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VOL.1 NO.329-294

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS

Tuesday December 30th, 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026



Continued to page

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NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



Somerville Police
Real Life Somerville
Police Stories Page



Grand Union First Flag Raising, January 1



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Community Invited to Somerville 2026 Inaugural Events



Continued to page 16



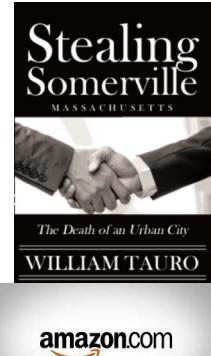
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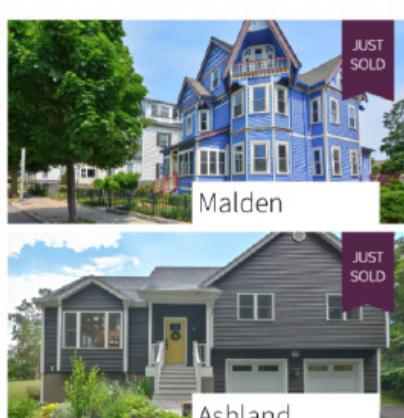


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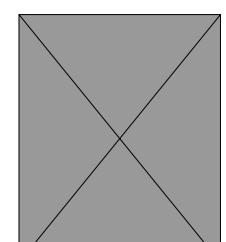


We have been busy, but never too busy for you! These four properties were sold in one month! If you see something you would like to know more about, have any questions or are thinking about buying or selling a property, please don't hesitate to send us an email or give us call!

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

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Join the Somerville Mayor's Appointments Advisory Committee

City Accepting Applications for One Vacancy

SOMERVILLE – The City of Somerville is seeking one new member to join the Mayor's Appointments Advisory Committee (AAC). If you care about fairness, transparency, and community voice in local government, this is a great opportunity to make a meaningful impact.

The AAC plays a key role in strengthening how Somerville selects members for its regulatory and decision-making boards and commissions. By helping review applicants and recommend finalists, AAC members ensure that appointments reflect the needs, values, and diversity of our community.

What Is the AAC?

The Mayor's Appointments Advisory Committee is a five-person, volunteer body that makes nonpartisan, informed recommendations for appointments to 14 City boards and commissions.

The full list of boards and commissions is available online: somervillema.gov/departments/appointments-advisory-committee

AAC members review applications, interview finalists, and

recommend two candidates for each vacancy to the Mayor, who then advances one nominee to the City Council for confirmation.

Who Can Join?

Ideal candidates are: Interested in learning about local government Thoughtful, fair, and community-driven Interested in people and process Motivated to contribute to transparent, equitable decision-making

Individuals with backgrounds in law, recruitment, human resources, or human services are strongly encouraged to apply, but these experiences are not required.

This is a volunteer position.

What Is the Time Commitment?

The AAC meets only when there are openings on the boards or commissions under its purview.

When active vacancies exist, the AAC typically meets bi-weekly on Wednesdays from 7–9 p.m. Meetings are held virtually. Additional time may be needed for reviewing applications and interview materials.

What Is the Appointment Pro-

cess?

Members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

How Do I Apply?

Applications will be considered until the position is filled. To apply please provide a: Resume Statement of Interest or Cover Letter

Ways to Apply

Online: somervillema.gov/be-somerville
Email: Send materials to Careers@somervillema.gov with the subject line: "AAC Member Application"
Mail: City Hall – Attn: HR / Kristen Hill, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143

Questions?

Email Kristen Hill, Recruitment & Retention Manager at K Hill@somervillema.gov

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Somerville/Medford Remembering Paul E. Crowe

Obituary

Paul E. Crowe, a lifelong resident of Somerville, Massachusetts, passed away peacefully on December 23, 2025, with his beloved son, Daniel and his partner Cheryl, by his side. Born on November 19, 1937, in Somerville, Paul lived a life defined by hard work, devotion to family, and pride in those he loved most.

From an early age, Paul was known for his strong work ethic. As a young boy, he took on paper routes throughout the neighborhood. After graduating from Somerville high school, Paul proudly served in the Massachusetts National Guard for six years. Following his discharge, he went on to work for over 30 years in shipping and receiving at a company in Boston, where he never missed a day.

Paul shared his life with the late Joanne Yore, and together they raised their son, Daniel. Being a father was Paul's greatest joy and proudest accomplishment. He and Joanne loved raising Daniel, supporting him through ice hockey, surprising him with brand-new bikes, and later celebrating Daniel's graduation with a brand-new car. Paul was incredibly proud to be Daniel's father and made sure everyone knew it.

Paul was filled with jokes and quick wit. No matter the situation, he always found a way to make the best of it, often with a smart remark or perfectly timed joke. His humor brought laughter and comfort to those around him and will be fondly remembered by all who knew him.

Union Square held a very special place in Paul's heart. He loved spending time there and found comfort in the familiar sights, faces, and routines of the neighborhood he had called home his entire life. A man of ritual, Paul took great joy in consistency, each day following the same rhythm, exactly the way he liked it. Those daily routines brought him happiness, comfort, and peace.

A true family man, Paul cherished time spent with his loved ones. He especially enjoyed the annual Crowe cookouts in Haverhill and in Nashua, New Hampshire. He never missed an opportunity to show up for his two granddaughters, Danielle and Stephanie. Whether it was for birthdays, holidays, or even

just a phone call to let them know he was thinking of them.

Paul is the beloved father of Daniel Crowe and his partner, Cheryl Iudice, of Beverly, loving grandfather of Danielle Crowe and her wife, Patricia Crowe, and Stephanie Crowe of Manchester, New Hampshire. He is the dear brother of Margaret and her husband, Bartholomew Paino, of Somerville and brother-in-law to Rita Crowe of Somerville.

He was predeceased by his parents, Patrick and Mary (Neylon) Crowe; his sisters, Kathleen Crowe of Somerville and Mary (Crowe) Langdon and her husband Jack of Brookline; and his brothers, Leo Crowe and his wife Maureen of Burlington; Robert Crowe and his wife Dorothy of Haverhill; and James Crowe of

Somerville.

Paul is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews, as well as his cherished "fur grandbabies": Russell, Travis, Macie, Ducky, Brutus, Tommy, Zuko and Junior who he is reunited with in Heaven.

Visiting hours will be held at Doherty Funeral Services, Inc., 855 Broadway (Powder House Square), Somerville, MA 02144, on Friday, January 2, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., followed by a Funeral Home Service at 11:00. Interment will be at Cambridge Cemetery, 76 Coolidge Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Relatives and friends are kindly encouraged to wear blue to the service, as any shade of blue was Paul's favorite color.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Louise M. Caspariello (Puopolo)

Obituary

Louise M. Caspariello (Puopolo) of Somerville passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on December 25, 2025. She was the beloved wife of the late Salvatore Caspar-

iello. Complete notice to follow. A funeral procession will commence from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, located at 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq) in Somer-

ville, on Wednesday morning, December 31, 2025, at 9:00am, followed by a Funeral Mass at St. Clement Church in Somerville at 10:00am. Visiting hours are scheduled for Tuesday from 4:00 to 7:00pm. Interment will

take place at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

Somerville/Medford Remembering James J. "Jim" Holmes

Obituary

James J. "Jim" Holmes of Mansfield, formerly of Somerville, passed away peacefully on December 23, 2025, after a long courageous battle with Parkinson's disease. Despite his illness, Jim never lost his sense of humor or positive attitude, always making his visitors laugh and never losing his beautiful smile. Jim's children were the light of his life.

Jim grew up in Somerville and was a graduate of Somerville High School. He furthered his education at Northeastern University. He worked for many years as head of security at Lesley College. Jim loved the New England Patriots, Bruins, and Celtics, enjoyed trips to the casino, and cherished family vacations to Cape Cod.

He was the loving father of Jessi, Jake, and James Holmes.

Former husband of Diane Holmes. Jim was the beloved son of the late James and Claire, and dear brother of Lenore Martin of Somerville, Brian Holmes and his wife Dawn and Paula Serratelli, both of Georgia. He was a cherished friend of Britta and Joe Harrold and is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Visiting hours for Jim will be

held on Sunday, January 11, 2026, from 2:00 – 5:00, with a Prayer service at 3:30. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Jim's memory to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Sergio Tortora

Sergio Tortora Obituary

Sergio Tortora – Age 87, beloved husband of Cornelia Tortora (Petrosillo), died peacefully surrounded by his family Saturday, December 20th at the Memorial Hospital West in Pembroke Pines, Florida.

He was born in Bisceglie, Italy on December 18, 1938, a son of the late Francesco and Isabella (Pedone) Tortora and lived in Italy before moving to Cambridge, Ma at the age of 17 and later moved to

Somerville. He resided in Medford, Reading and then retired in Miramar Florida. He completed service in the United States Army in 1964.

Sergio owned and operated the former Gino's Market in Somerville along with his brother Mauro prior to his retirement.

Sergio loved spending time with his family. He enjoyed watching soccer, digging for clams at Little Bird Island and gardening in Wareham and Miramar. He enjoyed spending his summers at Swifts

Beach, Wareham, MA and the rest of the year in Miramar, FL.

He is survived by his wife Cornelia, Sergio is also survived by his children, Frank Tortora and his wife CrisAnn, Gerry Tortora, Sergio Tortora Jr and his fiancé Terri West and Elizabeth Tortora; his brothers John Tortora; his sisters, Maria Pellegrini, Josephine Frisiello; his four grandchildren, Nicholas, Alyssa, Matthew and Isabella and his great grandson Nicholas. He was the brother of the late Giulio and Mauro Tortora.

Visiting hours will be held Friday, January 2nd at the Cota Funeral Home, 335 Park Street, (corner of Park St. and Rte. 28) North Reading at Reading line from 4-7 pm. A prayer service and burial will be held Saturday January 3rd at 10am in Holy Cross Mausoleum, 175 Broadway, Malden, 02148. Please go directly to the Mausoleum.

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Grand Union First Flag Raising, January 1

Ring in the new year on Thursday, January 1, 2026 as we raise the Grand Union Flag on Prospect Hill to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the first flag raising.

A processional led by "George Washington" will leave from City Hall concourse (93 Highland Ave.) at 11:30 a.m., followed by a ceremony at Prospect Hill Park from 12 to 1 p.m. This event is held in partnership with the Somerville Museum



Attend the 2026 City of Somerville Inauguration Ceremonies Next Week



Somerville City Hall
As Somerville embarks on its next legislative term, community members are invited to attend the 2026 inauguration ceremonies next week on Friday, January 2, and Saturday, January 3.

Organizational meetings of the City Council and School Committee will be held on Friday, January 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the City Council Chamber in City Hall (93 Highland Ave.).

Then on January 3, addresses by Mayor-Elect

Jake Wilson, the incoming City Council President, and the incoming School Committee Chairperson will be held at 6 p.m. in the Somerville High School auditorium (81 Highland Ave.). A public reception at the Somerville Armory (191 Highland Ave.) will immediately follow the inaugural ceremony at 7:30 p.m. New this year is a kid and teen zone onsite at the Armory.

The ceremony will include American Sign Language interpretation as well as interpretation into Span-

ish and Portuguese, with interpretation into other languages available upon advance request by emailing languageaccess@somervillema.gov or contacting 311 (617-666-3311).

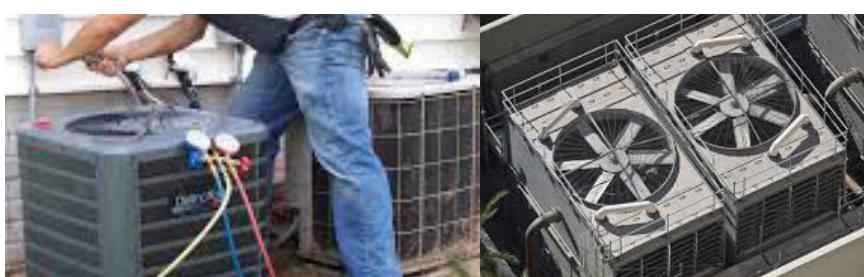
Speeches will be livestreamed on the City's cable and educational access television stations, online at somervillema.gov, and posted to CityTV's YouTube channel in the following days at youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV.

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THIS WEEK'S QUOTABLE QUOTES ON BEACON HILL

By Bob Katzen

"I'm a no, because if you look at the studies — if you look at the studies, you effectively halt production. I will tell you that investors in housing have already pulled out of Massachusetts because they're concerned about rent control."

—Gov. Healey on her opposition to a possible 2026 ballot question that would impose rent control by establishing a limit on any annual rent increase — capping the increase to an amount not to exceed

the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index or 5 percent, whichever is lower.

"Measles is a highly contagious, airborne disease, which has increased significantly in the United States because of the unfortunate decrease in vaccination rates. It is also a preventable disease."

—Public Health Commissioner Robbie Goldstein, announcing that an out-of-state adult visitor who spent time in Boston and Westborough earlier this month was diagnosed

with measles and was present in a number of locations possibly resulting in other people being exposed to the measles virus.

"Outdoor recreation should be for everyone—regardless of age, ability, or access. Nature is a wonderful place where people can come together, whether they're seasoned adventurers or just starting out. By investing in community events and programs, we're removing barriers that keep people from enjoying the

outdoors and discovering new experiences."

—Paul Jahnige, director of the Massachusetts Office of Outdoor Recreation, announcing nearly \$190,000 in grants to support equitable access to outdoor recreation events for low-income residents, communities of color and people living with disabilities.

"This law means peace of mind for the officers who have already paid a heavy price in service to their communities. This law strengthens the safety net

for the men and women who run toward danger. It reflects the voices of injured officers and families who fought for years to be seen and supported."

—Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll on a recently approved new law that enhances protections for state law enforcement officers who suffer catastrophic injuries due to an act of violence while in the line of duty and ensures that injured state police officers receive the same disability and retirement benefits as other first responders.



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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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

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Medford Police Department needs your help to identify this suspect!

The Medford Police Department is seeking the public's assistance in identifying the individual pictured.

On Friday, December 12, 2025, at approximately 4:40 PM, this individual allegedly stole a credit card from the locker room at Planet Fitness, located at 696 Fellsway, and later used the card at Lululemon and the Apple Store at CambridgeSide Galleria.

If you recognize this individual or have any information regarding this incident, please contact Detective Michael Pellegrino at 781-391-6767.



IDENTIFICATION WANTED



On Friday, December 12, 2025, at approximately 4:40 PM, the individual pictured above allegedly stole a credit card from the locker room at Planet Fitness, located at 696 Fellsway. The stolen card was later used at Lululemon and the Apple Store at CambridgeSide Galleria.

If you recognize this individual or have any information related to this incident, please contact Detective Michael Pellegrino at 781-391-6767.

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

2025-97 Article V Section 5-15 "Accessible Parking" is amended with the addition of the following locations: 17 Alpine Street, 149 Sycamore Street, 83 Pearson Ave, 6 Fountain Ave.

2025-98 Article V Section 5-10 "Safety Zones" is amended with the addition of the following location: Fire Lane, 16-18 Lincoln Parkway from the corner of Joseph Street in a westerly direction to the edge of the driveway.

2025-99 Article V Section 5-10 "Safety Zones" is amended with the addition of the following location: Fire Lane, on the odd side of Chandler Street from the corner of Park Ave in a northerly direction for 20 feet.

2025-100 Article V Section 5-10 "Safety Zones" is amended with the addition of the following location: Fire Lane, on the odd side of Park Ave from

the corner of Chandler Street in an easterly direction for 20 feet. 2025-101 Article V Section 5-10 "Safety Zones" is amended with the addition of the following location: Fire Lane, on the even side of Walnut Street from the corner of Jackson Road in a northerly direction for 20 feet.

2025-102 Article V Section 5-10 "Safety Zones" is amended with the addition of the following location: Fire Lane, on the even side of Walnut Street from the corner of Radcliffe Road in a northerly direction for 20 feet.

PROMULGATED: DECEMBER 11, 2025
ADVERTISED: DECEMBER 16, 2025
DECEMBER 23, 2025
DECEMBER 30, 2025
EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 7, 2025

Somerville/Medford News Weekly 12/16/25, 12/23/25, 12/30/25

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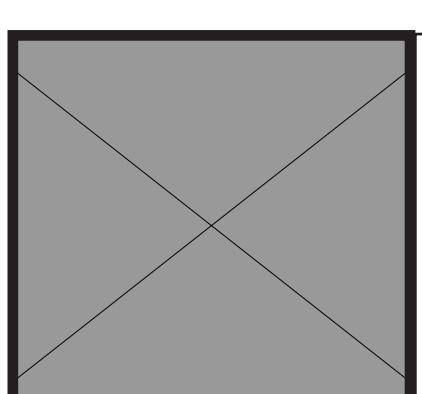
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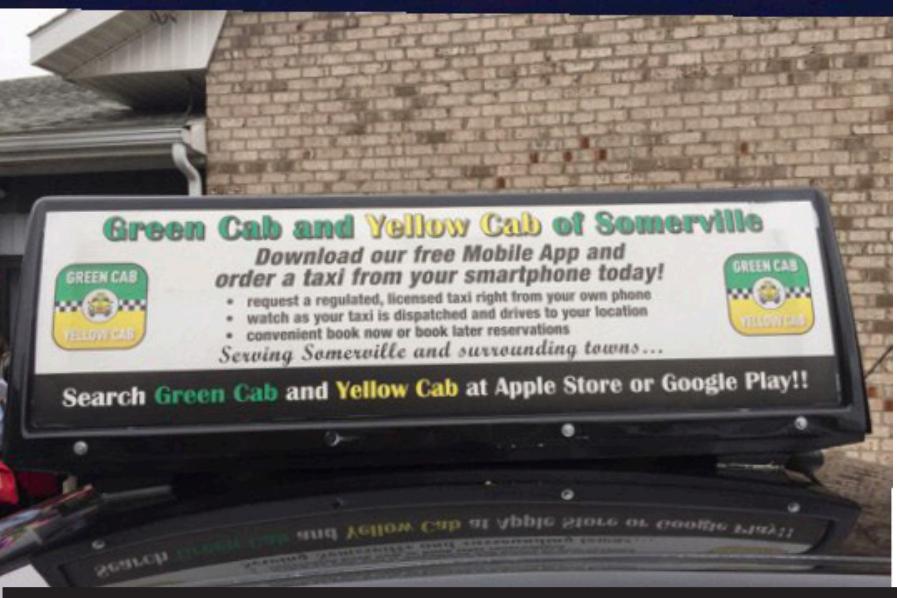
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US HOUSE PASSES BILL TO BAN TRANSGENDER SURGERIES FOR CHILDREN

**US HOUSE PASSES BILL
TO BAN TRANSGENDER
SURGERIES FOR
CHILDREN**

The U.S. House of Representatives has taken a crucial step to protect children by passing a bill that makes "bodily mutilation of a minor" a federal crime. Sponsored by Marjorie Taylor Greene, the 216-211 vote shows lawmakers are finally prioritizing the safety and well-being of kids nationwide.

While some states already act, this legislation ensures no child is subjected to irreversible gender-altering treatments anywhere in the country.

(Posted on the News Worth Sharing Facebook page)

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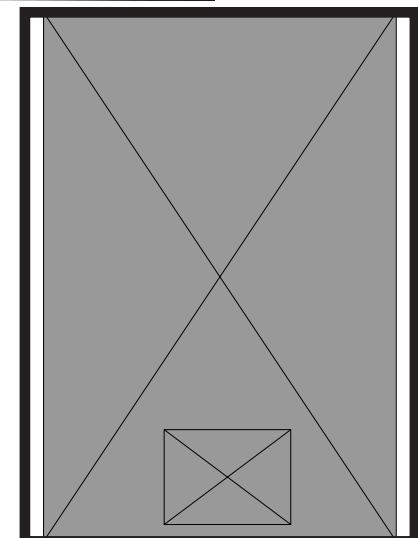
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A blue-toned graphic for a radio show. The word "ON AIR" is at the top in large, bold, white letters. Below it is a white microphone icon. The words "with" and "BILLY TAURO" are on a blue slanted banner at the bottom. The entire graphic is framed by a white border.



Medford VFW #1012 Karaoke Night

Medford VFW #1012 located at 114 Mystic Avenue in Medford is having karaoke on 7/24 and 8/21, 8:00 PM till 12:00 PM!

Somerville's own Scotty Lombardo will be the DJ so don't miss it!



TAX RELIEF FOR PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS (PCAs)

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey announced that an estimated 18,000 of the state's 60,000 of live-in PCAs who take care of MassHealth members will no longer pay state or federal income taxes on their wages, under a new IRS ruling that was sought by the Healey administration. PCAs are health care professionals who help people with disabilities keep their independence by aiding with activities of daily living, such as bathing and dressing. The exemption, projected to save a PCA \$5,000 or more per year in taxes, applies only to PCAs who live in the same household as the individual receiving the care.

Under the ruling, income earned by live-in workers qualifies as "difficulty of care" payments, a federal tax law classification that excludes certain caregiving wages from taxable income. Because the Bay State generally follows federal income tax definitions, the payments would also be exempt from the state's 5 percent income tax.

"We are working every day to identify ways to make life more affordable for the people of Massachusetts," said Gov. Healey. "Personal Care Attendants do incredibly challenging work to care for the most vulnerable among us, and they shouldn't

have to also worry about being able to afford to meet their own basic needs."

Justin Graceffa, PCA Workforce Council Vice Chair said, "As a longtime consumer-employer and vice chair of the PCA Workforce Council, I have seen firsthand how hard PCAs work and how dedicated they are to the people they support. Even though they do amazing work, PCAs are often overlooked and underpaid. This tax break will help address that issue and allow PCAs to continue providing high-quality care."

"During an affordability crisis in our country, our administration is exploring every action we can take to ease financial burdens on Massachusetts residents and support critical segments of our workforce," said Secretary of Health and Human Services Kiame Mahanah. "This exemption brings substantial tax relief for trained live-in friends and family members who are providing crucial health care services for MassHealth members with disabilities."

Somerville Grinch Steals Bicycle

 Somerville, MA Community · [Join](#)

...

Hi friends, sadly my bicycle was stolen last night. Here's a picture of it.

It notably has pink handlebar grips, grey body, and is single-gear.

It was parked last night behind a house near the intersection of Lowell St and Highland Ave.

It did have a U-lock on it, fastened between the top and down tubes.

I figure it's a longshot posting, but any help/info on its whereabouts would be greatly appreciated.

It's not worth a lot, but it's worth a lot to me!

Thank you all in advance



Sadly there's still a grinch out there somewhere in the world especially here in Somerville! Let's help this individual get their bike back for Christmas!

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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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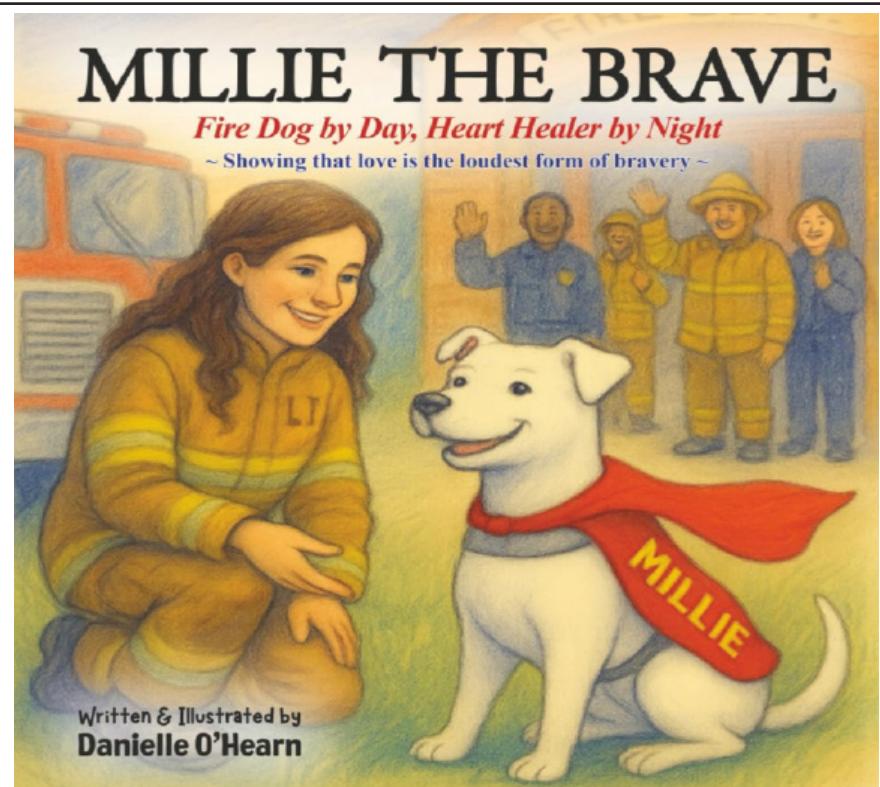
Hey Billy

My name is Danielle we've met a few
times before, I'm a firefighter in Somer-
ville. I just came out with a children's
book.

It's about my dog Millie it was a real life,
first responder therapy, dog and rescue
and her adventures in firefighting and be-
ing a therapy dog. I know you have a huge
following. Any shout out about the book
would be greatly appreciated.! It's available
currently on Amazon and hopefully in
bookstore soon.! Thanks Billy !

Here's the link the title is
Millie the brave

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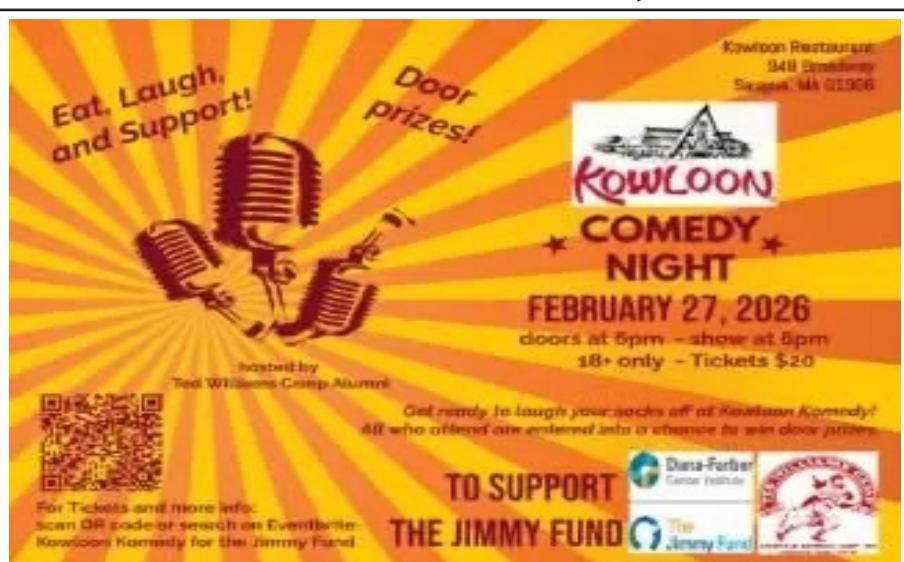


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Community Invited to Somerville 2026 Inaugural Events

Inauguration Ceremony and Public Reception on Saturday, January 3
Organizational Meeting on Friday, January 2

SOMERVILLE — As Somerville embarks on the next legislative term, Mayor-Elect Jake Wilson, the Somerville City Council, and the Somerville School Committee invite the community to attend the 2026 Inaugural events.

Please join us for the Mayor's Inaugural Address, remarks by the Council President and School Committee Chair, music, spoken word, and civic pride followed by a reception to celebrate our community and the launch of the new term.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Organizational Meeting of the City Council and School Committee, Friday, January 2, 10:30 a.m.
Inaugural Ceremony, Saturday, January, 3 6 -7:30 p.m.
Reception, Saturday, January 3, 7:30 -10:30 p.m.

Organizational Meeting, Friday, January 2
What: At this brief meeting of the City Council and School Committee, the City Council President and Vice President, as well as the School Committee Chair and Vice Chair, will be selected, and all members of both bodies will take the oath of office. The public is welcome.

When: Friday, January 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers in City Hall (93 Highland Ave.).

Inaugural Ceremony at SHS Auditorium, Saturday, January 3
When & Where: Saturday, January 3, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the Somerville High School auditorium (81 Highland Ave.)
What: Hear Mayor Wilson's inaugural address as well as remarks by the City Council President, the School Committee Chairperson, and honored guest MBTA Chairman and Interim Transportation Secretary Philip Eng. Emceed by Somerville resident and comedian Eugene Mirman, the program also features musical and spoken word performances, a Unity

Invocation, and all electeds will publicly take the oath of office.

Who: The full community is invited to this free event.

What to wear? Festive dress is welcome, and you'll see everything from black tie to blue jeans with many people opting for semi-formal or cocktail attire. Bottom line, everyone is welcome.

Reception at the Armory Saturday, January 3

When & Where: Following the ceremony, the community is invited to a reception at the Somerville Armory (191 Highland Ave.) from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

What: Live band, dancing, and DJ as well as refreshments.

Who: The reception is open to all community members.

New! Kid & Teen Zone, Saturday, January 3

What: For the first time, the City's Parks & Recreation Department will host a Kid & Teen Zone for the inauguration to help families enjoy the events. Games, activi-

ties, pizza (including gluten-free), and light snacks for ages 5-16 will be offered near the main Reception area in rooms provided courtesy of the Somerville Arts Council's SomArt Space program.

Where: The Parks & Rec Kid & Teen Zone is on the second floor of the Armory (191 Highland Ave.).

Drop-Off & Activity Times: Open to families attending Saturday's inaugural events, youth drop-off and registration will be from 5 to 8:30 p.m., and activities will run from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m.

RSVP (Optional), Interpretation & Viewing

RSVP: RSVP welcome, but optional, for any and all events. Please RSVP to inauguration2026@somervillema.gov.

ASL & Interpretation: The ceremony will include American Sign Language interpretation and live interpretation into Spanish and Portuguese. Interpretation into additional languages is available upon advance request by emailing languageaccess@somervillema.gov or calling 311 (617-666-3311) at least seven days in

advance of the event.

Attend, Watch Live Online or on TV, or Later On-Demand: All inaugural events are free and open to the public. The Inaugural Ceremony will also be recorded. Watch live or view later on YouTube.com/ SomervilleGovTV and on CityTV cable.

For more information including directions, parking, interpretation info, and more, please visit somervillema.gov/inauguration2026.

ADOPT A SHELTER DOG MONTH (H 3288)



By Bob Katzen

The House gave initial approval to legislation that would designate the month of October as Adopt a Shelter Dog Month.

"Massachusetts shelters take in more than 20,000 animals each year, and despite our high save rate, they continue to struggle with staffing shortages, rising intakes and limited community resources," said sponsor Rep. Bruce

Ayers (D-Quincy). "Establishing October as 'Adopt a Shelter Dog Month' will give us a statewide platform to promote adoption, support our shelters and ensure more dogs have a real chance at finding a permanent home."

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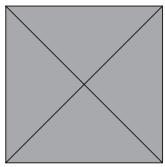


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5 POSSIBLE BALLOT QUESTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2026 ELECTION CLEAR ANOTHER HURDLE

By Bob Katzen

Secretary of State Bill Galvin announced that petitions for five potential ballot questions have been determined to contain the 74,754 certified signatures needed to advance another step toward going on the November 2026 ballot for voters to decide.

The proposed laws that were certified and the numbers of certified signatures are:

Allow prospective voters

to register and cast a ballot in a single trip to the polls on Election Day (87,408).

Current law does not allow same-day registration.

Impose rent control by establishing a limit on any annual rent increase — capping the increase to an amount not to exceed the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index or 5 percent, whichever is lower (88,132).

Reduce the personal income tax rate from 5 percent to 4 percent

over a three-year period (86,970).

Repeal the laws that legalize, regulate and tax the retail sale of adult recreational use marijuana in Massachusetts. (78,301).

Implement All-Party State Primaries that would eliminate political party primaries for state elections and instead establish a system where there would be a single, all-party primary in which all candidates, regardless of their party affiliation,

would be listed on one ballot, and voters could vote for any candidate on the ballot. The two candidates receiving the most votes in the primary would advance to the general election ballot (79,032).

The proposals will be sent by the secretary of state to the Legislature by January 7, 2026 and if not approved by the Legislature by May 6, 2026, proponents must gather another 12,429 signatures by July 1, 2026, in order for the

question to appear on the November 2026 ballot.

Five additional proposals are being reviewed to see if they contain sufficient signatures.

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TUSKEGEE AIRMEN COMMEMORATION (H 3306)



By Bob Katzen

The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would establish the fourth Thursday in March as Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day "in recognition of the

service and sacrifice during World War II of the Black pilots, bombardiers, navigators, flight surgeons, nurses, mechanics, instructors, crewmembers and all support personnel who changed the course of history."

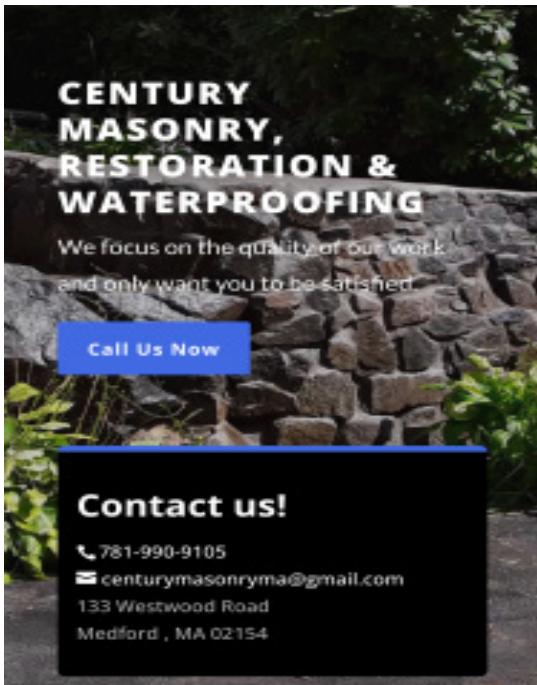
Chief sponsor Rep. Michelle Ciccolo (D-Lexington) said that these heroes embodied excellence while facing persistent segregation and discrimination. "This history is in danger of being erased by the federal government,

with references to the Tuskegee Airmen being removed from Air Force basic training materials until public outcry saw the materials restored," said Ciccolo. "Massachusetts should join our fellow states in committing to recognizing and remembering this history and legacy of excellence."

ity in U.S. history," said co-sponsor Rep. Rodney Elliott (D-Lowell). "At the time, segregation and racism were common, and many people wrongly believed Black Americans couldn't be effective pilots. They broke racial barriers and proved that Black Americans could be effective pilots, even in the face of injustice. To me they serve as role models for leadership, service and resilience and we owe the Airmen a debt of gratitude for their service."

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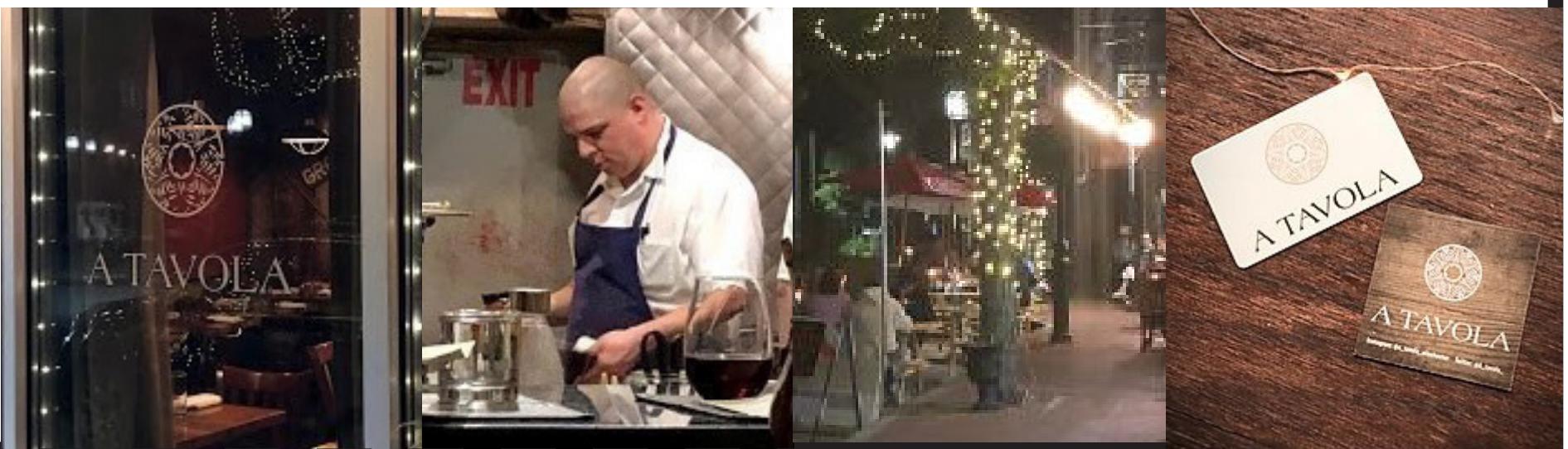
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Porter Square - 6 Family - \$2.7M



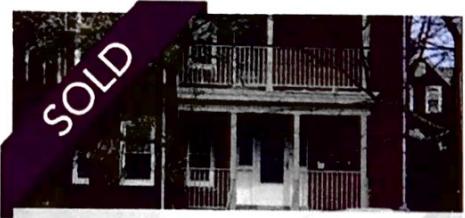
Porter Square - 4 Family - \$2.1M



Harvard Square - 6 Family - \$3.4M



Porter Square - 3 Family - \$1.875M



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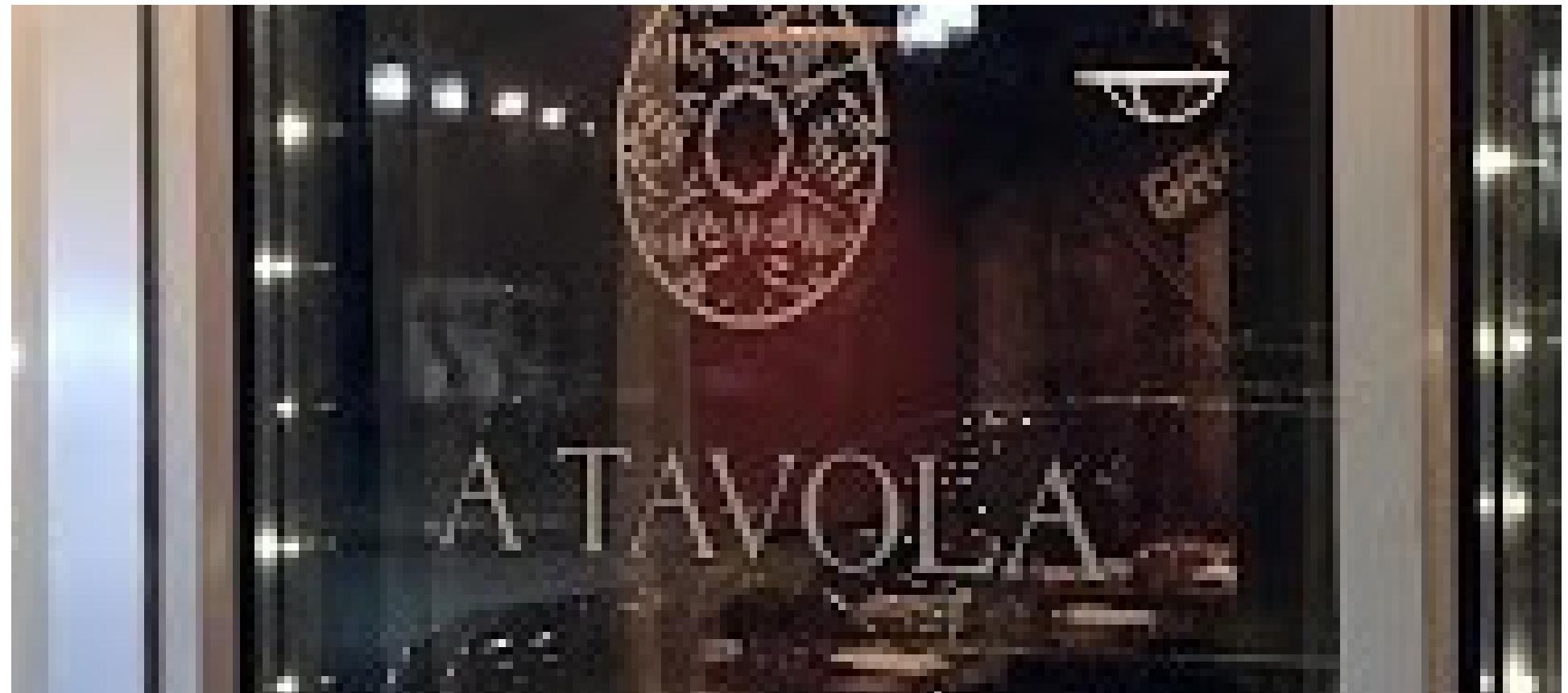
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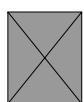
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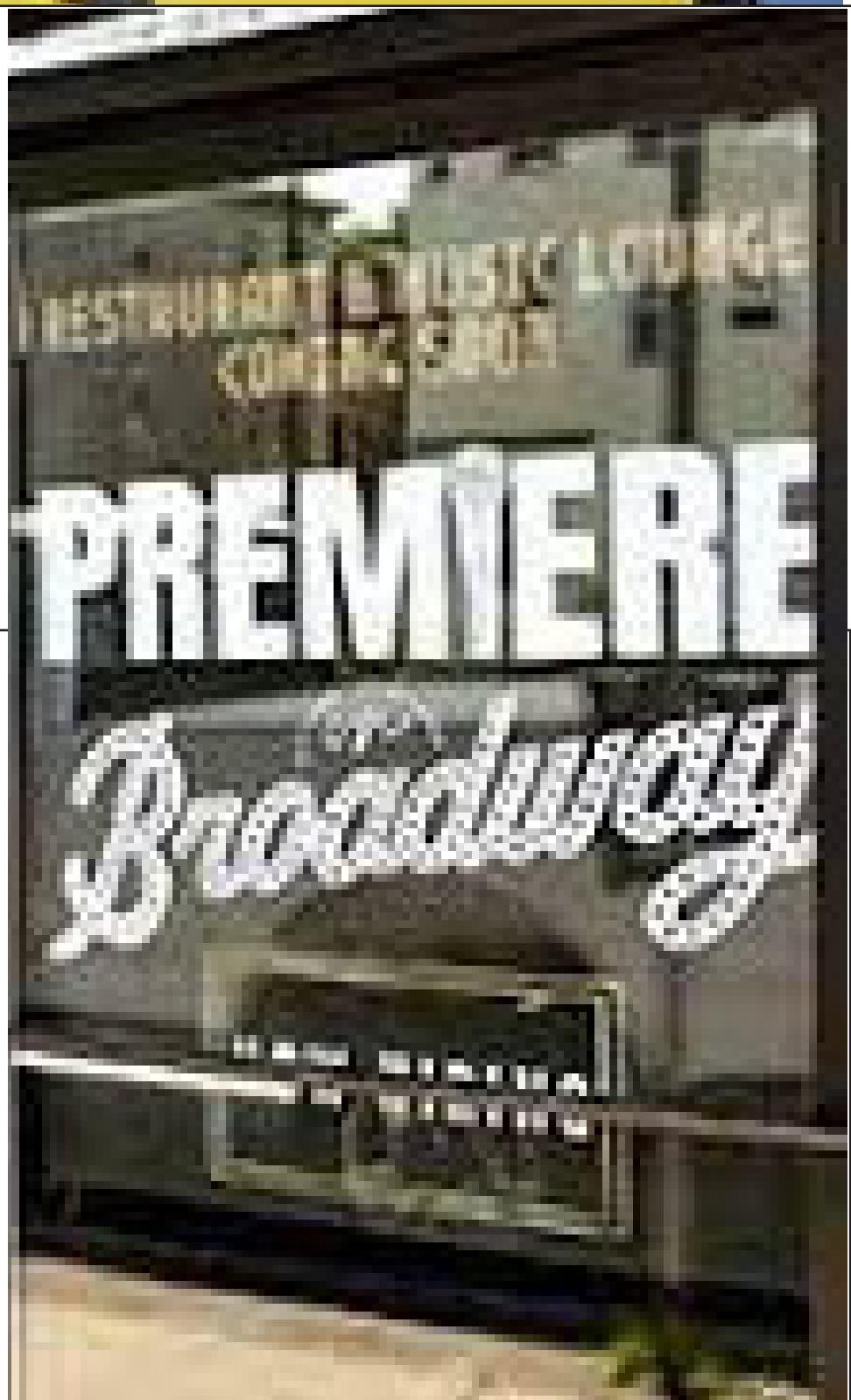
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