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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS.

Tuesday June 18th, 2024

SOMERVILLE REINFORCES COMMITMENT TO SAFER STREETS



Continued to page 17



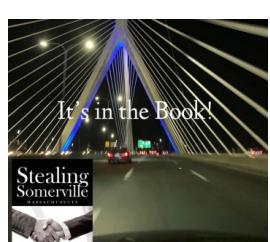
NEWS TALK OUT
LOUD/SPEAK UP



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE AND
CULTUREHOUSE TRANS-
FORMING HOMANS LOT IN
GILMAN SQUARE INTO A VIBRANT
OUTDOOR COMMUNITY SPACE THIS
SUMMER**



Somerville Police
Real Life Somerville
Police Stories Page



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**HEALEY-DRISCOLL
ADMINISTRATION
AWARDS NEARLY \$15
MILLION IN SKILLS
CAPITAL GRANTS**



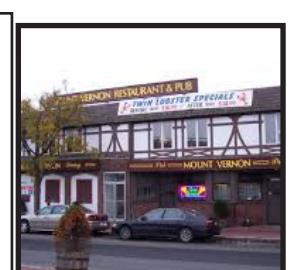
Continued to page 11



MOUNT VERNON RESTAURANT

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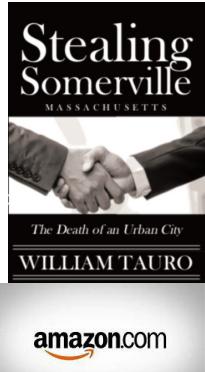


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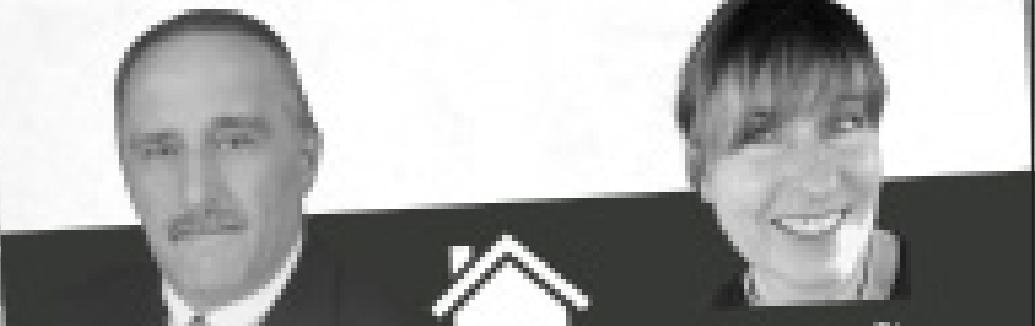
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Artwork / Logos must be submitted to MHSVarsitySoftball22@gmail.com
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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING EDWARD J. DE YOUNG



Obituary

De Young, Edward J.
"Ed"- Of Naples, Florida, formerly of Somerville, passed away on Sunday, June 9, 2024. He was 76.

Born and raised in Somerville, he was the son of the late Hebert and Catherine (Smith) De Young. Ed was a family man and enjoyed spending quality time with his boys. Whether it was attending one of their sports games or just hanging out and catching up about life. He loved to plan family vacations. He loved seeing everyone laughing and enjoying themselves together. When the family began to grow he took the

title of being a grandpa easily. On his down time, he LOVED to fish. He felt the most peaceful while being beside a body of water.

Beloved husband of Kathleen "Kathy" (Livingston) De Young. Beloved father of Andrew and Thomas De Young both of Naples, Florida. Cherish step-father to Michael Khoury and his wife Maureen of Andover, Patrick Khoury and his wife Peggy of

Somerville, Mathew Khoury and his wife Nice-maria of Somerville. Loving grandfather of Mikey, Chris, Madelyn, Aiden, and Mia Khoury. Dear brother of the late Herbet, George, James, Ronald, Robert, and Francis De Young and the late Carol Benjamin. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Funeral Procession from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broad-

way (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Monday morning at 9AM followed by a Funeral Mass celebrated in St. Catherine of Genoa Church at 10AM. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Calling Hours will be held on Sunday from 1:00PM to 5:00PM. Interment will be private.

Late U.S Army Vietnam Veteran.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING COCHRAN, MAUREEN N. (SULLIVAN)



Obituary

Cochran, Maureen N. (Sullivan) Of Somerville, passed away at home on Sunday, June 9, 2024. She

was 78 years young.

She was born in Easton to John and Elsie Sullivan (Tonner). Maureen loved to spend time with her family. As her family began to grow, she proudly took on the roll of a grandmother and great grandmother. It came natural to her due to her kind and warm embracing manor. She would love to host holidays and have all her loved ones around.

This is when she was the happiest. Having family over allowed her to show off her amazing cooking skills, to which everyone knew nana could make the best smile and always have everyone full and happy. She enjoyed planting and gardening around the house but most of all she loved animals. Animals where always one of her weaknesses because she would want to take them all home. Giving the

best life came naturally to Maureen. She will be missed by all whom were lucky to know her.

Devoted wife of the late Sameul F. Cochran who passed away in April 2023. Beloved mother of Samuel Cochran III and his wife Catherine of Somerville, Helen Barrios and her late husband Gustavo Barrios of Malden, Joy Guimaraes of Fall River, Deborah Cochran of Brighton and the

late Faith Cochran, Steven Cochran, and Margaret Cochran. Cherished and loving grandmother of 24 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Dear sister of Mike Sullivan and Frank Sullivan and the late John and Kevin Sullivan. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Maureen's life will be held at a later time

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING GUELPA, SANDRA M. (GREEKE)



Obituary
Guelpa, Sandra M. (Greeke)- Of Somerville, passed away at home surrounded by her loving family on Sunday, June 16, 2024. She was 84 years young.

Complete obit to be posted.

Funeral Procession from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Monday, June 24th at 9AM.

Followed by a Funeral Mass celebrated in St. Ann Church, 399 Medford St., Somerville at 10AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Calling Hours will be held on Sunday from 1:00PM to 4:00PM.

Services will conclude with interment at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

DISABILITY PENSION FOR POLICE OFFICERS (H 2536)

By Bob Katzen

The House gave initial approval to a proposal that would provide a 100 percent regular compensation pension benefit for police officers who have suffered a Violent Act Injury — defined as "a serious

and permanent personal bodily injury sustained as a direct and proximate result of a violent attack upon a person by means of a dangerous weapon, including a firearm, knife, automobile, explosive device or other dangerous weapon."

"When a police officer is involved in an incident where they have been shot, stabbed or beaten so violently that they are no longer able to work, they should not have to suffer financial devastation as well," said sponsor Rep.

Jessica Ann Giannino (D-Revere). "Their life has already been altered by their physical disability. They should not suffer a financial penalty for stepping up and protecting the communities they serve, nor should their family. These violent crimes are

thankfully few and far between, however when an officer is injured serving and protecting so severely that they can no longer work and provide for their family, they should be covered, one hundred percent."



Obituary
Cochran, Maureen N. (Sullivan)- Of Somerville, passed away at home on Sunday, June 9, 2024. She was 78 years old.

Complete obit to be posted.





SALES TAX HOLIDAY (H 4751)

By Bob Katzen

The House and Senate approved a measure designating August 10 and August 11 as a sales tax holiday weekend for the Bay State, allowing consumers to buy most products that cost under \$2,500 without paying the state's 6.25 percent sales tax. State law currently calls for a 2-day sales tax holiday every year. This bill simply sets the specific

dates.

"I was happy to sponsor the legislation establishing this year's sales tax holiday," said Rep. Jerry Parisella (D-Beverly). "This bill emphasizes the Legislature's commitment to supporting local jobs and businesses. Consumers have faced higher prices for goods due to inflation, so this tax-free weekend is a great opportunity to provide

individuals, families and businesses across the commonwealth with some relief."

"The sales tax holiday provides significant relief to families during a time of year where their checkbooks are already stretched from the purchase of back-to-school supplies and other family expenses," said Senate sponsor Sen. Susan Moran (D-Falmouth). "It's also a

vital tool in bolstering our economy, especially for our cherished small businesses, who often operate on thin margins."

(D-Ashland). "I'm glad we worked together in the Legislature to get this done for residents again this year."

"The sales tax holiday is a great opportunity for residents to get out and support the local businesses in their community and get some shopping done during a time of year when people are gearing up for the fall," said Senate President Karen Spilka

"Each year, the Legislature's temporary suspension of the sales tax aims to boost revenue for small businesses and enhance affordability for consumers," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy).

WHERE IS SOMERVILLE'S ONLY AND BIGGEST CONTRACTOR TZE?



By William Tauro

On Broadway in front of Trum Field they are laying temporary water lines and it isn't Somerville's usual contractor TZE. It's actually another new new company that's a city had to rush in and hire on the eleventh hour to

do the work!

Just some FYI for you. Drive around look at all the other contractors doing city work now. Not one TZE truck in sight!

That is because the City of Somerville didn't pay their bill

with TZE and so they've pulled out of Somerville and we heard that they're suing the city for large amount of money. We heard it was in the amount of 1,000,000. That is because the City of Somerville doesn't pay their bills. Now they are stuck using a new company which

they will screw as well down the road!

One of these photos is where they used to parked their trucks at Pearl and Marshall Streets. Now it's just an empty parking lot because the company pulled out which we don't blame them

because they worked. They are old from what we heard over \$1 million dollars for work they have done already. Shame on the City of Somerville!

REQUIRE ALARMS IN RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOLS HOT TUBS AND SPAS (H 2389)

By Bob Katzen

The House gave initial approval to legislation that would require alarms in all existing, newly-renovated and newly-

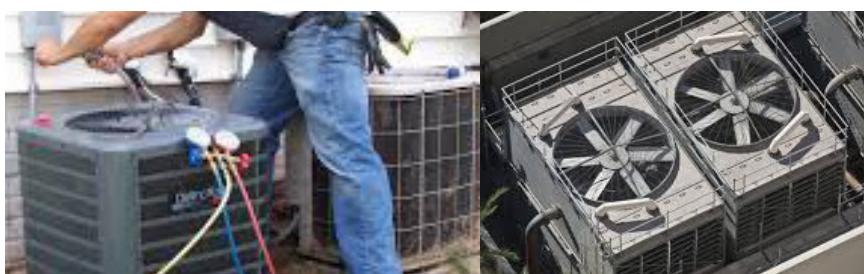
constructed residential swimming pools, hot tubs and spas. The measure would impose a fine of between \$100 and \$500 on violators.

"I sponsored this legislation in order to bring a higher level of safety to the commonwealth regarding swimming pools," said sponsor Rep. Angelo Puppolo (D-Springfield).

"The installation of a swimming pool alarm is a simple measure that can save a person's life. An alarm, when activated, detects when someone enters the pool so that

no person is unnoticed whether they are an adult or child."

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REVENGE PORN AND TEEN SEXTING (H 4744)

By Bob Katzen

The House 155-0, Senate 38-0, approved and sent to Gov. Maura Healey a bill 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; allows a victim to petition the court for a harassment prevention order against a person who has violated this statute; and extends the statute of limitations to pursue criminal charges for certain domestic violence offenses from six years to 15 years.

The measure adds coercive control to the definition of abuse. Coercive control is a nonphysical form of abuse that includes a pattern of behavior intended to threaten, intimidate, harass, isolate, control, coerce or compel compliance of a family or household member in a manner that causes the targeted individual to fear physical harm or to have a reduced

sense of physical safety or autonomy. Examples of coercive control include threatening to share explicit images, regulating or monitoring a family or household member's communications and access to services, and isolating a family or household member from friends or relatives.

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.

“The House has heard the urgent call of survivors to enhance protections and ensure that our laws keep up with technology,” said Rep. Mike Day (D-Stoneham), House chair of the Judiciary Committee and lead House sponsor of the measure. “But the House does not just listen, we act.”

“After so many years of hard work, we are finally at a stage where we can bring closure to those who continue to suffer

the consequences, and live under the threat of, revenge pornography and abusive control,” said Sen. John Keenan (D-Quincy), lead Senate sponsor of the legislation. “We are sending a message that this kind of activity will not be tolerated in our commonwealth ... Once this bill is signed into law, we will be able to rectify and prevent so many injustices across Massachusetts.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly Yes
Rep. Paul Donato Yes Rep.
Erika Uyterhoeven Didn't
Vote Sen. Patricia Jehlen
Yes

COMMEMORATING JUNETEENTH IN SOMERVILLE JUNETEENTH FLAG RAISING AT SOMERVILLE CITY HALL CONCOURSE IN 2023

Sometimes called Black Independence Day, Freedom Day, or Liberation Day, Juneteenth, June 19, has been continually celebrated since 1865, when news reached Galveston, Texas, that all enslaved persons had been declared free.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville's Department of Racial and Social Justice (RSJ) invite community members to attend the Juneteenth flag raising ceremony on Tuesday, June 18, on the City

Hall concourse (93 Highland Ave.) from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The flag-raising will also feature an African Drumming performance and photo display by The Art of Black Dance & Music, as well as remarks from Somerville youth, local leaders,

and activists.

Later this month, RSJ is partnering with the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), Bow Market, and the Somerville Museum to host the annual reading of Freder-

ick Douglass' famous address, “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?” The reading and discussion will take place on Thursday, June 27. Please RSVP online, as space at the venue is limited.

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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them out!” Somerville/Medford News Weekly/Boston News Group

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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.



SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING KATHLEEN A. SNOW



Obituary

Kathleen A. (Keddy) Snow passed away on June 9, 2024, she was 75. Born and raised in Somerville, she was one of eleven children, daughter of the late Angela L. (Ralli) and Richard M. Keddy.

She was the devoted mother of Sharon Andino of Florida and Debbie Snow of Peabody. Cherished grandmother of Gabriella and Noah Andino. Dear sister of June Forrest, Marlene Hostovsky, Michelle Dunn, Christine O'Reilly, Ann Keddy, William, David, Michael Keddy

and the late Mary Jacobs and Richard Keddy.

playing Bingo.

Also survived many loving nieces and nephews. Kathleen enjoyed her many friends at the New England Home for the Deaf and participating in many activities and especially loved

Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations in Kathleen's memory can be made to the New England Home for the Deaf in Danvers, MA.

OPIOIDS (H 4743)

By Bob Katzen

The House 153-0, approved and sent to the Senate legislation that supporters say will cover the licensure of recovery coaches who help people with substance use, make opioid overdose reversal drugs more accessible, protect harm reduction providers and remove barriers that new mothers in recovery face at the time they give birth.

Provisions include establishing recovery coach licensing and oversight within the Department of Public Health; and

requiring that all health care plans cover recovery coach services and opioid overdose reversal drugs, such as Naloxone, without cost-sharing or prior authorization.

The bill protects public health or harm reduction organizations and their agents who provide drug-checking services, such as needle exchange programs, to reduce the risk of accidental overdose, from civil liability or professional disciplinary action and from being criminally charged or prosecuted for possession of drug paraphernalia and illegal possession

of controlled substances.

Another provision removes "physical dependence upon an addictive drug at birth" from the conditions necessitating a child abuse and neglect report, essentially exempting pregnant people taking medications prescribed by their doctor from automatic investigation by the Department of Children and Families.

"The bill passed today builds on the commitment of the House to support individuals and communities across the commonwealth who are dealing

with the effects of the opioid crisis," said Rep. Adrian Madaro (D-East Boston), House chair of the Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

"This legislation builds on our historical commitment to reducing stigma and providing comprehensive support for individuals in recovery," said Rep. Jim O'Day (D-West Boylston), lead sponsor of the bill. "By embracing harm reduction strategies, patient education and compassionate care, we are advancing public health and offering renewed hope to those

affected by substance use disorders. Together, we are forging a path towards a healthier, more supportive future for all."

"As families across Massachusetts know all too well, the impact of opioid addiction can be utterly devastating for the individual and for their loved ones, which is why a continued focus on combating substance use is a critical responsibility that we have as elected officials," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy).

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

MERCHANT MARINE DAY (S 2817)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 38-0. approved an amendment designating June 12 as United States Merchant Marine Day in recognition of the establishment of the United States Merchant Marine on June 12, 1775.

The amendment was approved last week on June 13 and if eventually approved again by both branches, will not take effect until June 12, 2025.

"I co-sponsored this amendment because it rightfully

acknowledges the Merchant Marines, who deserve equal recognition among other branches of service," said Sen. Mike Brady (D-Brockton). "It honors those who have served our country with distinction, affirming their importance."

"I was honored to co-sponsor and vote for [this amendment] said Sen. Pavel Payano (D-Lawrence). "This amendment would recognize the service of Merchant Marines by installing their flag at veteran cemeteries and the Statehouse as well as creating a Massachusetts

Merchant Mariner Medal. I was proud to see the Senate pass the amendment with unanimous support."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

The Fiscal Years 2025-2029 MBTA Capital Investment Plan includes all planned capital investments over the next five years.

BOSTON – The MBTA Board of Directors today unanimously approved the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 MBTA Capital Investment Plan (FY25-29 MBTA CIP). The FY25-29 MBTA CIP includes over 640 unique capital projects to modernize, expand, and increase the safety and reliability of the MBTA transit network with a programmed spend of \$9.6 billion over the next five fiscal years, including \$843 million in new funding.

"As a framework that steers how the T makes critical investments in the system, the MBTA's five-year CIP establishes a foundation for improving service today while also guiding how we build toward the future of the system," said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "The CIP

continues to be vital in directing how we renew, improve, and maintain our capital assets. I am grateful to the Board for approving the CIP, and I thank the public for being part of the conversation and providing their feedback on capital investments they'd like to see the MBTA prioritize. As a fiscally constrained plan, the CIP only includes projects for which we have available funding."

The FY25-29 MBTA CIP is available at mbta.com/cip and includes an overview of the Authority's capital planning process, summaries of investment programs, and the full list of capital projects in the approved five-year CIP. The presentation provided to the MBTA Board also includes examples of projects and initiatives for which funding was

requested, but were not included given limited financial resources. Major investments as part of the FY25-29 CIP include full funding for the North Station Draw 1 Bridge Replacement project, which is critical for Commuter Rail service and handles the Haverhill, Lowell, Newburyport/Rockport, and Fitchburg Commuter Rail lines. Additional investment highlights include a 20-minute decarbonized service along the Fairmount Commuter Rail Line. For a complete list of projects, please visit mbta.com/cip for more information.

The CIP is the five-year financial plan that funds all the MBTA's capital projects, which are investments or activities related to acquiring, renewing, constructing, improving, or maintaining capital

assets, including project planning and design. The CIP is updated annually to ensure that the MBTA continues to:

Focus on the MBTA's key investment objectives, including safety, reliability, modernization, accessibility, sustainability, resilience, and equity. Address our most critical asset needs as we strive to bring the system to a State of Good Repair, and Prioritize projects that keep the agency on a path to better safety, service, and sustainability.

The MBTA's mission, affirmed by the Agency's 2023 Strategic Plan, is to serve the public by providing safe, reliable, and accessible transportation. Accordingly, the FY25-29 MBTA CIP includes over 640 unique capital projects to modernize, improve,

and increase the safety and reliability of the MBTA transit network.

As part of the funding for the FY25-29 CIP, the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is funding a total of \$26.6 million in the CIP for six projects including rail modernization early action items and improvements at Nubian Square station in Boston. The MPO programs transportation investments using a mix of federal and state funding sources.

For more information, visit mbta.com/CIP or connect with the T on X (the site formerly known as Twitter) @MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook / TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.



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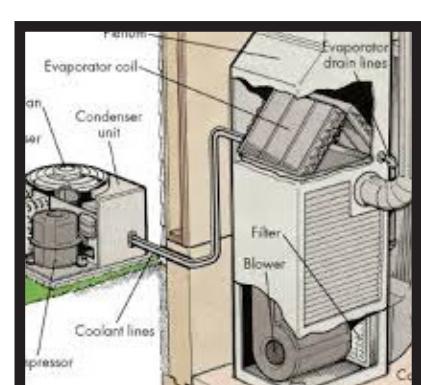


22 Phoenix Street, Somerville
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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

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



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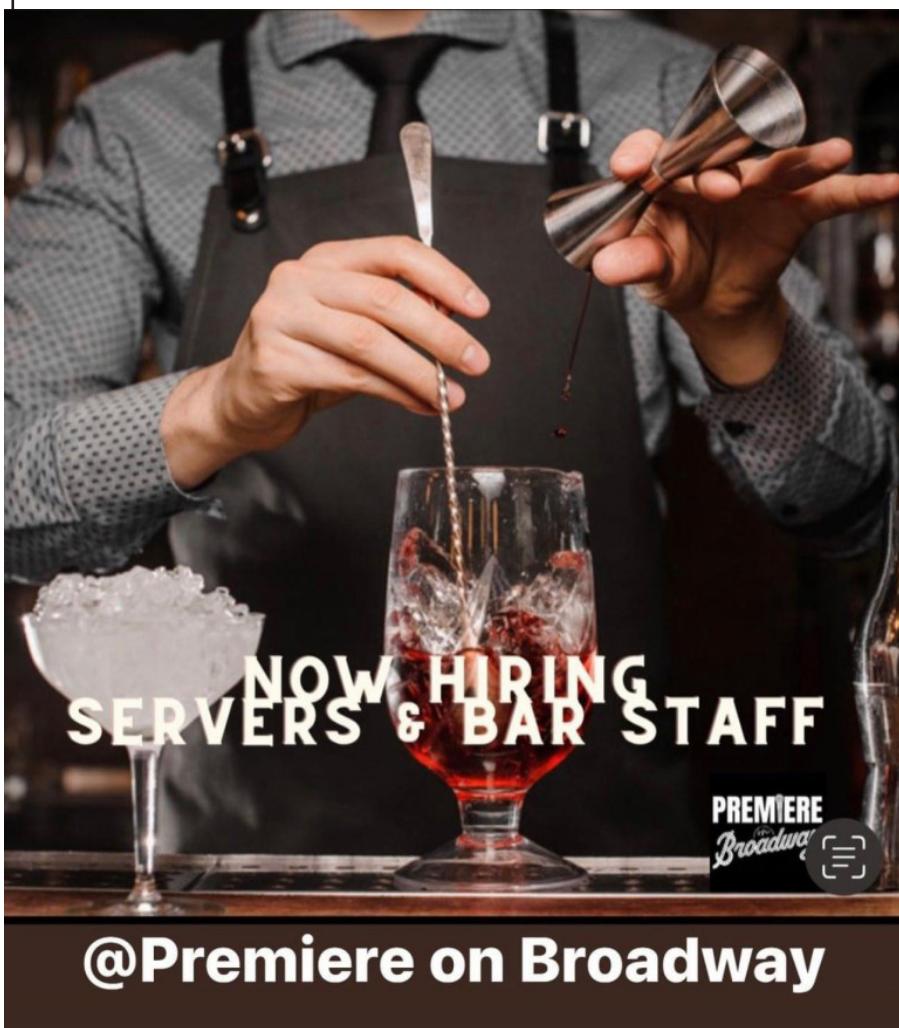


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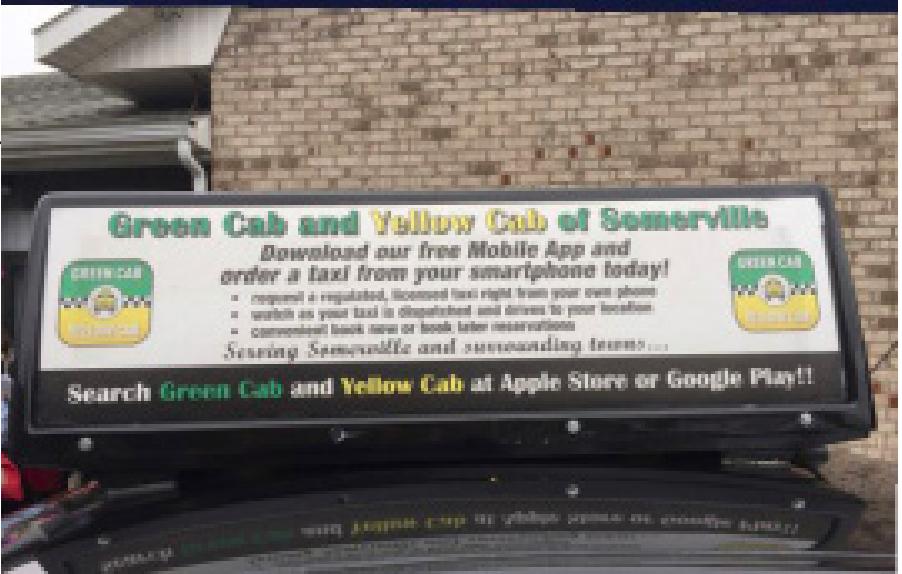
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PARENTING (H 4762)

By Bob Katzen

The House 156-0, approved and sent to the Senate a bill that supporters say would ensure legal parentage equality by protecting LGBTQ+ families, and children born through surrogacy and assisted reproduction, in forming the legal bond of a parent-child relationship.

Supporters said that parental rights and responsibilities are broad and include the ability to attend and make decisions during medical appointments,

manage a child's finances, participate in educational decisions and provide authorizations for a child's travel. They noted that while Massachusetts legalized same-sex marriage 20 years ago, LGBTQ+ residents continue to face significant barriers in obtaining full legal recognition as a parent.

"Today marks a major advancement in the reinforcement of equal rights for LGBTQ+ families in the commonwealth, assuring that children born through assisted reproduction and

surrogacy have a clear route to establish their legal parentage," said Rep. Kay Khan (D-Newton), a lead sponsor of the bill. "A child's relationship to their parents is core to their overall stability and well-being, and it is from that relationship that so many rights and responsibilities flow."

"The [bill] is a critical piece of legislation for so many families in the commonwealth, particularly LGBTQ+ families," said Rep. Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury), a lead sponsor of the bill. "By updating the

commonwealth's parentage laws, we will provide clarity, security and equality in the matters of parentage, reflecting the evolving realities and complexities of assisted reproduction, surrogacy and LGBTQ+ parenthood that has to date left many families vulnerable."

"What we are doing today is giving a tune up to our statutory structure to reflect the modern and contemporary ways that people become parents whether they are straight or gay," said Rep. Sarah Peake (D-

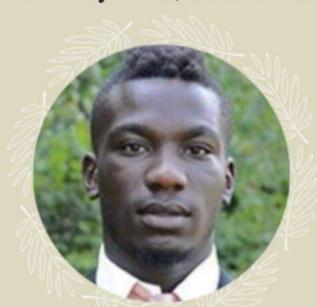
Provincetown). "This is a bill that is good for everyone in the commonwealth of Massachusetts."

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

Rep. Christine Barber Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly Yes
Rep. Paul Donato Yes Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven Didn't Vote

SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY INVITED TO ATTEND
DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR KEVIN RAYMOND

A Memorial Dedication for Kevin Raymond, Class of 2015



June 13, 2024
Somerville High School Main Entrance
81 Highland Avenue
3 p.m.

The Somerville High School (SHS) Athletics Department invites community members to attend a dedication ceremony for Kevin Raymond on Thursday, June 13, at Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.) at 3 p.m.

Kevin was an SHS Alumni Class of 2015. He was an SHS student, a four-year member of the Highlander football

program from 2011-2015, and was a co-captain of the program his senior year. Kevin was an inspiration to his teammates and encouraged a strong work ethic on the field. In 2014 he was the recipient of the Bubba Castor Coaches Award for his coachability, selflessness, and leadership on the field. Kevin was also an integral member of the Kennedy Pool staff as part of the lifeguarding and WSI

team.

A bench in front of SHS will be dedicated to Kevin at the ceremony next week.

Light refreshments will be served inside the high school following the ceremony. For any questions, please reach out to Nicole Viele, Supervisor for Health and Physical Education, at nviele@k12.somerville.ma.us.

COUNT MOBILE HOMES (H 4070)

By Bob Katzen

The House 29-127, rejected an amendment that would allow cities and towns to count mobile homes as homes that count toward the Chapter 40B law that enables local Zoning Boards of Appeals to approve affordable housing developments under flexible rules if at least 20

percent to 25 percent of the units have long-term affordability restrictions.

"Mobile home parks should be considered affordable housing units under 40B and allow a community which has them to use those units towards their ten percent affordable housing stock the state expects them to reach,

exceed or maintain," said Rep. Paul Frost (R-Auburn). "Most mobile home parks were originally built as affordable housing units for those returning from World War II. They are affordable to buy and live in and therefore they should count as such."

Rep. Jim Arciero (D-Westford) said the amendment

is an attempt to bypass the 40B law and allow cities and towns a way to circumvent the requirement for providing affordable housing in their community. He said attempts to avoid production of affordable housing statewide, as this amendment seeks to do, are counter to the intent of the 40B laws.

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

Rep. Christine Barber No
Rep. Mike Connolly No Rep. Paul Donato No Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven No



HEALEY-DRISCOLL ADMINISTRATION AWARDS NEARLY \$15 MILLION IN SKILLS CAPITAL GRANTS

Continued from front page

Funds will support 65 high schools, colleges, and educational institutions in upgrading technology and lab spaces, expanding career programs for young people and adults

MARLBOROUGH – The Healey-Driscoll administration announced that it is awarding nearly \$15 million in Skills Capital Grants to 65 high schools, colleges, and educational institutions. This funding, announced at Assabet Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, will support schools and institutions to upgrade technology and instructional lab spaces, expand career programs for young people and adults, and increase capacity in workforce training programs across Massachusetts.

"We want to ensure that what students learn in school helps them get where they want to go, while also meeting our workforce needs," said Governor Maura Healey. "These Skills Capital Grants will ensure our students and adult learners have access to innovative technology, equipment, and spaces to gain the skills they need to prepare them for successful careers in high demand industries."

"Schools receiving Skills Capital Grants partner with local businesses and align curriculum and credentials with industry standards, ensuring our students are prepared for when they enter the workforce,"

said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "These grants are a win for our students, schools, employers and local communities."

The Skills Capital Grants are awarded by the state's Workforce Skills Cabinet, which brings together the Secretariats of Education, Labor and Workforce Development, Economic Development, and Health and Human Services. This Cabinet works to align education, economic development, and workforce policies to meet employers' demand for skilled workers in every region of Massachusetts. The competitive grants are awarded to educational institutions that demonstrate partnerships with local businesses, as well as align curriculum and credentials with industry demand to maximize hiring opportunities.

Skills Capital grants provide students with the modern and immersive spaces and tools to prepare them for the workforce and successful careers," said Education Secretary Dr. Patrick Tuttweiler. "These are the spaces, resources, and experiences that they deserve. I am so grateful for schools like Assabet Valley Technical High School that are utilizing these grants to reimagine student learning experiences with updated technology and equipment."

"As an initiative of the Workforce Skills Cabinet, the Skills Capital

Grants provide valuable resources for our vocational schools to benefit students and adult learners with hands-on tools and equipment," said Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Lauren Jones. "The Healey-Driscoll Administration appreciates partnering with awarded schools to collaborate in preparing our future workforce with critical skills training for career paths in fields like manufacturing, construction, and other trades."

Skills Capital Grants have improved learning experiences across several high demand fields, including to purchase training equipment aligned with current industry-standard technology and workforce demands in the automotive industry. The funds have also been used to modernize and expand instructional lab spaces to increase enrollment in HVAC programs and purchase new equipment to provide specialized training for careers in offshore wind projects, green technologies, and energy efficiency. Further, some organizations have used funding to purchase virtual reality equipment to help students with disabilities earn credentials that lead to professions in the health services industry, including certified nursing assistants.

"We want students to have learning experiences that are relevant, real-world and interactive, and Skills Capital Grants help make that pos-

sible," said Acting Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Russell Johnston. "Working with the right equipment helps bring lessons to life and connect school to students' futures."

Assabet Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School has been awarded several Skills Capital Grants since fiscal year 2022, totaling \$2,767,691, including nearly \$500,000 from this round, which will support the school's Electrical and Automotive Technology programs to purchase training equipment aligned with current industry-standard technology and workforce demands.

Yesterday, Education Secretary Patrick Tuttweiler, Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Lauren Jones, Acting Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Russell Johnston, Superintendent Ernest Houle, and local officials toured their new HVAC lab that was supported by more than \$1.2 million from a previous round of Skills Capital Grants.

"Assabet Valley RVSD is honored to receive the FY24 Skills Capital Grant, enabling us to further enhance our Electrical and Automotive Technology programs. This grant reflects our commitment to meeting industry demands, expanding enrollment, and equipping our students with the skills for

success in high-demand fields. We are grateful to the Healey-Driscoll Administration for the support that will empower our students to excel in their careers and post-secondary pursuits," said Assabet Valley RVSD Superintendent-Director, Ernest F. Houle.

"I am delighted to see Assabet Valley receive this grant to buy the equipment needed to ensure that students enter the workforce with the skills to succeed," said Representative Carmine Gentile (D-Sudbury). "We need more people going into the trades, which provide steady, good paying jobs for working people. Thank you to the Executive Office of Education and the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development for prioritizing this crucial workforce training."

"For over 50 years AVRTHS has been serving our region by providing our students with the critical technical skills needed to succeed in the world," said Representative Danielle Gregoire (D-4th Middlesex). "I am thrilled that our Administration has recognized this excellence and has awarded this critical grant, ensuring our students have the most updated resources and tools they need."

Continued to page 19

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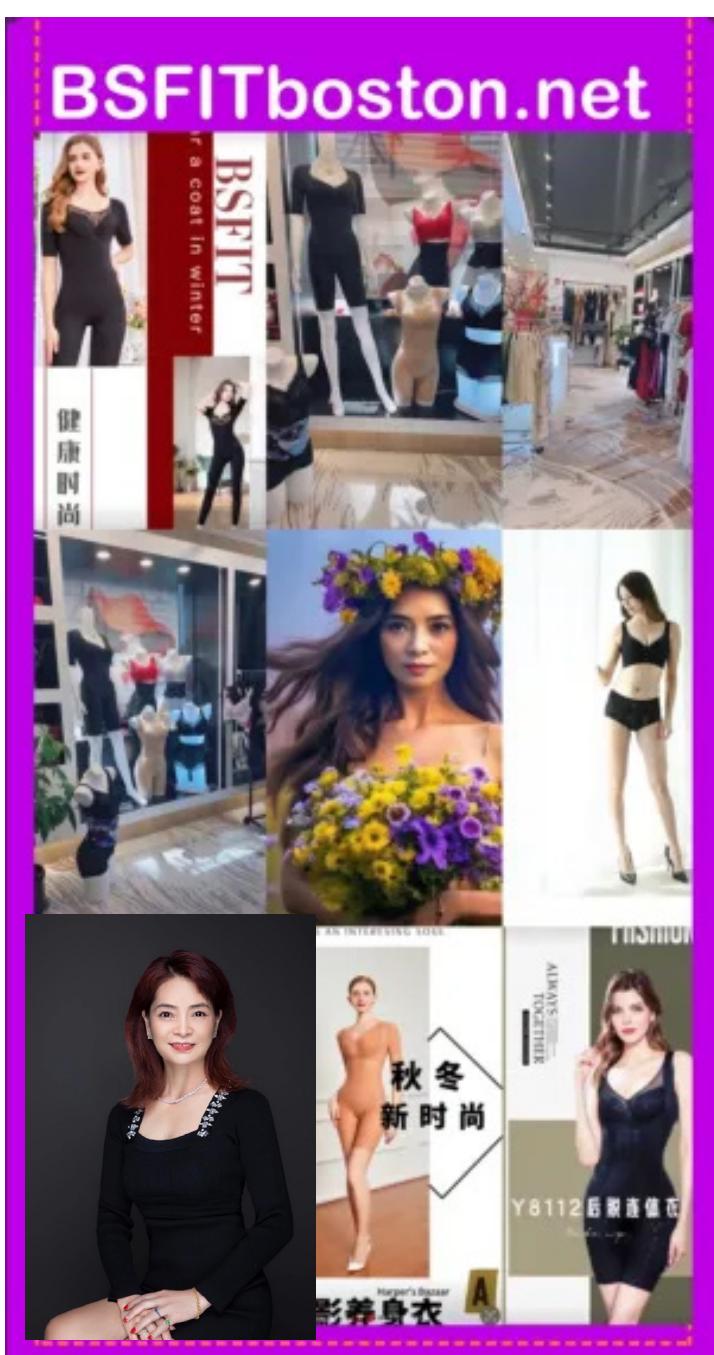
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THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION, BY THE POWER VESTED IN IT THROUGH A SPECIAL ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE, CHAPTER 397 OF THE ACTS OF 1978, HEREBY AMENDS THE TRAFFIC REGULATIONS WITH THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING:

2024-26 Article V Section 5-10 "Safety Zones" is amended as follows: Fire Lane on Laurel St., running from the corner of Greene St. down the odd side in a southerly direction for a distance of 20 ft.

2024-27 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: No Parking Any Time at 42 Liberty Ave.

2024-28 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on the north side of Otis St, from 20 ft to 30 ft east of McGrath Hwy and nearest the Otis Street pedestrian bridge, convert 10 ft of residential permit parking to no parking any time.

2024-29 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on the east side of Glen St, from 20 ft to 40 ft south of Broadway and nearest 6 Glen St, convert 20 ft of metered parking to no parking any time.

2024-30 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking

Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on

the west side of Glen St, from 20 ft to 30 ft north of Pearl St and nearest the East Somerville

Community School, convert 10 ft of residential permit parking to no parking any time.

2024-31 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on

the east side of Glen St, from 20 ft to 30 ft south of Pearl St and nearest 98 Pearl St, convert 10 ft

of residential permit parking to no parking any time.

2024-32 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on

the west side of Glen St, from 20 ft to 40 ft north of Oliver St and nearest 113 Glen St, convert

20 ft of residential permit parking to no parking any time.

2024-33 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on

the east side of Glen St, from 20 ft to 30 ft south of Oliver St and nearest the Capuano Early

Childhood Center, convert 10 ft of school drop-off Monday-Friday 7:00am-4:30pm/ residential

permit parking all other times, to no parking any time.

2024-34 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on

the west side of Glen St from 20 ft to 40 ft north of Tufts St nearest 39 Tufts St, convert 20 ft of

residential permit parking to no parking any time.

2024-35 Article VI Section 6-1 "One-Way Streets" is amended as follows: allow two-way travel

for people riding bicycles on Glen St. between Tufts St. and Broadway.

2024-36 Article VI Section 6-1 "One-Way

Streets" is amended as follows: allow two-way travel

for people riding bicycles on Otis Street between McGrath Hwy and Cross Street.

2024-37 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on

the west side of Florence St nearest 4 Florence St from approximately 60 feet north of

Washington St to approximately 20 feet north of Washington St, convert the existing Permit

Parking to Two-Hour Parking Except by Permit from 8am to 2:30am.

2024-38 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Locations and Prohibitions" is amended as follows: on

the east side of Florence St nearest 9 Florence St from approximately 40 feet north of

Washington St to approximately 20 feet north of Washington St, convert the existing Permit

Parking to Two-Hour Parking Except by Permit from 8am to 2:30am.

2024-39 Article XV Section 15-2.1 "Residential Permit Parking" Schedule W "Locations

Prohibited the Issuance of Parking Permits" is amended with the addition of the following

locations: 13 Allen St, 21 Allen St, 71 Bow St, 595 Broadway, 24 Mount Pleasant St, 118

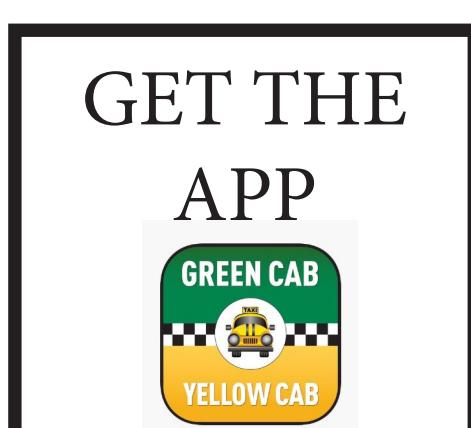
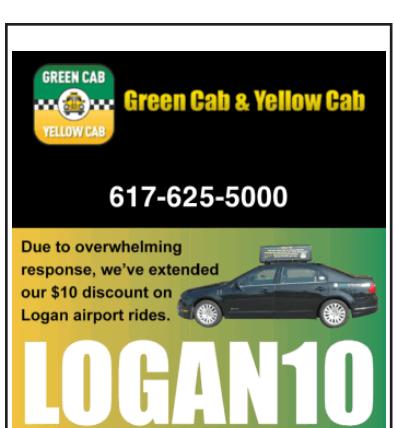
Prospect St, 121 Prospect St, 115 Thurston St, 13 Warwick St.

PROMULGATED: MAY 23, 2024

ADVERTISED: JUNE 11, 2024, JUNE 18, 2024, JUNE 25, 2024 EFFECTIVE: JULY 3, 2024

Suzanne Rinfret, Director

Somerville/Medford News Weekly
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CITY OF SOMERVILLE AND CULTUREHOUSE TRANSFORMING HOMANS LOT IN GILMAN SQUARE INTO A VIBRANT OUTDOOR COMMUNITY SPACE THIS SUMMER

Gilman Park's June grand opening party will feature food and beverages, lawn games, a vintage market, and more

SOMERVILLE — Mayor Katjana Ballantyne is announcing a partnership with CultureHouse to transform 350 Medford Street in Gilman Square, known colloquially as the "Homans Lot," into a dynamic outdoor community space called "Gilman Park" from June through September 2024. This initiative will bring a vibrant, inclusive gathering space to life, fostering connections among residents, local organizations, and businesses.

"This summer we are bringing the Homans Lot to life with the energy and creativity of our community," said Mayor Ballantyne.

"We are so excited to partner with CultureHouse to bring vibrant, creative activities to the heart of Gilman Square. This is a one of a kind opportunity to tap into CultureHouse's deep knowledge of Somerville's cultural ecosystem to enhance our public spaces and foster a stronger sense of community. Since City Hall is right next door to this fantastic community space, I'm looking forward to visiting throughout the summer."

Gilman Park aims to be a central hub for community engagement, providing a hangout spot for residents and a platform for local businesses, artists, and creatives to showcase their talents and offerings. The primary goals of this activation are to reconnect Gilman Square with the rest of Somerville, support the area's vibrancy, and

explore potential future uses for vacant sites throughout the city.

The City and CultureHouse will collaborate closely with residents, local business owners, institutions, artists, and creatives in and around Gilman Square to curate a diverse and engaging lineup of events and activities. This includes partnerships with non-profit organizations and businesses to deliver programming that will captivate and benefit the community.

"Revitalizing and transforming underutilized spaces into places for gathering that uplift and strengthen communities is at the core of what we do," said Aaron Greiner, Executive Director at CultureHouse. "And the Gilman Square project is extra special for us as Somerville has been

CultureHouse's home base since its founding in 2018. We have built long-term relationships with the community and understand firsthand the critical need for this outdoor space. We're excited for all the unique, fun, and diverse programming our partners will bring to the space and hope to help inform a long-term vision for using the site and other underutilized public spaces in Somerville."

Gilman Park will be opening on Saturday, June 15, with an opening party that will include a beer garden by Winter Hill Brewing Company, food vendors, a vintage market, and lawn games. A calendar of programming will be updated throughout the summer at culturehouse.cc/projects/gilman-park/.

Funding is available to compensate programming partners who contribute to making Gilman Park a vibrant and engaging space. Interested parties can find more information about programming opportunities and application details at the following link: [Programming Information and Application](http://culturehouse.cc/projects/gilman-park/).

About CultureHouse

CultureHouse is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving livability in local communities by transforming unused spaces into vibrant social infrastructure. They create lasting change through community engagement, building designs, operating experimental pop-up spaces, and impact reports detailing the project's next steps. Learn more at culturehouse.cc/projects/gilman-park/

VETERANS BENEFITS (S 2817)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 38-0, approved a package designed to benefit veterans in the Bay State by broadening the definition of a veteran, increasing tax credits and state benefits for which they are eligible and modernizing the services on which they rely.

Provisions include requiring a public school district to provide support services to a military-connected student when a parent or guardian is called to active duty; allowing Gold Star Family spouses to remarry without the penalty of losing their annuity benefit; increasing from \$2,000 to \$2,500 the amount

of a tax credit for each qualified veteran hired by an employer; eliminating the fee for specialty license plates for veterans; increasing local flexibility for veterans property tax exemptions; and allowing municipalities to increase the property tax obligation of a veteran in exchange for volunteer services;

Other provisions include modernizing statute language for inclusivity and standardization to ensure gender-neutral and inclusive language while removing antiquated references; allowing veterans to be reimbursed for visits to outpatient behavioral health providers; providing consistent care to veterans by codifying medical assistance

benefits; and creating a working group to study and make recommendations on the use of psychedelics as an alternative therapy for mental health treatments for veterans.

"Very few are brave enough to raise their hand and pledge to defend our nation and the values that we hold dear, no matter the cost," said Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), chair of the Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. "It is on us – as a commonwealth – to always remember, recognize and honor that sacrifice however we can."

"As a commander in the United States Naval Reserves and an Iraq

War veteran, it is my great privilege to serve in a body that commits itself time and time again to honoring our nation's armed service members," said Sen. Mike Rush (D-Boston), vice chair of the Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. "This legislation passed by the Senate maintains our state's promise to our service members and their families that they will be honored as they have done for us."

"We don't rest on our laurels in Massachusetts," said Sen. John Cronin (D-Fitchburg). "This bill modernizes our laws to ensure that the commonwealth remains second to none delivering veterans services and ensures our vets have the sup-

port needed to repatriate into our communities."

The House has approved a different version of the measure and a House-Senate conference committee will work to hammer out a compromise version.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

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By Sharon Deyeso

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Socializing here with great members in our cause is fun

and interesting each year. Their Zone Chair and Pat President, Larry Murphy and Eugene Brune, are great hosts and make you glad to donate to an important cause.

Although their members and events are larger than ours, the cause and LION HEARTS are present in MEDFORD

attendees. We will post news on our famous TURKEY RAFFLE IN THE FALL for public participants. We recently gave our MHS Senior Schol-

arship to an eye or hearing impaired achieving student!

Stay tuned....anyone who wants to make a good, not expensive, charitable decision, contact me for a member form for our only one/ month meetings...September. Hearty thanks.

Sharon Deyeso, VP. M
Usha Sharma, Pr



APPLY NOW FOR SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT FUNDS



SOMERVILLE – Applications are now open for Somerville Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to support open space/recreation and historic preservation projects.

Applicants should note the following deadlines:

Sunday, July 14, 2024: Eligibility Determination Form Due
The Eligibility Determination

form allows the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) to determine if a proposed project qualifies for CPA funds. The CPC will contact applicants to let them know whether their proposal is eligible. Projects that do qualify will then be invited to enter the full application process.
Friday, August 30: HPC Advisory Review Request Form required for all Historic Preser-

vation projects
Sunday, September 15, 2024:
Full Application Due

All application instructions and forms are available at somervillema.gov/CPA. Please contact Roberta Cameron, Community Preservation Act Manager, with questions at rcameron@somer-

villema.gov.
vation Act
Since its adoption in 2012, the Somerville CPA program has supported over 50 unique housing, historic, and open space/recreation projects or programs through awards of more than \$35 million, including \$5 million in matching funds from the State.

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SOMERVILLE REINFORCES COMMITMENT TO SAFER STREETS

Continued from front page

Somerville Passes "Safe Streets" Ordinance to Accelerate Efforts to Create Safer, More Accessible, Sustainable Streets for All

SOMERVILLE – The City of Somerville is accelerating its ongoing efforts to make city streets safer by ensuring forward-looking design and safety practices are embedded throughout all street improvement projects city-wide. This includes reemphasizing the City's commitment to complete the Somerville Bicycle Network plan's 40-mile priority network by 2030.

Following a vote by the City Council on June 13 supported by the Ballantyne administration, Mayor Katjana Ballantyne announced that the City of Somerville has adopted a "Safe Streets" Ordinance that advances pursuit of the City's Vision Zero goals. In 2017, the City committed to and began working toward Vision Zero goals, which aim to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries from our transportation system by making our streets safer and more accessible for people of all ages and abilities. This work has greatly accelerated in recent years, and the new ordinance codifies this community priority.

"Building safe streets is urgent, life-saving work. And while we've made great progress, there is still much more to be done. Our 'Safe Streets' ordinance commits us to continue accelerating the pace of change. I want to thank our resident-advocates, members of Council, and City staff for their partnership in continuing to chart a bold path forward," said Mayor Ballantyne.

The "Safe Streets" Ordinance furthers the City's efforts to accelerate street safety and accessibility improvements by reaffirming Somerville's Complete

Streets approach to street improvement projects, formally incorporating the goals of the City's Bicycle Network Plan into street design processes, and ensuring work to increase the number of accessible parking spaces continues. The ordinance also includes an easily accessible annual reporting process to document progress toward Vision Zero, accessibility, and Bicycle Network Plan goals.

"A few years from now, we are going to look back at this moment as a major turning point in the safety of our streets. No one should have to risk their life to travel around

Somerville, and no matter how you get around – walking, biking, wheelchair, car, whatever – this Ordinance is going to make it safer to do so," said Somerville City Council President Ben Ewen-Campen.

"After years of advocacy, the Safe Streets Ordinance has enshrined a generational commitment to the safety and accessibility of all road users," said Councilor Willie Burnley. "By transforming the structure of our streets, the City of Somerville will redouble its efforts to ensure that every neighbor and family can enjoy the city that they love without fear of an accident."

Among the ongoing commitments codified by the ordinance are:

The incorporation of complete street elements (including but not limited to pedestrian-focused design features, transit-focused elements such as improved bus stops, and traffic calming installations) to all street improvement projects

The execution of goals for accessible pedestrian and transit infrastructure detailed in the City's Vision Zero Action Plan and the ADA Title II Transition Plan

Completion of the Somerville Bicycle Network Plan's 40-mile priority network by 2030

More About Somerville's Bicycle Network Plan

Annual reporting outlining progress toward safer streets including progress and expenditure on protected bicycle facilities

More About Somerville's Commitment to Vision Zero

In 2017, Somerville formally adopted Vision Zero as part of the city's strategy and planning process. Vision Zero is a worldwide advocacy campaign focused on reducing and eliminating transportation injuries and fatalities.

The City's Vision Zero Action Plan outlines a strategy for eliminating deaths and serious injuries from our transportation system and details the actions the City will take. It was developed by a team of City staff and dedicated resident volunteers on the Vision Zero Task Force, including representatives from advisory and advocacy committees from Somerville and the Greater Boston region. The objectives, strategies, and actions set forth are intended to be ambitious, specific, actionable, and measurable.

To learn more about Vision Zero in Somerville visit somervilleema.gov/visionzero.

The City of Somerville developed a citywide bicycle network plan so that people of all ages and abilities can ride a bicycle to anywhere in the City safely and comfortably. The Somerville Bicycle Network Plan, completed in 2023, was developed through a one-and-a-half-year public engagement, research, and analysis process.

The Plan maps out steps to expand and upgrade the current 30-mile network of bicycle facilities to a total of 88 miles that will create safe and connected routes to better protect bike riders of all ages. A total of 40 miles of bicycle improvements are designated on high-priority routes to be installed or upgraded by 2030, with the remaining miles to be completed over the full 20 years of the plan. The network includes a mix of protected bike facilities, off-street paths, and traffic-calmed backstreet "Neighborways" routes. As part of implementation, the City will hold public engagement processes before installing any facilities identified in the Plan.

To learn more about the City's Bicycle Network Plan visit somervilleema.gov/bicyclenetwork.

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. It's 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 to 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

TOILETRIES

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

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

SURVIVAL

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

HELP THEM CONNECT

- Journal & pen
- Stationery
- Stamps
- Pre-paid phone card

TREATS:

- Chocolates
- Fruit snacks
- Cookie snack packs
- Candy (individually wrapped)
- Mints
- Chewing gum

SPLURGE:

- Starbucks gift card
- Compact reusable bag

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HEALEY-DRISCOLL ADMINISTRATION AWARDS NEARLY \$15 MILLION IN SKILLS CAPITAL GRANTS

Continued from page 11

Latest Round of Grantees:	gricultural and Technical School	novation	High School	(Reading Memorial High School)
Awardee	\$350,000	\$499,307	\$275,000	\$75,000
Grant Amount	Fitchburg State University	Lower Pioneer Valley Career and Technical Education Center	North Shore Community College	READS Collaborative
ACCEPT Education Collaborative	Gloucester High School	\$250,000	\$90,528	\$190,000
\$75,000	\$93,000	Marblehead High School	Northampton High School	Salem High School
Assabet Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School	Greater Fall River Regional Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School	\$75,000	\$185,890	\$347,626
\$499,980	\$250,000	Massachusetts Maritime Academy	Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational High School	Shawsheen Valley Technical High Schools
Barnstable High School	Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$361,950
\$500,000	\$100,000	Massasoit Community College	Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School	Somerville High School, Center for Career & Technical Education
Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology	Greenfield Community College	\$188,810	\$204,897	South Shore Regional Vocational Technical High School
\$238,000	\$210,000	Middlesex Community College	\$84,150	\$300,000
Berkshire Community College	Holyoke Community College	\$450,000	Peabody High School	Springfield Technical Community College
\$85,000	\$375,000	Millbury Memorial High School	\$250,000	\$306,643
Blackstone Valley Technical High School	Holyoke High School	\$140,301	Pentucket Regional High School	Uxbridge High School
\$153,000	\$500,000	Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School	\$247,705	\$142,000
Bourne High School	Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts, Inc.	\$275,000	Plymouth South High School	Waltham High School
\$50,000	\$70,000	Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School	\$201,630	\$499,921
Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical High School	Just A Start	\$300,000	Quaboag Regional High School	Webster Public Schools, Bartlett High School
\$500,000	\$80,600	Monument Mountain Regional High School	\$75,000	\$75,000
Brockton High School	Keefe Regional Technical School (South Middlesex Regional Vocational)	\$129,810	Quincy College	Westfield Technical Academy
\$500,000	\$195,753	Mount Wachusett Community College	\$195,000	\$141,260
Cape Cod Community College	Lawrence High School	\$425,000	Quincy High School	Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School
\$154,034	\$150,000	Nashoba Regional High school	\$188,527	\$350,000
Danvers High School	Leicester High School	\$75,000	Quinsigamond Community College	Worcester Public Schools, North High School
\$150,000	\$371,987	Nashoba Valley Technical	\$171,016	\$60,000
Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School	Leominster Center for Technical Education Inc.		Randolph High School	
\$316,628			\$145,993	
Essex North Shore Ag-			Reading Public Schools	

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EXTREME HEAT EXPECTED IN SOMERVILLE JUNE 18-21: TAKE STEPS TO STAY SAFE AND COOL

SOMERVILLE – Extreme heat, that is unusual for our area this early in the summer, is expected in Somerville and the region this week. The National Weather Service has issued a Heat Advisory for Tuesday afternoon, and an Excessive Heat Watch for Wednesday afternoon through Friday evening. Community members are urged to take precautions to stay safe and healthy as temperatures are currently expected to rise well into the 90s, possibly approaching 100 degrees this week. Temperatures are forecast to feel hotter than 100 degrees at times, potentially rising to a heat index (how temperatures feel) of 106 degrees. Taking steps to keep cool and safe is very important during excessive heat.

Heat safety tips and ways to keep cool in and around Somerville are included below. Safety tips are also available in multiple languages on the City's Keep Cool in Hot Weather webpage. Importantly:

Never leave children or pets unattended in a car or vehicle, even if the windows are open.

Drink plenty of fluids. Avoid alcoholic beverages and drinks with caffeine or large amounts of sugar.

Reduce time spent in direct sun and wear sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses when outside.

Limit outdoor activity to the morning and evening hours. Avoid strenuous activity during the hottest part of the day, which is typically 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Follow City social media pages and contact 311 for the latest information on places you can visit to cool off.

Take Care of Yourself and Others:

Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing.

Take frequent breaks if working outdoors. Take your breaks in the shade if you can.

Check on relatives, friends, and neighbors who don't have air conditioning, who spend much of their time alone, or who are more likely to be affected by the heat. These groups may include older adults, infants and children, people with chronic medical conditions, and people who are pregnant.

If you see individuals out in the heat

who appear immobile or disoriented, please call 9-1-1 so they can receive the necessary help.

If you don't have air conditioning, you can seek relief from the heat in air-conditioned City buildings.

The Somerville Public Libraries are air conditioned and will be open regular hours Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. The East Branch will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday. All other library branches are closed on Wednesday in observance of Juneteenth.

Seniors can visit the Somerville Council on Aging's Holland Street Center, which will be open for its regular activities during normal hours Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. All Council on Aging senior centers are closed on Wednesday in observance of Juneteenth.

For parents/guardians: You can help avoid burns by checking if playground equipment is hot to the touch. If so, it is too hot for a child's bare skin. Additionally, limit playtime at peak sun exposure time and familiarize yourself with the signs and symptoms of heat illnesses.

Learn to Recognize Signs and Symptoms of Heat Illnesses:

Heat cramps

Look for: heavy sweating during intense exercise, muscle pain, or spasms

If you have heat cramps: stop physical activity, move to a cool place, and drink water or a sports drink. Wait for cramps to go away before you do any more physical activity and get medical help if cramps last longer than one hour, you're on a low-sodium diet, or you have heart problems.

Heat exhaustion

Look for: heavy sweating; cold, pale, and clammy skin; a fast, weak pulse; nausea or vomiting; muscle cramps; tiredness or weakness; dizziness; headache; fainting

If you expect heat exhaustion, move to a cool place, loosen your clothes, put wet towels on your body or take a cool bath, and sip water. Get medical help if you are vomiting, your symptoms get worse, or your symptoms last longer than one hour.

Heat stroke

If someone is showing signs of heat stroke call 911 immediately. Heat stroke is a medical emergency. Signs of heat stroke include a body temperature over

103°F; hot, red, dry, or damp skin; a fast and strong pulse; nausea; headache, dizziness or confusion; and possible unconsciousness. While waiting for help to arrive, move the person to a cool area and help cool them down with wet towels or a cool bath. DON'T give them fluids.

Tips For Pet Parents:

Don't leave pets outside for long periods of time.

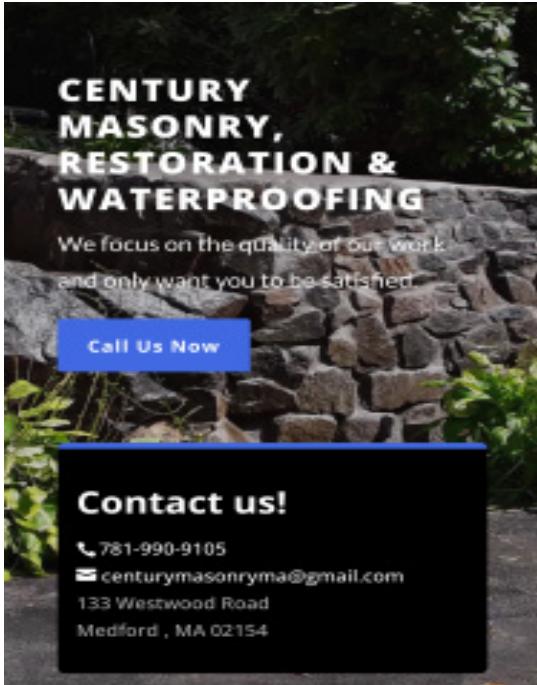
Provide plenty of fresh water and, if outside, leave the water in a shady area. Don't let dogs linger on hot asphalt during high temperatures.

Know the symptoms of overheating in pets, which include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor, or collapse.

Animals with flat faces, like Pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively. These pets, along with pets that are older, overweight, or have heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.

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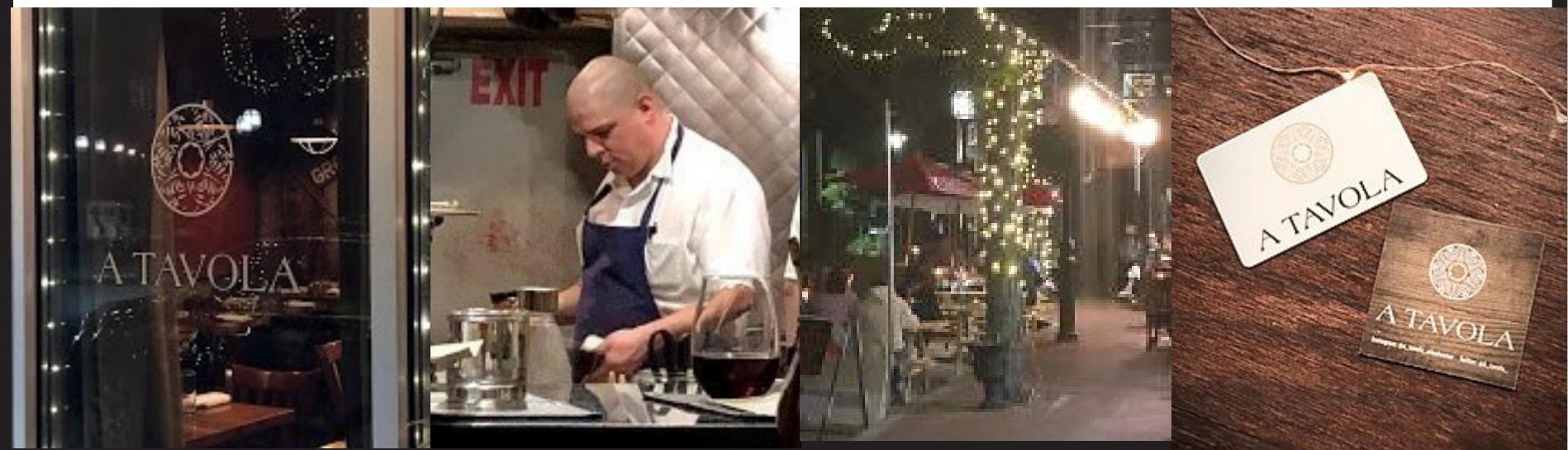
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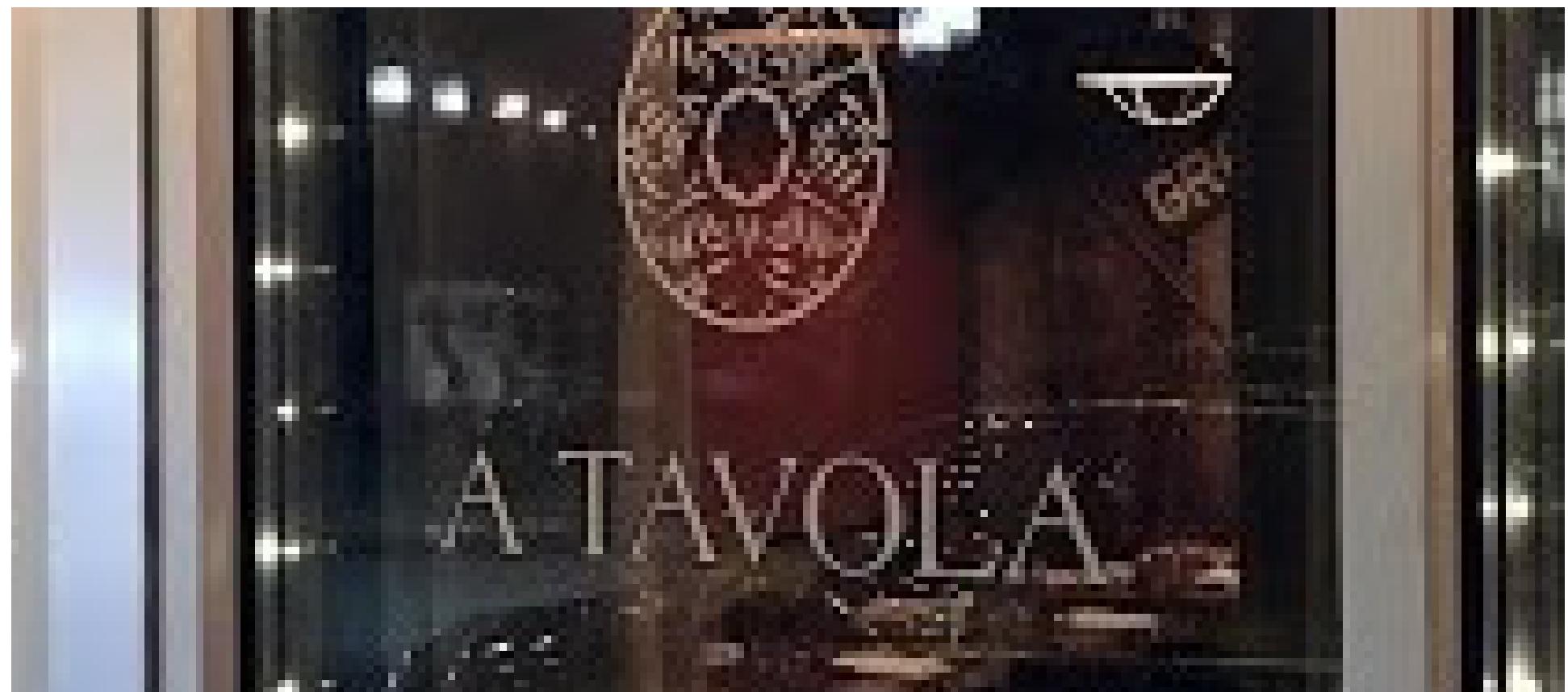
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