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VOL.1 NO.329-2982

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS

Tuesday March 10th, 2026

## Somerville Service Award Launches to Recognize the Work of City Staff



Continued to page 20

### AFFORDABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS

Mayor Jake Wilson Announces Executive Team Results-focused hires to improve core services, strengthen accountability and deepen community partnerships



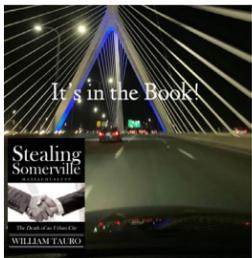
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NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



Somerville Police Real Life Somerville Police Stories Page



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### MOUNT VERNON RESTAURANT

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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.  
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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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**NOTICES TO APPEAR**  
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In January 2025, the Civil Service introduced a new 'Hybrid Hiring Model' for departments under its purview. This model offers two distinct pathways to become an entry-level police officer:

1. Civil Service Exam Route: The first step in this pathway is taking the Massachusetts Civil Service Exam, which is now offered twice a year. Applications are NOW OPEN for the spring 2026 police officer entrance exam. Deadline to apply is February 2, 2026.
2. Getbadged Route: Apply directly through GetBadged.com. Visit GetBadged.com, create an account, and select your preferred exam date. This is on-going.

For more details and the next steps in the new hiring process, please visit our website at [medfordpolice.com/becomeapoliceofficer](http://medfordpolice.com/becomeapoliceofficer).

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### Somerville/Medford Remembering Geraldine M. (Escott) Graha



Geraldine M. (Escott) Graham, of Reading, MA passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at the age of 72, after a courageous battle with cancer, surrounded by the love of her family and life-long friend Edie Culligan. Born and raised in Somerville in St. Clement Parish, she was the beloved daughter of the late Frederick and Camille (Derrico) Escott. From an early age, Gerri had

an artistic gift which led her to become a talented interior designer. Her style and fashion sense were legendary, as was her open heart, dazzling smile, and zest for life. These attributes helped build a long and successful career at BNY Mellon, where she served as Facilities Manager—New England..

Yet of all her accomplishments, none meant more to her than her family. Being a mother, wife, and “Grammy” were the roles she cherished most. She adored her grandchildren and was deeply involved in their lives—celebrating their milestones, hosting countless overnights and gatherings, and making sure each one felt uniquely loved and special.

Geraldine loved to travel, especially alongside her devoted husband and best friend, Steve. Their bond was extraordinary and rooted in deep love, partnership, and a lifetime of shared adventures. To witness them together was to see a true and enduring love story.

Geraldine was a devoted Catholic and witness to her faith. She was active at St. Patrick’s Stoneham, found great calm and joy in daily mass there or at St. Joseph’s Wakefield, and at both churches was surrounded by a deeply caring community.

Beloved Wife of 44 years to Stephen Graham. Devoted mother of Franny (Tessa), Scott (Lisa), Nicholas Graham (Michelle),

Gillian Mercier (Tommy), Luke Graham, along with her daughter-in-law Sarah Graham, and Annalyn and Mike Babics whom she loved as her own. Cherished grandmother of Rocco, Grady, Drew, Sonia, Audrey, Thomas, Justin, and Liam. Loving sister of Chris Caliri and her husband Richard, the late Johnny Escott and his wife Marie, the late Jimmy Escott and his wife Linda, and her sister-in-law Susan Roberts and her husband Rick. Also survived by many loving cousins, nieces, nephews, friends and extended family members.

A funeral mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, March 11th in St. Patrick Church, 71 Central St. Stoneham at 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends may visit with the family prior to mass from 9:30AM to 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Calling Hours will be held Tuesday, March 10th in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.), Somerville, MA from 4:00PM to 7:00PM.

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

In lieu of flower’s memorial contributions may be made in Geraldine’s name to Sawtell Family Hospice House or to American Diabetes Association

### Somerville/Medford Remembering Annacile Beaubrun



Obituary  
Annacile Beaubrun – Passed away February 26, 2026 in Haiti. A Funeral Mass will Celebrated

in Our Lady of Grace Church, 194 Nichols St. Everett, MA, Saturday morning at 10:00am.

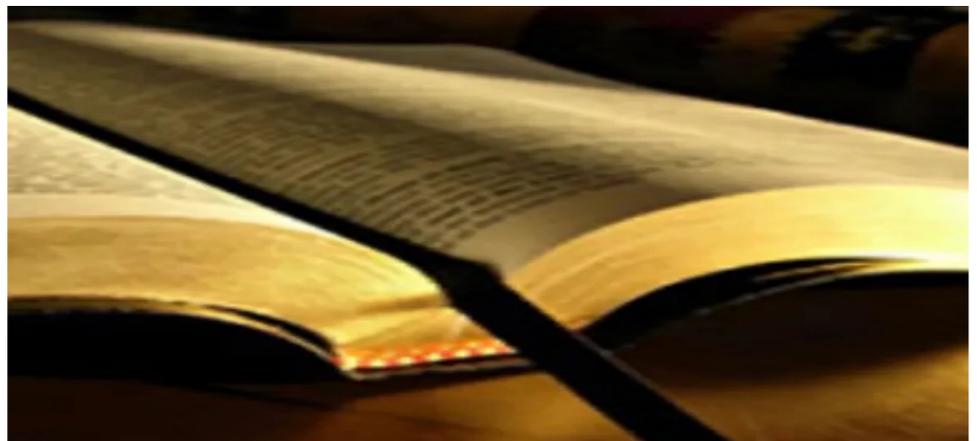
Visiting hours will be held at the Church from 9:00 – 10:00. Interment Forest Dale Cemetery, Malden. Complete notice to follow.

### Somerville/Medford Remembering Paulette Laurore

Obituary  
Paulette Laurore of Everett passed away on February 28, 2026. She was the beloved wife of the late Francisque Telcira. Visiting hours will be held at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah, located at 11 North St. Somerville, MA 02144, on Saturday morning, March 14, 2026, from

9:00 to 10:00, followed by a Funeral Service at 10:00. Interment will take place at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

Complete notice to follow.



### Somerville/Medford Remembering James A. Roache



Obituary  
James A. Roache – A lifelong resident of Somerville, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, March 7, 2026. He was 74 years old.

Born in Boston and raised and educated in Somerville, he was the beloved son of the late James F. and Lorraine L. (Flores) Roache

Devoted brother of Kevin T. Roache and his

wife Christina of Marshfield, Lorriane Watson of Wilmington, the late Mark Roache and the late Maureen Roache. Cherished uncle of Mark Watson, Robert Watson, Kevin Roache, Thomas Roache, and Christina Butler. Loving great uncle of Hannah, Ryan, Timmothy, James, Mary, Elizabeth, Mikey, Fiona, Gillian and Benjamin.

A funeral procession will be held from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home on Tuesday, March 17th at 9:00AM. Followed by a funeral mass celebrated in St. Ann Church, 399 Medford St., Somerville at 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Calling Hours will be held on Monday March 16th from 4:00PM to

7:00PM.

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



# Mayor Jake Wilson Announces Executive Team Results-focused hires to improve core services, strengthen accountability, and deepen community partnerships



SOMERVILLE — Mayor Jake Wilson today announced the full slate of Executive Office appointments, an experienced team to deliver on his results-first agenda: improving core City services, increasing efficiency, strengthening communications and transparency, delivering accessibility and accountability, advancing equity, and building regional partnerships that benefit Somerville residents. While many have been on board since inauguration, two new hires recently completed the team.

“I’m thrilled to announce our complete Mayor’s Office team, a group of motivated public servants with a laser focus on making life better for all of our residents,” said Mayor Jake Wilson. “The first step of doing the work we want to do is building the team. And these team members all have proven track records of delivering for people and a strong public-service mindset. I’m so happy to welcome them and deliver on the work.”

**Appointments**  
Chief Administrative Officer — Kimberly Wells  
Kimberly began serving the Somerville City Council in 2019 as Assistant Clerk of Committees

and was appointed as City Clerk in 2021. Prior to joining the City, she led IT and analytics consulting for municipalities across Massachusetts with the UMass Boston Collins Center for Public Management.

Kimberly holds an MPA and an MS in Political Science from Suffolk University, a Graduate Certificate in Conflict Resolution from UMass Boston, a BS in Political Science from Saint Michael’s College, and a Paralegal Certificate from Boston University. She is a PMP, Registered and Certified Parliamentarian, and Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Official, and is pursuing an Ed.D. at Northeastern University.

**Chief of Staff — Sarah Anders**  
Sarah Anders joins the Mayor’s Office from the City of Boston, where she served as Chief of Staff for the 800+ person Streets Cabinet (Transportation and Public Works), delivering safety and state-of-good-repair projects while strengthening core services.

Previously, she was Communications Director for Mayor Michelle Wu’s 2021 campaign and held communications roles for elected officials in New York City. She holds a BA and an MPA from the University of Vermont.

**Intergovernmental Affairs Director— Amanda Nagim-Williams**  
Amanda is a versatile legal professional with broad public sector experience, spanning higher education, public interest advocacy, municipal government, and judicial chambers bringing a well-rounded perspective to

complex legal and policy issues.

Amanda joined the City of Somerville in 2022, as the Coordinator for the Department of Racial and Social Justice. In 2024, she transitioned into her most recent role as the Director of the department where she has provided strategic visioning in identifying and implementing strategies that aim to make Somerville more equitable and inclusive.

Prior to Somerville, Amanda worked in higher education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in the Professional Education department before serving as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Assignment Judge for New Jersey’s largest vicinage.

Amanda holds a Juris Doctor degree from the Roger Williams University School of Law and a Bachelor’s degree in Criminology with a dual minor in Sociology & Interdisciplinary Studies from Stonehill College. Amanda also holds a certification in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Human Resources from Cornell University.

**Community Partnerships Liaison — Brenna Broderick**  
Brenna Broderick served as Co-Manager of the Wilson mayoral campaign and Chief of Staff to the transition. She brings experience across government and nonprofits with a focus on partnerships and community engagement.

Recent work includes a graduate consultancy designing gender-intentional frameworks for an agricultural impact fund, along

with prior roles in development and communications for a local food-insecurity nonprofit and policy research at Boston City Hall. She holds a Master’s in Global Development Practice from Harvard University, with certificates in Environmental Policy and Sustainable Food Systems, and a BA in Political Science from Saint Michael’s College.

**Mayor’s Public Liaison — Jesse Moos**  
A 16-year Somerville public-service veteran, Jesse Moos most recently served as the City’s first Construction Liaison and Compliance Manager (Engineering) from 2018 to late 2025, where he provided a bridge between residents and contractors on major infrastructure projects, including SAUSI, Spring Hill Sewer Separation, PHAB, Holland Street, and multiple street projects. He also launched Somerville’s infrastructure social channels to help residents get more timely construction updates.

Jesse began his service to the City in Constituent Services (311) and later coordinated Inspectional Services permitting (Citizenserve) for major projects in Assembly Row, Boynton Yards, and Union Square. He has staffed the City’s Memorialization Committee since 2020 and previously served 6 years on the Board of the Somerville Media Center.

**Legislative Liaison — Yasmine Raddassi**  
Yasmine Raddassi has served as Somerville’s Legislative Liaison since February 2025. Previously, she was Director of Policy, Re-

search, and Budget for a Boston City Council office (District 5), and later Chief of Staff and Interim Deputy Director at Boston’s Office of Police Accountability and Transparency, where she helped stand up the new agency.

She holds an MA in Public Policy and Public Administration and a BA in Political Science from Concordia University Montréal.

**Executive Administrative Assistant — Karen Bridge**  
Karen Bridge brings more than 25 years of executive-level administrative experience across healthcare, defense, higher education, nonprofit leadership, and executive coaching.

Karen specializes in high-level executive support, process optimization, and organizational efficiency. In the Mayor’s Office, she will serve as a central point of coordination, managing workflow and office communications. She is a graduate of Regis College, where she was a Dean’s Scholar.

**Executive Administrative Assistant — Midalys Rosario**  
Midalys Rosario has provided executive services to the Mayor’s Office since 2024 and brings her experience to support scheduling, office operations, event coordination, and constituent services as well as payroll and bill processing.

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and hydraulic system, if these turbines are in the ocean and the oil leaks, guess what...it leaks in the ocean. When you lose power, it's a good thing to have a gas or propane generator to keep the power on. If you chose to copy and paste, have at it. But please don't include my name please.

Sincerely,  
A common sense resident



### Somerville/Medford Remembering James A. Roache



William Campbell Obituary Douglas- William M. "Soupy" Campbell, 70, of West St., passed away on Monday, March 2, 2026, at UMass Memorial Hospital, University Campus in Worcester, after a period of declining health, surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Kathleen A. (Oldroyd) Campbell; 5 sons, William H. Campbell and his wife Tina of Plainville, Matthew C. Campbell, Robert A. Campbell, Timothy J. Campbell and his wife Matilda, and Joseph D. Campbell and his fiancé Amanda all of Douglas; 2 grandchildren, Thomas and Waylon; his dog Diesel, as well as several nieces and nephews, and dear cousins who reside in Prince Edward Island.

Born in Somerville, MA on April 8, 1955, he was the son of Colin and Catherine (MacNevin) Campbell and grew up in Somerville. He was educated in the Somerville

public school system and was a graduate of Somerville High School class of 1973.

A hard worker, Mr. Campbell often worked 2 jobs to ensure his family had everything they needed. He was primarily employed by the City of Waltham as a Mechanic and Foreman for 32 years until his retirement in 2019.

He enjoyed spending time with his sons, skiing, and playing hockey. A man of many interests, he was an avid reader, devoted sports enthusiast, and lifelong animal lover who cherished the many dogs he had over the years. He was known for his good nature, quick wit, and wonderful sense of humor. He had

been a resident of Douglas for the past 37 years.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge Olive Branch AF&AM in Douglas. In his youth, Bill and his family spent summers on Prince Edward Island, where his parents were from. During that time, he was a member of the Church of Scotland and the Order of DeMolay, a youth organization affiliated with the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry that promotes civic awareness, personal responsibility, and leadership development.

His funeral service will be held on Saturday, March 14th at 11 AM in Jackman Funeral Home, 7 Mechanic St., Douglas. Burial

will follow in Evergreen Cemetery, West St., Douglas. Calling hours in Jackman Funeral Home, 7 Mechanic St., Douglas will be held on Friday, March 13, from 3-5 PM, and Saturday morning from 10- 11 AM. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Dog Orphans Inc., PO Box, 767 Douglas MA 01516. To leave a condolence message for his family please visit <http://www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com>

### MEDFORD VFW POST 1012 HAS A NEW COMMANDER

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

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

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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.

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Thank you for your continued support.



### Somerville's Council on Aging Joins Statewide Active Agers Initiative



Program offerings encourage movement for preventative social, mental, and physical health

SOMERVILLE — A January dance party was in full swing

at the Holland Street Senior Center when the Somerville Council on Aging announced it is officially joining the Massachusetts Councils on Aging's (MCOA) Active Agers Program. The new initiative aims to promote physical activity to enhance mental and physical health as well as quality of life for seniors across Massachusetts. Possible participation prizes and rewards for participating COAs and individuals are also included.

As part of the initiative, the Somerville Council on Aging

is celebrating and ramping-up free health and wellness programming for seniors. Activities include weekly general exercise, strength and balance, and yoga classes along with rotating sessions of Zumba, La Blast Dance, Balletone, Tai Chi, Martial Arts, and more.

An overwhelming wealth of research supports that physical activity can lead to healthier aging. Even moderate activity has been shown to offer health benefits ranging from anxiety relief and better sleep to reduced risk of some diseases including

cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, dementia, and some cancers (Health Benefits of Exercise and Physical Activity | National Institute on Aging).

"It's never too late to start," said Ashley Speliotis, Director of the Somerville Council on Aging. "The goal of the Active Agers program is to encourage movement, try something new, and to have fun. Our programs vary in movement styles and intensity, so there really is something for everyone."

To find upcoming Council

on Aging programming, visit [somervillema.gov/calendar](http://somervillema.gov/calendar) or sign up for the Council on Aging's newsletter at [bit.ly/coanewsletter](http://bit.ly/coanewsletter).

To learn more about the statewide Active Agers initiative, visit [mcoonline.org/active-agers](http://mcoonline.org/active-agers). For more information, or to get involved with Active Agers, contact Michelle Deutsch, Health and Wellness Coordinator at Somerville Council on Aging, 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

### RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD (H 5151)

By Bob Katzen

House 25-130, rejected an amendment that would reduce the mandated annual rate of growth of the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) from 3 percent to 1 percent. The RPS is the percentage of the grid's provided energy supply that is derived from renewable sources.

"The reduction to 1 percent year-to-year growth of that mandated share of energy being generated by renewables would be more attainable while not preventing Massachusetts from exceeding that targeted rate of growth if the industry gains more momentum than expected," said amendment sponsor Rep. Joe McKenna (R-Sutton). "Setting unat-

tainable goals is an attempt to will into existence more renewable energy production than can realistically be procured. This sets up an incentive for development to leverage the mandates to bring in a very expensive supply at non-competitive rates that drives up costs borne by consumers on their bills."

Rep. Mike Kushmerek

(D-Fitchburg) opposed the amendment and said it would attempt to permanently reduce renewable energy targets and the Class 1 RPS by 15 percent by reducing it from 3 percent to 1 percent during the years from 2025 to 2029. He argued that the RPS is an important tool that helps the state comply with important climate laws and contributes to

financing for clean energy projects.

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

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

### Somerville/Medford Remembering George J. Hardy



Obituary

George J. Hardy – Longtime resident of Somerville, passed away on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 surrounded by his loving family. He was 87 years old. Beloved husband of the late Gerda (Krist) Hardy who passed away in January of 2023.

Loving father of Jacqueline White and her fiancé Joe Hall of Salem, NH; George and his wife Caroline of Reading; Daniel of Somerville; Carol Price of Wilmington; Stephen and his

wife Wendy of Lynn; and the late Christine Hardy.

Brother of Francis of Bellingham and the late Walter, Edward, Robert, John, Mary O'Brien, Alfred, William, James, and Irene Miscavege. He will be greatly missed by his fifteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

George was a dedicated employee of the B&M Railroad for over 30 years. One of his biggest passions was cooking for his family and bringing everyone together

around the table to enjoy good food and conversation.

A funeral procession will be held from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House SQ.) on Tuesday, March 10 at 9:00AM. Followed by a funeral mass celebrated in St. Joseph Church 252 Washington St. (Union SQ.) Somerville at 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Calling Hours will be held on Monday from 4:00PM to 7:00PM.

Services will conclude with George being laid to rest with his beloved wife Gerda at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in George's memory to the Animal Rescue League of Boston

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By William Tauro

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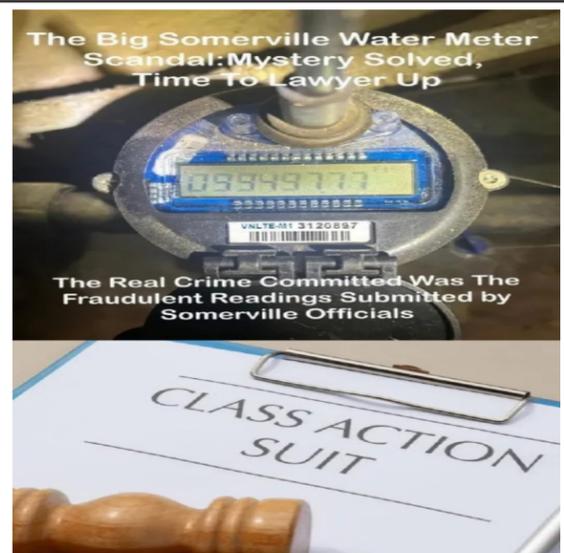
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### Medford VFW #1012 Karaoke Night

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!



### Somerville Awarded \$500,000 "Complete Streets" Grant for Western Pearl Street

Grant to help fund transformation of street—enhancing safety and accessibility for all

SOMERVILLE—The Healey-Driscoll administration has awarded the City of Somerville \$500,000 to help implement its redesign of western Pearl Street in Gilman Square as part of MassDOT's complete streets funding program.

The state's Complete Streets program helps fund local transportation projects that improve safety and accessibility for people walking or rolling, biking, taking public transit, or driving. Somerville's Western Pearl Street project is designed to achieve these community goals.

The state's grant will help fund construction for a redesign for the segment of Pearl Street between McGrath Highway and Medford Street.

In addition to repaving the roadway and rebuilding the sidewalks, the new design for the street includes: raised crossings and intersections, new protected bicycle facilities, improved bus stops, new benches and street trees among other safety and accessibility improvements.

"We're incredibly grateful to Governor Healey and the entire Healey-Driscoll administration for this investment in Somerville," said Mayor Jake Wilson. "What makes this project truly special is that it was built from the ground up with our community — residents, businesses, and neighbors told us what they needed from this street, and this design delivers that. From protected bike lanes to safer crossings to better bus stops, Western Pearl Street will be a model for what 21st-century street design looks like, and

we couldn't be more excited to make that vision a reality."

The design (download image here) was shaped with extensive input from community members heard in conversations on the street, at open houses, in small businesses and community events, in surveys, and via emailed comments collected throughout the design process. The design is also informed by Somerville's commitment to Vision Zero (a commitment to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injury) and the City's Bicycle Network Plan (a roadmap to expanding bicycle safety and features across the city).

To learn more about the project, including details on the final design and feedback from the community process, please visit [somervillema.gov/westernpearl](http://somervillema.gov/westernpearl).



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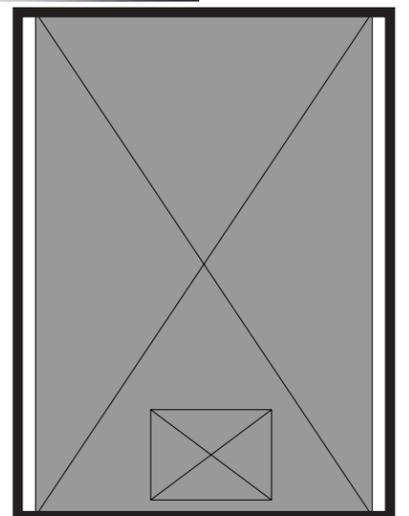
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2026-1 Article V Section 5-10 "Safety Zones" is amended with the removal of the following regulation: fire lane on the north side of New Washington St, 141 ft west of Innerbelt Rd extending 83 ft.

2026-2 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: Pick Up and Drop Off Only on the north side of New Washington St, 141 ft west of Innerbelt Rd extending 83 ft.

PROMULGATED: JANUARY 15, 2026  
 ADVERTISED: MARCH 3, 2026  
 MARCH 10, 2026  
 MARCH 17, 2026  
 EFFECTIVE: MARCH 25, 2026

2026-3 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the south side of Pearl St from approximately 160 feet west of McGrath Highway to approximately 55 feet west of Jasper Street.

2026-4 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the south side of Pearl St from approximately 55 feet west of Jasper Street to approximately 75 feet west of Jasper Street.

2026-5 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time

on the south side of Pearl from approximately 75 feet west of Jasper Street to approximately 55 feet east of Walnut Street.

2026-6 Article V Section 5-11 "Bus Stops" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: MBTA Bus Stop on the south side of Pearl St from approximately 55 feet east of Walnut Street to 10 feet east of Walnut St.

2026-7 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the south side of Pearl from approximately 10 feet west of Walnut Street to approximately 60 feet west of Walnut St.

2026-8 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the south side of Pearl from approximately 60 feet west of Walnut Street to approximately 60 feet west of Skilton Avenue (eastern leg).

2026-9 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: two-hour parking except by permit 8:00am-2:30am, permit parking only 2:30am-8:00am on the south side of Pearl St from approximately 60 feet west of Skilton Avenue (eastern leg) to approximately 150 feet west of Skilton Avenue (eastern leg).

2026-10 Article V Section 5-11 "Bus Stops" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: MBTA Bus Stop on the south side of Pearl St from approximately 60 feet east of Skilton Avenue (western leg) to Skilton Avenue.

2026-11 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the south side of Pearl St from approximately 30 feet west of Skilton Avenue (western leg) to approximately 90 feet west of Skilton Avenue.

2026-12 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No

Parking Any Time on the south side of Pearl St from approximately 220 feet east of Medford St to 20 feet east of Medford St.

2026-13 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: two-hour parking except by permit 8:00am-2:30am, permit parking only 2:30am-8:00am on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 10 feet west of Dana Street to approximately 85 feet west of Dana St.

2026-14 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: two-hour parking except by permit 8:00am-2:30am, permit parking only 2:30am-8:00am on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 15 west of Wesley Street to approximately 110 feet east of Walnut St.

2026-15 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: two-hour parking except by permit 8:00am-2:30am, permit parking only 2:30am-8:00am on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 110 feet east of Walnut St to approximately 70 feet east of Walnut Street.

2026-16 Article V Section 5-2 "Loading/Service Zones" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: Loading Zone on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 70 feet east of Walnut Street to approximately 35 feet east of Walnut St.

2026-17 Article V Section 5-11 "Bus Stops" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: MBTA Bus Stop on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 10 feet west of Walnut Street to approximately 50 feet west of Walnut St.

2026-18 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the

addition of the following regulation: two-hour parking except by permit 8:00am-2:30am, permit parking only 2:30am-8:00am on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 50 feet west of Walnut Street to approximately 20 feet east of James Street.

2026-19 Article V Section 5-2 "Loading/Service Zones" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: Loading Zone on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 65 feet east of Marshall Street to 25 feet east of Marshall Street.

2026-20 Article V Section 5-15 "Parking for Persons with Disabilities" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: Accessible Parking on the north side of Pearl St from approximately 25 feet west of Marshall Street to 50 feet west of Marshall St.

2026-21 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the east side of Medford St from approximately 45 feet north of Pearl Street to approximately 110 feet south of School Street.

2026-22 Article V Section 5-2 "Loading/Service Zones" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: Loading Zone from 8:00am to 4:00pm on weekdays and two-hour parking except by permit 8:00am-2:30am, permit parking only 2:30am-8:00am at all other times on the east side of Medford St from approximately 10 feet south of Pearl Street to approximately 50 feet south of Medford Street.

2026-23 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: two-hour parking except by permit 8:00am-2:30am, permit parking only 2:30am-8:00am on the west side of Marshall St from approximately 30 feet north of Medford St to approximately

130 feet north of Medford Street.

2026-24 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the west side of Walnut St from approximately 20 feet north of Pearl Street to approximately 55 feet north of Pearl St.

2026-25 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the east side of Walnut St from approximately 20 feet north of Pearl Street to approximately 40 feet north of Pearl St.

2026-26 Article V Section 5-15 "Parking for Persons with Disabilities" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: Accessible Parking on the west side of Jasper St from approximately 20 feet south of Pearl Street to approximately 40 feet south of Pearl Street.

2026-27 Article V Section 5-5 "Parking Location and Prohibitions" is amended with the addition of the following regulation: No Parking Any Time on the east side of Wesley St from approximately 20 feet north of Pearl Street to approximately 45 feet north of Pearl Street.

2026-28 Article VII Section 7-19 "Stop Signs, Yield Signs, Through Ways" is amended with the addition of the following regulations: remove the stop sign on westbound Pearl St at Medford St and implement a stop sign on northbound Medford St at Pearl St.

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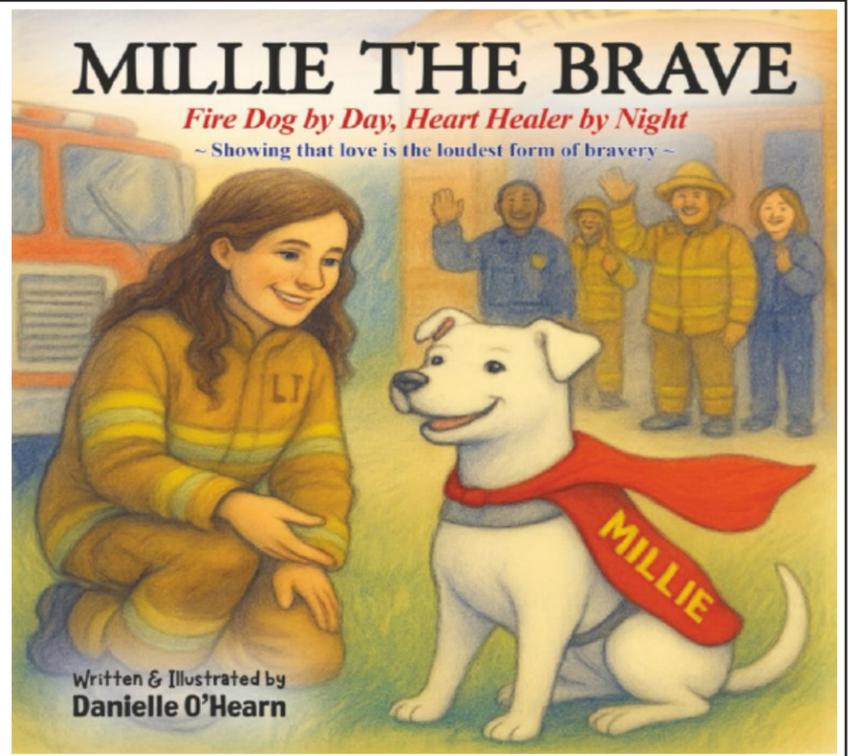
Dear Billy T and Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line,

Hey Billy  
My name is Danielle we've met a few times before, I'm a firefighter in Somerville. 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 being 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!

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### BUILDING TRADES RECOVERY WEEK (S 2110)

By Bob Katzen

The House approved a Senate-approved bill designating the last week in April as Building Trades Recovery Week, for the Buildings Trades Employers Association to

promote awareness of the dangers of opioids and substance misuse among workers in the construction industry. The measure needs final approval in both branches before it goes to Gov. Healey for her signature.

“By establishing Building Trades Recovery Week, we can highlight the importance of prevention, recovery and support services for the men and women who are the foundation of driving eco-

nomie development into our communities,” said sponsor Sen. Nick Collins (D-Boston). “This effort helps bring attention to an issue that affects many hardworking families and encourages open conversation, education and

access to resources.”

### \$250,000 TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL FOOD ACCESS

By Bob Katzen

The Healey Administration announced \$250,000 in Grants to strengthen local food access and support community food systems. Administered by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, the

program supports emerging and established local food policy councils and food working groups as they build stronger, more resilient local food systems.

“None of our residents should struggle to put food on the

table,” said Gov. Healey. “This funding is about making sure families can find fresh, affordable food in their own communities. Investing in local food systems means people get fed, farmers and small businesses are supported and our food supply is stronger.”

“Local food policy councils represent the best of Team Massachusetts in action – bringing together farmers, families, small businesses and advocates to improve quality of life in every corner of the state,” said Lt. Gov. Kim

Driscoll. “These grants ensure communities have the tools and resources they need to expand access to local food and build stronger, more connected food systems.”

### TRUMP AND IRAN

By Bob Katzen

Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland) and Sen. Will Brownsberger (D-Belmont) led the charge sending a letter to the U.S. Congress and Senate urging them to uphold the constitutional role of Congress in decisions that commit American service members to hostilities overseas.

The duo, and 26 other senators, signed the letter commending

the bipartisan group of U.S. senators and representatives who have introduced and are advocating for a war powers resolution that would require Congressional approval before the United States engages in further hostilities with Iran or expands current operations.

“Supporting this war powers resolution is a reaffirmation that national security is best preserved when military action is governed by constitutional

principles and robust Congressional oversight,” read the letter. “We urge members of Congress to support this resolution, to return to session if necessary, and to vote in favor of restoring Congress’ rightful authority over decisions that could draw the United States into an expanded war.”

The other 26 senators who signed the letter are: Cynthia Creem (D-Newton); Nick Collins (D-Boston); Joanne

Comerford (D-Northampton); Brendan Crighton (D-Lynn); John Cronin (D-Fitchburg); Julian Cyr (D-Truro); Sal DiDomenico (D-Everett); William Driscoll (D-Milton); Lydia Edwards (D-Boston); James Eldridge (D-Marlborough); Paul Feeney (D-Foxborough); Dylan Fernandes (D-Falmouth); Cindy Friedman (D-Arlington); Adam Gomez (D-Springfield); Pat Jehlen (D-Somerville); John Keenan (D-Quincy); Robyn Kennedy (D-Worcester); Jason

Lewis (D-Winchester); Joan Lovely (D-Salem); Paul Mark (D-Becket); Liz Miranda (D-Boston); Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford); Michael Moore (D-Millbury); Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow); Pavel Payano (D-Lawrence); Becca Rausch (D-Needham).

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### DOG KENNELS (H 4849)

By Bob Katzen

The Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government held a hearing on legislation that would make changes to current dog kennel laws. Supporters said the bill updates Massachusetts law on animal welfare, kennel licensing and dog identification and provides that fines from animal cruelty enforce-

ment will now be deposited into the Homeless Animal Prevention and Care Fund, which will expand to cover broader animal health and welfare measures.

They argued that the bill strengthens kennel oversight by prohibiting unlicensed dogs from being accepted; expands public license records to include inspection history

and enforcement data; and allows health agents to conduct inspections alongside animal control officers. When transferring a dog, kennels must record and report detailed identifying information to local clerks within 30 days.

“Following the passage of Ollie’s Law last session, municipalities and industry experts made clear that additional

reforms were needed to close gaps in our existing animal welfare system,” said sponsor Rep. Brian Ashe (D-Longmeadow). “This bill answers that call by strengthening kennel oversight, improving accountability and ensuring our laws better protect the animals and communities we serve.”

Ollie’s Law, signed into law in

2024, established rules and regulations for dog kennels in the Bay State, to ensure animal welfare, protect consumers and keep kennel staff safe.

### PREGNANCY (HD 5650)

By Bob Katzen

The House sent to the Judiciary Committee a late-filed bill which would repeal a current law that provides that a parent who conceals the death of a child, “which if born alive would be a child born out of wedlock, so that it can-

not be ascertained whether it was born alive or, if born alive, whether it was murdered, shall be punished by a fine of up to \$100 or by imprisonment for up to one year.”

Sponsor Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa said the bill would repeal archaic laws

criminalizing pregnancy by removing an outdated statute that can be used to criminalize unmarried women during one of the most traumatic experiences a person may face: pregnancy loss.

“This legislation would repeal a concealment of

birth law that is more than a century old, written at a time when women were not yet recognized as full rights-bearing people and when giving birth outside of marriage carried deep social stigma,” said Sabadosa. “Today, the use of such laws to investigate or prosecute postpartum in-

dividuals is unjust and out of step with our modern understanding of reproductive health. There is no compelling reason for a statute like this to remain on the books.”

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### Free Trees Available for Somerville Residents Through MyRWA Program



SOMERVILLE – Dreaming of warmer days and a yard in full bloom? In preparation for spring, Somerville residents can apply for a free tree to be planted in their yard through the Mystic River Watershed Association’s (MyRWA) Tree Planting Program. All Somerville residents are invited to apply (for renters, with landlord permission). Sign

up now through Friday, March 13.

**How It Works**  
Interested residents should complete the online form at [mysticriver.org/trees](http://mysticriver.org/trees). Upon receipt, a Somerville Resident Tree Ambassador will reach out to schedule an onsite meeting to determine tree placement and size. Residents are then able to select from a

list of native tree species. MyRWA provides the tree, works with local partners to help coordinate planting, and offers guidance to help it grow strong and healthy.

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To learn more and sign up, visit [mysticriver.org/trees](http://mysticriver.org/trees).

### City-Funded Scholarships Available for Somerville Class of 2026



Seven scholarships available to Somerville residents in the Class of 2026; Apply by deadline March 27, 2026

SOMERVILLE— Somerville’s 2026 high school graduates are invited to apply for City of Somerville Municipal Scholarships designed to help students launch their next steps be

that professional training, college, or a job in the trades. Selected applicants will receive \$2,000 to help with post-secondary education expenses including tuition, professional programs and certifications, and union fees. The deadline to apply is March 27, 2026.

To qualify for consideration,

students must be in high school, a resident of the City of Somerville at the time the financial aid is awarded and be accepted to an accredited post-secondary institution. Awards are granted both on the basis of merit and need.

To apply, students must complete the online application at [bit.ly/municipalschol26](http://bit.ly/municipalschol26)

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## AFFORDABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS (H 5151)

By Bob Katzen

House 25-130, rejected an amendment that would require all state agencies and authorities implementing energy or climate-related regulations to complete a formal affordability and competitiveness assessment before those actions take effect.

Agencies would be prohibited from advancing regulations tied to greenhouse gas limits or clean energy goals unless they determine the action will

not impose unreasonable adverse impacts on residential ratepayers, including low- and fixed-income households, or on the operating costs and competitiveness of Massachusetts businesses.

The amendment mandates that the assessment must identify projected cost impacts across ratepayer classes, evaluate cumulative impacts, consult with ratepayers and business organizations and be made publicly available at least 30 days prior to imple-

mentation. If unreasonable impacts are identified, agencies must modify the proposal or adopt mitigation measures, and failure to comply would be subject to judicial review.

“If the goal of this legislation is affordability, then there must be a real backstop to protect ratepayers,” said amendment sponsor Rep. Ken Swezey (R-Hanson). “The amendment ensures that new climate or energy mandates cannot move forward without a transparent review of

their impact on household energy costs and business competitiveness. It guarantees that affordability is measured and enforced, not simply promised.”

Rep. Mike Kushmerek (D-Fitchburg) opposed the amendment and said that a nearly identical amendment was put forward in an earlier version of this bill, and during that process, the feedback he received was that while it was well intentioned, the amendment would effectively grind the state’s

clean energy industry to a halt. He noted that litigious parties would seek to exploit this provision to tie up the clean energy industry and programs in legal battles.

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

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

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## Somerville Service Award Launches to Recognize the Work of City Staff



Community members invited to submit nominations; Recipients to be announced monthly

SOMERVILLE—As Cher almost said: “Can I hear a little commotion for the staff?” Mayor Jake Wilson is

introducing the Somerville Service Award, a monthly spotlight to recognize the exceptional work of City staff who keep Somerville running. Whether it was getting a problem solved, listening and acting on your feedback, connecting you to a service, launching a whole new initiative, or just a helpful conversation over pizza at your ward’s Slice of the City, community members are invited to nominate City staff that you feel

deserve recognition. How it Works Nominate staff through the online form at [somervillema.gov/serviceaward](http://somervillema.gov/serviceaward). Community members will be asked to provide the name and department of the staffer and a brief description of why you feel they deserve the award. Submissions will be reviewed each month, and recipients will be announced via the City’s social media channels. City staff are

also able to nominate colleagues. To celebrate the launch, the Mayor’s Office has presented awards to Director of Economic Development, Rachel Nadkarni, and Deputy Director Dana Whiteside for their critical work in bringing the global headquarters for organ transplant technology giant TransMedics Inc. to Somerville. The move will bring an estimated \$75 million in new tax revenue

over 10 years, 900 jobs to the area — including 600 new positions by 2032 — and significant community investments in education and public safety. Read more about the TransMedics move in our news feed at [somervillema.gov/news](http://somervillema.gov/news) (look for the announcement from January 13). For more about the Somerville Service Award and to nominate City staff, visit [somervillema.gov/mayor](http://somervillema.gov/mayor).

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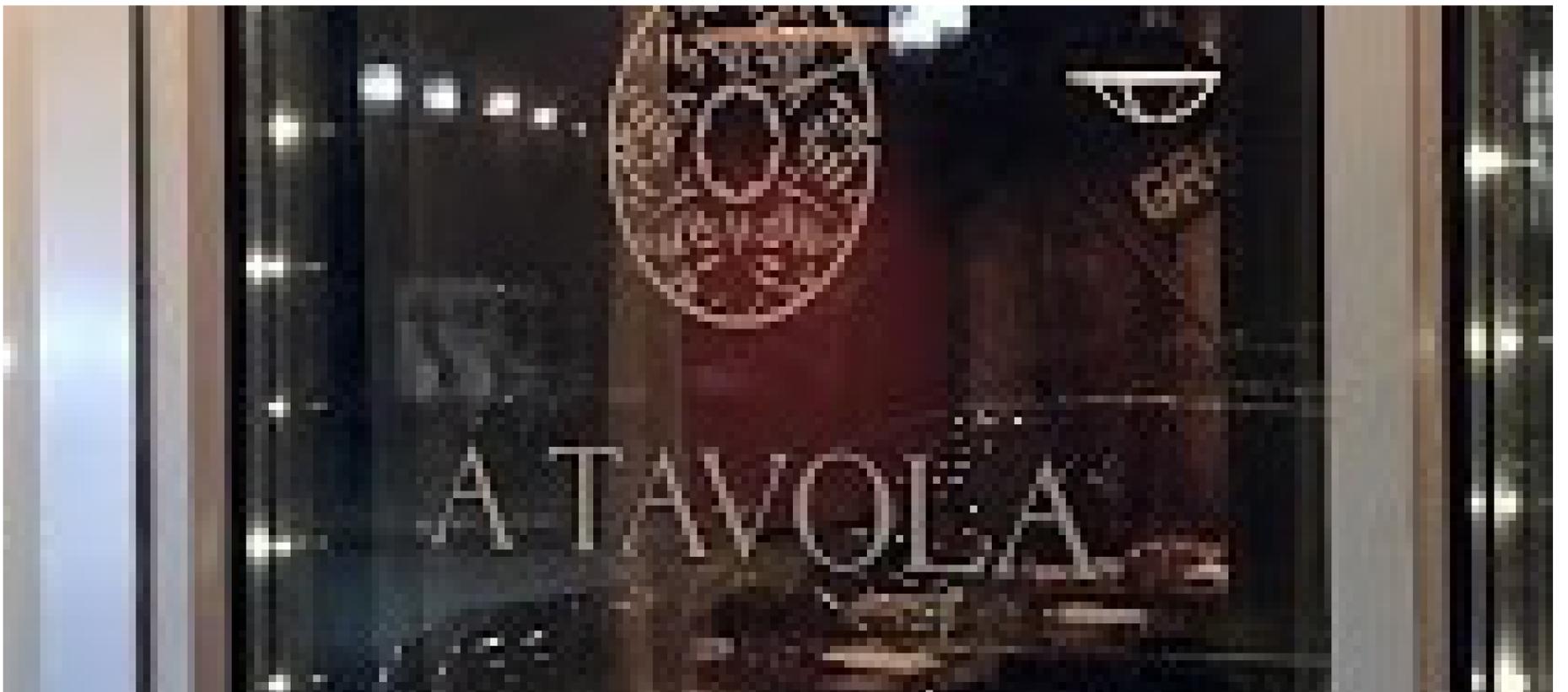
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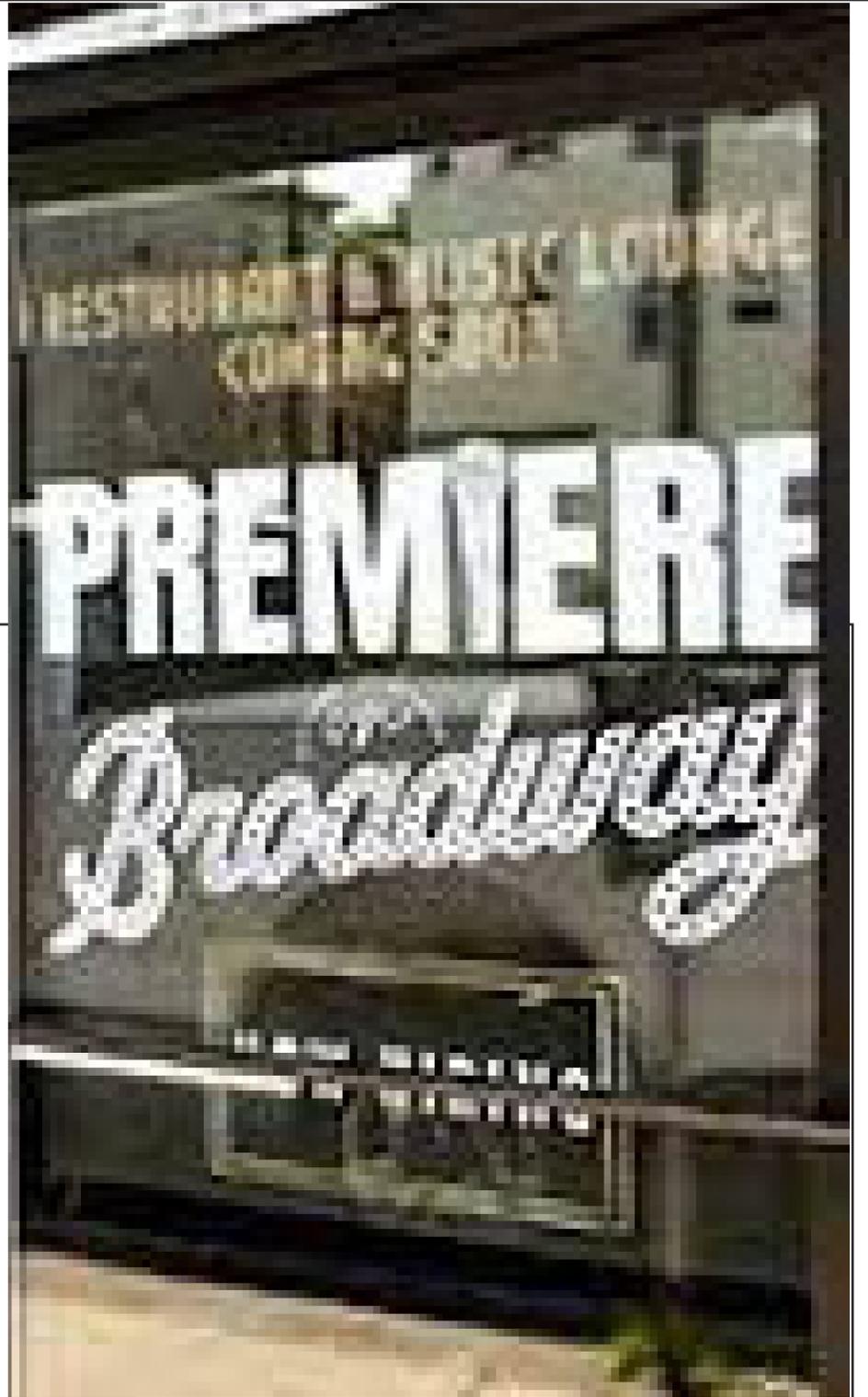
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