

# The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

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VOL.1 NO.329-230

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS.

Tuesday September 17th, 2024

## Second Stretch of Highland Avenue Paving Takes Place Overnight September 15 to 16 from School Street to Benton Road



NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



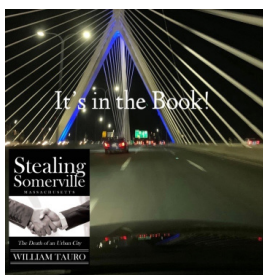
Continued to page 17

### DOG KENNEL SAFETY OLLIE'S LAW (S 2929)

### SPD Officer Priscilla Ribeiro Awarded The Arthur W. Regan Award



Somerville Police Real Life Somerville Police Stories Page



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Continued to page 5



### MOUNT VERNON RESTAURANT

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



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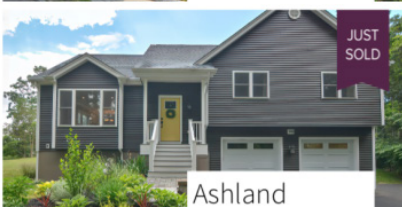
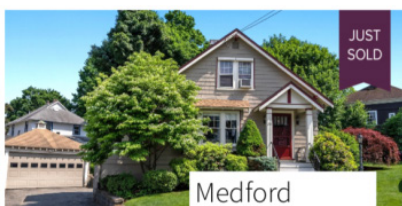
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**MARKET ACTIVITY**

**WE HAVE BEEN BUSY...**

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

Helen Praysman Broker Associate REALTOR®  
(617) 610-5382 [Helen.Praysman@commonmoves.com](mailto:Helen.Praysman@commonmoves.com)

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

Winner of the 2018 Chairman's Circle Diamond award, representing the top 1/2 of the top 1% across the nation  
Winner of the 2019 President Circle Award  
Winner of the 2020 Chairman's Circle Gold award, representing the top 2% in Berkshire Hathaway Home Services across the nation





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

Please send both forms and payment to:

**Medford High School**  
 Attn: Rob Farrell  
 489 Winthrop Street  
 Medford, MA 02155

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

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



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### Somerville/Medford Remembering James Finigan



James Finigan  
9/10/2024  
James "Jim" Finigan, age 83, of Medford died peacefully on Tuesday, September 10th, at Massachusetts General Hospital of Boston. Born in Cambridge, he was raised and educated in Somerville, the son of the late Michael and Elizabeth (Reidy) Finigan.

Jim was a graduate of Somerville High School and was known for his

devotion to all sports. He lived in Medford for over 60 years and worked as a carpenter. Jim loved spending time with family and friends, especially all his grandchildren. For many years, Jim coached for South Medford Little League. He was a beloved fan of the Bruins, Celtics, Patriots, and Red Sox.

Jim was the beloved husband of Lillian Finigan, and the devoted father of Darlene Thornton and

her husband Richard of Medford, Michael Finigan and his wife Mary of Somerville, and Stephen Finigan and his wife Laurie of Medford. He was the devoted grandfather of Shawn Thornton, Tyler Finigan, Kaleigh Finigan, James Finigan, Kyle Finigan, and Rachel Finigan. Jim was an adoring great grandfather to Jordan Thornton. He was predeceased by the late Leo Finigan, Robert Finigan, Lenny Finigan,

Elizabeth Baker, Sarah Finigan, Dorothy Schreib, and Elinor Nagle, and is survived by many nieces and nephews.

According to his wishes, all services for Jim will be private. As an expression of sympathy, contributions may be sent in Jim's name to Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Division Of Development/Jimmy Fund, PO Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168.

### Somerville/Medford Remembering Rosemary Ryan



Rosemary Ryan, 72, of Salem, NH, formerly Somerville, MA, passed away on Sunday, Septem-

ber 8, 2024, in her home with her loving husband by her side. She was born on August 16, 1952, to the late Harry (Mickey) and Helen (Davis) Ventre, in Cambridge, MA.

Rosemary had many passions in her life, but none stronger than her love of cooking and her desire to feed as many people as possible. Not only did she cook for her family and friends, but she also taught culinary arts at Somerville High School, passing on her skills and

passion for taking care of others. Being a teacher, she was like a second mother to many of her students. Always there with the support they needed, what ever it may be. Rosemary was dedicated to her cause Helping Hands. Always gathering donations and giving back to those in need, allowing others to take the credit. Above all, Rosemary's favorite memories would be the time spent with her loved ones.

Rosemary is survived by

her husband: William C. Ryan Sr.; their children: Kerryann Della Pasqua, and her husband Alex, and grandson Quinn of Salem, NH, and William C. Ryan Jr., and his wife Jenene, and grandchildren Lilly, Billy, and Patrick of Chesapeake, VA; her siblings: Carol Murphy, Sandy Maccini and Laura Shea.

In addition to her parents, Rosemary is predeceased by her siblings: Pamela Knight, Edith (DeeDee) Burke, Harry Ventre, and

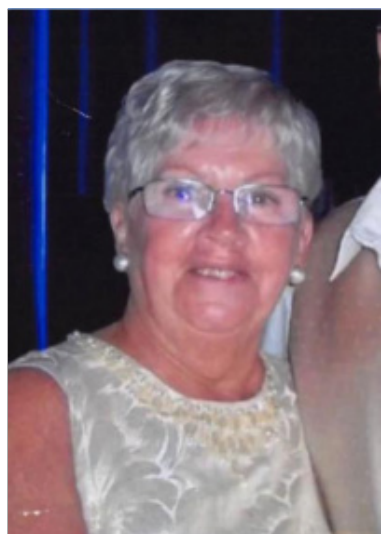
Richard Ventre. Rosemary was a major part of many lives, and will be greatly missed by all.

A Celebration of Life for Rosemary will be on September 21, 2024. A dedicated mass will be held 10:00

Mary Queen of Peace  
200 Lawrence Rd  
Salem, NH 03079

Followed by a mercy meal  
Jamison's  
472 State Rte 111,  
Hampstead, NH.  
12pm - 3pm

### Somerville/Medford Remembering Jean M. (Scales) Bando



Obituary  
Jean M. (Scales) Bando, a cherished resident of Medford for many years, passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at the age of 88. Born in Tewksbury, she was the beloved daughter of the late Leo and Catherine (Riley) Scales.

Complete obit to be

posted.

Calling hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) on SATURDAY, September 21st morning from 9:00AM to 11:00AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

A funeral mass will be celebrated in St. Joseph Church, 118 High St., Medford, MA at 11:30AM.

Services will conclude with interment at Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford.

In lieu of flower's contributions may be made in Jean's name to The Home

for Little Wanderers 72 E. Dedham Street, Boston, MA 02118



### Somerville/Medford Remembering Robert Cullen



Robert Cullen Obituary

Obituary published on Legacy.com by Dello Russo Funeral Home -

Medford on Sep. 12, 2024. Robert E. Cullen, Jr., "Bobby" of Medford passed away on September 10, 2024.

He was 62 years old. Born in Cambridge, he was the cherished son of the late Marie (White) and Robert E. Cullen Sr.

Prior to his retirement, Bobby was employed by Johnnie's Foodmaster Supermarket in Med-

ford, where he worked as a store clerk. Bobby had a jovial and outgoing personality. He enjoyed the simple things in life; walking, or just being outdoors. Bob loved being with his family and friends and most of all, he enjoyed the loving companionship he shared with his significant other, Jennifer for the last 25 years. Bobby was the dear brother of Margaret A. Ars-

lanian and her husband Randolph of Melbourne, FL. and the late Marie Elena Asaro and her late husband Vincent, the late Barbara Richard and Katherine Cullen. He was the adored uncle of Steven Asaro, Stacy Mannke and her husband William, Michelle Hamilton and her husband Allan and Steven Michael Richard and his wife Megan and the great-uncle of several

great nieces and nephews. Bobby was the beloved and devoted significant other of 25 years to Jennifer Brown of Medford. Visiting hours will be held in the Dello Russo Funeral Home, 306 Main St., Medford, MA, on Monday, September 16, from 12-2PM. Relatives and friends are invited. Interment will be private.



# SPD Officer Priscilla Ribeiro awarded the Arthur W. Regan Award for her initiative and leadership in bringing National Night Out back to Somerville

Continued from front page



Congratulations Somerville Police Officer Priscilla Ribeiro and thank you for a job well done!

Officer Priscilla Ribeiro was awarded the Arthur W. Regan Award today for her initiative and leadership in bringing National Night Out back to Somerville. The Artie Regan Memorial Award is given to an SPD Employee whose work in the community goes beyond the

call of duty.

Given just a few weeks to organize, she immediately began collecting donations, marketing, and connecting with local businesses and vendors to make National Night Out an unforgettable night for the community. Working with over 70+ city departments, vendors, sponsors and ensuring free food and dessert for all constituents, Officer Ribeiro's

leadership and positive attitude remained constant. We thank Officer Ribeiro for her continued commitment to our Somerville community and are proud to present this award to her.



## Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line: New Boston Convenient Store Robbed at Knife Point

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

Hi Billy,

FYI I thought that you might like to know that the New Boston Convenience Store that's located at 6 Broadway Charlestown on the Somerville/

Charlestown boarder next to the Mount Vernon Restaurant was robbed at knife point yesterday.

The little girl that works there told my brother this morning it's Boston but it's on the Somerville line close to home. Crime has risen in Somerville Charlestown, especially

with all these homeless people now sleeping on all the streets and parks in that area.

Please help this city if you can and run for mayor again. We need you now more than ever.

A frustrated Resident



## Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line: homeless are moving into other areas of the city!

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

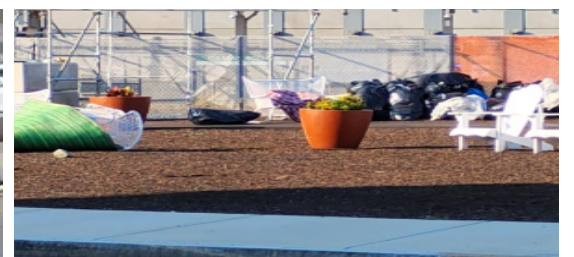
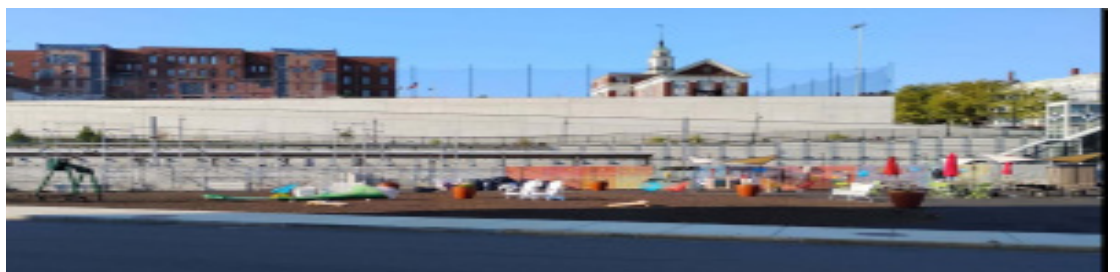
Billy the homeless are moving into other areas of the city. They have returned under 93 at the crosswalk from the hotel to Stop n Shop. Sadly the Gilman Square Park has three homeless men staying there. The City has had to remove the portable potty and the water station as a result.

Seven hills park looks worse than a bad campsite. A taxpaying resident gets a ticket for placing a trash barrel out too early but homeless people can loiter, defecate, and do drugs in

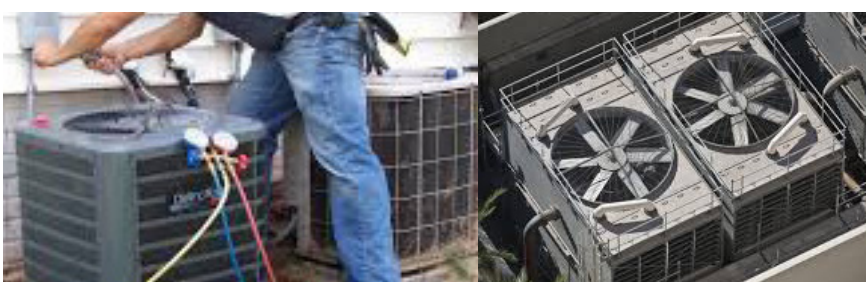
our neighborhoods without any response by the City. The elected officials are allowing our city to be destroyed one day at a time. Residents need to call them out on the conditions of what once was a nice place to call home.

Notice the photo of the guy shaving. Just another day at stop and shop. Another homeless guy shaving in the bathroom. What a mess.

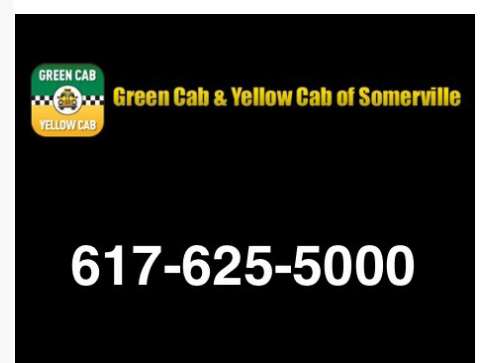
It's just another typical East Somerville quality of life shit show day!



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## Somerville Kicks Off Community Engagement for “Elm-Beacon Connector” Street Safety Project with Sept 25 Virtual Community Meeting

City will offer many diverse opportunities to get involved in “quick-build” safety upgrades planned for portions of Elm Street, Somerville Avenue, Beacon Street and Mossland Street.

SOMERVILLE—As part of the City’s intensive efforts to improve traffic safety for all, planning for the City’s new Elm-Beacon Connector street safety improvement project is getting underway. All are invited to help inform the project, which extends across four city wards on Elm Street, Somerville Avenue, Beacon Street, and Mossland Street.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 6 Councilor Lance Davis, Ward 5 Councilor Naima Sait, Ward 3 Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen, Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott, and City Staff invite you to participate in a range of feedback opportunities launching this fall.

The community engagement and design process will begin with a virtual community meeting on Wednesday, September 25, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Visit [somervillema.gov/elmbeacon](http://somervillema.gov/elmbeacon) to attend. At this meeting, City staff will introduce the project and provide residents with the opportunity to ask questions and share their experiences. Public feedback opportunities on both the initial planning and then the design of the project will continue over the coming year.

More information about this project and opportunities to get involved are included below.

### Project Overview and Timeline

The Elm-Beacon Connector project is intended to improve safety through a range of treatments including crosswalk improvements, traffic calming, separated bicycle facilities, and bus service improvements.

The project area includes:

Elm Street from Russell Street to Somerville Avenue

Somerville Avenue from Elm Street to Acadia Park

Mossland Street from Elm Street to Somerville Avenue

Beacon Street from Somerville Avenue to Oxford Street

The City plans to engage community members and develop the new design from September 2024 through June 2025. Installation of the new safety and mobility features is anticipated to take place in fall 2025.

The Elm-Beacon Connector is a “quick-build project,” which means that all of the work can be done without digging or making major structural changes to the street (such as moving sidewalk curbs or changing the height of the road). Instead, the City will use materials that are quicker to install like vertical plastic posts and paint markings on the street. This approach allows us to deliver safety improvements faster and more affordably than full street reconstruction.

### How to Get Involved

The City will offer a mix of in-person and virtual engagement opportunities throughout the design process, including:

Online and in-person surveys

Community meetings for the general public, Kennedy school community, and more

Street outreach with neighborhood pop-ups and tabling at community events

Direct outreach to local businesses

“Office hours” drop-in events

The first event is a virtual community meeting on Wednesday, September 25, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Attend the meeting, learn more about the project by visiting [somervillema.gov/elmbeacon](http://somervillema.gov/elmbeacon).

### Policy Background

The City’s efforts to increase safety on our streets are guided by our goals to both keep community members physically safe as well as to achieve our climate action goal to shift more trips to sustainable modes of travel like public transit, walking, biking, and rolling. You can learn more about this work in the plans below.

Somerville’s

### Vision

Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic fatalities and reduce severe injuries within our transportation system

The Somerville Bicycle Network Plan which aims to create bike facilities for people of all ages and abilities to safely get around the City

The City’s Climate Forward Plan to reduce carbon emissions and increase active and sustainable transportation options.

Somerville’s recently passed Safe Streets Ordinance reaffirms the City’s commitment to accelerating work toward these goals through the implementation of forward-looking design and safety practices.

More About this Quick-Build Project

The City aims to make the following safety improvements as part of this project:

Protected Bike Lanes (Elm Street and Somerville Avenue)

The City of Somerville is working to implement quick-build protected bike lanes along Elm Street from Russell Street to Somerville Avenue and Somerville Avenue from Mossland Street to Elm Street, in accordance with the City’s Bicycle Network Plan. Mossland Street Neighborway

Mossland Street will become a neighborway. Neighborways are walk-, roll-, and-bike friendly streets that create a low-stress and high comfort experience on residential streets. Neighborways provide a two-way connection for people biking even if the street is one-way for vehicular traffic.

Crossing Safety Improvements

City staff will also work to improve safety for people using crosswalks by increasing visibility at intersections and exploring options for increased pavement markings and signage at critical crosswalks.

Bus Service Improvements

The City will be working to improve the experience of people who ride the bus in the area. We will be exploring bus-stop locations as well as changes to traffic light timing that could reduce bus delays.

Parking Impacts

These planned safety improvements will require reducing the number of on-street parking spaces. With this in mind, the City is committed to work with local residents and businesses to employ creative approaches parking management. This includes regulating curb use and developing strategies that make the best use of limited parking resources.

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

## MEDFORD VFW POST 1012 HAS A NEW COMMANDER

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

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

For new membership call (781)395-2519



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

“It’s as close as you can get for a real authentic Italian dining experience that will keep you coming back for more” “Definitely a two thumbs up rating and absolutely worth checking

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

State of A Tavola:

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

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

for any and all details.

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

If there is anything in particular you would like to see from us or if you need help preparing food at home for your families please reach out and we will do

our best to help. Whether it be recipe ideas with random things you might have purchased or if you run out of something that you need that we can help with please don’t hesitate to ask.

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

Thank you for your continued support.



### \$362 MILLION SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 5050)

By Bob Katzen

The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Healey a \$362 million to help close out fiscal year 2024. Key provisions ratify and fund some 38 collective bargaining agreements and direct \$228 million in funding for the American Rescue Plan Act Home and Community Based Services.

Other provisions include \$20 million to replace lost federal funding for victims of violent crimes; \$29.7 million in early education and care subsidies to ensure providers can maintain access for all income-eligible families in need of childcare; \$5.6 million for tax abatements for veterans, widows, blind persons and the elderly; \$5.1 million to support increased demand for the Healthy Incentives Program which

provides fresh healthy food options and supports local growers; and \$2.1 million for Women, Infants and Children nutrition services to fully support the current caseload of recipients.

“The funding included in this supplemental budget is critical, as it addresses a number of important issues affecting residents, invests in workforce development and rati-

fies dozens of collective bargaining agreements,” said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy).

“Today’s funding will ensure that our workers get the raises they deserve, and that vital support systems across our state have the resources they need to close out the fiscal year,” said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland).

“The essential funding contained in this supplemental budget will help fund important programs and approve numerous collective bargaining agreements that will help essential employees our commonwealth relies on,” said Rep. Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston), the chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

### This Week’s QUOTABLE QUOTES On Beacon Hill

By Bob Katzen

“[She] committed gross misconduct and demonstrated she is unable to discharge the powers and duties of a Cannabis Control Commission commissioner. I do so with deep regret because she has a long history of public service, and when appointed I anticipated she would lead the commission capably and in an appropriate manner.

I expect my appointee’s actions to be reflective of the important mission of the Cannabis Control Commission and performed in a manner that

incorporates the standards of professionalism required in today’s work environment.”

—State Treasurer Deb Goldberg on firing Cannabis Control Commission Chair Shannon O’Brien.

“[The firing of O’Brien] whitewashes the unequivocal evidence that would lead any reasonable and fair fact finder to conclude that there are no grounds for removal and would immediately reinstate her to steer the rudderless shipwreck.”

— Max Stern, the lawyer who represents O’Brien responding to the firing and indicating

O’Brien will appeal Goldberg’s decision to the Supreme Judicial Court.

“Our cities and towns stand shoulder to shoulder with us in the fight against climate change. When we partner with them and provide tools and resources, we’re unstoppable. This news re-affirms that dynamic and is yet another reason to be proud of Massachusetts.”

—Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll commenting on a report from researchers at the University of Texas and the University of California-San Diego which cites Massachusetts as a nationwide

leader in food waste reduction.

“Too many kids breathe harmful pollution every day just to get to and from school. Electric school buses eliminate this threat to their health.”

— Deirdre Cummings, Consumer Program Director of the MASSPIRG Education Fund on MASSPIRG’s report that 434 clean electric school buses are committed, on their way or operating in Massachusetts.”

“Greyhound must hit the brakes on excessive idling. Illegal and excessive idling not only harms our environment but also

harms our health, especially children whose lungs are still developing. And urban communities suffer disproportionately from toxic, polluted air.” — Clare Soria, attorney for the Conservation Law Foundation, on filing a lawsuit against Greyhound Lines, Inc. for violating the Clean Air Act by unlawfully idling at the South Station bus terminal and at its bus lot in South Boston, releasing toxic emissions into the neighborhood.

### Join the Somerville Arts Council Board Applications Due Thursday, October 10

SOMERVILLE – The Somerville Arts Council is actively seeking three to four dedicated community members to join its Board. This is an exciting opportunity for individuals with a passion for the arts to support and strengthen the vibrant cultural landscape of our city.

What is the Somerville Arts Council Board?

The Somerville Arts Council Board plays a crucial role in cultivating and celebrating the creative expressions of the Somerville community. The Board provides guidance on the City’s arts community, advises on the work and policies of the Arts Council, and engages in networking. From September through December, members participate in the adjudication process for a local

grant-making program to support arts and culture initiatives within the community. Who Can Join? We are seeking artists or members of the general public with a strong interest in the arts, particularly those with experience in music, literature, or public art. Any Somerville resident with a passion for supporting the arts is encour-

aged to apply. What is the Time Commitment? The Board meets in person on the second Wednesday of each month. There are two additional meetings each year concerning the grant program. Members serve a term of up to three years in a volunteer capacity. How Are Members Appointed? Members are appointed by the

Mayor of Somerville. How Do I Apply? Please submit a brief statement of interest explaining why you would like to join the Board and how you feel you can contribute to its work by Thursday, October 10. We welcome applications from all Somerville residents with diverse experiences, skills, and perspectives.

### Somerville/Medford Remembering Joan E. (Vangel) Cosgrove



Obituary  
Jean M. (Scales) Bando, a cherished resident of Medford for many years, passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at the age of 88. Born in Tewksbury, she was the beloved daughter of the late Leo and

Catherine (Riley) Scales.

Complete obit to be posted.

Calling hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) on SATURDAY, September 21st morning from 9:00AM to 11:00AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

A funeral mass will be celebrated in St. Joseph Church, 118 High St., Medford, MA at 11:30AM.

Services will conclude with

interment at Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford.

In lieu of flower’s contributions may be made in Jean’s name to The Home for Little Wanderers 72 E. Dedham Street, Boston, MA 02118

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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

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



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

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## DOG KENNEL SAFETY – OLLIE’S LAW (S 2929)

Continued from front page

By Bob Katzen

The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Maura Healey a bill that would allow the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources to establish rules and regulations for dog kennels in the Bay State, to ensure animal welfare, protect consumers and keep kennel staff safe. A person who violates the regulations would be fined \$500 for a first offense and \$1,000 for a second or subsequent offense.

Required regulations

would include obtaining a license from the municipality, an annual inspection, dog to staff ratio specifications, injury reporting, indoor and outdoor physical facility requirements, insurance and minimal housing and care requirements.

Supporters said that currently, the state has no oversight of dog daycare or boarding kennels. They argued it is estimated that a dog is injured or killed every 9 to 10 days in Massachusetts at these kennels. They noted that many families have suf-

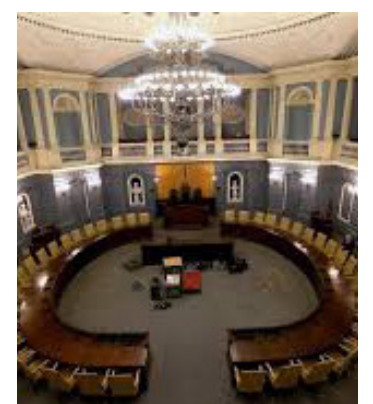
fered the loss or injury of an animal at a dog daycare or kennel that could have been prevented by commonsense regulations over these facilities.

The bill was filed by Sen. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford) in memory of “Ollie,” a 7-month-old labradoodle who was attacked by other dogs at a boarding kennel in East Longmeadow. Ollie needed round-the-clock care and surgery and was in the hospital for two months before succumbing to his injuries. While the facility was shut down by town

officials, Ollie’s owner Ann Baxter was stunned to learn that there were no state regulations regarding boarding facilities, and soon took up the fight to help ensure tragedies like this never happen again.

“Pets are family who provide boundless love and affection that we are lucky to receive,” said Montigny. “For this reason, it is critical that we ensure all businesses entrusted with the care of our family adhere to proper health and safety protocols no matter what town they operate in across the commonwealth.

Too often, we have heard devastating stories of pets like Ollie who have been injured or killed due to negligent care. These people have no place caring for such precious creatures and it’s time that we implement consistent standards across Massachusetts.”





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## William "Billy" Tauro For South Middlesex County Registrar Of Deeds



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### Somerville/Medford Remembering Roderick, Regina (Cerasale)



Obituary

Roderick, Regina (Cerasale) – Of Somerville, passed away after a long illness on Saturday,

September 14, 2024. She was 85. Born in Boston and raised in Somerville, she was the daughter of the late James and Kathleen (Goddard) Cerasale. Regina was deeply rooted in her Catholic faith, and her life was a testament to her unwavering commitment to service and compassion.

For many years, Regina was a cherished parishioner at St. Joseph Church, where she lent her voice to the choir, enriching the spiritual lives of all who heard her sing. Her dedication to the church was matched only by her boundless generosity and kindness. Regina found

immense joy in helping others, and her acts of service were a constant source of inspiration to those around her.

Regina's empathetic nature and compassionate heart made a profound impact on everyone she encountered. Whether through her involvement in church activities or her everyday interactions, she consistently brought warmth and a smile to those in need. Her selflessness and caring spirit will be deeply missed but fondly remembered.

Beloved wife of the late Edward Roderick. Devoted mother of Robert Cerasale of New

Hampshire and the late William Cerasale and Joseph Roderick. Loving grandmother of 3 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Cherished sister of Richard Cerasale and his wife Linda of Arkansas, Dennis Cerasale and his wife Kathleen of New Hampshire, and the late James Cerasale of New Hampshire. Cherished and loving cousin with whom she shared a bond like a sister with RoseMarie Spezzaferro and her husband Guy E. of Medford. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and cousins.

A funeral procession will be held in the George L. Doherty

Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House SQ.) on Friday, September 20th at 10:30AM. Followed by a funeral mass celebrated in St. Joseph Church 262 Washington St., Somerville at 11:30AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Services will conclude with interment at Calvary Cemetery, Winchester.

### Somerville/Medford Remembering Jefferson, Jr. Harry I.



Obituary

Jefferson, Jr. Harry I.- Harry was born in Boston, MA to Harry Jefferson and Joan (Gallagher) Jefferson. He was raised in Cambridge. Harry attended Longfellow public

elementary school and received his high school diploma from Charles River Academy also in Cambridge.

Harry thrived at CRA. He was a member of the soccer, wrestling, and lacrosse teams, and elected class president. As a budding artist, he studied at Boston's MFA and Butera School of Art. Harry also contributed illustrations to his high school newspaper. He was a lifelong artist who worked in pastels, oil and acrylic paints. Over the years, Harry gifted many works to family and friends who treasure and display them to this day.

Harry was a proud Vietnam era veteran. In the early 1970's, he enlisted in the Army. During his service in the Armored Cal-

vary, Harry attained the rank of Sergeant. He served a long tour of duty near the DMZ in South Korea, where he was promoted to Tank Commander. Harry was honorably discharged and retired after sustaining a serious injury during military readiness maneuvers.

After the service, Harry returned to life in the Cambridge and Somerville area. Harry became co-owner of an auto body shop. Later, he reconnected with Cynthia Leto. They were devoted life-partners and bought a home in Halifax, MA. When Cynthia developed cancer, Harry became her caregiver. He did so for more than 25 years until her passing.

Harry had a big heart. He was a

loving son, grandson, brother, uncle and nephew. He is survived by his siblings, in-laws as noted, and other relatives. Brother, Paul Jefferson of Cambridge, MA. Sister, Diana Stone-Leary and Robert Leary of Cambridge, MA. Brother, Gregory and Christina Stone of Exeter, NH. Harry had several nieces and nephews who he showered with his love. Abigail Jefferson of Cambridge, MA. Elizabeth Leary of Cambridge, MA. Thomas Stone of Saint Petersburg, FL. Olivia Stone and William Gulliver of Exeter, NH. Harry is also survived by his Uncle, John Gallagher and wife Song Gallagher of El Paso Texas, Cousin Winnifred Dekarski of Framingham, MA and many more cousins.

Calling hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) on THURSDAY, September 19th from 9:00AM to 11:00AM. Followed by words of remembrances at 11:00AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Services will conclude with interment at Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne at 1:45PM. Please meet directly at the gate.

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### Somerville Police Department Crime Log 8/27/24 – 9/2/24



**Crime Log**  
8/27/24 – 9/2/24

HTTPS://WWW.SOMERVILLEPD.COM/PUBLIC-SAFETY-NEWS

inside his apartment and the male party threatened him with an object. Officers identified the male suspect.


**Robbery**  
24053399: On 9/1/24 at approximately 2:36 PM, Somerville Police responded to Elm St for report of an attempted larceny. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated that he entered his vehicle parked in front of his home and was approached by a male party. The male then put his hand in his pocket and motioned as if he had a weapon. The male then stated he wanted something but it was unknown what it was. The victim was able to drive away.

**Assault**  
24053415: On 9/1/24 at approximately 3:30 PM, Somerville Police responded to Elm St for a weapons call. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he was on his scooter and was approached by a male party who proceeded to brandish a knife. The victim yelled at him and the suspect fled the area.

**Other Crimes:**  
4 Vandalisms  
2 Package Thefts  
10 Car Breaks  
4 Bike Thefts  
1 MV Vandalism  
2 MV Thefts

**Assault**  
24052808: On 8/29/24 at approximately 7:15 PM, Somerville Housing Police responded to Weston Ave for report of a past assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he invited a male party

### Massachusetts State House Rally/Protest



Official Press release sent out by Deanna , Bobby and Paul

state's leadership to start paying attention and stop looking the other way

The Karen Read and Sandra Birchmore cases are prime examples of why changes are needed within the State Police, Norfolk County DA office, and the Canton Police Department.

We don't just need answers and change-We deserve them!

There must be justice for Officer John O'Keefe and that begins with freedom for Karen Read

We will have several guest speakers (will follow up upon with final confirmation) scheduled to speak.

Massachusetts State House  
24 Beacon St  
Boston MA

Thursday 9/19/24

Time: 11:00am – 2:00pm  
Karenreadstandouts.com

[https://karenreadstandouts.com/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2W3L8iAc6V3HU\\_yPDcnL7p9CQhrKw-c1NTdGFfA6\\_yWVBomSbFb-gDZHNgc\\_aem\\_ZQd350HAH-gu\\_zm8Vf3OgNA](https://karenreadstandouts.com/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR2W3L8iAc6V3HU_yPDcnL7p9CQhrKw-c1NTdGFfA6_yWVBomSbFb-gDZHNgc_aem_ZQd350HAH-gu_zm8Vf3OgNA)

There will be a peaceful protest and rally held on the steps of the Statehouse. We need our

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## Second Stretch of Highland Avenue Paving Takes Place Overnight September 15 to 16 from School Street to Benton Road

Continued from front page

interim paving will support safe travel prior to the full redesign of Highland Avenue

SOMERVILLE—Beginning Sunday, September 15 at 8 p.m. City contractors plan to pave the travel lane (approximately 28-foot wide) surface along Highland Avenue between School Street and Benton Road.

This is the second part of a two-part interim paving plan. The first part covering the segment of roadway between McGrath Highway and School Street was completed on July 11.

Highland Avenue is one of Somerville's most traveled roadways. To ease travel and support safety prior to a pending larger streetscape project planned for Highland, Mayor Ballantyne's administration allocated \$375,000 for the interim paving of eastern Highland Avenue from Benton Road to McGrath Highway in the fiscal year 2024 budget. This interim repaving will precede a full, multi-modal streetscape redesign and reconstruction to be shaped with community input.

"Once again, I want to thank the community for its tremendous patience as we conducted essential underground utility improvements underneath Highland. Shoring up our infrastructure both below and above ground is vitally necessary after decades of underinvestment. And we are not

stopping here," said Mayor Ballantyne. "I look forward to the community coming together to plan for a future Highland Avenue that will be even safer and greener, and that will make it easier to choose more sustainable modes of travel like public transit, walking, biking, and rolling."

### More About This Week's Paving

Paving will take place overnight beginning Sunday, September 15 at approximately 8 p.m. and ending Monday, September 16 at approximately 7 a.m. This schedule is subject to change due to weather or other factors.

### During paving operations:

Highland Avenue between School Street and Benton Road will be closed to motor vehicle traffic in both directions during work hours.

- o Temporary detours will be installed for vehicle traffic.

- o Access will be maintained for pedestrians via both sidewalks.

- o MBTA buses and emergency vehicles will be able to proceed in both directions at all times.

- o On-street parking will be restricted during paving.

- o We ask that residents please observe posted signage.

### Following paving operations:

- o Highland Avenue will be reopened to vehicle traffic in both directions.

- o Temporary roadway pavement markings will be installed.

- o Crews will return in the coming weeks to install permanent pavement markings.

### Future Full Redesign and Reconstruction of Highland Avenue

The City's current Five-Year Capital Investment Plan includes a larger-scale redesign and reconstruction of Highland Avenue. This effort is currently planned to begin as early as July 2025. For more details visit [somervillema.gov/highlandave](http://somervillema.gov/highlandave).

To ensure consistency with the City's Vision Zero Action Plan and Citywide Bicycle Network Plan, this larger project will include:

- o Reconstructed sidewalks.

- o Traffic calming and crosswalk safety enhancements.

- o Two directions of separated bicycle lanes.

- o Bus priority infrastructure.

- o Green stormwater infrastructure elements.

The project development process will include a thorough evaluation of resident, business, and visitor parking and loading needs with a commitment to serve these needs in the context of the future street design.

To stay informed on the larger-scale redesign and reconstruction project please visit [somervillema.gov/highlandave](http://somervillema.gov/highlandave).

### About the Spring Hill Sewer Separation

Much of Spring Hill has historically been served by a combined sewer system that collects both wastewater and stormwater runoff in the same pipes—some of which date back to the 1800s. The City of Somerville has worked to upgrade these outdated systems by installing new storm drains that separate stormwater from the existing combined sewer. This measure is one in a series of actions the City is undertaking to reduce water pollution, mitigate flooding, and ultimately modernize our infrastructure.

In addition to the installation of a modern, separate sewer system, the Spring Hill Sewer Separation project includes:

- o Green infrastructure to help manage stormwater by mimicking natural processes.

- o 185 new trees to be planted throughout the neighborhood.

- o Improvements to the streetscape for people walking, wheeling, driving, or cycling.

For more information on this project visit [somervillema.gov/springhill](http://somervillema.gov/springhill).

###

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

## 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 keep everyone updated on donations and the Blessing Boxes inventory status. Please feel free to join the page and follow all the good that is being done everyday by the good people of Somerville. One blessing box is located at Statue Park in Davis Square and the other is located at Union Square, Plaza in Union Square. "Give what you can, Take what you need." Much thanks and appreciation, Frank Santangelo

### Blessing Backpack Checklist

<p><b>BASICS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Wool beanie (hat)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Smart wool socks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Gloves</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Scarf</li> </ul> <p><b>FOOD &amp; DRINK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Quality instant coffee</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tea</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Energy drink</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Beef jerky</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dried fruit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fruit leathers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trail mix</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Nuts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Granola bars</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Protein powder packets</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant gift cards</li> </ul> <p><b>HELP THEM CONNECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Journal &amp; pen</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Stationary</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Stamps</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-paid phone card</li> </ul>	<p><b>TOILETRIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose wipes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Facial wipes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Moisturizer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Comb</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush &amp; tooth paste</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Grooming kit</li> </ul> <p><b>SURVIVAL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle with built in filter</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Heat-pack</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose tool</li> </ul> <p><b>TREATS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Chocolates</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fruit snacks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cookie snack packs</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Candy (individually wrapped)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mints</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Chewing gum</li> </ul> <p><b>SPLURGE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Starbucks gift card</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Compact reusable bag</li> </ul>
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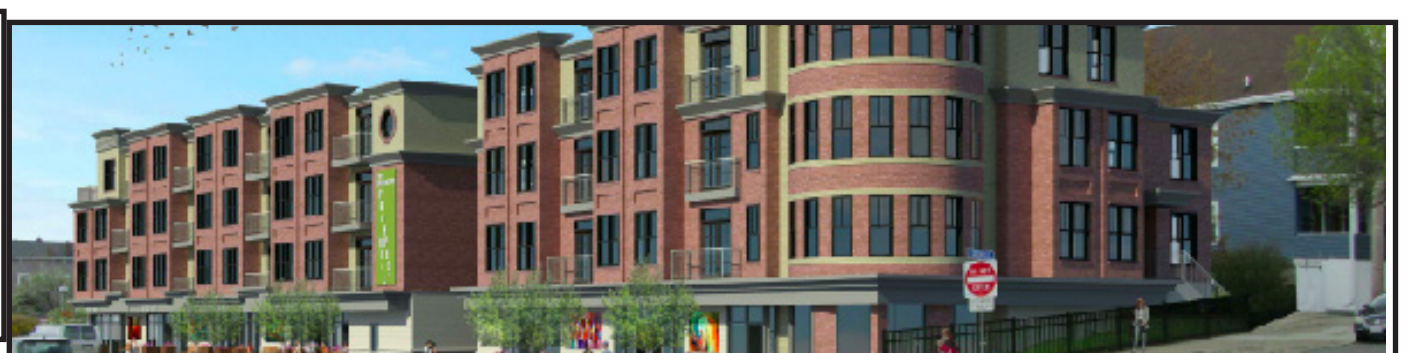
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## Join Somerville's 2024 Community Meetings Series to Learn About Latest City Initiatives from Mayor Ballantyne and City Staff

<p>August 26, 2024 thesomerville-newsweekly Leave a comment</p>	<p>ute open Q&amp;A.</p>	<p>Date: Monday, September 23</p>	<p>Ward 1 (East Somerville, Assembly Sq., and more):</p>	<p>All Ward Virtual Meeting:</p>
<p>Meetings for all seven wards will be held Mid-September through Mid-October</p>	<p>All Ward meetings will be held in person and one all-virtual, all-ward meeting will be held on Zoom and will be accessible online or by any phone. Two additional, all-ward meetings will take place in person: one in Portuguese and one in Spanish. All in-person meetings will be recorded for later on-demand or TV viewing.</p>	<p>Location: Somerville High School Cafeteria, 81 Highland Ave.</p>	<p>Date: Tuesday, October 8</p>	<p>Date: Monday, October 21</p>
<p>SOMERVILLE-Community members are invited to join Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and Somerville City Council at the 2024 City Hall Community Meetings. Join us to get an overview of the latest City news, learn more about City programs and initiatives, meet your neighbors, find ways to get involved, and talk with elected officials and City staff.</p>	<p>Fall 2024 Community Meeting Schedule</p>	<p>Ward 7 (West Somerville, Teele Sq., and more):</p>	<p>Location: East Somerville Community School Cafeteria, 50 Cross St.</p>	<p>Location: Online via Zoom with interpretation into Spanish and Portuguese, as well as other languages by request. You may join online or call in on any phone.</p>
<p>The in-person meetings kick off with a social half-hour with free pizza and kid-friendly, healthy snacks, where you can chat one-on-one with elected officials including the Mayor and your Ward City Councilor or At-Large City Councilors as well as staff about issues important to you.</p>	<p>Meetings run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., with refreshments and meet-and-greets starting at 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Date: Tuesday, September 24</p>	<p>Ward 6 (Greater Davis Sq. neighborhood and more):</p>	<p>Details: For sign-in information, please visit <a href="http://www.somervillema.gov/communitymeetings">http://www.somervillema.gov/communitymeetings</a> or call 311 at 617-666-3311.</p>
<p>Mayor Ballantyne and City staff will then share updates on projects in your neighborhood, citywide initiatives, and a look at neighborhood crime stats followed by a roughly 20-min-</p>	<p>Unsure about which ward you live in? Find out with the MySomerville address lookup tool at <a href="http://www.somervillema.gov/mysomerville">http://www.somervillema.gov/mysomerville</a>.</p>	<p>Location: West Somerville Neighborhood School Cafeteria, 177 Powder House Blvd.</p>	<p>Date: Wednesday, October 9</p>	<p>Interpretation into your language is available for all meetings upon advance request by contacting the SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs at <a href="mailto:somerviva@somervillema.gov">somerviva@somervillema.gov</a> or calling 311 at 617-666-3311. Interpretation availability is also being advertised in Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Kreyol, Nepali, Mandarin, and Cantonese.</p>
<p>Supporters said the licenses would be distributed across 13</p>	<p>Ward 4 (Winter Hill, Ten Hills, and more):</p>	<p>All Ward Meeting in Portuguese:</p>	<p>All Ward Meeting in Spanish:</p>	<p>For more information about the Community Meetings and to attend virtually, visit <a href="http://www.somervillema.gov/communitymeetings">somervillema.gov/communitymeetings</a>. With any questions, please contact Kristine McNulty at <a href="mailto:kmcnulty@somervillema.gov">kmcnulty@somervillema.gov</a>.</p>
<p>By Bob Katzen</p>	<p>Date: Wednesday, September 18</p>	<p>Date: Monday, September 30</p>	<p>Date: Tuesday, October 15</p>	<p>Ward 2 (S. Union Sq., Perry and Lincoln Park neighborhoods, Beacon St. area, and more):</p>
<p>Gov. Healey signed into law a bill adding 225 new alcohol licenses for the City of Boston over the next three years.</p>	<p>Location: Healey School Cafeteria, 5 Meacham St.</p>	<p>Location: East Somerville Community School Cafeteria, 50 Cross St.</p>	<p>Location: East Somerville Community School Cafeteria, 50 Cross St.</p>	<p>Ward 5 (Magoun Sq., NE Ball Sq., Cedar &amp; Lowell St. areas, NW Porter Sq., and more):</p>
<p>Supporters said the licenses would be distributed across 13</p>	<p>Ward 3 (N. Union Sq., Prospect Hill, Spring Hill, Central Hill, and more):</p>	<p>Date: Tuesday, October 1</p>	<p>Details: This meeting will also be livestreamed on the City of Somerville YouTube page and shared on the Portuguese language Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCidade">fb.com/SomervilleCidade</a>.</p>	<p>They noted that sit-down restaurants in Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, East Boston, Roslindale, West Roxbury, Hyde Park, Charlestown, Jamaica Plain and the South End now stand to benefit from the restricted licenses. They said that the high price tag of up to \$600,000 for existing licenses has been a major obstacle for businesses looking to turn a profit, including in underserved neighborhoods.</p>
<p>Supporters said the licenses would be distributed across 13</p>	<p>Date: Wednesday, September 18</p>	<p>Ward 5 (Magoun Sq., NE Ball Sq., Cedar &amp; Lowell St. areas, NW Porter Sq., and more):</p>	<p>Date: Wednesday, October 16</p>	<p>“Neighborhood restaurants play such an essential role in our communities and our economy,” Healey said. “This bill will lower barriers for Boston restaurants to provide the services that their customers are looking for and help them succeed, while also supporting local nonprofits, theaters and outdoor spaces.</p>

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### As The City Of Medford Turns



Just Sayin'

Recently I had the pleasure of honoring Veterans at the Somerville Winter Hill Yacht Club...good food and spirit among GREAT CAPTAINS AND BOATS! We look forward

to saying thanks in many ways. I must admit that after looking at news, issues, movements...much attention goes to selfish and social needs. I support VETS coming into my class and relate their duties to Writing skills and demands of them.

Watch the Army/Navy game with young people ..sadly, last year in my English class when the topic was notes/ speeches, we watched Pence's great speech to West Point ..half my students did not know what West Point was????! Simple approaches to edu-

cate the world about us. Just sayin' Watch Guns of Navarone or Green Berets for some real valor. Just sayin'

Speaking of simple, let us come round to local issues...is it so hard to skip philosophy and simply address

Health? I have often heard at Council Meetings and Zoom call in's that, for ex, leaf blowers should be banned ? (I get some of the gas use) some of these extremists REALLY need to THINK. Last week while cleaning and leaf blowing, I ridded

hunks of stuck and moldy leaves, dead birds, invasive weeds ..ALL harmful to health!! One called to the extreme that some of us blow light "dirt onto the street." Well, it will dissolve there or be driven over, or Washed by rain! Les in yard to breathe. Hooray for yard landscaping! Simple, too, to urge storekeepers to clean their frontage each week. But, I bet the leaf blower callers never thought of this. Bet the large MICKEYS can smell thru the Compost/Buckets...ugh. Just sayin'

So, I guess some thought to People who serve in simple or Big Defense ways can benefit ... simple, too, to repair the HUGE HOLE next to Avellino's at Hicks Ave, Mystic R....I guess this the simple way. the City can thank a good owner, good food, clean place is to FIX IT... there for over 5 years!! Just Sayin'

Stay tuned soon, same place, same weekly day for more News. Ciao

Sharon Deyeso  
Concerned, Longtime Resident

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