Teen, 16, dies nine days after crashing on motorcycle in Cambridgeport

By MARC LEVY

A Cambridge teen died Wednesday from injuries from an Aug. 28 motor vehicle crash, officials said Thursday.

Jaden McDaniels, 16, was the passenger on a friend’s motorcycle zipping along Pleasant Street in Cambridgeport that ran into a Toyota RAV4 as it turned left from Putnam Avenue, according to a preliminary investigation by police. The kids sped from the scene of the crash is a residential area, save for the Cambridge Gospel Hall church at the same corner.

Police responded to the crash at approximately 8:47 p.m., according to a Thursday press release from commissioner Christine Elow and Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan. The kids were taken to Beth Israel Hospital in Boston after first aid was tried on-scene by residents, Cambridge firefighters, EMTs and police officers.

The driver of the motorcycle suffered non-life-threatening injuries, while McDaniels was believed to have both been attending Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. Their statement didn’t mention whether helmets were being worn by the teens, who are listed as registry students.

In a letter to the CRLS community on Thursday, principal Damon Smith said McDaniels was “intelligent, caring and kind.”

“He had strong relationships with many students and staff in our community and we will miss him dearly,” Smith said.

Police believe. Unlike in years past, this campaign season has no set dates for political forums or debates. Even the providing of candidate pro-files as a voter resource is stalled this year, as the Somerville Media Center relocated after being told it must leave its longtime home in Union Square.

Thus candidates are knocking on doors— or planning to—to draw out voters for contested races.

“As opposed to two years ago, this year looks like it’s really going to be about the fall. I’m ready to get out there and keep talking to voters like I have been for two years,” said Jake Wilson, counselor-at-large.

In 2021, the city had a preliminary election for four mayoral candidates and a handful of City Council candidates for open seats in wards 5 and 7. Of approximately 60,000 registered voters in Somerville, roughly 18,000 voted in the municipal election that followed.

There’s no debate Somerville campaign is quiet

By RYAN DIELELO

Somerville’s election season has come knocking.

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Rent control takes a step toward 2024 ballot question

By MATT ROCHA

A ballot initiative that could bring back rent control and establish other tenant protections was certified Wednesday morning by attorney general Andrea Campbell, followed by a rally and press conference outside the State House by state Rep. Mike Connolly.

The initiative, if it ends up on the 2024 ballot and is approved by voters, would overturn the successful 1994 initiative that banned rent control in the commonwealth and replace it with a law giving communities the power to regulate rents and evictions, among other things. The petition exempts buildings younger than 15 years and two- or three-family, owner-occupied buildings.

Connolly’s petition was one of 34 that Campbell certified Wednesday. Other petitions included plans to decriminalize psychedelic mushrooms, increase the minimum wage for tipped workers and remove the MCAS standardized test as a graduation requirement for high school students.

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MEETINGS SEPT. 8–15

CAMBRIDGE

A safer Central Square; how Alewife could grow

By MARC LEVY

Safer Central and a growing Alewife

City Council, 5:30 p.m. Monday. A task force to improve the quality of life in Central Square is being asked of the city manager by councillor E. De- nie Taylor, who wants monthly reports on short-term "low-hanging fruit" and longer-term solutions for problems in a square facing “a concerning increase in homelessness, drug use, public intoxication, violence and aggressive panhandling since the onset of the Covid pandemic.” Likely to get plenty of discussion are proposed changes to an existing set of proposed changes in Af- fordable Housing Overlay zoning, questioning their approach on height and open-space formulas and seeking a "workforce housing” priority.

Returning agenda items include a call to know what lawsuits the Cam- bridge Police Department or its officers have faced within the past five years, and where new outdoor dining areas and new bike lanes are. City staff have moved fast on legal language for backyard chickens, with much work already done from 2017, and on delivering buildout projections for the Alewife area based on proposed zoning. There could be up to 7.5 million square feet added by 2040, including up to 3,700 homes with as many as 7,400 residents, and a possible 27.3 acres of open space. The council meets at City Hall, 791 Massachusetts Ave., Central Square.

Changes on Mount Auburn Street

Mount Auburn Street at Aberdeen Avenue intersection safety improve- ment project open house, 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday. Discuss plans for a project that will see lane for cars heading toward Watertown and Belmont in West Cambridge go to one from two with improvements to Mount Auburn between Belmont and Brattle streets. Watchable by Zoom videoconferencing.

Meaningful resident assemblies

Charter Review Committee, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. This group charged with suggesting updates to the city’s 80-year-old governing document turns to con- templating the rules around resident assemblies or citizen panels, starting from considering their very purpose. Watchable by Zoom videoconferencing.

Volpe amendment on innovation space

Planning Board, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. Small changes within existing plans are requested, including MIT’s real estate arm that it be able to adapt its innovation-space requirements to reflect that there’s now lots of small space for tech entrepreneurs, and what’s needed is room for the companies to grow into. The square footage for innovation space would stay the same, but Minim- co wants “flexibility with respect to the size of their spaces, the length of their leases and the characteristics of their shared amenities.” Watchable by Zoom videoconferencing.

Somerville

Green line suspension and rent stabilization

By LINDA PINKOW

Remembering attacks of 9/11

9/11 remembrance ceremony, 8:30 a.m. Monday. Mayor Katjana Ballantine and the Department of Veterans’ Services host a procession and remembrance ceremony marking the 22nd anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Starting at the Cedar Street entrance to the Community Path at 8:30 a.m., the march proceeds to the city’s 9/11 memorial in Davis Square for a wreath-laying ceremony and presentation of the colors.

Legislation to control rents

Rent stabilization listening session, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. Community members will discuss the city’s efforts to increase housing affordability and reduce residential displacement. The plan may include limits on how much landlords can raise rents, and allowances for increases if utility costs go up or improvements are made; protections against wrongful evictions; exemptions for certain types of buildings; rent control based on tenants’ income; enforcement of the new law; and other details. Led by the Anti-Displacement Task Force, the listening sessions help inform development of draft legislation to be submitted to the mayor and City Council, then to the state Legislature as a home rule petition. If approved by the state, the city would be able to enact the law. This is the third and final listening session, and priority goes to anyone who has not yet provided comment. Advance registration by Sunday is required to speak. The hybrid meeting will take place at the Armory at 191 Highland Ave. and on Zoom, and recordings of all the listening sessions will be posted online.

Green line suspension questions

Squares Bridge construction meeting, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. As the state De- partment of Transportation prepares for a 25-day shutdown of the Union Square Green Line station beginning Sept. 18, state staff visits Somerville to speak to riders about the effects and alternative service options. The shutdown is due to construction work on Squares Bridge, which carries Route 28/McGrath Highway over the Union spur of the green line and Fitchburg Line commuter rail. The meeting takes place at the Somerville Public Library, 79 Highland Ave. A hotline to answer riders’ questions about the project is at (617) 927-9957.

More housing on Broadway

45-51 Broadway neighborhood meeting, 6 p.m. Wednesday. Highland De- velopment Inc. presents its proposal to redevelop 45 Broadway and 51 Broad- way, East Somerville — a two-story industrial building housing Broadway Brake and a triple-decker house built around 1900, respectively, owned by CDA Re- aly Somerville LLC. They would become a six-story residential building with ground-floor retail and one level of below-grade parking. Watchable by Zoom videoconferencing.

Letter from Somerville

A safer Central Square; how Alewife could grow

By LINDA PINKOW

The Alewife station on the Red Line is getting some much-needed upgrades, including the addition of new bike storage spaces and improvements to the entrance area. These changes are part of the city’s ongoing efforts to improve safety and accessibility for residents and visitors alike.

In addition to these improvements, the city is also looking to increase housing affordability and reduce residential displacement. This includes limits on how much landlords can raise rents, and allowances for increases if utility costs go up or improvements are made. These measures are part of the city’s work to ensure that all residents have access to safe and affordable housing.

The city is also committed to protecting tenants from wrongful evictions. This includes exemptions for certain types of buildings, and also ensures that all tenants have access to a legal advocate.

Finally, the city is working to increase the city’s supply of affordable housing. This includes allowing for the development of more workforce housing in the city, and also allowing for the inclusion of more affordable units in new developments.

These changes are part of the city’s ongoing efforts to improve safety and accessibility for residents and visitors alike, while also increasing the city’s supply of affordable housing.
Somerville campaign season goes quiet

From Page 1

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From Page 1

Tomey campaign petition takes step toward ballot

From Page 1

Rent control petition takes step toward ballot

By SUE REINERT

Amid a senior care market in which a one-bedroom apartment in assisted living can cost $7,500 a month, Cam-
bridge offers a rare affordable option: an assisted-living facility in which 57 of the 71 units must go to low- and moderate-income individuals and families. But that choice – Neville Place Assisted Living at Fresh Pond – is facing financial challenges. Neville Place, established in 2000 on the site of a former city nursing home with financial help from the city, the Cambridge Housing Authority, Cambridge Housing Alliance and state, is a new model, healing and air condition-
ing system, and other repairs, but lacks the money to pay for them. It had to reduce and drop its replacement and special reserves after occupancy dropped before and during the pandemic, and it can’t expect future county or state sup-
port it had received from the housing authority, according to an analysis by the city’s Affordable Housing Trust. In May the trust approved a $2.5 million loan to Neville Communities Inc., the nonprofit that owns Neville Place and the related nursing home on the same property, Neville Center. The loan, which can help only the assisted-living residences, comes with a strings attached, and was intended to keep Neville Place finan-
cially healthy for the next 20 years. The Affordable Housing Trust analysis questioned Neville’s ability to make full use of 30 rental assistance vouchers it got from the housing authority that would have increased in-
come if more of the vouchers had been distributed to low-income residents and if Neville had updated maximum rents allowed under the subsidies. The Trust also said Neville’s complex appli-
cation process discouraged potential residents from applying and prevented other city agencies that help low-income families from working with it to bring more applicants.

Overall good grades

Still, the Trust gave Neville Place overall good grades, calling its ability to provide "welcoming and comfort-

able assisted living at significantly less than market rates" an important community benefit. "While a number of questions remain, it is clear that the property has been successfully serving low- and moderate-income house-
holds in need of assisted living and that efforts should be made to enable this important resource to remain available over the long-term," Andrew Faqui, president of Neville Communities – and chief counsel for the Cambridge Health Alliance said. "We continually work toward optimal financial stability by balancing quality services and cost-management." The board of Neville Communities includes officials from the Alliance, the housing authority and the city.

Faqui said Neville’s occupancy rate had "quickly rebounded" after falling in previous years, with nearly full occupancy in the local market. "He did not mention the Covid pandemic, when assisted-living resid-
ence rates.”

Vouchers and rent levels

As of now, 99.8 percent to 100 percent of Neville’s units are filled, "demon-
strating sustained stability," Faqui said. But Neville still isn’t using all of its 30 rental assistance vouchers. "Historically, we’ve used about 18 on average," Faqui said. "We’re working closely with the Cambridge Housing Authority to in-
crease voucher utilization.”

The vouchers, which are attached to the property, would provide more income to Neville because the federal government would pay the difference between 30 percent of a low-income resident’s income – the most a resident must pay – and the maximum Section 8 rent. Otherwise, Neville can collect only the resident’s share.

Neville also failed to update the maximum rent when the government raised it. The Affordable Housing Trust said in May that the assisted liv-

ing facility has now increased the max-
imum but still is using only 18 of the 30 vouchers. Neville is fully occupied, the trust said, but even with these im-
provements "there is insufficient op-
erating income to support anticipated capital repairs over time.”

A longer version of this story is at bit.ly/45qsiZX.

Cambridge’s affordable assisted-living option let slip money for fixes

The entrance to Neville Place at Fresh Pond, an assisted-living

center in Cambridge.

A longer version of this story is at bit.ly/45qsiZX.

Cambridge’s affordable assisted-living option let slip money for fixes

By SUE REINERT

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A longer version of this story is at bit.ly/45qsiZX.
Barstool’s ‘one-bites’ were sure to awaken the dragon

By TOM MEEK

Last week’s viral video kerfuffle in Davis Square between Barstool Sports CEO Dave Portnoy and Dragon Pizza owner Charlie Reid raised the question that many food writers ask for a fast restaurant review? There isn’t one way, but varying approaches generate different levels of trust in critics’ opinions.

For those who missed it, Portnoy, who runs Barstool Sports out of New York City, posted a video to his Barstool Sports Facebook page and Twitter account — he grew up in Massachusetts and after college lived in the city — that featured a major moment in the American Pars of the 1990s — to bring his “One Bite Pizza Review” to Pin

occhio’s Avenue kitchen in Harvard Square. (Several of these have been featured in the Day’s What We’re Having column.)

The protocol, as Portnoy calls it, is this: Pick up a pre-ordered pie, come out on the sidewalk where a crew has a camera rolling, take a bite and issue a one-to 10 scale rating. It’s not really one bite, as Portnoy makes a good choice of the mouthful of sizzling mmm-mmm that initiates a reaction, takes a bite of the crust and uncovering the chomp of the tip, mumbles an initial

omnibus to delight the senses, and then the consistency of the shallots in a coq au vin were reduced.

At Cambridge Day, what We’re Having columns maintain a do

nuance as, say, assessing the flakiness of a habitus fillet with a viande sauce or the consistency of the shallots in a coq au vin were reduced.

Portnoy admits the Dragon pie had been sitting — is tough enough as a habitus of a habitus fillet with a viande sauce or the consistency of the shallots in a coq au vin were reduced.

The opposite side of the street is seeing changes for similar reasons. The Who Pig Fly bakery moved this summer from its 241 Elm St. location to 259 Elm St., until May 22 the home of the Niche plant shop, because of a plan of a London-based real estate owner, operator and developer called to market a movie out of the block from the Barstool pull back to Grove Street. Owners at the Shog Pull chose to close in early June rather than relocate.

Portnoy does admit the Dragon pie had been sitting — is tough enough as a habitus fillet with a viande sauce or the consistency of the shallots in a coq au vin were reduced.

The week after being posted Aug. 31.

To be fair, Portnoy, who’s been

closed, has ordered the menu at Barstool

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limited edition of 200,000. In the

“hot girls” section) and controversial

content and sports and scantily clad

sexual objectification of women (Bar

called out for racism, misogyny and

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eventS aHeaD Sept. 8–15

8 p.m. Sept. 9
Somerville Theater’s Crystal Ballroom, 55 Davis Square
Jonathan Bree performs
$20. New Zealander Bree, with his Bowie-like baritone, has performed his cinematic brand of orchestral pop around the globe, and always by way of a mysteriously masked persona. Also on the ticket: Ryder the Eagle.

7 p.m. Sept. 10
The Rockwell, 255 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville
Dj WhySham presents A Survivor’s Prayer II
$15 to $25 and 14+ plus. Returning to the Rockwell for a second year, Dj WhySham and a community of performing friends explore harmony, healing and honesty through R&B, Neo-Soul, and being open about love, death, hurt and mental health.

2 to 4 p.m. p.m. Sept. 10
Mount Auburn Cemetery, 560 Mount Auburn St., West Cambridge
The Solaces of Nature
$12. Author Claire Walker Leslie leads a stroll along the shady paths of this nature-filled cemetery with stops to meditate, share, listen and reflect on ‘the always-changing nature of Here and our own changing nature toward grief.’

4 to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 8
Harvard Museum of Natural History lawn, 26 Oxford St., Baldwin, Cambridge
Where We Belong: Tree Chuangs art exhibit opening
Free. A tree-hung exhibit up through October forms community responses to questions into Chinese chuangs – cylindrical textiles used in Buddhism – that viewers can walk around and step into.

7:30 p.m. Sept. 8–15
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brat: le St., Harvard Square, Cambridge
“The Half-God of Rainfall”
$50 (with some $5). This play by the award-winning Inua Ellams depicts a half Greek, half Nigerian mortal who comes to the NBA.

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 9–10
Around Cambridge
Cambridge Open Studios
Art or three years of being virtual (or postponed), Open Studios returns in person, with some 70 artists opening their doors or joining group exhibitions at dozens of venues throughout Cambridge to show of (and maybe sell) paintings, prints, clothing, ceramics and all sorts of locally made creations.

7 p.m. Sept. 11
First Parish Cambridge Unitarian Universalist, 3 Church St./WHI Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge
Naomi Klein reads from “Doppelganger: A Trip into the Mirror World”
$15 to $22. The journalist, columnist and author discusses her much-publicized new book about AI, blurring political identities and finding her own double with opposing political views.

7 p.m. Sept. 11
Zadie Smith reads from “The Fraud”
$38 (includes book). The novelist talks about her kaleidoscopic tale based on a real legal trial that divided Victorian England. She talks with Harvard College professor Amanda Claybaugh.

7 p.m. Sept. 13
Guitar Poetry Book Shop, 6 Plympton St., Harvard Square
Poets Bill Carty, Paul Hlava Ceballos and J. Mae Bartzo read
$30, but registration is required. With an introduction by Steven Karl.

7 p.m. Sept. 13
Harvard Book Store, 1256 Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Square
Carmen Boulloua reads from “The Book of Eve”

3:30 to 5 p.m. Sept. 9
Magazine Beach, at the river end of Magazine Street, Cambridgeport
Pollinator garden planning
Free, but register. This workshop led by Jean Devine shows you how to select plants and design a pollinator garden for more biodiversity in a sunny garden, sidewalk strip or shady yard.
Arts at the Armory, 51 Highland Ave., Somerville
8 p.m., Sept. 8
Speedy Ortiz
$24. This Philly-by-way-of-Northampton band has been recording solid indie rock since 2011. Its new LP, “Rabbit Rabbit,” is the first to feature longtime tour members as full contributors. Washer and TF Y open.
6 to 11:45 p.m., Sept. 15-16
Boston Fuzzstival
$22 (one-day pass) or $35 (two-day pass). The ninth year for Illegally Blind’s loud and proud mission of supporting bands showing off 22 local and regional psychedelic, fuzz, garage, hip-hop and surf rock bands.

Mona Awad reads from “Rouge”
Free. This festival in its 10th year view includes photographs taken with low-tech cameras (e.g., those with plastic lenses and lack of a reliable exposure control). Opening receptions are Sept. 9 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Brickbottom Gallery, 17 Fitchburg St. and 6 to 8 p.m. at Washington Street Art Center Gallery, 232 Washington St.; and Sept. 10 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Nave Gallery, Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powder House Blvd.

Gregg Turk: Scraping the Bottom of the barrel, the Somerville Toy Camera Festival is the first to feature longtime member playwrights with direction and of code switching and feature the works of member playwrights with direction and of a reliable exposure control). Opening receptions are Sept. 9 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Brickbottom Gallery, 17 Fitchburg St. and 6 to 8 p.m. at Washington Street Art Center Gallery, 232 Washington St.; and Sept. 10 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Nave Gallery, Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powder House Blvd.

The Asian American Playwright Collective Playfest
Free. Nine new plays explore the theme of code switching and feature the works of member playwrights with direction and of code switching and feature the works of member playwrights with direction and of a reliable exposure control). Opening receptions are Sept. 9 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Brickbottom Gallery, 17 Fitchburg St. and 6 to 8 p.m. at Washington Street Art Center Gallery, 232 Washington St.; and Sept. 10 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Nave Gallery, Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powder House Blvd.

Ph.D. Program in Environmental Studies
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Saints Cosmas & Damian
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**Jean Eustache’s “The Mother and the Whore.”**

Experiment at HFA with Azevedo Gomes, at Brattle with Eustache

By Tom MeeK

Things at *The Bratle Theatre* shift from all things pink and “Barbie” to a series on “The Dirty Stories of Jean Eustache.” Eustache was part of France’s post-Nouvelle Vague cinema movement, had small parts in a few Godard films and was prolific in his experimental short-film output. Various Eustache programs play throughout the week with some of his features, including “The Mother and the Whore” (1973), about a chauffeur challenged by women, and “My Little Lovers” (1974), in which a boy is left to his own devices after his mother refuses to pay for his school.

On Thursday it’s *Ara* 51 elsewhere, with Randall Nickerson’s 2022 documentary “Ariel Phenomenon,” which explores events revolving around a 1994 UFO sighting by 62 schoolchildren in a screening. Nickerson will attend the special event, for which Brattle passes are not accepted.

At the Landmark Kendall Square Cinema, the Retro Replay on Tuesday features “Baboon & Stranger World of David Lynch” is what many consider Lynch’s magnum opus, *Mulholland Dr.* This 2001 pilot with the same cast and a running time that was one hour less. The title was a tad shorter too: “Mulholland Dr.” Two years later, the trippy 2001 neo-noir arrived to tell two realities of a Midwestern ingenue (Naomi Watts) who comes to L.A. and befriends an enigmatic, amnesiac car crash victim (Lara Flynn Boyle), who has been subject of several repertory efforts this year at the Brattle and Somerville theaters, righty so.

There’s much going on at the Harvard Film Archive, including the kickoff of “Chile Year Zero,” a series on protest films and documentaries that came out of the 1973 coup d’état that ended civilian rule there. First up is Patricio Guzmán’s “The Battle of Chile” series in three parts (1975-1978) chronicling Guzmán’s “The Battle of Chile” (1973) and just out of film school when he began the project with help and footage of Rita Azevedo Gomes (1939-2020) about 2019 uprisings in Chile, play Saturday through Monday. *A Música de Camara: The Cinema of Rita Azevedo Gomes* program continues, celebrating a Portuguese filmmaker highlighted by the HFA for an approach that combines literature, poetry, theater and painting onscreen. Her films often feature storytellers who capture her own “shining fascination with language,” architect Hal- den Guest said, “interpreting spoken dialogue with recited poetry and prose while also giving a major role to music and song.” You can experience it Friday with “A Woman’s Revenge” (2012), a straying noble who takes on an escort with a dark, bloody past.

Nicholas Ray’s experimental, some-what meta 1973 film “We Can’t Go Home Again,” which inspired Azevedo Gomes in her filmmaking, plays Sunday.

Also launching this week is the multiday “Shochiku Centennial Collection,” in which the HFA seeks to show 50 films being restored by the Japanese studio founded in 1895 (though it didn’t start a film division until 1920), famed for breaking from the historical costume dramas of the time in favor of contemporary themes. The series begins Thursday with “Te- ra-san, Our Lovely Tramp” (1969), about a wayward young man (Atsumi Kyohsi) who likes to drink, priddle goods on the street and cause turmoil for family members. Director Yosumi Yoji provides an introduction by video.

Cambridge writer Tom Meddi reviews, essays, short stories and articles have appeared in *WBUR’s The Artery*, *The Boston Phoenix*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Ramparts*, *The Charleston City Paper* and *SLABLE* literary journal. Tom is also a member of the Boston Society of Film Critics and rides his bike everywhere.

The *Bratle* at The Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Harvard Square, Cambridge. Founded in 1953 and a nonprofit since 2001, One 250-seat theater with 71 surround sound and 35mm capabilities with a specialty in themed repertory programs and classic, cut ing-edge, foreign and art-house films as well as some first-runs and new releases of classics. (617) 876-6837 and bratlefilm.org

Harvard Film Archive at The Carpenter Center, 24 Quincy St., Harvard Square, Cambridge. Founded in 1979 at Harvard University. One 318-seat theater with DCP, 35mm, 35mm and Super 8 capabilities and a repertory archive of more than 40,000 pieces of cinema history from around the world. (617) 495-7578 and harvardfilmarchive.org

Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square. Founded in 1931. Three screens with 1,566 seats, including one with Dolby Digital Sound and 24 surround speakers and 70mm capabilities for a mix of first-run and repertory fare and classics. (617) 625-5700 and somervilletheatre.com


Apple Cinemas Cambridge, 318 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge Highlands near Alewife and Fresh Pond. First opened in 1965, reopened in 1990 with 12 screens. A specialty in screening South Asian cinema along with first-run films. (617) 229-6555

AHC Assembly Row 12, 395 Artisan Way, Assembly Square, Somerville. Opened in 2014 with a dozen screens for first-run films with IMAX capabilities and Dolby sound. (617) 640-4392

The *Lady and the Whore* is recommended. A movie under the stars with free popcorn and candy and Melissa McCarthy is Ursula in this live-action remake of the classic, animated classic *The Little Mermaid.* There are yard games and fun, followed by the movie with candy and popcorn.

**Free Screenings**

*10 for Brady* (2023) at 1 A.M. at the CambridgeSide Cinema at 9:30 a.m. Friday at the Kendall/MIT Open Space at 292 Main St, Kendall Square, Cambridge. Registration is recommended. A movie under the stars with free popcorn and Melissa McCarthy is Ursula in this live-action remake of the classic, animated classic *The Little Mermaid.* There are yard games and fun, followed by the movie with candy and popcorn.

*Wall-E* (2008) from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Kendall/MIT Open Space at 292 Main St, Kendall Square, Cambridge. Registration is required. A movie under the stars with free popcorn and Melissa McCarthy is Ursula in this live-action remake of the classic, animated classic *The Little Mermaid.* There are yard games and fun, followed by the movie with candy and popcorn.

The * equalizer 3 ” goes to Italy for a final burst of vengeance by sarah g. Vincent

Trainning for the fifth time since “Training Day” (2001), which snagged the first and only lead actor Oscar for Denzel Washington (he won best supporting for 1990’s “Cleary”), director Antoine Fuqua and Washington deliver their final installment in a film trilogy reboot of the 1980’s television series. Michael Myers (as he does in the slasher, and not this comedy) isn’t got nothing on Robert McCall, Washington’s widower, veteran, retired intelligence operative and self-appointed lone protector of everyday people, who leaves in his wake a trail of mutilated madmen, including one with a meat cleaver in the face.

The action shifts from Boston’s mean streets to Sicily’s steep seaside steps. Returning writer Richard Wenk embraces western tropes of the stranger protecting peaceful, welcoming townsfolk from sadistic enemies, but heroic gunfighters would clench their teeth at the most nihilistic and merciless version of McColl to date. Marcello Zarrini even evokes Laver’s “Theme” from “Halloween” (1978) during low-key moments, and cranks up to a dominant high-pitched, synthetic whirr when McColl starts painting the town red with blood. Fuqua embraces framing McColl as “The Shape,” which was how John Carpenter rendered the iconic William Shatner-masked slasher, by showing the terror of turned tables on the mobsters’ faces as the shadow stalks them. Washington engages in some casual, slow head tilts as he regards the life draining from his impaled victims.

Only fans of “Man on Fire” (2004) will be invested when Mc- Call reaches out to CIA agent Emma Collins (Dakota Fanning), because it reunites the two. Otherwise it would have been better left on the cutting-room floor.

At Kendall Square, Fresh Pond and Assembly Square.
A guide to finding comedy every night of the week

By SARINE OLLIVIER-YAMIN

Need a place to take a Hinge date without the social pressure of having to talk to them? Why not outsource that job to the professionals and take advantage of one of many comedy nights in Cambridge and Somerville. Here’s a guide to the comedy scene every night of the week with something for everybody from the fresh comics to the sweaty ones.

Keep in mind that where you see open mics listed, those are shows where fresh and upcoming talent perform — which can just about anybody off the street. You get quite a few wild cards, and quality can be hit or miss. Still, that’s sometimes the fun part, and Cambridge and Somerville have so many characteristics that you are sure to encounter at least one weird and wonderful person.

While identifying shows as mainly groupings of new comics such as those still finding their legs at open mics; established locals who’ve paid their dues long enough to book shows and paying gigs; and nationally recognized pros whom you might see on television’s late-night shows or in clips from Comedy Central, HBO specials and the like. But shows can be a mix, with established locals stepping by open mics to try out new material or opening for headliners with regional or national reputations. We include improv comedy too, meaning the audience might be asked to offer suggestions to the folks on stage, and there may even be some SNL-style sketch comedy to be seen.

A stage awaits an audience in Somerville in 2020.

Sunday

Union Comedy Cage Match
Location: 591 Somerville Ave., Somerville
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Cost: $10
Level of comics: Established locals
Vibe: Watch two improv teams battle it out for giggles and adoration in this weekly series. Note for the vanguard at the end of the show and return the next week to see the winner face a new challenge. Short now and see the results pay off at December playoffs, when the audience decides whom to crown as champion.

Monday

Thirsty Scholar Comedy Night
Location: 70 Beacon St, Ward 2, Somerville
Time: 8 p.m.
Cost: Free
Level of comics: Established locals
Vibe: Weekly comedy show hosted by Garrett Finn in an old-school bar with seasoned locals. You can reserve your table ahead of time and have a chance to get on stage, but if you like the feeling of witnessing emerging comics find their rhythm, this is the spot. And the stage is pretty nice.

Warm Regards
Location: Az Nino Whiskey Bar, 1193 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge
Time: 9 p.m.
Cost: Free
Level of comics: New
Vibe: Weekly open mic at a fun, community-based bar that was once a police garage. The venue will be crowded mainly with other comics eager for their chance to get on stage, but if you like the feeling of witnessing emerging comics find their rhythm, this is the spot. And the stage is pretty nice.

Wednesday

The Comedy Support Group Open Mic
Location: The Middle East, 480 Massachusetts Ave., Central Square, Cambridge
Time: 8 p.m.
Cost: Free
Level of comics: New
Vibe: A weekly open mic at a fun, community-based bar that was once a police garage. The venue will be crowded mainly with other comics eager for their chance to get on stage, but if you like the feeling of witnessing emerging comics find their rhythm, this is the spot. And the stage is pretty nice.

Thursday

Hubbub Comedy Night
Location: Luminaires CA, 310 N. First St., North Point, Cambridge
Time: Doors at 7:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m.
Cost: $15 tickets online, $20 at the door
Level of comics: Established locals
Vibe: There’s more intimate and interactive vibe than usual at this Cambridge Crossing pub’s monthly comedy show (every second Thursday). Suffering marital anguish or irritable bowel syndrome? The comics have you covered, and they answer questions on stage.

Friday

Friday Night Improv Jam
Location: The Camel, 24 melville st., Cambridge
Time: 8 p.m.
Cost: Free
Level of comics: Established locals
Vibe: Enjoy cheap drinks and top-notch laughs with the veteran comedians at Duck Duck Goofs. There’s also a surprise musical guest each week at this snazzy abandoned classroom turned speakeasy.

Saturday

Musical Improv Comedy Jam
Location: The Green Room, 62 Bow St., Union Square, Somerville
Time: 3 to 4 p.m.
Cost: Free
Level of comics: New to established locals
Vibe: Ever wish you could write a song while already singing it? This troupe of improv comedians led by Michael Yang proves it can be done monthly, including July 29, with games open to the public.

The Jungle Comedy Showcase
Location: 5 Sanborn Court, Union Square, Somerville
Time: 3 to 7 p.m.
Cost: $10
Level of comics: Nationally recognized
Vibe: Peter Lau hosts some of Boston’s most seasoned and sharpest acts. Open mic is a place for experimentation, this is something for audiences opposed to rules: a place to see skilled comedians do all-but-guaranteed work.

Union Comedy Local 593
Location: 593 Somerville Ave., Somerville
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Cost: $15
Level of comics: Established locals
Vibe: It’s also on Saturday!

Comedy at Summer Shack
Location: 151 Alewife Brook Parkway, North Cambridge
Time: 7-10 p.m.
Cost: $12
Level of comics: Nationally recognized
Vibe: Lobster bisque and some of the best comedians in the country at this award-winning restaurant.

Af’er School Detention: Stand-Up Comedy
Location: Cambridge Community Centers, 5 Callender St., Riverside, Cambridge
Time: 8 and 10 p.m.
Cost: $15
Level of comics: Established locals
Vibe: Can’t get enough of Duck Duck Goofs? The portable club again offers cheap drinks and top-notch comics and a weekly surprise musical guest.

Union Comedy’s The Pickle
Location: 593 Somerville Ave., Somerville
Time: 7 p.m.
Cost: $15
Level of comics: Established locals
Vibe: In the brine of this comedy show is the hearty aroma of Boston’s best improv and the salt and sugar of performers visiting from across the country. The Pickle showcases a rotating guest storyteller each week, for a whole different kind of pickle.
You can share your vision for the future of Fort Washington Park at Saturday’s discussion

By BETH FOLSOM

For many residents of the Cambridgeport neighborhood, Fort Washington serves as a public park—often frequented largely by dog owners as a place to let their pets run off-leash. Fort Washington Park is the last remaining fortress from the Revolutionary War in Cambridge, but the park and neighborhood hold rich histories beyond the Revolutionary era. The park contains four cannons and earthworks pointing south toward the Charles River, a fortification that George Washington himself ordered be built. This station was used during the Revolutionary War, and has been through many stages and restorations since. These stages vary from public parks used by vendors and peddlers, a place for children to play, dog parks and more. In 1857, the deed to the property was acquired by the City of Cambridge, who transferred it to the city by the Hastings, Don, Willard and Bartlett families, who also endowed a fund of $800 for the management and upkeep of the park. The conditions named in this bequest include “that the above premises when suitably enclosed and advenced by said city, shall forever remain open for light, air, and adornment, for the convenience and accommodation of the owners of estates in said Pine Grove, and of the Public generally.” From the time it became a public space in the 1850s, the upkeep and proper use of the fort has been debated—hotly, at times. During the Civil War, local papers urged residents and city government to show appropriate reverence for the fort and invest in its upkeep. In the 1870s, editors and politicians supported marking the centennial of the Battle of Fort Washington and earthworks pointing south to the grassy embankments remain to give visitors a glimpse of the people who would have inhabited the fort at different times in its history. As part of our Year of Cambridgeport, History Cambridge has been exploring the fort’s history and its current uses. This past May, we held a live History Cafe in which historians, scholars and artists discussed the area’s past. On Saturday, we plan to public discussions about how local residents are using the park and how they envision it’s future. This community conversation will take place from 10 to noon at Fort Washington Park, 91 Waverly St. We welcome all who live or work in Cambridgeport to drop by for information, activities and snacks for humans and dogs, and to share visions for the Fort Washington of the future. To learn more about the fort and its history, visit at Fort Washington History Hub. For those who are unable to attend Saturday’s event, we welcome ideas by email at info@historycambridge.org.

Beth Folsom is programs manager for History Cambridge.
Workforce housing is critical if Cambridge will keep essential people

At community meetings and in discussions about development in Somerville, it is common to hear some longtime residents speak in favor of all-commercial development and against residential buildings, arguing that Somerville’s tax base – in which commercial properties made up just 16.65 percent of total value in fiscal 2023 – is out of balance.

Their position is anchored on assumptions in a report by financial consultant TischlerBise in 2017, which analyzes the cost of different kinds of development to the city. The resulting policy recommendations are most explicitly laid out by Bill Shelton in a 2019 essay that is still routinely circulated by city planners.

In it, Shelton states that residential units are a net negative for the city: Families with children require expensive schooling, while families without children, although they may bring net positive tax revenues, are undesirable because they do not contribute to the social fabric. Rather than scarcity, he says, “our greatest obstacle to housing affordability is insufficient commercial development.” Therefore, the city should limit the production of housing and focus on encouraging growth in our commercial tax base. With that new revenue, the city could reduce residential taxes or subsidize existing housing for homeless residents.

This overlooks a number of the ways Somerville needs commercial development to lower its rental tax burden. He points out that “Boston and Cambridge have more commercial development than they have more commercial property.”

Focusing on commercial in Somerville would be unwise

In reality, approximately two-thirds of Somerville housing is renter-occupied. Moreover, mixed-use development can place residents near retail, especially since more residents do use city services, they must plan the future of our city on a “recovery” strategy – the, among other things, is that there is no longer any parking requirement in 2020.

Insecurity in inclusionary housing rules still flabbergast

I wish I could say that the Cambridge Day’s Department’s inclusionary housing program has made changes in the past year ("Inclusionary housing rent calculations are un- fair", July 29, 2022). If they have, I haven’t seen them.

My husband and I have been renting in Cambridge for nearly a decade, but our economic disaster is flabbergasted by the inconsistencies that plague our yearly recertification process.

During our initial application period and before Covid, we were able to submit our renewal application in the first quarter of the year. Since our lease expired in midsummer, this provided ample time for documentation and housing choice. If we could not afford housing the next year, we had a few months to search.

This year, we were told that our paperwork was submitted “too early” to be processed. If CDD used the same rent calculation process as the Cambridge Housing Authority, our yearly renewal process would see a significant improvement.

I would be unacceptable for any private management company to withhold the rental fee during our renewal, but my experience has been the opposite. I have never had to pay any rent, I have not received a notice from our landlord, and our lease has expired without notice.

As the debate over affordable housing persists, it is worth noting that the position of public officials about housing has been vacillating since at least the past election cycle.

Sarah Cameron
Third Street
Wasps get into stinging confrontations with us when food runs short

By JEANINE FARLEY

There are 30,000 species of wasps. The vast majority (29,000) are solitary creatures that nest in the ground and are not likely to sting because they do not defend their nests. These wasps help keep insects and spider populations in check, and they avoid people whenever possible.

Contrast this behavior with social wasps such as yellowjackets, which do defend their nests. They live in colonies much like ants or honeybees. Most of the wasps in the colony are workers who gather food and care for the queen’s offspring.

A yellowjacket queen overwinters in a safe spot. In the spring, she emerges and builds a small nest with about 45 to 70 eggs that hatch into larvae. The queen feeds the larvae with insects and scavenged meat until some have matured into female workers. Then the workers take over all duties except egg laying. The queen lays more and more eggs, and the workers expand the nest, collect insects and meat to feed the new larvae, and defend the nest.

By late summer, the colony can have thousands of wasps. The queen stops laying eggs except for those that will become males and new queens. She no longer releases a chemical, called a pheromone, that elicits submissive behavior and keeps the workers working. Without this pheromone, the worker wasps no longer stay near the nest. Without enough larvae to feed and be fed by, the wasps scavenge for alternate food such as sugary drinks or fruits on picnic tables. Worker wasps at this time of year are near the end of their three-week life cycle, and they are hungry and aggressive.

Three late-summer worker wasps have few or no duties and spend their time searching for nectar and sugary meals, such as that watermelon at your cookout. If you panic and swat one, it releases alarm pheromone, the worker wasps no longer stay near the nest opening. A yellowjacket nest lasts for only one year. These wasps usually do not reuse old nests.

Wasps are beneficial creatures who seek out insects to feed their young. They feed their larvae crop-damaging insects such as aphids, beetles, fly maggots and cabbage worms. Without wasps, our planet would be overrun with insect pests.

These fertilized queens look for a safe place in which to overwinter, such as leaf litter, a hole in the ground, a hollow log, firewood or wall siding. Cold weather kills nests, but you often do not see them because they are in the ground, in a log or sometimes behind the walls of a building. You might see yellowjackets hovering near a hole in the ground, which is probably the nest opening. A yellowjacket nest lasts for only one year. These wasps usually do not reuse old nests.

By late summer or fall, hundreds of new queen wasps and male hatch. The queens grow fat in the colony before they leave. The males fly away and mate with new queens from other colonies. Then they die. The new queens store sperm in their reproductive tracts until they need it to fertilize eggs in the spring.

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As we all know, many yellowjackets have many glands, mostly on the head, that secrete pheromones to communicate important functions. Sex pheromones help males attract mates and mark territories. Alarm pheromones help wasps defend their nest. And queen pheromones signal the workers how to behave.

Jeanine Farley is an educational writer who has lived in the Boston area for more than 30 years. She enjoys taking photos of our urban wild things.