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LOUD/SPEAK UP



Somerville Police
Real Life Somerville
Police Stories Page



Democratic Civil War Has Working Class Casualties



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IMMIGRANTS



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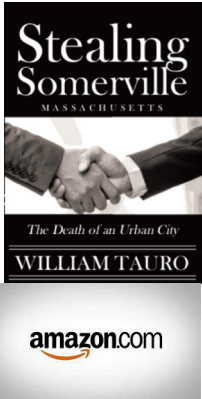


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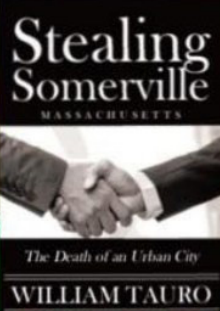
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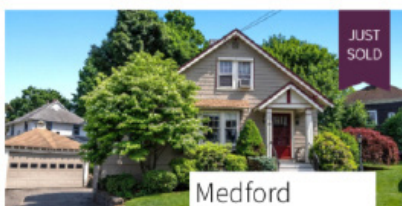
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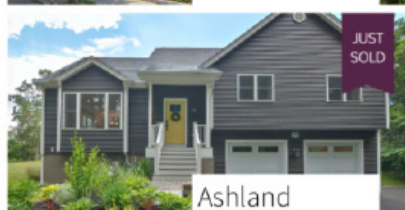
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Malden



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!

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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 04-6001400

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.

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NOTICES TO APPEAR

FEBRUARY 20, 2026

WRITTEN EXAM PERIOD

MARCH 11-14, 2026

APPLY TODAY

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 Patricia Shelia Gray (Sutton)



Obituary
Patricia Shelia Gray (Sutton) 85 of Revere formerly of Somerville, passed away peacefully on August 8th, 2026 following a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Pat was the loving wife of the late of Richard Gray of Somerville She was the adoring mother of Rita M Gray (Revere) Susan C Hargrove (Cambridge) and the late Richard E. Gray Jr. and the mother in law of the late Daniel C. Hargrove Pat. She leaves behind her cherished grandchildren Baylee G Flemming (Revere) and Daniel G Hargrove (Cambridge). Pat is preceded

in death by her siblings Edward Sutton, Al Sutton, Marie Barrett, Ruth DeYoung Jerry Sutton and Paul Sutton. She also leaves behind in-laws, nieces and nephews and many dear friends who feel more like family.

Pat was born and raised in Cambridge and graduated from Cambridge Rindge High School. While raising 3 children she worked as a waitress at several locations; the Old Ramada Inn in Fresh Pond, Fantasias, the Hilltop and the Holiday Inn in Somerville Later, Pat worked as an administrator for the

Massachusetts State House, Massachusetts General Hospital Pediatric Oncology, and Massachusetts Eye and Ear and worked right through Covid until retirement.

She spent many summers on Hampton Beach, and was an active member of Somerville City club. She enjoyed live country concerts, family game nights and a good Hallmark movie. She will be deeply missed by many.

A funeral procession from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House

SQ.) Somerville, Friday morning at 9:00AM. Followed by a funeral mass celebrated in St. Joseph Church 264 Washington St., Somerville at 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Calling Hours will be held Thursday, from 4:00PM to 7:00PM.

Services will conclude with interment at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Claire A. Delaney



Obituary
Claire A. Delaney, a lifelong resident of Somerville, passed away on July 27, 2026, she was 66. Born in Cambridge, Claire was raised in Somerville, daughter of the late Mary-ann (Kerins) and David D. Delaney. Claire was the devoted mother of David B. Delaney of Nashua,

New Hampshire.

In earlier years, Claire worked in administrative support for the Insurance industry, above all she enjoyed time spent with her son David and her family.

Dear sister of Ann Marie Blades and her husband John, Joseph D. Delaney

and his wife Jennifer all of Merrimack, New Hampshire and the late Susan J. Delaney and Robert B. Delaney. Loving aunt of Shannon Delaney, Alexander Blades and Kaleigh Blades.

A private burial was held at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

Memorial donations in Claire's name can be made to Boston Children's Hospital <https://www.childrenshospital.org/>

Somerville/Medford Remembering Daniel F. Markham, Jr.



Obituary
Daniel F. Markham, Jr., of Medford and North Falmouth, passed away peacefully at home on August 5, 2026,

surrounded by his loving family. He was 91.

Daniel was the beloved husband of the late Margaret Ellen (Grady) Markham and the devoted son of the late Mary Markham. He was the loving father of his daughters Joan Markham and Ellen Markham, of Medford, his daughter Patricia Kelley and her late husband, Joseph of Medford and Falmouth, his daughter Kathryn McClellan and her husband, William, of Medford, and his son Daniel G. Markham and his wife, Jennifer, of Winchester. He was also the loving compan-

ion of Elizabeth Babaian of Boston. He was the cherished brother to the late John Markham, and his wife Nancy, and Robert Emmett Markham.

A proud and devoted grandfather, "Grampy" will be deeply missed by Margaret, Patrick, and Abigail McClellan of Medford, and Delaney, Hannah, and Daniel Markham of Winchester.

Daniel was the founder and owner of Markham Metals, Inc., where he built a successful business through hard work, integrity, and dedica-

tion. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus, serving as Grand Knight of the Medford Knights of Columbus Council No. 141 and later as District Deputy for the Massachusetts State Council. In his earlier years, Daniel was also a Greater Lowell Golden Gloves boxing champion.

Daniel will be remembered for his unwavering devotion to his family, his generosity, his faith, and the lasting impact he made on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Funeral procession from the

George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville, Tuesday morning August 11, 2026, at 10AM, followed by his Funeral Mass in St. Joseph Church, Medford at 11:00. Relatives and friends invited. Calling hours Monday August 10, 2026, 4:00 – 7:00. Interment Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford.

Donations in Daniel's memory may be made to the Sisters of St. Joseph in honor of Sister Elizabeth Joseph Toomey, CSJ, and Sister Catherine Decker, CSJ at 631 Cambridge Street, Brighton, MA 02135.

Somerville Fire Department to Conduct Annual Hydrant Inspections August 17-29

Citywide inspection program ensures hydrants are ready in case of fire; Temporary water discoloration may occur, but water is safe to drink

SOMERVILLE– The Somerville Fire Department will begin its annual inspection and testing of all fire hydrants citywide on Monday, August 17, concluding on or around Saturday, August 29. This important annual maintenance program keeps the community safe by helping to ensure hydrants will work properly when needed to put out a fire.

Citywide inspections and testing will take approximately two weeks to complete. Work will be conducted Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and if necessary, in the evening, from 6:15 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. As part of the process, firefighters will look for any physical damage to each hydrant, remove the caps from each outlet and lubricate the threading, and open and briefly flow the hydrant. These steps allow firefighters to check the mechanical operation of each hydrant, as well

as evaluate the water flow and pressure to make sure it will be adequate when needed in the event of a fire.

In most cases, community members will not notice any changes to their water service while hydrant inspections take place nearby.

However, in some cases you may experience a temporary, slight drop in water pressure and/or discolored water: Though the water may be discolored, it is safe to drink.

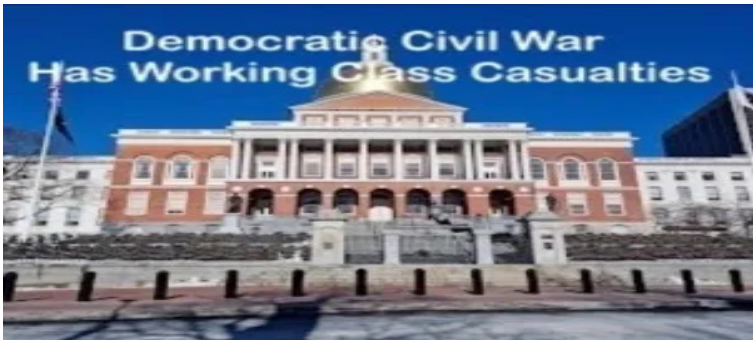
If discoloration occurs, you can open the cold tap nearest the water meter—such as a basement sink or a ground-floor sink—to full flow until the water runs clear. In some situations, this may take 5 to 10 minutes. Until the water runs clear, it is advisable to avoid washing laundry, especially white fabrics. If you happen to wash laundry while the water is discolored and notice rust stains on wet laundry, those items should not be dried, and you can call 311 (617-666-3311) for a free bottle of rust remover.

The Water Department also conducts additional year-round maintenance and annual water main flushing. The flushing program is currently ongoing and typically concludes in late October. Visit somer villema.gov/hydrantflushing to see flushing schedules by street (updated weekly)

Hydrant inspection and flushing schedules are subject to change based on weather and other factors. Anyone with questions about hydrant maintenance can call 311 (617-666-3311).



Democratic Civil War Has Working Class Casualties



By Matt McLaughlin
Candidate for State Senate, 2nd Middlesex District

There is a civil war within the Democratic Party. The establishment is fighting off an insurgency for the soul of the party. As with any war, the victims are everyday working people, caught between factions who claim to fight for them but are in fact causing the suffering.

This is no different in the Second Middlesex District State Senate race. One candidate is backed by State House

elites, the other uses working class rhetoric but is detached from their struggles. They represent two factions in the Democratic Party, but ultimately they are both part of the same elite class of politicians warring for power over people who are walking away.

The working class is politically homeless; refugees from factional wars they don't identify with. This is true even in solid blue Massachusetts, where 65 percent of voters are registered independent. Three percent of Massachusetts Democrats left the party in 2024. Fifty percent of union households vote

Republican because they have come to believe that Republicans are fighting for their paychecks. Young people are not voting at all. The diverse, working class coalition Democrats depend on is fracturing, and most Democratic politicians are content to fight each other for the shattered remains of a shrinking electorate.

I am the working class candidate for State Senate. I mopped floors at MIT, joined the army and served two tours in Iraq, worked just about every job this community has to offer, and did everything I can to make ends meet for my family. I dedicated my life not to the Democratic Party, but to serving working people. And I'm one of millions of people disillusioned by the Democratic Party. We are being squeezed out by two factions, two sides of the same coin, who view power as the end in itself, and not a means to improve the lives of working people. I would walk away, like so many have already, if I didn't truly believe I know the path to lead the Democratic Party out of the wilderness and back into a party of the People.

Every door I knock validates my belief that both factions have completely lost sight of who they serve. Most people in this district are not talking about Beacon Hill inside baseball, foreign affairs, or the culture war of Democratic politicians. They are talking about their wallets, their homes, and their families. They are concerned about their ability to afford to live in the Commonwealth. One in three Massachusetts residents say they think about leaving the state due to the cost of living. I am fighting to keep those people here. I am fighting to make Massachusetts a place where they can afford to stay, and they can afford to dream for something more.

Massachusetts, the State House, and the Democratic Party need something new. We need candidates that are truly OF the people and for the people. We need to fight to get the working class back, and the best way to do that is to run working class candidates for office who aren't concerned with Beacon Hill infighting and clubhouse politics. I am solely concerned with the well being of

working people.

The working class does not want status quo politics, and they don't want to burn the system down. They want the government to work for them. I'm running for State Senate because I make the government accessible to the people. As a working class person, I fought for my family and my community. As a city councilor and a community leader, I provided pragmatic solutions to address working class issues. As an activist, I advocated for and created transformative change that has impacted the entire region.

There is another way forward, through all the meandering and nonsense of the political elite. The people of the Democratic Party and the people of Massachusetts demand real change that radically improves the lives of working class people. I am laser focused on addressing the cost of living. I will not waiver when I get to the State House because these issues impact me and my community directly.

CHILD WELFARE (H 5629)

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey signed into law legislation that supporters say would guarantee certain basic rights for children in foster care related to their safety, education and health care. They argued that the measure safeguards the well-being of children, especially those in state care and foster care; increases access to community support for children at risk of court involvement; and strengthens the Office of the Child Advocate to support robust investigations into reports of harm or abuse to a child.

A key provision would

expand the diversion of children dealing with behavior or attendance problems to Family Resource Centers (FRCs) instead of the court system. Supporters note that FRCs provide accessible, confidential support to children and families in crisis close to home. They noted this has proven successful in helping kids and teens stay in school, and connecting families with services such as mental health or substance use treatment, housing aid and legal help.

Other provisions include creating a Foster Child Bill of Rights to clarify and protect the basic rights and

services foster children need to live healthy, safe and fulfilled lives; codifying a Youth Engagement program to ensure the voices of youth are included to inform relevant policy, oversight and programs; allowing a child the same ability as an adult to petition the court to extend any abuse or harassment protection order made on behalf of the child; tasking the Office of the Child Advocate with supporting families and caregivers by providing training materials to mandated reporters and individuals who frequently work with children; and creating and maintaining a list of resources for grieving

parents who have experienced a sudden unexplained pediatric death.

“Every child deserves the opportunity to grow up safe, supported and set up to succeed, and every family deserves somewhere to turn before a challenge becomes a crisis,” Healey said. “We’re building one of the strongest child and family support systems in the country by strengthening protections for children, expanding community-based support for families and making our child welfare system more transparent and accountable.”

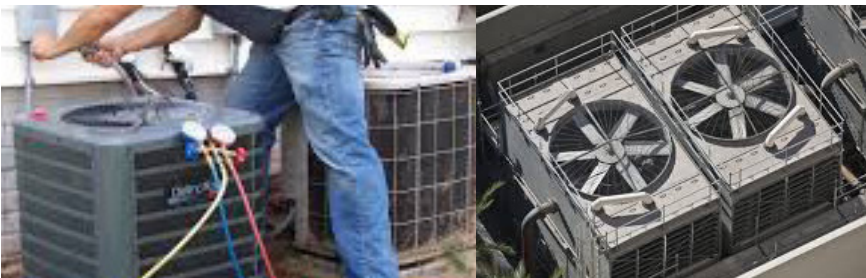
“This law reflects our shared responsibility to the children of the commonwealth — especially those who have experienced abuse, entered foster care or are navigating crises,” said Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton), vice chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. “It affirms that every child deserves not only protection, but support, stability, dignity and the opportunity to build the future they deserve.”

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Somerville Sharing How to Vote Early or By Mail in the State Primary Election



Applications to vote by mail due August 25; early voting runs August 22–28 at Somerville City Hall

SOMERVILLE—Don’t let a busy schedule prevent you from exercising your right to vote. Somerville is reminding community members of important voting deadlines and how to vote early, by mail, or in person in the State Primary

Election on Tuesday, September 1.

Vote Early
Early voting for the Primary Election will be held from Saturday, August 22, through Friday, August 28, in the lower level of City Hall (93 Highland Ave.).

Early Voting Hours:
Saturday, August 22: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, August 23: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday–Wednesday, August 24–26: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 27: 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Friday, August 28: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Vote-By-Mail
The City’s Elections Department has begun mailing vote-by-mail ballots to voters for the September 1 State Primary Election. Ballots will continue to be mailed regularly as applications are

received and processed.

Applications to vote by mail must be received by the Elections Office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25. You can apply online at somervillema.gov/votebymail, pick up an application at the office of the Elections Department at City Hall, or request that one be mailed to you by calling Elections at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200.

How to return your ballot:
Place your completed ballot in the orange ballot envelope and sign the voter’s affidavit.
Return it as early as possible using an Official Election Drop Box, by mail, or to the Elections Office.

Drop off Your Completed Application or Ballot Citywide
To help make it more convenient to return completed applications or ballots,

the Elections Department has placed blue drop boxes citywide, which are checked daily by staff.

Locations:
City Hall Concourse – 93 Highland Ave.
East Somerville Community School (Glen St. entrance) – across from 66 Glen St.
Argenziano School – 290 Washington St.
SHA Mystic Activity Center (rear) – 530 Mystic Ave.
St. Catherine of Genoa Church parish parking lot – near 182 Summer St. (corner of Spring St.)
Somerville Armory – 191 Highland Ave.
Somerville Community Baptist Church – 31 College Ave.
Dilboy Post – near 351 Summer St.
Tufts Administrative Building – 167 Holland St.
West Somerville Neighborhood School – 177 Powder House Blvd.

All drop boxes except the one at City Hall will close at 6 p.m. on Election Day. Only the City Hall drop box will remain open until 8 p.m.

Key Election Reminders
Election Day is Tuesday, September 1
Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Find your polling location at somervillema.gov/mysomerville
Offices on the Ballot
Offices on the ballot include Governor, Senator in Congress, Representative in Congress, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, District Attorney, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Councillor, Senator in General Court, Representative in General Court, and Register of Probate.

For more information about voting in Somerville, go to somervillema.gov/elections.

PROHIBIT NUCLEAR WEAPONS

By Bob Katzen

The Senate, on a voice vote without a roll call, adopted a bi-partisan resolution calling on the Bay State Congressional delegation to support the federal treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. Twenty-one cities and towns in the Bay State have individually adopted similar resolutions.

“The Massachusetts Senate passed this resolution just days before the 81st anniversaries of the U.S. bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki,” said

cosponsor Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). “States can and should issue calls to action to federal lawmakers when the well-being of their residents is threatened. I am mindful that, in the 1980s, the commonwealth played a leading role in ending the nuclear arms race with the then Soviet Union by adopting a nuclear freeze resolution and encouraging other states to follow its example. Once again ... Massachusetts has come forward to help propel a high-stakes national movement.”

“The risk of nuclear conflict

transcends politics,” said co-sponsor Sen. Patrick O’Connor (R-Weymouth). “While there are different views on the best path forward, we can all agree that reducing the risk of nuclear war and promoting global stability is a priority in the Legislature ... These efforts strengthen both our national security and our collective future. Massachusetts has a long tradition of being a leader on important national conversations, and I am so proud that the Senate has been involved in this one.”

“It is extremely important that

the Massachusetts Senate has added its voice to the national call for a fundamental change in U.S. nuclear policy,” said Dr. Ira Helfand, co-founder of Back from the Brink, whose website says it is “bringing communities together to prevent the growing threat that nuclear weapons pose to our health, environment and all we hold dear.”

“If we don’t change course, we are sleepwalking towards a nuclear disaster. The United States must actively pursue the security of a world free of nuclear weapons, not as some

distant goal, but as an urgent national security priority,” continued Halfand. “The current moment is particularly dangerous. In the last 15 months, five of the nine nuclear armed states have been actively engaged in warfare with Russia, with the United States threatening their use. This is not a theoretical threat, but a real and present danger.”

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:

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

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



CANCER SCREENINGS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (H 5631)

By Bob Katzen

House 153-0, approved and sent to the Senate a bill mandating free insurance coverage of cancer screenings for firefighters. The firefighters would not be subject to co-payment, deductible, coinsurance or any out-of-pocket expenses.

The screenings would cover colon, lung, bladder, oral, thyroid, skin, blood, breast, cervical, testicular and prostate cancers. The measure provides that the first screening would be conducted no later than three years after the firefighter starts the job, with subsequent screenings happening every three years.

Supporters said that firefighters are more likely to get cancer than the general public and argued that these heroes need and must have early and regular access to life-saving

cancer screenings. They noted that the Occupational Cancer Research Centre attributes higher rates of sickness to greater exposure to cancer-causing hazards through inhalation of smoke, combustion by-productions and forever chemicals (PFAS) used in fire protection gear.

Rep. John Lawn (D-Water-town), House chair of the Committee on Health Care Financing and the sponsor of the original version of the proposal, did not respond to repeated requests from Beacon Hill Roll Call asking him why he sponsored the measure.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly Yes
Rep. Paul Donato Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven Yes



Somerville:Scam Alert for Special Permit Applicants



SOMERVILLE – Permit applicants in Somerville have recently received emails that appear to come from the City of Somerville requesting payment. Despite use of official logos, correct titles, and real staff names, these

messages were fraudulent. The City is sharing information on how you can stay protected against potential scams.

What to know:
The City of Somerville will never ask you to send money via gift cards, peer-to-peer apps (like Venmo or Cash App), cryptocurrency, or wire transfers to unknown accounts. Official City emails come from @somervillema.gov addresses. Fees are requested only through the City’s standard

billing/invoice processes or our official online payment portals, such as Citizenserve.

How to protect yourself:
Pause and verify. If you get a payment request you weren’t expecting, don’t click links or send funds. Check the sender. Confirm the full email address (not just the display name). Contact us directly. Forward suspicious messages regarding permit fees to planning@somervillema.gov and we’ll confirm whether it’s legitimate. Report it. If you believe you



were targeted, let us know. You can also report phishing to your email provider—and if funds were sent, to local law enforcement. Quick scam telltales include urgent “pay now” demands, payment methods the City doesn’t use, links to non-somervillema.gov sites,

misspelled lookalike domains (for example, “somer-vill1e” with two capital I’s or two numeral 1’s), or invoices or fees you weren’t previously notified about.

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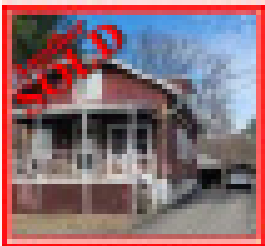
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Out dosage continued from page 2



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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.

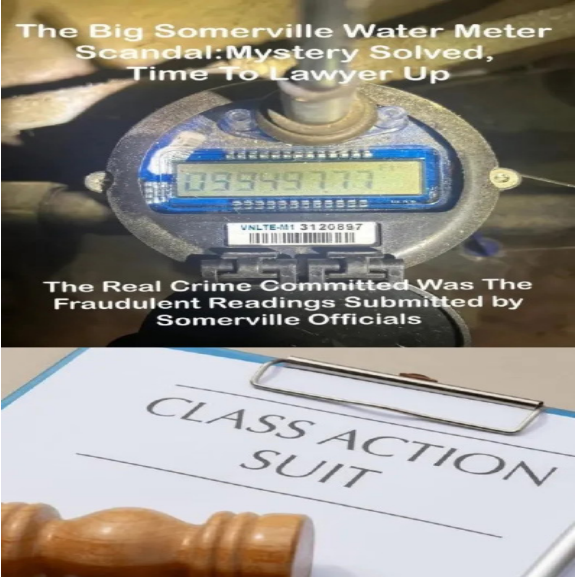
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Send to email : Wmtauro@aol.com or
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(Please DO NOT post any contact information in the comments area)

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!





Somerville Community Baptist Church June & July Events

The Somerville Community Baptist Church at 31 College Avenue near Davis Square will present a free Vacation Bible School from Monday, August 10 through

Friday, August 14, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All children, from age 4 up to 5th grade are welcome to attend. This Rainforest-themed program includes Bible stories,

music, creative activities, games, and free snacks each day. For more information or to register your child, see <http://www.ILoveSCBC.org/> events



Somerville Mobile Farmers Market Returns July 9 Mobile Market Brings Fresh, Affordable Local Produce to Locations Across the City



SOMERVILLE – The Somerville Mobile Farmers Market is hitting the road once again, returning on Thursday, July 9, for the 2026 season. The market brings fresh, affordable, local produce to four city locations Thursdays through Saturdays and runs through October 31.

All produce is sourced from local farms and priced affordably to make healthy,

fresh food accessible to all. The mobile market accepts cash, debit and credit cards, SNAP, Fresh Connect, WIC Farmers Market Coupons, and Senior Farmers Market Coupons. All are welcome.

Market Locations and Times:
Thursdays, 4 to 6 p.m.
o Clarendon Hill Towers, 1372 Broad-

way
Fridays, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
o Council on Aging, 167 Holland Street
Fridays, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
o Somerville Public Library – East Branch, 115 Broadway
Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (noon)
o Mystic Housing Development, 25B Memorial Road

For the full schedule, weekly produce updates, and more information about programs and events, visit the market's website at somervillemobilefarmers-market.org.

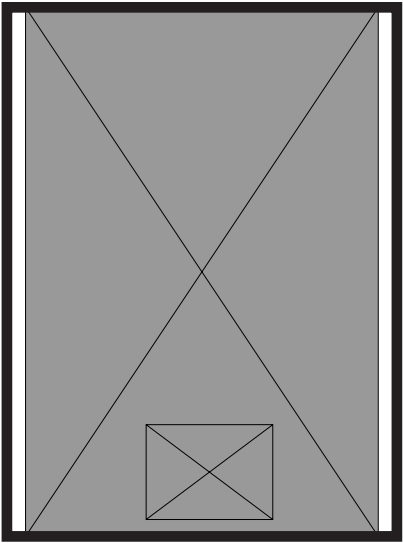
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Somerville Seeks Standby Polling Place Workers for State Primary Election Tuesday, September 1



Earn \$250 for the workday, 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SOMERVILLE– The City of Somerville is seeking stand-by polling place workers for the upcoming State Primary Election on Tuesday, September 1. Many poll workers are needed to support operations and conduct a successful election.

Standby poll workers

must be ready to step in as needed on Election Day: Tuesday, September 1, 2026. The workday starts at 6:30 a.m. and ends after the polls close at 8 p.m., with a two-hour break. Poll workers would serve in the following role:

Inspectors – Check off

names as voters check in, assist at the voting machine, or staff the demonstration table. Inspectors also help set up and break down the precinct. The compensation is \$250 per day. To apply, please email Human Resources at hrrad-min@somervillema.gov.

Applicants will be contacted and hired as needed up until Election Day.

To learn more, please contact the Elections Office at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200.

Somerville Recreation’s 2026 Fall Program Guide Is Here



SOMERVILLE — Want to learn street hockey or archery as an adult? Join a free teen volleyball clinic and grab a Neighborhood Restaurant sandwich after practice? Explore a new adaptive arts-and-crafts program or enjoy a Friday teen night out with games, pizza, and friends?

Somerville’s 2026 Fall Program Guide is now available, featuring hundreds of ways for residents of all ages and abilities to move, learn, play, and connect this season.

“This fall, Somerville Rec is expanding its

lineup, bringing back activities we haven’t offered in some time, and trying entirely new things,” said Mayor Wilson. “I’m delighted our lineup gives residents of all ages and abilities more ways to get active, connect with neighbors, and try something new.”

Residents can also explore youth sports and enrichment programs, adult fitness classes, aquatics and swim lessons, seasonal special events, community celebrations, and much more including a range of new programs.

Highlights and new programs include:

- A free teen volleyball clinic at Assembly Row, complete with grab-and-go sandwiches from the Neighborhood Restaurant
- Adult learn-to-play street hockey and archery using wooden recurve bows
- Adaptive sports clinics for students in grades K–5 and 6–12
- Women’s pickup basketball and adult basketball, kickball, and softball leagues
- Free teen open gyms, art lounges, events, and other drop-in activities through the Teen Program Membership
- A new adaptive arts-and-crafts program

A free Adaptive Teen Night Out with games, crafts, pizza, and time to socialize

The online guide will be updated throughout the season as new programs and information become available. Residents can explore current offerings and register at somervillerec.com.

For registration assistance, email ParksRec@SomervilleMA.gov or call 617-625-6600 ext. 2980.



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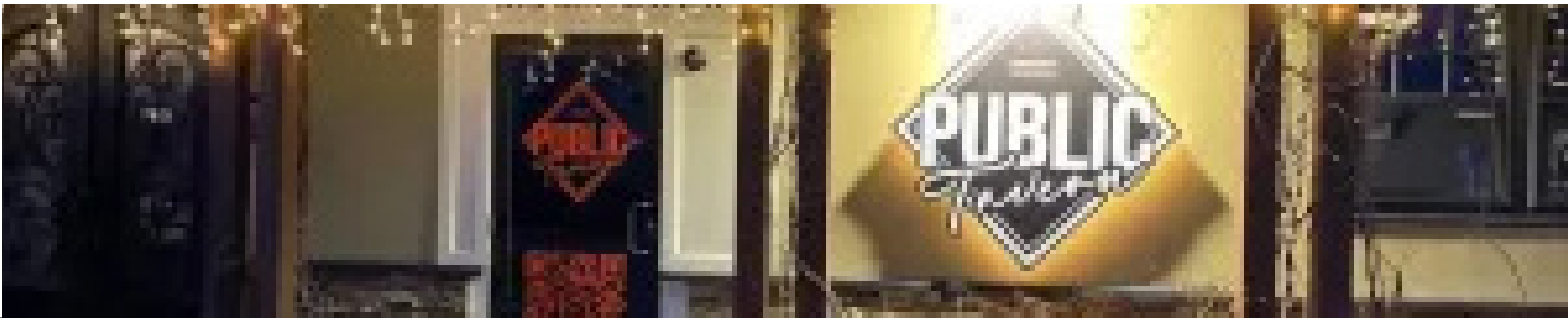


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IMMIGRANTS (H5620)



By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey signed into law the PROTECT Act that supporters said would establish statewide standards governing interactions between state and local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement. They said the measure would create among the strongest protections in the nation for residents who have immigrated to their communities; strengthen due process protections; limit civil

immigration enforcement in courthouses, public school grounds, hospitals and other sensitive locations; expand protections for victims of crime; and increase transparency, accountability and clarity for correctional facilities and law enforcement relative to civil immigration enforcement. Provisions bar Massachusetts law enforcement agencies from signing new deputization agreements with federal immigration authorities,

except in narrow, criminal-law-focused arrangements that meet additional safeguards; prohibit civil immigration arrests without a judicial warrant at schools, childcare centers, medical facilities and courthouses; establish a civil cause of action against federal officers who violate a resident’s constitutional rights, putting them under the same accountability standards as state and local police; keep state and local police out of federal civil immigration enforcement, barring the use of local resources for that purpose, or detention, based solely on a civil immigration detainer; and protect immigrant crime victims, including trafficking survivors, who assist law enforcement as witnesses.

“Today, Massachusetts is standing up for what’s right and taking action to keep our people and our communities safe,” said Gov. Healey. “The PROTECT Act is the strongest law in the country to protect people from ICE, because no one should be afraid to send their child to school, seek medical care

or fear reporting a crime or appearing in court. It makes us all less safe. So, we are getting ICE out of our courthouses, schools and hospitals. This bill is a testament to the hard work and advocacy of so many people across our state. We’re going to keep working together to make Massachusetts and this country the place we all want it to be.”

“Strong public safety requires strong partnerships with the communities we serve,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Gina Kwon. “The PROTECT Act helps preserve the trust that law enforcement, prosecutors and community organizations rely on to protect victims, investigate crimes and keep neighborhoods safe. When people feel safe, our commonwealth is stronger.”

The bill was not without its opponents. During House debate on the measure several days ago, Rep. Joe McKenna (R-Sutton) said, “I voted ‘No’ because I feel like this bill inappropriately ties the hands of the police officers and sheriffs who put

themselves in danger every day to keep our communities safe. Restricting basic communication and with federal authorities and limiting advance notice when violent offenders, including those convicted of serious crimes, are being released back into our neighborhoods is not sound public service strategy and further drives a wedge between states and the federal government. Additionally, I am concerned that much of the bill is simply unenforceable as written given the Supremacy clause. Ultimately, I feel that a cooperative and communicative position with ICE is more productive than deepening the mistrust and adversarial relationship we have. Massachusetts families deserve police who can work for public safety, which unfortunately this unworkable law does not do.”

“I voted against the PROTECT Act because the bill is prioritizing illegal immigrants in our communities over lawful residents,” said Rep. Kelly Pease (R-Westfield).

PRIMARY CARE AND HEALTH CARE AFFORDABILITY (H 5630)

By Bob Katzen

House 158-0, approved a bill that supporters say would expand access to primary care, shift the health care system toward prevention, invest in the health care workforce, support hospitals and community health centers, improve affordability by lowering prescription drug costs and increase accountability across the health care system. They noted the measure establishes historic primary care investment targets; creates advanced primary care payment models that reward prevention and coordinated care; expands access to innovative models of care; creates an expedited determination of need process to expand equitable care access; and strengthens oversight

to ensure primary care investments actually improve access, lower costs and support a sustainable, patient-centered health care system.

The Senate has already approved a different version of the proposal and a House-Senate conference committee has been appointed to hammer out a compromise version.

Provisions of the House bill include \$25 million to ensure there are a sufficient number of health care professionals by funding scholarships, student loan repayment, primary care career pathways and workforce recruitment and retention; establishment of statewide primary care investment targets that gradually increase spending to 9%

by 2030, 12% by 2033 and 15% by 2036; expanding the allowable uses of the Commonwealth Federal Matching and Debt Reduction Fund to help the state respond to an estimated \$3.5 billion loss of federal funding; expanding access to health care by strengthening community-based providers and allowing more patients to receive care where they live; establishing safeguards for AI in health insurance utilization review to ensure technology supports, not replaces, clinical decision-making; and reducing out-of-pocket prescription drug costs by requiring most manufacturer rebates to be applied at the pharmacy counter.

“When primary care leads the way on patient well-

ness, the entire system benefits,” said Rep. Kathy LaNatra (D-Kingston), the chair of House Committee on Federal Funding, Policy and Accountability. “This legislation will help move more of our health dollar toward high-value primary care that delivers better outcomes for patients at a lower cost. It invests in the care that keeps people healthy and prevents disease, it strengthens our primary care workforce to make sure every resident of the commonwealth can access a primary care provider and it ensures that pharmaceuticals remain accessible and affordable.”

“For many Massachusetts residents, an unsustainable rise in health care costs has made it increasingly difficult to access and af-

ford basic health care services,” said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). “That’s why this legislation is so important, as it makes critical investments in primary care and lowers out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly Yes
Rep. Paul Donato Yes
Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven Yes

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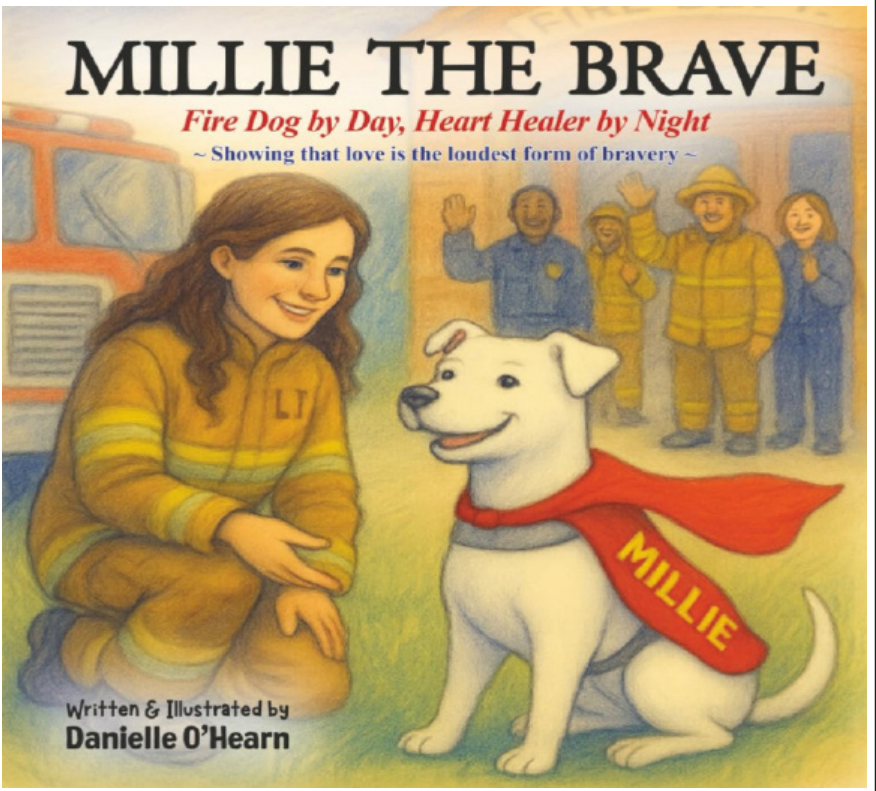
Dear Billy T and Somerville/Medford News Weekly Speakup Line,

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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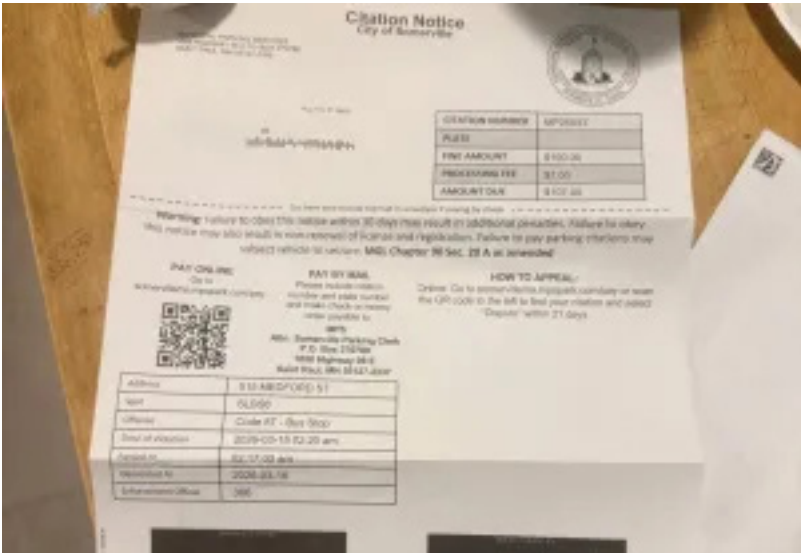


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the addition of the following locations: 27 Concord Ave, 30 Derby St. 2026-133 Article V Section 5-2 “Loading/Service Zones” is amended with the addition of the following location: Full time loading zone at the two spaces at 500 Medford St. 2026-134 Article V Section 5-5 “Parking Location and Prohibitions” is amended with the addition of the following locations: No Parking Any Time on the west side of Grand Union Blvd, from approximately 140 ft south of Foley St to approximately 265 ft south of Foley St and No Parking Any Time on the east side of Grand Union Blvd, from

approximately 150 ft south of Foley St to approximately 270 ft south of Foley St. 2026-135 Article V Section 5-5 “Parking Location and Prohibitions” is amended with the addition of the following location: School Bus Parking Only 6:00am-4:00pm, Monday-Friday, Sept-June, 2 hour except by permit parking 4:00pm-2:30am, and permit parking only 2:30am-6:00am on the west side of Webster Ave, from approximately 40 ft south of Washington St to approximately 190 ft south of Washington St. 2026-136 Article V Section 5-5 “Parking Location and Prohibitions” is amended with the addition of the following loca-

tion: School Bus Parking Only 6:00am-4:00pm, Mon-Fri, Sept-June, and permit parking all other times on the west side of Franklin St, from approximately 60 ft north of Perkins St to approximately 195 ft north of Perkins St. 2026-137 Article V Section 5-5 “Parking Location and Prohibitions” is amended with the addition of the following location: School Arrival Only 6:00am-9:00am and permit parking all other times on the west side of Franklin St, from approximately 195 ft north of Perkins St to approximately 270 ft north of Perkins St. 2026-138 Article V Section 5-10 “Safety Zones” is amended as follows: Fire Lanes on

Hooker Ave, in a southerly direction on the odd side of Hooker Ave 29 ft from Endicott Ave to the dead end at the chain link fence and the width of the dead end of Hooker Ave from curb to curb for a length of 26 ft (replacing the currently regulated fire lane). PROMULGATED: AUGUST 4, 2026 ADVERTISED: AUGUST 11, 2026 AUGUST 18, 2026 AUGUST 25, 2026 EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2, 2026 Somerville/Medford News Weekly 08/11/26, 08/25/26, 09/02/26

HOME CARE (H 5627)

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey signed into law a bill that would establish a licensure process for home care agencies that supporters say will ensure that consumers receive quality non-medical services and that home care workers are protected.

The Executive Office of

Health and Human Services would implement the licensure process and have the authority to approve licenses, survey and investigate home care agencies and impose fines. Home care agencies would be required to disclose anyone with at least a 5 percent ownership interest in the agency, carry workers’ compensation

and liability insurance and provide appropriate levels of training for their employees.

“Massachusetts families deserve peace of mind when they hire someone to care for their loved ones at home,” said Gov. Healey. “This law strengthens the safety, quality and accountabil-

ity of home care across Massachusetts, giving families confidence in the care their loved ones receive and supporting the dedicated workers who make independent living possible.”

“We want people to have options as they age so that they can make the choices that work best for them,”

said Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll. “By establishing statewide safety and quality standards for home care agencies and strengthening protections for workers and consumers, we’re making it easier for more people to safely receive high-quality care at home while giving families greater peace of mind.”

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Somerville’s Davis Square gets a “Glow Up” this Summer



New public art, seating, lighting, plantings, and gathering space bring more color and comfort to one of Somerville’s busiest neighborhood centers

SOMERVILLE – This summer, you may have noticed that Davis Square has more color, a few more places to sit, and a lot more reason to stop and enjoy.

On Friday, August 21, the City of Somerville will celebrate the Davis Square’s “summer glow

up” with a ribbon cutting from 4:30 to 5 p.m., directly before the Down in Davis: Alive at Five performance at Statue Park. The event will mark the completion of recent public space improvements in the square, including the activation of the Davis Square Slip Lane and new placemaking art at Statue Park.

Designed by the City’s Public Space & Urban Forestry team and installed with help from

the Department of Public Works, the updates aim to make Davis Square more welcoming and comfortable for residents, visitors, workers, and shoppers. The effort is also designed to support the small businesses, restaurants, arts venues, and gathering places that make the square one of Somerville’s most active neighborhood centers. Residents and business owners have worked to activate the area with musical performances, both planned and spontaneous.

“Davis Square has always had the ingredients that make a neighborhood feel alive: food, music, transit, public art, open space, small businesses, and people coming together,” said Mayor Wilson. “This project builds on that energy with more color, comfort, and places to gather. In this Year of the Neighbor, it’s a great example of how the City and community can work together to help an already beloved third space

shine even brighter.”

What’s New at Slip Lane + Statue Park
The Slip Lane (in front of Mike’s restaurant) has been transformed into an inviting community space featuring a vibrant asphalt mural installed by Boston-based artist and muralist Massiel Grullón, enhanced seating options, native pollinator plants, and string lights to encourage use into the evening.

At Statue Park, the City is installing a new art piece fabricated by Somerville-based Black Cat Labs to strengthen the identity of the square and provide photo opportunities to visitors. The area’s banners have also been updated to reflect the sense of place.

“Davis Square is, and always has been, a fantastic place to spend time, do your shopping, and bump into your neighbors for a quick chat,” said Ward Six

City Councilor Lance Davis, who is also the City Council President. “I’m thrilled with these investments from both the city and our community to help keep Davis Square the vibrant heartbeat of our city.”

The project is part of Somerville’s ongoing work to improve public spaces, support neighborhood business districts, and create more inviting places for people to gather across the city.

“The glow up of Davis Square is about more than adding color,” said Luisa Oliveira, Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry. “It is about creating vibrant squares to gather, adding shade and comfort for people to do so, and helping people feel welcome in the square. Business owners, gardeners, artists, volunteer neighbors, and City staff all helped make this happen, and that community effort is what makes the project special.”

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\$8 MILLION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey announced \$8 million in grants to 57 cities and towns across Massachusetts to fund energy efficiency and clean energy projects.

Eligible projects include

installing high-efficiency lighting and building weatherization, upgrading to energy management systems, insulating pipes and attic spaces and transitioning HVAC systems away from fossil fuels by installing air- or ground-source heat pumps.

“Communities across Massachusetts are finding innovative ways to reduce energy use and lower costs,” said Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll. “These grants will help local leaders make practical upgrades that improve public build-

ings and deliver long-term energy savings.”

“Energy efficiency is one of the smartest investments a community can make,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. “These grants will help

cities and towns lower energy costs, upgrade municipal and school buildings and fleets and reduce pollution, all while saving dollars that can be put toward other critical projects.”

\$5.9 MILLION TO HELP PEOPLE FIND JOBS

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Maura Healey announced the awarding of \$5.9 million in workforce development grant funding for 12 initiatives across Massachusetts, representing partnerships with employers, training providers and regional collaborators to train, upskill and provide job placement for 951 workers for in-demand occupations in health care, lo-

gistics, education, information technology and more.

“Across Massachusetts, employers are looking for skilled workers and residents are looking for opportunities to build successful careers,” said Healey. “These grants help us do both by connecting people with the training they need to fill in-demand jobs and helping businesses grow with the work-

force they need.”

“Workforce Success Grants offer an effective and proven tool for training providers to prepare skilled talent and for employers to access a skilled talent pool,” said Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Lauren Jones. “By partnering with industry, training providers and regional organizations, we’re creating talent

pipelines for occupations that are essential to Massachusetts’ economy. From health care to education to technology and beyond, these investments will help employers fill critical positions and enable more residents to build rewarding careers in regions across Massachusetts.”



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ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND OTHER DEMENTIAS (H 5613)

By Bob Katzen

House 155-0, approved and sent to the Senate legislation that supporters say would strengthen dementia care, improve support for families and caregivers, expand workforce training and enhance public health efforts to address Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias. They noted the bill takes a comprehensive approach to improving care for individuals living with dementia while equipping health care providers, first responders, hospitals and state agencies with the tools and resources needed to better serve patients.

The legislation establishes mandatory dementia training programs for municipal and state law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical services personnel including a minimum of two

hours of initial instruction followed by biennial continuing education; expands notification requirements so that families or legal representatives are informed of an initial diagnosis of any dementia; enhances protections for patients and families by requiring acute care hospitals to allow medically appropriate visitation for patients living with Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias, as well as those exhibiting symptoms of cognitive impairment; expands the state’s Health Care Workforce Loan Repayment Program to provide loan repayment assistance for professionals specializing in geriatrics and geriatric psychiatry, in order to help recruit and retain clinicians with expertise in caring for older adults; and requires the Department of Public Health to expand public awareness efforts on brain health and dementia through

culturally relevant education campaigns.

“Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia are devastating illnesses that profoundly affect not only those diagnosed, but also the families and caregivers faced with the challenges of caring for their loved one,” said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). “This legislation is about ensuring that the commonwealth is doing all that it can to care for individuals living with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias by strengthening training, by improving coordination across the health care system and by investing in a workforce that is better prepared to provide the care that diagnosed individuals need.”

“While the commonwealth is a global pioneer in advancing Alzheimer’s Disease and

related dementia treatment and prevention, we can’t rest on our laurels,” said Rep. Tom Stanley (D-Waltham), House Chair of the Committee on Aging and Independence. “The prevalence of Alzheimer’s and related dementia is expected to increase substantially over the next decade and at the same time we are experiencing workforce challenges and a shrinking pool of family caregivers.”

“With passage of this legislation, we demonstrate our continued commitment to Massachusetts residents living with Alzheimer’s or a related dementia, as well as to their caregivers and healthcare providers,” said Rep. Danielle Gregoire (D-Marlborough) the sponsor of an earlier version of the measure. “This work began eight years ago with the passage of landmark Alzheimer’s legislation that

made Massachusetts a national leader. Despite that work, dementia diagnoses are becoming more frequent, and patients and their caregivers need more help. As scientific advances continue to improve treatment options and make headway on a cure, so too must we in government adapt and implement policy such as the one we voted on today that will change lives for the better.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Mike Connolly Yes Rep. Paul Donato Yes Rep. Erika Uytendaele Yes

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Somerville Sharing Voting Information for State Primary Election

SOMERVILLE– On Tuesday, September 1, 2026, the State of Massachusetts will hold its Primary Election, which will narrow the candidate pool before the November Election on Tuesday, November 3. The offices on the ballot for this election include: Senator in Congress Lieutenant Governor Attorney General District Attorney Secretary of State Treasurer Auditor Councillor Senator in General Court Representative in General Court Register of Probate The primary election is open to all registered voters in Somerville. Somerville voters can vote one of three ways: by mail, early in person , or in person at your polling location on Primary Election Day. Register to Vote in the State Primary by Saturday,	August 22 You can register one of three ways: Online at somer villema.gov/registertovote, In-person at Somerville City Hall (93 Highland Ave.). Or by calling the Elections Department (617-625-6600 ext. 4200) and requesting a voter registration form. Or by calling 311 (617-666-3311) and they will connect you to Elections. The registration deadline is Saturday, August 22 at midnight online or in person by 5 p.m. City Hall will be open on August 22 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00p.m. You also may mail in your registration form, but it must be postmarked by August 22nd. Vote Early at City Hall, August 22-28 Vote early in the Primary Election in the lower level of City Hall from Satur-	day, August 22, through Friday, August 28. The schedule is as follows: August 22 – Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 23 – Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 24-26 – Monday-Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. August 27 – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. August 28 – Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. How to Vote in the State Primary Election by Mail Applications to vote by mail must be received (not postmarked) by 5 p.m., Tuesday, August 25 (applications are accepted based on receipt by the deadline not by postmark date). Download an application or fill it out online at somer villema.gov/votemail, pick one up in the Elections office at City Hall, or request one be mailed to you by calling Elections at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200.	Eligible voters who submit valid applications will receive their ballot in the mail. Ballots must be completed, signed, sealed, and received by the City no later than 8 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1. Voters can check the status of their ballot on the state’s website. Email or fax (for applications only): Completed applications can be emailed to vote@somer villema.gov or faxed to 617-625-5643. Ballots cannot be returned by email or fax. How to return your application and ballot: Drop boxes: Leave it in a drop box at one of the following locations: City Hall Concourse, 93 Highland Ave. East Somerville Community School, across from 66 Glen St. In front of the Argenziano School, 290 Washington St. In front of the Somerville Community Baptist Church, 31 College Ave.	Behind the Mystic Activity Center, 530 Mystic Ave. In front of Saint Catherine of Genoa Church parking lot, 182 Summer St. In front of the Armory, 191 Highland Ave. In front of Dilboy Post, 351 Summer St. In front of the Tufts Administrative Building, 167 Holland St. In front of the West Somerville Neighborhood School at 177 Powder House Blvd. Elections office: Return directly to the Elections Department at City Hall Mail: Send to the Elections Department, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 For more information about voting in Somerville, go to somer villema.gov/elections.
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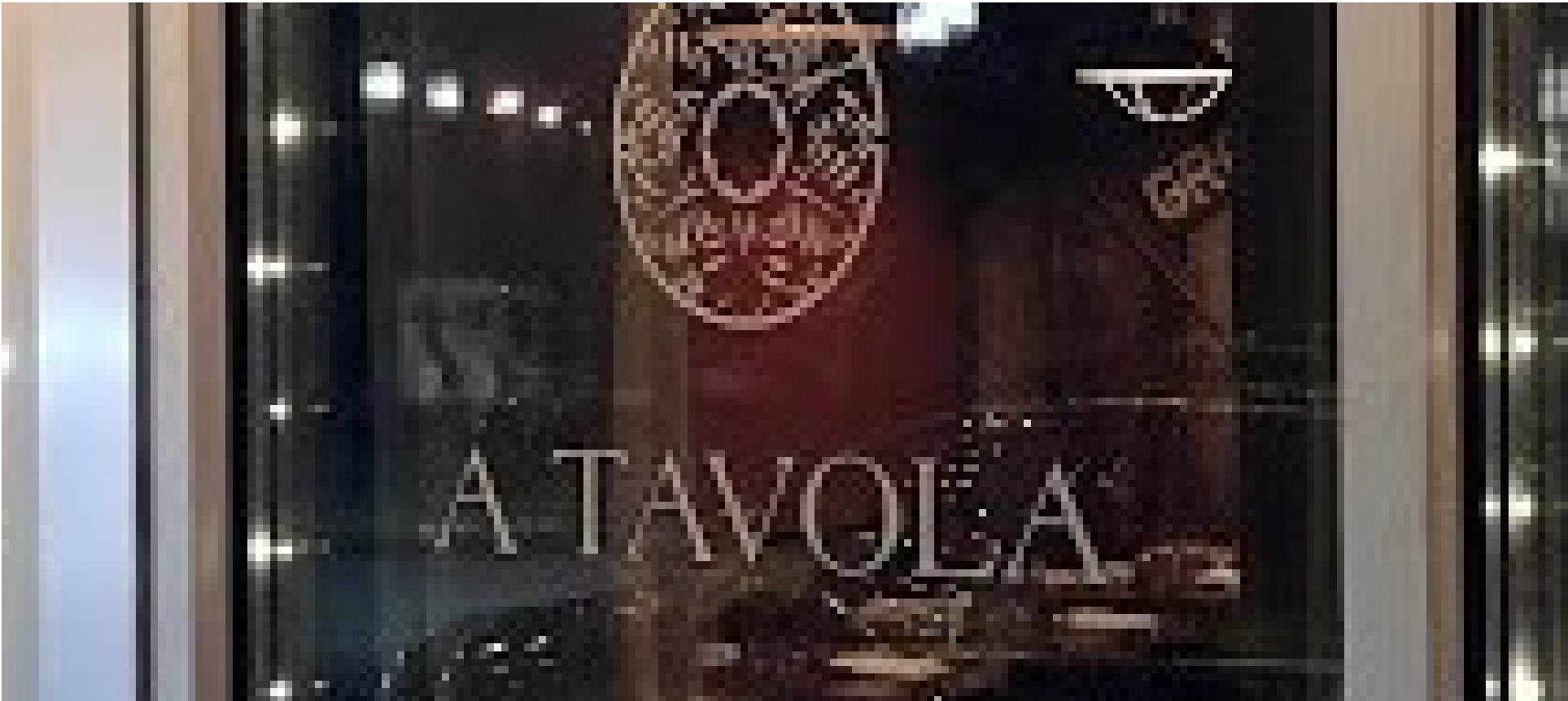
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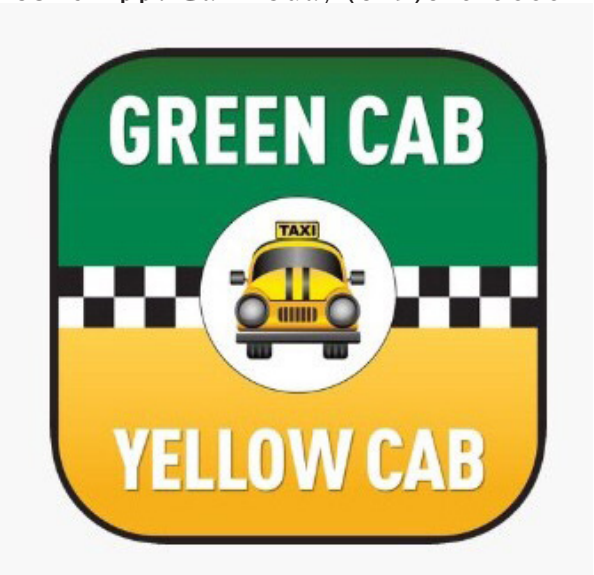


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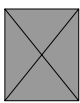
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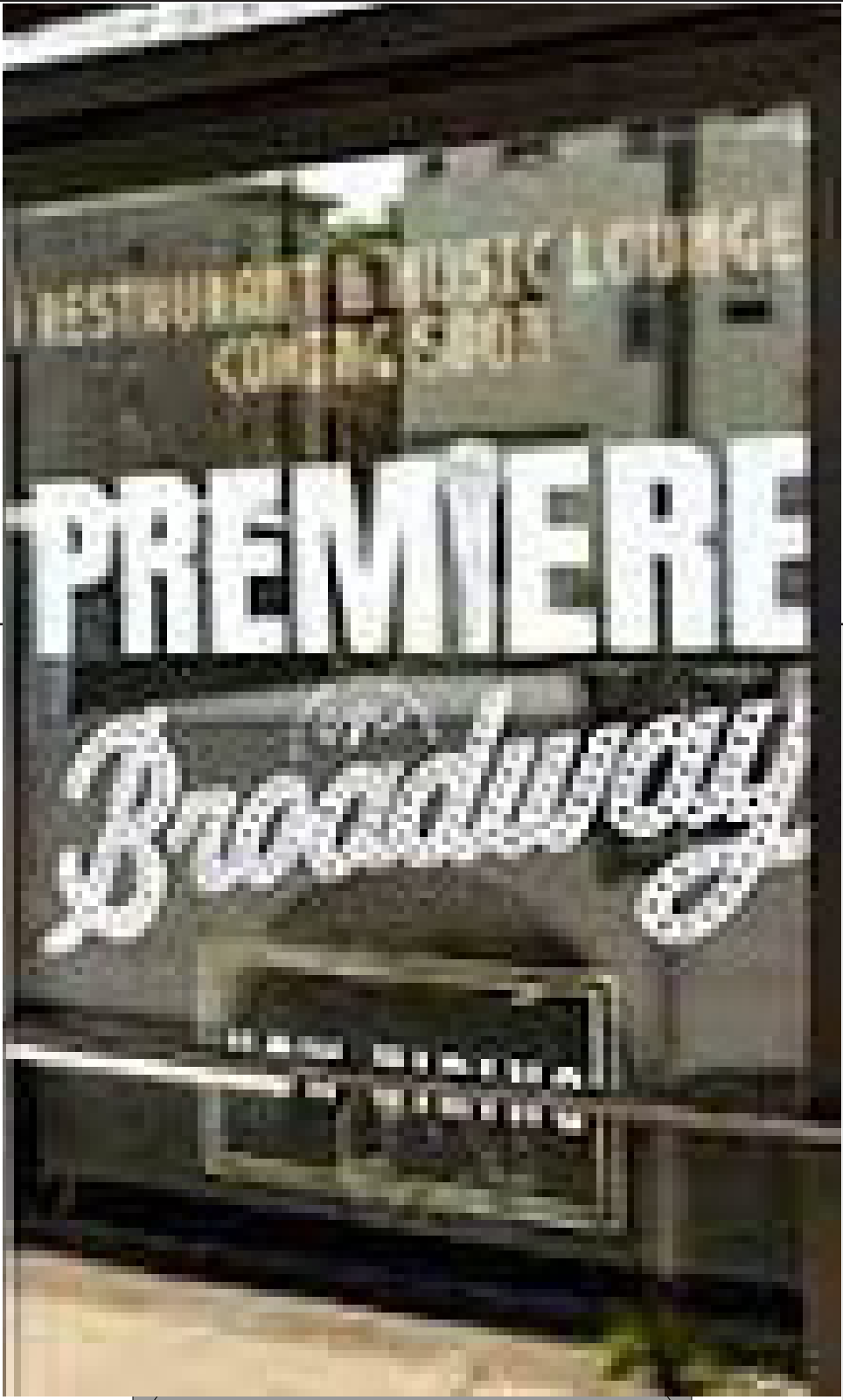
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