



**CITY OF LAWRENCE  
MASSACHUSETTS**

# The Common NEWS



[www.cityoflawrence.com](http://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.

## LT. GOVERNOR POLITO 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



Veterans Day



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

**PUT THIS  
on YOUR  
CALENDAR!**

For inquiries, please contact Jessica at  
[jvalentin@cityoflawrence.com](mailto:jvalentin@cityoflawrence.com)



## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

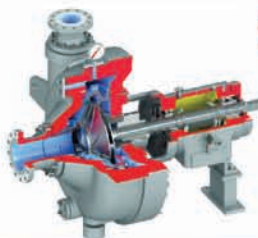
### PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE OF MONTH MARIA HALLORAN, TREASURY



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<sub>2</sub>) processing.

### NEW BUSINESS



# American<sup>®</sup> Capital

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 a NECC and an intern in the Mayor's office.

### 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.





## 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



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

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

## 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.

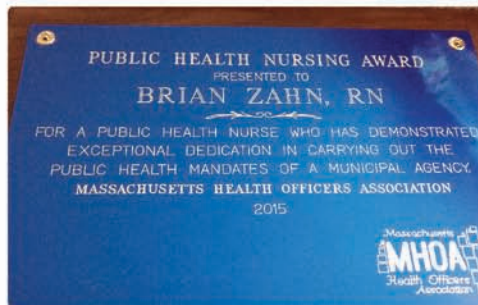
### CONGRATS BRIAN ZAHN

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

### 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**



### 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.



### 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.

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## 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.

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](mailto:director@lawrencehistory.org) or 978-686-9230

Images courtesy: (top to bottom)  
City of Lawrence, Lawrence Mill Section  
Images: U.S. Map of Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1890; Lawrence Mill, Lawrence  
1890; Old Lawrence Police Department, 1900; Lawrence Mill, Lawrence  
1900; Lawrence History Center Photograph Collection  
Author: John Howard, Printing Process: 2015-10-10, Lawrence  
Redevelopment Authority


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## City of Lawrence

# Veterans Day

WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS



Veterans Day

Honoring All  
Who Have Selflessly  
Served Our Country

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