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VOL.1 NO.329-38

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS.

Tuesday April 11th, 2025

Honoring Memorial Day in Somerville: Parade and Ceremony of Remembrance on May 25



Continued to page 13



NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



Letter to the Editor: Newspaper Posts Presidential Threat

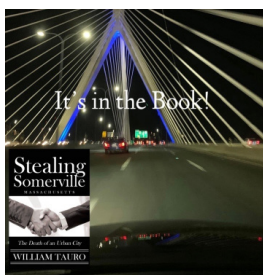
TRANSGENDER STUDENTS AND SCHOOL SPORTS



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Somerville Police Real Life Somerville Police Stories Page



Continued to page 7

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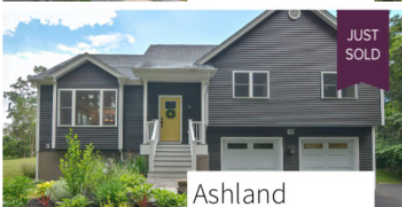
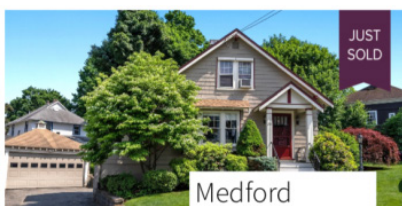
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Somerville/Medford Remembering Linda M. (Cormier) Hazel



Obituary
Linda M. (Cormier) Hazel – Of Somerville, passed away on Monday, April 7, 2025, surrounded by her loving family. She was 82 years old.

Born in Waltham and raised in Somerville, Linda was the

cherished daughter of the late Theodore J. and Elsa E. (Nilson) Cormier. Linda's life was defined by love for her family, for her passions, and for the simple joys of life.

A lifelong lover of flowers, Linda was often found tending to her garden, nurturing each bloom with care and devotion. Her passion for nature was a reflection of her nurturing spirit, which extended to her beloved family. She adored her children and grandchildren, and they were the center of her world. Linda cherished every moment spent with them, whether on vacations at her summer home in Lunenburg or Plum Cove in Gloucester.

Linda had a deep connection to

water. She fondly remembered spending countless summer days at her friend Ruthie's pool, a memory that stayed with her throughout her life. An avid lover of adventure, Linda found joy in hunting for treasures at flea markets and yard sales, always on the lookout for that next great deal.

In her younger years, Linda was an active participant in her community and in her faith, enjoying many moments of fellowship with her pastor's family during house studies. She attended church at St. Paul Evangelical Church in Somerville where she formed many friendships. She also took great pride in keeping family traditions alive, particularly the beloved tradition of making Swedish

Kroppkakors. The laughter and joy shared around the table as they prepared the dish were always a source of happiness for Linda, as she treasured the bonds that were strengthened through these moments. Linda was a long time employee with Johnnies Food Master and Stop and Shop. Whenever she was working people would always go in just to see her smiling friendly face.

Linda's memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. She was a kind and loving woman whose warmth and devotion to her family will be deeply missed.

Beloved wife of the late James F. Hazel. Devoted mother of James Hazel of Somerville,

Suzanne M. Grady and her husband Kevin of Franklin, and Jeffrey Hazel of Malden. Cherished grandmother of Ryan T. Grady and Matthew J. Grady. Loving sister of Stephen E. Cormier and his wife Arlene of Methuen and the late Gary P. Cormier. Cherished sister-in-law of Lawrence Hazel, and the late Lorraine Bellhumeur. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and her beloved dog Callie.

At the families request all services are private.

In lieu of flower's donations may be made in Linda's name to Care Dimension Hospice House 125 Lincoln St., Lincoln, MA 01773

Somerville/Medford Remembering Andree Doricent



Obituary
Andree Doricent – Of Somerville, formerly of Haiti, passed away on Tuesday, April 8, 2025. She was 85 years old.

Born and raised in Haiti, she

was the beloved daughter of the late Lutanor and Leonide (Laine) Doricent.

Complete obit to be posted.

A funeral mass will be celebrated in St. Ann Church,

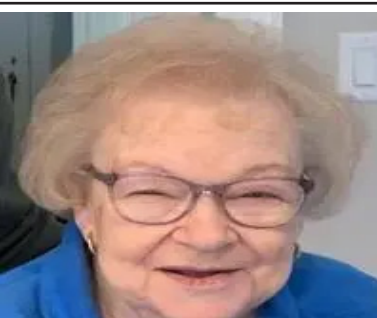
399 Medford St., Somerville, Ma on Saturday, April 26th at 10:00AM. Relatives and friends may visit with the family prior to mass from 9:00AM to 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends are re-

spectfully invited to attend.

Services will conclude with interment at St. Paul Cemetery, Arlington.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Barbara J. Synan



Obituary
Barbara J. Synan, of Somerville passed away on April 7, 2025. She was 85. Born and raised in Somerville, she was the cherished daugh-

ter of the late Patrick and Ellen (Hanlon) Whalen. She was the beloved wife of 58 years of the late James M. Synan. Loving mother of James (Colleen) of Leland, NC, Denise of Wakefield and Michael (Donna) of Lexington.

She was a loving grandmother to her 4 grandchildren, Timothy (Jessie), Kerry, Christopher and Jennifer. She is also survived by 3 great-grandchildren, Atticus, Faith and Daniel. She was the devoted sister of John of CT,

Francis of Groveland and Lawrence of Somerville and the late Patricia Gosine, Helen Haneffant and James Whalen. She is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and in-laws.

Barbara spent her entire life in Somerville and most of it on Walnut Rd. She enjoyed many lifelong friendships from growing up and later returning to Walnut Rd, attending St Anne's grammar school and St. Joseph High School. Barbara retired from the

Somerville School Department and had been the secretary at the Capuano School for many years and had many friendships from those years. For the last few years Barbara had lived at the VNA Senior Living apartments in Somerville and greatly enjoyed the new friendships with her fellow residents as well as the staff who created an inclusive and enjoyable environment. Her final months were spent at the Aberjona Nursing Center in Winchester and Barbara's family would like to

thank the staff who showed her great kindness and compassion.

Barbara greatly enjoyed family gatherings, and often spoke fondly of the old multi-generational Christmas Eve and Thanksgiving Night gatherings. She also greatly enjoyed road trips to the casinos, and with her beloved husband Jim would also scour every mall and store looking for a bargain. She will be missed by many.

All services were private.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Frances R. (Siracusa) Canto



Obituary
Frances R. (Siracusa) Canto – Of Tewksbury, formerly of Somerville, passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 13, 2025. She was 91 years old.

Complete obit to be posted.

A funeral procession will

be held from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) on Tuesday, April 22 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, April 21st from 5:00PM to 8:00PM.

Services will conclude with interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

In lieu of flower's memorial contributions may be made in Frances' name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105 or to Alzheimer's Association.

LIFE INSURANCE

By Bob Katzen

Senators who purchase a health insurance policy from the state are also required to buy the state's basic \$5,000 life insur-

ance policy. The costs for employees are based on age and whether the employee is a smoker or non-smoker. They range from 4 cents to \$2.49 per month.

The same 20/80 25/75 formula used for health insurance also applies to this life insurance. Senators also have the option to buy additional life insurance with a value of up to eight times their salary – up to a

maximum of \$1.5 million. The entire premium for the optional insurance is paid by the senator.





Somerville PD Updates

On Wednesday, April 9th 2025, The Metro Boston CIT TTAC completed a 40 hour, 5 day Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training. This training aimed at informing response to individuals impacted by behavioral health.

Led by the Metro Boston team, instructors with various expertise including clinical and tactical knowledge are brought in to expand participant's insight on topics such as Complex Psychiatric Conditions, Crisis Negotiation, Addiction, Mood

Disorders and many more. To learn more about Metro Boston CIT TTAC trainings visit their website at <https://www.metro-bostoncit.org/> Lynn Police Department Medford Police Department New England Center and Home for Veterans Reading Massachusetts Police Department Stoneham Police Department U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



Somerville PD Updates

Somerville Police Officers attended the Middlesex County Women's Law Enforcement Conference, featuring inspiring stories of resilience and dedication.

Officer Ann Carrizales, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and former U.S. Women's National Boxing Champion, shared her powerful journey of recovery and returning to duty after a line-of-duty shooting.

The event also honored Massachusetts State Trooper Tamar Bucci,

with her mother, Maral Bucci, reflecting on her daughter's legacy and passion for service.

This event celebrated the strength and unity of women in law enforcement, values exemplified by the dedicated female officers of our department.

Photo Caption (L to R): Ofc. DaCosta, Sgt. Richardson, Ofc. Carrizales, Ofc. Ribeiro, Ofc. McAloney, Det. Reece, and Ofc. Campers



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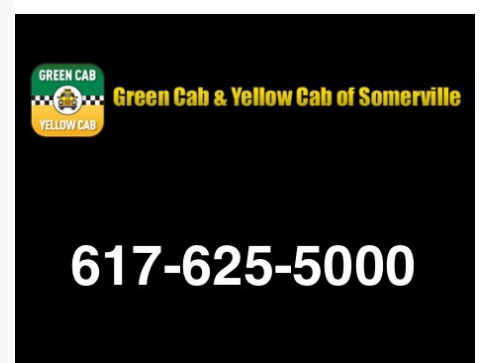
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Somerville Street Sweeping, Yard Waste Pickup, and Hazardous Waste Drop-off Begin in April



SOMERVILLE- Spring has sprung, and with it, essential seasonal services for our residents. Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, the Somerville Parking Department, and the Department of Public Works want to remind everyone of important upcoming services.

Street Sweeping to Resume April 1

Regular street sweeping schedules officially resume Tuesday, April 1, and will continue through December 31, 2025. This essential public works program not only keeps our city cleaner, but reduces the risk of flooding and icing due to clogged storm drains.

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

On designated street sweeping days, vehicles must be moved from the side of the street being swept, as noted on signs posted on each street. For more information regarding street sweeping proce-

dures, visit parksomerville.com or call 311 (617-666-3311).

The penalty for not complying with street sweeping parking regulations is a \$50 fine. Community members are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the street sweeping schedule in areas where they park. The best way to do this is to read the signs on the street when you park. To learn more, visit somervillema.gov/sweeping.

Yard Waste Pickup Begins April 14

Yard waste pickup begins Monday, April 14, and runs through December 12. During collection week, yard waste should be put out with your trash and recycling on your normal pickup

day and be in either a paper bag or a trash barrel with a "Yard Waste Only" sticker. Tree branches should be tied into 3ft x 3ft bundles. To learn more, visit somervillema.gov/yardwaste.

Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste April Through November

Somerville residents can drop-off household hazardous waste on the second Saturday of each month, April through November, from 9 a.m. to noon at the DPW yard (1 Franey Rd.). Accepted materials include motor oil, aerosol paint, household cleaning chemicals, rechargeable batteries, and more. Proof of residency is required. For more information and how to prep materials, visit somervillema.gov/recycling.

Sign Up for Reminders

You can use the Somerville Waste Wizard below to find out your next street sweep, yard waste pickup, or upcoming household hazardous waste drop-off. Sign up to receive complimentary street sweeping notifications via a method of your choice by selecting "Sign Up for Reminders" at somervillema.gov/departments/sweeping

For street sweeping, please remember that this is a courtesy service that may experience technical problems; it remains the drivers' responsibility to follow the posted signs and move their vehicle on time.

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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.

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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.

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50 MILLION TO CITIES AND TOWNS FOR LOCAL ROADS (H 4005)

By Bob Katzen

The House 25-125, rejected an amendment that would reduce funding for the MBTA by \$50 million (from \$818 million to \$768 million) and instead give the \$50 million to cities and towns for roads using a formula based strictly on each municipality's local road mileage. Currently, communities receive roads funding based on their population,

employment and total road miles.

"The amendment would have shifted only \$50 million – just 6 percent out of \$828 million – for the MBTA and reappropriate it to Chapter 90 to be allocated based on a town's road mileage," said amendment sponsor Rep. Joe McKenna (R-Sutton). "This would have shown a strong commitment from the common-

wealth to provide regional equity in transportation infrastructure in all corners of the state, while still infusing a massive \$743 million dollars to the T."

Rep. James Arciero (D-Westford) said that adequate funding for roads and bridges is always important, but it's part of a larger discussion. This is a subject that's better suited for examination before

the public at the committee level. The Transportation Committee will take up this very subject tomorrow when it hears the governor's \$1.5 billion proposal for the Chapter 90 program. The committee looks forward to hearing from legislators, stakeholders and municipal leaders across the state as we examine the governor's proposal.

(A "Yes" vote is for \$50 mil-

lion for cities and towns. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

TRANSGENDER STUDENTS AND SCHOOL SPORTS

By Bob Katzen

During the debate on the surtax, Freshman Rep. John Gaskey (R-Carver) proposed an amendment that would prohibit any public school from allowing a biological male athlete to participate on a girls' sports team and also prohibit a biological female athlete from participating on a boys' sports team. Any school found not in compliance with this ban would forfeit all games which violate the ban.

has put girls at risk in sports," said Gaskey. "There have been several instances of boys seriously injuring girls on the field during matches. This is not a transgender issue alone, this is protecting children and creating a system of fair competition. Boys are stronger, faster and more aggressive, and put girls, who are more prone to injury (Harvard study), at greater risk. Massachusetts is putting federal funding at risk by not addressing this requirement as well."

ban itself because Rep. Ken Gordon (D-Bedford) offered a further amendment that would delay the ban from taking place until the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education studies the transgender students in school sports issue. The House approved the delay and essentially killed Gaskey's bill. The vote was conducted on a voice vote without a roll call.

Rep. Gordon said that the issue is not a simple one but rather a complex one, involving issues of federal and state law, and also is the subject of multiple

billings that are being considered by the Committee on Education, including one proposed by Gaskey himself. He argued that the study and a public hearing on the ban should be complete before the House votes on it.

In his first speech on the floor of the House, Gaskey called Gordon's maneuver "a way to bury this and make sure that nobody ever gets this on the record."

"We don't need a study on how this is going to affect people," he said. "We already know this

is going to affect people. We already know how many students are going to be affected — every student is going to be affected. Every student athlete will play on the team they were born to play on. That's what this bill is."

He said his proposed ban would bring Massachusetts in line with the federal government because President Donald Trump signed an executive order in February prohibiting transgender women and girls from competing in female sports.

"For too long Massachusetts

The House did not vote on the

CONTRIBUTE VIA A MASSACHUSETTS TAX RETURN TO COUNTRIES COPING WITH GLOBAL WARMING (S 1922)

By Bob Katzen

The Revenue Committee held a hearing on a measure that would give Massachusetts residents the option, on their Massachusetts income tax form, to contribute to a special United Nations Fund — the Least Developed Countries Fund — to help developing countries cope with the effects of global warming.

Supporters say the state income tax form currently features six "tax check-off"

options that give residents the option, when filing their state income tax return, to contribute all or part of their tax refund to various causes.

Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington), the sponsor of the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to explain why he filed the bill.

"Sen. Barrett's idea is incredibly silly and just shows how out of touch some lawmakers become when they get

elected," said Paul Craney, executive director of the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance. "As ratepayers see their utility and energy bills increase by 30 to 50 percent to fund climate mandates passed by the Legislature, the senator wants to send more money to the climate causes."

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON TAX HIKES AND NEW TAXES (S 2057) – Another bill heard by the Judiciary Committee would require

the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means to hold at the least three public hearings in Boston, Worcester and Springfield on any legislation referred to them that would increase or expand any existing taxes or fees or establish any new taxes or fees. Each hearing would require at least fourteen days' notice to ensure that the public has sufficient time to prepare.

"I am sponsoring this bill because transparency of

where taxpayer dollars are going between the Legislature and the public are of the utmost importance currently," said sponsor Sen. Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "The sense of trust and understanding between lawmakers and taxpayers sought by this legislation is only possible through thoughtful action to include everyone in the legislative process."

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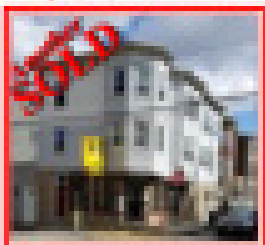


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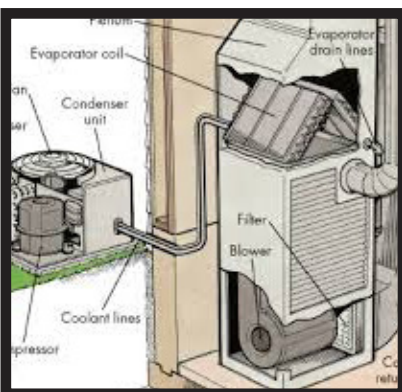
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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

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



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

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Somerville Fire Department Promotions

Another great night for our members of the Somerville Fire Department who were promoted at tonight's City Council meeting!

Congratulations to Captain Eric Saulnier, Lieutenant Mark Wall, Lieutenant Pat Barry, Lieutenant Joe Laudano, Lieutenant Troy Saulnier, and Lieutenant Eric Collins! All of your hard work has finally paid off.



Somerville Streamlines Block Party Permits for Summer Fun

Apply now via CitizenServe

SOMERVILLE— Block party season is back, and now it's easier than ever to plan for them. The City of Somerville has rolled out a simplified Block Party application process, making it simple to bring neighbors together for a fun-filled street celebration.

Now available through CitizenServe, the block party application process has been redesigned for faster review and approval.

“Block parties are a beloved tradition in Somerville, bringing our community together to soak up the outdoors, meet neighbors, and create a sense of belonging,” said Mayor Ballantyne. “Thank you to our

City staff for their swift work to enhance opportunities to connect.”

Plan Your Block Party

To get started, you'll need:

A completed online application form.

A description of the proposed event, including date, time, and location.

Approval from all neighbors affected by the street closure (if applicable).

Payment of any necessary fees (if applicable).

The City encourages all residents to take advantage of this new, streamlined process and invites everyone to continue fostering

the vibrant, tight-knit community Somerville is known for.

For more information or to apply to host a block party, visit somervillema.gov/blockparty.



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City of Somerville Accepting Applications for New, Consolidated



Affordable Housing Waitlist

Starting Thursday April 3, families and individuals can apply for hundreds of available and affordable units with one rental application

SOMERVILLE, MA – Starting Thursday April 3, 2025, the City of Somerville will begin

accepting applications for its new 'Consolidated Waitlist for Inclusionary Housing,' allowing families and individuals to apply for hundreds of available rental units with one application for the first time.

"This initiative is part of our city's commitment to increasing the availability of affordable housing for those who need it most," said Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne.

"The newly consolidated affordable housing waitlist is designed to reduce the complexity of the application process and provide greater access for all families and individuals."

Applications will be available through the new web portal:

SomervilleWaitlist.org

Key Features of the New Application:

- Unified Waitlist: Applicants will now be able to apply for multiple housing opportunities through a single application, saving time and effort.
- Simplified Process: The new system helps to ensure that applicants are considered for all available options. Applicants can check their status online anytime.
- Increased Accessibility: The streamlined process ensures that a wider range of

Somerville residents will have the chance to benefit. It also allows the city to prioritize urgent housing needs.

The City of Somerville works with private and nonprofit developers to create below-market rate housing opportunities for renters and homebuyers. Hundreds of current and future units will be available through the consolidated waitlist over the coming years.

Starting April 3, residents can apply online via SomervilleWaitlist.org, or in person at City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Ave. Application assistance will also be available at Somerville Public Library branches.

Residents must meet certain income restrictions to be eligible and placed into a waitlist for the units. The application deadline for the current stock of units will be May 30, with a lottery held on June 9. Once selected, applicants will be contacted with an opportunity to tour available units. Priority can be given to those in emergency situations.

To help residents better understand how the new system works, the city hosted a series of informational sessions over the month of March. Information from those sessions remains available online and in multiple languages at: somervillema.gov/inclusionary



Honoring Memorial Day in Somerville: Parade and Ceremony of Remembrance on May 25



Community encouraged to sign up as parade participants and volunteers

SOMERVILLE— Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville De-

partment of Veterans' Services are announcing that Somerville's Memorial Day parade will be held on Sunday, May 25.

The parade will step off at 11 a.m. from Davis Square, proceeding west on Holland Street through Teele Square and onto Broadway, ending at the Veterans Cemetery between Alewife Brook Parkway and North Street. This year's

Grand Marshal is Somerville resident and Medal of Honor recipient Thomas G. Kelley.

The City's annual remembrance ceremony will immediately follow at the Somerville Veterans' Memorial Cemetery to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while in service to our country. The ceremony will feature remarks by Mayor Ballantyne and Director of

Veterans' Services Jerome Thomas.

Sign Up to Join the Parade or Volunteer

Somerville community groups, organizations, and local businesses are encouraged to participate and march along with local Veterans and first responders, as well as volunteers to help the parade run smoothly.

To sign up to participate, or volunteer, please complete a brief form at somervillema.gov/memorialday or call 617-625-6600 x 4700. The deadline to register as a parade participant is Friday, May 2.

Please contact the Somerville Department of Veterans' Services at veterans@somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600 x 4700 with questions.

Somerville PorchFest 2025: Important Safety & Event Updates

SOMERVILLE— The Somerville Arts Council is excited to announce PorchFest 2025, the citywide live music event, is returning on Saturday, May 10, from 12 to 6 p.m. (rain date: Sunday, May 11).

To ensure a safe, enjoyable, and well-organized experience for all, this year's event will feature new safety measures and structural updates designed to enhance the day for both performers and residents. All information is available on somervillearts council.org/porchfest

Key Updates & Changes for 2025:

Application Process & Deadline: Deadline to submit an application is Thursday, April 10, at 11:59 p.m. Applying does not guarantee participation.

Event Map to Be Issued Early: A map of the bands and their locations will be available several weeks before the event to make it easier for residents, businesses, and participants to plan ahead.

Street Limitations: Streets and locations identified

by the Somerville Fire and Engineering Departments as being part of a key safety route will not be able to host performances. These safety routes have been identified to ensure safe pedestrian and traffic flow as well as emergency vehicle travel. Residents on safety routes are encouraged to partner with neighbors on a nearby designated street.

Block Party Submissions: Block parties must also apply through Citizen Serve to request a block party permit. Applications will be open March 10 – April 10 and will be reviewed based on the street safety restrictions noted above.

Emergency Management Plan: The Mayor's Office has convened an Emergency Management Team to oversee a central command station on Porchfest. This team includes the Police Chief, Fire Chief, DPW, Emergency Management Department, and Arts Council.

Ambassador Volunteer Program: Volunteers will be stationed throughout event zones to assist visitors, direct people to porta-potty locations, monitor safety,

and serve as points of contact.

Official PorchFest Badges: Approved porches will receive an official PorchFest badge that must be displayed on the day of the event. Ambassadors will help ensure compliance.

Additional Information:

Schedule: Performances will take place in three two-hour zones across the city:
West of Willow Street: 12–2 p.m.
Willow to Central Street: 2–4 p.m.
East of Central Street: 4–6 p.m.

Event Guidelines & Rules: To keep PorchFest safe and enjoyable for all, please follow these rules:
Be respectful of porch hosts, neighbors, and residents—do not loiter on non-PorchFest properties
Public alcohol consumption is prohibited
Use public transportation to reduce traffic and parking congestion
Stay on sidewalks to allow cars to pass safely
Use designated porta-potties
Tip the bands (cash or digital) to

support local musicians

The updates to Porchfest's safety and organization were shaped with help from the Porchfest Committee, composed of five members of the Somerville community including a business owner, a resident, a musician, a Department of Public Works representative, and a member of the Arts Council staff.

"PorchFest is one of Somerville's most popular events, and to keep it going strong, we've made some important safety and sustainability updates," said SAC Director Gregory Jenkins. "We're limiting performances on key emergency routes and refining the application process to ensure the event stays safe and accessible for everyone. These changes will help PorchFest thrive for years to come, and we need the community's support to make it happen. I also want to thank the PorchFest Committee for their help creating these recommendations, and everyone who helps bring this amazing event to life."

History of Porchfest
In 2011, the Somerville Arts Council launched PorchFest, a citywide community music

event that invites residents to celebrate local musicians by hosting mini-concerts on their porches and stoops, or driveways and yards. Think of it like Somerville Open Studios, but for musicians. Rather than a traditional festival, PorchFest brings neighbors together to share and enjoy live music ringing out from porches across the city.



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The makers of "Premiere on Broadway" now brings you another Somerville hotspot! Public Tavern at 565 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02145 is now open! Only on Broadway in Somerville! A great place for all! It's a great place to sit down, have a few adult beverages, enjoy your favorite game and enjoy some good food, and some friendly local conversation!



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2025-53 Article V Section 5-15 "Handicapped Parking" is amended with the addition of the following locations: 14 Bond St, 11 Perry St.

PROMULGATED: MARCH 13, 2025
ADVERTISED: MARCH 25, 2025
APRIL 1, 2025
APRIL 8, 2025
EFFECTIVE: APRIL 16, 2025

Suzanne Rinfret, Director

Somerville/Medford News Weekly 3/25/25 , 4/0/25 , 4/08/25



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Applications Now Open for the Somerville Mayor’s Summer Jobs Program



Local Youth Can Apply for Summer Jobs at More Than 20 City Departments Now Through Wednesday, April 30

SOMERVILLE- The City of Somerville is now accepting applications for the 2025

Mayor’s Summer Jobs Program, a six-week paid career readiness initiative for Somerville youth ages 14 through the summer of high school graduation.

This program offers teens the chance to explore potential career paths, build workplace and interpersonal skills, and connect with their community. Participants will work up to 20 hours per week from July 7 through August 15 in a variety of roles across more than 20 City departments and local organizations.

“Our young people are talented, capable, and full of potential,”

said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. “This program gives them the tools to step confidently into the workforce while making a real impact right here in their community. I can’t wait to welcome this summer’s new class of changemakers.”

Work opportunities are available with the Parks and Recreation Department, Somerville Public Schools, the Department of Public Works, Library, Police and Fire Departments, Department of Racial and Social Justice, and more. A limited number of placements are also available with non-profit and private-sector partners

throughout the city.

The City is accepting applications now through April 30, 2025. Interested applicants should complete the online application.

After submitting the form, applicants will receive a confirmation email that their application has been received.

For questions, please contact summerjobs@somervillema.gov.

About the Mayor’s Jobs Programs In addition to the summer

program, the Mayor’s School Year Jobs Program supports teens with a mix of project-based work and weekly professional development. During the school year, participants take part in two hours of job-readiness workshops and complete six hours of work weekly within City departments.

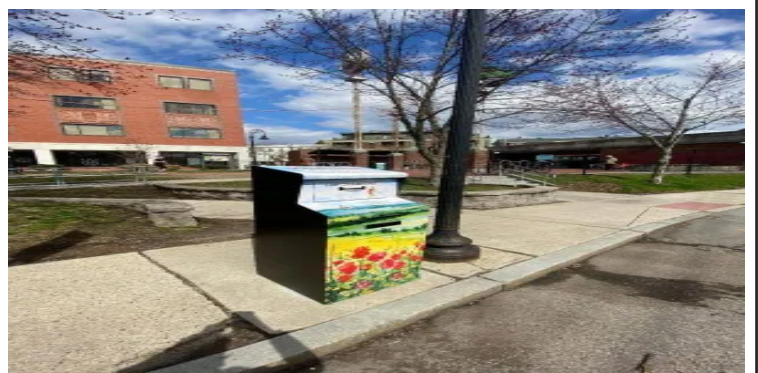
Both programs aim to equip young people with the tools, experiences, and confidence to thrive in future academic and career endeavors.

Somerville Installs Nation’s First Outdoor Dual Sharps Disposal Kiosk

The City of Somerville has installed the nation’s first outdoor dual sharps disposal kiosk at Seven Hills Park, behind the Davis Square MBTA station. This innovative installation supports the

City’s harm reduction and public safety goals by offering a discreet way to safely dispose of sharps that is accessible by foot, bike, and car.

Unlike traditional indoor drop boxes, the kiosk can accommodate both sealed containers and individual sharps. More outdoor kiosks are planned near the East and West Branch Libraries.



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Somerville Police Department Weekly Crime Log

Assault
25016391: On 3/26/25 at approximately 5:01 PM, Somerville Police took a report from a female who stated she was taking care of an elderly male at her workplace and was struck with a cane by the male.

with the victim who stated he got into an altercation with an employee at a nearby business. During the altercation, the suspect brandished a knife and held it to the victim's throat. Officers located the suspect and he was placed under arrest.

and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated she was on vacation and when she returned, she noticed numerous items were stolen.

Arrest
25017160: On 3/30/25 at approximately 6:33 PM, Somerville Police responded to Beacon St for report of a fight. Upon arrival, officers spoke

Residential Breaking and Entering
25018681: On 4/7/25 at approximately 10:26 PM, officers responded to a residence on Dimick St for a past breaking

- Other Crimes:**
- 2 MV Thefts
 - 11 Car Breaks
 - 2 Bike Thefts
 - 1 Vandalism
 - 1 Package Theft



Crime Log

3/25/25 – 4/7/25

[HTTPS://WWW.SOMERVILLEPD.COM/PUBLIC-SAFETY-NEWS](https://www.somervillepd.com/public-safety-news)

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE HEARING

By Bob Katzen

The Judiciary Committee held a hearing on several bills including these three:

EMINENT DOMAIN (H 67)
– This proposed constitutional amendment would prohibit private property from being taken by the government for private commercial enterprise, economic development or any other private use without the consent of the owner.

“The right to own property is a

basic principle of the commonwealth and it is one that I feel should be protected,” said sponsor Rep. Brad Jones (R-North Reading). “I filed this proposed amendment in response to the Supreme Court’s actions in Kelo v. New London, where a majority of the justices ruled against private property holders and determined that the New London Development Commission could take private properties for the purpose of economic development. This is a blatant overreach of government power, and this amendment is an attempt to correct that

and protect private property owners in Massachusetts.”

PROHIBIT GAMBLING ON POLITICAL OUTCOMES (S 1237) – This measure would make it illegal to wager on “political outcomes” including elections for public office within the state, appointments to public office, the passage, amending or failure of legislative measures and any other official decision-making processes conducted by political bodies within the state.

Supporters said that these plat-

forms and wagering participation are problematic on many grounds, specifically misinterpreting political outcomes. They are commonly mistaken as indicators for who is winning an election when that is not the case.

“Since online gambling was legalized in Massachusetts, political wagering has significantly increased, with billions of dollars generated,” said sponsor Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow). “In the 2024 presidential election, over \$3.2 billion in wagers related were placed on one

platform alone. I filed this legislation to ensure stronger safeguards for our election processes and their accuracy. The bill is rooted in preserving the integrity of democratic processes by prohibiting wagering on elections or legislative outcomes, preventing the commodification of our democratic processes.”

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Letter to the Editor: Newspaper Posts Presidential Threat



President Donald Trump

Dear sir:

This is to inform you that I have taken the following oath:

I, George Allen Swartz, citizen of the United States of America, do solemnly swear to support and defend our Constitution from all enemies, both foreign and domestic, in order to guarantee freedom, equality, and justice for all.

“Our system of government rests on the expectation that those in power will faithfully uphold and execute the law. That is the oath the president takes, and it is a core value underpinning government service. Once that principle is abandoned, democracy and the rule of law

are doomed.” (Marc Elias, Democracy Docket)

You are repeatedly ignoring the rule of law, and violating the Constitution, particularly section 3 of the 14th Amendment, “No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress

may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.’

Therefore, I am ordering you, our duly elected President, to cease and desist your efforts to overthrow our democracy. This is a government of the people, by the people, for the people and we the people will have our way, come Hell or high water. If Congress and the courts do not stop you, we will.

Respectfully,
Allen Swartz”

By William Tauro

Your thoughts? I would consider this more of a threat to the President of the United States than anything!

Shame on the Melrose Weekly News for allowing this lunatic to put this monstrosity in their news paper as a letter to the editor! I put

some funky stuff in my paper as well, but not something with stupidity like this lunatic liberal propaganda. I have just forwarded a copy of this to the Feds and let them have a field day with it and hopefully they deport this person and/or lock his sorry ass up!

“Open letter to

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Somerville Blessing Boxes are located at Union Square Plaza and Statue Park Davis Square
 Give what you can, Take what you need
 Check us out Somerville Blessing Boxes on Facebook and please join the group!
 The outpour of support of donations that have been coming in of much needed supplies of foods, hygienic items and warm clothing from the generous people of Somerville is overwhelming.
 Its up to all of us to help when we can to make a difference in the lives of others especially in those of the

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

Blessing Backpack Checklist

BASICS:	TOILETRIES
<input type="checkbox"/> Wool beanie (hat)	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose wipes
<input type="checkbox"/> Smart wool socks	<input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick
<input type="checkbox"/> Gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> Facial wipes
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarf	<input type="checkbox"/> Moisturizer
FOOD & DRINK	<input type="checkbox"/> Comb
<input type="checkbox"/> Quality instant coffee	<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush & tooth paste
<input type="checkbox"/> Tea	<input type="checkbox"/> Grooming kit
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy drink	SURVIVAL
<input type="checkbox"/> Beef jerky	<input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit
<input type="checkbox"/> Dried fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle with built in filter
<input type="checkbox"/> Fruit leathers	<input type="checkbox"/> Heat-pack
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail mix	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose tool
<input type="checkbox"/> Nuts	TREATS:
<input type="checkbox"/> Granola bars	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolates
<input type="checkbox"/> Protein powder packets	<input type="checkbox"/> Fruit snacks
<input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant gift cards	<input type="checkbox"/> Cookie snack packs
HELP THEM CONNECT	<input type="checkbox"/> Candy (individually wrapped)
<input type="checkbox"/> Journal & pen	<input type="checkbox"/> Mints
<input type="checkbox"/> Stationary	<input type="checkbox"/> Chewing gum
<input type="checkbox"/> Stamps	SPLURGE:
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-paid phone card	<input type="checkbox"/> Starbucks gift card
	<input type="checkbox"/> Compact reusable bag

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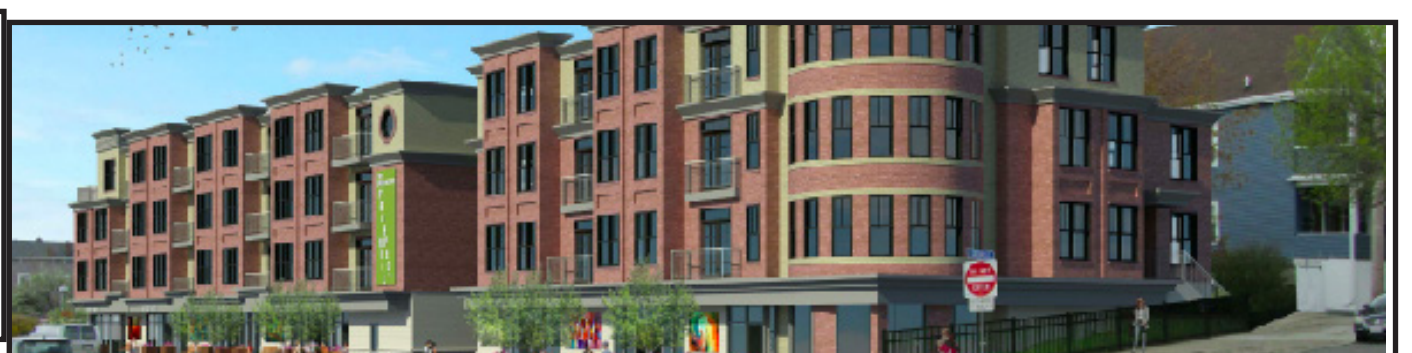
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REAL ID

By Bob Katzen

The Registry of Motor Vehicles reminds Bay State residents that beginning on May 7, 2025, people traveling by plane domestically or entering certain federal facilities will need

a Registry-issued REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID, or a valid passport.

The Registry strongly encourages everyone seeking a REAL ID-compliant license or ID card to go on-

line at Mass.Gov/REALID to learn what documents are needed for a required in-person appointment. Appointments to upgrade to REAL ID are available now, and several RMV service centers offer Saturday appointments. Cus-

tomers who already have a compliant credential may renew online as long as they have not had a name change.

"May 7th is almost here, and we remind everyone to check your wallets and

make sure you and your family members have the credentials that you need, depending on your travel plans," said Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. "We want to make sure everyone is cleared for takeoff."

Somerville Delivers on Anti-Displacement Task Force Recommendation: City Launching Guide to Help Small Businesses Secure Favorable Leases



SOMERVILLE – Small businesses face many challenges, which is why roughly one out of five businesses fail in the first year, and about half close in the first five years nationally, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

But as part of overall efforts to combat displacement of residents, artists, and local businesses, the City of Somerville just unveiled a new tool to help its small businesses improve their

odds.

The City, in collaboration with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), has released a new Commercial Leasing Handbook. It includes vital tips to help small business owners secure favorable leases, which can mean the difference between rent and conditions they can afford or costs that make it harder to survive. The handbook takes owners through a range of steps to navigate the complex world of commercial leasing. The goal is to build long-term stability for businesses, their employees, and the City in a challenging real estate environment.

The Handbook is a major deliverable from the City's Small Business Anti-Displacement Taskforce and was shaped by the voices and

lived experience of 20 Somerville small business owners, legal experts, and advocacy organizations. Their real-world knowledge is captured in practical, clear guidance to help entrepreneurs negotiate favorable leases, understand their rights, and avoid common pitfalls.

"This handbook is a real, tangible tool for our small business community," said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "We heard from business owners who were being pushed out or struggling to grow because of unfair or confusing lease terms. This Handbook is one way we're giving our entrepreneurs the knowledge and power they need to succeed. And when our businesses succeed, our community succeeds: we get jobs, services, vibrant business districts, and tax revenues that fund

the services and programs we deserve and need."

The Handbook includes legal basics, negotiation tips, permitting guidance, and advice from other business owners. It is translated into multiple languages commonly spoken by Somerville's small business community.

To celebrate the launch and walk through how the Handbook was created, a virtual event will be held on Thursday, April 10. A recording of the event will also be available online.

Event Details
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025
Time: 5-6p.m.
Zoom Link: us06web.zoom.us/j/84461212693

"We really want to thank all the business owners who shared their insights and first-hand experiences for the Handbook. This kind of knowledge transfer can really help give newcomers the best possible strategies for making sure their leases help set them up for success here," said Somerville Director of Economic Development Rachel Nadkarni. "We are lucky in Somerville to not just have engaged residents, but to have such a truly community-minded business community as well."

To download the Handbook or request a printed copy, visit somervillema.gov/commercialleasinghandbook.

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Ashleigh Bonome, Plaintiff vs. Gladson Anzolin, Defendant		
To the above named defendant:		Norfolk Probate and Family Court 35 Shawmut Road Canton, MA 02021 (781)-830-1200
The plaintiff has filed a complaint for Divorce Requesting that the court Grant a divorce for Irretrievable breakdown .		
The complaint is on file at the Court.		
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.		
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Ashleigh Bonome 43 Cypress Street Braintree, MA 02184 your answer, if any, on or before 5/1/25. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court		
WITNESS, Hon. Lee Peterson, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 19, 2025		<i>Colleen M. Bradley</i> Register of Probate
Somerville/Medford News Weekly 04/11/25		

\$1.3 BILLION FOR TRANSPORTATION

By Bob Katzen

The House 140-14, approved and sent to the Senate a \$1.3 billion supplemental budget that uses funds generated from the recent surtax imposed on taxpayers' earnings of more than \$1 million annually, to fund \$353 million for education-related projects and \$828 million for transportation-related ones. It also includes non-surtax spending that pushes the combined bottom line to roughly \$1.3 billion.

The surtax was created by voters in November 2022 when they voted for a constitutional amendment that allows a graduated income tax in Massachusetts and imposes an additional 4 percent income tax, in addition to the flat 5 percent one, on taxpayers' earnings of more than \$1 million annually. Language in the constitutional amendment requires that "subject to appropriation, the revenue will go to fund quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and public transportation."

A total of \$818 million of the \$828 million for transportation will be used for various MBTA projects while \$10 million will fund unpaved roads.

The \$353 million for education includes \$190 million for Circuit Breaker

reimbursements, which provide financial assistance to public school districts to offset the cost of delivering high-cost special education services to students; \$50 million for capital improvements at vocational schools; \$40 million for early education and care workforce; \$10 million for universal school meals for all public-school students; and \$10 million for Green SchoolWorks to decarbonize and increase efficiency in schools through green energy projects.

"Ensuring that every Massachusetts resident has access to a safe and reliable public transportation system, and that every student in the commonwealth receives a high-quality education, are two of the most fundamental responsibilities that we have as elected officials," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "The investments being made in this supplemental budget are representative of the House's continued focus on meeting those responsibilities and were made possible as a result of years of fiscally responsible, consensus driven budgeting."

"The use of these one-time surplus of funds are a unique opportunity for us to better strengthen the commonwealth in numerous ways," said Rep. Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston), chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means. "By further improving our edu-

cational and transportation sectors, we will build off the work we have done in the last several budget cycles with a judicious use of the Fair Share funds."

"[The] session was dominated by votes that favored pork barrel spending and neglected support for cities and towns in transportation and education," said Rep. Marc Lombardo (R-Billerica) who voted against the package. "Instead of allocating critical funding for roads and bridges to benefit all communities, the bill was filled with pork spending for House leadership. Moreover, instead of fully funding special education costs that are straining municipal budgets, we allocated hundreds of millions of dollars to the MBTA. Overall, the bill failed to provide comprehensive financial support to communities across the commonwealth. Beacon Hill needs to do better."

"While the education piece was strong, the transportation piece was not," said Rep. Joe McKenna (R-Webster). "The stark disparity in funding between the MBTA getting nearly the entirety of funding while the 277 cities and towns without direct MBTA access were effectively left out, was too large a gap to support the bill."

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

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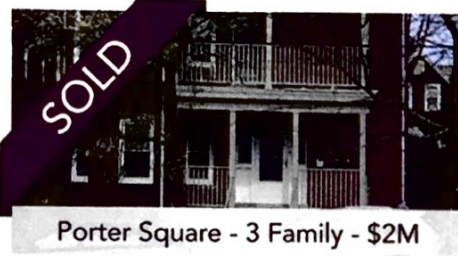
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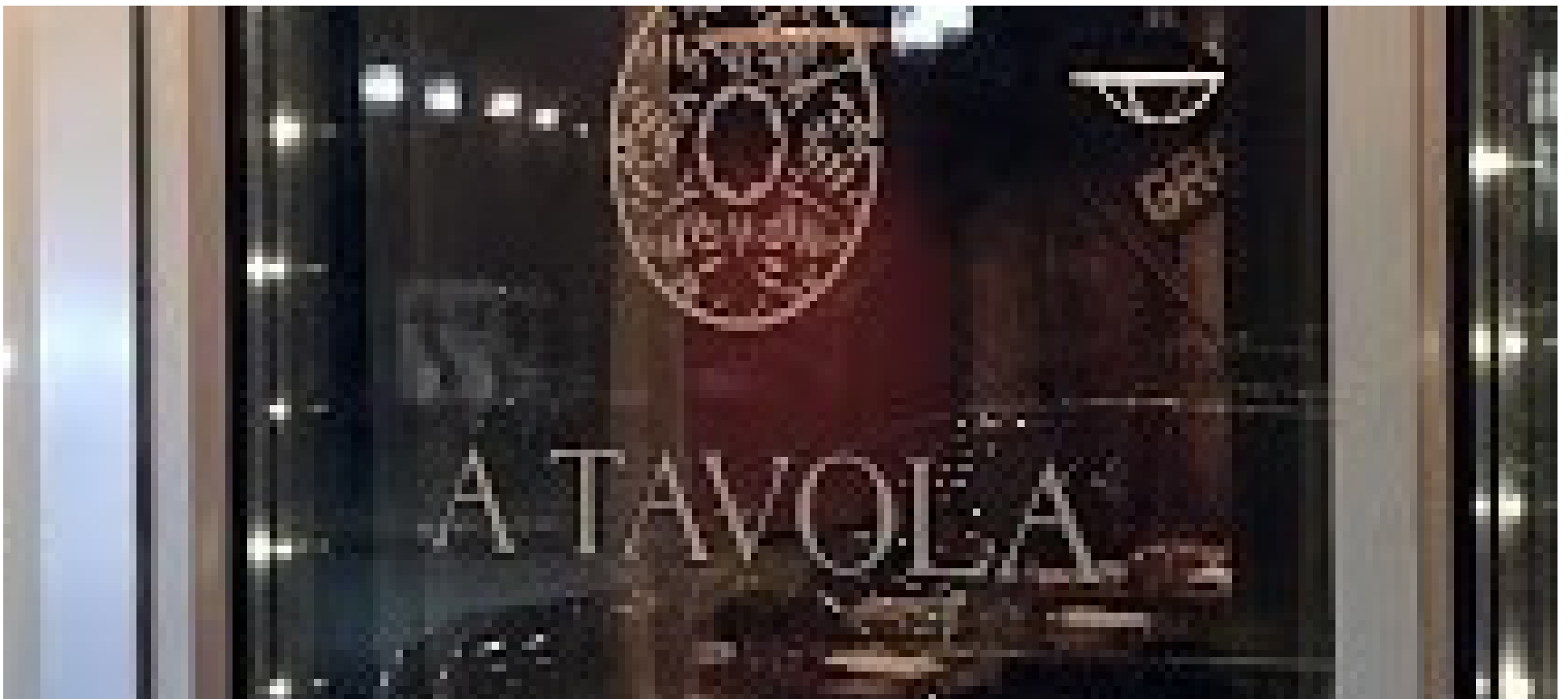
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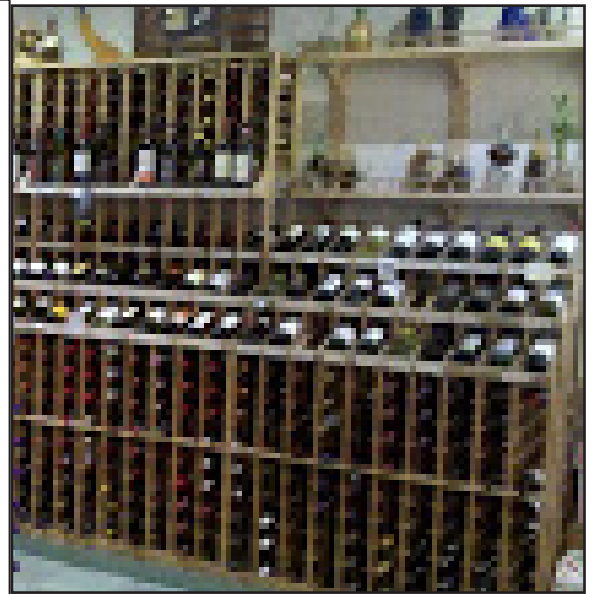


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