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VOL.1 NO.329-141 SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS. Tuesday December 6th, 2022

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MOUNT VERNON RESTAURANT

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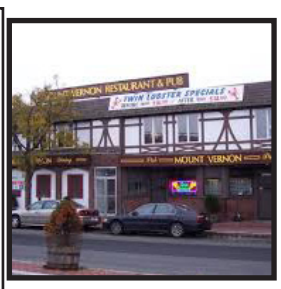

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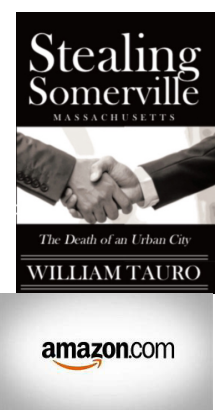

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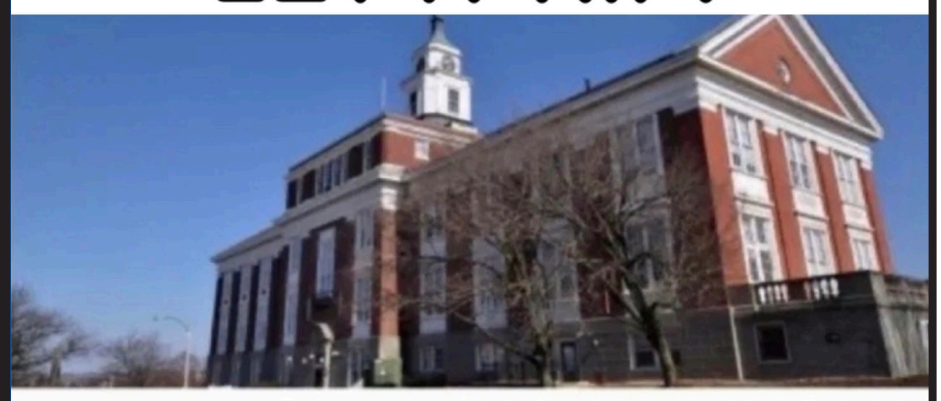

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We have been busy, but never too busy for you! These four properties were sold in one month! If you see something you would like to know more about, have any questions or are thinking about buying or selling a property, please don't hesitate to send us an email or give us call!

Helen Praysman Broker Associate REALTOR®
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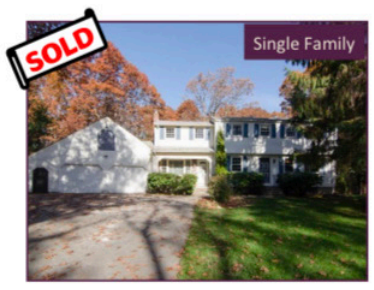

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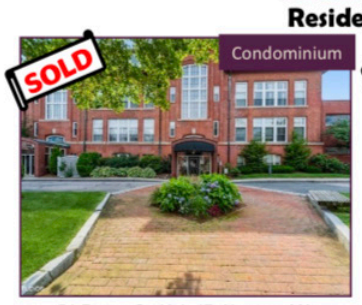
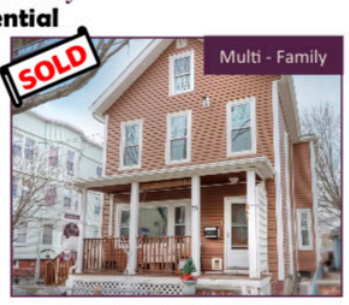


51 Pettee St, Unit 47, Newton, MA



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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING ELIZABETH A. SILVESTRI

. ELIZABETH'S OBITUARY
Elizabeth Ann "Betty" (Petagna) Silvestri, of Somerville, passed away on December 2nd, 2022 peacefully at her home.

Beloved daughter of the late Gaetano and Crocifissa Petagna of Somerville, MA, wife of the late Victor Silvestri, devoted mother of son Gaetano V. Silvestri of Somerville, MA, late daughter Linda A. Silvestri, and partner Anne Hayes Silvestri of Reading, and son Victor Silvestri, Jr. and his wife Joyce of Wakefield, MA. Cherished sister of the late Dina DeAngelis, Lydia Blizzard of Sonoita, AZ, Gaetano Petagna and his wife Peggy Petagna of Chelmsford, MA, and Sylvia and the late James Fiore of Woburn, MA.

Also survived by five grandchildren, Eric M. Silvestri and his wife Alyssa of Derry, New Hampshire, Dana V. Silvestri & Julia N. Silvestri of Wakefield, MA, Christian Hayes Silvestri of East Boston, MA, Patrice Hayes Silvestri of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and two great grandchildren, Jaxson and Nash Silvestri of Derry, New Hampshire. Many special nieces and nephews also survive Elizabeth. With loving care and friendship, over 7 years of personal home care from Pamela Scotti of Hamilton, MA.

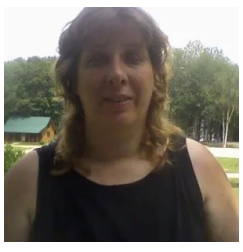
Elizabeth "Betty" worked as a Nursing Assistant for 32 years at the Somerville Hospital on Highland Ave after retiring in 1998.

Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Friday morning, December 9th from 9:30AM to 11:30AM followed by a Funeral Mass celebrated in St. Ann Church, Somerville at 12:00PM. Relatives and friends invited to attend.

Services will conclude with a burial at the Green Lawn Cemetery, located in Salem, MA, followed by a "Celebration of Life" at the Crystal Community Club, 77 Preston Street, Wakefield, MA 01880.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Elizabeth's memory to the Charles River Alleycats. https://www.charlesriveralleycats.org/ (https://www.charlesriveralleycats.org/)

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING JULIE J. DANIELS

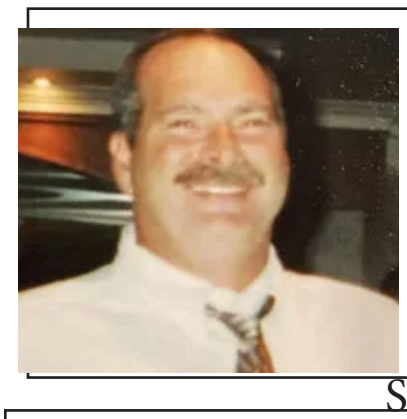


ULIE'S OBITUARY
Julie J. Daniels, of Lynn and formerly of Somerville, passed away on November 25, 2022, she was 58. Born in Cambridge and raised in Somerville, Julie was the cherished daughter of the late Dorothy (Appleby) and John "Sonny" Joseph Daniels, Jr.

She is the devoted mother of Katrina Raschi of Lynn and David Landhl of Florida and the beloved life partner of Richard W. Raschi of Lynn. Dear sister of Carol Clevesy and her husband Alton, Elaine Wright and her husband Bruce and the twin sister of John J. "Jack" Daniels, III and his wife Carol. Loving aunt to several nieces and nephews.

Julie will be lovingly remembered as a caring woman, who was devoted to helping others. Always one to help, she especially enjoyed her work caring for clients and patients at the rehabilitation clinic where she worked.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING BARRY H. HILTZ



BARRY'S OBITUARY
Hiltz, Barry H. -Of Wilmington, passed away with his family by his side on Wednesday, November 30th. He was 64.

Born and raised in Somerville to the late Harold C. and Jean M. (Doherty) Hiltz.

Barry was the beloved husband of 28 years to Kathleen (Quirke) Hiltz. Loving father of Alex Hiltz of Wilmington. Cherished brother of Billy H. Hiltz of Malden, Karen J. McDonnell and her husband Mark of Malden, Brian H. Hiltz and his wife Karen of Tewksbury, Blaine H. Hiltz and his wife Lynne of Holbrook, Kim J. MacMillan and her husband Bobby of Malden, Keriann J. Hiltz of Medford, Barron H. Hiltz and his wife Tania of South Hadley, Kristen J. Hiltz and Chris McLean of Medford, Korie J. Galluzzo and her husband Domenic of Medford. Father of Christopher MacInnes and Jared Hiltz. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

A prayer service will be conducted in the funeral home on Tuesday, December 6th at 1:00PM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Calling Hours will be held on Monday, December 5th from 4:00-7:00PM.

Interment will be private.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING MARY C. CARR

MARY'S OBITUARY
Mary C. (Stone) Carr, of Medford, passed away on November 30, 2022, she was 90 years of age.
Born in New York City she was the daughter of the late Josephine (Merner) and James Stone.
Beloved wife of the late William J. Carr who passed away just last year.

COMPLETE NOTICE TO FOLLOW.
Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Monday, December 12th from 3:00PM to 7:00PM. Relatives and friends invited to attend.
Intertment at Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford will be held at a later date.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING JOHN E. ELWELL

John E. Elwell – of Somerville, passed away on November 16, 2022, he was 36. Born in Melrose and raised in Somerville he was the beloved son of the late John and Catherine Joyce (Moran) Elwell.

Dear brother of Michael Moran and Kimberly Elwell Murphy both of Somerville.
Loving uncle of Dempsey, Lyla, Anya.
Special nephew of Patricia Quinlan of Somerville and the late William Quinlan (Uncle Bill).
Also loved by many aunts, uncles, and cousins.
Funeral Procession from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Friday morning, December 2nd at 10:00AM. Followed by a Funeral Mass celebrated in St. Raphael Church, Medford at 11:00AM.
Relatives and friends invited to attend.
Calling Hours will be held on Thursday, December 1st from 4:00PM to 7:00PM.

Interment will be private.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING CARLA A. LINCOLN

CARLA'S OBITUARY
Carla A. (Willey) Lincoln, of Somerville, passed away peacefully surrounded by the love of her family on December 3, 2022, she was 72. Born and raised in Somerville, she was the only daughter born to Edith A. (Barker) and Richard Willey.
Carla was the beloved wife of 47 years to Stephen Lincoln.
Devoted mother of Keith Lincoln and his wife Andrea of Windham, NH, Lauren McCarey and her husband Michael of Woburn and Jennifer Lincoln of Somerville. Loving grandmother of Joshua Flattes, Elizabeth and Abigail McCarey, Kenzie and Gabrielle Lincoln. Dear siter of Richard, Ronald and Robert Willey.
Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Thursday morning, December 8th from 9:00AM to 12:00PM with a prayer service beginning at 11:30AM. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Interment at Mount Auburn Cemetery will be private.

Carla was a retiree from the City of Somerville School Department.
In lieu of flowers donations in Carla's name can be made to Make a Blast Against Brain Cancer, Tufts MC Development Office, 800 Washington Street, #231, Boston, MA 02111 or https://giving.tufts-medicalcenter.org/makeablast.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEBORAH BYRNE FOR WHO HAS BEEN AWARDED FOR THE HIGHEST SALES IN BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER!

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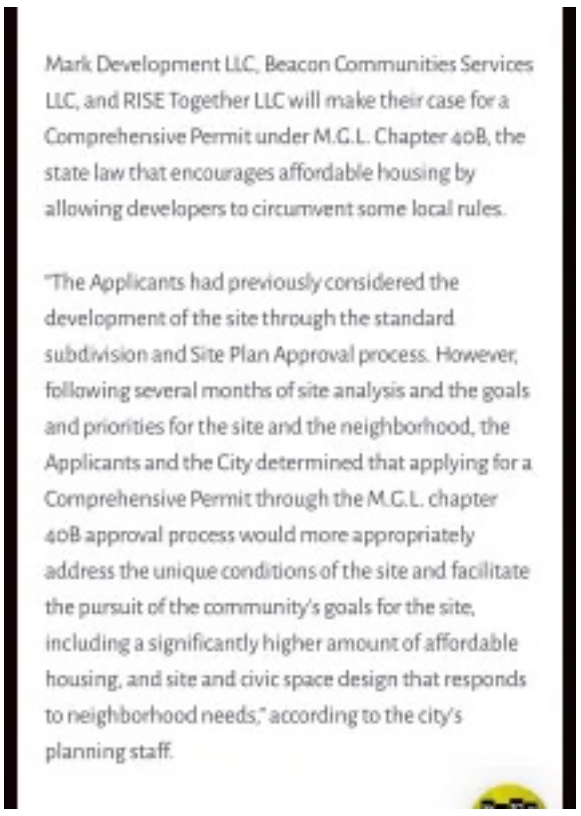
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR: THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE OVERSTEPPING IT'S BOUNDARIES

By William Tauro

Since when does the city become landlords? The city is overstepping it's boundaries! That's how corruption begins!

In other words …. Developers can play Monty Hall " let's make a deal with the city "

Star market site
288 units –
2 6 story buildings
No parking
293 bike racks


Mark Development LLC, Beacon Communities Services LLC, and RISE Together LLC will make their case for a Comprehensive Permit under M.G.L. Chapter 40B, the state law that encourages affordable housing by allowing developers to circumvent some local rules.

"The Applicants had previously considered the development of the site through the standard subdivision and Site Plan Approval process. However, following several months of site analysis and the goals and priorities for the site and the neighborhood, the Applicants and the City determined that applying for a Comprehensive Permit through the M.G.L. chapter 40B approval process would more appropriately address the unique conditions of the site and facilitate the pursuit of the community's goals for the site, including a significantly higher amount of affordable housing, and site and civic space design that responds to neighborhood needs," according to the city's planning staff.

NEW CITY ISLANDS POSING DANGEROUS THREATS TO MOTORIST AND PEDESTRIANS ACROSS CITY

By William Tauro

Accident here last night (Wednesday) on top of Cameron Ave…
Just imagine if a person was sitting on the bench or even standing on that island? These ridiculous useless and dangerous islands are being constructed all across our city putting motorist and pedestrians in danger everyday!

Our mayor and our city councilors are manning the biggest ship of fools ever in the city of Somerville by even allowing something like this to be constructed putting lives in danger! Shame on all of them for putting the green agenda and fairytales ahead of public safety! Wake up Somerville, we're better than this! Maybe it is definitely time for change?

Instead of kissing the prince's and princess's of Wales rings today, the administration and city councilors should be taking care of these hazardous threats across the city!

PS:Our Karen Grover had it right when she wrote this article below last month warning the city about this rise! GRANDMA! …PROMISE NOT TO SIT THERE…!!! A SENIOR CITIZEN "SITTING DUCK" BENCH!! YIKES! | The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

THE GREEN LINE EXTENSION IS FINALLY HERE – JOIN US TO CELEBRATE!

Continued from front page

An MBTA Green Line train welcomes passengers at the Union Square platform

It's finally real. After decades of advocacy, a lawsuit, endless planning, delays, a miraculous win of federal funding, more advocacy, an 11th hour save via a $50 million payment, bridge closures, travel disruptions, and several years of less-than-welcome construction impacts, the Green Line Extension is finally here. Mayor Katjana Ballantyne invites the community to celebrate this historic milestone at two events:

Go Green Line! Community Celebration
2-4 p.m. Community Celebration (rain or shine) Saturday, December 17, at Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.). The indoor-outdoor celebration will feature a kid's choo-choo train ride (outside, weather permitting), live music, indoor children's activities, an oral history project, a food truck, hot cocoa, other refreshments, a speaking program, and more.

Opening Day Celebration at Ball Square Station
Rush hour celebration at Ball Square Station: Mayor Ballantyne, advocates, and City staff will greet T riders and all interested T fans at Ball Square Station from approximately 7-8 a.m. to celebrate the opening of the full Green Line Extension with a band and free opening day memorabilia.

For more information on the Green Line, including a full-service map and daily schedules visit mbta.com/green.

TOYS FOR LOCAL CHILDREN FUNDRAISER

TOYS FOR LOCAL CHILDREN

but we may not have the ability to help families.

We will be holding our annual Dinner Dance Fundraiser, which is our only fundraiser, December 17th at Dilboy Post on Summer Street, Somerville, to help us raise funds to support the many families that will be asking for our help for the holiday season.
Our goal this year is to raise $15,000 to supplement our toy giving program. If you find that you are able or willing to donate any amount, whatsoever, please make a check payable to Toys for Local Children and mail checks to Toys for Local Children PO Box 45406 Somerville, MA 02145.
Thank you for making Christmas for a child in need. For more information, call 617-680-4254.

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Venmo: QR code below (put name in note)
Check: made out to SHS Class of 1982
mailed to Marybeth Caturello, 85 MacArthur Road Stoneham,
MA 02180
Slideshow: Please email pictures from SHS years to mbmbrennan@comcast.net
In memory: We would like to have one section of the video for those classmates who have passed away. Please email mbmbrennan@comcast.net with their names

MEDFORD WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA

Boston and Somerville can have Prince William and Princess Kate, we have Queen Elsa, Princess Anna, Olaf and Santa!

What an incredible Winter Extravaganza! Huge thank you to everyone who celebrated the season with us.

This amazing event wouldn't be possible without the hard work of our Director of Community Affairs Lisa Colaianni, the Medford Police Department, the Medford Fire Department, our DPW staff, Medford Recreation Staff, Doug from Electrical, DJ Vanessa Salvucci, local vendors like 4GoodVibes , Deans Concessions , Medford Brewing Company , Wegman's, Stop & Shop and more, local groups like Medford Family Network and the Jingle Bell Festival and our volunteers!

Happy Holidays Med-

SOMERVILLE ANNOUNCES SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY FUNDING

Store front sign that reads come in we're small business
Starting November 15, Somerville small business owners can apply for forgivable loans of up to $15,000 to assist with financial losses related to COVID-19.

"Our initial waves of business support were designed to address the immediate crisis, but these funds aim to help shift applicants from crisis to recovery mode, so they can better get back on track," said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "Pandemic impacts on small businesses have been far-reaching. The program aims to be sure especially that these local establishments and independent contractors who may not have been able to easily access support through broader programs have an opportunity to better move forward."

To qualify, businesses must be located within the City of Somerville, have 20 or fewer full-time employees, and be able to demonstrate a decline in revenue during the past two years. Home-based businesses can apply online for up to $5,000 for net revenue loss, and businesses with a physical location can apply for up to $15,000 for net revenue loss.

Apply for Recovery Funds: Somervillema.gov or https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/programs/small-

REGISTRATION FOR TEEN CENTER MEMBERSHIPS NOW OPEN

Registration is open for the Teen Center at the Edgerly Education Center (33 Cross St.), operated by the Somerville Parks & Recreation Department.
A Teen Center membership provides teens access to a safe space to hang out with friends with amenities including a gym, computer room, music room, and daily snacks, activities, and programming.

Somerville teens ages 12 to 18 are eligible to enroll. A membership card will be given upon completion of enrollment. Memberships are free and last for the duration of the school year.

A TAVOLA RESTAURANT WINCHESTER OPEN FOR OUTDOOR PATIO DINING & TAKEOUT ORDERS: (781)729-1040 34 CHURCH STREET WINCHESTER

"Without all of the hustle and bustle of heading into Boston, why not just head locally right in Winchester at TAVOLA RESTAURANT where a little piece of Italy is waiting for you!"

"It's as close as you can get for a real authentic Italian dining experience that will keep you coming back for more" "Definitely a two thumbs up rating and absolutely worth checking them out!" Somerville/Medford News Weekly/ Boston News Group

State of A Tavola:

A Tavola's outdoor patio dining is open for business! Take-out and delivery is also available! (with-in a small radius of A Tavola).

A special menu and special hours will be posted on our website as well as our social media channels. Please stay tuned for any and all details.

As always our gift cards will be available through our website, over the phone and in person. Starting Tuesday, for every gift card purchase over $100, we will add an additional $20 gift card as a way to thank you for your support.

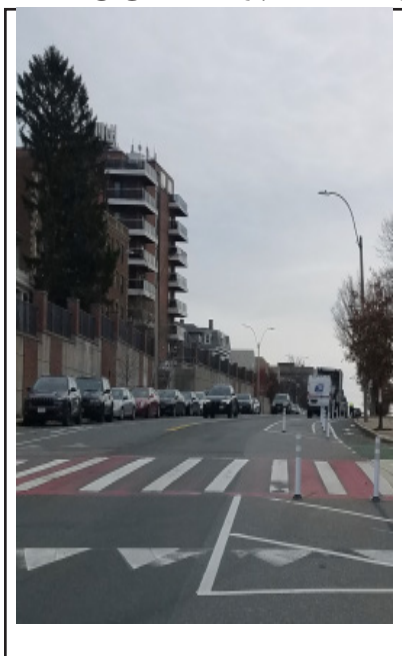
If there is anything in particular you would like to see from us or if you need help preparing food at home for your families please reach out and we will do our best to help. Whether it be recipe ideas with random things you might have purchased or if you run out of something that you need that we can help with please don't hesitate to ask.

A Tavola Restaurant Winchester outdoor patio dining is open for business & takeout orders: (781)729-1040
34 Church St Winchester

Thank you for your continued support.

https://www.atavolawinchester.com/

SOMERVILLE COMMITTEE FOR RELOCATION FOR SENIORS AND HANDICAPPED



By Arthur Moore

Since we have so many committees for almost anything here, it would be one that if Somerville continues on it's currant trend of making the seniors and handicapped lives miser able here and not allow them the everyday freedoms they need and deserve then they should at least help them to relocate to a place where they can regain their freedom and pursue a chance to have some quality of life.

We do relocate businesses and such when we take their property away from them and this is little or no difference. They deserve the chance to have some sort of life. This is guaranteed in the Declaration of Independence. The pursuit of happiness. How can they have this with all that has been taken away from them?

Those whose lives depend on a car due to age and physical problems should not be excluded from using local businesses because access is only for agile people. Even access to their homes where nobody can park and visit or they make it difficult to even use a wheelchair.

When we have a government that does not serve all people it is not functioning properly. We need to fix this. Does anyone think they are not going to get old and maybe handicapped?

At the continuing trend there will be zero space for such things here. Even public transportation is a joke. Even for myself the one bus stop I could hardly get to they took away so they can now say bus service is faster. No kidding! Less stops. We may be older but we are not stupid.

I see a number of cities across the country are actually suing just for this discrimination of the elderly and handicapped. And they are actually winning. I can only hope for the day when this city gets a multimillion dollar lawsuit for the same thing. They deserve it. I get so many calls from people over this whose lives have been impacted and it is so sad what this city has done to them. Children trying to visit their elderly parents, caretakers trying to help the elderly. This is not right. Wake up Somerville!

SOMERVILLE ARTS COUNCIL SEEKS THREE NEW SEEKS MEMBERS

Open Positions: Three

Term: Three years; with a possibility of renewing for up to one more three-year term.

The City of Somerville Arts Council, an advisory and ministerial multiple-member body of the city, seeks three new members. Residents with arts (broadly defined), community development, program development expertise or experience are preferred, but all Somerville residents are invited to apply.

The estimated time commitment for members is a minimum of 1.5 hours per month for monthly meetings, with an increase to 10 hours a month during LCC grant panel season (September through December). Volunteering further hours for events is up to the discretion of individual members. This is an unpaid volunteer position.

The mission of the Arts Council is to cultivate and celebrate the creative expressions of the Somerville community. The Somerville Arts Council Board serves in an advisory role to the staff of the Arts Council, and as volunteers to many of the Arts Council's events and activities. The Somerville Arts Council is the local cultural council (LCC) for the City of Somerville, and sponsors annual programs and events designed to support local artists and arts organizations, bring artists and Somerville residents together for community celebrations which build a sense of community and explore the arts, and advocate for the arts at the community, state, and national levels.

The deadline for submitting a statement of interest is four weeks after the publishing of the call (December 27, 2022) and will continue until positions are filled. After application and interview, candidates are appointed by the Mayor. Interested candidates should submit a statement of interest, including why would you like to serve, relevant background experience, and optional professional resume to gjenkins@somervillema.gov or by mail to: Attn: SAC Board Member Application. Somerville Arts Council, 50 Evergreen Avenue Somerville, MA 02145.

Please contact the Arts Council staff by calling 617.625.6600

SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CHARTER REVIEW PUBLIC HEARING, WEDNESDAY, 12/7 Continued from front page

SOMERVILLE—The Somerville City Council Special Committee on Charter Review will hold a virtual (online) public hearing on the City of Somerville Charter Review process on Wednesday, December 7, starting at 6 p.m. There are two ways residents can submit testimony and be heard:

1. Attend online: To attend online and be heard, enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser any time before the meeting: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6294202019409171984. You can also find this link on the City Council's calendar at somervillema.gov/councilmeetings. Once you arrive at the link, you will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.

2. Submit written testimony: If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to cityclerk@somervillema.gov, send them by U.S. mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or drop them into the secure drop box outside the back door on the School Street side of City Hall. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council.

To learn more about the Charter Review process, visit somervillema.gov/charter-review.

Persons with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e., CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures in order to access the programs, activities, and meetings of the City of Somerville should please contact Adrienne Pomeroy at 617-625-6600 x 2059 or apomeroy@somervillema.gov.

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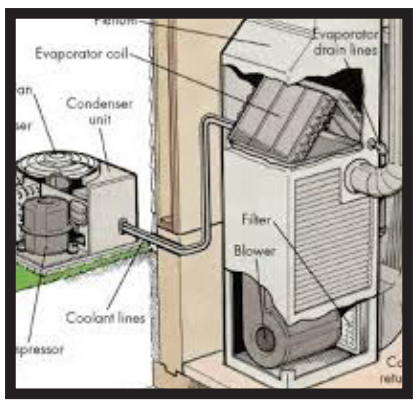

$70,000 Reward

For info leading to the arrest and prosecution of the person or persons responsible for the murder of

Deanna Cremin

High School Photo of Deanna 1994 | Deanna and Thomas Leblanc (Semiformal 1994) | Loc. where Deanna's body was found

On the morning of March 30, 1995 the body of seventeen year old Deanna Cremin was discovered behind a housing complex (125 Jacques St. Somerville) by a group of children on their way to school. The medical examiner determined she had been strangled.

On Wednesday 3/29/95, the night Deanna was last seen alive, she had been studying at her boyfriend Thomas Leblanc's house on Broadway in Somerville until approximately 11pm. After finishing up homework, her boyfriend claims to have walked her half of the way home, leaving her to walk the final two blocks. Deanna never made it home. Her murder remains unsolved.

Anyone with information regarding the murder of Deanna Cremin please call 617-544-7167

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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly N

Here's your weekly News Talk Shout Out dosage continued from page 2

Heres Your Weekly Dosage of Somerville News Weeklys Newstalk Shoutout/Speakup Loud

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Instant specializes in repairing zippers, on luggage and hand bags, as well as shoe repair services such as stretching, resoling, and re-heeling. The store also stocks items ranging from blankets, to perfumes, jeans, belts, jackets and socks

SOMERVILLE ANNOUNCES SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY FUNDING

Somerville small business owners can apply for forgivable loans worth up to $15k starting November 15, 2022

SOMERVILLE—The City of Somerville and Major Katjana Ballantyne are thrilled to announce that new funds are available for small businesses impacted by COVID-19 via Somerville's Small Business Recovery Program.

Forgivable loans worth up to $15,000 are available for both brick and mortar and home-based businesses located within Somerville recovering from financial losses related to the Covid-19 pandemic and its far-reaching impacts. "Our initial waves of business support were designed to address the immediate crisis, but these funds aim to help shift applicants from crisis to recovery mode, so they can better get back on track," said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "Pandemic impacts on small businesses have been far-reaching. The program aims to be sure especially that these local establishments and independent contractors who may not have been able to easily access support through broader programs have an opportunity to better move forward."
To qualify, businesses must be located within the City of Somerville, have 20 or fewer full-time employees, and be able to demonstrate a decline in revenue during the past two years. Home-based businesses can apply online for up to $5,000 for net revenue loss, and businesses with a physical location can apply for up to $15,000 for net revenue loss.

Applications will open online starting November 15, 2022. For more information on the program, eligibility, and to apply, visit http://www.somervillema.gov/bizrelief

SOMERVILLE WINTER FARMERS MARKET EVERY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5-APRIL 8

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SING AND DECORATE YOUR BUSINESS OR HOME FOR ILLUMINATIONS 2022

Give the gift of song, or light up Somerville with your best and brightest holiday display. Residents and business owners can now sign up to be featured on the Illuminations tour map for community members to take deconstructed tours on their own time. The deadline to sign up is Monday, December 5. A digital tour map will be available to the public on the Somerville Arts Council website starting Thursday, December 8, through Thursday, January 1. Register your home or business.

Illuminations 2022 will kick-off with citywide caroling on Thursday, December 15 (rain date December 16) from 6 to 8 p.m. Caroling will only be one night. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, December 11. Sign up to participate.

Other key dates:
Saturday, December 17: Illuminations Bike Tour Meeting at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.) at 5:45 p.m., departing at
6 p.m. Rain date Sunday, December 18.

Caroling Sign-up:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSejbjp_QaYIBDfYBG0ApVpQy-Wdv6aToZb1o3L6El0AsVt-WhOw/viewform

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THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION, BY THE POWER VESTED IN IT THROUGH A SPECIAL
ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE, CHAPTER 397 OF THE ACTS OF 1978, HEREBY AMENDS THE TRAFFIC REGULATIONS WITH THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING:
2022-134 Article V Section 5-15 "Handicapped Parking" is amended with the addition of the
following location: 70 Ten Hills Road.
2022-135 Article III Section 3-7 "Temporary Emergency Construction Restrictions" is amended
as follows: Opposite 9-41 Raymond Ave, No Parking Monday-Friday, 7:00am-4:00pm for the
duration of the West Somerville Community School Playground Improvement Construction Project.
2022-136 Article V Section 5-2 "Loading/Service Zones" is amended as follows: Loading Zone
on the east side of Willow Ave, 62 ft. south of Broadway to 80 ft. south of Broadway, is extended by 25 ft. for a total of 43 ft.

PROMULGATED: NOVEMBER 10, 2022
ADVERTISED: NOVEMBER 22, 2022
NOVEMBER 29, 2022
DECEMBER 6, 2022
EFFECTIVE: DECEMBER 14, 2022

Somerville/Medford News Weekly 11/22/22, 11/29/22, 12/06/22

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THE SOMERVILLE ARTS COUNCIL'S ILLUMINATIONS TOUR IS BACK

Continued from front page

The Somerville Arts Council's Illuminations Tour is back this year and will include an online map featuring local carolers and the best and brightest holiday displays. Highlights include citywide caroling on Thursday, December 15, and an illuminations bike tour on Saturday, December 17.

Those interested in decorating their home or business can sign-up to be included in the tour map by Monday, December 5. For interested carolers, sign-up by Monday, December 11. For event details and to view the tour map once live, visit somervilleartscouncil.org/illuminationstour.

GIVE WORKERS PAID TIME OFF TO VOTE (S 2545)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 12-26, rejected an amendment that would require all employers to give each worker two hours of paid time off per election to vote. The employee could use that two hours to vote early in-person, vote by mail or vote on Election Day. The amendment would replace a current law that is narrower and requires the worker to apply for a leave of absence in order to vote and only allows the worker to vote during the two hours after the polls open on Election Day.

"Workers should not have to choose between earning a paycheck and exercising their fundamental right to vote," said sponsor Sen. Becca Rausch. "Where Massachusetts should be a leader in the nation on the issue of granting paid time off to head to the polls, we are notably far behind. Twenty-three other states and the District of Columbia already enacted paid time off for voting, and our commonwealth's citizens deserve the same."

"I think if we really want to have a discussion about how we really wanna help people that are working two, three, four jobs, we should have that discussion," said Sen. Barry Finegold. "But I don't think this [amendment] solves that. There is a problem out there, that we did not have enough people in lower social economic communities take advantage of vote by mail, because they don't trust the post office and there's a lot of misconceptions up there. That is something I believe we need to work on, but I don't think this is gonna be the solution to get people from lower social economic communities to come out to vote even more. I do think that with some of the things we have passed, having a better public relations campaign explaining the benefits of vote by mail, that is how we can get people from lower social economic communities to get out."

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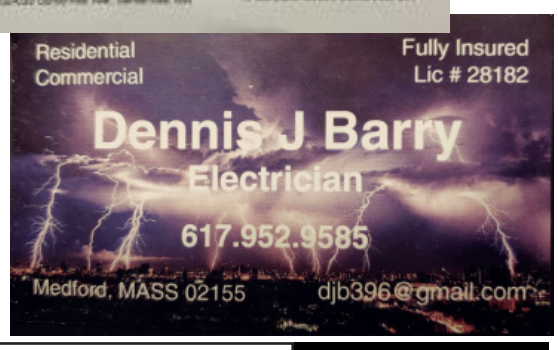

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TWO AFFORDABLE RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES: 126 CROSS ST. AND 29 ALPINE ST.

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville Housing Division are pleased to announce two affordable rental opportunities: one 4-bedroom unit at 126 Cross St. and one 2-bedroom unit at 29 Alpine St. Income-eligible households with a combined gross income at or below 50% of the Median Family Income (Cross St.) or between 81% and 110% of the Median Family Income (Alpine St.) will be eligible to apply.

About 126 Cross St.: One income-restricted four-bedroom unit is available at 126 Cross St., a three-story, six-unit building near the new East Somerville MBTA Green Line station and the Capuano Early Childhood Center. Amenities include in-unit laundry, central A/C, stainless steel appliances, white granite countertops, modern tiled bathrooms, and a private deck. Common areas include an entryway mail area and a bike storage room. Residents will have access to a basement, and storage units are planned to be added in the future. All utilities are included in the rent. On-street parking is available by permit.

About 29 Alpine St.: One income-restricted two-bedroom unit is available at 29 Alpine St., a three-story, three-unit building near the new Magoun Square MBTA Green Line station and walking distance to Davis Square. Amenities include an open-concept living/kitchen space, private rear deck, skylight, white granite counters, hardwoods floors, modern tiled bathrooms, in-unit laundry, central heat and A/C, and stainless steel appliances. All utilities are included in the rent. On-street parking is available by permit.

How to Apply: Applications must be submitted by Thursday, December 22, at 2 p.m. Multilingual applications and full eligibility requirements are available at somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing. Printed copies are available at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.), the City Hall Annex (50 Evergreen Ave.), and the Somerville Public Library East and Central branches.

Completed applications can be emailed to inclusionary@somervillema.gov, mailed or hand-delivered to the Inclusionary Housing Program (Housing Division) at 50 Evergreen Ave., Somerville, MA 02145 (must be received by this date, not postmarked), or faxed to the Inclusionary Housing Program at 617-591-3235.

The lottery will take place virtually on Wednesday, January 11, at 2 p.m. Winners will be notified within 24 hours. For more information, visit somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing, email inclusionary@somervillema.gov, or call 617-625-6600 ext. 2566.

MEDFORD LIONS CLUB NEWS: MHS 1965 BUS PASS GROUP/ LIONS JOIN PAWS!!

A few years ago The MHS Class of 1965
Initiated the Buspass-Bookbag Fund for selected students for Bus Passes to school and school supplies. The group maintains the Fund annually by a Brunch and donations remembering tough times.

This year the Group was supported
by the Lions' Raffle door prizes at Mt Vernon, Somerville. Good food, good company, good cause. The HS asked this year the funds go to those needing dance tickets, transport, school items, or a cap and gown in May. Glad to help, the day was a good social and successful! Please see future news on this group and Medford Lions….join us next year for our event.

Contact us ANYTIME to meet the Lions, one monthly meeting..low dues…BiG cause. See original founding group and this year.

Sharon Deyeso, VP
sadeyeso@bhcc.edu
781-572-5130

LOCAL RESIDENTS TO PERFORM IN NORTHEAST YOUTH BALLET'S THE NUTCRACKER

Friday December 9th at 7:30pm Saturday, December 10th at 2:00pm Saturday, December 10th at 7:30pm Sunday, December 11th at 2:00pm
85 local residents cast in the highly anticipated production.

Northeast Youth Ballet's The Nutcracker is the enchanting journey of a young girl named Clara in 1835's Germany who embarks on a journey through a winter wonderland to a palace of sugary sweets. Featuring the talents of more than 85 dancers who auditioned from the Greater Boston area, the full-length production will return to the J. Everett Collins Center for the Performing Arts in Andover, MA after a hiatus caused by the pandemic. Exquisite dancing, beautiful costumes, and lavish sets, with Tchaikovsky's brilliant score, guarantee a magical holiday experience.
Celebrating its 25th Anniversary of The Nutcracker production, Northeast Youth Ballet (NYB), a non-profit ballet company since 1996 is known for producing quality ballet productions at affordable prices at home and abroad. Critics rave and past praises for NYB performances include The Boston Globe, The Medford Daily Mercury, WBZ Channel 4, The Lynn Item, and other local papers and cable channels.
The Nutcracker will run from Friday, December 9th through Sunday, December 11th, 2022. Affordable ticket prices are between $30.00 – $45.00. All tickets may be obtained through http://www.NSBinc.org or by calling 800-595-4849 (4tix).
* For those who qualify, complimentary tickets are also available through NYB's S.T.A.R.S. Program, a community outreach program created to encourage and educate children and individuals of all ages who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend the ballet. Contact NYB at 781 944-9100 if your group, school or organization may qualify for STARS or Group Rates of 20 or more.
A delightful story that includes a battle with mice, mischief, magic, and a beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy dancing in her Palace of Sweets, The Nutcracker has something for the whole family. Tickets are expected to sell out quickly, so reserve yours now!

Choreographed by: Artistic Director, Denise Cecere & Joseph Jefferies
Music by: Peter Ilych Tchaikovsky
For more information about Northeast Youth Ballet, or to purchase tickets please visit their website at http://www.NSBinc.org or by calling 800-595-4849 (4tix).

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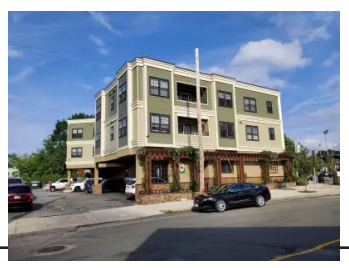

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MULTIPLE TEEN SPACES OPEN IN SOMERVILLE FOR FALL & WINTER 2022

Scattered pieces from a scrabble game on top of the game board

Multiple teen spaces are open and operating through the Somerville Public Schools, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Somerville Public Libraries. They include:

Edgerly Education Center – 33 Cross Street
Ages 12 to 18
Open weekdays 2:30 to 8 p.m.

Art Haus – Powderhouse Field House – 850 Broadway
Ages 12 to18
Space focused on serving the LGBTQ+ youth and allies
Theater Programming: Mondays & Fridays, 6 to 8 p.m.
Parks & Rec Programming: Tuesdays, 3 to 5 p.m.

While the Administration operates these temporary spaces, Design, Engineering and Innovation Lab (DEILab) interns are at work to identify suitable spaces and programming for a future dedicated Teen Center.

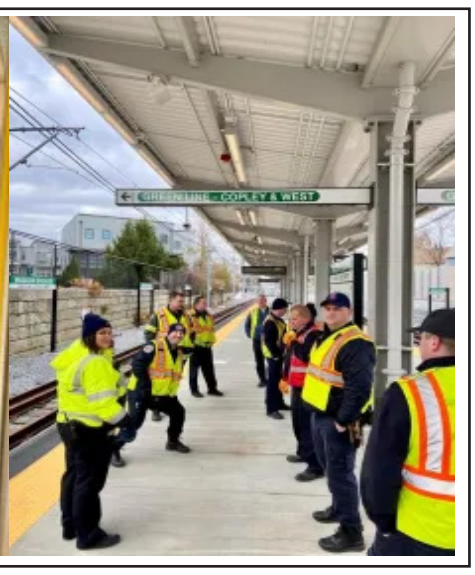
"As a mother of a teenager myself, I know the importance of creating safe, engaging spaces for teens to relax, seek support, or just get some homework help," said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "Our temporary teen spaces for fall and winter 2022, as well as our teen-internship led search for a permanent teen center, are important steps to learning how to shape a space that serves the diverse needs of teenagers navigating today's world."

SOMERVILLE FIREFIGHTERS FAMILIARIZATION TRAINING WITH NEW GREEN LINE MBTA STATIONS

Photos provided by Somerville Firefighters Local 76 Post

Throughout this week all companies are rotating through familiarization training with the new Green Line MBTA stations in preparation for their opening in a few weeks. Each station presents its own unique challenges that our firefighters are planning for in order to be of best service to MBTA riders.

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority – MBTA
MBTA Green Line Extension



CITIZENSHIP DAY, DECEMBER 8

Somerville's Office of Immigrant Affairs and Project Citizenship are co-hosting Citizenship Day.

Project Citizenship staff will be onsite to offer free legal help for green card holders looking to apply for U.S. citizenship. Day-of volunteers are also needed for interpretation, application assistance, child care, and more.

This event takes place Saturday, December 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Anthony's, 12 Properzi Way. Register.

To learn more and volunteer, please email info@projectcitizenship.org.

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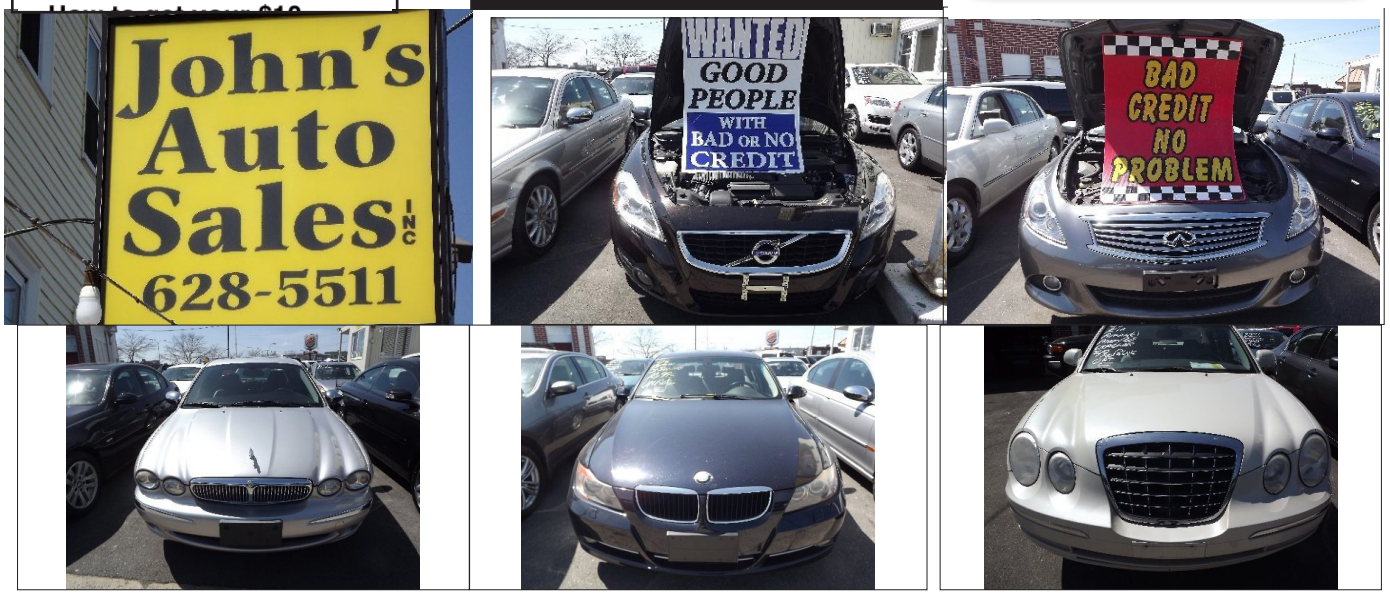

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MAYOR BALLANTYNE'S BOSTON GLOBE OP ED CALLS FOR A BROADER VISION FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT

In a Boston Globe Op-Ed, Mayor Katjana Ballantyne advocates for Massachusetts to plan not only for safe, reliable transit but to create a world-class public transit system for our citizens by connecting the dots between public transit and public good.

"We must come to see transit as a public good like education. After all, public transit is central to our economic competitiveness, our social progress, and our climate action agenda. It benefits everyone in the region: suburbanites and urban dwellers, employers and employees, riders and those who walk, bike, or drive to work. It's vital to economic justice, environmental justice, racial justice, and health justice. And once we recognize that public good, we must commit to advancing it."

Read the full Op-Ed in the Globe at bit.ly/ballantyne-transit. Blocked by the paywall? The Somerville Library has a community subscription. Search "Ballantyne" and the op ed will come up.

RESTRICTED-INCOME RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES: 126 CROSS STREET & 29 ALPINE STREET

The City's Inclusionary Housing Program has two income-restricted rental opportunities:

126 Cross Street is a 4-bedroom unit in a three-story, six-unit building near the new East Somerville MBTA Green Line station and the Capuano Early Childhood Center.
29 Alpine Street is a 2-bedroom unit in a three-story, three-unit building near the new Magoun Square MBTA Green Line station and walking distance to Davis Square.

Applications for the lottery are due Thursday, December 22, by 2 p.m. Learn more and apply. Somervillema.gov

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Join The Somerville Blessing Boxes Group

Somerville Blessing Boxes are located at Union Square Plaza and Statue Park Davis Square
Give what you can, Take what you need
Check us out Somerville Blessing Boxes on Facebook and please join the group!
The outpour of support of donations that have been coming in of much needed supplies of foods, hygienic items and warm clothing from the generous people of Somerville is overwhelming.
Its up to all of us to help when we can to make a difference in the lives of others especially in those of the homeless and less fortunate.
A "Somerville Blessing Boxes" Facebook page has been established keep everyone updated on donations and the Blessing Boxes inventory status. Please feel free the join the page and follow all the good that is being done everyday by the good people of Somerville.
One blessing box is located at Statue Park in Davis Square and the other is located at Union Square, Plaza in Union Square.
"Give what you can, Take what you need."
Much thanks and appreciation,
Frank Santangelo

Blessing Backpack Checklist

BASICS:
__ Wool beanie {hat}
__ Smart wool socks
__ Gloves
__ Scarf

FOOD & DRINK
__ Quality instant coffee
__ Tea
__ Energy drink
__ Beef jerky
__ Dried fruit
__ Fruit leathers
__ Trail mix
__ Nuts
__ Granola bars
__ Protein powder packets
__ Restaurant gift cards

HELP THEM CONNECT
__ Journal & pen
__ Stationary
__ Stamps
__ Pre-paid phone card

TOILETRIES
__ Multi-purpose wipes
__ Chapstick
__ Facial wipes
__ Moisturizer
__ Comb
__ Toothbrush & tooth paste
__ Grooming kit

SURVIVAL
__ First aid kit
__ Water bottle with built in filter
__ Heat-pack
__ Multi-purpose tool

TREATS:
__ Chocolates
__ Fruit snacks
__ Cookie snack packs
__ Candy {individually wrapped}
__ Mints
__ Chewing gum

SPLURGE:
__ Starbucks gift card
__ Compact reusable bag

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THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE: TIME TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND MAINTAIN ALL ASPECTS OF THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE SIDEWALKS SPANNING THE LENGTH OF THE CLARENDON HILL TOWERS PROPERTY

Interview by Karen Glover

As Clarendon Hill Towers Maintenance Supervisor and head of the maintenance team, our top priority is 100% safety of every detail of the physical layout of this sizable property. We work very hard to accomplish this goal, especially so with the extra challenges presented during inclement winter weather. Safety precautions are our paramount concerns.

We are proud of the property's curb appeal. A lovely Rose Garden is beautifully maintained and visible from the street. The Rose Garden is part of the interior layout of the property and is situated behind an iron fence. The city sidewalks outside the iron fence are city-owned sidewalks. For many years, we find the City of Somerville to be grossly negligent of its responsibility to clear snow and ice from these city sidewalks. These City sidewalks stretch the long length of Clarendon Hill Towers (located across from Stop and Shop, Broadway) all the way down to Rt. 16. We have repeatedly been in contact with City Hall with no results.

This situation goes beyond "curb appeal" and is an issue of safety for citizens walking on these sidewalks. Assuming this responsibility, because the city does not, places a burden on our maintenance staff. This work takes a tremendous ongoing toll on our equipment.

We have repeatedly requested the City to fulfill its responsibility to its taxpaying citizens and clear these sidewalks of snow and ice. The City should do this clean up several times a week, at the very least, during icy, bad, snowy inclement winter weather!

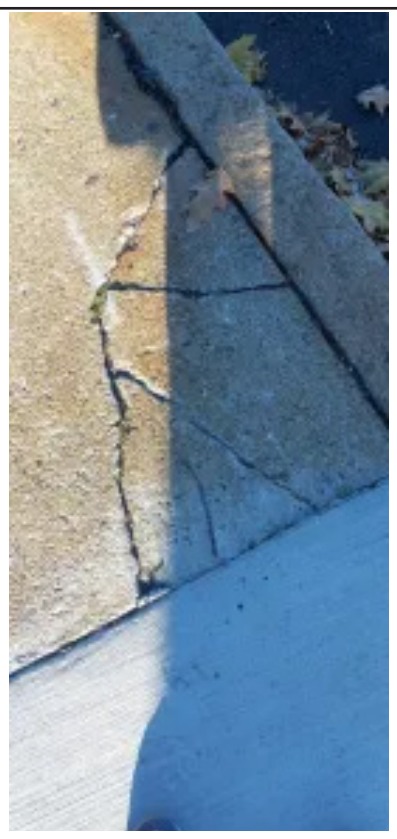
In addition, The City of Somerville needs to implement expert, professional, EXACTING repairs of the sidewalks. The irregular pavement, with much of the concrete lifting and large cracks just spreading are ever-present due to insufficient and inferior patch jobs. As the winter temperature drops to very cold, sometimes freezing cold, these hazardous sidewalk conditions become extremely dangerous.

Our equipment is not designed to tackle uneven, damaged, and cracked pavement. So often, this repeated cleanup ruins the blade on the snowblower, and frequent replacement of sheer pins is a necessity. Therefore, we have the costly repeated expense of continuously replacing snow blower parts, and also absorbing the costs of pounds and pounds of Ice-Melt to thoroughly melt the ice down to the surface of the sidewalk.

We have been put in this unfair position, due to the negligence of the City to fulfill this obligation. The maintenance team and I must take responsibility for snow and ice removal on city sidewalks to protect the safety of the citizens. We assume this task as a moral responsibility to eliminate potential danger to citizens, as well as the obvious safety responsibility. This major task certainly is a burden on our maintenance team. These workers have enough to do with extensive handling of daily maintenance of the property.

In addition to the city sidewalk situation, as this weren't enough, a light post was removed subsequent to an accident wherein the pole was hit. The City never replaced the pole, and, therefore, the pole base remains. This base is a few inches high, but will be hidden by snow and ice. People can easily trip and fall badly, incurring serious bodily injury. We really do need the City to step up this year and fulfill it's obligations to its citizens. It appears that the City has many, new projects underway, but it may be wise and prudent decision to address the basics. These heavily trafficked City sidewalks need ongoing attention to avoid accidents.

Hugo Escoto, Clarendon Hill Towers Maintenance Supervisor



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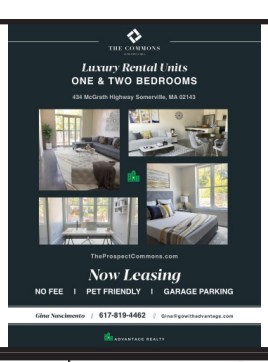

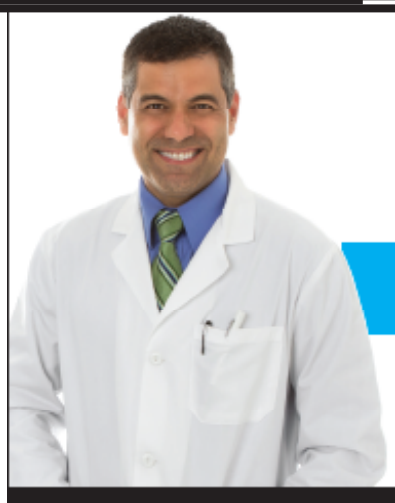

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Back in 1973, John Eleftherakis started selling and servicing cars out of his father's Gulf Gas Station. Now, 50 years later, John is still selling and servicing cars at the same location! Johns Auto Sales has remained a family owned business on the corner of Somerville Ave and Mcgrath Hwy for three generations!

Every day we buy and sell cars, trucks, and SUV'S to people that come in as customers and leave as friends. Most of our employees have been with us for over 30 years and our philosophy has always remained the same, treat others the way you want to be treated.

With over 200 cars in our inventory, we try to cater to all. Whether it be a safe and reliable car for first time buyers, minivans and SUV'S for the family or a pickup truck for grandpa, we offer financing for everybody. We will also buy your car if you no longer have a use for it and we will pay more than anybody else.

Johns Auto Sales is proudly celebrating their 50th anniversary hopes to continue to serve the people of Boston for many more years to come.

Come down and see John or his son Jim if we can ever help you or feel free to call us any time. Thank you all for your patronage. Johns Auto Sales

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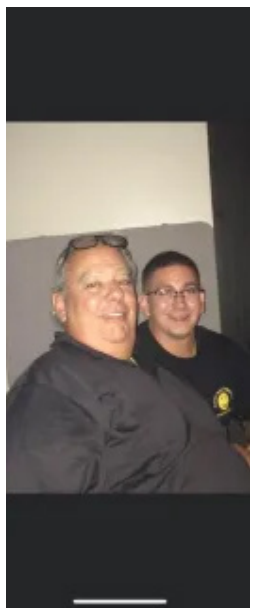
Most of our employees have been with us for over 30 years



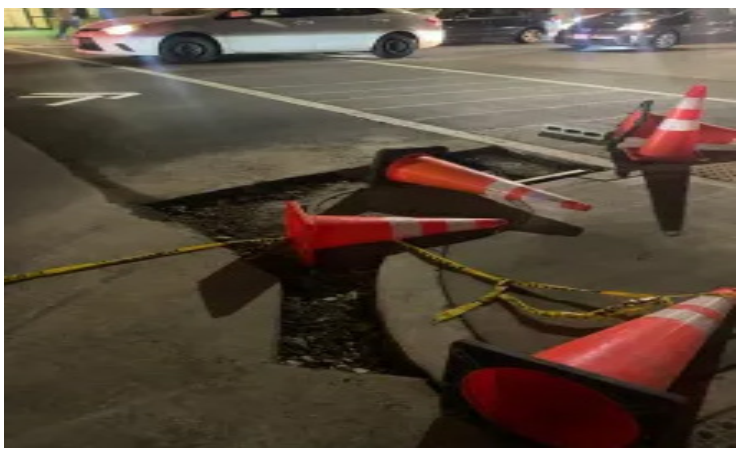
MEASURE TWICE AND CUT ONCE IS A THING OF THE PAST IN SOMERVILLE

By William Tauro

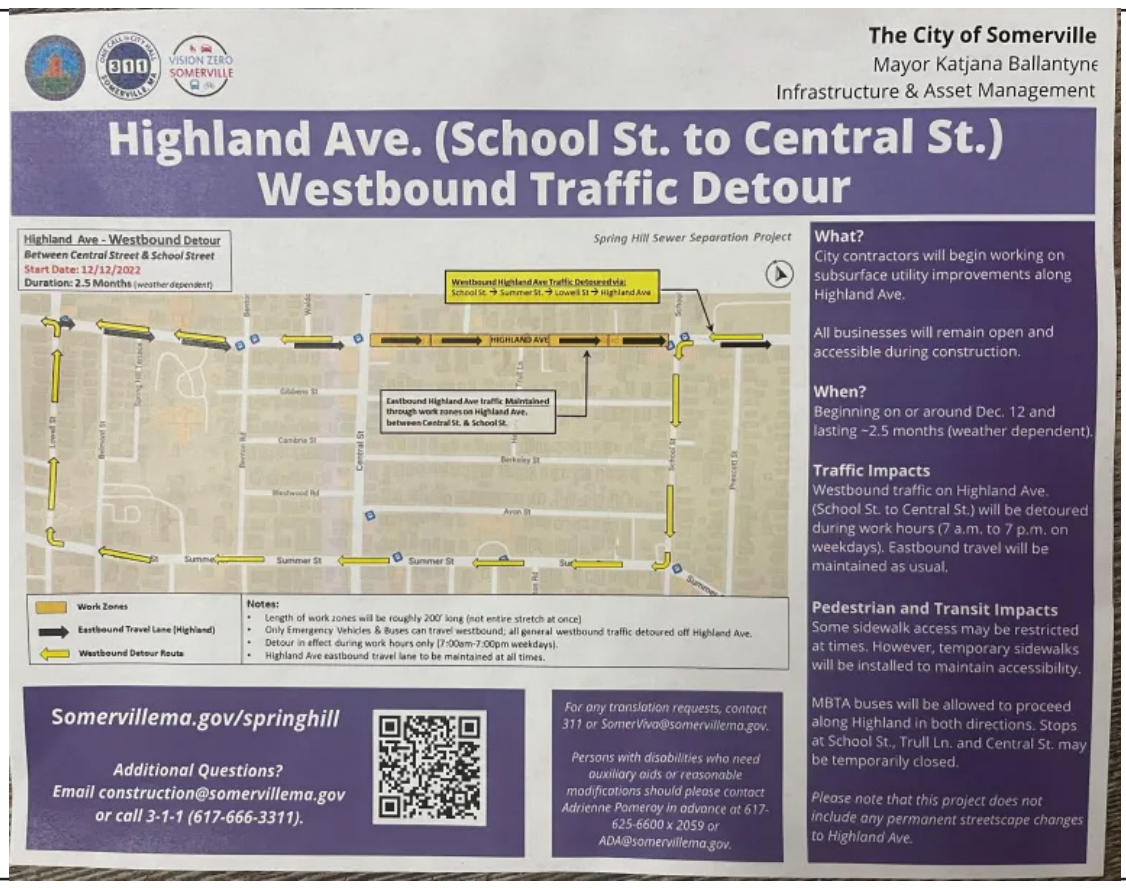
What ever happened to the old saying "Measure twice and cut once? Well this is what's going on at Holland Street in Somerville! Apparently they put the wrong grade level on the asphalt only a few months ago after the job had been done, and now they are cutting it up and doing it again!

I say fire the incompetent asshole Somerville project supervisor from Somerville who approved it!

They finished this a month ago .. you can see where they cut it out .. now there cutting it back ..corner of winter and Holland street .. across from the vanguard medical building .. no worries it's coming out of your pocket, so do you think it's time for change now?



THE BEGINNING OF THE END FOR BUSINESSES ON HIGHLAND AVENUE



By William Tauro

The Beginning of the End for Businesses on Highland Avenue.

2 Months then starting from School Steet towards McGrath.

Starting 12/12/2022 One way traffic from central street to school street. Duration 21/2 months weather depending. West bound traffic on Highland detoured from School Street to Summer then to Lowell back on to Highland.

School to McGrath would start after completion of this project.

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ELECTION LAW CHANGES (S 2924)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 37-3, approved and Gov. Charlie Baker signed into law a conference committee version of a bill making permanent the mail-in and early voting options used in Massachusetts in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The House and Senate had approved different versions of the bill and a conference committee hammered out this compromise version which did not include the section allowing same day voter registration that was in the Senate version but not in the House one.

The measure requires the secretary of state to send out mail-in ballot applications, with return postage guaranteed, to registered voters before each presidential primary, state primary and biennial state election. It also allows registered voters to request a mail-in ballot for all elections in a single calendar year.

Other provisions include reducing the registration blackout period from 20 days prior to an election to 10 days; electronic voting options for voters with disabilities and military service members; allowing a voter with disabilities to request accommodations including an accessible electronic ballot application, ballot and voter affidavit that can be submitted electronically; ensuring that non-felons who are incarcerated who are currently eligible to vote are provided with voting information and materials to exercise their right to vote; mandating that felons who are incarcerated but prohibited from voting are notified of their right to vote upon release and given the opportunity to fill out a voter registration form; and requiring the secretary of state to conduct a comprehensive public awareness campaign to publicize the new voting and registration options.

"This landmark election reform bill will empower voters and strengthen our democracy," said Sen. Barry Finegold (D-Andover), Senate Chair of the Committee on Election Laws and the co-sponsor of the bill. "In 2020, mail-in and early voting options helped generate record-breaking turnout. It is now time to build on this progress and enact long-lasting voting reforms. The [bill] is a big step in the right direction and will help ensure that every voter can exercise their fundamental right to vote."

"I am so proud that at a time when access to the ballot is under attack in states nationwide, Massachusetts is passing landmark voting reforms to permanently enshrine expansions to voting access in statute and further underscore the commonwealth's commitment to ensuring all eligible voters can exercise their right to vote," said Senate Majority Leader Sen. Cindy Creem (D-Newton).

"Although I am disappointed same-day registration was not included in the final bill, even with the Senate offering multiple compromise approaches, I will continue to push for its passage and plan to file legislation on the subject going forward."

Opponents say the bill goes too far and does not provide sufficient safeguards to protect the integrity of the voting process. They argued that universal mail-in voting was designed solely to protect voters during the pandemic and that continuing this forever would cost far too much for smaller towns

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill. A "No" vote is against it.)
Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

DROP BOXES FOR VOTERS (S 2545)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 13-25, rejected an amendment that would require each city and town to have at least one ballot drop box for voters to deposit their ballots from the day the ballots are printed and available to voters until the polls close on Election Day.

The amendment requires municipalities with more than 25,000 voters to provide one drop box per 25,000 voters and requires the boxes to be in a public location that is accessible to voters for at least 12 hours per day.

"During the 2020 election, we witnessed how the expanded use of ballot drop boxes provided a safe, convenient and accessible way of voting amid a global pandemic," said amendment sponsor Sen. Becca Rausch (D-Needham). "However, in some of our largest cities and smaller towns, drop boxes were not a viable voting option because they weren't accessible, weren't open or didn't even exist. We can fix that problem setting baseline standards for municipal ballot drop box accessibility."

"Mandating that municipalities maintain one ballot drop box per 25,000 residents would create substantial new costs and obligations," said Sen. Cindy Creem (D-Newton). "Not only would municipalities have to purchase and deploy the drop box, they would have to devote staff time to the periodic collection of ballots and to collecting ballots on Election Day when they are already stretched thin."

PERMANENT VOTING BY MAIL OPTION (S 2545)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 7-31, rejected an amendment that would allow voters to choose to become a permanent voter by mail for all future elections, a temporary voter by mail for all elections in a calendar year or a temporary voter by mail for one specific election.

The measure automatically enrolls voters who voted by mail in the 2020 state primary and general election as permanent mail voters. Voters would also have the option to change their status at any time.

Sponsor Sen. Becca Rausch said that the state does not require voters to reregister every year and should not require voters to sign up for various voting methods each year.

"By allowing voters to choose automatic delivery of a ballot in every election, we tear down unnecessary barriers to exercising the right to vote," said Rausch. "Every extra step we add to the process of voting—including forcing people to opt into vote by mail annually—places another burden on the voter in their exercising of this fundamental right. Elections must be accessible for all voters, plain and simple. Expanding voting options to include a permanent vote by mail status is one way we can empower voters to exercise their fundamental right to vote."

"We do feel that it is important that each voter opt in to vote by mail on a regular basis [because it] is goanna count for any address change, etc.," said Sen. Barry Finegold (D-Andover). "People do move and this amendment would have ballots sent to their former address in perpetuity."

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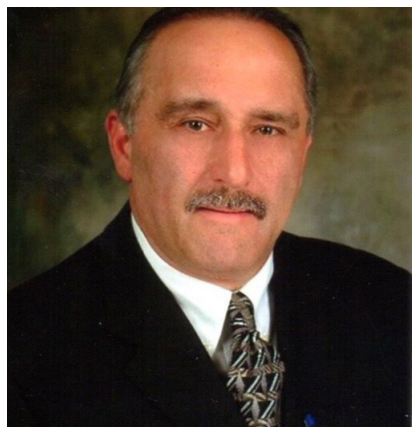

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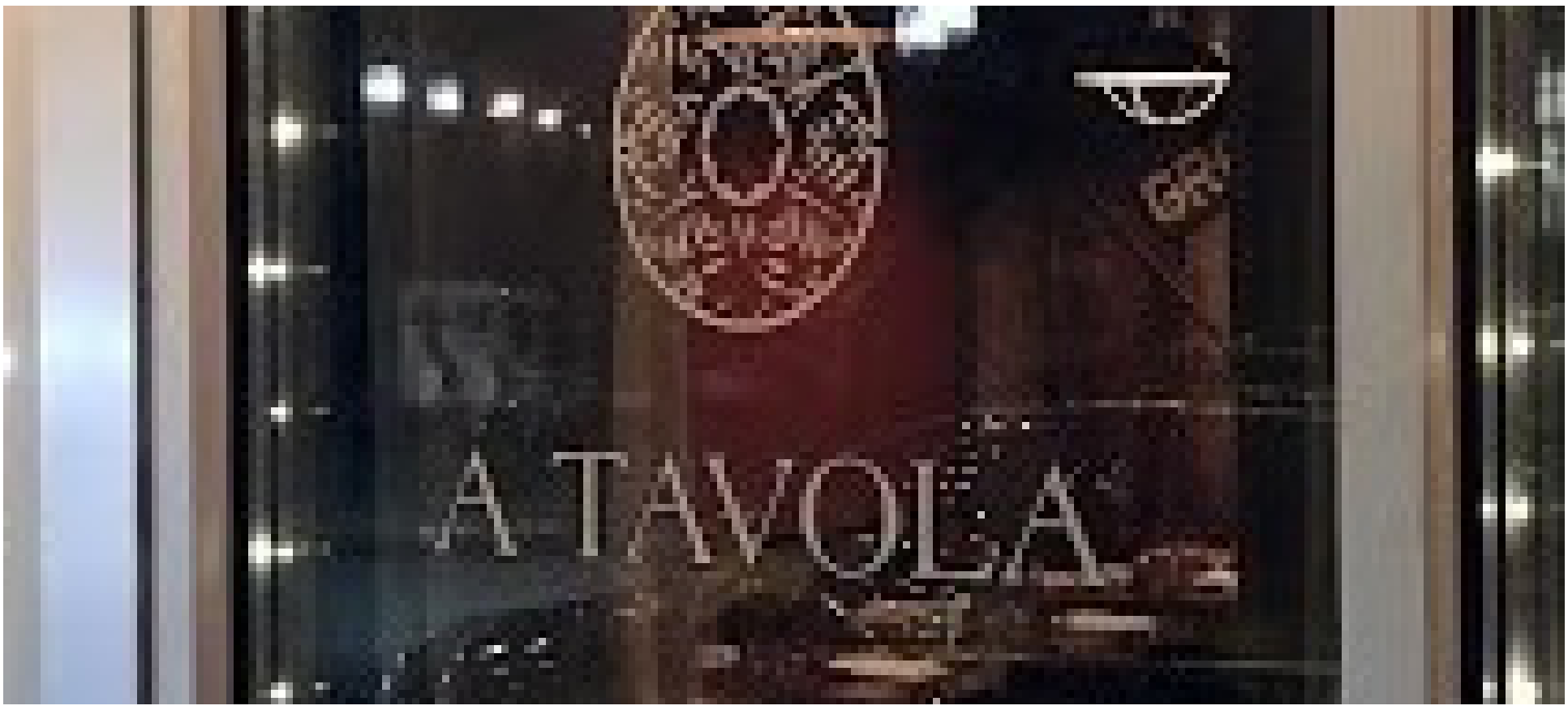

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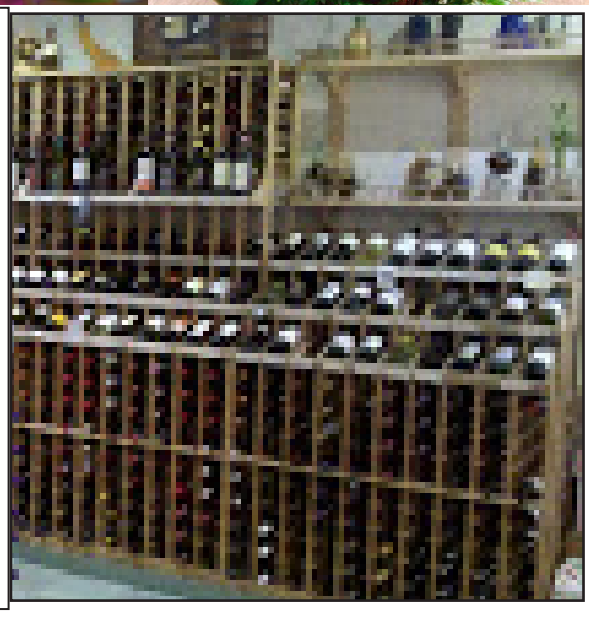

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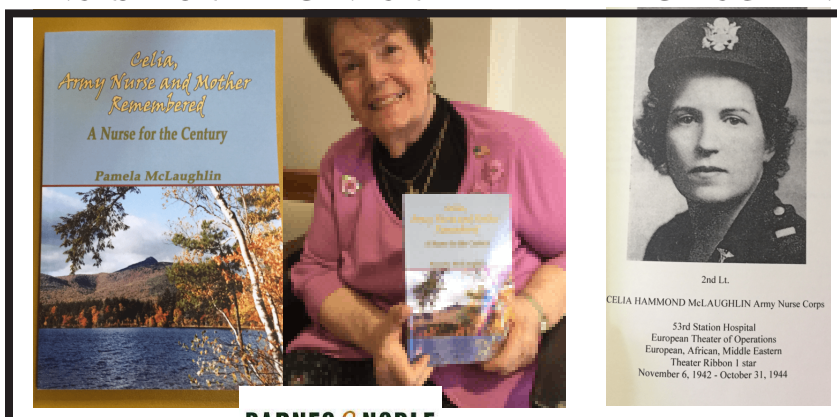

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