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SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS

Tuesday June 2nd, 2026

THE BATTLE OVER WHETHER STATE AUDITOR DIANA DIZOLGIO CAN AUDIT THE LEGISLATURE



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NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



Somerville 3rd Grade Student Sophia Casserly Wins Casella 2027 Calendar Contest

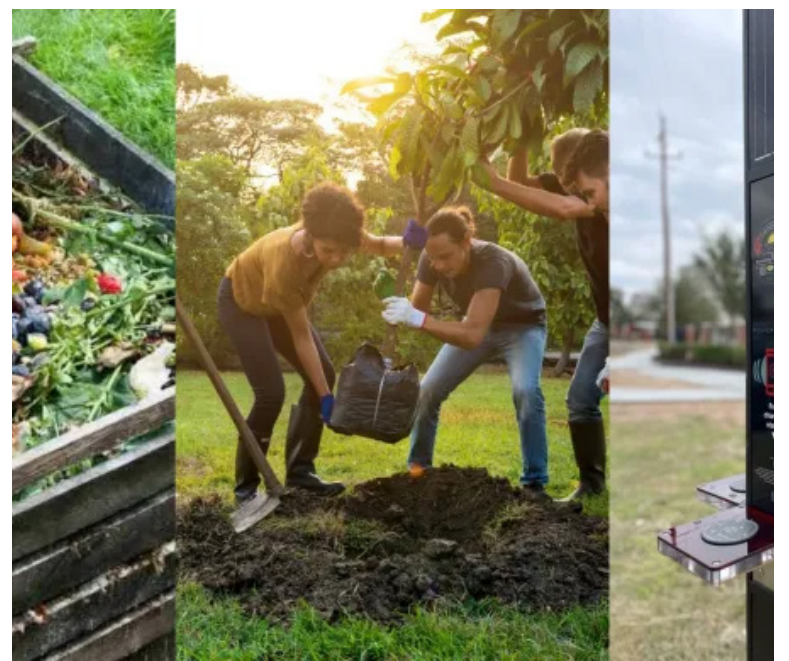
Somerville Awarded \$50,000 Youth Climate Action Grant by Bloomberg Philanthropies



Somerville Police Real Life Somerville Police Stories Page



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MOUNT VERNON RESTAURANT

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



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Stealing Somerville MASSACHUSETTS



The Death of an Urban City WILLIAM TAURO

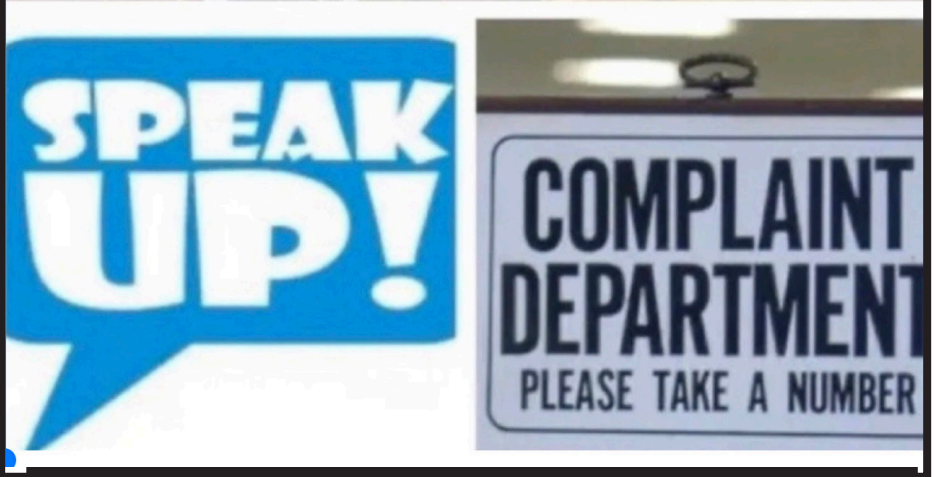
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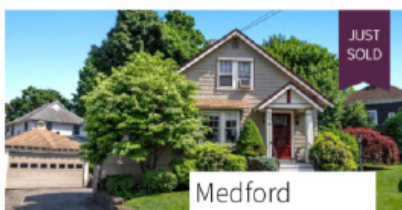
MARKET ACTIVITY

WE HAVE BEEN BUSY...

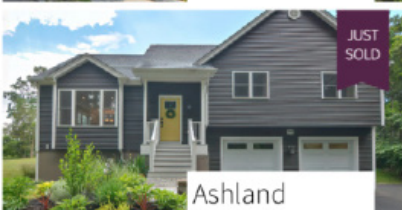
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Malden



Medford



Ashland



Westwood

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

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

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

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



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 Contact Name: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____

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

Please send both form and payment to:

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

If you have any questions email us at MHSVarsitySoftball22@gmail.com

MHS Varsity Softball is a non-profit organization in affiliation with Medford High School, our tax ID is listed below for your records.
 Tax ID 04-6601400

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

Become A Medford Police Officer



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 FEBRUARY 2, 2026

NOTICES TO APPEAR
 FEBRUARY 20, 2026

WRITTEN EXAM PERIOD
 MARCH 11-14, 2026

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WWW.MASS.GOV/CIVIL-SERVICE

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.

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Somerville/Medford Remembering Russell "Russ" Arredondo Jr.



Russell "Russ" Arredondo Jr., age 74, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away on December 29, 2025, due to complications of diabetes in Boston, Massachusetts. Born on September 12, 1949, in Revere, MA, Russ was a man of special character who left an indelible mark on the lives of those he touched.

A proud veteran, Russ honorably served his country in the Marine Corps in 1968-1970 before embarking on a career as an Auto Body Shop

Manager. His work ethic and leadership were evident to all who worked alongside him. Yet, it was his role as a family man that truly defined him. Russ was the husband of Leah (Hilton) Arredondo and a devoted father to his sons, James, Jeffrey, and Jarrett and treasured the moments he spent with his daughter-in-law Andressa. His warmth and humor continued as a Vovo to his grandchildren, Annalu and Luca, who he loved very much.

The son of the late Russell Arredondo, Sr. and Janet (Berrill) Lawrence. He was a loving brother to Robert and his wife, Cathy; Donna Proulx and her husband, Doug; Paula Greenspan and her husband, Ken; and held close the memory of his late sister, Deborah (Lawrence) Ferragamo, whose surviving husband, Joe, is so much a part of the family fabric. A dear friend to Willie Ortiz

who he considered a fourth son. An uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Russ was a 1967 graduate of Somerville High School, where he began to develop the skills that would serve him throughout his life. While in the Auto Body Shop business for most of his life, it was his talents as a skilled carpenter and wood craftsman that were well known, and he could turn his hand to any trade. His creativity and ability to solve problems with his hands were nothing short of remarkable.

In his young years, he was a competitive roller skater following in the footsteps of his parents and won championships. In his twenties, he played in Men's League ice-hockey and later was involved with Somerville Youth Hockey, supporting and guiding his sons during the years they played hockey and also making sure to en-

courage the kids he coached.

Russ will be remembered as someone who approached life with a quiet strength and a desire to give more than he received. He was creative with that spark of humor and loved to play a good practical joke. He would always try to "fix" things whether physical objects or emotional problems. The laughter, wisdom, and love he gave will be sorely missed yet his legacy will continue to live on through the family he loved, the friends he treasured, and the many lives he enriched with his presence.

Russell's journey through life was one marked by his good nature, love, and his commitment to the work he enjoyed doing. As we say goodbye, we also celebrate the life of a man who was truly one of a kind. His memory will be held in our hearts forever.

The family would like to thank the doctors, nurses and staff at MGB, Spaulding Rehabilitation Centers and Care Dimensions for their care and compassion during his long illness.

A quick reminder that we are only about two weeks out from Russell's celebration of life. We look forward to gathering with friends and family to remember a life well lived.

Saturday, June 13th

Polcari's

309 Montvale Ave

Woburn, MA

12pm - 4pm

- Leah, James, Jeff, & Jarrett
<https://www.legacy.com/person/Russell-Arredondo,-Jr.-61443087>

Somerville/Medford Remembering Kathy Webber



Obituary

A lifelong resident of Chelsea, Kathy passed away peacefully on May 15, 2026 in Florida, after a lengthy, courageous fight against cancer. She was 73 years of age. Born in Revere she was the daughter of the late Joseph

E. and Grace J. (Crouse) Mauzerol. Kathy attended Chelsea Public Schools. She married quite young to her best friend and beloved husband Kenneth A. "Ken" Webber, recently celebrating their 57th wedding anniversary.

Professionally, Kathy worked as a bookkeeper for their family run business, Crazy Kats Embroidery in Chelsea, where she always greeted customers with a big, cheerful hello. Kathy had a unique ability to connect with people and had a gift for making everyone feel welcome and valued. Her kindness and generosity touched countless lives. Her family will always remember her beautiful smile and one-of-a-kind laugh. Kathy found joy in life, enjoying every party, laughing, and often times found leading the conga line.

Kathy was an avid boater and enjoyed being on the water

with her boating family. She was affectionately known as The Admiral Kathy on their boat Sea Kindly. Kathy was a member of the Winter Hill Yacht Club in Somerville and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. She was actively involved in the City of Chelsea, the community she grew up in and loved. Kathy was an avid supporter of the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce and Chelsea Rotary Club, where she enjoyed attending their many events over the years.

For the past 5 years, Kathy and Ken enjoyed spending winters in Ft Pierce, Florida, where they found a home away from home. They cherished their time in Florida, forming new bonds and friendships wherever they went. Kathy's spirited energy will be forever cherished and loved by her family and her extended family and friends in Chelsea, neighboring cities and towns, her boating communi-

ty and all the friends she met while in Florida.

In addition to her husband Ken, Kathy leaves behind her beloved sons, Kenneth A. Webber and his wife Janice "Jan" of Saugus and Kevin Webber and his wife Christina of Winthrop. Kathy was predeceased by her brothers, Joseph E. Mauzerol III and Lawrence A. "Larry" Mauzerol and sister Donna J. Mauzerol. She is the dear sister-in-law of Carole Buonopane of West Peabody, Gayle Webber and the late Daniel Webber. Kathy is also lovingly survived by 4 grandchildren, Kevin Webber, twins Kyle and Kenny Webber, all of Winthrop and Kendra Webber of Saugus. She is the cherished aunt of Daniel Webber, Kelli Webber, Brittany Mauzerol, Richard Sjoberg, Thomas Sjoberg, Charles Capponi. Kathy adored her pet cats, Lilly and the late Snuggles.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS: Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend visiting hours in the Carafa Family Funeral Home, 389 Washington Ave., CHELSEA on Thursday, June 11, 2026, from 4:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M. A Funeral Service will follow the visitation in the Funeral Home at 7:30 P.M. All services will conclude in the Funeral Home.

DONATIONS: In lieu of flowers, donations in Kathy's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741 or on-line at <http://www.cancer.org>

We encourage family and friends to offer condolences by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Steven M. MacEachern



Obituary

Steven M. MacEachern of Somerville passed away on May 31, 2026. He was the beloved husband of Sheila (Meehan) MacEachern and a loving father to Julia Wingate and her husband Thomas of Somerville. Steven was the cherished grandfather of Jake and Viviana. He was the son of the late Harold and Sandra

MacEachern and brother to Babette Mello of Chelmsford. He was predeceased by Babette's late husband, James. Steven was also a brother-in-law to Eric Meehan of Malden and a dear uncle to Brad, Jay, Kristen, Jordyn, and Jenna.

Steve was an avid Boston sports fan and a longtime admirer of sports cars, especially his Mustangs. He was a proud

member of the Mustang Club of Massachusetts. Professionally, Steve dedicated many years to working for the MWRA and the Somerville and Malden D.P.W.

Calling hours will be held, Wednesday June 10th from 4:00 - 7:00

A funeral procession will be held from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855

Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville, on June 11th at 9AM, followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Catherine Church, Somerville at 10:00, relatives and friends invited.

Calling hours will be held, Wednesday June 10th from 4:00 - 7:00



Somerville 3rd Grade Student Sophia Casserly Wins Casella 2027 Calendar Contest

Congratulations to Sophia Casserly Grade 3, John F. Kennedy School Student Somerville, MA Mrs. Tremonte's Class on being one of the winners in the Casella 2027 Calendar Contest!

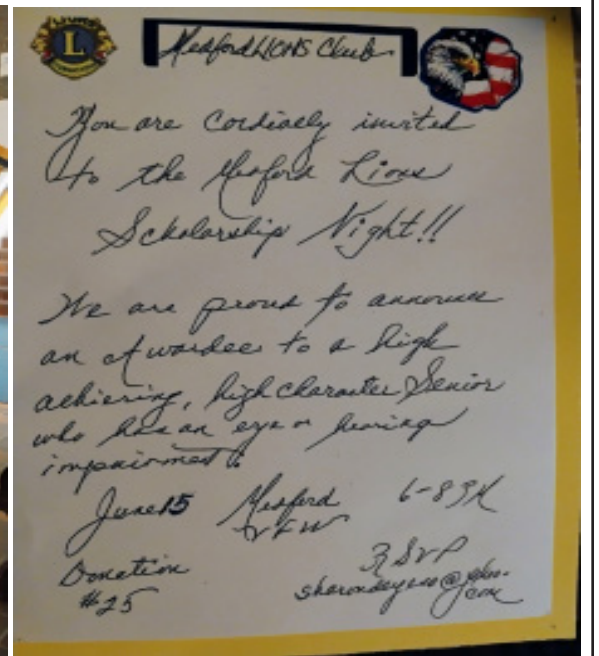
This year they had 515 entries from the state of Massachusetts and her drawing was one of 13 selected to be put in their 2027 calendar.



Medford Lions Club Working Wonders

This week Lions VP Sharon Deyeso met Rebecca Oliveira to grant her the 2026 Club Scholarship. It is given only to an eye, hearing, or suddenly afflicted, high achieving, good character SR. Ms. Oliveira will attend a Texas Tech College! She enjoyed her HS years in Medford and is very thankful to Lions. She received the check with, "Go Lions!"

The fine, 109year old Charity welcomed guests at their Scholarship Night(\$25 donation) on June 15 at the VFW. At 6 p.m. great Charity, great cause.



"On Air with Billy Tauro" Follow us on Facebook

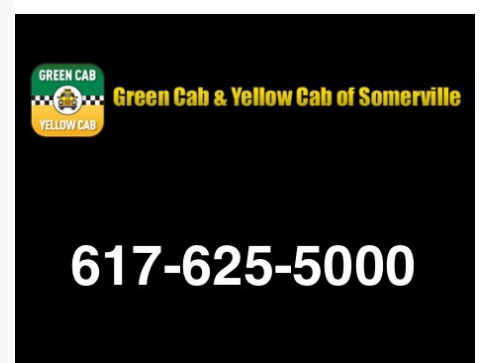
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VIRGINIA F. HUSSEY SPC U.S. ARMY Square Somerville

Somerville/Medford Remembering Paula O'Donnell

<p>Congratulations and thank you for a job well done to VIRGINIA F. HUSSEY SPC U.S. ARMY, IRAQ WAR TOURS 82ND AIRBORNE DIV for receiving her very own square dedication in Somerville!</p> <p>Her square is located at the intersection of Brook and Rush Streets in Somerville. Very well deserved!</p>		<p>Funeral service information: St. Catherine of Genoa, Saturday 6/6/26 at 10:00 am. 185 Summer St, Somerville, MA.</p> <p>Full obituary to follow...</p>	
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Somerville Awarded \$50,000 Youth Climate Action Grant by Bloomberg Philanthropies

City to launch microgrant program for youth-led climate projects

SOMERVILLE – Composting, tree planting, solar phone charging stations, and more – these are the types of hyper-local climate action initiatives youth globally are advancing with microgrants from Bloomberg Philanthropies, and soon Somerville youth will have an opportunity to join in.

Bloomberg Philanthropies has awarded the City of Somerville \$50,000 from their Youth Climate Action Fund to support the mobilization of young residents ages 15 to 24 to design and deliver solutions that align with the City’s climate goals. Somerville was among 300 cities selected to receive the award to launch a youth climate action microgrant program.

With the awarded funds, Somerville will leverage change-making spaces, such as Somerville Public Schools (SPS)’s Community Design Lab, to create a cutting-edge, youth-led climate and civic action hub that advances Somerville’s community climate action plan, Climate Forward. The hub will serve as a catalyst for the microgrant program for youth-led projects that will strengthen Somerville’s climate resiliency.

“Participation from our younger residents is critical for climate work because they’re already living with the consequences of today’s decisions and will inherit the responsibility for shaping what comes next,” said Mayor Jake Wilson. “I was thrilled when I learned about this grant opportunity in December and immediately contacted our Grants Development folks about it. I was even more thrilled when we were able to apply quickly and receive it. It’s vital that Somerville has this opportunity to bring our youth’s ideas to the forefront, and I look forward seeing the creativity this initiative inspires.”

Rollout of the microgrant program is anticipated for Fall 2026. The City’s Office of Sustainability and Environment will lead the effort in strong collaboration with the Somerville Public Schools. Partnerships with higher education institutions, local nonprofits, and industry partners will increase opportunities for project collaboration and support for youth grant recipients.

“If we want to reach Somerville’s ambitious climate goals, it’s imperative that we help create the next generation of climate leaders,” said Steven Nutter, Director of Somerville’s Office of Sustainability and Environment. “This grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies will help us expand opportunities for the City’s youth to learn, collaborate, and get inspired.”

Information on the program and how to apply will be shared widely through City channels including the website (somervillema.gov), social media, the Somerville Schools, city e-newsletter, and more.

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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and absolutely worth checking them out!” Somerville/Medford News Weekly/Boston News Group

State of A Tavola:

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A special menu and special hours will be posted on our website as well as our social me-

dia channels. Please stay tuned for any and all details.

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

If there is anything in particular you would like to see from us or if you need help preparing food at home for your families

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

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

Thank you for your continued support.



Somerville/Medford Remembering Kevin V. Kirkland



Obituary

Kevin V. Kirkland, age 62, of Staten Island, passed away on May 25th following ongoing health complications.

Kevin worked for Matrix Applications LLC for more than 20 years, where he was known for his dedication and years of service.

Kevin loved reading books and comics, enjoyed many types of music, and was an avid collector and hobbyist. He especially enjoyed building shelves to display his collections. Kevin also looked forward to his annual trips to Boston to visit his friend Sheila, enjoy his favorite seafood, and spend time with

friends there.

He will be remembered by those who knew him and is survived by his wife, Hope; daughter, Cameron Cheyenne; father, Tedd Shelton; sister, Tonya Kirkland; and brothers, Darren Shelton, Donnell Shelton, and Bryan Shelton; along with other family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Carolyn Kirkland.

THE BATTLE OVER WHETHER STATE AUDITOR DIANA DIZOLGIO CAN AUDIT THE LEGISLATURE (S 3104)



By Bob Katzen

The latest chapter was written last week about the ongoing saga on whether State Auditor Diana DiZoglio has the right to audit the House and the Senate. In the November 2024 election, voters approved Ballot Question 1 asking them if they favor allowing the state auditor to audit the Legislature. The question passed overwhelmingly by 72 percent of the vote. It has now been almost 19 months since the voters approved the audit but an audit has yet to take place.

Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland) and House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy) have continued to delay the audit – arguing that an audit would violate the separation of powers in the state’s constitution.

Last week, the Senate 33-6, approved resolutions, sponsored by Sens. Cindy Friedman (D-Arlington) and Paul Fee

ney (D-Foxborough), requiring that the Senate provide some financial information that DiZoglio has long requested. The resolutions laid out the history of its dispute with the auditor and made it clear that senators are limiting the records they will provide to those records discussed in recent litigation.

“Resolved, that the Senate, in providing said records, does so voluntarily but does not concede that it may be audited pursuant to Section 12 of Chapter 11 of the General Laws without violating the Constitution of the commonwealth,” the resolutions say. “And be it further resolved, that the Senate reserves all its rights to object to any such audit, present or future, and on any grounds, including, but not limited to, that Chapter 250 of the Acts of 2024 violates the Senate’s constitutional rulemaking authority, separation of powers, legislative immunity and privilege and the legal presumption that statutes operate

prospectively and cannot be applied retroactively in the absence of clear legislative intent.”

All five Senate Republicans, Sens. Kelly Dooner (R-Taunton), Peter Durant (R-Spencer), Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton), Patrick O’Connor (R-Weymouth) and Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester) voted against the resolutions while all the Democrats, except for Sen. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford), voted in favor of them.

Dooner said she doesn’t appreciate the implication by supporters of the resolutions that a “No” vote is voting against sharing these documents. She said the Senate doesn’t need a resolution to send the documents. She noted that the resolutions were proposed just a few minutes ago and senators have not had enough time to properly go through them. She said that she supports sharing all of these documents and any other documents that are requested.

Senate Democrats said last week’s action stems from clarity gained at the Supreme Judicial Court earlier this month, as Attorney General Andrea Campbell intervened in a lawsuit DiZoglio filed against top lawmakers.

The four document requests that Campbell has cleared DiZoglio to pursue cover the official budgets for each chamber of the Legislature for fiscal years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024; copies of official audits of each chamber for the same fiscal years; a listing of all transactions related to each chamber’s balance forward line item for those fiscal years; and a list of all monetary settlement agreements entered into by each chamber with any current or former employees or elected members during the same timeframe.

“Recent guidance from the Supreme Judicial Court has provided much-needed clarity on the materials the auditor has requested,” said Friedman. “We are therefore moving forward in good faith while remaining mindful of the constitutional safeguards that protect the separation of powers. The Senate has consistently supported transparency and accountability with respect to taxpayer dollars. That’s why our finances are publicly reported, and our spending information is available online.”

Friedman continued, “We believe this approach strikes the right balance of responding to the call for enhanced public transparency while upholding the oath we each take to the Massachusetts Constitution—and will allow us to continue our focus on delivering meaningful policy change for the residents of the commonwealth.”

“This resolution is not an act of transparency—it is a political retreat disguised as accountability, complete with a built-in escape hatch the Senate can pull at any time,” said Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) who voted against the resolutions. “For two whole years, the clear will of the people (72 percent of voters) has been ignored, and only now, with the courts poised to compel an audit, does leadership suddenly attempt to appear aligned with the public. Buried within this resolution is language explicitly reserving the Senate’s right to object to any audit at any time and on any grounds, undermining the very accountability they claim to support. That is not reform. It is the same political game of last resort cooperation and calculated distraction, timed conveniently days ahead of the Democratic State Convention.”

“Today, the Senate took action in the name of transparency and an accountable state government,” said Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). “Thanks to clarity from the Supreme Judicial Court, our financial documents will soon be on their way to the Office of the State Auditor.”

“The Senate spent a year and a half ignoring the law,” said Aaron Singer, the producer and director of the documentary “Shadows on the Hill.” “They lost in court and are now presenting bare-minimum compliance as reform. Instead of complying with the audit voters approved, their resolution turns over only the four categories of records already in court, while preserving their ability to keep fighting full compliance.”

DiZoglio criticized the Senate action. “It’s really sad that Senate leadership is so detached from reality that they think anyone believes they’ve suddenly agreed to give me these specific records for any reason other than that the court is about to lay down the law, again, and order them to obey the people’s wishes,” she said. “But this is not a public records request, it’s an audit. So, for an audit to actually be conducted, the Legislature needs to comply and cooperate with our audit team. The Senate President has just asked her membership to vote that they do not acknowledge and will not cooperate with the 72 percent voter-mandated law — that’s not leadership, it’s obstruction.”

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

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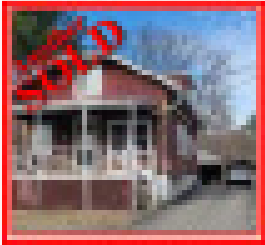
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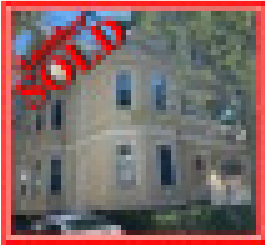


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Out dosage continued from page 2



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Class Action Lawsuit Regarding Fraudulent and Inaccurate Somerville Water Bills

By William Tauro

We are looking for residents interested to being part of a class action lawsuit to help Somerville home owners, property owners, residents and tenants to obtain the justice they deserve after being victims of fraudulent and/or inaccurate outrageously high water bills caused by faulty water meters and

inaccurate readings.

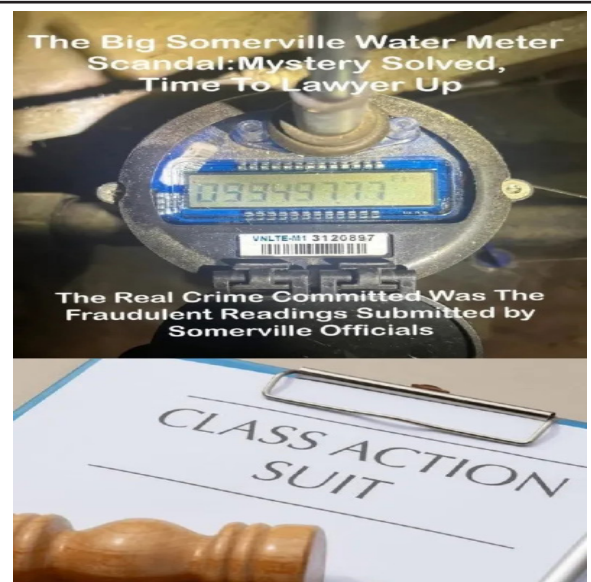
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Please include your full name that the bill is in, your address, phone number and email address and we will contact you.

Please feel free to message me or email me at Wm-tauro@aol.com with any inquiries about joining the list of potential plaintiffs in this class action lawsuit.





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!



Explore Upgrades to Quincy Street Pocket Park at June 9 Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony



SOMERVILLE – All community members are invited to join a ribbon cutting ceremony for Quincy Street Park (14 Quincy St.) on Tuesday, June 9, at 2 p.m. The ribbon cutting celebrates modern updates to the almost 15-year-old park that will help it continue to serve as an oasis for its community.

Somerville's Parks and Urban Forestry Division (PSUF) worked with landscape architects to upgrade the park to better serve community needs – including replacing the park's wooden boardwalk with a custom concrete path and removing three invasive maple trees to

make way for native tree plantings.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held Wednesday, June 10, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Renovations funded by Somerville's Community Preservation Act (CPA),

which provides \$7 million in funding each year to support open space, recreation, historic preservation, and affordable housing projects. To learn more, visit somervillema.gov/cpa.

PROHIBIT RECORDING OR BROADCASTING WHILE DRIVING (H 3748)



By Bob Katzen

A bill that would prohibit an operator of a motor vehicle from recording, broadcasting or otherwise capturing images or video of themselves while driving, is stuck in the Bills in Third Reading

Committee. The measure was given initial approval by the House, on a voice vote, without a roll call, on February 26 and has been lingering in committee for more than three months.

"I sponsored the bill because

I believe it will reduce the extent of distracted driving which unfortunately seems to be occurring more frequently, particularly with the continuous advent of new technology," said sponsor Rep. Brian Murray (D-Milford).

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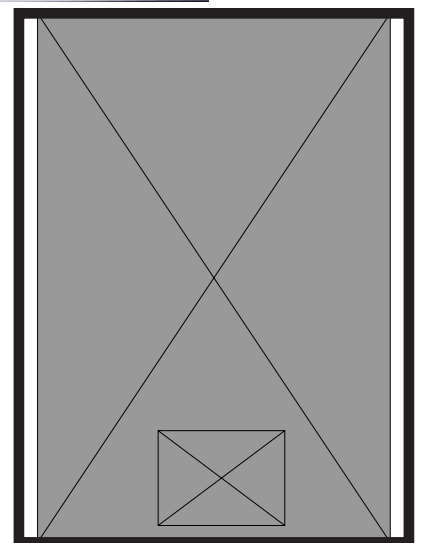
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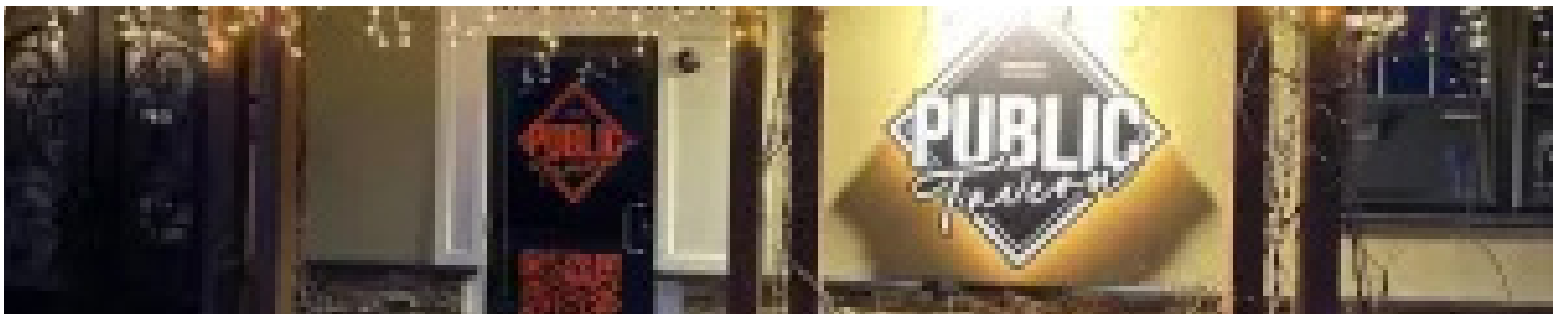
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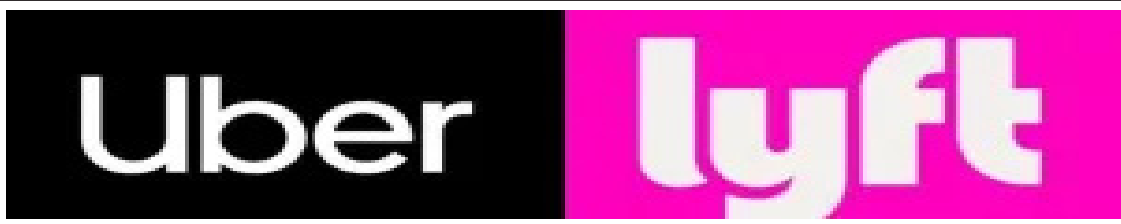
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BAY STATE UBER AND LYFT DRIVERS FORM A UNION



By Bob Katzen

Rideshare drivers in the Bay State, including Uber and Lyft, have become the first statewide rideshare union in the nation to win official recognition.

Supporters say the union, known as App Drivers

Union (ADU), will create a path to negotiate better pay and job protections on behalf of nearly 70,000 rideshare drivers across the state. They note that this new union is the largest private workforce to win union recognition since the United Auto Workers did so at Ford in 1941.

“I never dreamed that this day would happen,” said Victoria Acosta, a member leader of the ADU. “I once thought it was impossible that we would have a seat at the table with these two big corporations in front of us. But nothing is impossible when you are united. For me, it is a dream come true,

seeing the hard work of all my colleagues collecting cards, talking to the drivers and making sure we can achieve what we dream. It was worth it because now we have our union.”

“This is one of the biggest organizing victories for labor unions in the last century,” said Autumn Weintraub, executive director of the ADU. “Big Tech spent years taking from drivers and writing the rules. Today, 70,000 Massachusetts rideshare drivers won because they wrote

our own rules and won the union. Now, for the first time, the app companies have to listen to the workers who make them their money. This is not just a victory for rideshare drivers, but a warning shot to every Big Tech billionaire: Working people are united and are willing to fight for more.”

\$1 MILLION TO PROTECT RESIDENTS FROM HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Maura Healey announced the awarding of \$1 million from the first Fair Housing Trust Fund to seven organizations working to eliminate housing discrimination and expand access to fair housing protections across the Bay State.

Supporters said the awards will support enforcement, education, outreach, testing, legal advocacy, lan-

guage access, fair housing planning and innovative projects to address emerging forms of housing discrimination. They noted that these grants are the first awards made through the state’s Fair Housing Trust Fund and come as the federal government has retreated from fair housing enforcement, making state leadership more important than ever.

“Massachusetts is hustling to build more homes in ev-

ery region, but we need to also make sure that every resident has a fair chance to access it,” said Gov. Healey. “At a time when the Trump Administration is stepping back from fair housing enforcement, Massachusetts is stepping up to protect residents from discrimination and expand access to housing. These first Fair Housing Trust Fund awards will help organizations across our state continue the important work of making housing more

fair, accessible and equitable for everyone.”

“Housing affordability and fair housing must go hand in hand,” said Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities Juana Matias. “As we work to increase housing supply across Massachusetts, we must also ensure that residents know their rights, housing providers understand their responsibilities and discrimination is identified and addressed.

These awards are directly informed by what we heard from residents, advocates, service providers and local leaders during our Fair Housing Regional Listening Sessions. They will strengthen fair housing infrastructure, improve language access and help communities address both longstanding and emerging barriers to housing.”

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO HAMMER OUT A COMPROMISE VERSION OF THE FISCAL 2027 STATE BUDGET

By Bob Katzen

Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland) and House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy) have named the members of the six-member House-Senate conference

committee charged with hammering out a compromise version of the separate fiscal 2027 state budget versions approved by each branch. The price tag of the House version is \$63.41 billion while the Senate version logs in at

\$63.37 billion. There are some major differences between the two chambers which will have to be ironed out by the committee.

Mariano appointed House Ways and Means Com-

mittee chair Rep. Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston) and Reps. Kip Diggs (D-Barnstable) and Todd Smola (R-Warren).

Spilka appointed Senate Ways and Means Committee chair Sen. Mike

Rodrigues (D-Westport) and Sens. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton) and Patrick O’Connor (R-Weymouth).

MOST INCUMBENT LEGISLATORS HAVE NO OPPONENT

By Bob Katzen

Last week was the deadline for candidates for state representative and state senator to file their nomination papers with Secretary of State Bill Galvin’s office. Each candidate for the House needed 150 verified signatures to qualify while each Senate candidate needed 300.

There are 200 seats (160 House seats and 40 Senate seats) up for grabs in

the upcoming 2026 state election but only 83 of those (41.5 percent) will be contested, according to Secretary of State’s Bill Galvin’s office. In the remaining 117 districts, only the incumbent is on the ballot in 115 districts while there are two House districts where the incumbent is not running, but only one non-incumbent candidate is running for the seat.

That means that there are

25 incumbent senators (62.5 percent of the 40 total seats) and 90 incumbent representatives (56.2 percent of the 160 total seats) who will not face any challenger in the September 1 primary election or the November 3 general election. Those numbers could change if anyone decides to run a write-in campaign but only a handful, if any candidates, ever wage a write-in campaign so the numbers are pretty firm.





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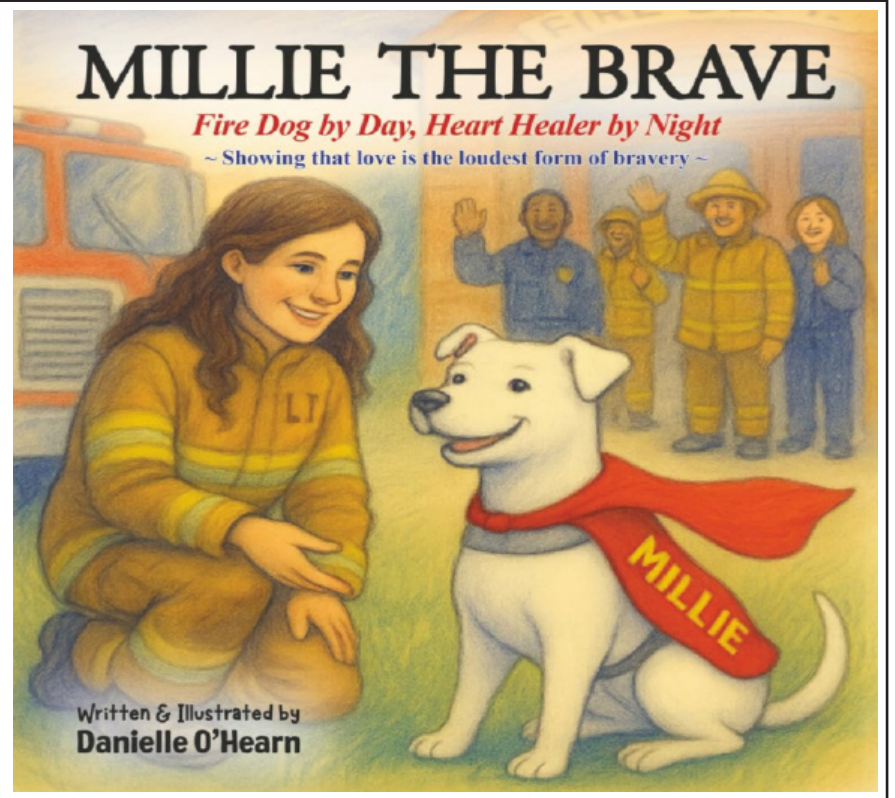
Dear Billy T and Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line,

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!

Here's the link the title is Millie the brave

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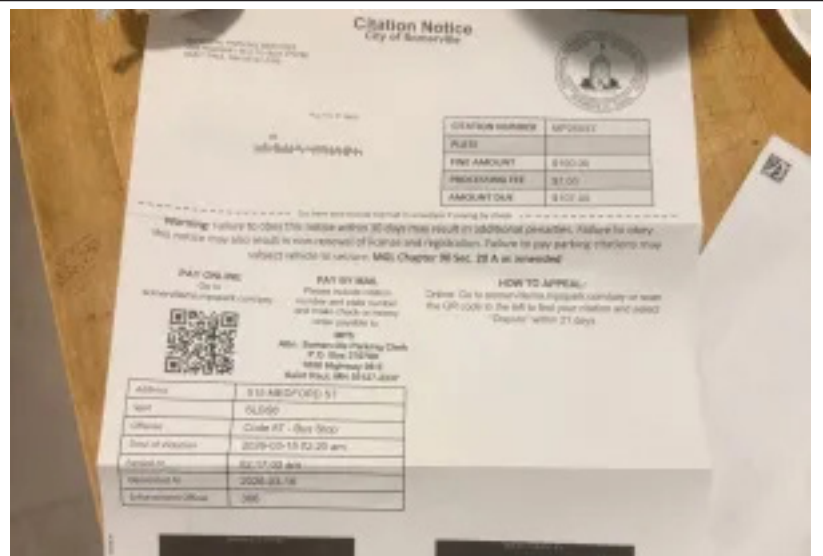


Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line: Fake Somerville Bills

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

Billy, please post this in your news paper and online. A Somerville resident received this notice in the mail.

It's almost believable with the exception of the payment address, the photo is incorrectly poised. Please warn residents to ignore this fake notice it's a scam. If you can highlight the areas that prove it's fraud



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Explore Designs for Somerville Ave Safety Improvements at June 9 Open House



Project will improve safety for people traveling between Elm Street and Bow Street

SOMERVILLE— Curious about the City's plans to address travel safety concerns on Somerville Ave.? Join the Mobility Division

on Tuesday, June 9, for an open house sharing early designs to deliver a safer travel environment on Somerville Ave between Elm and Bow Streets.

When? Tuesday, June 9, 5:30 – 7:30pm (Inclement weather date: Wednesday, June 10)
Where? Conway Park, 550 Somerville Ave.

Community input on safety concerns and transportation priorities was gathered last summer through public meetings, street outreach pop-ups, feedback surveys, visits with local businesses, and more.

At the open house, community members can explore different stations describing aspects of the design and talk directly to the project team about their questions and comments.

If community members cannot attend, there will be multiple other ways to share feedback such as through an online feedback survey, virtual office hours, street outreach pop-ups and more.

Visit somervillema.gov/somervilleavenue for more details.

More About the Project
The Somerville Avenue Quick

Build Safety Improvements project will bring a range of safety improvements to Somerville Avenue (between Elm Street and Bow Street) including but not limited to:

- Crosswalk Improvements
- Protected Bike Lanes
- Bus Stop Improvements
- Parking regulation changes

It is a quick-build project and does not involve street reconstruction. Instead, the street will be redesigned and safety improved through the use of painted pavement markings, signage, and flex posts among other potential materials.

In addition to the community feedback and data gathered, this effort is 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).

Somerville/Medford Remembering Beauvil Pierre-Louis



Obituary

Beauvil Pierre-Louis of Somerville, passed away peacefully on May 26, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend.

Born and raised in Arniquet, Haiti, he was the beloved son of the late Dieuveil Pierre-Louis and Damelise Salomon Pierre-Louis.

Beauvil was the cherished husband of Anita Sedan.

He was the loving father of Apolina Pierre-Louis and Antonio Pierre-Louis, and a caring stepfather to Ruth Bartolo and Eustaquio Baez. He was a proud and devoted grandfather to Douana Offre, Raysiel Bartolo, Kendra Pierre-Louis, Anthony Pierre-Louis, Aaron Sealy, Anne Christelle Pierre-Louis, and Jeremiah Pierre-Louis, each of whom brought him immense joy and pride. He was the dear brother of Sr. Jeannette Pierre-Louis, Brigitte Alabre and the late Germaine Valentin. Beauvil also leaves behind his broth-

ers-in-law, Israel Valentin, Renan Alabre, Hispolito Sedan, Joan Sedan, Wilson Sedan, Radame Sedan, and Carlo Sedan, and by his sisters-in-law, the late Mercedes Sedan and the late Francia Sedan.

He will be deeply missed by his many nieces and nephews: Regine Valentin-Giuramo, Gerly Valentin, Kareen Ribourg, Aurore Alabre, Claude Alabre, Kessler Valentin, Wilgo Lina, Wilson Jones, Francia Benitez, Yesenia Florentino, Marilyn Francisco, Yesenia Jones, Juleisy Martes, Mariela Mar-

tes, Daniel Martes, Wilbert Lina, Jeury Lina, Billy Lina, Amelia Jones, Raquel Jones, George Perez, Javier Perez, Hannah Baez, Cristal Baez, Edwin Baez, Oliver Martes, and Daniel Martes, along with many extended family members and dear friends who will forever cherish his memory.

Visiting hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway, Somerville, Saturday morning June 6, 2026, from 8:00 – 10:00AM, followed by a Funeral Home Service at 10:00.

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Somerville/Medford Remembering David J. Ciampa



David J. Ciampa July 9, 1940 — May 27, 2026

NAPLES, FL – Mr. David J. Ciampa 85, of Naples, Fl and Peabody, MA beloved husband of Angela M. (Capadona) Ciampa, passed away peacefully at his home on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 surrounded by his loving family.

Born in Medford he was the son of the late Frank Ciampa, MD and Anne (Caputo)

Ciampa. He was raised in Arlington and was a graduate of Matignon High School. David continued his education at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy where he received his degree as a Registered Pharmacist.

With an entrepreneurial spirit, David was led to establish City Hall Pharmacy in Somerville, a place where he touched countless lives with his knowledge, kindness, and genuine concern for his customers. Over his remarkable 50-year career, he expanded his legacy by opening Grover Pharmacy, becoming a beloved fixture within the community. His unwavering commitment to Somerville was evident through his active involvement with the Rotary Club, where he served as President, and served on the Board of Trustees for the Somerville YMCA.

A loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend, family was paramount in David's life. He cherished the family activities and was truly happiest involved in his children and grandchildren's lives and celebrating their many milestones. He was loving, caring and had a quick wit which he used to tease the "kids" who appreciated the attention and spontaneity. He took every opportunity to make lasting memories through their many endeavors. David enjoyed baseball, hockey, and basketball and continued his love of sports throughout adulthood as an avid Boston sports fan and season ticket holder for several teams. He and Angela retired to Naples, FL where he continued to play golf and enjoyed the comradery of the game. David's legacy of kindness,

generosity and love for family and community will be his legacy, and he will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Surviving David, in addition to his wife Angela, is his daughter, Andrea McEachern and her husband, Shawn of Marblehead, his son, Frank Ciampa and his wife, Viviana Cordano of Amherst, NH, his grandchildren, Alison McEachern and her husband, Christopher Lee of Brookline, Madelyn McEachern and Michael McEachern both of Boston, Jake Ciampa and Lilliana Ciampa both of Amherst, NH, his brothers, Gregory Ciampa and his wife, Pamela of Hampton, NH and Vincent Ciampa and his wife, Thelma of Somerville and several nieces and nephews.

ARRANGEMENTS: Rela-

tives and friends are invited to David's funeral Mass which will be held at the Chapel at Brooksby Village, 201 Brooksby Village Dr., Peabody, on Thursday, June 4, 2026 at 11 A.M. Please meet at the Chapel. Assisting the family with the arrangements is O'Donnell Cremations – Funerals – Celebrations, 167 Maple St., (Rte. 62) Danvers. In lieu of flowers expressions of sympathy may be made in David's memory to Tunnels to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306. T2t.org/donate or to Wounded Warriors Project, P.O Box 758516, Topeka, KS 66675. Wounded Warrior Project or to Covenant House, 30 Washington St., Brighton, MA 02135 Covenant House To share a memory or offer a condolence, please visit <http://www.odonnellfuneralservice.com>.

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East Washington Safety Improvements Project Kickoff Meeting, June 17



Quick-build project to improve safety for people traveling between Tufts Street and the Boston city line

SOMERVILLE- Whether you are walking, taking the bus, driving, or riding a bike, you should feel safe using the city's streets. This is one of the principles guiding Somerville's ongoing work to create safer, more accessible streets across the city. With this principle in mind, the City has started planning and exploring options for improving safety along Washington Street between Tufts Street and the Boston city line. To learn more about this work and share feedback, all are invited to join a virtual project kick off meeting.

When? Wednesday, June 17 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Where? The meeting will be held virtually on Zoom. Visit somervillema.gov/eastwashington to attend.

At this meeting, City staff will introduce the project and provide residents with the opportunity to ask questions and share their experiences.

Project Overview and Timeline

The East Washington Street Quick-Build Improvements project is intended to improve safety through a range of approaches including installing protected bike lanes, increasing visibility and safety at crosswalks, improving bus rider experience, and evaluating existing parking regulations including the potential removal of some parking to accommodate safety features.

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

The City plans to engage community members and develop the new design between Spring 2026 and 2027. Installation of the new safety and mobility features is currently expected to take place in fall 2027.

How to Get Involved

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

- Online and in-person surveys
- Street outreach with neighborhood pop-ups and tabling at community events
- Direct outreach to local businesses


Local stakeholder meetings with residents of Cobble Hill Apartments, seniors at the Ralph and Jenny Center, among other local community groups and businesses.

In addition to community feedback, this effort is informed by Somerville's commitment to Vision Zero (a plan to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries from our streets) and the City's Bicycle Network Plan (a roadmap for expanding bicycle safety and building a connected bicycle network across the city).

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

Visit somervillema.gov/eastwashington to learn more about the project and stay up to date.

Mayor to submit proposed budget June 4; Public Hearing to follow on June 10



SOMERVILLE - Budget season for Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) has arrived and community members are invited to a Public Hearing where comment will be accepted on Wednesday, June 10. The annual budget outlines funding for essential city functions including schools, public safety, infrastructure, human services, and more.

Mayor Jake Wilson will submit the proposed FY27 budget at the June 4 City Council meeting at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.) at 7 p.m. The public may attend or watch his presentation to the Council and all FY27 budget hearings. Then on Wednesday, June 10, Somerville residents will have an opportunity to provide public comment during the Finance Committee's virtual public hearing at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

To join the Public Hearing, visit somervillema.legistar.com/ calendar and select the Zoom link under 'Finance Committee.' The meeting agenda will be posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

If you are unable to attend the June 10 Hearing but wish to be heard, submit public comments to the City Clerk at 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 or by email to public-comments@somervillema.gov.

Your comments must arrive no later than 4 p.m. on June 10.

Get the full schedule of Council meetings at somervillema.gov/council and stream meetings at youtube.com/somervillecitytv.

For more information on the FY27 budget, visit somervillema.gov/budget.

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Join the Somerville Arts Council Board Apply by Wednesday, July 15

SOMERVILLE – The City of Somerville is seeking two new members representing the genres of literature and visual art, including those with experience in public art, to join the Somerville Arts Council Board.

If you're passionate about literature, visual art, or public art, this is a great opportunity to make an impact.

What is the Somerville Arts Council Board?
The Somerville Arts Council Board plays a crucial role in cultivat-

ing and celebrating the creative expressions of the Somerville community. The Board provides guidance on the City's arts community, advises on the work and policies of the Arts Council, and engages in networking. From September through December, members participate in the adjudication process for a local grant-making program to support arts and culture initiatives within the community.

Who Can Join?
At this time we are specifically seeking artists or members of the general

public with a background in literature, visual art, or public art.

What is the Time Commitment?
The Board meets in person on the second Wednesday of each month. Board members help form and run LCC grant juries; this takes additional time in the Fall when there are also two additional meetings concerning the grant program. Members serve a term of up to three years in a volunteer capacity.

What is the Appointment Process?

Members are appointed by the Mayor of Somerville.

How Do I Apply?
Please submit a brief statement of interest explaining why you would like to join the Board and how you feel you can contribute to its work by Wednesday, July 15. We welcome applications from all Somerville residents with diverse experiences, skills, and perspectives.

Where to Apply:
Letters of interest may be submitted via email to Rachel Strutt, Interim Director of the Somerville

Arts Council, at rstrutt@somervillema.gov. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, and must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

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SomerStreets: Carnival Bringing Music, Food, Culture, and Community to East Somerville

SOMERVILLE – Carnival is ready to transform Broadway once again into an open-air festival filled with music, movement, food, family activities, local vendors, and performances celebrating East Somerville.

Presented by the Somerville Arts Council and East Somerville Main Streets, SomerStreets: Carnival will take place on June 7, from 2-6 p.m. along Broadway, from Pennsylvania Avenue to McGrath Highway. The rain date is Sunday, June 14.

“SomerStreets: Carnival is a celebration of the cultures, businesses, families, artists, and neighbors that make this community so dynamic,” said Mayor Jake Wilson. “I’m grateful to East Somerville Main Streets, the City’s Arts Council, and everyone helping bring Broadway to life for a day of joy, connection, and commu-

nity pride.”

The celebration will kick off with a Brazilian-style opening procession featuring Grooversity and Samba Viva, followed by a day full of live entertainment, delicious food vendors, and family-friendly programming.

Click here for SomerStreets: Carnival photos.

SomerStreets is the City’s annual series of free, family-friendly open streets events. Each event closes a major roadway to vehicle traffic and opens it for walking, biking, music, play, and community celebration.

More information is available at somervillema.gov/somerstreets.



Somerville/Medford Remembering Robert J. DiGiorgio



Robert J. DiGiorgio, “Bob,” age 85, passed

away peacefully at home on May 30, 2026. He was born in Medford, MA, son of the late Rocco and Giovanna “Nina” (Trodella) DiGiorgio. For many years he lived in North Reading, MA, Cape Neddick, ME and Marco Island, FL.

Bob was an owner at Bob’s Italian Foods of Medford for over 40 years, served on the board of the Depositors Trust Company

in Lexington, MA and sponsored local youth enrichment programs. He was known for his passionate devotion to family, pride in his business, congenial way with everyone and his contagious laughter.

Bob is survived by his beloved wife Edie, son Robert DiGiorgio and his husband Andrew Alexander, son Michael DiGiorgio and his wife Jessica,

daughter Carla Baker and her husband John. He was the loving grandfather of Amelia, Madeline, and Charlotte. Brother of Ronald DiGiorgio and his wife Diane, and the late Linda DiGiorgio. He is further survived by many other family members and dear friends who will sadly miss him.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend visiting hours at

the McLaughlin – Dello Russo Family Funeral Home, 60 Pleasant St., WOBURN, Wednesday, June 3rd, from 4 to 7 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Thursday, June 4th, at St. Raphael Church 516 High St., Medford, at 10 a.m. (Please go directly to the church). Interment services will be private.

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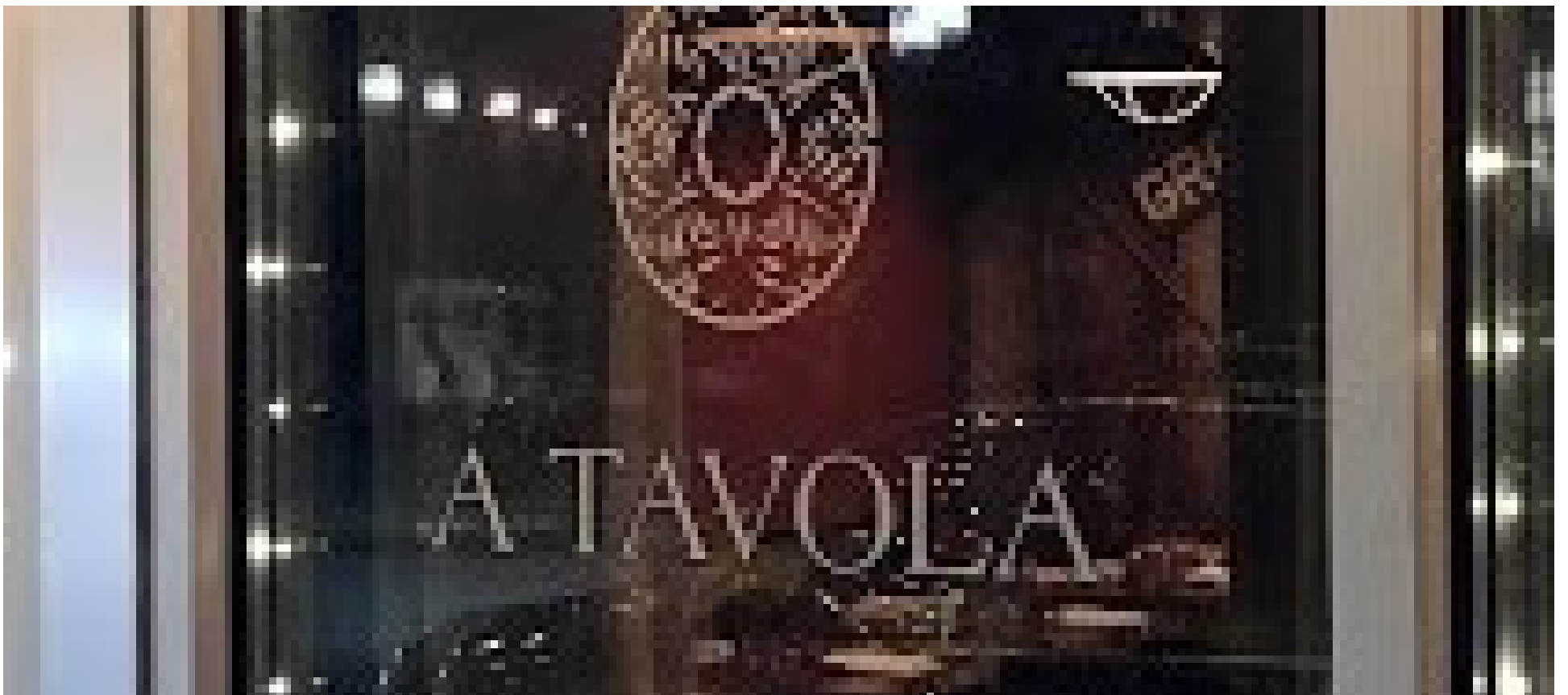
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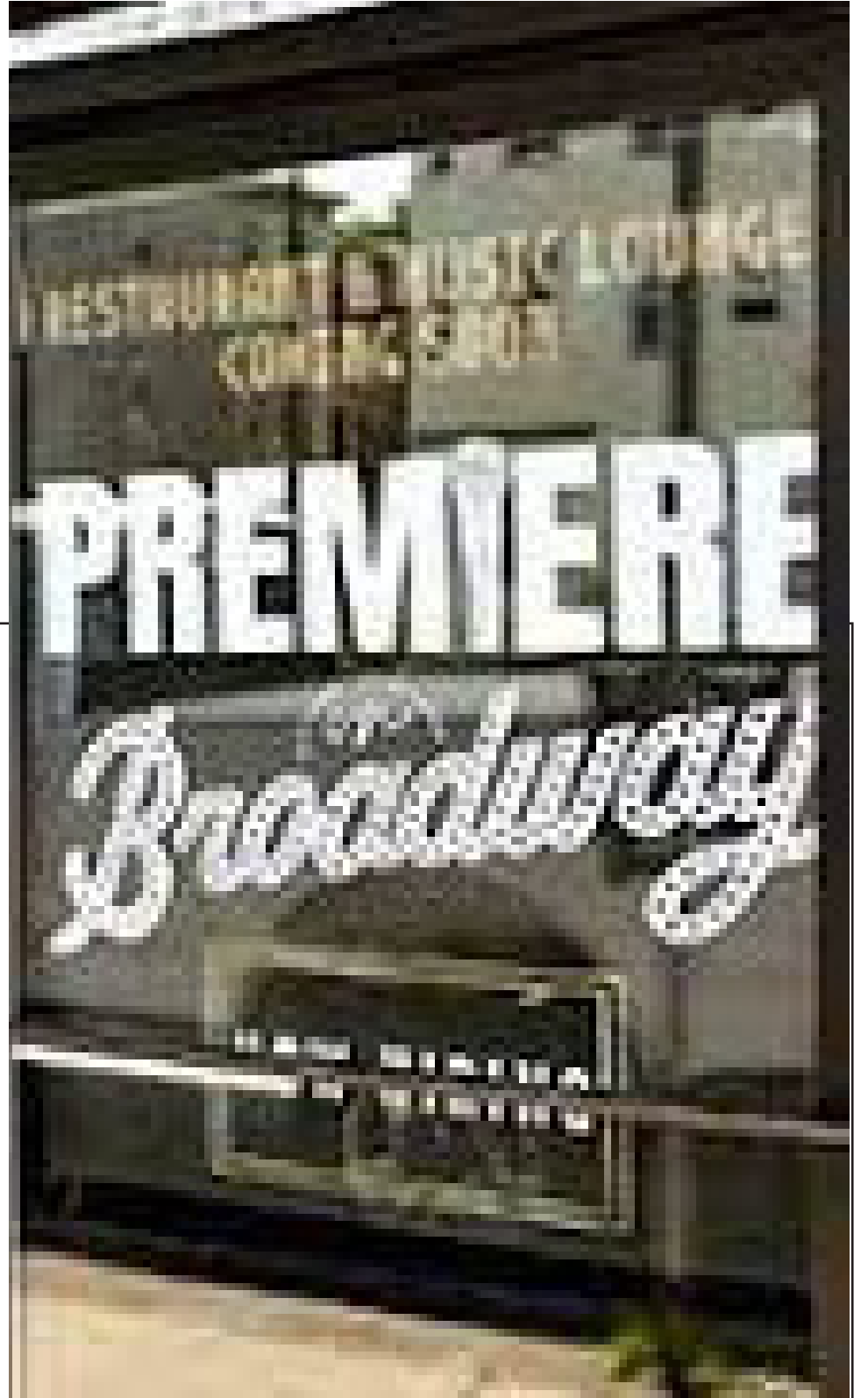


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