



CITY OF LAWRENCE
MASSACHUSETTS

The Common *NEWS*



www.cityoflawrence.com

EDITION 3
SEPT / OCT 2014

KINGSTON STREET & TRAIN ACCIDENT VICTIMS



The City of Lawrence grieves with the families affected by the recent tragedies. If you would like to support these families, there are many ways to donate:

ONLINE:

www.bitly.com/lawrenceemergencyfund

IN PERSON:

City Hall, Mayor's Office
200 Common St. Lawrence
978-620-3010

MAIL TO:

Essex County Community Foundation
C/O: Lawrence Emergency Fund
175 Andover Street
Danvers, MA 01923

Make check payable to:
Lawrence Emergency Fund

Please note which cause you would like your donation to benefit:
Kingston Street Fire Victims Fund
OR Train Accident Fund



FIRST ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION AWARENESS FAIR A SUCCESS!

On October 25, 2014 all of the Neighborhood Associations in the city hosted the first annual Neighborhood Association Awareness Fair at the Lawrence Senior Center. Over 140 residents attended and were able to sign up with their designated association. The goal for this event was to highlight the importance of neighborhood participation and increase memberships. Residents had the opportunity to engage with city departments such as Police, Fire, DPW, Inspectional Services, Council of Aging and the Office of the Mayor. This event was in collaboration between the City of Lawrence, Lawrence Senior Center, Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition and all of the neighborhood associations. Thank you all for Making our Neighborhoods Better!

If you would like to know which neighborhood association you belong to, please call Wendy Luzon, Neighborhood Planner at 978-620-3525.



Mayor Rivera welcomes residents



Harold Magoon, LMCC addresses residents



District A Neighborhood Association



Colonial Heights Neighborhood Association



Awareness Fair Organizers (L-R): Wayne Hayes, Mt. Vernon District; Brenda Rozzi, Sacred Heart District; Keith Wlodyka, Tower Hill District



Department heads supporting the Fair (L-R): James Fitzpatrick, Acting Police Chief; John Isensee, DPW Director; John Marsh, Fire Chief; Brian Peña, Water & Sewer Commissioner and Lisa Torrisi, Chief of Staff - Mayor's Office



CITY DEPARTMENT UPDATES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Department Starts Work on Its 5-Year Plan

Every five years HUD requires the City to undertake a review and assessment of its housing, community development and economic development needs, identify goals and strategies, and put them all together in a document called "The Consolidated Plan."

The City of Lawrence, through its Community Development Department, is undertaking a community engagement effort to solicit resident input on community needs and priorities. We launched this on October 15th, when seniors gathered at the Lawrence Senior Center were asked to talk about what they liked about their neighborhoods and what they would like to see changed.

This conversation was part of the City of Lawrence Community Development Department's efforts to obtain information directly from residents, and combine that information with data we get from the Census and other research. The City is looking for opportunities to engage residents, business leaders and owners, educators, service providers, and nonprofit leaders, in a conversation about priority needs in the community. Conversations can be incorporated into existing meetings or can be stand-alone sessions. They can be in English or Spanish. Findings from these conversations will shape the City's preparation of its five year Consolidated Plan.

The Community Development Department has engaged two individuals to assist us: Kathleen Lingenberg and Peggy Sand. If you would like to invite one of them to a conversation, please contact James Barnes at jbarnes@cityoflawrence.com or Marisol Colon at mcolon@cityoflawrence.com.

FINANCE

The city has made the property tax bills available online, visit: <http://www.cityoflawrence.com/online-tax-payments.aspx>

FIRE

On Saturday, October 4, the Lawrence Fire Department hosted an annual open house. This event allows citizens to meet and greet the firefighters of Lawrence, see the City's fire equipment, and receive valuable fire safety tips. As in past years, the Fire Prevention division put on a "smoke house" display and training for any child (or adult) who wished to enter. This "house" is actually a purpose-built house trailer that contains a miniaturized version of a home layout. In this trailer a harmless "smoke" can be introduced and the children taught the correct procedure to exit a burning building. A firefighter is always present inside this trailer for the comfort of the children. Smoke detector and fire safety tips are also taught in this scenario. The day was a great success in combining fun and entertainment with the serious message of fire prevention.



Lawrence Fire Fighters

L-R - Adam Marino, Sr., Manny Gonzalez & Lt. Joseph Murphy

PLANNING

Governor Deval Patrick announced a new round of MassWorks Infrastructure Program grants on October 21, 2014 to advance local development projects across the state. The City of Lawrence received \$3.925 million for the Merrimack Street Corridor Improvement Project, which will allow for further revitalization of the area. Infrastructure work will include roadway and traffic signal improvements, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, covered bus shelters, repaving and pedestrian crossings. Lawrence's award is one of 31 grants totaling over \$66 million in improvement projects that will support thousands of jobs in Massachusetts communities. Through these grants, the Patrick Administration is partnering with cities and towns to make targeting investments in infrastructure such as roadways, streetscapes, water and sewers to facilitate and support new and sustained housing and economic growth throughout Massachusetts.

"Filling our mills with jobs is crucial to getting our people back to work and the MassWorks grant will help build-up our aging infrastructure to support commercial development and attract more jobs to Lawrence. I'm grateful to Governor Patrick and Secretary Bialecki for recognizing Lawrence's untapped potential and helping to unlock it by awarding us with this MassWorks grant," said Mayor Dan Rivera.

MassWorks is administered by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development and represents a consolidation of six capital budget programs, giving communities a single entry point and one set of requirements for the state's public infrastructure grants. The consolidation created efficiencies and streamlined the decision-making process, increasing access for municipalities and enhancing partnerships around economic development and housing.

POLICE



TEXT-A-TIP

To submit an anonymous tip through text messaging type **LAWTIP** and your message, then send it to 274637 (CRIMES on most cell phones). Text **STOP** to 274637 to cancel. Text **HELP** to 274637 for help. Msg &Data Rates May Apply.

WATER

Woodard & Curran, a firm hired by the City of Lawrence, and its subcontractor, Flow Assessment Services, will be conducting smoke testing of the sanitary sewer in your area. The testing is necessary to ensure the proper performance of sewer collection facilities. During this procedure, smoke will be venting through holes in manhole covers located in the street and through plumbing vent pipes located on or near the surface of your room. This is normal and should not be cause for alarm; please remember the smoke is non-toxic and non-staining. If you should have any question or concerns, contact Water & Sewer Commissioner, Brian Peña at 978-620-3588.

SEWER MAIN SMOKE TESTING



MAYOR'S HEALTH TASK FORCE PRESENTS THE LAWRENCE YOUTH COUNCIL



On October 24, 2014 the Mayor's Health Task Force (MHTF) held a Presentation Ceremony for the members of the Lawrence Youth Council. Under the Youth Network of the MHTF, the council has been tasked with addressing the health and community issues that impact Lawrence youth, their families and the community at large, through civic engagement, community organizing, education and advocacy.

L-R Front: Gil Matos, Carlos Almonte, Jayleen Reyes, Naomi Vargas and Yamier Leon-Ortiz. L-R Back: Junielly Vargas, Gwendolyn Fajardo, Yaznairy Cabrera, Jennifer Tran and Magnoly Maria Council members missing: Enrique Fermin & Marques Mendoza

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

LAWRENCE HELD ITS FIRST JAZZ FESTIVAL!



The community of Lawrence held its first jazz festival on Saturday September 6th, attended by many residents who showed a remarkable love for jazz music. The event took place at the 233 Haverhill St., in the gymnasium of the North Common Educational Complex. The organizers included children's activities to accommodate those families who brought their children, who had their faces painted and played in the jumping house set up for them. The musical event was the result of joint work of Movimiento Pro Cultura (MPC), the City of Lawrence, the radio talk show Sabado Espectacular and the Lawrence Cultural Council.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to help bring awareness and spread the word to the community, the Lawrence Senior Center and the Mayor's Health Task Force has activities and hosts several events throughout the month.

On October 2nd, the Lawrence Senior Center along with the Mayor's Health Task Force and the YWCA kicked off the month with our Annual Pink Power Walk. The LCOA staff and several of our elder members, sporting pink tie dyed t-shirts, battled the threat of rain, to walk

around the North and South Commons to bring awareness to the residents of Lawrence. Rain or Shine will not stop the LCOA to gather together to help bring awareness to men and women about Breast Cancer. We hope that you will join us next year!

Along with the Pink Power Walk, the Mayor's Health Task Force also held the Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Kick-Off Breakfast on October 7th at the Lawrence Senior Center. The breakfast was a success with over 100 attendees, mostly consisting of Breast Cancer Survivors and their friends & families. The guest speakers included Ellen Johnson, MD from L&M Radiology, three time cancer survivor and community leader, Sara Saldana and Mayor Dan Rivera.



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS BREAKFAST L-R (Front): Sara Minsky, Dana Farber Cancer Institute; Flor Maldonado, YWCA; Carmenza Bruff, Dana Farber Cancer Institute; Yashira Robles, YWCA L-R (Back): Mayor Rivera, Martha Velez, Senior Center; Luz Rosado, GLFHC & Vilma Lora, MHTF & YWCA

CITY OF LAWRENCE SUPPORTS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Annual Brides March was held on September 26, 2014. For 12 consecutive years a group of women dressed in white wedding gowns accompanied by several men dressed in black, march through the streets in Lawrence in a silence. Many held signs with names of victims of Domestic Violence, while others held powerful messages in hopes of increasing awareness

The international march began in 2001 in remembrance of Gladys Ricart, who on September 26, 1999 was murdered by her abusive former boyfriend on the day she was to marry her fiancé in New York. The Gladys Ricart and Victims of Domestic Violence Memorial Walk also mourns, memorializes and honors the many other victims whose lives have been taken as a result of domestic violence related incidents.

Organizing committee: The City of Lawrence Mayor's Health Task Force, Delamano, Inc., Lawrence Senior Center, The Center for Hope and Healing, Lowell and YWCAs of Greater Lawrence and Haverhill



DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDERED VICTIMS EVENT



Planning Committee

On September 27, 2014 the Planning Committee for Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) organized the first annual Day of Remembrance for Murdered Victims event honoring all victims from the Greater Lawrence area. The event was spearheaded by Lawrence resident, Lee Fickenworth who lost her son, Gabriel Gonzalez, Jr., due to violence. Since then Ms. Fickenworth has been on a mission to honor 'Gabe' and keep his memory alive along with the other victims whose lives were taken too soon. The list of 114 names, from 1974-2014 were read and a balloon was released in remembrance for each victim. Residents, families, friends, community leaders, city and state officials were present for the vigil.



Mayor Rivera presented Lee Fickenworth flowers in honor of the POMC event and loss of her son Gabriel Gonzalez, Jr.

LOCAL BUSINESSES



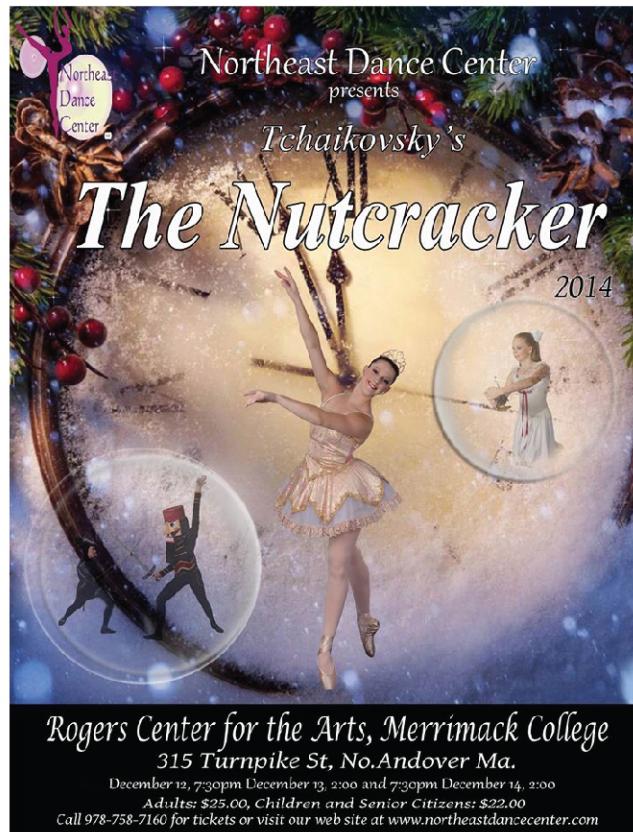
In this edition of "MADE IN LAWRENCE" we recognize the creative and specialized work of **Charm Sciences**. Located in the Lawrence Industrial Park, Charm Sciences is a world supplier of dairy test kits. With around 97% of the US market share, it is likely that if you had milk this morning with your cereal or coffee that it was tested with a Charm Sciences Test Strip made right here in Lawrence. Charm Sciences products also serve the food, beverage, water, pharmaceutical, medical, personal care, environmental, and industrial markets with a presence in over 100 countries. All of their products ensure that the milk we drink and the food we eat are safe and meet the required health standards.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Stanley E. Charm and his team on his continued success.

NEW BUSINESS



Abel Vargas, Business & Economic Development Director & Roshni Pecora, Owner of Northeast Dance Center



The Northeast Dance Center is owned and operated by Roshni Pecora. Ms. Pecora has instructed young and old for the last 15 years through the New England Civic Ballet. She continues to provide this service at her remodeled dance studio at 4 Dracut St. right here in Lawrence. For more information please visit www.northeastdancecenter.com or call 978-758-7160.

MAKE LAWRENCE GREENER/CLEANER

"Giving back to Lawrence"

On September 25, 2014 the company Timberland organized a large scale community service event called, Serv-a-palooza where 450 employees came to Lawrence to support education and social service agencies in fulfilling their missions. Volunteer projects included: refurbishing playgrounds at public schools & non-profit day care centers; beautifying buildings and grounds; building gardens; installing classrooms or meeting areas; indoor/outdoor painting and murals; back packs & boots giveaway; and more! The Mayor's Office worked in collaboration with Timberland to identify non-profits & service agencies who underwent an RFP process to be selected as 'Serv-a-palooza' site.

After a long day of service, Timberland employees held a Community Block Party to celebrate the success of the site projects with residents & friends of Lawrence at the Campagnone Common Park. Mayor Rivera attended each site to cheer on the employees and also presented Timberland with a Certificate of Appreciation at the block party. Here is a list of agencies that took part in 'Serv-a-palooza':

- Beacon Boys and Girls Club
- Cor Unum Meal Center
- Day Break Shelter
- Lawrence Senior Center / Meals on Wheels
- Lazarus House (Corpus Christi)
- Alexander B. Bruce School
- Work Readiness Event & Employer Expo at Everett Mills- In partnership with the Office of the Mayor, Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board, Valleyworks Career Center, Compass For Kids, Lawrence Community Works, GLYPN, Tailored for Success & Women's Path to Employment. This one of kind event featured FREE professional clothing for Men & Women; One-on-one job coaching for resume & interview skills; various job readiness workshops in English & Spanish; 25+ employers with job openings.



BEACON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB SITE

Timberland Employees adding some color to the club with new murals



COR UNUM SITE

Mayor Rivera and Timberland Employees



BRUCE SCHOOL SITE

Shoe fitting & Boots/ Backpack giveaway



JOB READINESS & EMPLOYER EXPO SITE

Left Picture – Sabrina Boggio from Women's Path to Employment stands with a Lawrence resident who attended the expo and was fitted for a brand new suit. Below picture – Lawrence residents working the job expo and speaking with potential employers.



Mayor Rivera presents Atlanta McIlwraith of Timberland a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Lawrence in honor of 'Serv-a-palooza'

YARD WASTE SCHEDULE NOV. & DEC. 2014

November

Monday, 24 through Wednesday, 26
Friday, 28 through Saturday, 29

December

Monday, 01 through Friday, 05

For more information please call:

Moises Brea, Recycling Coordinator - 978-620-3311

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