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VOL.1 NO.329-208

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS.

Tuesday April 2nd, 2024

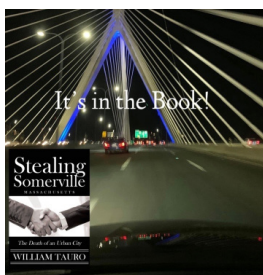
ONE SOMERVILLE, EVERY CHILD MAYOR BALLANTYNE INVITES SOMERVILLE TO CELEBRATE THE 'WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD' APRIL 8, 2024 THROUGH APRIL 12, 2024



NEWS TALK OUT
LOUD/SPEAK UP



Somerville Police
Real Life Somerville
Police Stories Page



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ALLOW SOME 17-YEAR OLDS TO VOTE IN PRIMARIES



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MAYOR KATJANA BALLANTYNE INVITES COMMUNITY TO JOIN THE WEST BROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY, APRIL 13



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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.
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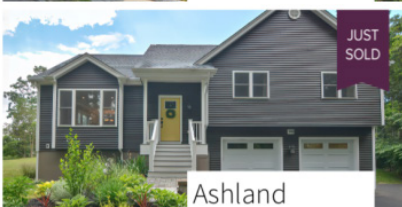
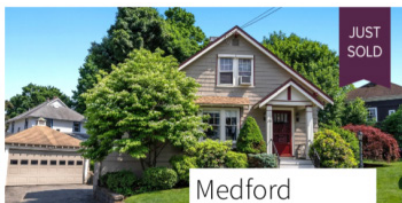
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MARKET ACTIVITY

WE HAVE BEEN BUSY...

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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®
(617) 610-5382 Helen.Praysman@commonmoves.com

Patricia Ng Broker Associate
REALTOR®-(617) 818-5736 Patricia.Ng@commonmoves.com

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Please make all checks payable to: **MHS Varsity Softball**

Please send both forms and payment to:

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 Attn: Rob Farrell
 489 Winthrop Street
 Medford, MA 02155

If you have any questions email us at MHSVarsitySoftball22@gmail.com
 MHS Varsity Softball is a non-profit organization in affiliation with Medford High School, our tax ID is listed below for your records.
 Tax ID 04-6001400

Artwork / Logos must be submitted to MHSVarsitySoftball22@gmail.com
 Deadline for artwork / logos is March 7th for full season exposure, any late submission banners will be hung starting tournament weekend.



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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING DIANE M. DOYLE



Obituary

Diane M. (Farrell) Doyle, of Boston and formerly of Somerville, passed away suddenly on March 28,

2024, she was 66. Born on Christmas Day, she was the oldest of six children born to the late Joan M. (Cremens) and James R. "Bob" Farrell, Sr.

Devoted mother of Jennifer Doyle of Randolph, Sean Doyle of Plymouth, Patricia Doyle of Boston, Timothy Doyle of Pittsfield, Nikki Doyle of Lynn and the late Brian Doyle.

Loving grandmother of

Scott Baxter, Jr., Jordyn Doyle, Madison White, Ava and Xavier Doyle and Skylar Rios.

Dear sister of John W. "Jack" Farrell and his wife Terese of Lynnfield, James R. Jr. of Quincy and his late wife Karen, Patricia A. Brosnahan and her husband John, Mark D. Farrell, all of Somerville and the late Kevin M. Farrell and his surviving wife Nancy. Also survived

by many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Tuesday, April 2nd from 4:00PM ~ 7:00PM with a Prayer Service led Rev. John E. Farrell, BOS (Cherished uncle of Diane and the extended Farrell Families) at 6:30PM. Relatives and friends invited to

attend.

Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers donations in Diane's memory can be made to Victory Programs at <http://www.VPI.org> or to a charity of choice.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING WILLIAM F. GRIFFITHS



Obituary

Representing the "Greatest Generation" with humility, honor and pride William (Bill) F. Griffiths, affectionately known as Bill, a beloved member of the Somerville community, passed away on March 28, 2024, at the age of 100.

Born on February 20, 1924, to the late Mary

Margaret (Nolan) and Ambrose Griffiths, Bill grew up alongside his late siblings Ambrose Griffiths, Marguerite (Griffiths) Knight, and Thomas Paul Griffiths.

Bill's life was defined by his unwavering commitment to service and sacrifice. After proudly serving his country during World War II as a corporal in the USMC First Division, where he fought in pivotal battles such as Cape Gloucester, Peleliu, and Okinawa, Bill received a Purple Heart and other medals for his role in the Battle of Okinawa. He returned to marry the love of his life, Florence "Jo" Wilcox Griffiths. Together, they shared 55 years of love and companionship,

raising a family and building a life rooted in dedication to others.

In civilian life, Bill continued his legacy of service by joining the Somerville Fire Department. A proud member of Engine Company 2, Bill served with honor and distinction for 32 years before retiring in 1982.

His contributions to the department and the community were exemplary, earning him the respect and admiration of all who knew him.

Bill is predeceased by his son Nolan Paul Griffiths and survived by William T. Griffiths and his wife Patricia of Billerica, Lee Ann Griffiths and her hus-

band Joseph Carbone of Canton, Dan Griffiths and his wife Margaret of West Brookfield, Linda Griffiths of Revere and Jean Giurleo and her husband Tony of Medford.

Bill was also blessed with 17 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren, who always managed to bring a smile to his face.

As we bid farewell to William F. Griffiths, we remember a man whose life exemplified courage, honor, and compassion. His memory will forever be cherished by his family, friends, and the Somerville community, serving as an enduring reminder of the profound impact one individual can have through a lifetime of ser-

vice and sacrifice.

Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on THURSDAY, April 4th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM. A Prayer service will be held in the funeral home at 12:30PM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

An urn burial will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Bill's name to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING DENISE S. JEUNE



Obituary Jeune, Denise S. (Jean Philippe)- Of Medford, passed away on Monday, March 25, 2024. She was 87.

She was the beloved wife of the late Joseph Jeune who passed away on April

18, 2023. The devoted mother of Adler, Kelly, Myriam. The cherished sister of Guety Elisma, Lisette Magloire, Myrlande Jean Philippe, Yves Jean Philippe, and the late Oriol Jean Philippe, Rosemond Jean Philippe, Ghislaine Beuns and

Holly Jean Philippe. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and extended family members.

Calling Hours will be held on SATURDAY April 6th at St. John the Evangelist Church 2254 Massachusetts Ave., Cam-

bridge from 8:30AM to 10:00AM. Followed by a funeral mass at 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Services will conclude with burial at Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford

CITY AND TOWN ASSESSORS (H 2112)

By Bob Katzen

This bill amends current law which allows municipalities to give stipends to assessors who receive their Certified Assessment Evaluator certificate from

the International Association of

Assessing Officers, or their Certified Massachusetts Assessor certificate from the Massachusetts Association of Assess-

ing Officers, Inc. The bill increases the stipend municipalities may award for these certificates from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for full-time assessors and also adds two new certificates which would result in the

stipend.

"Assessors play a vital role in the financial issues of every city and town in the commonwealth," said sponsor Rep. Tom Stanley (D-Waltham). "This

legislation improves the profession, enhances the assessor's skillset and improves taxpayer efficiency and services to property owners."



SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD NEWS WEEKLY SPEAKUP LINE: LIGHTS UNDER THE BRIDGE ACROSS STOP & SHOP THEY ARE NOT WORKING



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

Hey William I live in Somerville all my life and I had one my Associ-

ates at Home Depot was telling me that the lights under the bridge across Stop & Shop they are not working.

I wasn't too sure if you're

able to have connections with that to able to get that fixed if possible cuz she's is scared walking that early in the morning if it's possible.

SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE ON STUDENT IDS (H 1999)



By Bob Katzen

This bill would require all public schools with grades 6 to 12, and all public and private colleges to include on their student identification cards the telephone and text number for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

The bill includes a provision that allows any schools and colleges which have a supply of old ID cards without the 988 line to continue to distribute those IDs until the supply is gone.

Supporters said that while suicide is a leading cause of death for people of all

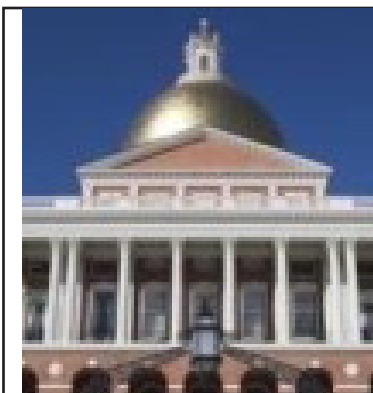
ages in the United States, young people are particularly at risk. They noted that according to a study published by the National Center for Health Statistics at the end of last year, suicide was the second leading cause of death for Americans aged 15-24, representing a 56 percent increase in the previous decade. They argued that there are significant disparities in these numbers, with LGBTQ+ youth being at greater risk, and Black youth seeing a 73 percent increase in youth suicide rates in that same time period.

"It can be difficult for someone to reach out for help even in the best of times and it is essential that we seize every opportunity to provide the necessary resources for our children," said co-sponsor Rep. Jack Lewis (D-Framingham). "[The bill] is a vital step in connecting those in their most vulnerable years with the lifesaving help and assistance they need and put the commonwealth in line with the 19 states including Arkansas, Louisiana and New York who have passed similar legislation."

"This legislation is one

simple way we can make sure our students have the resources they need to help themselves and their friends in a time of crisis," said co-sponsor Rep. Natalie Higgins (D-Leominster). "The 988 Helpline is a critical support for our community, and ensuring all of our youth learn about it will help all future generations get the mental health support they need when they need it most."

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (H 466)



By Bob Katzen

This bill would require that American Sign Language (ASL) be taught in all Bay State public elementary and secondary schools to increase interactions between hearing

persons and deaf and hard-of-hearing persons, as well as children with autism. Current law allows but does not require schools to teach ASL.

"Every student deserves access to diverse lin-

guistic opportunities," said sponsor Rep. Carol Doherty (D-Taunton). "By requiring that ASL courses be offered for credit alongside traditional world languages in Massachusetts public schools, we're not only

fostering inclusivity for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community but also enriching our educational landscape with a vibrant and vital language."

SAFETY FOR FIREFIGHTERS (S 2712)

. By Bob Katzen

The senate 40-0, approved and sent to the House legislation that would create a public database of violations of the state's fire prevention laws and a public notification system to alert workers of violations.

The measure is designed to boost safety for firefighters and people conducting "hot work" including welding, plasma

cutting and spark-producing construction. The proposed law has been ten years in the making and was first prompted by the March 2014 deaths of firefighters Edward Walsh and Michael Kennedy who perished while fighting a fire that was caused by welders, working without a city permit, on a building next door to the brownstone in which they died.

"This legislation represents

historic regulatory reforms that the Walsh-Kennedy Commission helped institute across the hot works and welding industry in Massachusetts," said chief sponsor Sen. Nick Collins (D-Boston). "Passing this legislation will ensure that the critical reforms, training, oversight and accountability needed to prevent tragedies like the Back Bay fire, will be the law of the land. We do this in honor of Boston Fire Lieutenant Edward

Walsh and Firefighter Michael Kennedy so that their sacrifices are not in vain."

"The heartbreaking loss of life in the 2014 Back Bay fire is a constant reminder of the importance of firefighter safety," said Sen. Walter Timilty (D-Milton), Senate Chair of the Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. "I am honored to have shepherded this crucial bill through the

committee. Today, the Senate's action represents an important step forward in ensuring that our remarkable firefighters have the resources that they need to keep themselves safe and protect our communities."

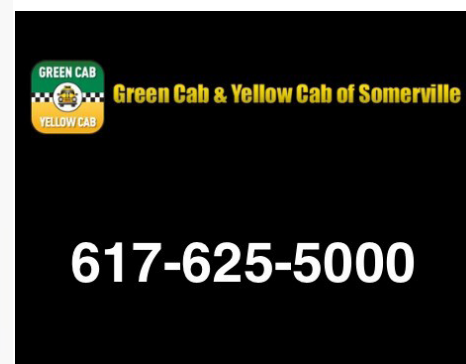
(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

Superior Air Conditioning

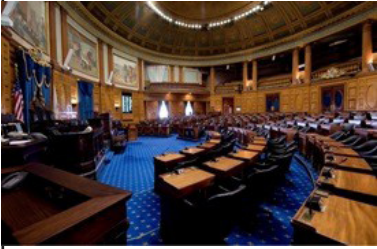


Office (617)625-0386 Cell (617)257-6394 Dave Sidoti





DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES (S 2713)



By Bob Katzen

The senate 39-0, approved and sent to the House a bill that would make some changes in the current state laws about debt collection practices.

The measure includes reducing from 12 percent to 3 percent the maximum interest rate that can be charged for judgments on consumer debt; increasing from \$750 per week to \$975 per week the amount of a person's wages that is protected from garnishment because of a debt; reducing from six years to five years, the time in which a company can bring suit to collect a consumer debt; and ensuring that no one is imprisoned for failure to pay a consumer debt.

"In Massachusetts, no family should have to choose between putting food on the table or making a minimum payment on a ballooning debt," said Sen. Paul Feeney (D-Foxborough), Senate Chair of the Committee on Financial Services. "Debt collection practices can, at times, be predatory, unlawful and designed to squeeze every dime out of middle-class and low-income families, especially with the added burden of accumulating interest and

additional fees that are designed to push families over a financial cliff. The [legislation] will not eliminate debt or an obligation to pay, but it will add needed guardrails to protect hard-working families from financial ruin, give a lifeline to those caught in a debt spiral and help deliver hope to those in a vicious cycle."

"This bill aims to implement stricter regulations on debt collectors in order to prevent financial mistreatment of Massachu-

sets residents," said chief sponsor Sen. Jamie Eldridge (D-Marlborough). "It seeks to safeguard consumers' economic security during debt repayment, prohibit excessively high interest rates and eliminate the possibility of consumers being sent to 'debtor's prison' when facing legal action."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

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!

For new membership call (781)395-2519



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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

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.



SUSTAINAVILLE WEEK 2024: CELEBRATE CLIMATE ACTION IN SOMERVILLE, APRIL 20-27



Week of Events Features Release of Updated Community Climate Action Plan, Bike Clinic, Miyawaki Forest Tour, and More

All Events Are Free and Family Friendly

SOMERVILLE – Join Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville Office of Sustainability and Environment for a series of free and family friendly events and interactive activities to celebrate SustainaVille Week, April 20-27, an annual celebration of climate action in Somerville during the week of Earth Day.

See the full schedule of events online here: [http://www.somervillema.gov/sustainaville-](http://www.somervillema.gov/sustainaville)

week. “Whether it’s planting a pollinator garden, advocating to decarbonize new construction in our area, recycling, or investing in sustainability initiatives, every day the City and Somerville community work together to help protect our planet,” said Mayor Ballantyne. “This year’s SustainaVille Week is especially exciting as community members can review the City’s updated Climate Forward plan that will help us maintain a strong, healthy community in the face of climate change while simultaneously reducing climate pollution and our dependence on fossil fuels. I look forward to seeing everyone to celebrate what we have achieved and inspire the hard work ahead of us as we continue fighting climate change.”

The 2024 SustainaVille Week lineup features a community celebration for the updated community climate action plan, the Climate Forward plan.

Get inspired by interactive art that explores our shared climate resilient vision. The event is free, open to all, and family friendly. The event will include interactive art, light refreshments, and live music.

Check out highlights of the schedule below:

Pollinators, Plants, and Possibilities, Saturday, April 20

10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Groundwork Somerville’s South Street Farm (138 South Street)

2 p.m.-4 p.m.: Somerville Community Growing Center (22 Vinal Ave)

Join us for a fun day of family friendly activities, including seed plantings, composting demos, arts & crafts, and live music. Language support will be available for Spanish and Portuguese, and other languages upon request.

Youth Led Bike Clinic, Monday, April 22, 6-8 p.m., The Dojo @ Somernova (15 Properzi Way)

Bring your bike and get it tuned up by the Groundwork Somerville Bike Team!

Pollinator Action Table at West Branch, Tuesday, April 23, 4-6 p.m., West Branch Library (40 College Ave.)

Learn about the Pollinator Action Plan and ways to explore the biodiversity in your neighborhood at this information table.

Imaging Climate Forward 2050, Wednesday, April 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Greentown Labs (444 Somerville Ave.)

Step into Somerville in 2050 where we have succeeded in creating a climate forward community! Get inspired by interactive art that explores our shared climate resilient vision.

Join the City of Somerville for the release of its updated community climate action plan – the Climate Forward plan. The event

is open to all and is family friendly. The event will include interactive art, light refreshments, and live music.

Registration recommended but not required: greentownlabs.com/event/imagining-climate-forward-2050/

Miyawaki Forest Tour, Thursday, April 25, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Behind Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.)

Come explore the Miyawaki forest seedlings and learn about the city’s urban tree canopy.

Civic Day, Saturday, April 27, 12-4 p.m., City Hall Concourse (93 Highland Ave.)

Learn about local government, programs, services, and ways to get involved!

MAYOR KATJANA BALLANTYNE INVITES COMMUNITY TO JOIN THE WEST BROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Continued from front page



Open House Will Showcase Proposed Street Safety Improvements and Collect Neighborhood Feedback

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 7 Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld, and the City of Somerville Office of Mobility are inviting the community to an

open house to discuss proposed new designs for Broadway between Clarendon Avenue and Alewife Brook Parkway. The event will be held on Saturday, April 13, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the West Somerville Neighborhood School (177 Powder House Blvd).

The City of Somerville is planning to reconstruct sidewalks and repave Broadway between Clarendon Avenue and Alewife Brook Parkway (Route 16). The City is taking this opportunity to redesign the street to make it safer for all people whether they are

walking or wheeling, cycling, taking the bus, or driving.

In the fall of 2023, community members shared their transportation safety concerns through a range of channels, including street outreach, community meetings, and a survey. The project team reviewed all feedback and has developed a new conceptual design for the street. Attend the open house to review this conceptual design, share your feedback, and ask staff questions. Refreshments and games will be provided.

Following the event, a recorded presentation and information about the conceptual design will be available on the project website. Additional opportunities for community members to share feedback will include an online survey and virtual office hours with Mobility Division staff on April 25 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Questions and comments can also be submitted by emailing transportation@somervillema.gov and by calling 311 (617-666-3311).

Visit

somervillema.gov/west-broadway to learn more about the project and stay up to date.

This project is one of a series of actions the City is undertaking in pursuit of our Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and series injuries from our roadways. Final designs are currently anticipated to be completed by early 2025. Construction is anticipated to take place 2025-2026. All schedules are preliminary and subject to change.



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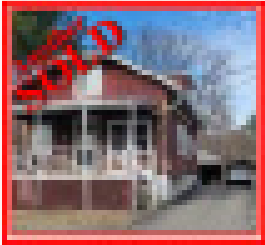


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81 Harvard St, Somerville Sq., Somerville
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41 Oliver Street, Somerville
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142 Elm Street, Somerville
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31 Beacon Street, Somerville
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23 Francis Street, Somerville
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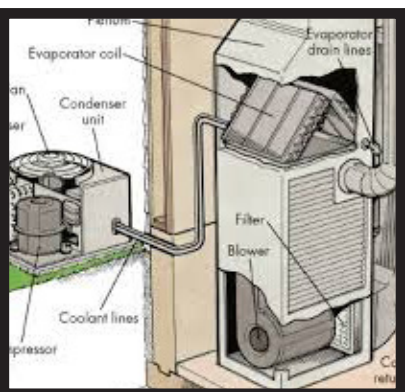
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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

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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SOMERVILLE STREET SWEEPING RESUMES MONDAY, APRIL 1



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.”





ALLOW SOME 17-YEAR OLDS TO VOTE IN PRIMARIES (H 705) Continued from front page



By Bob Katzen

This bill would allow voters who will turn 18 and be eligible to vote in a November general election to also vote in the preceding primary election even though they will only be 17 at the time of the primary election.

Supporters said that allowing 17-year-olds to have a voice would

establish a foundation for lifelong engagement in the democratic process and bolster civic engagement of these youths.

Rep. Joan Meschino (D-Hull) first sponsored the bill in 2020 at the request of then-16-year-old Hingham High School student Samantha Bevins, now a 21-year-old junior at Dartmouth College studying Government and

Public Policy, who wanted this group to be allowed to vote in the Bay State's March 2020 presidential primary.

Bevins said she is thrilled to learn that the bill received initial approval. "I proposed this legislation ... when I was 16 because I wanted first-time voters in the commonwealth to have the same rights as my peers in 27 other

states and Washington, D.C.," said Bevins. "It is crucial that young people have the opportunity to fully participate in their first election cycle by having a say in the primaries on candidates who will ultimately be on the ballot in the general election. I am hopeful our bill will [receive further approval] soon in order to fully enfranchise first-time voters before the next Massachusetts state primaries."

"This legislation promotes a model of civic engagement and full enfranchisement that is critical to foster among our young people, who are the future of this country," said Meschino. "Hingham resident Samantha Bevins and her peers' contin-

ued engagement in the advocacy process during consecutive legislative sessions demonstrates that these young adults are fully equipped and ready for the opportunity to fully engage in the election process, and I commend them for their groundbreaking efforts."

"[The bill] will lead to increased voter turnout that transcends party lines and further engages the youngest voters," said co-sponsor Rep. Jack Lewis (D-Framingham). "This furthers our civic engagement goals and aligns the commonwealth with 27 other states including Mississippi, Wyoming, West Virginia and Maine."

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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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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:
 2024-15 Article V Section 5-15 "Handicapped Parking" is amended with the addition of the following locations: 12 Westwood Rd, 42 Oliver St.
 2024-16 Article V Section 5-2 "Loading/Service Zones" is amended with the addition of the following location: on the north side of Bow Street, nearest 71 Bow Street, 112 feet west of Bow Street Place to 72 feet west of Bow Street Place.
 2024-17 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: No Parking Any Time at the two parking spaces on Fairfax St. along the side of 357 Alewife Brook Parkway.

2024-18 Article XIV Section 14-2 is amended with the addition of the following language: Traffic Calming Petition - A petition indicating at least 9 residents, or 33% of the residents on the street (whichever is lower) support the implementation of a traffic calming device.
 2024-19 Article XIV Section 14-3 is amended as follows: replace the current Warrants for Article XIV Installation table with "Proposed Traffic Calming Assessment Table - The City uses several metrics to assess the general characteristics of streets and the potential viability of traffic calming measures. A second group of metrics helps document priority considerations. Each metric is assigned a "Yes" or "No" designation. Metrics are described in more detail below."
 2024-20 Article XIV Section 14-3 is amended as follows: replace the current Priority Ranking System language with "The above recommended metrics for Article XIV installation include a total of four thresholds and four priority considerations. The above analysis is used to direct data collection efforts to evaluate the proposed Traffic Calming Petition. After data collection, the proposed street is added to the traffic calming consideration list where it is evaluated alongside other traffic calming needs based on bi-annual data collection, community feedback, and staff recommendations. Traffic calming is also often implemented in pavement and sidewalk reconstruction projects through the City's Pavement Resurfacing Program. The length of time it takes to process a request and provide a recommendation, is subject to spring and fall data collection and the volume of requests. Streets at the top of the prioritization list will be more likely to receive funding and will be treated first."
 2024-21 Article XIV Section 14-4 is amended as follows: replace the current Neighborhood Traffic Management Process with "(a) A resident alerts the City to a problem area, this can be done through methods such as contacting the City's 311 Services, emailing the Mobility Division, providing feedback as part of a project outreach process, or via a Councilor.
 (b) Neighbors complete a petition (Traffic Calming Request Form, included in Appendix B) including a written description of the location of concern and requires the signatures of at least 9 residents, or 33% of the residents on the impacted street(s) (whichever is lower). Upon submission, the petition will be verified with City records to validate the residency status of the petitioners. The petition must be signed by the inhabitants of households who legally reside on the street. Only one handwritten signature per household will be considered.
 (c) Once the petition is verified, the City will collect data in order to prepare an analysis evaluating the criteria for implementation.
 (d) After data collection, the proposed street is added to the traffic calming consideration list where it is evaluated alongside traffic calming needs based on bi-annual data collection, constituent requests, and staff recommendations.
 (e) The Traffic Commission votes to adopt, reject or modify the recommendations made by the City, if there are impacts to regulations under Traffic Commission's purview (for example, impacts to curb-side parking).

Metrics	Criteria	Criteria Met?
Traffic Calming Metrics		
Prevailing Speeds	85 th percentile speed exceeds 20 mph	Y/N
Street Width	Paved width of street does not exceed 40 feet	Y/N
Minimum Traffic Volume	Average Daily Traffic of at least 800 vehicles per day	Y/N
Public Support	At least 33% of residents, or 9 residents, support petition.	Y/N
Priority Considerations		
Prevailing Speeds	85 th percentile speed exceeds 25 mph	Y/N
Adjacent Land Use	Street serves or is adjacent to a school, public space, senior center, affordable housing or building of worship.	Y/N
Neighborway	Street identified as Neighborway in Somerville's Bicycle Network Plan	Y/N
Upcoming Street Reconstruction	Street is adjacent to an upcoming street reconstruction project	Y/N
Totals	Traffic Calming Metrics Met	<u>7/4</u>
	Priority Considerations Met	<u>2/4</u>

PROMULGATED: MARCH 21, 2024
 ADVERTISED: APRIL 2, 2024
 APRIL 9, 2024
 APRIL 16, 2024
 EFFECTIVE: APRIL 24, 2024

Suzanne Rinfret, Director

Somerville/Medford News Weekly 04/02/24, 04/09/24, 04/16/24

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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

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING TIMOTHY GIBBONS



Obituary

Gibbons, Timothy- Of Medford, passed away on Sunday, March 24, 2024 at Care One in Beverly. He was 83 years old.

Born in Boston. He was the son of the late Charles and Ellen (O'Flynn) Gibbons. Tim was an avid antique collector. He used to love taking

pictures and collecting old cameras. He found beauty in the world around him.

He was the beloved brother of the late Charles "Chuck" Gibbons and his late wife Ruth, the late Maureen McCusker and her late husband Francis, the late Margaret Nostrand and the late Helen DeDoming. Cherished uncle of Margaret & Jimmy

Stahlek of West Chester, PA; Ellen and Paul Kane of Walpole, MA; Nancy and Jared Haworth of Raleigh, NC; James and Kelly McCusker of Ashby, MA. He is also predeceased by his long time partner Leona Currie.

A Funeral Mass will be held on FRIDAY, April 5th at St. Clement Church, 71 Warner St. Medford at 10:00

AM. Please meet directly at church. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Services will conclude with burial at St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury.

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DIVORCE SUMMONS 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, 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. Date: March 12, 2024		 Register of Probate	
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 _____ days _____ 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

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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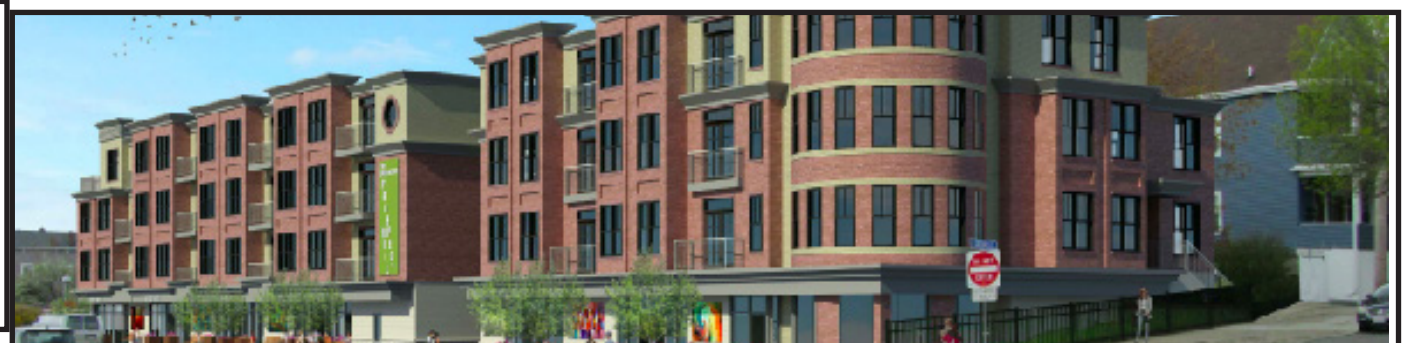
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ONE SOMERVILLE, EVERY CHILD: MAYOR BALLANTYNE INVITES SOMERVILLE TO CELEBRATE THE 'WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD' APRIL 8, 2024 THROUGH APRIL 12, 2024

Continued from front page

by the National Association for the Education of Young Children

Ballantyne advocating for young children.

To learn more about planned programming, and view participating local restaurants, please go to: somer-villema.gov/Week-OfTheYoungChild

Schools, we're committed to making sure our youngest learners have access to high quality learning opportunities and to providing inclusive, multilingual programming and wrap-around services for families through strong partnerships between the Public Schools, the city, and multiple community partners."



Somerville community invited to join celebration with music, food and children's activities and learn more about Somerville's community-wide approach to supporting childhood development

needs of young children and their families. This week of celebrations will include programming and activities across the city, family-friendly specials in local restaurants, and will culminate in a community-wide celebration on Thursday, April 11, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on the Somerville High School concourse (81 Highland Ave). The event will include family-friendly music, food, and activities, as well as a proclamation by Mayor

"Somerville is proud to join hands with our esteemed early childhood community in commemorating the Week of the Young Child. This celebration underscores our unwavering commitment to the well-being of our youngest residents and their families," said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "Through initiatives like SomerBaby, Home Visiting, and the establishment of the Somerville Partnership for Young Children, the City strives to dismantle barriers and foster an inclusive environment where every child can thrive. Together with Somerville Public Schools and our dedicated community partners, we invite parents, children, and educators alike to learn more about all of our supportive family services and join enriching programming and activities across the city."

The city's collective approach to meeting the needs of young children has been supported by the Somerville Children's Cabinet led by Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Rubén Carmona. The cabinet is composed of representatives from the City of Somerville, the Somerville Public Schools, and community partners. The SomerPromise division of the Somerville Health and Human Services Department, provides backbone support.

Since its inception in 2017, the Somerville Children's Cabinet has focused on developing comprehensive child wellbeing and education systems that leverage the many resources and partners within the city and in the surrounding community to help eliminate the link between children's socioeconomic status and achievement. The One Somerville, Every Child umbrella tagline reflects Somerville's commitment to equity and its collective approach to supporting all children and youth in our city."

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Somerville Public Schools, and Somerville's early childhood community invite Somerville parents, children, and educators to celebrate the Week of the Young Child from April 6 to 12, 2024.

The Week of the Young Child was designated

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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.

FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR VETERANS WHO ARE GOING TO MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS (H 3527)

By Bob Katzen

This bill provides free transportation on the MBTA system for veterans who travel to or from a Veterans Administration hospital

for medical care.

The veteran must present proof of a medical appointment on the date of travel in the form of a notice from the Veterans Administration

indicating the veteran’s name and the date and the location of the appointment.

“I have heard from a number of veterans who say it can be a chal-

lenge to get transportation to their medical appointments,” said sponsor Rep. Jerry Parisella (D-Beverly). “This bill would cover the cost of public transit for those seeking care at the Veterans Administration

and help reduce one of the barriers, the cost of transportation, for those who have served our country with honor.”

ALLOW YOUNGER YOUTH SOCCER REFEREES (H 1852)

By Bob Katzen

This bill would allow minors who are 12- and 13-years-old to referee youth soccer games for matches in which the age bracket of the players is young-

er than the 12- or 13-year-old referee.

Other provisions require the referee’s parents or guardians to provide the employer with a written consent form; require

the employer to provide the parent or guardian with written policies describing the responsibilities of a referee and provide the minor with training; and mandating that an adult representing the employer is on

the premise during the match.

“This legislation would benefit both the youths in question and their communities as these programs are extended,” said co-sponsor Rep. Kathy LaNatra

(D-Kingston).

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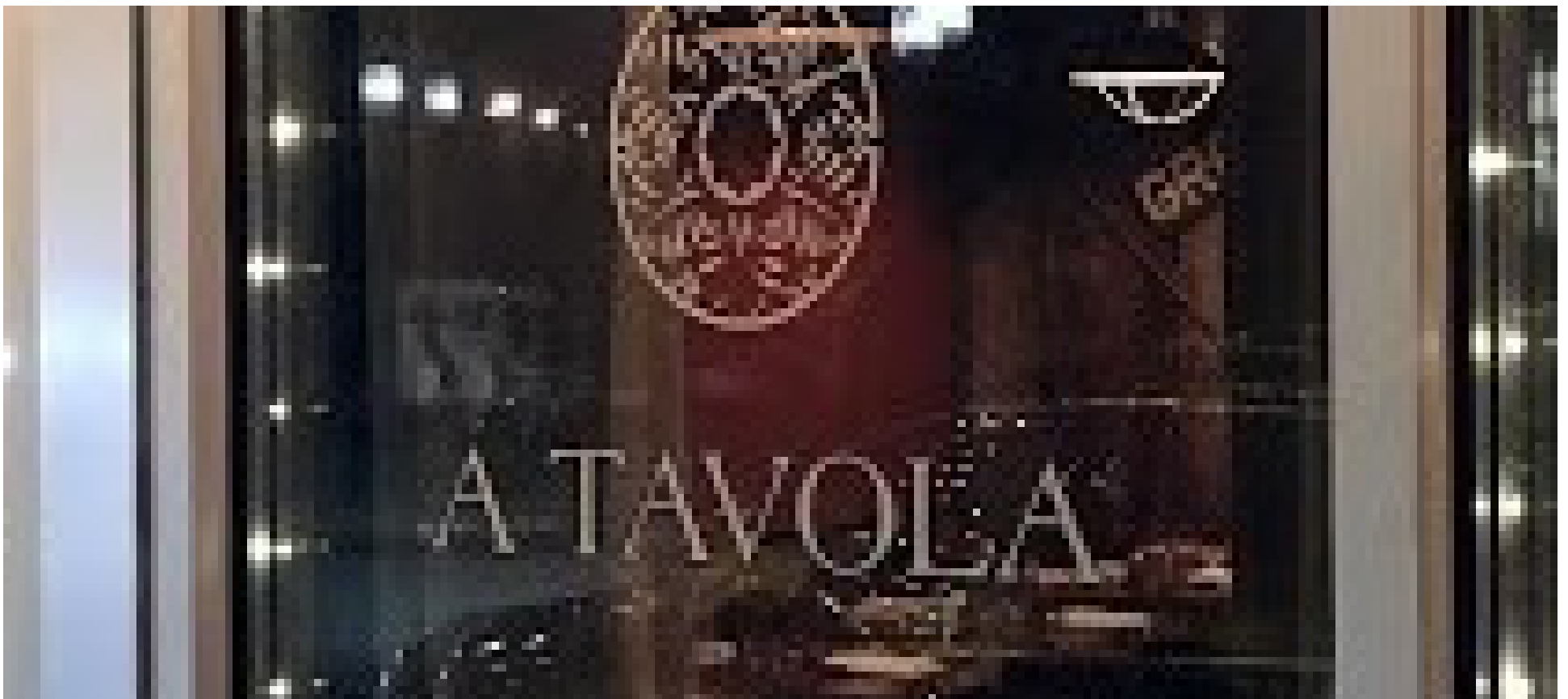
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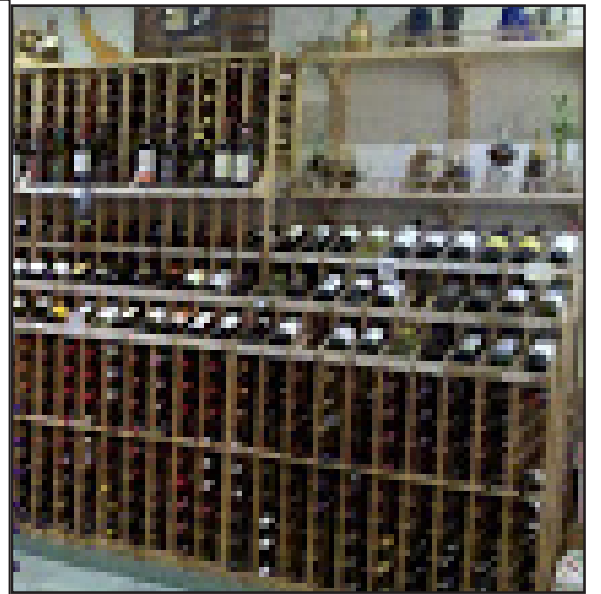


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