



CITY OF LAWRENCE
MASSACHUSETTS

The Common NEWS

www.cityoflawrence.com

EDITION 9
SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2015



MESSAGE FROM MAYOR RIVERA

Fall is upon us, and what a busy season it is! October was Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence Awareness month and I want to take a moment to personally thank the organizations that made the effort to honor those we have lost but also celebrating the lives of many by continuing the work. The many events held brought our community together to promote education, respect and strength. I look forward to the many upcoming community happenings leading up to Thanksgiving and I wish you all a happy, bountiful Thanksgiving with your loved ones.

O'CONNELL SOUTH COMMON PARK



Mayor Rivera, along with elected officials and Community Development announced the community-based planning initiative to renovate the O'Connell South Common Park, a project aimed to include input from neighboring residents through community meetings. An important part of the neighborhood, the park's improvements will bring back the space needed for recreation for area families, many of whom do not have backyards.

POLICE CHIEF JAMES FITZPATRICK



The swearing in ceremony for Chief James Fitzpatrick took place on September 24th 2015 at the Reliefs In. Mayor Rivera along with Chief Fitzpatrick's family, friends and colleagues were in attendance. He is the first Lawrence resident to lead the police department.

L.T. GOVERNOR POLITICO SIGNS COMMUNITY COMPACT IN LAWRENCE



Mayor Rivera and Lt. Governor Polito signed a Community Compact in an effort to improve best practices between state and local government. Lawrence is the 29th community to join the compact.



Veterans Day

WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS



Veterans Day

Honoring All
Marines
Men and Women
Air Force
Who Have Selflessly
Army
Served Our Country
Coast Guard

November 11, 2015
11:00 - 12:00PM
South Lawrence East School
134 Crawford Street
Lawrence, MA 01843



For inquiries, please contact Jessica at
jvalentin@cityoflawrence.com

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE OF MONTH MARIA HALLORAN, TREASURY



Maria Halloran has been working for the City of Lawrence for over twenty years. She began her work as a college student but decided to stay on as she enjoyed the challenge and grew interested in the area. Her responsibilities include collecting monies owed to the city, supervising cashiers, data entry, and answering taxpayer inquiries.

Outside of work, Maria enjoys traveling, soccer, learning about other cultures and is involved with her children's education. Two of her children board at Hebron Academy in Maine and the youngest is a student at Community Day Charter Public School Prospect.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LAWRENCE PUMPS



In this edition of "Made in Lawrence," we celebrate the success of Lawrence Pumps, founded in 1935 and attained by Flowserve in 2011. It has grown to become a major manufacturer of centrifugal pumps for abrasive slurry and toxic liquid services. Lawrence Pumps are practical wherever harsh service conditions require robust, highly engineered pumping equipment, including: hazardous chemical bulk storage and transfer Pulp and paper chlorine dioxide (ClO_2) processing.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS AND VETERANS

Certain homeowners may qualify for a senior tax exemption in property tax relief. There are a few programs worth discussing including exemptions for Lawrence veterans with 10% (or more) service-connected disability, the blind, surviving spouses, minor children with parent deceased, and persons over 70 years old. In order to qualify for an elderly exemption you must be 70 years of age and with income limits. Elderly exemptions are only for low-income seniors.

For example, Lawrence offers an elderly exemption of up to \$500 for 70 years of age for single taxpayers earning less than \$13,000 and the total assets cannot exceed \$28,000 (for married couples, the gross income cannot exceed \$15,000 and total asset is \$30,000). There are various exemptions for veterans and their spouses ranging from \$400-\$1000. In order to qualify you must have certification of a war related disability and also have been honorably discharged.

Application forms must be filed annually with the Lawrence Board of Assessors by December 15 or no later than 90 days from the date of mailing of the actual (3rd quarter) tax bill. For more information please visit the Assessors Office Room #103 in City Hall or call our office at (978) 620-3190.

NEW BUSINESS



American Capital Energy (ACE) develops, finances, builds, and operates commercial and utility-scale solar PV projects. ACE has developed and/or built over 100 MW of solar PV projects across the US. The company succeeds by listening to its partners and clients, offering flexible, innovative solutions tailored to their needs, and driving the project to successful completion with well-honed risk management and operational discipline.

ACE brings boundless enthusiasm for clean technology and a passion for win-win solutions with customers and partners. American Capital Energy is a Veteran-owned company that recently relocated to its new offices at 360 Merrimack St in Lawrence, MA.

VETERANS' SERVICES RETURNING VETERANS



Welcome home Diana Velazquez and thank you for your seven years of service. Diana is a student at NECC and an intern in the Mayor's office.



DEPARTMENT UPDATES

FIRE PREVENTION MONTH



This year's Fire Department Open House welcomed many families who received educational materials over a BBQ and ice cream. From left to right: Fire Capt. Eric Zahn with Wetherbee School students J'Lean Curet (8th grade), Angel Marmol (6th), Hailey Hendrick (5th), Angelina Curet (5th), Jylmarie Cartagena (5th) and Cynthia Estremera (School Psychologist/Excel Club leader).



Lawrence welcomes lateral transfers- Jeff Martin of Marblehead and Peter Humphrey of Haverhill.

POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER OF THE MONTH



Officer Angel Lopez was recognized by the Office of Mayor Daniel Rivera and the Lawrence Police Department as Officer of the Month as a result of his exemplary job performance in his duties related to stolen vehicles. "Officer Lopez has made an example of the hard work our officers do on a daily basis to keep our community safe, and I am thankful to have his professionalism and expertise on our force."

-Mayor Rivera

GATEWAY CITY PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMIT



Attorney General Maura Healey was welcomed to Lawrence to talk to about public safety with police chiefs from across the Commonwealth.

SENIOR CENTER FOOD BANK



The Mayor's Office, Boston Food Bank and the Lawrence Council on Aging came together in September to hold its annual book bank. Almost 1,000 bags of food (33,000 lbs.) were provided to Lawrence residents. Thank you to all of the volunteers that supported this event!



FLAG RAISING: GUATEMALA



Hosted by Guatemalan Association organizers, the flag raising honored 194 years of independence from Spain (09/15/1821).

Did you know that this date marks the independence of Central American countries Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Nicaragua which is also the start date of the nationally recognized Hispanic Heritage Month?

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE



Led by Lee Fickenworth, the Day of Remembrance event marked its second year the Lawrence community gathered to remember those lost to violence. Performances by Lawrence High School's Girls' Ensemble and remarks by elected officials.



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Congratulations and thank you to the following Hispanic Heritage Award recipients for your contributions in the community through activism, volunteerism and civic engagement.

Sara Bustos
Nyrsa Caraballo
Janin Duran
Quin Gonell
Isabel Gonzalez
Melissa Hernandez
Yuliana Juarez
Benjamin Levy
Isramil Pichardo
Henry Schierembergg

NATURALIZATION CEREMONY



Congratulations to the 263 people representing over 35 countries who became citizens on September 23rd. The ceremony was led by US District Court Judge Donald L Cabell with remarks by Mayor Rivera, emphasizing the importance of becoming active citizens by engaging in the voting process and volunteering in the community.

MARCH OF THE BRIDES



In its 13th year, Delamano hosted the annual March of the Brides in memory of victims of domestic violence. Guest speaker Doug Gaudette, Director of the Family Safety Project at Holy Family Hospital shared an important message about the affects domestic violence on the whole family and also emphasized the different types of abuse that may not always be the focus in these talks such as financial and emotional abuse.

MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS



Mayor Rivera held office hours at the Market Baskets on Route 114 and Essex Street, reaching residents from the Colonial Heights neighborhood among others who frequent this supermarket. The team provided community resources as well as City Hall information ranging from department contact sheets, police and fire department information as well as upcoming city wide events.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

MAYOR'S HEALTH TASK FORCE/CHNA 11

PRESENTS THIS YEAR'S LAWRENCE YOUTH COUNCIL



Second cohort of the MHTF Lawrence Youth Council (LYC) was sworn in on Friday, October 9, 2015. In his address and through his poem, "A Youth Dedication" written for the group, Marquis Victor, Coordinator of the LYC group, urged the youth to move forward with conviction in the work they had to do.

CONGRATS BRIAN ZAHN

Congrats to Brian Zahn, RN on his award for outstanding public health service!



SPICKET RIVER CLEAN UP

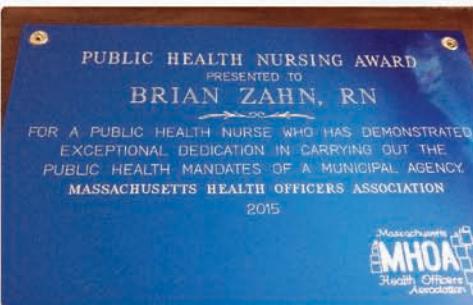


Community members including many students from Lawrence schools came together to clean along the Spicket Riverway Greenway, an annual Groundworks Lawrence event drawing participants in the hundreds.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



The Lawrence Senior Center held a kick-off breakfast on October 6th with Mayor Rivera and the community of Lawrence to acknowledge Breast Cancer Awareness Month this October. Members of the community were recognized for their strength and courage with this battle.



CITY OF LAWRENCE RECEIVES \$2.4 MILLION FOR HEALTH PROGRAMS



The City of Lawrence received \$2.4 million from Lawrence General Hospital over six years for the expansion of primary and preventative health programs and promoting community-level policy change.

* November 17, 2015
MHTF General Meeting
10:00AM - 12:00PM
NECC, 78 Amesbury Street

* November 19, 2015
Mental Health Community Forum
5:30PM - 8:00PM
Lawrence, Senior Center
155 Haverhill Street Thursday



YARD & WASTE SCHEDULE

November 2015:

Monday 2 through Friday 6
Monday 9 – Tuesday 10,
Thursday 12 - Saturday 14
Monday 23 – Wednesday 25
Friday 27 & Saturday 28

December 2015:

November 30 through Friday 4

RECYCLE MORE.

WASTE LESS.



SAVE
THE
DATE

SAVE THE DATE

GLOW GALA
GROUNDWORKS LAWRENCE

URBAN RENEWAL

SAVE THE DATE!

Glow Gala

AND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Thursday, November 19, 2015
6:00 pm – 9:30 pm

A Celebration of Fresh Food Access for All

Hosted by Everett Mills Real Estate at
15 Union Street, Third Floor
Lawrence, MA

Invitation to follow



GROUNDWORK
Lawrence



THE MAYOR'S HEALTH
TASK FORCE
LAWRENCE YOUTH COUNCIL

Will hold an Open Youth Forum on Monday, November 9, 2015, at the Elevated Thought HQ, 15 Union Street, Mill F, Suite 42G (in the rear), Lawrence, MA. It will begin at 6:00PM. The forum is an opportunity for youth to share with their youth representatives, their thoughts on what they think the challenges are for themselves and their peers living in the city.

SAVE THE DATE!

VIEW OF LAWRENCE MILL SECTION
SHOWING AREAS OCCUPIED BY DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
ABOUT URBAN RENEWAL
IN LAWRENCE

THEN & NOW

Thursday, November 5, 2015
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
60 Island Street, Room 104
Lawrence, MA

Refreshments will be served

Co-sponsored by the Lawrence History Center
and the Lawrence Redevelopment Authority

Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 3, 2015
to Susan Grabski, LHC executive director
director@lawrencehistory.org or 978-686-9230

Image credits (from top left):
1910: Wm. H. Mulligan's Store
1910: 21 Main Street (Lawrence Mill Section)
1910: Old Lawrence Police Department, 550 Main Street (Lawrence Mill Section)
1920s: Lawrence History Center Photograph Collection
1930s: Lawrence History Center Photograph Collection
1940s: Lawrence History Center Photograph Collection

PUT THIS
on YOUR
CALENDAR!

City of Lawrence

Veterans Day

WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS



Veterans Day

Honor All
Marines
the Men and Women
Air Force
We Have Selflessly
Army
Served Our Country
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