that before in the local newspaper probably with a different vocabulary.

And the article ends: "And here's the really bad news: it's up to the controversial Mayor William Lantigua, to fix everything."

Again, in different words, editorials have been written in the local newspaper about this.

We are not trying to downplay the Boston Magazine article nor the many others published in the local newspaper, what we do care about is that some of those interviewed by the magazine, have so much accurate information about crime in the city — gangs, drugs, prostitution - and do not share it with the authorities.

The article tells of an exchange of greetings between two youngsters and the Pastor of St. Patrick Church, Rev. Paul O'Brien. "O'Brien waved and the two boys waved back, each with a gun in his hand."

There is also the case of a Sheehan's Towing truck driver, Orlando Rosario, who knows Lawrence's streets — especially the seedy ones — better than anyone.

And finally, the Chief of Police, John J. Romero, whose department since Lantigua took office, has been drastically reduced due to budget cuts.

"After the reductions, serious crimes, including murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, theft, fire, and auto theft, are up 23 percent from the previous year," said Romero for the magazine.

All this is true, but if we believe a truck driver knows where all the houses where drugs are trafficked into the city and the pastor of a church can identify armed youths and described them as "they didn't mean to do that — but we're this casual about guns now," presumably, the Chief of Police should also know about their existence.

We cannot wait for "Lantigua to fix it all" or the result of another Recall, which is waiting for a good weather to start over.

It is time that Chief Romero, acts. He is responsible for the safety of the city and all its citizens. If his force is not strong enough, he must seek help from the State Police. We do not believe they will refuse to help. They already have been here in years past with great results.

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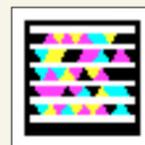


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READ IT IN ENGLISH ON PAGE 16

Desde Mi Esquina



Próximo Rally y Marcha

Hay una manifestación y una marcha prevista para el próximo martes, 13 de marzo en Pemberton Park, un producto del artículo de la revista Boston Magazine que ha enfurecido a los residentes de Lawrence.

A veces la gente necesita un golpe, una patada en la cabeza o un empujón para despertar y tomar acción. Los lawrencianos han recibido una paliza durante muchos años por los medios de comunicación locales, pero algo maravilloso y excitante está sucediendo ahora. Profesores de Estudios Sociales y de Educación Cívica han dado a sus estudiantes el artículo para leerlo y luego escribir sus opiniones. La población estudiantil está rugiendo y es muy agradable ver cómo muestran su confianza en sí mismos para demostrar que tienen dignidad y no van a dejar que se la sigan pisoteando.

Tal vez, ese artículo fue lo mejor que pudo haber pasado.

El rechazo de Alfonso

José Alfonso García no fue aprobado por el concilio como Comisionado de la Junta de Licencias y si no me tomó por sorpresa, algo fue muy decepcionante para mí.

Semanas antes de su comparecencia

ante el Comité de Personal en el prelude de la votación del Concejo Municipal, la Concejala del Distrito E Eileen O'Connor Bernal dijo abiertamente que ella no iba a votar a su favor. Obviamente, su decisión estaba tomada y no hay entrevista o presentación delante de ellos que podría hacerla cambiar de opinión.

Yo respeto las decisiones de los concejales, pero particularmente por ser una abogada que haya dictado sentencia sin el beneficio de un juicio, me parece más problemático.

En un final, Alfonso no se ha dado cuenta de la clase de favor que le han hecho.

Cambios en el Comité Escolar

Asistí a la reunión del Comité Escolar el pasado martes y me di cuenta de que no fue nada del otro mundo. Ni siquiera había 10 personas en la sala. Recuerdo cuando se llenaba de los maestros, administradores y miembros de la comunidad que querían dirigirse al comité durante la sesión de participación pública.

Ese fue otro cambio desagradable: La participación pública es ahora el último punto del orden del día y durante los últimos 10 minutos antes de dar final a la hora establecida para terminar.

Pues bien, el Receptor/Superintendente

Jeffrey Riley dijo que las cosas iban a ser diferentes a partir de ahora y debemos adaptarnos. Al menos, parece estar dispuesto a escuchar sugerencias.

En agradecimiento

Hace unos días, alguien me envió un correo electrónico que decía lo siguiente: "Noté que en su artículo sobre el asunto de 'los boletos de Disney' que ha estado utilizando la palabra 'click'. Si te refieres a un grupo exclusivo de personas que la ortografía correcta de la palabra es 'clique'. Es una palabra francesa adoptada en el idioma inglés".

Yo no tengo reparos para decir que cometo errores también. La diferencia es que yo estoy muy agradecida cuando alguien señala mis errores de una manera tan respetuosa y trato de ser amable en mi respuesta. Tal vez esa disposición a aceptar mis debilidades es lo que me permitió salir adelante en la vida.

Gracias de nuevo, Fred.

ANUNCIO PAGADO

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

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Warren visitó Lawrence

Por Alberto Surís

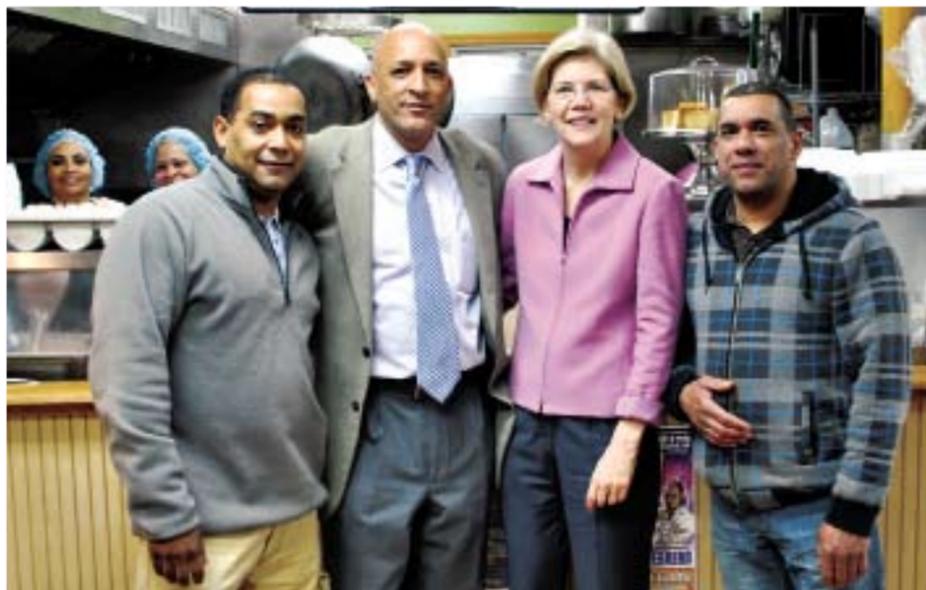
La candidata a Senadora Elizabeth Warren visitó Lawrence el pasado jueves, 23 de febrero, 2012.

De acuerdo con el Alcalde de Lawrence, William Lantigua, "Ella quería conocer la ciudad, visitar algunos comercios y hablar con algunos de sus propietarios para conocer sus inquietudes", y agregó, "Yo acepté gustoso, muchas veces, candidatos a altas posiciones nos piden nuestros votos desde la distancia sin siquiera dignarse a visitarnos".

Lantigua dijo haber tenido una afable y animada charla con Ms. Warren en su oficina. Dijo haberle contado acerca de los logros de su administración así como de los retos que enfrenta y ha enfrentado. "Como buena Demócrata me dijo que de ser electa trabajará muy duro por nuestra ciudad."

En su gira por Lawrence, uno de los comercios que visitaron fue Tenares Tire Shop donde tuvo la oportunidad de charlar con su propietario Brian DePeña, el cual dice haberle expresado a la candidata Warren que le gustaba la forma como ella actuaba y sobre todo su sensibilidad para con los pobres.

También DePeña dijo haberle expresado a la candidata su preocupación por la poca protección que los bancos brindan a las microempresas, "Como yo que empleamos a familiares porque no tenemos acceso a ninguna de las ventajas financieras que ofrecen a otros negocios. Ella me prometió que de ser electa, hará todo lo posible por crear el ambiente necesario para que los bancos nos consideren," dijo DePeña.



Extrema izquierda y extrema derecha: Los propietarios de Bonanza Market, Santo López y Orlando González. Al centro, el Alcalde de Lawrence William Lantigua y Elizabeth Warren, durante su gira por la ciudad el 23 de febrero, 2012. Detrás, Porfiria Almanza y Awilda Vargas.

Extreme left and extreme right: Bonanza Market owners Santo Lopez and Orlando Gonzalez. Center, Lawrence Mayor William Lantigua with Elizabeth Warren, during her tour of the city on February 23, 2012. Behind: Porfiria Almanza and Awilda Vargas.

Otro establecimiento visitado por Ms. Warren y Lantigua fue el Bonanza Market y Restaurante. Sus propietarios, Santo López y Orlando González le dieron una cálida bienvenida, "igual a la que le damos a todo el que nos visita, pero no tuvimos la oportunidad de hablar con ella, estábamos muy ocupados", dijo López.

Elizabeth Warren está postulada por el Partido Demócrata para la posición de Senadora por el Estado de Massachusetts, silla que en la actualidad ocupa el Senador

Scott Brown (R). Brown fue electo senador en una elección especial llevada a cabo el 19 de enero, 2010 para llenar la vacante del Senador Ted Kennedy, que falleciera el 25 de agosto, 2009.

La campaña entre Warren y Brown está considerada como una de las más estrechamente vigiladas en el país durante el corriente año.

Warren visited Lawrence

By Alberto Surís

Senator candidate Elizabeth Warren visited Lawrence on Thursday, February 23, 2012.

According to Lawrence's Mayor William Lantigua, "She wanted to get to know the city, visit some shops and talk to some of their owners to hear some of their concerns," Lantigua said, adding. "I accepted gladly, often candidates for high positions ask for our votes from a distance without even deigning to visit us."

Lantigua said he had a friendly and lively conversation with Ms. Warren in his office. He told her about his administration's achievements and the challenges he has faced and is facing. "As a good Democrat, she said that if elected, she will work hard for our city."

During his tour of the city, one of the shops visited was Tenares Tire Shop where she had the chance to chat with its owner Brian DePeña, who told candidate Warren that he likes the way she expresses herself and especially her sensitivity toward the poor.

DePeña said that he also told the candidate he was having concerns about the little protection banks offer to micro entrepreneurs, "Those like me that employ

PLEASE SEE **WARREN**
CONTINUES ON PAGE 14



Los propietarios de Tenares Tire Shop, Jerson DePeña y su padre, Brian DePeña, con Elizabeth Warren y William Lantigua durante la visita de ésta frente a la gomera localizada en el 348 de la Broadway, en Lawrence.

Tenares Tire Shop owners, Jerson DePeña and his father, Brian DePeña, with Elizabeth Warren and William Lantigua during her visit to the city, in front of the store located at 348 Broadway.

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Is Lawrence Damned? We Say No!



What: "We are Lawrence" Rally & March
When: Tuesday, March 13th, 3:30
Where: Pemberton Park
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Wear Black. Bring Zombie Wear If you Like!

An article in Boston Magazine called Lawrence "the most godforsaken place in Massachusetts," and said that we are a "City of the Damned."

Are you tired of being portrayed badly in the press?

Do you have another story to tell about Lawrence? Join us for a march! Let's show them the good news!

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¿Que? "Somos Lawrence" Reunión & Marcha
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¿Donde? Pemberton Park
(por la Amesbury St, esquina con Canal St.)

Lleva ropa negra. ¡Lleva disfraz de Zombie si quiere!

Un artículo en Boston Magazine dijo que Lawrence es una ciudad "dejada a la mano de Dios" y "una Ciudad de Condenados."
 ¿Estas harto de la prensa con sus historias negativas?

¿Quieres compartir otra perspectiva de Lawrence?
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HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

Las viviendas desocupadas requieren seguro adicional

POR/BY JASON ALDERMAN



Hay muchas razones por las cuales alguien dejaría desocupada su vivienda durante meses: Quizás deba mudarse a otro estado y su antigua vivienda está decayendo en el mercado; o tal vez ya no pueda pagar la hipoteca, está realizando una venta en descubierto y se vaya a vivir un tiempo a la casa de su hermana; o se volvió rico y decidió embarcarse en un crucero alrededor del mundo por seis meses.

En todo caso, hay una persona sumamente importante con la cual debe

comunicarse antes de cerrar la puerta por última vez: su agente de seguros.

“Muchas personas ignoran que su póliza de seguro de propietario estándar no brinda cobertura total en caso de que su vivienda quede desocupada por determinado periodo”, dice Ruth Stroup, agente de seguros de Farmers Insurance Group para Oakland, California. “Ese periodo varía según el estado y la compañía de seguro, pero por lo general es de 30 o 60 días. Después de eso, usted podría ser responsable de las pérdidas a causa de robo o vandalismo”.

Las compañías de seguro consideran que las viviendas desocupadas o vacías corren

mayor riesgo porque nadie vive allí para mantener y proteger la propiedad. Hemos sido testigos de noticias sobre viviendas abandonadas o con juicio hipotecario que fueron saqueadas, usurpadas ilegalmente o destruidas.

Si tiene la esperanza que su compañía de seguro no descubra que su casa está desocupada, piénselo bien. Como Stroup dice: “Las compañías de seguro cada vez realizan más inspecciones de rutina al momento de renovar la póliza. Si descubren que su propiedad está desocupada, seguramente no renovarán su póliza”.

Entonces, ¿qué debe hacer ante una situación como esta? Primero, revise lo que dice su póliza de seguro con respecto a las viviendas desocupadas o vacías. Cuando sepa que su casa estará vacía más que el tiempo permitido – y antes de que se cumpla el plazo – comuníquese con su compañía de seguro para ver si ofrece un seguro para vivienda desocupada. Es posible que se establezcan cláusulas especiales según la duración estimada de la desocupación. En caso de que su compañía de seguro no ofrezca dicha cobertura, busque otra.

Ejecución hipotecaria o venta en descubierto. Es poco grato pero fundamental que sepa lo siguiente, en caso de que esté por perder su vivienda debido a un juicio hipotecario o venta en descubierto: Incluso si ya se mudó, aún es responsable de asegurar la propiedad hasta que oficialmente deje de ser el propietario. “Si un posible comprador se tropieza y cae, usted será responsable de los daños debido a que técnicamente sigue siendo el propietario”, dice Stroup.

Seguro para propietarios. Muchos propietarios prefieren alquilar su propiedad hasta que el mercado de bienes raíces repunte. Desde el punto de vista de la compañía de seguro, esto es preferible antes que dejar la casa desocupada, a pesar de que sigue tratándose de una cobertura con mayor riesgo, debido a que es menos probable que los inquilinos protejan y mantengan la propiedad.

El seguro para propietarios cubre la estructura del edificio y los efectos personales que usted deje en la propiedad en caso de siniestros tales como incendio, daños ocasionados por el agua, descargas eléctricas, etc. Se compensará el ingreso de la renta perdida en caso de que la vivienda quede inhabitable.

“Las pólizas para propietarios son diferentes que la cobertura para propietarios pero cuestan aproximadamente lo mismo”, dice Stroup. “Las pólizas para propietarios por lo general brindan una cobertura importante de los efectos personales, lo cual probablemente no sea necesario ya que los inquilinos son responsables de asegurar sus pertenencias.”

Para proteger sus bienes actuales y futuros, cuente siempre con un seguro suficiente contra riesgos y responsabilidad civil para todas sus propiedades y posesiones. Más vale asegurarse que lamentarse.

Jason Alderman dirige los programas de educación financiera de Visa. Para participar gratuitamente en una Reunión Cumbre de Cultura y Educación Financiera en línea el abril 23 de 2012 visite www.practicalmoneyskills.com/summit2012.

Empty Homes Need Additional Insurance

There are many reasons why someone might leave their home unoccupied for months at a time: Maybe you moved to another state and your old house is languishing on the market; or you can no longer afford your mortgage so you're working out a short sale and couch-surfing at your sister's house; or you struck it rich and are taking a six-month, around-the-world cruise.

In each case, there's one very important person you should call well before locking the door that last time – your insurance agent.

“Many people don't realize that their standard homeowners policy won't provide full coverage if their home sits unoccupied for a certain amount of time,” says Ruth Stroup, a Farmers Insurance Group agent from Oakland, Calif. “The timeframe varies by state and insurance carrier, but typically it's 30 or 60 days. After that, you could be liable for losses related to theft or vandalism.”

Unoccupied or vacant homes are considered a higher risk by insurers because no one lives on site to maintain and protect the property. We've all seen news reports of abandoned or foreclosed homes that have been stripped of their fixtures, overrun by squatters or simply vandalized.

Also, if you're hoping that your insurer simply won't notice your house is unoccupied, think again. As Stroup points out, “Insurance companies increasingly are doing routine inspections at policy renewal time. If they find that the property is unoccupied, chances are your policy won't be renewed.”

So what should you do if you find yourself in this situation? First, check your homeowners policy for language regarding unoccupied or vacant homes. Once you know that your house will be empty for more than the allowable time – and before the deadline passes – contact your insurer to find out whether they offer vacant home insurance. They may be willing to make special provisions depending on the projected duration of vacancy. If your carrier doesn't offer such coverage, find one that does.

Foreclosure or short sale. This is grim but critical information to know if you're losing your home through a foreclosure or short sale: Even if you've already moved out, you're still responsible for insuring the property until you no longer officially own it. “If a prospective buyer slipped and fell, you'd be liable for damages since you're still technically the owner,” says Stroup.

Landlord insurance. Many homeowners prefer to rent out their property until the real estate market rebounds. From the insurer's perspective, this is preferable to leaving the house vacant, although it's still considered riskier coverage because tenants are less likely than owners to protect and maintain the property.

Landlord insurance covers the structure of the building as well as any personal belongings you leave on the premises

PLEASE SEE **ANDELMAN**
CONTINUES ON PAGE 15

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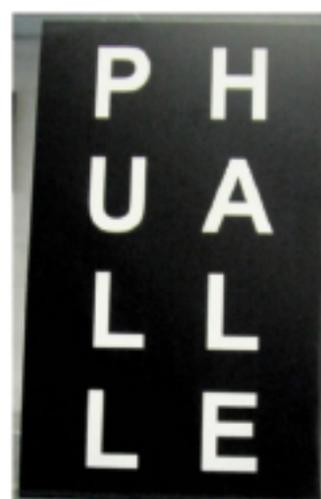
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NEWS & EVENTS IN HAVERHILL

El alcalde celebra la Independencia dominicana



El Alcalde James J. Fiorentini reunido en su oficina con miembros de la comunidad dominicana de Haverhill, con motivo de la celebración del Día de la Independencia Dominicana.

El Alcalde James J. Fiorentini ha celebrado recientemente el Día de la Independencia Dominicana con residentes dominicanos en el Ayuntamiento. Después de tres siglos de dominio español, con interludios franceses y haitianos, el país alcanzó la independencia en 1821 bajo el gobierno de un ex juez que mantuvo el sistema de la esclavitud y los derechos limitados para el mulato y la población en su mayoría negro. El gobernante, José Núñez de Cáceres, quería que la República Dominicana fuera parte de la nación de la Gran Colombia, pero fue rápidamente eliminado por el gobierno haitiano y las revueltas de esclavos dominicanos.

Victoriosos en la Guerra de la Independencia Dominicana en 1844, los dominicanos experimentaron su mayor parte los conflictos internos, y también un breve retorno a la dominación española en los próximos 72 años.

La ocupación de los Estados Unidos de 1916-1924, y posteriormente, la calma y un próspero período de seis años en virtud de Horacio Vásquez Lajara, fue seguido por la dictadura de Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina, hasta 1961.

La guerra civil de 1965, terminó con una intervención dirigida por EE.UU., y fue seguida por el gobierno autoritario de Joaquín Balaguer, 1966-1978. Desde entonces, la República Dominicana se ha movido hacia la democracia representativa

y ha sido dirigida por Leonel Fernández, durante la mayor parte del tiempo a partir de 1996.

Alcalde Fiorentini declaró, "Los ciudadanos de la República Dominicana se esforzaba por lograr la independencia

y hoy nos reunimos para celebrar su perseverancia. Se ha tardado siglos en la República Dominicana para garantizar una democracia representativa y en este día, celebramos su victoria juntos."

Mayor Celebrates The Act of Independence of Lithuania



Mayor Celebrates Dominican Republic Independence Day

Mayor James J. Fiorentini recently celebrated Dominican Independence Day with Dominican residents at City Hall. After three centuries of Spanish rule, with French and Haitian interludes, the country became independent in 1821 under the rule of a former judge who maintained the system of slavery and limited rights for the mostly mulatto and black population. The ruler, Jose Núñez de Cáceres, intended that the Dominican Republic be part of the nation of Gran Colombia, but he was quickly removed by the Haitian government and Dominican slave revolts.

Victorious in the Dominican War of Independence in 1844, Dominicans experienced mostly internal strife, and also a brief return to Spanish rule over the next 72 years.

The United States occupation of 1916-1924, and a subsequent, calm and prosperous six-year period under Horacio Vasquez Lajara, was followed by dictatorship of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina until 1961.

The civil war of 1965, was ended by a U.S. led intervention, and was followed by the authoritarian rule of Joaquin Balaguer, 1966-1978. Since then, the Dominican Republic has moved toward representative democracy and has been led by Leonel Fernandez for most of the time after 1996.

Mayor Fiorentini stated, "The citizens of the Dominican Republic struggled to secure independence and today we gather to celebrate their perseverance. "It has taken centuries for the Dominican Republic to secure a representative democracy and on this day, we celebrate their victory together."

Some of the Lithuanian residents who came to celebrate The Act of Independence of Lithuania in Mayor James J. Fiorentini's office.

Mayor James J. Fiorentini recently celebrated The Act of Independence of Lithuania with Lithuanian residents in Haverhill. The Act of February 16 was signed by the Council of Lithuania on February 16, 1918, proclaiming the restoration of an independent State of Lithuania, governed by democratic principles, with Vilnius as its capital.

The Act was signed by all twenty representatives, chaired by Jonas Basanavicius. The Act of February 16 was the end result of a series of resolutions on the issue, including one issued by the Vilnius Conference and the Act of January 8. The German empire had put pressure on the Council to form an alliance. The Council had to carefully maneuver between the Germans, whose troops had a presence in Lithuania, and the demands of the Lithuanian people.

The Germans prohibited Lithuania

from publishing the Act, but the Lithuanians printed and distributed the information illegally. The Germans remained in control of Lithuania until Germany lost World War I in the fall of 1918. In November of 1918 the first cabinet of Lithuania was formed, and the Council of Lithuania gained control over the territory of Lithuania and Independent Lithuania became a reality.

Mayor Fiorentini stated, "Today we celebrate the independence of Lithuania. We come together to recognize the importance of a democratic system, where everyone has a right to their opinion. I am proud to stand with our Lithuanian residents as one community and recognize the end result of a struggle to become an independent State."

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ANTES

DESPUES

Ley que autoriza a la ciudad de Lawrence para establecer un programa para la ejecución contra el desecho ilegal (HB 3729)

**Comentarios del Concejal de Lawrence Marc L. Laplante
Ante la Comisión Conjunta del Poder Judicial
6 de marzo 2012**

La clase media. El objetivo de esta legislación es hacer crecer y mantener una clase media en Lawrence.

El ingreso medio por hogar en Lawrence es de \$31,000 mientras que el promedio estatal es de \$64,000. El 27% de nuestra población está por debajo del umbral de la pobreza frente al 11% en todo el estado. En Lawrence, el promedio de propietarios de vivienda es de un 35% en comparación con el promedio estatal de 64%. Con el fin de tener un equilibrio económico en mi ciudad, hay cuatro elementos que ayuden a revivir la clase media que está disminuyendo: 1) La mejora de las escuelas, 2) Reducción de la delincuencia, 3) Mejorar las viviendas en existencia y 4) Calles, aceras y parques limpios y bien cuidados, es decir, una ciudad atractiva.

Este proyecto de ley trata sobre la limpieza de la ciudad. Por desgracia, mi ciudad está sucia, y la gente la trata como un pozo. Los neumáticos, sofás, televisores y bolsas de basura se desechan en cualquier lugar, las personas piensan que pueden salirse con la suya. Hay un montón de

lugares donde pueden salirse con la suya: los bancos de cualquiera de los tres ríos, callejones, o a lo largo de la mayoría de cualquiera de las calles. Si lo descubren, eso es si lo descubren, un violador puede recibir una multa de \$ 300 - el costo de hacer negocios. A Lawrence le cuesta más de \$200,000 anualmente para cubrir los gastos de desechos ilegales más los gastos de personal para deshacerse de la descarga ilegal de basura. Obviamente, eso es dinero que se puede utilizar para contratar más seguridad pública, utilizarlo en la prestación de servicios que hagan crecer y retener a una clase media. De hecho, el costo va más allá de la exposición directa de la ciudad. Los desechos ilegales afectan la psicosis de los residentes de Lawrence, donde muchas personas que se ocupan por la apariencia de la ciudad se dan por vencidos porque es simplemente inaguantable. Esta actitud y comportamiento resulta en devaluación del valor de la propiedad y en última instancia afecta el ingreso por concepto de impuestos que la ciudad pudiera recaudar para cubrir por servicios. Es un ciclo en cuesta abajo.

Este proyecto de ley sobre desechos ilegales no cura todos los males de Lawrence, pero permite a la ciudad el tomar un enfoque proactivo, en lugar de una postura defensiva, hacia la reducción de los desechos ilegales. Dar a los inspectores de la ciudad la autoridad de multar a los infractores hasta tres veces de lo que le cuesta a la ciudad el deshacerse de esos desechos, envía una poderosa señal de que el desecho ilegal (dumping) va a costar a los infractores más de lo que vale la pena. El dinero de estas nuevas multas irá a una cuenta especial para reforzar el programa de vertidos ilegales. La ciudad será capaz de adquirir las herramientas, tales como cámaras y otros equipos para fortalecer la disuasión. No quiero exagerar los beneficios de esta legislación, pero he encontrado que la ciudad de Worcester ha podido controlar los desechos ilegales con autoridad similar.

La clase media. El objetivo de esta

POR FAVOR VEA **LAPLANTE**
■ CONTINÚA EN LA PAGINA 17

An Act authorizing the city of Lawrence to establish a program for enforcement against illegal dumping (HB 3729)

Comments by Lawrence City Councilor Marc L. Laplante
Joint Committee on the Judiciary
March 6, 2012

The middle class. The goal of this legislation is to grow and retain a middle class in Lawrence.

The median household income in Lawrence is \$31k, while the state average is \$64k. 27% of our population is below the poverty line compared to 11% statewide. Lawrence's homeownership rate is 35% compared to the statewide average of 64%. In order to have economic balance in my city, there are four elements that will help revive the dwindling middle class: 1) Improved schools, 2) Lower crime, 3) Improved housing stock, and 4) clean and well-kept streets, sidewalks and parks, that is, a city with "curb appeal."

This bill deals with the "curb appeal"

PLEASE SEE **LAPLANTE**
■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 17



Molly Paige



Ernie Brown



Jim Carter



Dana Mills



John McCaslin

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YMCA Quality Service Award Recipients



The Merrimack Valley YMCA honored five employees who have exhibited an exemplary level of member service and who personally and professionally demonstrate the YMCA character development traits of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. YMCA full and part-time employees are encouraged to nominate co-workers for this award. "We look to employees who foster relationships with YMCA members by providing quality member services that is professional, helpful, prompt and courteous. The people selected for this honor are role models in the area of character development. They have often created or initiated new member programs and services that assist with member satisfaction," said Gary P. Morelli, Merrimack Valley YMCA Vice

President. Those honored with Quality Service Awards (in photo left to right) are: Carmen Ortiz of Lawrence, preschool teacher at the Methuen YMCA; Gia Saraceni of Tewksbury, Special Programs Coordinator; and Kathy Sachetti of Methuen, Health and Wellness Staff Member at the Andover/North Andover YMCA. They are pictured with Gary Morelli, YMCA Chief Operating Officer. Award winners not present for the photo were: Julianne Flynn of Georgetown, Preschool Teacher at the Methuen YMCA and David Benvenutty of Lawrence, Child Care Group Leader at the Methuen YMCA.

Eight YMCA kids honored with sportsmanship awards



Winners of the YMCA's 2012 Kimball Classic Sportsmanship Award are: (Front Row left to right) Amos Vachier, age 5, of Lawrence; Patrick Cote, age 6, of Andover; Elianna Rosario, age 5, of Lawrence; James Levesque, age 6, of Methuen. In back row left to right are: Megan Rozzi, age 5, of North Andover; Jonathan Ocasio, age 5, of Lawrence. These young players were honored for demonstrating the YMCA's core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility during the 2012 Youth Basketball League Season. Not in photo but also honored this year are Henry Whipple, age 6, of North Andover and Jake Vana, age 6, of North Andover. The children are pictured with retired YMCA Vice President Walter Kimball, for whom this basketball tournament is named.

The Sixth Annual Walter Kimball Classic Youth Basketball League Jamboree held at the Lawrence YMCA honors 8 children for great sportsmanship. Nearly 300 YMCA Youth Basketball League (YBL) players from the Lawrence, Methuen, and Andover/North Andover YMCA branches filled the gymnasium at the Lawrence YMCA on Saturday, March 3, for the sixth annual Kimball Classic, a basketball jamboree. This year's tourney hosted 34 teams competing overall within three different divisions: kindergarten; 1st and 2nd grade teams; 3rd and 4th grade teams. Eight children from the league were honored with sportsmanship awards. The Jamboree was named for retired YMCA Vice President Walter Kimball, honoring him as one of the "founding fathers" of YBL at the Merrimack Valley YMCA which begin in the early 1970s. In 1973, the YMCA of the USA entered into a partnership with the NBA Players Association and started the Youth Basketball Association (YBA). This effort started

hundreds of youth basketball programs in YMCAs around the country and marked the first YMCA effort to train professional and volunteer leaders to conduct youth sports programs. Walter Kimball took part in this program and started a YBA program at the Lawrence YMCA. The YMCA of the USA's affiliation with NBAPA ended in the 1980s and then the program changed its name to YBL (Youth Basketball League). Over the last thirty years, the Merrimack Valley YMCA has hosted thousands of youth in this instructional league. This program is for boys and girls ages 5-14 years old. YMCA basketball is a unique program where coaches stress the development of the child rather than competition. The main goals of the program are: skill development, personal development, fair play, fitness, character development and fun. Coaches do not focus on winning and losing. The focus is on learning skills, participation and fun.



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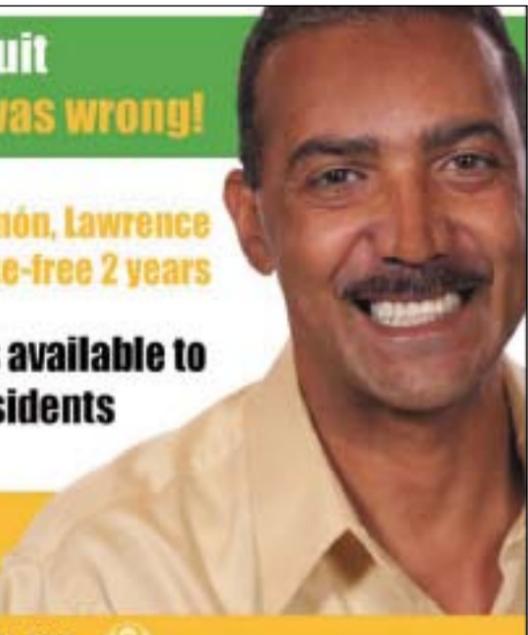
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Por Dalia Díaz

No es ningún secreto que la sensación de la música local, Bylli Crayone tiene muchos contactos dentro de la industria musical. Especialmente en el mundo de la música pop de los años 80. Me refiero sólo mirando a quiénes son algunos de sus amigos. Lisa Lisa, Boy George, Debbie Gibson, LL Cool J. Usted puede darse cuenta que todos son grandes nombres de la música.

En 2010 a Crayone se le ocurrió la idea de grabar un álbum con algunos de sus amigos artistas como Tiffany 80, Salt N Pepa, etc., pero por ser un artista independiente con su propio sello de producción, de hecho, no estaba seguro si el proyecto se pudiera realizar. Bueno, él lo hizo. El álbum fue titulado 'Presto: elemento de sorpresa' y está disponible para comprar en sitios como iTunes, Amazon y CD Baby.

"El álbum fue un éxito," dice Crayone. "Fue algo que muestra que los sueños se hacen realidad. .Crecí escuchando a los artistas de los años 80, pero nunca en mi vida pensé que sería realmente amigos con ellos, mucho menos que estaría grabando canciones con ellos."

Desde el lanzamiento de su álbum, ha estado trabajando fuertemente en la preparación del siguiente álbum de estudio titulado 'Mystery Boy' el cual será lanzado a finales de este año.

Cuando se le preguntó si este nuevo álbum también con artistas de los años 80, su respuesta fue esta: "Ya he empezado a grabar con artistas de los años 80, así que puedo casi garantizar que sí", dice Crayone,

y continúa diciendo, "Actualmente estoy en el estudio, de hecho, con la artista del estilo libre April muy conocida por sus éxitos de los 80' 'Someone To Hold' y 'Right On Time'. Estamos grabando una canción que ahora se llama 'I Need You'. Será una mezcla de estilo libre y trance; definitivamente algo que la comunidad de estilo libre esperaba."

Y en otra nota, él recientemente tuvo una reunión con una de las figuras más famosas de la música pop, la señora Gloria Estefan, junto con su esposo Emilio.

"Crucemos los dedos que podamos llegar a un acuerdo sólido para grabar juntos. Mi único temor es que tengo mi propio productor en New York, que es el que va a producir mi nuevo disco, pero puede que Emilio desee estar involucrado con el proyecto si ha de darse. Así que los dedos están cruzados para que todo salga bien y que en realidad suceda."

Crayone y Gloria Estefan han sido amigos desde el 2009. De hecho, el pasado mes de agosto, Gloria patrocinó 'Bylli Crayone's 'Back 2 School Charity', una de las 3 obras de caridad a las que pertenece.

"Me siento orgulloso de ser de Lawrence, Massachusetts," dice Crayone. Ojalá hubiera más aceptación por aquí con el tipo de música que hago – músicaailable."

Para más información sobre Bylli Crayone y sus proyectos, sígalo en Twitter@BylliCrayone y su sitio web oficial en BylliCrayone.com y por supuesto en Facebook en FaceBook.com/BylliCrayoneOnline.



By Dalia Díaz

It's no secret that local music sensation Bylli Crayone has many inside contacts within the music industry. Especially in the world of 80s pop music. I mean just look at who some of his friends are? Lisa Lisa, Boy George, Debbie Gibson, LL Cool J. You can see that they were big names in the music business.

In 2010 Crayone came up with an idea to record an album featuring some of his 80s artist friends like Tiffany, Salt N Pepa, etc. but being an independent artist with an independent label he wasn't sure if he could in fact get the project off the ground. Well, he did. The album was titled 'Presto: Element of Surprise' and is available to purchase on such sites as iTunes, Amazon and CD Baby. The album was a success says Crayone. It was something that shows that dreams do come true. I grew up listening to the artists of the 80s but never in my life did I think I would actually be friends with them, never mind recording songs with them."

Since the release of his album, he has been hard at work preparing for his follow up studio album entitled 'Mystery Boy' that is said to be released later this year.

When asked if this next album would also feature artists of the 80s, his response was this, "I have already started recording with some more artists of the 80s, so I can pretty much guarantee you a yes", says Crayone. He goes on to say, "I am currently

in the studio, in fact, with freestyle Legend April best known for her 80s hits 'Someone To Hold' and 'Right On Time'. We are recording a song now called 'I Need You'. It will be a mix of freestyle and trance, definitely something for the freestyle community to look forward to."

And on another note, he recently had a meeting with one of pop music's greatest living legends: Mrs. Gloria Estefan along with her husband Emilio.

"Fingers crossed we come to a solid deal on recording together. My only fear is I have my own producer in NYC who is on to produce my new album, but it looks like Emilio may want to be involved with the project if it's a go. So fingers are crossed that it all works out well and it actually does happen."

Crayone and Gloria Estefan have been friends since 2009. In fact, this past August, Gloria sponsored Bylli Crayone's 5th Annual 'Back 2 School' Charity, one of the 3 charities he belongs to.

"I am proud to be from Lawrence, MA, says Crayone. I just wish there was more acceptance out here to the type of music I do - Dance Music."

For more on Bylli Crayone and his projects follow him on Twitter @BylliCrayone and his official website at BylliCrayone.com and of course on FaceBook at FaceBook.com/BylliCrayoneOnline



Al centro, Bylli Crayone con Emilio y Gloria Estefan.

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LHS DEPORTES - EVENTOS ESPECIALES- COMITE ESCOLAR

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The interactive program inspires ongoing conversations among families about how their ancestors came to America.

CONTINUE FROM PAGE 5

WARREN

family members, because we have no access to any financial benefits they offer to other businesses. She promised that if elected, will do everything possible to create the necessary environment for banks to consider us," said DePeña.

Another establishment visited by Ms. Warren and Lantigua was Bonanza Market and Restaurant. Owners, Santo Lopez and Orlando Gonzalez gave them a warm welcome, "Like what we give everyone who visits our store, but we couldn't talk to her, we were very busy," Lopez said.

Elizabeth Warren is the Democratic Party candidate for the position of State Senator of Massachusetts, now occupied by Senator Scott Brown (R). Brown was elected senator in a special election held on January 19, 2010 to fill the vacancy of Senator Ted Kennedy, who died on August 25, 2009.

The campaign between Warren and Brown is considered one of the most closely watched in the country during the current year.



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Hermanas de Lawrence camino al éxito

Por Jennifer Boes

Fryeburg, Maine - Las buenas calificaciones y buena ciudadanía permitió que dos hermanas de Lawrence ganaran importantes becas de cuatro años para Fryeburg Academy, una academia de la ciudad en Fryeburg, Maine, donde educan a estudiantes de todo el mundo. Ahora quisieran compartir su experiencia, y las claves para el éxito, con otros adolescentes de la localidad.

Laura Monegro, 15, y Angie Monegro, 14, se mudaron a Lawrence con sus padres y siete hermanos hace 10 años. "Nuestro padre quería que tuviéramos un futuro mejor", dijo Laura. "Fue difícil dejar a nuestra familia detrás, pero tratamos de visitarlos al menos una vez al año."

Las niñas, nacidas exactamente con un año de diferencia, están llevando a cabo el sueño de su padre. Laura ha estado asistiendo a la academia por dos años. Es el primer año de Angie. Ambos eran estudiantes excepcionales en el Community Day Charter Public School (CDCPS) en Lawrence antes de ser aceptadas en la Academia de Fryeburg. Laura se enteró de la academia cuando se reunió con representantes de admisiones en la noche anual para escoger una escuela secundaria en los CDCPS. Angie siguió a su hermana a Fryeburg Academia el año siguiente.

Stephanie Morin, directora de inscripciones de la academia y mercadeo, dice, "Las niñas traen tanta energía positiva para nuestra comunidad. Laura es más tranquila y reservada que Angie, pero las niñas son muy amables. Laura es miembro de la Sociedad de Daniel Webster, el programa de la Academia de guía turística y es la única estudiante que fue seleccionada para ofrecer un servicio de giras en su primer año."

Morin agrega que los records ejemplares de servicio comunitario de las niñas también impresionó al personal de admisiones. Mientras que Laura era alumna de CDCPS, ella estaba activa en un grupo escolar que trabajaba de voluntaria en Lawrence. Algunos de sus proyectos incluyeron recoger basura en las calles, entonces la reciclaban y también la limpieza del cementerio de veteranos.

Además de participar en eventos de recaudación de fondos locales, como el de la Limpieza del Río Spicket y el New England Pediatric Care Cool Kids Road Race, Angie ha contribuido su tiempo a recaudar fondos que benefician causas en Japón, Afganistán e Irak. Angie dice, "Me encanta el servicio comunitario. Lo hago tanto como puedo en mi tiempo libre."

Mientras iba a la escuela en Lawrence, Angie registró más de 250 horas de trabajo

voluntario, y el Gobernador Deval Patrick mencionó su ciudadanía ejemplar en su discurso de inauguración. Ella fue elegida para representar a Lawrence en el Proyecto 311, un evento a nivel estatal en honor de una comunidad orientada a los servicios de jóvenes de cada ciudad de Massachusetts. En esta ocasión se reunió con el gobernador en persona. "Llegamos a tomarnos fotos con el gobernador," Angie dice. "La mía está en la sala de mi casa. Fue una experiencia extraordinaria, y me gustaría volver a vivirla cualquier día."

En la Academia Fryeburg, los temas favoritos de Laura son la química y el inglés. Angie comparte el amor de su hermana de inglés además de disfrutar las clases de francés, las artes, las matemáticas y sus clases de ciencias.

A Angie le gustan los programas deportivos también. Y añade, "Hay muchos deportes que nunca he practicado con un equipo real y saber que soy parte de un equipo me hace muy feliz. Yo nunca he jugado softbol, nunca, pero estoy tratando de entrar al equipo de softbol de la escuela en la primavera."

Ir a la escuela con otros jóvenes de más de 10 estados y 25 países también ha ayudado a ampliar los horizontes de las niñas. Laura dice, "Nos ha expuesto a tantas personas que no hubiéramos tenido la oportunidad de conocer si nos hubiésemos quedado en Lawrence."

A las hermanas les gustaría que otros jóvenes de Lawrence sepan que existen oportunidades para ellos si están dispuestos a trabajar para lograr sus objetivos. Laura y Angie sienten que el consejo más importante que pueden dar es que la educación sea una prioridad. "Durante este período en su vida, está bien que se pongan en primer lugar", dice Laura. "No piensen en los varones. Eso es sólo una distracción. Piensen en lo que tienen que hacer para llegar más lejos en la vida. Estudien mucho, pero no se olviden de divertirse con los amigos."

Angie añade, "Para llevar a cabo sus sueños, es necesario centrarse en la educación y la familia. Eso es lo que me trajo aquí".

Después de la secundaria, Laura tiene previsto asistir a una universidad de Nueva Inglaterra para seguir una licenciatura en psicología con especialización en música. Ella también quiere seguir contribuyendo. Laura dice, "Si tengo la suerte de hacer un montón de dinero, espero regalárselo a organizaciones benéficas tanto como sea posible."

Angie no ha decidido sobre su especialidad, pero a los 14 años ella tiene un mucho tiempo por delante para decidir. "Estoy trabajando en ello", dice ella. "Tengo tantas opciones para elegir."



Laura está a la izquierda y Angie a la derecha con el uniforme de cheerleader.

Laura is on the left and Angie is on the right in the cheerleading uniform.

Lawrence Sisters on the Road to Success

By Jennifer Boes

FRYEBURG, Maine – Good grades and good citizenship enabled two Lawrence sisters to earn significant four-year financial awards to Fryeburg Academy, a town academy in Fryeburg, Maine that educates students from around the world. Now they would like to share the experience, and their keys to success, with other local teens.

Laura Monegro, 15, and Angie Monegro, 14, moved to Lawrence with their parents and seven siblings 10 years ago. "Our father wanted us to have a better future," Laura said. "It was hard to leave our extended family behind but we try to visit them at least once a year."

The girls, born exactly one year apart, are pursuing their father's dream. Laura has been attending the academy for two years. This is Angie's first year. Both were exceptional students at Community Day Charter Public School (CDCPS) in Lawrence prior to being accepted to Fryeburg Academy. Laura first learned about the academy when she met admissions representatives at the annual CDCPS high school placement night. Angie followed her sister to Fryeburg Academy the following year.

Stephanie Morin, the academy's director of enrollment and marketing, says, "The girls bring so much positive energy to our community. Laura is more quiet and reserved than Angie, but both girls are extremely friendly. Laura is a member of the Daniel Webster Society, the Academy's tour guide program and is the only student who was selected to give tours as a freshman."

Morin adds that the girls' exemplary community service records also impressed the admissions staff. While at CDCPS, Laura was active in a school group that volunteered in and around Lawrence. Some of her projects included picking up street litter then recycling it and cleaning up

a local veteran's cemetery.

In addition to participating in local fundraising events like the Spicket River Cleanup and the New England Pediatric Care Cool Kids Road Race, Angie has contributed her time to fundraisers benefitting causes in Japan, Afghanistan and Iraq. Angie says, "I love community service. I do it as much as I can in my free time."

While going to school in Lawrence, Angie logged more than 250 volunteer hours, and Governor Deval Patrick mentioned her exemplary citizenship in his inauguration speech. She was then chosen to represent Lawrence at Project 311, a statewide event honoring one community service-oriented youth from each city. This time she met the Governor in person. "We got to take pictures with the Governor," Angie says. "Mine is framed in my living room at home. It was such an extraordinary experience, and I would re-live it any day."

At Fryeburg Academy, Laura's favorite subjects are chemistry and English. Angie shares her sister's love of English in addition to enjoying French, the arts, math, and her science classes.

Angie likes the sports programs as well. She adds, "There are so many sports that I have never done with an actual team and knowing that I'm part of a team makes me very happy. I've never done softball, ever, but I am trying out for the school softball team this spring."

Going to school with other teens from more than 10 states and 25 countries has also helped broaden the girls' horizons. Laura says, "It has exposed us to so many people we would not have had the opportunity to

■ CONTINUE FROM PAGE 8

ANDELMAN

against hazards such as fire, water damage, lightning, etc. It will reimburse you for lost rental income if the home becomes uninhabitable.

"Landlord policies are structured differently than homeowners coverage but often cost about the same," says Stroup. "Homeowners policies typically provide considerable coverage for personal property, which you probably wouldn't need here because your renters are responsible for insuring their own things."

To protect your current and future assets, always have sufficient loss and liability insurance on all your property and possessions. Better safe than sorry.

This article is intended to provide general information and should not be considered legal, tax or financial advice. It's always a good idea to consult a tax or financial advisor for specific information on how certain laws apply to your situation and about your individual financial situation.

PLEASE SEE **SISTERS**
■ CONTINUES ON PAGE 17

BY DALIA DÍAZ
daliadiaz@rumbonews.com

■ LÉALO EN ESPAÑOL EN LA PÁGINA 4

From My Corner



Upcoming Rally and March

There's a rally and march being planned for next Tuesday, March 13 at Pemberton Park, a product of the Boston Magazine article that has enraged the residents of Lawrence.

Sometimes people need a whack, a kick in the head or a push to wake up and take action. Lawrencians have been taking a beating through many years by the local media but something wonderfully exciting is happening now. Social Studies and Civics teachers have been giving their students that article to read and then write their opinions. The student population is roaring and it is very pleasing to see them show their self-assurance to prove that they have dignity and they are not going to take that anymore.

Perhaps, that article was the best thing that could have happened.

Alfonso's rejection

José Alfonso García was not approved by the City Council as Licensing Board Commissioner and if didn't take me by surprise, something was very disappointing for me.

Weeks before he appeared before the Personnel Committee in prelude to the

Council's vote, District E Councilor Eileen O'Connor Bernal said openly that she will not be voting in his favor. Obviously, her mind was made up and no interview or presentation before them could make her change her mind.

I do respect the councilors' decisions but particularly for an attorney to render a sentence without the benefit of a trial, I find it most troublesome.

In the end, Alfonso doesn't realize yet what a favor they did him.

Changes in the School Committee

I attended the School Committee meeting this past Tuesday and noticed that it was a non-event. There were not even 10 people in the hall. I remember when it filled up with teachers, administrators and members of the community who wanted to address the committee during public participation.

That was another unpleasant change: Public participation is now the last item on the agenda and for the last 10 minutes before it is called to end.

Oh well, Receiver/Superintendent Jeffrey Riley said that things were going to be different from now on and we must adapt. At least, he seems to be willing to

listen to suggestions.

In appreciation

A few days ago someone sent me an email that read the following, "I noticed in your article on the 'Disney Tickets' affair you have been using the word 'click'. If you mean an exclusive group of people the proper spelling of the word is 'clique'. It is a French word adopted into the English language."

I don't hesitate to use the disclaimer that I make mistakes, too. The difference is that I am grateful when someone points my mistakes in such a respectful way and I try to be gracious in my response. Perhaps that willingness to accept my frailties is what allowed me to get ahead in life.

Thanks again, Fred.

Merrimack Valley YMCA's 21st Annual "Reach Out for Youth & Families" Auction Gala

Tickets are on sale for the Merrimack Valley YMCA's 21st Annual "Reach Out for Youth & Families" Auction Gala, to be held on Saturday, March 24, 6:00 p.m. at DiBurro's. Tickets include a surf and turf dinner and a complimentary cocktail reception during the silent auction. Tickets for this event are on sale now: \$100 per person, includes dinner. Tables of 10 are \$1000. They can be purchased at the Andover/North Andover YMCA, Lawrence YMCA, Methuen YMCA or by calling 978-725-6681.

In addition to the silent auction, the evening includes raffles and a live auction of 40 items including: A week's stay at a beach house in York, Maine; Disney Resort Park Hopper Tickets; a Boston weekend package with stay at Liberty Hotel; a stay during 4th of July week at the Summer Village cottages in Wells, Maine; Golf for four at Renaissance Golf Club with dinner and overnight accommodations; and an Air Combat Mission 'jet fighter pilot for a day' experience, just to name a few items!

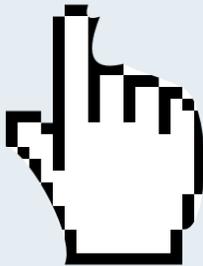
Would you like to promote your business? The Y is still in need of raffle and auction items from local merchants. Such gifts can include: Restaurant gift certificates, golf equipment, condominium weekends, concert tickets, signed sports memorabilia, theater tickets, cycling equipment, resort vacation weeks, limousine service, sporting equipment, just to name a few. The evening includes a silent auction, live auction, and ongoing raffles.

Proceeds from this annual event benefit the YMCA's "Reach Out for Youth & Families" annual support campaign, which supports YMCA community programs including the YMCA's Financial Assistance program, youth and camp scholarships, local outreach services, and the ongoing development of special youth programs.

For further information, contact Elizabeth Covino, vice president of marketing and development, at 978-725-6681.

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FIRE/HAZARD: If you borrow money to start your business or buy a building, the bank will require that you have FIRE insurance (just like when you borrow to buy a home).

THEFT: Theft coverage can usually be purchased along with fire insurance. Often it is necessary to have a burglar alarm to purchase theft coverage.

WORKERS COMPENSATION: If you decide to hire someone or have family help you, it is necessary to purchase workers compensation insurance. This protects the worker if they are injured on the job. Not only are the medical bills paid, but the missing wages are also payable to the injured employee. The cost is based on the type of business and the actual payroll. Corporations must purchase this coverage. Proprietors and LLC businesses do not have to protect themselves but they must purchase a policy for workers they hire.

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■ CONTINUE FROM PAGE 11

LAPLANTE

element. Unfortunately, my city is dirty, and people treat it like a pit. Tires, couches, TV sets, and bags of trash are disposed anywhere individuals think that they can get away with it. There are plenty of places where they can get away with it: the banks of any one of our three rivers, alleyways, or along side most any street. If caught, and that is a big "if," a violator can be fined \$300 - the cost of doing business. It cost Lawrence over \$200k annually for the disposal fees and the personnel costs to get rid of the illegal dumping. Obviously, that is money that can be used to hire more public safety, and spent to provide services that grow and retain a middle class. In fact, the cost goes beyond the city's direct exposure. Illegal dumping effects the psyche of Lawrence residents, where good people who care for their city's appearance just give up because there is simply too much. This attitude and behavior results in lower housing values and ultimately impacts the tax revenue the city can accrue for services. It is a downward cycle.

This illegal dumping bill will not cure all of Lawrence's ills, but it allows the city to take a proactive, rather than a defensive, posture toward reducing illegal dumping. Giving city inspectors the ability to ticket violators up to three times the costs of the city's disposal expenses, sends a powerful signal that dumping will cost the violators more than it's worth. The money from these new fines will go to a dedicated account to buttress the illegal dumping program. The city will be able to acquire the tools such as cameras and other equipment to strengthen deterrence. I do not want to exaggerate the benefits of the legislation, but I have found that Worcester has effectively controlled illegal dumping with similar authority.

The middle class. The goal of this legislation is to give the city a tool to help revive this diminishing breed. Also, please be mindful that this is an attempt by the city to be self-reliant. It is part of a broader mosaic that we must create to promote less federal and state reliance and gain more economic independence.

There is no cost to the Commonwealth for this legislation, and it gives Lawrence an important tool. Please support this bill, HB 3729.

■ CONTINÚA DE LA PÁGINA 11

LAPLANTE

legislación es dar a la ciudad una herramienta para ayudar a revivir la disminución de esta raza. También, por favor tener en cuenta que se trata de un intento por parte de la ciudad para ser autosuficiente. Es parte de un mosaico más amplio de lo que debemos hacer para llegar a depender menos de ayuda federal y estatal y obtener una mayor independencia económica.

No hay costo alguno para el Estado por esta legislación, y le da a Lawrence una herramienta importante. Por favor, apoye este proyecto de ley, la HB 3729.

NOTAS DE SU BIBLIOTECARIA

BY/POR MAUREEN NIMMO
Lawrence Public Library Director

Hola, lectores de Rumbo,

Bueno, por fin llegó la nieve y tengo que admitir que se veía preciosa cayendo sobre los árboles en el Campagnone Common. Aún así, yo prefiero el "invierno que no fue" y lo repetiría cualquier otro año. Ya es marzo y nos estamos preparando para las actividades del Mes de la Herencia Irlandesa, entre otras cosas.

Cuando marzo llega y la gente se está concentrando en todo lo que sea irlandés, me gusta tomar un momento para recordar a los lectores sobre nuestra colección irlandesa en la Sucursal de la Biblioteca en el sur de Lawrence. Nuestra colección de libros, películas, publicaciones y miscelánea, es la mejor y más grande colección al norte de Boston y una verdadera joya en el ámbito cultural de Lawrence. Hagan un esfuerzo de ir a ver esta colección durante el mes. En sí, el mejor día para visitarla sería el Día de San Patricio cuando Bill Sullivan y su grupo de Hibernians estarán brindándoles té y pan irlandés durante todo el día. (El viernes, 16 de marzo, estarán aquí en la biblioteca principal.) Bendiciones a Bill, Ann, Jack, Patricia, Jane y todos los voluntarios Hibernian, y gracias por el buen trabajo que hacen durante todo el año de mantener esta colección.

Además de brindar té y pan irlandés, la biblioteca también será anfitrión de la Vice-Cónsul General de Irlanda, Deidre NiFhalluin. (Aunque mi primer nombre es irlandés, nunca puedo pasar como una persona irlandesa real porque ni siquiera soy capaz de pronunciar mi nombre.) Ella estará en la sucursal de la biblioteca el día 12 a las 1:00 PM para leer a los niños de la escuela de la Academia Católica de Lawrence. Todos los niños son bienvenidos.

Para terminar el mes de la herencia irlandesa, tendremos un concierto de melodías célticas (Celtic Melodies) por George y Terri Kelley, aquí en nuestro auditorio Sargent, el domingo, 25 de marzo a las 2:00 PM. Este concierto por George y Terri se ha convertido en una verdadera

■ CONTINUE FROM PAGE 15

SISTERS

meet if we had stayed in Lawrence."

The sisters would like other Lawrence teens to know that opportunities exist for them if they are willing to work to achieve their goals. Laura and Angie feel the most important advice they can give is to make education a priority. "For this period in your life, it's okay to put yourself first," Laura says. "Don't think about boys. That's just a distraction. Think about what you need to do to get further in life. Study hard, but don't forget to have fun with friends."

Angie adds, "To accomplish your dreams, you need to focus on your education and family. That's what got me here."

After high school, Laura plans on attending a New England college to pursue a psychology degree with a minor in music. She also wants to continue giving back. Laura says, "If I am so fortunate to make a lot of money, I hope to give it away to as many charities as possible."

Angie hasn't decided on her major, but at 14 she's got plenty of time to decide. "I'm working on it," she says. "I have so many options to choose from."

tradición aquí. No se lo pierda. Pase por la biblioteca para una lista completa de todos los eventos del mes de la herencia.

Cambiando de tema, los Amigos de la Biblioteca serán los anfitriones de la presentación de "El Baúl de Gaetano (Gaetano's Trunk) del escritor local, Al Zappala y estará autografiando estos libros. Esto se llevará a cabo el martes, 13 de marzo, a las 6:00 PM. El libro se trata de la inmigración de su abuelo (Gaetano) a los Estados Unidos desde Sicilia, y su propio camino a Sicilia. El Sr. Zappala es un orador fascinante, y es un libro muy interesante. Vengan el 13 y compartan con nosotros.

He mencionando varios eventos relacionados con el centenario de la huelga textil desde que comenzó el año. La participación de la biblioteca oficialmente dará inicio el jueves, 8 de marzo, con un programa del proyecto de Lawrence Lee. El programa contará con un show de títeres "El Mundo de Jacobo y Rosa" (The World of Jake and Rosa) que dramatiza los dos personajes principales del libro, Pan y Rosas También (Bread and Roses, Too), lo cual es la selección para el proyecto de Lawrence Lee escrito por Katherine Paterson. El espectáculo de títeres comenzará a las 3:00 PM. El mismo día, a las 7:00 PM, habrá una charla por el Dr. Robert Farrant (Universidad de Massachusetts Lowell) sobre el tema del centenario. Ambos eventos serán gratuitos, y se llevarán a cabo aquí en el auditorio de Sargent. Todos están bienvenidos.

Ahora que todos salimos del invernadero, pasen por la biblioteca para que vean lo que sucede aquí. Nos vemos en la biblioteca.

The 4th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Tournament

The 4th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Tournament to benefit the St. Alfio Society Building Fund will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at The Claddagh Pub, 399 Canal St., Lawrence, MA.

The evening will also include dinner donated by The Claddagh Pub, a 50/50 Raffle, and Sweet 16 NCAA games on big screen TVs. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:00 p.m. and cards fly at 7:00 p.m. Player buy-in is \$100. Non-player cover is \$20.

Final table prizes based on 150 players: 1st prize \$2,500; 2nd prize \$1,000; 3rd prize \$750; 4th - 10th prizes \$250.

For more information contact 603-425-4791.

NOTES FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

Hello Rumbo readers.

Well we did finally have some snow and, I have to admit, it did look lovely falling on the trees in the Campagnone Common. Still I really appreciated the "winter that wasn't" and I'll repeat it any old year. It is March now and we are preparing for the events of Irish Heritage Month, among other things.

Whenever March rolls around and folks are concentrating on all things Irish, I like to take a moment to remind readers about our Irish collection at the South Lawrence branch library. Our collection of books, films, periodicals and miscellanea is the best and biggest collection north of Boston and a real jewel in the Lawrence cultural crown. Be sure to make it a point to get over and see the collection during the month sometime. Best day for a visit would be St. Patrick's Day itself when Bill Sullivan and his stalwart crew of Hibernians will be offering tea and Irish bread all day long. (Friday the 16th they will be here at the Main Library.) Bill, Ann, Jack, Patricia, Jane and every other Hibernian volunteer, bless you and thank you for your work all year long maintaining this collection.

Besides our tea and Irish bread, the library will also be hosting Irish Vice-Consul General Deidre NiFhalluin. (I may have an Irish first name but I would never make it as an actual Irish person because I wouldn't even be able to pronounce my own name.) She will be at the branch library on the 12th at 1:00 to read to school children from the Lawrence Catholic Academy. All children are welcome. Closing out the events of Irish Heritage month will be George and Terri Kelley's Celtic Melodies concert here in our Sargent Auditorium Sunday, March 25th at 2:00. George and Terri's concert has become a real tradition here. Don't miss it. Stop by the library for a full calendar of all the Heritage Month events.

In a departure from the Irish theme, the Friends of the Library will be hosting a presentation and book signing of "Gaetano's Trunk" by local author Al Zappala. This will take place on Tuesday, March 13th at 6:00. Mr. Zappala's book concerns his grandfather (Gaetano's) immigration to America from Sicily and his own path back to Sicily. Mr. Zappala is a fascinating speaker and this is a very interesting book. Come by on the 13th and take part.

I have been mentioning various issues regarding the textile strike centennial since the year started. The library's part in these events will begin in earnest on Thursday March the 8th with a program to officially kick-off the Lawrence Reads project. The program will feature an afternoon puppet show "The World of Jake and Rosa" which dramatizes the two main characters from the Lawrence Reads! book selection Bread and Roses, too! by Katherine Paterson. The puppet show will begin at 2:00 and at 7:00 the same day there will be a talk by Dr. Robert Farrant (UMass Lowell) on the subject of the centennial. Both events will be held in the Sargent Auditorium and are free and open to everybody.

Now that everyone is coming out of hibernation you can see we have a lot going on here so see you at the library.

2012 National Consumer Protection Week event Lawrence Community Shred Day

La Semana Nacional de Protección al Consumidor fue celebrada en el Senior Center de Lawrence la mañana del 6 de marzo con una recepción de bienvenida, una breve presentación de los anfitriones del Día Nacional de Protección al Consumidor, y ¡destrucción de documentos gratis! Este evento fue gratuito y abierto al público.

Fue una gran oportunidad para reunirse con expertos en la materia para aprender más sobre los recursos disponibles para ayudarnos. Expertos de Protección al Consumidor estuvieron disponibles para contestar preguntas.

Inspectores Postales de Estados Unidos dieron información para que la gente no caiga en trampas por el fraude de la lotería. Miles de estadounidenses han perdido

sus ahorros robados por estafadores que prometen las probabilidades pequeñas y grandes ganancias. El propósito fue darles información que podrían usar para protegerse y proteger a sus seres queridos contra el fraude.

Una gran atracción fue la disponibilidad de una trituradora, donde los residentes trajeron para desechar de forma segura todos los documentos personales y confidenciales.

Personal de Highland Shredding On Demand Shredding, LLC descargaron los documentos y de inmediato los pusieron en un contenedor seguro y bajo llave, y luego destruidos en el sitio seguro de la empresa. Los residentes trajeron hasta 3 cajas de documentos confidenciales para ser triturados y desechados correctamente.

Además de su propia información, por favor, piense en las personas mayores en su vida que necesitan ayuda con la eliminación de documentos personales y financieros. Highland Shredding estará disponible hasta fines de esta semana, así que, consulte con el Senior Center de Lawrence y hagan los arreglos para llevarlos.

Un agradecimiento especial a Joanne Killackey-Hogan, Manager, Contacto para el Consumidor e Industria del Distrito de Boston por las fotos y gran esfuerzo en beneficio de nuestros residentes.



Pictured above are the hosts of the Lawrence Community National Consumer Protection Day, not necessarily in order: Martha Velez, Executive Director, Lawrence Senior Center; June Black, Regional & Constituent Services Director, Office of Congresswoman Niki Tsongas; Richard Pace, Postmaster, Lawrence; Highland Shredding On Demand Shredding, LLC; U. S. Postal Inspectors; Nicole Sanders, Director of Consumer Education, Office of Consumer Affairs & Business Regulation; Barbara Namias, Massachusetts Senior Medicare Patrol Program.



There was a packed audience at the Senior Center and residents were eagerly picking up information at the tables.

La audiencia llenó el Senior Center y las personas recogieron animadamente la información que les ofrecían en las mesas.

National Consumer Protection Week was celebrated at the Lawrence Senior Center the morning of March 6 featuring a welcome reception, brief presentations from the National Consumer Protection Day hosts, and free document shredding! This event was free, and open to the public.

It was a great opportunity to meet with subject-matter experts to learn more about resources available to help us. Consumer Protection experts were available to answer questions.

U.S. Postal Inspectors gave information so that people wouldn't be taken advantage of by lottery fraud. Thousands of Americans have had their life savings stolen by scammers promising small odds and big jackpots. The purpose was to give them information that they could use to protect themselves and their loved ones against fraud.

A big attraction was the availability of a shredder where residents came to drop off and safely discarded all personal, confidential documents.

Highland Shredding On Demand Shredding, LLC staff unloaded documents and immediately placed them in a secured, locked container, then destroyed at the shred company's secured site. Residents brought up to 3 boxes of confidential documents to be shredded and disposed of properly.

In addition to your own information, please give some thought to the seniors in your life that may need assistance disposing of personal and financial documents. Highland Shredding will be available through the end of the week so, check with the Lawrence Senior Center and make arrangements to bring them over.

Special thanks to Joanne Killackey-Hogan, Manager, Consumer & Industry Contact Greater Boston District for the pictures and great effort on behalf of our residents.



Fachada Ganadora del mes

La Oficina del Alcalde William Lantigua se complace en anunciar que el ganador del prestigioso premio de la Fachada del Mes en Lawrence para enero de 2012 es Carlos & Maria's Cakes, situado en el 113 de la Calle South Union.

Los propietarios, Carlos y Alba María, con su personal, han hecho grandes esfuerzos para mantener limpias las aceras en una de las calles más transitadas de la ciudad. Todos los días, el equipo de Carlos & Maria's Cakes barre toda la basura de la cuneta y las aceras en la tienda.

"Una tienda limpia es ideal para negocios", dijo el Sr. Carlos Alba. Por su persistente esfuerzo para mantener limpio a Lawrence, y el duro trabajo de todo el personal en Carlos & Maria's Cakes para eliminar la basura y el mantenimiento de la zona le ha ganado a Carlos & Maria's Cakes este codiciado reconocimiento para enero de 2012.

Las nominaciones para Fachada y Patio del Mes podrán presentarse



Photo Credit: Eileen Margaret

por correo electrónico a: FOConnor@CityOfLawrence.com o por el Servicio Postal de los Estados Unidos a: Frank O'Connor, Jr., Departamento de Desarrollo de la Comunidad, Oficina de Desarrollo Económico, 225 Essex Street, 3er piso, Lawrence, MA 01840.

I/r Frank O'Connor, Jr., Office of Economic Development, Frayder Reyes, Carlos Alba receiving award from Mayor Lantigua and Grisel Santiago.

Storefront winner of the month

The Office of Mayor William Lantigua is pleased to announce that the winner of the prestigious Storefront of the Month award in Lawrence for January 2012 is Carlos & Maria's Cakes, 113 South Union St.

The owners, Carlos & Maria Alba, with their staff, have made great efforts to keep the sidewalks clean of litter and trash on one of the busiest and most heavily traveled streets in the city. Every day, the team at Carlos & Maria's Cakes clears any trash from the gutter and sidewalks at the store.

"A clean storefront is great for business," said Mr. Carlos Alba. For their persistent effort to keep Lawrence clean, and the hard work of everyone at Carlos & Maria's Cakes to eliminate trash and upkeep of the area has earned Carlos & Maria's Cakes this coveted recognition for January 2012.

Nominations for Storefront of the Month & Yard of the Month may be submitted by eMail: FOConnor@CityOfLawrence.com or U.S. Postal Service to: Frank O'Connor, Jr., Community Development Dept., Office of Economic Development, 225 Essex St. 3rd floor, Lawrence, MA 01840.

Ganador del Jardín del Mes



Photo credit: Eileen Margaret

At left, Frank O'Connor, Community Development Dept. with Mr. Cesar Burgos

La Oficina del Alcalde William Lantigua se complace en anunciar que el ganador del prestigioso premio "Patio del Mes" para enero de 2012 es la Familia de Burgos de 235 Farnham Street.

El Alcalde Lantigua dijo: "Los esfuerzos de César y Ana Burgos y su familia ha sido una inspiración para los residentes de Lawrence para mantener limpia la ciudad y mostrar un gran orgullo en su propiedad."

El Sr. César Burgos y su familia han hecho maravillosos esfuerzos para mantener la acera y cunetas limpias y libres de basura y desperdicios. La familia de Burgos ha hecho su parte de la ciudad mucho más agradable.

"No cuesta nada, solo un poco de esfuerzo para mantener la libre de basura", dijo César Burgos.

Este trabajo duro y mucho orgullo en su mantenimiento que le ha ganado la familia Burgos, el codiciado reconocimiento del depósito de la concesión del mes de enero de 2012.

Sugerencias para el Patio y Fachada del Mes son aceptadas por correo electrónico a FOConnor@CityofLawrence.com o puede ser presentado al Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario ubicado en el 225 de la calle Essex Street, 3er piso. Lawrence, MA 01840.

Winner of Yard of the Month

The Office of Mayor William Lantigua is pleased to announce that the winner of the prestigious "Yard of the Month" award for January 2012 is the Burgos Family of 235 Farnham Street.

Mayor Lantigua said, "The efforts of Cesar and Ana Burgos and their family been an inspiration to the residents of Lawrence to keep the city clean and show great pride in their property"

Mr. & Mrs. Cesar Burgos and their family have made wonderful efforts to keep the sidewalk and gutter clean and free of trash and litter. The Burgos Family has made their part of the city much nicer.

"It costs nothing but a little effort to keep the sidewalk and curb area free of trash and litter," said Mr. Cesar Burgos.

It is this hard work and much pride in its upkeep that has earned the Burgos Family the coveted recognition of Yard of the Month award for January 2012.

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 225 Essex Street, 3rd floor. Lawrence, MA 01840.

Necesitan Choferes para Transportar Ancianos

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

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

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

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With Confirmed Speakers

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Essex County Sheriff Frank Cousins
Andover Police Chief Brian Pattullo
Haverhill Police Chief Allan DeNaro
Lawrence Police Chief John Romero
Methuen Police Chief Joseph Solomon
North Andover Police Chief Paul Gallagher

Friday, March 26, 2012 - 7:30AM-9:15AM
Indian Ridge Country Club
Lovejoy Road, Andover, MA 01810
978-475-9484

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The Massachusetts Economy

A Report From
The Massachusetts State Senate

With Confirmed Speakers

Senator Steven Baddour
Senator Barry Finegold
Senator Bruce Tarr

Friday, March 23, 2012 - 7:30AM – 9:15AM
Haverhill Golf and Country Club
50 Brickett Lane, Haverhill, MA 01830-8703
(978) 373-1146

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CALENDARIO DE EVENTOS | CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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You can make a profound difference in someone's life in just two (2) hours a week! Merrimack Valley Hospice is offering free volunteer training.

Using lecture, real life stories and small group exercises, participants will learn how to provide practical help and emotional support to those with life limiting illnesses and their loved ones. You will receive in-depth, comprehensive training and learn about yourself, about life and death, living and dying.

At the conclusion of the training, you will become part of a very special group - ordinary people making an extraordinary difference when it counts the most to those most in need.

All training is provided by hospice professionals from Merrimack Valley Hospice. All Merrimack Valley Hospice Volunteers must be 18 years old.

The Spring 2012 Schedule is as follows:	March 26, 2012
Mondays 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	April 2, 2012
March 5, 2012	April 9, 2012
March 12, 2012	April 23, 2012
March 19, 2012	April 30, 2012

LOCATION:
Merrimack Valley Hospice
360 Merrimack St., Building 9, Entrance I, 4th Floor
Lawrence, MA 01843

This class is offered free of charge. However, registration is required. Please call Sheryl Meehan at 978-552-4522 or email smeehan@homehealthfoundation.org.

Merrimack Valley Hospice is a not-for-profit agency offering comprehensive medical and supportive care to terminally ill patients and their loved ones. Together with their affiliate agencies, Home Health VNA and HomeCare, Inc. they provide a full continuum of home health and hospice care to more than 90 communities throughout the Merrimack Valley, Northeastern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. For more information on Merrimack Valley Hospice, visit www.MerrimackValleyHospice.org.

Wetherbee School Raffle

The Emily G. Wetherbee School in Lawrence will be hosting its 4th annual community fair and we are hoping that you will take part in the event. The fair will take place on Saturday, March 24th from 9:00-12:00pm. Setup time will begin approximately 8:00am in the school's gym, which is located in the back of the building.

This event was created to build awareness of the resources available in our community. The cost of the event will be \$10.00 for the table rental, and will be collected at check-in on the day of the event.

If you would like to participate in this event please let me know as soon as possible. If you are unable to participate we would greatly appreciate and accept any donations you may have.

For more information, please contact Hollie Fumero, PTO Leader, Emily G. Wetherbee School, 75 Newton St., Lawrence, MA 01843.

La Escuela Emily G. Wetherbee en Lawrence será el anfitrión de la 4ª Feria anual de la comunidad y esperamos que usted tome parte en el evento. La feria tendrá lugar el sábado, 24 de marzo de 9:00-12:00 pm. El tiempo de preparación comenzará aproximadamente a las 8:00 am en el gimnasio de la escuela, que se encuentra en la parte posterior del edificio.

Este evento fue creado para crear conciencia sobre los recursos disponibles en nuestra comunidad. El costo del evento será de \$10.00 por el alquiler de la mesa y se puede pagar cuando usted llegue el día del evento.

Si usted desea participar en esta actividad, por favor hágamelos saber lo más pronto posible. Si usted no puede participar le agradeceremos mucho y aceptaremos cualquier donación que usted pueda tener.

Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con Hollie Fumero, líder de la organización de padres y maestros de la Emily G. Wetherbee School, 75 St. Newton, Lawrence, MA 01843.

**Citizenship Preparation
Classes at Asian Center**

Enrollments are now being taken for citizenship preparation classes held on Wednesday mornings at the Asian Center, 1 Ballard Way, Lawrence, MA 01843. Morning classes cost \$50 for a ten-week session and run from 9 AM to 11 AM.

Classes are open to anyone interested in preparing to become a US citizen. Classes will cover US government and history and practice questions for the citizenship interview.

Call the Asian Center at 978-683-7316 x 11 or check out the Asian Center's website at www.asiancentermv.org for directions and more details.

www.rumbonews.com

The 4th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Tournament

The 4th Annual Texas Hold 'Em Tournament to benefit the St. Alfio Society Building Fund will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at The Claddagh Pub, 399 Canal St., Lawrence, MA.

The evening will also include dinner donated by The Claddagh Pub, a 50/50 Raffle, and Sweet 16 NCAA games on big screen TVs. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:00 p.m. and cards fly at 7:00 p.m. Player buy-in is \$100. Non-player cover is \$20.

Final table prizes based on 150 players:
1st prize \$2,500; 2nd prize \$1,000; 3rd prize \$750; 4th – 10th prizes \$250.

For more information contact 603-425-4791.



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Brenna Black Labrador Retriever/Chow Chow Mix: Medium • Adult • Female

Brenna has waited patiently for her forever home for over a year. Black dogs, like black cats, are often overlooked. Brenna is a sweet, happy, energetic, athletic dog who loves to play. She smiles, loves people, is super cuddly and affectionate. She loves to snuggle on the couch, walks nicely on the leash, and her favorite thing in the world are her many toys. She carries one everywhere. Brenna fetches and has an easy to groom coat.



Brenna would not mind another sturdy, energetic dog, but cats would probably not appreciate Brenna's energy! For anyone looking for a great all around best buddy to run with, play with, and love forever, Brenna is your girl. See her Facebook Page!

Twinkie: Miniature Pinscher: Female

We are bursting with Min Pins! Little Miss Twinkie was surrendered by a hoarder along with a number of her "brothers" and "sisters". Due to her previous home life Twinkie would need a home who would be committed to her remedial house training program and socialization. She was a little nervous and reserved during her assessments here but tolerant for all. At one point this six year old even climbed up onto the lap of her handler and cuddled. She seems to want to be petted but is a little unsure of how to go about requesting it.



Twinkie would prefer to be your only dog and to be in an adult-only home who could have the time for her training. She is very scared of cats so probably would want either a cat-free home or to live with a cat who would give her the space she would need.

Kendrid: Pit Bull Terrier: Male

This 3 1/2 year old young man is just a gem! Kendrid is friendly and relaxed and was good for his food handling tests here at the shelter. He was found as a stray 8 months ago and taken in by a family who now has to move and can't take him with them. He is very happy to be petted but not overly demanding. Kendrid had a nice level of play with his handler and stopped as soon as the handler stopped. He is playful and high energy and loves to go for long walks (he does great on leash). Kendrid loved to sit with his owner and watch TV or sleep in his owner's bed in his previous home. He is great with strangers and loved to play with all the neighborhood children. Kendrid would probably prefer to be an only dog. He would need more testing to determine if a cat friend would be OK but would love to have young human playmates.



Wicked Saucy: Chinchilla Rabbit: Large • Adult • Female

This beautiful bunny was found in a dumpster in Tewksbury. A nice person found her and brought her to the adoption center. She loves fresh hay and veggies, and like many big bunnies, is super playful and social. She'd love to be your buddy on the sofa. Come and check out Wicked Saucy and all the bunnies here at Nevins Farm.



Roborovski hamsters: Hamster Female

We have Robo hamsters! Roborovski hamsters are the smallest and fastest of all hamster breeds, oh and they just may be the cutest too. We currently have a mom, 2 baby girls and 2 baby boys. Robo's are social hamsters and do best in pairs or small groups. Buy all of your pet supplies here! All of the proceeds go to help the animals and programs of the Noble Family Animal Care & Adoption Center!



Diane: Thoroughbred Horse: Female

Diane is a lovely 10-year-old Thoroughbred mare. She is a sensitive horse, but smart, learns quickly and seems to really enjoy work. She is making great strides in her foster home. She goes beautifully on the lounge and long-line, but because of inconsistent training off the track, Diane will need a patient, experienced rider to help her with her retraining under saddle. If you are interested in adopting please contact the Equine Center at (978) 687-7453, press 8, followed by x6113, or email barnstaff@mspca.org .



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

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ANA SYNCHRO YMCA

2012 ANNUAL SHOW
SATURDAY MARCH 31ST 3PM + 6PM - SUNDAY APRIL 1ST 3PM

Our show theme this year represents ANA's goal of building swimmers self-esteem. Inspiring ALL girls to know they are unique in their own way and that every day they wear an invisible tiara. Encouraging girls to be kind to each other, use their gifts and talents to change the world. To dream big dreams for their lives! Every girl is a princess.

Merrimack Valley YMCA - Andover / North Andover - 145 Haverhill Street (Rt. 138) Andover

the Y Tickets: Adults \$14 - Seniors \$11 - Students \$9
Tickets available at the YMCA and from members of the Synchronized Swim Team

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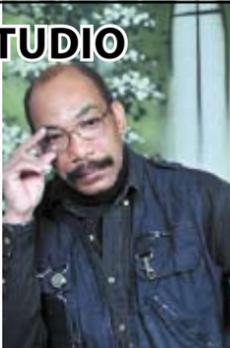
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Fire Alarm Electrician

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Local 146

Duties: Under the general supervision of the Superintendent of Fire Alarm, responsible for installing, maintaining and repairing fire alarm and police signaling systems, and City street lights.

- Read and interpret prints, specifications and diagrams to install, test, repair, operate and maintain electrical/electronic alarm and signal systems and equipment in conformance with applicable codes and safety regulations to include station installations, underground and overhead wires and cables, signal lines and boxes, batteries, sprinkler systems, bells, sirens, multiple alarm systems, air sirens systems and emergency generators. Repair and maintain traffic signal systems.

- Utilize a variety of electrical/electronic testing equipment to diagnose and correct system malfunctions.

- Report improper operation, faulty equipment and defective materials to Superintendent Order necessary equipment within authority and maintain related records. Prepare and maintain reports and records related to activities as requested.

- Order necessary equipment within authority and maintain related records. Prepare and maintain reports and records related to activities as requested.

- Perform other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Direct knowledge of electricity and electronics equivalent to completion of (1) to two (2) years of vocational technical college. Work requires three (3) years related experience. Must possess a Massachusetts Journeymen Electrician's License and a Massachusetts Driver's License.

Deadline to apply is MARCH 16, 2012. Applications and full job descriptions are available in the Personnel Department of the City of Lawrence, Frank Bonet, Personnel Director, Lawrence City Hall, 200 Common Street, Room 303, Lawrence, MA 01840
Download an application by visiting the city's website at www.cityoflawrence.com
The City of Lawrence is an Equal Opportunity Employer

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS are provided to applicants with disabilities.

If you need reasonable accommodations for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the Personnel Director at (978) 620-3060. The decision on granting reasonable accommodations will be on a case-by-case basis.

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fumar por mí solo.
¡Estaba equivocado!**

**- Ramón, Lawrence
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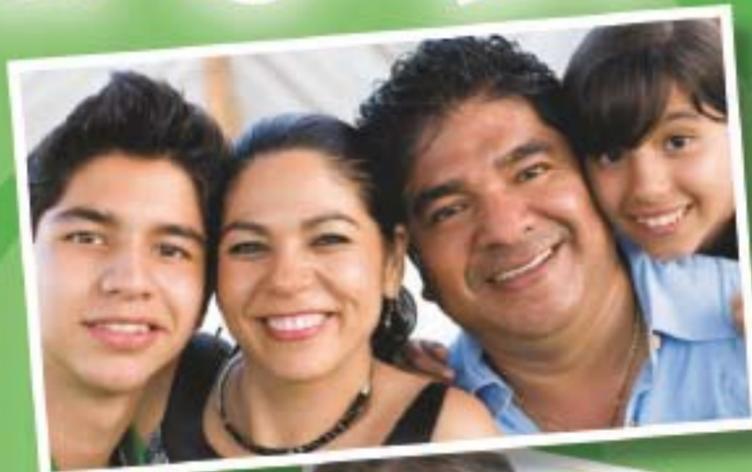
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