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VOL.1 NO.329-207

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS.

Tuesday March 26th, 2024

MAYOR BALLANTYNE INTRODUCES INNOVATIVE MUNICIPAL HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM TO INCREASE HOUSING STABILITY AND REDUCE COSTS FOR VULNERABLE FAMILIES



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NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



Somerville Police Real Life Somerville Police Stories Page



CHANGE LANGUAGE IN LAW THAT CREATED COUNCILS ON AGING



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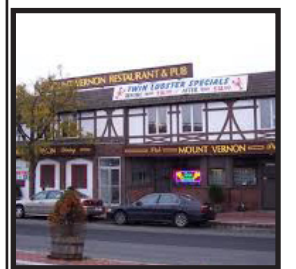
SOMERVILLE STREET SWEEPING RESUMES MONDAY, APRIL 1



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MOUNT VERNON RESTAURANT

We are open for indoor dining along with take out. Our business hours are Sunday through Wednesday 11:30am to 8:30pm and Thursday through Saturday 11:30am to 9:30pm. Our full menu along with our daily specials and catering menu is available. Join us inside to cheer on your favorite sports teams!



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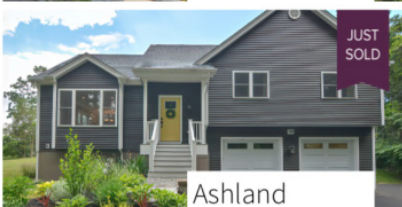
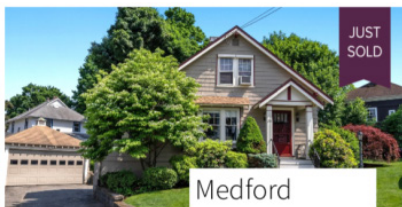
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Artwork / Logos must be submitted to MHSVarsitySoftball22@gmail.com
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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING DANIEL R. JOHNSON



Daniel Robert Johnson, of Billerica, Mass., passed away on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at the too-early age of 54.

Danny was born Nov. 16, 1969, at Winchester Hospital and lived much of his life in Somerville.

He attended Somerville High School and was an entrepreneur in the telecom industry.

He had an adventurous spirit, enjoying traveling – particularly to Brazil – and skydiving.

He was beloved by family and friends for his kind heart and eagerness to help people.

He was an avid guitarist and once attended Burning Man.

He is predeceased by his dear grandmother, Louise Johnson. He is survived by his mother, Mary Lou Johnson, brother David J. Desmond, great-aunt Rose Soccorso, his ex-wife

Maria “Tina” Johnson and two stepchildren Al Souza and Gisele Souza, as well as numerous cousins and friends who love him very Much.

Funeral procession from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville, Wednesday morning, March 27, 2024 at 10:00am, followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Clement Church, Somerville at

11:00. Relatives and friends invited. Visiting hours in the Funeral Home, Tuesday March 26, 2024, 4:00 – 7:00. Interment private.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING MARJORIE ROSE FOWLER



Obituary
Fowler, Marjorie Rose (Loveless) – Of Somerville, passed away at home on Wednesday, March 20, 2024. She was 92 years old.

Beloved wife of the late Hubert P. Fowler. Devoted mother William Fowler and

his wife Debra of Sharon, Sandra Bouchard and her husband Joseph of Hampton, NH, and Nancy Major and her husband Christopher of Somerville. Cherished and loving grandmother of Michael Fowler and Tracey Bouchard and her husband Jeff Bills. She was the dear sister of 12 late siblings. Also

survived by many loving nieces and nephews. A funeral procession will be held from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home on Tuesday, March 26th at 10:00AM. Followed by a graveside service at Woodlawn Cemetery, 302 Elm St., Everett at 11:00AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. Calling Hours will be on Monday, March 25th from 4:00PM to 7:00PM. Services will conclude with burial at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING DORIS MAE LANGONE



Obituary
Mrs. Doris Mae (Foster) Langone, of Tewksbury

and formerly of Somerville, passed away peacefully at her daughter’s home on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. She was 91 years young. Born and raised in Somerville she was the daughter of the late Hilda (March) and Harold Foster. Following the sudden passing of her mother Hilda, she was lovingly raised by her cherished aunt Irene (March) Dobson.

Despite all of the challenges she faced growing up, she graduated from Somerville High School and put herself through the Somerville Hospital School of Nursing. She was a dedicated nurse serving her patients at Somerville Hospital, Central Hospital and later the Veterans Administration Hospital in Jamacia Plain, where she retired. Always one to be active she continued work-

ing during retirement up until she was 88. Above all Doris was devoted to her family and will be lovingly remembered for all she has done for so many. The beloved wife of the late Michael D. Langone, she was the devoted mother of Michael D. Langone, Jr., Nanette C. Langone of North Andover and the late Randy Kelleher. Cherished grandmother of Jacob, Mi-

chael III, Alexandra, Brittany, Amanda, Alicia and Randal, great-grandmother of Aliyah and Javien. Dear sister of the late Eleanor Guidi and her husband Joseph, Pricilla Foster and Harold “Sonny” Foster. A Celebration of Doris’ Life will be held at a later date.

TAKE INTO ACCOUNT LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN BAY STATE (S 2708)

By Bob Katzen
The Senate 12-27, rejected an amendment that would require the state take into account an individual’s length of residency in Massachusetts when determining priority in securing emergency shelter. “While this amendment is not a residency requirement, it would’ve made sure those who have demonstrated a longer

commitment to the commonwealth are prioritized for extended stays in the commonwealth’s emergency shelter system,” said Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury) who voted for the amendment. “To be clear, there are important exceptions to this rule – those who are at imminent risk of harm due to domestic violence and those who are making progress toward work authorization will not be skipped

over. This strikes me as a reasonable compromise to ensure our emergency shelter system is available to Bay Staters who need it first, while preserving the spirit of the law that maintains Massachusetts as a place that is welcoming to all.” Amendment opponents said this would essentially create an unfair residency requirement that would have Bay State residents

competing with each other for slots. They noted there are already reasonable provisions in the bill which prioritize pregnant women, victims of domestic abuse, work status and veterans’ status. Sen. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), the sponsor of the amendment and Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport) who proposed the amendment did not respond to repeated

requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call asking them to explain why they voted the way they did. (A “Yes” vote is for the amendment giving preference to length of residency. A “No” vote is against the amendment.) Sen. Patricia Jehlen No



CHANGE LANGUAGE IN LAW THAT CREATED COUNCILS ON AGING (H 624)

Continued from front page

By Bob Katzen

The House gave initial approval to legislation that would change some language in the 50-year-old law that created Councils on Aging in local cities and towns.

Changes include deleting language that refers to

“problems of the aging” and replacing it with “the needs of older adults;” deleting language that calls workers “clerks” and replacing it with language that calls workers “staff;” and adding “and delivering services” to the language in the bill which gives the council the authority to “carry out

programs.”

Supporters said the bill modernizes the language in a 50-year-old law that created Councils on Aging at a time when there were very few senior centers. They noted that the number of Councils on Aging and senior centers has grown to 350

and said the bill updates the statute to reflect the modern functioning of these critical centers.

Sponsor Rep. Kate Donaghue (D-Westborough) said she is thrilled that the bill received initial approval. “I filed this bill because senior centers are integral parts of each

community, serving as a resource for every older adult and providing comprehensive programming and services to support the needs of the growing number of older adults across the commonwealth,” said Donaghue.

CONDUCT SAFETY REVIEW (S 2708)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 39-0, approved an amendment that would require the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, in conjunc-

tion with the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, to conduct a safety review of current safety practices and implement recommendations to reduce the risk to human life and

safety.

“It is essential that state run emergency shelters and overflow sites maintain the highest standards of safety to protect the families in

our care,” said amendment sponsor Sen. Michael Moore (D-Millbury). “I’m pleased the Senate unanimously adopted this amendment to require a clear and effective safety

plan at these sites.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the amendment.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

REQUIRE BANKS AND OTHER MORTGAGE LENDERS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (H 933)

By Bob Katzen

The House gave initial approval to a proposal that would require banks and other mortgage lenders to

provide additional information on a monthly basis to their borrowers including the balance of principal remaining; a confirmation of the most recent payment

received; the balance of any escrow accounts; and a description of any payments from those escrow accounts.

“The intent of this legislation is to provide mortgage customers with the tools they need to ensure knowledge of their financial situation,” said sponsor Rep.

Bruce Ayers (D-Quincy). “This bill is an easy measure that we can take to help residents achieve greater financial stability and awareness.”

ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING STATIONS IN CONDO PARKING SPACES (H 1303)

By Bob Katzen

The House gave initial approval to a bill that would prevent condominium associations, neighborhood conservation districts and historic district commissions, from prohibiting or unreasonably restricting

owners from installing EV charging equipment in or near an owner’s parking space.

Restrictions that significantly increase the cost of the equipment, decrease its efficiency or effectively prohibit its installation

would not be permitted. The bill would also require owners to pay the costs of installing and maintaining the charging equipment and for the costs of the electricity consumed during charging.

“As the commonwealth moves away from gas powered vehicles, we are going to need increased access to electric vehicle charging stations,” said co-sponsor Rep. Michelle Ciccolo (D-Lexington). “With 40 percent of emissions coming out of our

transportation systems, it is essential that we make operating an electric vehicle as seamless as owning a gas vehicle. For that reason, we can’t have local siting boards prioritize aesthetics over access to charging.”

CEREBRAL PALSY AWARENESS MONTH DAY 24

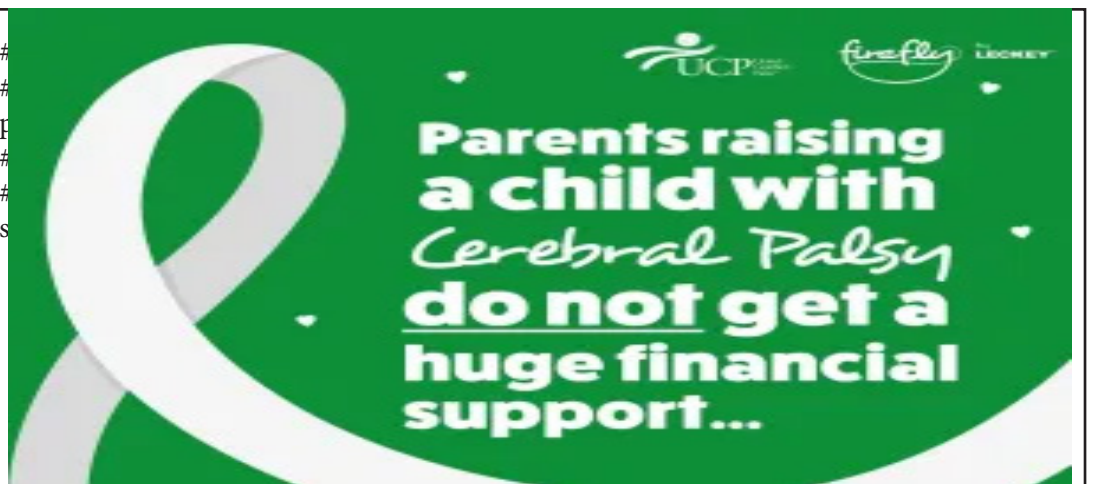
Please Share CEREBRAL PALSY AWARENESS MONTH DAY 24 (graphic from Firefly + United Cerebral Palsy).

For more #facts READ: <https://nicoleluongo.com/celebrating-cerebral-palsy-awareness-month/>

REMEMBER: “Advocacy

doesn’t work unless you WORK IT!” (Quote by ME Nicole Luongo).

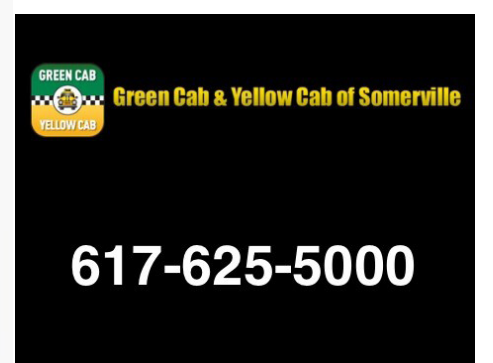
ID: A graphic on a green background with white lettering. It reads: Parents raising a child with Cerebral Palsy do not get a huge financial support.



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SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT PROGRAM SEEKS INPUT FOR FUTURE PROJECTS



Online Survey Now Available for Community to Share Ideas and Priorities for CPA-Funded Projects. Virtual Public Hearing Will be Held on Wednesday, March 27, starting at 6:30 p.m.

SOMERVILLE – The Somerville Community Preservation Committee is inviting residents to participate in shaping the

future of their neighborhoods by providing input on potential projects to be funded by the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in the coming year. CPA in Somerville has a history of supporting a diverse range of initiatives, including rehabilitating playgrounds and schoolyards, making historic public buildings safe and handicapped accessible, building affordable housing, and supporting rental assistance.

CPA is a grant funding program that aims to address the needs and priorities of the community. Before launching the next funding round the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is actively seeking input from

the Somerville community to identify the greatest needs and priorities in the upcoming year. Are there historic buildings that would benefit from repairs? Outdoor community space or recreation needs? How can CPA funds help to advance equity in Somerville? The CPC wants to hear from you.

Residents are encouraged to participate in a virtual public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m., where they can share their ideas and suggestions directly with the Community Preservation Committee. Additionally, residents can contribute their input by taking a survey available at <http://www.somervillema.gov/cpa>.

The Community Preservation Committee will also be tabling at locations throughout Somerville to share more about the types of work the CPA can support. Current locations include:

Thursday, March 14, 4-6 p.m., West Branch Library (40 College Ave)

Thursday, March 21, 4-6 p.m., Somerville Central Library (79 Highland Ave)

Saturday, March 30, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Somerville Winter Market (191 Highland Ave)

Additionally, the CPC is plan-

ning to table at local farmer's markets and Somerstreets events throughout the late summer and fall. Community members interested in inviting the committee to discuss potential funding opportunities with their organization are encouraged to email Roberta Cameron, Preservation Act Manager, at rcameron@somervillema.gov or calling 617-625-6600 Ext. 2528

For more information about the Somerville Community Preservation Act program and how to get involved, please visit <http://www.somervillema.gov/cpa>.

MEDFORD POLICE RESPOND TO ANIMAL CRUELTY CALL

This morning at approximately 11 a.m., officers responded to the area of Fellsway West and Sheridan Ave for a report of animal cruelty involving a man who was walking a group of dogs. According to witnesses, the man struck one of the dogs multiple times in the head and then lifted the dog off the ground by its collar in a harmful manner. One witness provided video evidence

to the officers, allowing them to identify the suspect.

The officers then responded to the suspect's home, where he was taken into custody.

Frederick Ingrando, 33, of Medford, was arrested and charged with Animal Cruelty.

The dogs, not owned by Mr. Ingrando who is a hired dog-

walker, were removed and are in a safe location awaiting pick up by their owners. The dog that was struck was taken to a local veterinarian to be evaluated.

This investigation is still ongoing.



MEDFORD VFW POST 1012 HAS A NEW COMMANDER

Congratulations to The Medford VFW on its new Installation of Commander Steve McLaughlin as he takes charge.

Best of luck and we can't wait to see all the good things that you will bring to the VFW under your guidance and leadership!

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

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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

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Thank you for your continued support.



MAYOR BALLANTYNE INTRODUCES INNOVATIVE MUNICIPAL HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM TO INCREASE HOUSING STABILITY AND REDUCE COSTS FOR VULNERABLE FAMILIES

Continued from front page



Program delivering local housing support to help families often underserved by federal and state programs

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne announced today the City of Somerville’s Office of Housing Stability’s (OHS) new Municipal Voucher Program that targets needed local support to families historically underserved by broader government housing programs.

“We know that families in need of housing help are falling through the gaps, and our new voucher program will help Somerville families that need it most secure stable, local, housing so they can continue to thrive here,” said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. “Our Housing Needs Assessment showed that households with young children and households including persons

of color, especially Black and Latino persons, are disproportionately impacted by local affordable housing challenges. I’m happy to share that we have already secured housing for eight participating families, and want to thank everyone from the City and our advocacy partners for the creative problem solving that made this program a reality.”

Housing voucher programs that subsidize housing costs are usually the domain of state and federal programs. But many families fall through the gaps or can only receive very minimal support. Somerville’s program introduces a new option for vouchers offered at the city level for the most vulnerable local families.

Under Somerville’s Municipal Voucher program, participating families’ rent and utility costs will be capped at 30% of their income, with the voucher covering remaining rental costs. This applies even if their net household income is zero. The voucher program will cover all remaining rent and the security deposit.

The program is targeted to households paying at least 50% of income for rent and utilities, who are ineligible or poorly served by federal or state housing programs, and/or who are facing eviction or severe overcrowding. Families with children in the Somerville public schools or local daycare programs were prioritized. The pool of candidates were identified through a collaborative effort between the Somerville Public Schools (SPS), Somerville’s anti-poverty agency the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), Somerville Homeless Coalition (SHC), and the City’s Somerville Office of Immigrant Affairs (SOIA) and its Office of Housing Stability (OHS). Twenty-seven families were selected to receive a voucher via an internal lottery system and OHS is hoping to increase this number to 30.

“The devastating impact of involuntary displacement on children in our public schools who often have already experienced trauma led us to work as creatively and as

doggedly as possible to find a solution for as many of these at-risk families as possible,” said Ellen Shachter, Director of Somerville’s Office of Housing Stability. “Seeing the first eight families move into their new homes was a priceless experience.”

The Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) will oversee the logistics of voucher recipient placement. Somerville’s OHS team has secured 12 project units for some of the selected families to move into, while the remaining families will work with CHA to use their vouchers to find new housing or stay in their current household with an MVP rent subsidy. Each family will be assigned a stabilization worker from CAAS to help them access government resources and maintain their stabilized housing.

The program has built-in incentives for participating landlords, including receiving a month’s rent as an incentive payment, the security deposit, and some funding for property repairs.

Recipient families will work with their CAAS stabilization worker and CHA to annually recertify their eligibility. Unlike most housing subsidy programs, tenants’ rent will not increase between annual recertifications allowing them to benefit fully from increases in their income.

The program, funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) until December 2024, has received commitments from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the City to sustain operations through the calendar year 2026. The City has contributed \$1.8 million, matched by the Trust, with funds allocated through free cash.

If you are a landlord interested in participating in the program, or for more information, please contact Ellen Shachter, Director of the Office of Housing Stability by emailing eshachter@somervillema.gov or calling (617) 625-6600 Ext. 2580.

GRANDDAUGHTER OF SOMERVILLE’S ELEANOR CHUTE RECEIVES BRONZE MEDAL AS MEMBER OF FEMALE JUNIOR OLYMPIC HOCKEY TEAM

“CAYLEE NAGLE, 15, daughter of former Woburn hockey standout Jimmy Nagle, recently captured the Bronze Medal as a member of the female Junior Olympic Hockey team representing Germany. The Winter Youth Olympic Games were held in Gangwon, South Korea last week where Nagle’s team defeated France (4-0) before dropping games to Switzerland (1-2) and Sweden 1-6. Nagle’s German team then bounced back defeating Switzerland 3-1 in the Bronze medal game. Nagle has many family members still living in the Woburn area. Pictured (l-r) are proud dad Jimmy Nagle, Caylee, and grandfather Jim Nagle.”
Article and photo by Woburn Daily Times and contributed by Eleanore Chute



JOIN THE MORRISON AVENUE FLOOD RELIEF & WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS COMMUNITY MEETING ON MARCH 25



Virtual Meeting Will Highlight Initial Design Concepts and Collect Neighborhood Feedback

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 6 Councilor Lance Davis, and Ward 5 Councilor Naima Sait

invite you to join a virtual community meeting to learn about flood relief and water quality improvement efforts planned for Morrison Avenue (Cedar Street to Grove Street) and the surrounding neighborhood.

The meeting will take place Monday, March 25, at 6 p.m. Visit somervillema.gov/morrisonave to learn more.

At this meeting, City staff will introduce the project and share

initial concept designs. Following the presentation, residents will have the opportunity to ask questions about the project and provide feedback.

The City of Somerville is making substantial systemwide investments to modernize its sewer and stormwater infrastructure. As part of this effort, the City will be installing new drainage infrastructure and rehabilitating the existing sewer system along Morrison Avenue (between Cedar Street and Grove

St.) as well as throughout the surrounding neighborhood. This project will reduce flood risk in the surrounding area and help maintain the water quality of local rivers.

In addition to the underground utility improvements, this project will also include street safety improvements and green infrastructure (drainage features designed to mimic natural processes such as irrigated planting areas, bioretention basins with select soils and plants that catch and

filter stormwater, and new trees) throughout the neighborhood.

This project is one of a series of actions the City is undertaking to reduce water pollution, address flooding, and modernize Somerville’s infrastructure. Final designs are currently anticipated to be completed by fall 2025. Construction is anticipated to begin as early as spring 2026. All schedules are preliminary and subject to change.



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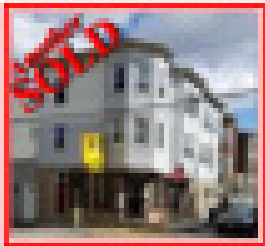


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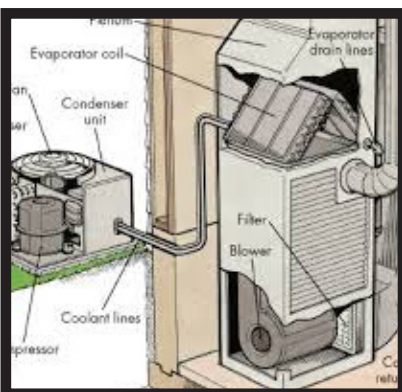
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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

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 STREET SWEEPING RESUMES MONDAY, APRIL 1

Continued from front page



SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville Parking Department are reminding all residents that regular street sweeping schedules officially resume Monday, April 1, and will continue through

December 31, 2024.

Somerville’s street cleaning program is an essential public works program that not only keeps our city cleaner but also reduces the risk of flooding and icing due to clogged storm drains.

Residents and community members can check street signs to know when parking is unavailable due to sweeping. A recurring pattern was chosen in order to allow residents to plan ahead.

Find Your Street Sweeping Schedule & Avoid Parking Tickets
On designated street sweeping days, vehicles must be moved from the side of the street being swept, as noted on signs posted on each street.

The penalty for not complying with street sweeping parking regulations is a \$50 fine. Community members are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the street sweeping schedule in areas where

they park. The best way to do this is to read the signs on the street when you park. You can also sign up for street sweeping reminders.

Sign Up for Street Sweeping Reminders
You can use the Somerville Waste Wizard below to find out when your street is being swept. Sign up to receive complimentary street sweeping notifications by selecting “Sign Up for Reminders.”

Sign up for reminders

here: somervillema.gov/departments/sweeping

Please remember that this is a courtesy service that may experience technical problems; it remains the drivers’ responsibility to follow the posted signs and move their vehicle on time.

For more information regarding street sweeping procedures, visit park-somerville.com or call 311 (617-666-3311).

JOIN THE SOMERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES



SOMERVILLE – The Somerville Public Library Board of Trustees is actively seeking one enthusiastic individual to join their ranks, and we welcome applications from all Somerville residents. This is a chance for community members

with diverse experiences, skills, and perspectives to contribute their passion for libraries to our vibrant community.

What is the Somerville Public Library Board of Trustees?
As the governing body of the Somerville Public Library, the Board of Trustees collaborates with the Library Director to oversee operational and administrative policies. In addition to providing

essential guidance, Trustees actively support the library through strategic planning, advocacy, public relations, and outreach efforts.

Who Can Join?
The open position available to any Somerville resident 18 or older who is passionate about libraries and want to contribute to their growth.

What is the Time Commitment?

The Board typically meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. As a Trustee, you will be appointed by the Mayor to serve a three-year term in a volunteer capacity.

How Do I Apply?
Applications are due by the end of the day on Monday, April 15, 2024. What should I include in the application?
A brief statement of interest: Please briefly explain

why you would like to join the committee and how you feel you can support its work.

You may apply by email, U.S. Mail, or drop off your application:
Email to Cathy Piantigini, Director of Libraries, cpiantigini@somervillema.gov
Mail to Cathy Piantigini, Director of Libraries, Somerville Public Library, 79 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143

COVID-19 REMEMBRANCE DAY (H 2987)

By Bob Katzen

The House gave initial approval to legislation that would designate March 10th as COVID-19 Remembrance Day to honor all the people, especially older adults and people with disabilities, who died or were stricken with COVID-19.

The measure also expresses appreciation of first

responders, caregivers and researchers who cared for victims or developed treatments or vaccines in response to the virus. The measure would not take effect until March of 2025 since March 10th of this year has already passed.

“I am very pleased to see action taken toward establishing COVID-19 Remembrance Day which would honor those who

have been lost to or affected by COVID,” said co-sponsor Sen. Pat Jehlen (D-Somerville). “It also acknowledges the essential workers who helped us get through the hardest times and contributed to our commonwealth’s recovery.”

“At the time of the pandemic, I was the House Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs,

and had an upfront seat, in a sense, to the tragedy that was unfolding especially in our nursing homes, and to aging adults, generally,” said co-sponsor Rep. Ruth Balser (D-Newton). “I feel it is important to remember those we lost and to honor those who helped keep us safe.”





SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET INCLUDING \$250 MILLION FUNDING FOR SHELTERS (S 2708)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 32-8, approved a supplemental budget that includes an additional \$250 million in funding for the Emergency Assistance Program that funds the emergency family shelter system which houses migrants.

The bill requires each family in shelter to receive an individualized rehousing plan. It makes eligibility for shelter after nine months contingent upon compliance with the rehousing plan, with certain categorical exemptions. It would also allow officials to award one or more 90-day extensions to shelter residents who meet certain criteria, such as veterans, the disabled, a single parents of children with

disabilities or those who need an extension to avoid losing a job.

Other provisions keep in place some pandemic-era programs, set to expire, including allowing restaurants to sell beer, wine and cocktails for take-out and expanding outdoor dining.

“The plan passed by the Senate today addresses the state’s fiscal reality while also treating individuals who have migrated to our state with dignity and respect,” said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). “As we continue to navigate through a challenge that has landed on our doorstep because of Congressional inaction, today we are addressing the immediate need to house families, bolstering our existing efforts to

support those who have immigrated here in becoming part of our workforce, and providing a roadmap to manage this effort over time.”

“The Senate recognized the necessity of continuing to proactively respond swiftly and decisively to meet this unprecedented humanitarian emergency shelter crisis head-on, by not only providing the requisite funds to address this crisis, but also provide a long-term framework to transition these families out of temporary shelters and into permanent housing,” said Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport), Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. “With \$250 million in emergency funding for fiscal year 2024, we can weather this challenge as we develop solutions for rehousing families,

provide workforce opportunities and integrate these children into our public school system.

“I voted No on the supplemental budget because the “Right to Shelter” law is costing the commonwealth \$3 million a day to house, feed, protect and educate or provide childcare services to individuals and families who are not our residents,” said Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton).

“Our emergency shelter program was never meant to handle the number of individuals it is housing today and the federal government, who has the sole authority to handle this immigration crisis and provide financial relief to states, is nowhere to be found,” said Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield) who also voted

against the measure. “As the demand for the program continues at this unsustainable rate, we simply cannot continue to fund this ourselves without jeopardizing countless critical programs that we hold dear.”

Sen. Bruce Tarr, the chief opponent of the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call asking him to explain why he voted against it.

(A “Yes” vote is for the budget. A “No” vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES MUST CONSULT WITH STATE (S 2708)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 8-31, rejected an amendment that would require resettlement agencies to consult on a monthly basis with the Governor’s Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities to ascertain the projected availability of space in the state’s shelter system. It also prohibits resettlement agencies

from undertaking resettlement activity when it is foreseeable that the shelter system will exceed capacity.

“By directing resettlement agencies to work more closely with the Healey Administration, [the amendment] would have helped the commonwealth better forecast its shelter capacity and ensure that

we always have space for those who need it most,” said Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury) who voted in favor of the amendment. “I believe this would’ve been key to ensuring that our emergency shelter system is not overrun and that we can keep costs from spiraling out of control.”

Amendment opponents said the

amendment is unnecessary and argued the resettlement agencies do a great job and should not be handcuffed and tied up with the bureaucracy.

Sen. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), the sponsor of the amendment and Sen. Cindy Friedman (D-Arlington) who opposed the amendment did not respond to repeated

requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call asking them to explain why they voted the way they did.

(A “Yes” vote is for the amendment. A “No” vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

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Endorsements





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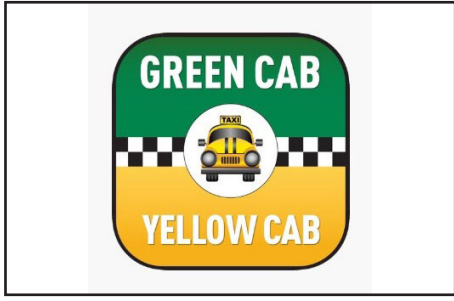


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PUBLIC TAVERN AT 565 BROADWAY SOMERVILLE IS NOW OPEN!



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300 Somerville Ave., Somerville & 124 College Ave., Somerville



Features: shared deck space

Min. & Max. Income Limits		
Household Size	Min. Income*	Tier 1 (50% AMI) Maximum Income Limits
2	\$37,848.00 (300 Somerville Ave.)	\$59,400
3		\$66,800
4	AND	\$74,200
5	\$40,080 (124 College Ave.)	\$80,150
6		\$86,120

Address + Unit Number	Bedrooms	Monthly Rent	Utilities Included	Approx. Area (SF)
300 Somerville Ave. #6	2	\$1,290	N/A	1,509
124 College Ave. #2-5	2	\$1,492	Water; Sewer	650

* Min. income requirements are waived for households with rental subsidies through mobile housing vouchers such as Section 8, MRVP, VASH etc.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: Tues. Jun. 27– Wed. Jul. 26 22

Online at: somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing

Request hard applications and more information at: (617) 625-6600 X 2566 or inclusionary@somervillema.gov

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Wed. Jul. 26, 2023 at 2:00 PM

Faxed to: 617-591-3235; Emailed to: inclusionary@somervillema.gov

Mailed/Dropped off to: City Hall Annex: 50 Evergreen Ave., Somerville, MA 02145;

LOTTERY: Tues. Aug., 1, 2023 @ 3PM | Register to view the lottery here:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2110441532871509852>

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: INCLUSIONARY@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV / 617-625-6600 ext. 2566

Visit: somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing

Somerville/Medford News Weekly 06/27/23, 07/04/23, 07/11/23, 07/18/23

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact the ADA Coordinator, Adrienne Pomeroy, at 617-625-6600 x2259 or apomeroy@somervillema.gov.

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Tickets \$25 sold at door

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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD NEWS WEEKLY SPEAKUP LINE: WHAD UP MEDFORD? OR DOWN AGAIN?

Dear Billy T and Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line,

Yes, spirits were down, concerned and angered among the over 100 residents who attended the March 12 Council Meeting. Why? Basically because a Councilor posed an Ordinance that involved a Transfer Fee (a TAX in Councilor sheep clothing) on certain Homeowners.

Let me say, I support ALL voices to be heard in local, State, or Federal government posts. But, When in many US towns or cities in the past have candidates run as a GROUP??!! then, I remembered the old saying, "There is strength in numbers." Ah, ha! Questioning different friends, residents, and voters I found a handful know only 1-2 members of this group. What do you vote for or hope for when selecting ANYONE in a pool? This group, by seeing the motions made in other cities, represents many Socialist geared moves....but by a GROUP?? THIS, to me, is nothing more than mob mentality...maybe, I thought, some could not afford a campaign, postage, or notoriety. No, no, and No. But, did they have to land in Medford, MA? So far, have they served by oath mainly for the the safety, wellbeing and betterment of the COMMUNITY....You see, O. R., "Common" is the root of that word. I do not see many moves that have sided with the COMMON group, but rather hurt the COMMONERS and help select groups and ideas. They probably will continue this philosophy for they are A GROUP. Save for one who previously served, maybe not one could have won running on his/her own credentials, experience, or civic Medford knowledge.

Many people spoke at the podium on March 12 trying to sway some of the Council not to vote for this so called Transfer Fee that demands 2% of the sale of your property toward Affordable Housing (some excluded are owner occupied, over 70, and the disabled, etc) Do certain housing issues need to be addressed? Absolutely! In many cities in the U.S. But, is this fee the best the Group can do? Tsk, Tsk, there are many other plans! This is what occurs in

GROUP MENTALITY....betcha if six others ran as individuals, the Motion never would have been raised; if it were, it would NOT Pass. It is on its way through process and the system taking months to be founded, putting some State officials and Real Estate agents, unfortunately, in a hotseat. . But, they may have shot themselves in the FEET, if you will, for a few reasons: this is actually unattractive for those who can purchase more than 1 home, lowering property value of many by those who run scared, put some State officials in a hot seat, and causes landlords to raise rents. And for those who complain but did not vote because they plain did not or gave up, you get what you get; your non vote gave them a vote!

Tune in next time soon for hopeful, better news in as the "City of Medford Turns!"

Sharon Deyeo, Adj Professor
Concerned, Longtime Resident, Homeowner



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MAYOR BALLANTYNE INVITING SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY TO SPRING CIVIC DAY CELEBRATION



Join Family-Friendly Activities and Games to Learn About Local Government & Services on Saturday, April 27
SOMERVILLE – Mayor

Katjana Ballantyne invites community members to attend the city's spring Civic Day celebration on Saturday, April 27, from noon to 4 p.m. at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.) and on the City Hall concourse.

Civic Day aims to provide community members of all ages with fun, interactive opportunities to learn about

City government, programs, services, and ways to get involved.

Currently planned activities include lawn games, face painting, trivia, City Hall scavenger hunts, and exploring a Somerville Fire Truck. Stay tuned to the City website and social media channels for updates on programming.

The City Hall concourse will be closed to vehicular traffic. Temporary handicap parking will be available along Highland Avenue near the concourse. In the event of inclement weather, all outdoor activities will be moved inside to Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.)

Multilingual staff from the

SomerViva: Office of Immigrant Affairs will be present to offer language support for residents who may need assistance connecting with city departments. For more information, please contact Victoria MacGregor at vmacgregor@somervillema.gov or visit somervillema.gov/civicday

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ADVERTISEMENT TO BID MGL c.30 §39M Over \$50K

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Installation of a new 6" CLDI Domestic Water Service, new 6" CLDI Fire Service, two Tapping Sleeve Gate Valves, Cut and Cap existing 6" Service, site restoration.

The work is estimated to cost \$226,000.00.

All bidding Requests for Information (RFIs) shall be submitted online by 03/29/2024 at 11:00AM EDT for general bids. Bids are subject to M.G.L.

c.30§39M and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at www.biddocs.com and received no later than the date

and time specified.

General Bids will be received until 04 April 2024 on 11:00AM EDT and publicly opened online, forthwith. General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied

Somerville/Medford News Weekly 03/19/26, 03/26/23



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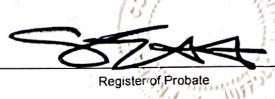
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Bedzie Medard vs. Pierre Junior Medard		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA02114	
To the Defendant:			
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for <u>Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage.</u>			
The Complaint is on file at the Court.			
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.			
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Bedzie Medard 10 Valley View Drive Attleboro, MA 02703			
your answer, if any, on or before 05/30/2024. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.			
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.		 Register of Probate	
Date: March 12, 2024			
Somerville/Medford News cWeekly 03/26/24, 04/02/24			

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING		Docket No. SU22D0484DR	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
Bedzie Medard vs. Pierre Junior Medard		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300	
Upon motion of plaintiff for an order directing the defendant, to appear, plead, or answer, in accordance with Mass.R.Civ.P./Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P.Rule 4, it appearing to the court that this is an action for Divorce 1B.			
Pursuant to Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411, an Automatic Restraining Order has been entered against the above named parties. Defendant cannot be found within the Commonwealth and his/her present whereabouts are unknown. Personal service on defendant is therefore not practicable, and defendant has not voluntarily appeared in this action.			
It is Ordered that defendant is directed to appear, plead, answer, or otherwise move with respect to the complaint herein on or before <u>May 30, 2024</u> .			
If you fail to do so this Court will proceed to a hearing and adjudication of this matter.			
It is further Ordered that the accompanying summons be published once in the NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION (name of newspaper) a newspaper published in: MEDFORD, MA 02155 (include mailing address of newspaper)			
the publication to be <u>20</u> days at least before said return day. It is further Ordered that a copy of the summons be mailed to the defendant at his/her last known address by registered or certified mail.			
Date: <u>3/12/24</u>	 JUSTICE OF PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT		
RETURN OF SERVICE			
I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that: I have complied with the order of notice by: <input type="checkbox"/> mailing <input type="checkbox"/> certified <input type="checkbox"/> registered a copy of the summons as ordered and, <input type="checkbox"/> causing the summons to be published in _____ Publication was on _____ which was at least <input type="checkbox"/> days <input type="checkbox"/> month(s) before said return day.			
Date: _____	Signature: _____		
NOTE: Proof of service must be made in compliance with Mass.R.Civ.P./Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P.Rule 4 and may be made on this form. This form is to be used for actions for divorce or for separate support ONLY.			
Somerville/Medford News cWeekly 03/26/24, 04/02/24			

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 to 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

<p>BASICS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Wool beanie (hat) <input type="checkbox"/> Smart wool socks <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves <input type="checkbox"/> Scarf <p>FOOD & DRINK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Quality instant coffee <input type="checkbox"/> Tea <input type="checkbox"/> Energy drink <input type="checkbox"/> Beef jerky <input type="checkbox"/> Dried fruit <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit leathers <input type="checkbox"/> Trail mix <input type="checkbox"/> Nuts <input type="checkbox"/> Granola bars <input type="checkbox"/> Protein powder packets <input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant gift cards <p>HELP THEM CONNECT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Journal & pen <input type="checkbox"/> Stationary <input type="checkbox"/> Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-paid phone card 	<p>TOILETRIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose wipes <input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick <input type="checkbox"/> Facial wipes <input type="checkbox"/> Moisturizer <input type="checkbox"/> Comb <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush & tooth paste <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming kit <p>SURVIVAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle with built in filter <input type="checkbox"/> Heat-pack <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose tool <p>TREATS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Chocolates <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit snacks <input type="checkbox"/> Cookie snack packs <input type="checkbox"/> Candy (individually wrapped) <input type="checkbox"/> Mints <input type="checkbox"/> Chewing gum <p>SPLURGE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Starbucks gift card <input type="checkbox"/> Compact reusable bag
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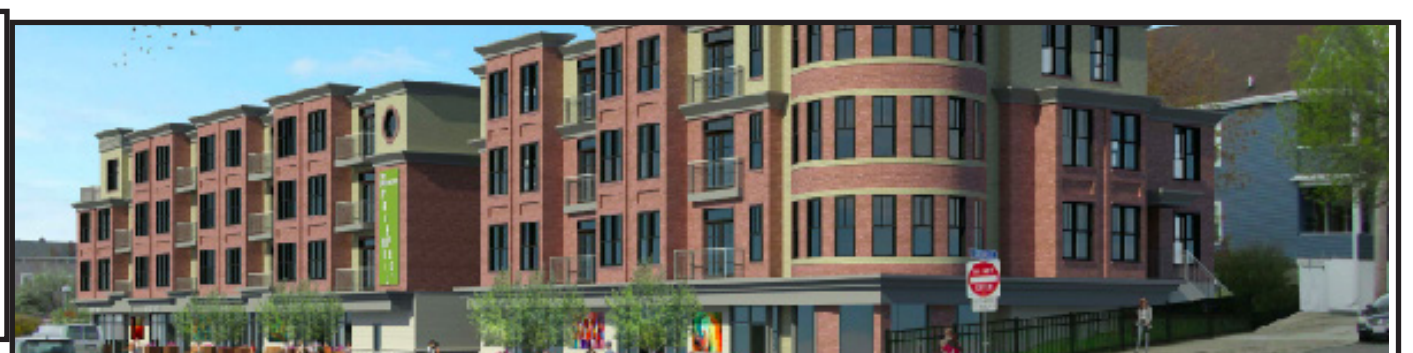
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SOMERVILLE YOUTH RECREATION FOUNDATION (SYRF) RECEIVES \$2,000 DONATION



Mr. Paul Collyer from BA Events, the organizer of last year's 2023 Somerville Jingle Bell Run & Walk, made a local donation today at the Olde Magoun's Saloon & Sports Bar located at 518 Medford St, Somerville, MA 02145

Mr. David Mangan and Mr. Jack Connolly received a check of \$2,000.00 for the Somer-

ville Youth Recreation Foundation (SYRF) 501 c3 Non-Profit program.

The Somerville Youth Recreation Foundation (SYRF) is a Non-profit foundation and was formed exclusively in 2006 for charitable purposes. The principal objective is to elicit funding through solicitation and fund raising to support the educa-

tional, social, and sporting development of the youth in Somerville. Your contribution provides our youth with opportunities that guide their activity needs, interests, and aspirations for the future. These include recreational and educational programs, events, and academic scholarships. The SYRF web site may be viewed at <http://SomervilleYouth->

RecF.org

If you would like more information, please call Mr. David Mangan at the Somerville Youth & Recreation Foundation (SYRF) office at 617-462-9285.

Respectfully,
David

MEDFORD VFW POST 1012 MEMBERS THANKS RED BONES

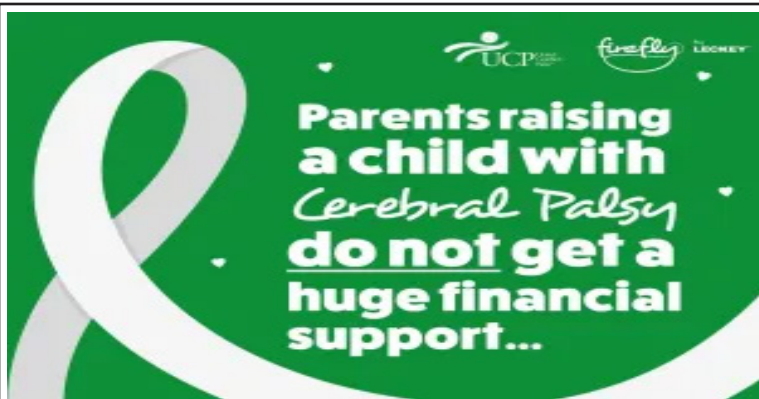
The Medford VFW Post 1012 would like to thank Bob from Red Bones for their support on our Saint Patrick's Day dinner.

Everything is very much appreciated!

Again thank you! Great time had by all,
VFW Post 1012 members



CEREBRAL PALSY AWARENESS MONTH DAY 24



Please Share CEREBRAL PALSY AWARENESS MONTH DAY 24 (graphic from Firefly + United Cerebral Palsy).

For more #facts READ: <https://nicoleluongo.com/celebrating-cerebral-palsy-awareness-month/>

REMEMBER: "Advocacy

doesn't work unless you WORK IT!" (Quote by ME Nicole Luongo).

ID: A graphic on a green background with white lettering. It reads: Parents raising a child with Cerebral Palsy do not get a huge financial support.

#AdvocacyInAction #cerebral-

palsy #cerebralpalsyawareness-month #disabilities #GoGreen4CP #whatCPlooklike #representationmatters

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TOXIC CHEMICAL RELEASES HAVE DECLINED 21% IN 10 YEARS ACCORDING TO NEW TOXICS RELEASE INVENTORY DATA



Today, March 21, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released its 2022 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) National Analysis showing that environmental releases of TRI chemicals from facilities covered by the program were 21% lower in 2022 compared to 2013. This includes a 26% decrease in air releases. During this 10-year period, releases from manufacturing facilities decreased by 9% while the value added to the U.S. economy from manufacturing increased by 14%. While overall releases increased by 1% from 2021 to 2022, there was a 6.5% increase in the

number of pollution prevention activities reported under the TRI program compared to 2021.

The 2022 TRI National Analysis summarizes environmental releases of TRI chemicals, as well as how facilities managed their waste. In 2022, facilities reported managing 88.5% of their TRI chemical waste through preferred practices such as recycling, energy recovery and treatment, while releasing 11.5% of their TRI chemical waste into the environment.

“Communities have a right to

know how facilities in their backyards might be exposing them to toxic chemicals,” said Assistant Administrator for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Michal Freedhoff. “We are committed to sharing the information we collect from facilities openly and clearly, allowing people to find new ways to use this data to the benefit of us all.”

EPA, states and Tribes receive TRI data from facilities in sectors such as manufacturing, mining, hazardous waste management and electric utilities. More than 21,000 facilities submitted reports on 522 of the 827 chemicals and chemical categories for which TRI reporting is required. The remaining 305 chemicals either were not manufactured, processed or used by facilities required to report to TRI or were not manufactured, processed or

used in amounts large enough to trigger reporting.

The 2022 TRI National Analysis features visualizations and analytical tools to make data more useful and accessible to communities. Readers can view data by state, Tribe, metropolitan area, EPA region and watershed using the “Where You Live” mapping tool. This tool also allows readers to view facility locations overlaid with demographic data to identify potential exposure to TRI chemical releases in communities, including overburdened communities. Community groups, policymakers and other stakeholders can use this information, along with other environmental data, to better understand which communities may be experiencing a disproportionate pollution burden and take action at the local level.

Additionally, the 2022 TRI National Analysis highlights trends and changes in waste management practices for specific sectors and chemicals in the Sector Profile and Chemical Profile sections. This year, the 2022 TRI National Analysis highlights the primary metals manufacturing sector alongside the standard profiles for electric utilities, chemical manufacturing and metal mining.

EPA is holding a public webinar on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET to provide an overview of the 2022 TRI National Analysis. Register for the webinar.

REVENGE PORN AND TEEN SEXTING (S 2703)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 40-0, approved a proposal that would prohibit the posting of sexually explicit images of another person online without their permission—commonly referred to as “revenge porn.” The practice is often used by ex-spouses or ex-partners.

Massachusetts is one of only two states that does not have a law about this crime. The measure makes it illegal to break this new law and establishes a sentence of up to 2.5 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$10,000; increases the upper limit of the fine for criminal

harassment from \$1,000 to \$5,000; and allows a victim to petition the court for a harassment prevention order against a person who has violated this statute.

Another provision changes current law under which minors, under 18 years of age, who share explicit images of themselves or other minors, can be charged with violating Massachusetts child pornography laws and are required to register with the Sex Offender Registry. The bill allows minors to be diverted to an educational program that would provide them with information about the consequences of posting or transmitting indecent visual

depictions of minors.

“With passage of this bill today we take another step towards closing a loophole in our laws that has caused pain, anguish, embarrassment and a sense of helplessness to those survivors who for so long suffered in silence, without justice,” said chief sponsor Sen. John Keenan (D-Quincy). “I am deeply grateful to those who shared their stories and advocated for change to ensure others would not have to suffer as they have. For every case we know of, countless others remain hidden, so I hope passage of this legislation by the Senate will soon lead to the bill being signed

into law by the governor. Most importantly, I hope it will provide some closure for survivors and their loved ones and send a clear message that there will be consequences for such conduct.”

“I am proud that the Senate has passed comprehensive legislation to prevent abuse and exploitation,” said Sen. Jamie Eldridge (D-Marlborough), Senate Chair of the Judiciary Committee. “The rise of new technology has created a reality in our society where it is easy to cause great harm and significant trauma to people, and Massachusetts needs to take action to better protect victims and prevent such

disturbing actions from happening. We also need to provide more tools to protect people in a relationship from being psychologically abused through coercive control, with a growing recognition of the many ways that a partner or family member can cause emotional harm.”

The House has already approved a different version of the bill and a House-Senate conference committee will likely work out a compromise version.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

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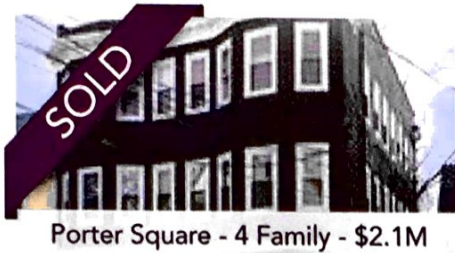
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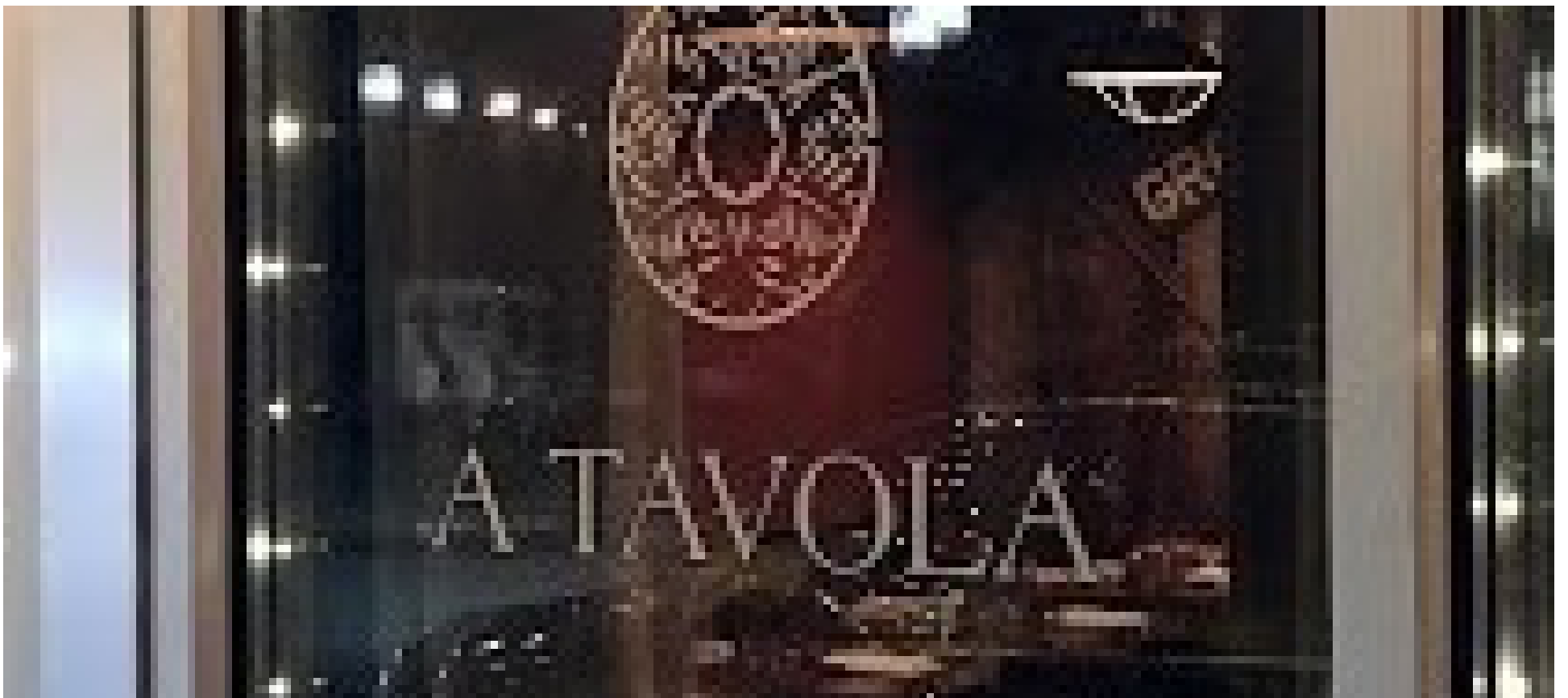
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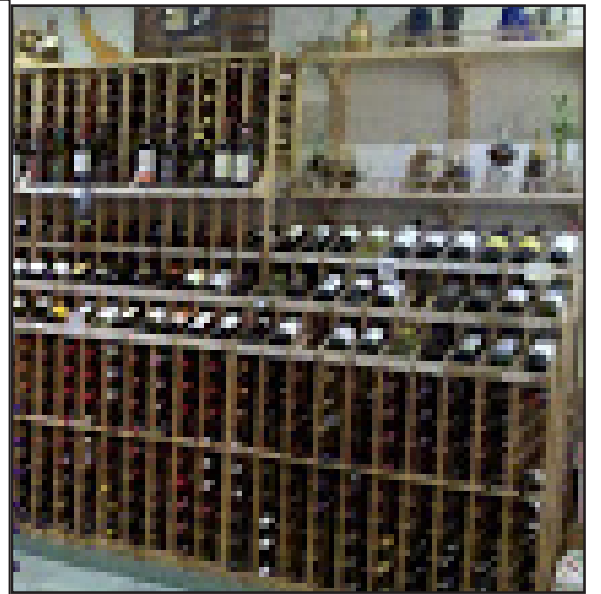


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