

# SOMERVILLE HOSTING TUFTS STREET RECONSTRUCTION COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE, WEDNESDAY, JULY 10



NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



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HOUSING (S 2834)



Somerville Police  
Real Life Somerville  
Police Stories Page



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LETTER FROM  
GEORGE SCARPELLI  
MEDFORD CITY COUNCIL



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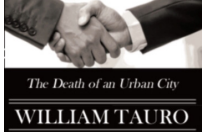
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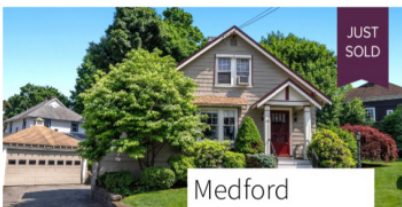
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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING PATRICIA O’NEIL



Obituary  
Patricia O’Neil, born, raised, and educated in Somerville, passed away peacefully on June 24, 2024, at the age of 76. She was the cherished daughter of the late Hugh W. and Catherine (McGlinchey) O’Neil.

After graduating from Somerville High School, Patricia pursued her dreams and found success as a dedicated real estate agent. Her passion for helping others find their perfect homes was matched only by her warm personality and genuine care for her clients.

Outside of her career, Patricia’s life was deeply rooted in her Catholic faith. She was a devoted member of her local church in Somerville, where she could often be found attending daily Mass and actively participating in community activities. Her faith was not only a cornerstone of her life but also a guiding light that she shared generously with her family and friends.

Patricia’s love extended boundlessly to her nieces and nephews, whom she adored and treated as her own children. Their joy brought her immense happiness, and she cherished every moment spent with them.

In addition to her faith and family, Patricia had a passion for travel. She loved exploring new destinations around the world, embracing different cultures, and making lasting memories wherever she went.

Above all else, Patricia was known for her kind heart and infectious warmth. She had a remarkable ability to make everyone feel special

and valued. Her friendship was a gift cherished by all who knew her, and her presence will be deeply missed.

Patricia O’Neil leaves behind a legacy of love, faith, and compassion that will continue to inspire those who were fortunate enough to have been touched by her life.

Beloved sister of Margaret MacMillan of Somerville, Robert “Bobby” O’Neil and his wife Marty of Woburn and the late Dorothy “Dotty” O’Neil. Devoted and cherished aunt of Kelly Barnhill, Jennifer McKinley, Michael, Cheryl and Bobby MacMillan, Brook O’Neil and Kim O’Neil and many great nieces and nephews. Also survived by many loving

friends and family members

Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House SQ.) on Wednesday, July 3rd from 9:00AM to 10:30AM. Followed by a funeral mass celebrated in St. Clement Church 64 Warner St., Medford at 11:00AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Services will conclude with interment at Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Patricia’s name to St. Clement Church Rectory 71 Warner St., Medford, MA 02155.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING JAMES C. O’DONNELL, DMD



Obituary  
James C. O’Donnell, DMD of Andover, MA and formerly of Higham,

MA and N. Woodstock, NH, passed away on June 23, 2024. Jim was predeceased by his wife Eleanor (Doyle) O’Donnell.

He was the father of James O’Donnell, Jr. (spouse Eileen) of Methuen, MA, Beth Ellen Hopkins (spouse Bryan) of North Andover, MA, Paul O’Donnell of Woodstock, NH, Sean O’Donnell, MD (spouse Jessica Daly) of Walpole, ME and Roger O’Donnell (spouse Rae-

ann LeBlanc) of Roy-alston, MA. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren, and a growing number of great-grandchildren.

Jim graduated from Boston College and Tufts University School of Dentistry. After finishing his military service as a Captain, Jim started and kept a practice in Orthodontics, as well as maintained his passion for clinical instructions at the Tufts School of Dentistry. Jim’s

true passions were the sea and the mountains; Jim watched his children grow as they enjoyed boating and skiing together as a family. In later years Dr. Jim could be recognized by his yellow Jeep as he drove around town.

Visiting Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Tuesday, July 2nd from 3:00PM to 6:00PM with a

Prayer service beginning at 6:00PM. Relatives and friends invited to attend. Services will conclude with military honors.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Jim O’Donnell may be made to Friends of Lincoln Library, PO Box 98, Lincoln, NH 03251.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING JOYCE E. “GINGER” KELLY



Obituary  
Kelly, Joyce E. “Ginger” (Crowley)- Of Somerville, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, June 24, 2024. She was 89 years old.

Ginger born in Cam-

bridge to the late Joseph and Anna (Sullivan) Crowley. She met the love of her life, Francis, and together they settled in Somerville, where they raised their family. Ginger cherished every moment spent with her loved ones. As a grandmother, she took on her role with great seriousness, delighting in attending her grandchildren’s after-school events and hosting them at her home for playful times together.

Her love extended beyond family to her community, where she was deeply

engaged in local events. Notably, Ginger was a member of the Davis Square Task Force during the expansion of the red line. In her leisure time, she enjoyed immersing herself in a good book and showcasing her culinary skills as a fabulous cook.

The devoted wife of 68 years to the late Francis Kelly who passed away in 2021. The beloved mother of Pat Kelly and her husband Joseph of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Fran Daly of Somerville, and Bill Kelly and his wife Sue of Wilmington, Delaware.

Cherished grandmother of Steven Kelly and his wife Nora, Kelly Ann Daly and her husband John Perrone, Michael Kelly and his wife Kori, Jay Reyes and his wife Brittany, C.C Daly and his partner John Bouthiller, John Kelly and his wife Heather, Colleen Kelly and her husband Rockson Chang. Loving great grandmother of Liam, Sam, Maren, Sloane, Declan P., Declan, K., and Freyja. Dear sister of the late Patricia Donahue and Ardeth Evans. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House SQ.) Somerville, on Monday, July 1st from 10:00AM to 12:00AM.


Followed by burial at St. Paul Cemetery, Arlington.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Ginger’s memory can be made to the St. Jude Children’s Hospital.



SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD NEWS WEEKLY SPEAKUP LINE: HIGH-TECH PHONE SCAMS



### Megyn Kelly's Secretly Recorded Call With the "Lawyer" Attempting to Scam Her and Her F...

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

An older friend told me a story today. I asked her if I could write her story as a public service announcement. She agreed so here it is.

Public service announcement and warning for all.

Dear Billy:

My grandson and I talk regularly. We have private

nicknames for each other and jokes in conversation we have had since he was a baby.

A few days ago, I received a call from a random phone number out of Quincy, Massachusetts. They claimed to be and sounded exactly like my grandson, using our names and private greeting sequences.

My grandson said that he was sick and on the way to the doctor. He explained to me that he was the cause of

an accident and was with the police. He said a lawyer would explain it to me. He begged me not to tell his parents.

He handed the phone over. The guy on the other end explained that they could make this go away. Because my grandson was young, he claimed they did not want to create a record for him.

The 'lawyer' told me an elaborate story of my grandson, driving & hitting a bicyclist. He said if I gave him \$8,000-\$9,000, they could stop the police from making a record.

It was exactly my grandson's voice and some of the noises he makes that are not just his speaking. But then I heard a sound machine change someone else's voice into my grandson's voice mid sentence.

The lawyer wanted to come pick up the money at my house. I told the lawyer that I wanted to call his parents. Then I told him i wanted to talk to the police. Then my

grandson called (for real) and was OK. I realized the person I was speaking to was a scammer.

The scammer had me on the phone for over an hour, giving me an elaborate story. The alleged lawyer said my grandson was driving (he does not have a license nor own a car) when he ran over a bicycler.

When I called the phone company to check who owned the number, they thought it was strange that more than 400 people's names were listed as owners of the number – also a car rental place.

When I went to the bank, my banker said they have had many seniors that have had the same problem. They told me they have been seeing this a lot. I was lucky that my grandson had no car and no drivers license.

The people behind the scam have the ability to access private conversations, collect voice prints of your loved

ones, special names and exchanges you have with each other, and use computers to mimic them. Scammers are using these software programs to mimic loved ones and scam the loving people.

Seniors and trusting people are most at risk for these scams. Some tips to avoid being scammed:

- Always ask too many questions if you wonder that one of these is happening.
- Don't be afraid to do a little homework of your own.
- Delay so you can converse with loved ones and confirm.
- Confirm things with your loved ones.
- Converse with your bank, so they're aware of these things as well.
- Take notes, names, write down numbers. Note if they mispronounce anything.

I am sharing this story to hope we can prevent harm to anyone and everyone who reads this and shares it with their loved ones.

SHOOTING VICTIM TRANSPORTED FROM SOMERVILLE

Photo by John Alan Roderick

By William Tauro

At about 8 PM on Wednesday night, a medium colored sedan pulled up in front of the rear of the old Somerville Hospital located at 33 Tower Street. Two black males exited the vehicle then immediately the passenger collapsed to the ground wearing


a bloody T-shirt, an apparent victim of a shooting.

The Somerville Hospital is now an Urgent Care type of facility, but there were still some employees inside. A security guard opened the door and alerted staff who came out and were attempting to control the victim's bleeding. Then the immediately. put the victim on

a gurney and wheeled him inside.

Somerville Fire Department crews and Cataldo Ambulance arrived to transport the victim to the Cambridge Hospital. The vehicle was later towed for investigation.

This story is still developing...



SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD NEWS WEEKLY SPEAKUP LINE: ICED DUNKIN DONUTS CUP THROWN THROUGH WINDOW AFTER SOMERVILLE FIREWORKS


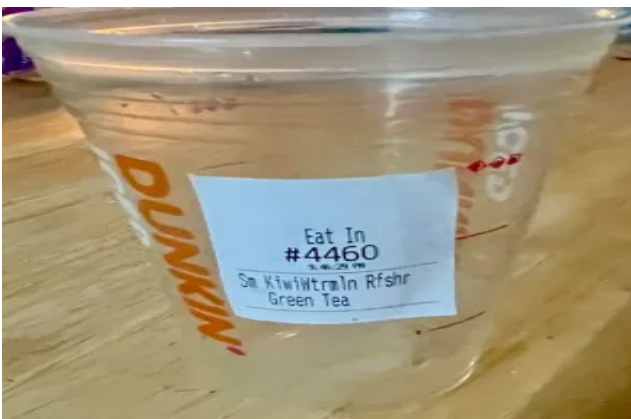
Dear Billy T and Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line,

Some kid last night after the fireworks threw an iced Dunkin' Donuts cup right through a screen window on the second floor. I went downstairs, but they were gone. No neighbors outside

on their steps said anything. I have the dunks order number.

If they used a debit card it should say their name. But, I wonder if I called 411 would they cover the charges for a new screen.

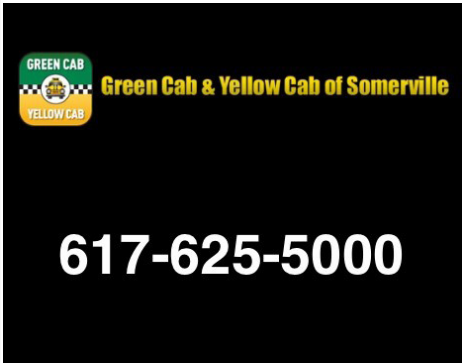
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## \$3.4 BILLION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE (H 4789)

By Bob Katzen

The House 155-2, approved and sent to the Senate a \$3.4 billion economic development package that supporters said includes an array of investments and policy initiatives that aim to bolster support for workers and businesses, particularly in the life sciences, clean energy technology and manufacturing industries, while retaining a larger focus on making Massachusetts more affordable and competitive.

Provisions include \$500 million for the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center to provide grants and loans to grow the life sciences industry in Massachusetts; \$400 million for Mass-Works public infrastructure grants to cities and towns; \$150 million for grants for cities and towns for library projects; \$100 million for the Rural Development

Program providing financial assistance to exclusively rural areas; \$100 million for the Seaport Economic Council Grant program for municipalities for the construction and repair of coastal assets; and \$100 million for Applied AI Hub Capital grant program to support the adoption and application of AI technology in the state's tech sectors.

The bill includes several tax credits including a \$30 million annual tax credit for a program to expand the Climatetech industry; \$7 million annual tax credit to support pre-Broadway, pre-off Broadway, national tour launches and regional professional theater productions; \$5 million per year, to support the production of video games; and a \$10 million tax credit for employers, consisting of \$100,000 per employee that employ for 12 weeks a recent graduate of a

public or private institution of higher education in Massachusetts.

"Through billions of dollars in critical investments and tax credits, the House's economic development bill provides support for companies at the forefront of innovation in the clean energy and the life sciences sectors, among other burgeoning industries," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "Ultimately, this legislation will help to ensure that the commonwealth remains a hub for those industries of the future, while also enhancing support for workers across Massachusetts."

"This well-rounded economic development package makes significant, targeted investments into major sectors of the commonwealth's economy," said Rep. Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston), Chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means. "By renewing our commitment to the life sciences industry, and by making significant new investments into ClimateTech, we will be elevating the commonwealth's economy to be able to compete and thrive for years to come."

"This legislation promotes economic growth across all regions of the state and makes several targeted investments in key sectors like life sciences and climatetech," said Rep. Jerry Parisella (D-Beverly), House chair of the Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies. "Highlights of this session's bill include \$700 million in meaningful tax credits, new permitting reforms, workforce training and consumer protections around ticket sales, electric vehicle charging and home improvement

contractors. This is an exciting time in Massachusetts history and I'm proud of the work done to keep us not only competitive, but a leader in vital industries."

Reps. Marc Lombardo (R-Billerica) and Nicholas Boldyga (R-Southwick), the only two members to vote against the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on the bill and why they opposed it.

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

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Mike Connolly Yes Rep. Paul Donato Yes Rep. Erika Uytendaele Yes

## \$540 MILLION FISCAL 2024 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 4790)

By Bob Katzen

The House 153-1, approved and sent to the Senate a \$540 million fiscal 2024 supplemental budget to close out the books for fiscal year 2024. Provisions include millions of dollars in funding

for 18 collective bargaining agreements; \$26.5 million for cities and towns to prepare for and celebrate in 2026 the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution; \$5.5 million for tax abatements for veterans, widows, blind persons and the elderly;

and \$29.6 million for Income-Eligible Child Care; \$2.1 million for Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Services.

Supporters said the bill funds necessary and important projects and programs to help close out

the books on fiscal 2024.

Rep. Marc Lombardo (R-Billerica), the only member who voted against the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on why he opposed the bill.

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

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Mike Connolly Yes Rep. Paul Donato Yes Rep. Erika Uytendaele Yes

## 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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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.





LETTER FROM GEORGE SCARPELLI MEDFORD CITY COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE



Hello Medford Friends and Families, I am sending this message because my City Council Colleagues and our City Administration have left me no choice but to file with the Attorney General's Office and The State Auditor's Office. It has been very difficult to get answers that our citizens have been asking.

I have tried to ask for more Transparency in the Cities Financial Budgetary process and have been ignored, bullied and illegally dismissed. Due to the absence of a City Solicitor, my only option was to craft a letter asking our State Offices for assistance. In full transparency I have attached the letter to share with our citizens. Please share this information with you friends and neighbors!Sorry It's a long Letter

June 28,2024  
@  
Re: Improprieties with Financial Resolutions by the Medford City Council  
Dear Attorney, General Campbell and Auditor DiZoglio,  
For the past 16 years I have had the honor of being elected to the City Council of the City of Medford. I began my current term this past January. Like any elected official, my ability to appropriately participate at City Council meetings depends on the fair and equal application of Council Rules by whomever serves as President of the Council. Over my many years of service earlier Council Presidents consistently applied applicable Massachusetts statutes and local Council rules to facilitate dialogue and ensure the integrity and proper functioning of municipal governance. This is no longer the case. During the present Council term, Council President Issac "Zac" Bears and other members of the Council have utilized Council Rule 21 in an unfair and self-serving  
Diana DiZoglio  
State Auditor Massachusetts  
State House Room 230  
Boston, MA 02133

fashion to eliminate public discussion on multiple resolutions that will result in the expenditure of millions upon millions of dollars. Recently, their tactics have

escalated into a callous and indifferent violation of my rights and prerogatives as a Councillor under M.G.L. c 43 section 22. Text of Medford City Council Rule 21  
Medford City Council Rule 21 states: "Any finance paper appearing on the Council agenda for the first time shall be automatically laid on the table for one week when such action is requested by any member."  
Text of M.G.L. c 43 section 22 M.G.L. c 43 section 22 states: "Any ordinance, order or resolution may be passed through all its stages of legislation at one session, provided that no member of the council objects thereto; but if any member of be postponed for that the council objects, the measure shall The Purpose and Effect of Rule 21 and M.G.L. c 43 section 22 Local Rule 21 patently allows the Council proper time to consider financial papers that will have a fiscal impact on the City. The state statute, G.L. c 43 section 22, has a similar purpose but it extends the right to any one member of the Council to prevent an ordinance, order or resolution from being "hustled" or "railroaded" through to passage at one meeting of the council.  
I will now set forth what transpired during three recent City Council meetings. My 04-55 Coupled Ruel 120 Prohibit  
At this City Council Meeting I submitted a paper for the agenda. The paper was: 24-371 Resolution to Review All Options in Supporting the School Committee Budget and Review the Mayor's Budget Needs  
Be it Resolved that the City Council review all options in supporting the School Committee Budget. Be it further Resolved that the City Council review the Mayor's presentation of her budget needs. My recommendation was to have the City Council move to use \$5 to 7 million dollars from the "free cash account" to balance the FY 25 School Budget. This would be an alternative to the proposal of other councillors to utilize a Proposition 2 1/2 override. Before I was able to present my resolution City Council President Bears asked me something I found very odd. He asked me "for an amendment to make this more significantly specific" or he would rule it out of order. While I found his request to be bothersome, I began a cursory description of the options would propose. It included:  
1. Asking the Mayor to appropriate five to seven million dollars from "free cash" to level the school budget.

My point in suggesting this is to avoid the gamble if the proposed Proposition 2 1/2 should fail before the voters. That would result in massive school department layoffs and render a fatal budgetary blow to our schools. When I finished my comments President Bears became visibly upset and made various comments from the chair and he then called for a recess. When the Council returned from recess Councillor Matthew Lemming said that since my resolution was a financial paper that he was invoking City Council Rule 21. This ended any discussion on my resolution without debate and the matter was tabled. While I do not consider Councillor Lemming's invocation of Rule 21 to be improper, it marked the beginning of the Council using Rule 21 for its own convenience because, as you will see, when it suits the council it will use Rule 21. However, if the Council does not want to see Rule 21 invoked it will suspend the rules to prohibit its use.  
June 11, 2024- The City Council "Prohibits" the Use of Rule 21 Paving the Way for Passage of Resolutions that Could Result in the Expenditure of Millions of Dollars.  
On June 11, 2024 at the regular meeting of the City Council I expressed my disappointment that just a few days prior to the meeting Mayor Lungo-Koehn had submitted to the Council a two resolution [24-414 and 24-415] to place \$7.5 million in proposition 2 1/2 overrides for the November ballot. The Resolutions were entitled 24-414- Proposition 21/2 Override Order and Ballot Question for Schools and DPW;  
24-415- Proposition 2 1/2 Override Order and Ballot Question to Invest in the future of Medford Public Schools. My concern was that it is irresponsible to consider such significant financial proposals which will have a consequential impact on all property owners without there being proper discussion and consideration. Due diligence requires that information be presented, discussed and public input received. Also at that meeting there were three additional resolutions that also involved the expenditure of money. They were:  
24-413- Proposition 2 1/2 Debt Exclusion Order and Ballot Question for Fire Headquarters [\$30 million dollars];  
24-045- Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Submission.  
24-410- Use of ARPA funds for the FY 25 School budget. In order to insure that the residents of Medford would have the ability to participate during the discussions of these proposals

and so that their participation and Council deliberation would not be "rushed" or "stampeded", "I intended to invoke Council Rule 21. However, prior to these significant money papers being presented, Council Vice President Kit Collins motioned to "suspend the rules" and motioned to "suspend Rule 21" insuring that it could not be invoked! The Council passed these motions by a vote of 6-1. I was the sole dissenting vote. The result of the Council's prohibition on the use of Rule 21? Appropriate time for public input/dialogue squelched, the free exchange of ideas was blocked, and a "strongarmed" passage of these significant financial papers was made certain. Government neither by the people nor for the people. Government by agenda. Government at its worst.  
June 25, 2024- City Council President Issac "Zac" Bears Summarily Disregarded My Invoking M.G.L. c 43 section 22. At the June 25, 2024 meeting of the City Council I expressed my displeasure over Mayor Lungo-Koehn informing the council that Medford has \$9 million dollars in certified in free cash. This increased my concern and my confusion about having received resolutions proposing the expenditure of millions upon millions of dollars and, at the same time, not being given the simple courtesy of having enough time to properly digest the impact of the resolution or to discuss possible alternatives. Also at this meeting the Council again presented financial resolutions [they were papers 24-427, 24-428, 24-432, 24-437 and 24-434- each one a "money paper"].  
Once again Council Vice President Collins motioned to suspend the rules and, consistent with her actions at the June 7th meeting, motioned that City Council Rule 21 not be allowed to be invoked. That vote was successful 6-1. I was the lone Councillor voting against her motions. Then City Council President Bears brought forward resolution 24-429 which calls for \$3 million dollars to be expended for a feasibility study to MSBA.  
At that time, I asked to be recognized and stated that the five resolutions dealing with money that were presented to the council that evening did not allow enough time for the Council to complete its due diligence prior to making its vote. Since the action of the Council Vice President Collins had already eliminated my being able to utilize Council Rule 21, I invoked my rights under M.G.L. c 43 section 22 which, as stated, allows me, as one Councillor to object to the measures and postpone their consideration for one week. I had received a copy of the

text of M.G.L. c 43 section 22 from State Representative Paul Donato, whom I had reached out to for some guidance. Representative Donato personally informed me that he had consulted with legal counsel at the State Legislature ["House Counsel"] who said that even though the City Council had prohibited my use of City Council Rule 21, that there would not be any prohibition on my invoking M.G.L. c 43 section 22. The reason I had contacted State Representative Donato was that I am without the ability to consult with a City Solicitor since the City of Medford has not had a City Solicitor for many years. Council President Bears ruled my request to invoke M.G.L. c 43 section 2 as being "out of order". I challenged his ruling and my challenge failed 6-1. My Request to Your Offices  
As I have described, it is my opinion that the members of the Medford City Council have acted in a joint and inappropriate effort to eliminate discussion, quell dialogue and eradicate needed discernment regarding significant monetary issues. Also, the actions and decision of Council President Bears have intentionally and arbitrarily violated my rights as an elected member of the City Council by stamping out my prerogative to invoke M.G.L. c 43 section 22. These actions and violations are clearly demonstrable and extremely troubling. The Council uses words such as transparency detriment of public input and good government. This has improperly hindered my ability to meet the responsibilities of my oath of office. These matters cannot be simply dismissed as matters of discretion or political maneuvering. Just as the Attorney General's office is required to review town bylaws for their consistency with state law and the Office of the State Auditor conducts audits and investigations to make government work better, I respectfully request that both of your offices investigate, audit and ultimately guide the City Council on the applicability of M.G.L. c 43 section 2 and the responsibility that it has regarding financial resolutions. I am available to provide any additional information or documentation that may be required for your investigation. Please feel free to contact me at 781-858-0240 or scarpg@comcast.net should you require and further details.  
Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that your offices will take the necessary steps to address these concerns and update me as soon as possible.  
Sincerely  
George Scarpelli  
Medford City Council



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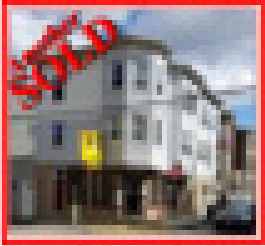


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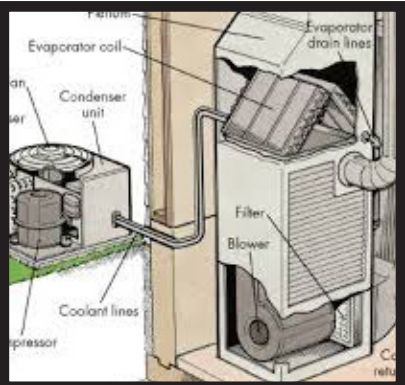
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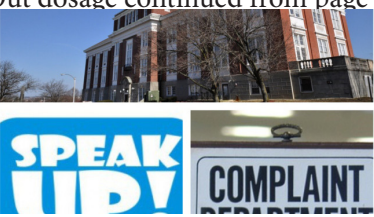
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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

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



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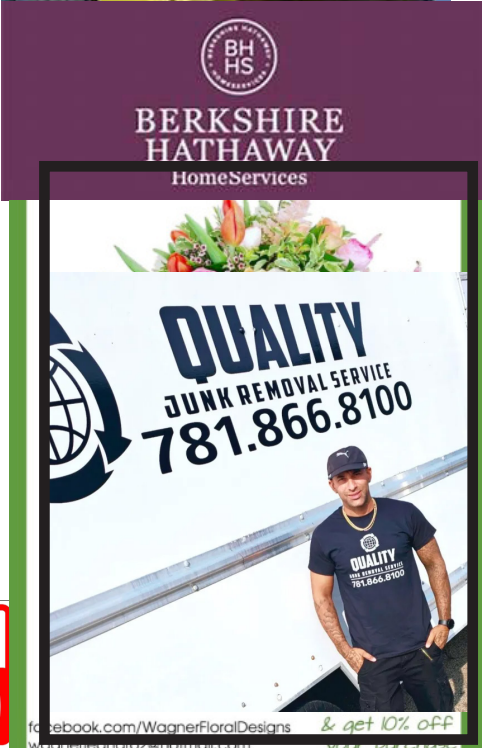
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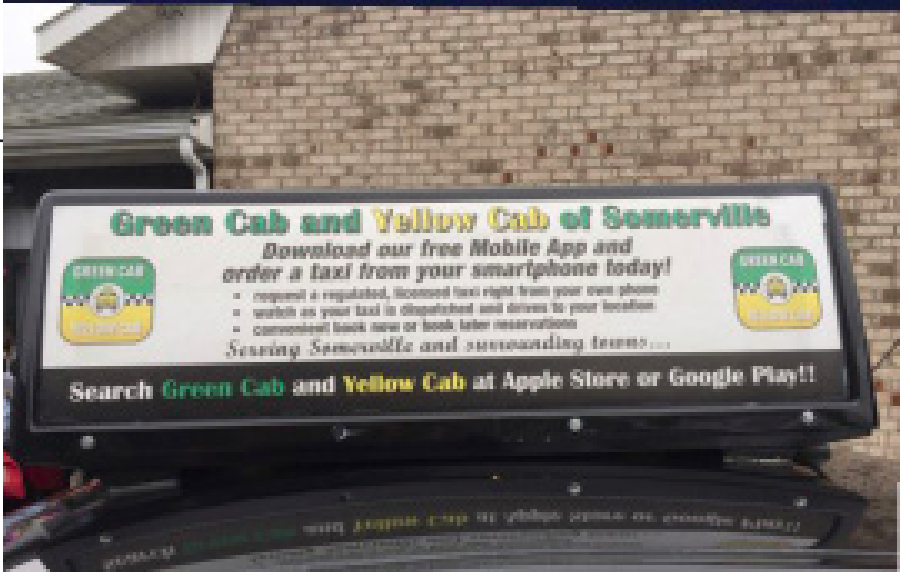




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SOMERVILLE HOSTING TUFTS STREET RECONSTRUCTION  
COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE, WEDNESDAY, JULY 10  
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

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

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward One Councilor Matthew McLaughlin, and City of Somerville

staff invite you to a community open house to learn about the updated design for transportation safety improvements on Tufts Street.

The event will take place Wednesday, July 10, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Glen Park Playground. If there is inclement weather, the event will be rescheduled to July

11.

The outdoor open house will feature multiple stations describing different aspects of the street reconstruction project including an upcoming wall mural. Drop-in anytime during the event to review materials and talk with the project team about your feedback, questions, and ideas.

Following the event, a recorded presentation and information about the updated design will be available on the project website.

Other opportunities for community members to share feedback will include an online survey, a street

outreach pop-up planned for July 23 from 5 to 7 p.m., and virtual office hours with Mobility Division staff on July 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For details on these engagement opportunities, visit [somervillema.gov/tuftsstreet](http://somervillema.gov/tuftsstreet).

About the Tufts Street Reconstruction Project

The City is repaving Tufts Street and reconstructing its sidewalks as part of the citywide Pavement and Sidewalk Management Program. This presents an opportunity to redesign the street to make it safer for everyone. Tufts Street is designated as a “Neighborhood” in the Somerville

Bicycle Network Plan, which is a walk and bike friendly street designed to lower vehicle volumes and speeds.

After gathering feedback on the concept design from community members in the fall, and processing data collection on soil analysis, parking utilization, and incorporating input from emergency services, the City has developed an updated design proposal. City staff will share the updated design for the street as part of our upcoming open house. Updated design information will also be shared on the project website at [somervillema.gov/tuftsstreet](http://somervillema.gov/tuftsstreet).

Questions and comments can be submitted and by calling 311 (617-666-3311). [transportation@somervillema.gov](mailto:transportation@somervillema.gov) and by calling 311 (617-666-3311).

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. Construction is anticipated to begin in mid-2025 and continue through 2026. All schedules are preliminary and subject to change.

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING WILLIAM “WILLIE” A. MEDEIROS



Obituary  
MEDEIROS, William A.  
“Willie” – Born and raised in

Somerville and a lifelong resident, June 26, 2024. Beloved Son of the late Robert and Elizabeth Medeiros.

Willie was a deeply rooted and active member of the Somerville community. His involvement in local sports, such as football at Somerville High School, and his dedication to community events and political engagement highlight his commitment to his hometown. Being a member of the recreational department and

the condo board association at Somerville City Hall shows his ongoing contribution to improving and maintaining the local community. His love for Somerville and his active participation in various facets of community life make his memory one that will be cherished by many.

Loving brother of Robert Medeiros of Houston, TX, Theresa “Terri” Medeiros of Somerville, the late Susan and Daniel Medeiros.

Dear uncle of Christopher and his wife Christine, Briana and Kendra. Cherished great uncle of Maya, Lily, Tiana, Troy and Brynnly.

Visiting hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville, Tuesday evening July 9th from 4:00 – 6:30, with a family service beginning at 6:30 to 7:00pm.

Relatives and friends invited. Interment private.

Willie was the past president of the Somerville Highschool Football Teams Grid Iron Club, a member of the Recreation Department, he was also involved in Somerville politics and a member of the City of Somerville Condominium Association.

\$1 BILLION CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE ACTION FUND (\$ 2829)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 1-38, rejected an amendment that would create a \$1 billion Clean Energy and Climate Action Fund to be administered by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center, which would distribute funds to efficient retrofits and

upgrades that fit into the state’s commitment to reducing emissions from the built environment.

“I am extremely disappointed that this amendment was rejected as part of this bill,” said amendment sponsor Sen. Mark Pacheco (D-Taunton). “The

transition to clean energy will require a significant investment, and this investment is currently one of the biggest barriers to the transition to clean energy. The cost of this fund pales in comparison to the costs the Commonwealth will incur if the transition to clean energy is not expedited.”

Amendment opponents said the \$1 billion would come from the Rainy Day Fund which, because of lower tax revenue, has not been as flush with money as the Senate thought it would be.

Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington), a lead sponsor of the bill,

did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on his opposition to this amendment.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No



HOUSING (S 2834)  
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

## SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING MARIE E. TRAHAN

In lieu of flower's memorial contributions may be sent in Marie's name to the MSCPA.  
A celebration of Marie's life will be held at a later date

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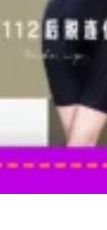
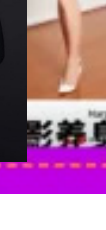

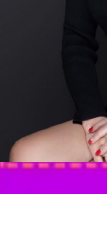







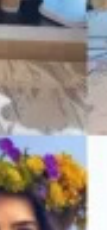


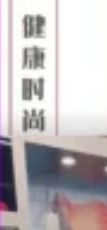


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CITY OF SOMERVILLE HONORING 2024 DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH



Free Activities for All Ages and Abilities Planned Throughout July

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville Commission for Persons With Disabilities (SCPD) are announcing a series of events throughout July to recognize and celebrate Disability Pride Month.

This month-long celebration will feature a variety of activities designed to raise awareness, celebrate the contributions of individuals with disabilities, and foster an inclusive community spirit.

“We are very thankful to Mayor Ballantyne and the Department of Racial and Social Justice (RSJ) who have supported us in facilitating these events as we celebrate Disability Pride Month this July,” shared Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities Chair Holly Simone. “We are excited to embrace the diversity and rich contributions of people with disabilities and have fun learning together.”

All residents are invited to participate and join in celebrating the diverse abilities and achievements of our community members.

Schedule of Events:  
Somerville Commission for Persons with

Disabilities Monthly Public Meeting  
Date/Time: Tuesday, July 9, 7 – 9 p.m.  
Location: Tufts Administration Building Conference Room (2nd floor, Room 203M), 167 Holland St. For more information about the monthly meetings, visit the SCPD website.  
About: Join the monthly public SCPD meeting where accessible recreation and parking will be discussed. The commission welcomes you to join our meeting – we value input from Somerville residents.

“How to Train Your Dragon” Screening  
Date/Time: Wednesday, July 10, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
Location: West Library Branch (40 College Ave)  
About: Enjoy a screening of “How to Train Your Dragon” with treats and prizes. Space is limited and registration is required in advance. RSVP here.

Disability Pride Flag Raising  
Date/Time: Thursday, July 11, 5 – 6 p.m.  
Location: City Hall Plaza (93 Highland Ave)  
About: Join the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Mayor Ballantyne to raise the Disability Pride flag above Somerville’s City Hall. Light refreshments will be served following the flag raising.

SCPD ArtBeat Booth  
Date/Time: Saturday, July 13, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Location: ArtBeat, Davis Square  
About: Visit the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities’ booth at ArtBeat to participate in a multi-sensory community art project, share a pride story, and decode secrets and get a custom cup with your name in Braille. Stop by for free books, prizes, and your very own Disability Pride tote bag!

“CODA” Screening and Discussion  
Date/Time: Wednesday, July 24, 1 p.m.

Location: Somerville Council on Aging (167 Holland St.)  
About: Attend a Council on Aging screening of the film “CODA,” followed by a discussion with members of the Disability Commission.  
RSVP by calling Debby at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or emailing at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Disability Pride Family Day  
Date/Time: Saturday, July 27, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Location: West Library Children’s Room (3rd Floor)  
About: Join us for live readings of stories that celebrate disability read by members from the Disability Commission, bracelet-making, and painting messages on river rocks.  
Attendees will receive treats, prizes, books, and a tote bag. Activities are inclusive for all ages and abilities.  
RSVP here  
Book readings for grades K-3 will take place at 10 a.m., 10:20 a.m., 10:40 a.m., and 11 a.m.  
Book readings for grades 4-6 will occur at 11:30 a.m. and 11:50 a.m.

Evening Book Reading by Local Authors with Disabilities  
Date/Time: Monday, July 29, 7 – 9 p.m.  
Location: West Branch Library  
About: Join an evening of readings by local authors with disabilities. For more details on the events and to register RSVP here.

About Disability Pride Month  
Disability Pride Month is celebrated in July to honor the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 26th, 1990.  
The month aims to promote visibility and mainstream awareness of the positive pride felt by people with disabilities.

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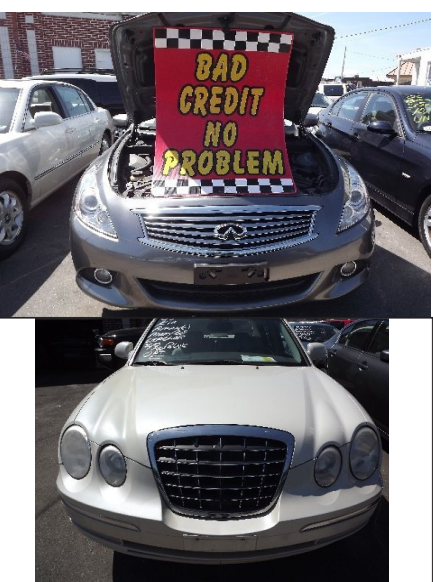
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PERFORMANCES BY JIMMY TINGLE, LAUREN SIMS, MIKE GLEASON, JOHN HARRINGTON AND SHI WINGACE. HOSTED BY BLACK TIE PRODUCTIONS. RAFFLE AND OTHER PRIZES





SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD REMEMBERING PATRICIA T. JUDGE



Obituary  
Judge, Patricia T. – Of New  
Bern, NC formerly of Somer-  
ville, passed away at home sur-

rounded by family on Friday,  
June 21, 2024. She was 65 years  
of age.  
Trisha was born on November  
18, 1958, to the late John T. and  
Mary B. (Stack) Judge.  
  
Trisha’s education began at St.  
Catherine’s Grammar School,  
followed by Somerville High  
School. She pursued higher ed-  
ucation at Emmanuel College.  
Trisha worked at Genzyme  
Corporation for 25 years as a  
valued representative of the  
Human Resources Division.  
  
Trisha loved to travel, and  
enjoyed knitting, crafting, and

gardening. Trisha had a deep  
affection for animals, espe-  
cially her cherished pets, who  
brought her companionship  
and joy throughout her life.  
  
She leaves behind a legacy of  
love, kindness, and warmth  
that will be deeply missed by  
her family, friends, and all who  
had the pleasure of knowing  
her.  
  
She was a devoted daughter,  
dedicated mother loving wife,  
cherished sister, and dear  
friend to many.  
  
Treasured wife of Stephen

F. Powley. Beloved mother  
of Ryan Smith and his wife  
Danielle of Wilmington.  
Cherished sister of James Judge  
of Woburn, Jack Judge and his  
wife Susan Turner of Littleton,  
Susan Laidley of Melrose, and  
the late Kathleen Anacito and  
Ann Marie Judge. Loving aunt  
of Melissa Donovan, Jennifer  
Madden, Erin Capasso, and  
Siobhan Laidley, and great-  
aunt to eleven great nieces and  
nephews.  
  
A funeral procession will  
be held from the George L.  
Doherty Funeral Home, 855  
Broadway (Powder House

SQ.) Somerville on Tuesday,  
July 2nd at 9:00AM. Followed  
by a funeral Mass celebrated  
in St. Catherine Church, 179  
Summer St., Somerville at  
10:00AM.  
  
Relatives and friends are re-  
spectfully invited to attend.  
  
Calling Hours will be held on  
Monday, July 1st from 4:00PM  
to 7:00PM.  
  
Services will conclude with  
interment at Woodbrook Cem-  
etery, Woburn.

BAN HOME EQUITY THEFT (H 4791)

By Bob Katzen

The House 154-0, approved  
and sent to the Senate a mea-  
sure that would prohibit cities  
and towns that foreclose on  
properties on which the owner  
owes back property taxes,  
from keeping all of the profits  
when the city or town sells the  
property at auction. Current  
Massachusetts law allows this  
practice. The bill would allow  
the city or town to keep only  
the amount owed in back taxes  
and send the remainder to the  
owner.  
  
Last year, the United States  
Supreme Court ruled that cities  
and towns that foreclose on  
properties on which the owner

owes back property taxes, can-  
not keep all of the profits when  
the city or town sells the prop-  
erty at auction. Supreme Court  
Chief Justice John Roberts,  
writing a unanimous decision  
about a similar Minnesota law,  
said that “a taxpayer who loses  
her \$40,000 house to the state  
to fulfill a \$15,000 tax debt has  
made a far greater contribu-  
tion to the public fisc than she  
owed.”  
  
“This legislation provides much  
needed consumer protections  
to property owners and clarity  
to municipalities on tax lien  
procedures,” said Rep. Mark  
Cusack (D-Braintree), House  
Chair of the Committee on  
Revenue. “Equity will now be

returned to its rightful owner  
while making cities and towns  
whole.”  
  
The bill was based on earlier  
versions of the measure spon-  
sored by Reps. John Mahoney  
(D-Worcester), Tram Nguyen  
(D-Andover) and Jeff Roy (D-  
Franklin),  
  
“For far too long, unscrupulous  
collectors have taken advantage  
of Massachusetts homeowners  
in foreclosure,” said Mahoney.  
“This legislation rectifies this  
systematic problem once and  
for all. By protecting the hard-  
earned equity of our neighbors,  
while balancing the needs of  
cities and towns, we can stifle  
the corruption of bad-faith

lienholders and make the com-  
monwealth a more prosperous  
place for working families.  
  
“The best way for property  
owners to keep the equity in  
their homes, is for them  
to keep their homes,” said  
Nguyen. “This bill protects  
homeowners by providing  
better notices in the municipal  
tax lien process and presenting  
opportunities to cure deficien-  
cies.”  
  
“Today’s vote by the Legislature  
makes the tax taking pro-  
cess more just and erases the  
patently unfair and unconsti-  
tutional processes used to rob  
homeowners of their home’s  
equity built over years,” said

Roy. “The bill enhances due  
process protections which  
will ensure that a homeowner  
receives adequate notice and  
affirms their right and op-  
portunity to claim that equity.  
Moreover, this significant legis-  
lative step provides homeown-  
ers with an equitable process  
for resolving tax delinquencies  
and rectifies constitutional  
problems with the current law.”  
  
(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)  
  
Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep.  
Mike Connolly Yes Rep. Paul  
Donato Yes Rep. Erika Uytter-  
hoeven Yes

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SOMERVILLE INVITED TO BRICKBOTTOM NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

PUBLIC MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 8



Community Encouraged to Ask Questions and Share Feedback on Current Version of the Neighborhood Plan

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City’s Planning, Preservation, and Zoning

Department invite Somerville community members to a public meeting to help inform the final draft of the Brickbottom Neighborhood Plant. City Staff will present the most current version of the plan and will answer questions from the community.

The meeting will be hybrid, taking place both in-person and via Zoom. Meeting Details

Date: Monday, July 8, 2024

Time: 6 – 8 p.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Cafe space at 100


Chestnut St.

Zoom information: Meeting ID: 861 0313 3834

Registration Link: [bit.ly/JulyBrick](https://bit.ly/JulyBrick)

Visit [voice.somervillema.gov/brick](https://voice.somervillema.gov/brick) for more information.

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](https://somervillema.gov/CPA). Please contact Roberta Cameron, Community Preservation Act Manager, with questions at [rcameron@somervillema.gov](mailto:rcameron@somervillema.gov).

About the Community Preser-

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/MEDFORD REMEMBERING KEVIN SHERIDAN O’BRIEN



Obituary  
Kevin Sheridan O’Brien died on June 25, 2024 in Orlando, Florida.

Kevin was born in Waterbury, Connecticut in 1932 to John Walter and Eleanor Colwell O’Brien. He was raised there and in Massachusetts, principally in the town of Cambridge. In Cambridge he attended The Peabody School, followed by Cambridge Academy and then Harvard College. In college he met the love of his life, Barbara Williams, who was a student at Radcliffe. Kevin was a Naval ROTC scholarship student, and immediately upon graduation served in the Navy for three years until he was honorably discharged in 1957. It was during his service that he and Barbara were married

in Naples, Italy in 1954. Upon leaving active service, Kevin joined Rayonier, Inc., a manufacturing firm, and then also earned an MBA at New York University, a degree that he pursued at night while also working at Rayonier. His early years at Rayonier were in international sales. During his tenure there he also held a variety of senior positions in finance, sales, marketing, mergers & acquisition and strategic planning, and after his retirement in 1996, he also continued consulting for the company for several years. Kevin’s early work at Rayonier included five years during which he, Barbara, and their first child Deirdre lived in Paris, France, and they developed a deep affection for that country that lasted the rest of their lives. Upon returning from France, he and Barbara settled in Ridgewood, New Jersey, where they raised their children and lived for 52 years. The family’s years in Ridgewood were filled with love and happiness, all made possible by Kevin and Barbara’s truly loving partnership and by Kevin’s devotion, hard work, seriousness and generous spirit. He was a man with the highest standards, was kind and decent to everyone he ever met, and had

a great wit and sense of humor. He and Barbara enjoyed great friendships, lively family gatherings, travel and wine. They both loved learning and deeply valued education. Kevin was also an active member of all of the communities in which he lived. He was elected to the Ridgewood Village Council and chaired its Economic Advisory Committee. He was a longtime trustee with the Ridgewood Senior Citizens Housing Corporation (which operated an affordable senior housing development called Ridgecrest), and he served as its President for a number of years. Kevin, Barbara, their family and friends also spent many happy hours and years playing tennis at the Upper Ridgewood Tennis Club, where Kevin also served as Treasurer and President. He also stayed active in fundraising for his alma mater, and was even involved in the landscape committee of Spring Meadow where they lived for 4 years in Wyckoff, NJ. The last five years of his life were spent at HarborChase, a wonderful senior living community in Orlando, Florida. There, too, his guidance, knowledge and respect for all made him an especially cherished member of that community.

Kevin’s faith was important to him. He and Barbara were members of the Catholic parishes of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Ridgewood, NJ, St. Elizabeth’s in Wyckoff, NJ and Holy Family in Orlando, FL. More generally, Kevin’s advice was sought out throughout his life by family, colleagues, neighbors and friends. It was always provided with thoughtfulness and serious consideration. Yet family was always first in Kevin’s life. Because of his special marriage, his loving relationships with his children, and deep bonds of friendship, he would declare to anyone who would listen that he was the luckiest man in the world.

Kevin is survived by two of his siblings, Brendan J. O’Brien (Constance) of Venice, FL and Deirdre Williams of New York, New York, all of his children and their spouses, Deirdre Phelan, Michael O’Brien (Roxanne), Clare O’Brien (Nancy Walsh), Katherine Caravello (Robert) and Sean O’Brien (Rebecca Stead). He is also survived by his nine grandsons: Kevin Phelan, Brendan O’Brien, Aidan O’Brien, Conor O’Brien, Michael Caravello, Christopher Caravello, Brian Caravello, Jack Stead O’Brien

and Eli Stead O’Brien, and many cherished nieces and nephews. Kevin was predeceased by his parents and his siblings John R. O’Brien, Anne O’Brien Desrosier and MaryPat O’Brien Mulcare. Visiting Hours for immediate family will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Monday, July 8th from 9:00AM to 10:00AM followed by a Prayer Service at 10:00AM. All family and friends of the family are invited to a burial at 11:00am, which will be followed by a Memorial Service and Reception at Mount Auburn Cemetery’s Bigelow Chapel, Cambridge, MA

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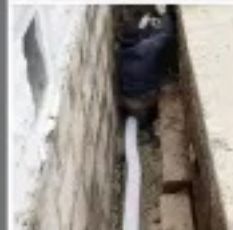
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MEDFORD NEWS 'BOUT TOWN

“It was a Win, Win Night!”

Each year many cities gather their Charity Clubs for a Communal Night....Eat, meet, chat, review events and ideas, and eagerly await raffles! This year all met at great Ho Win Palace.

The theme of Charitable Hearts was given by Lions VP Sharon Deyeso. How nice for members of clubs to continue many years and give time, Concern, gifts, dues, and purchase of event fundraiser tickets. The Lions focus on “serving” cities for mainly eye Research. The Door prize was donated by a new, Wel-lington Circle veterinarian,Dr. Erin Turowski and her 2 assistants who brought adorable animals! Gotta gave a heart to care for ill animals.

Some attendees won great gift baskets and Lottery tickets...what greater place to WIN AND EATat

than Raymond Wu’s HO WIN PAL-ACE!! This lovely renovated res-taurant was recently opened....ALL enjoyed a great buffet and were greeted also by the hospitable Owner Raymond Wu. Aside from a fine location for this charitable event, ALL commented on the fine cuisine.

Raffle monies will be donated to Tufts University Eye Research. Wanna feel Big?? Be a LION or join a Charity Club. We all wish Medford a Happy 4th!

Sharon Deyeso, VP  
sharondeyeso@yahoo.com  
Dr. Usha Sharma, PR



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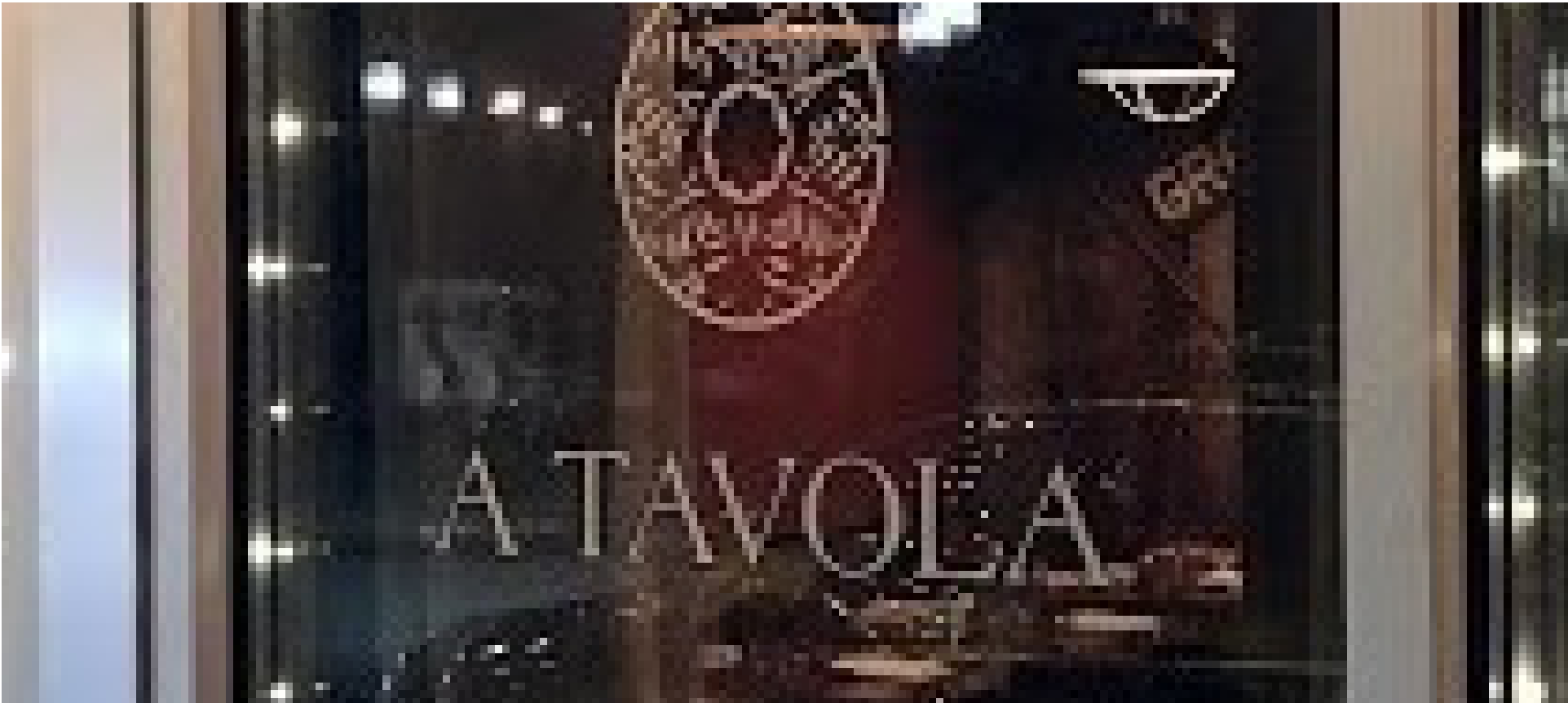
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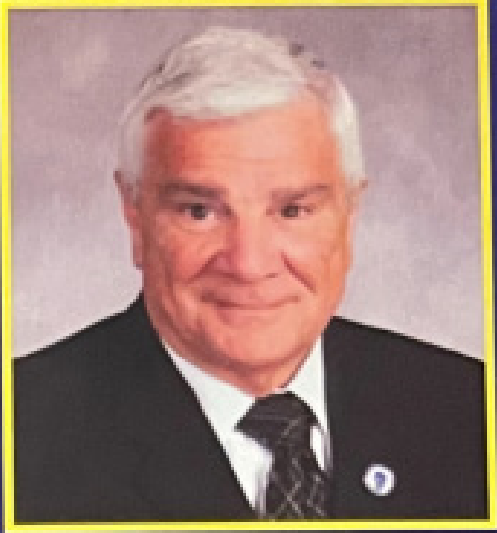
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