



WILD THINGS

Bobwhites, fragile little quails with a tendency to freeze, were once common in Massachusetts. Now you can spot them only occasionally.

Page 12

THE WEEK
NOV. 7-14, 2024
FREE | by CAMBRIDGE DAY



Marc Levy

Businesses such as the Sligo Pub closed in Somerville's Davis Square where development was anticipated.

Apartments planned again for Davis site

By ALYSSA CHEN

A Davis Square redevelopment project that has been in the works for five years has switched plans – again. Developer Copper Mill held a community meeting Oct. 30 at the Somerville Public Library explaining the likelihood of apartment construction on a stretch of Elm Street at Grove Street where lab and office space was most recently planned.

The decision is a return to the original intention of building a “residential, open-market building” when the properties, which includes the stretch of the north side of Elm Street from The Burren bar to Dragon Pizza, were leased to developer Scape in 2019.

Scape announced in 2022 plans for a four-story lab and office space instead of housing. Sligo Pub and Caramel French Patisserie, local businesses on the affected stretch, closed.

Andrew Flynn, the then-CEO of Scape North America, said at the time, “We consider ourselves in the first inning of this journey with eight or nine more innings to go.”

See HOUSING, Page 3

Affordable-condo buyers are in a bind as units break down

By SUE REINERT

Cambridge has been helping low- and moderate-income residents buy affordable homes for more than 30 years. Now many of those homes need extensive work, maintenance that’s too expensive for homeowners who remain lower-income. And some are looking for more city support to save their housing.

In October 2023, the city’s Affordable Housing Trust agreed to contribute \$3 million to replace the roof, siding and flashing on a 24-unit condominium building in The Port known as the Print Shop condominiums. (It was used for printing before it was developed into affordable housing in 2009.)

The \$3 million may not be enough. Condo owners, two city councillors and even Affordable Housing staff members said at a trust meeting last month that the building at 125 Harvard St. has other serious problems, including an elevator shut down by the fire department for safety reasons, seven vacant condos that aren’t in condition to be sold to new lower-income buyers and long-standing deterioration caused by leaks.

Meanwhile, condo fees have ballooned, owners are on the hook for several hundred dollar-assessments and more financial demands are on the horizon. “Ultimately, while the city has a stated and important goal of helping individuals reach homeownership, the reality is that due to the difficulties related to this property, living in these units has become unaffordable,” councillors Sumbul Siddiqui and Jivan Sobrinho-Wheeler said in a May 6 letter to the trust and City Manager Yi-An Huang. They wrote after meeting with condo owners.

See PRINT SHOP, Page 10

Code red

Turnout and Democratic vote drops; more go GOP even in two liberal cities

By MADELEINE AITKEN

Hopes were extinguished this week for Democratic wins in the White House, Senate or House of Representatives, but Massachusetts went reliably blue (61.3 percent, according to The Associated Press) and Cambridge and Somerville residents voted Tuesday in strong support of the Democratic presidential ticket of Kamala Harris and Tim Walz – no surprise in cities that have long leaned left.

In Cambridge, 46,891 voters cast ballots and 40,371 of them, or 86.1 percent, were for the Democrats, according to unofficial results posted at 1:20 a.m. Wednesday by the city’s Election Commission. The Republican ticket of Donald Trump and J.D. Vance were barely within view at 3,948 votes, or 8.4 percent. (There were 411 unresolved write-in ballots and some third parties who drew votes; the most went to Jill Stein’s Green Party candidacy.)

See TURNOUT, Page 4



Taylor Coester

Maureen Barillaro, an official warden at the Albert F. Argenziano School polling site in Somerville, wears patriotic tights and red cowgirl boots Tuesday in honor of Election Day.

INSIDE

News: Modified car exhausts that sound like gunfire risk lives when police speed to investigate, Somerville officials say.

Page 3

Attend: Remembering Boston Globe music critic Steve Morse, a gleeful promotor of local acts, who died Oct. 26.

Page 9

Business: Smoked burgers arrive as Bred opens in Cambridge, its second location.

Page 10



FILM AHEAD

A Harvard Film Archive’s “Psychedelic Cinema” series comes to a “Head” this week, literally, while the darkness of Noirvember gets rolling.

Page 8

EVENTS AHEAD

A memory tournament, Brazilian cooking and forró music, wild drag concepts, Joel Kim Booster’s “Rude Little Pig” and can-tab art.



Pages 6-7

MEETINGS NOV. 7-14

CAMBRIDGE

Multifamily zoning and Alewife planning

By MARC LEVY

Alewife area urban planning

Transit Advisory Committee, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Thursday. This meeting includes a 50-minute presentation on urban planning for the Alewife area, which has been re-zoned recently (in its Quadrangle section) and is the focus of a 30-acre redevelopment plan by the MBTA around the transit agency’s subway station parking garage. In the fourth-floor conference room of the City Hall Annex, 344 Broadway, Mid-Cambridge, and watchable by Zoom videoconferencing.

Honoring the city’s veterans

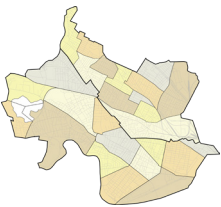
City of Cambridge Veterans Day observance event, 11 a.m. to noon Monday. Retired Justice Shannon Frison provides a keynote speech at the Civil War monument on Cambridge Common, near Harvard Square (rain location: the Sheraton Commander Hotel), followed by an informal gathering and free luncheon from noon to 3 p.m. in the Liberty Revolution Ballroom at the Sheraton Commander Hotel, 16 Garden St., next to Cambridge Common.

Net zero transportation plan

Net Zero Transportation Plan, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday. This approach to removing climate pollution from transportation and improving how we move around Cambridge will be described and draft actions discussed, and input will be collected from community members at this meeting held by Zoom videoconferencing and the next day in person (with food provided) at the Citywide Senior Center, 806 Massachusetts Ave., Central Square, Cambridge.

Ideas for multifamily zoning

Planning Board, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. It’s the board’s turn to consider revisions to a multifamily housing zoning proposal that could allow for construction of six-story buildings as of right in parts of the city where single-family homes are common. Watchable by Zoom videoconferencing.



◀ **Cambridge’s City Council** meets at 5:30 p.m. Mondays from January through June and from the second Monday in September through December at City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Ave., Central Square; televised and online.

Somerville’s School Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Monday of every month September through June at Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Central Hill; televised and online. ▶

◀ **Cambridge’s School Committee** meets at 6 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday from September through June and at 5 p.m. the first Tuesday in August at the Dr. Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, 459 Broadway, Mid-Cambridge; televised and online.

Somerville’s City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Central Hill; televised and online. ▶

SOMERVILLE

Veterans Day honors and drug use issues

By MATTHEW SAGE

Housing over Lyndell’s; lab plan

Planning Board, 6 p.m. Thursday. The board hears developers hoping to continue work on a nine-story lab building next to McGrath Highway approved two years ago and from DiCamillo Associates on plans to build 30 apartments, including six affordable units, atop Lyndell’s Bakery, an iconic establishment at 720 Broadway, Ball Square. Watchable via videoconferencing.

Honors for city’s veterans

Veterans Day Commemoration, 2:30 to 3 p.m. Monday. A ceremony honors veterans at Milk Row Cemetery, 439 Somerville Ave., near Union Square.

Somernova expansion process

Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; 1:30 to 4 p.m.; and 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday. Somerville is updating zoning with resident feedback to address the potential expansion of Somernova, a 7.4-acre campus hosting tech startups and artists. Three meetings (the first on civic space; the second on mobility; the third combining the two topics) to help create a path forward for the project will be held at Somernova, 8 Tyler St., Ward 2.

City Council addresses crisis

Public Health and Public Safety Committee, 6 p.m. Tuesday. This City Council committee discusses allocating more resources to addressing a growing homelessness crisis. Several city councilors seek updates on such programs as the city’s warming centers, future overdose prevention site and drug use prevention in Davis Square. Watchable via videoconferencing.

An addition to Assembly Row

Planning, Preservation and Zoning, 7 p.m. Wednesday. Learn about updated designs – in the works for more than half a decade – for the triangular Block 9 in the outskirts of Assembly Row called 275 Foley St. Plans call for more than 200,000 square feet of office space with retail. The team provides an overview and offers an opportunity for community input. Watchable via videoconferencing.

THE WEEK

by CAMBRIDGE DAY

Published Thursdays
Cambridge Media Systems
3 Potter Park, No. 1
Cambridge 02138
(617) 230-9632

Cambridgeday.com

Consider joining **Bluesky** social media, where posts and updates are at [cambridgeday.bsky.social](#). Please let us know you’re local!

[Facebook.com/CambridgeDay](#)

Editor
Marc Levy
editor@cambridgeday.com

For coverage of films, cinema events and repertory series:
Film editor Tom Meek at Thom3@aol.com

Join in the mission of covering Cambridge and Somerville as a writer, editor or in a support role. Contact the editor by phone or email to talk about the possibilities.

Please make contact with news tips or to express concerns about published material you consider to be in error of fact, quote or context.

Letters for publication
forpublication
@cambridgeday.com

Communications not for publication
notforpublication
@cambridgeday.com

Listings
events@cambridgeday.com

Advertising
advertising
@cambridgeday.com

Cambridge is mainly politically progressive; embracing of science and reason; and welcoming – and protective – of the diversity of humanity, and Cambridge Day tends to reflect the mores of its community. Its reporting is fact-based, with a separate section for expression of opinions, and all voices are welcome in its pages.

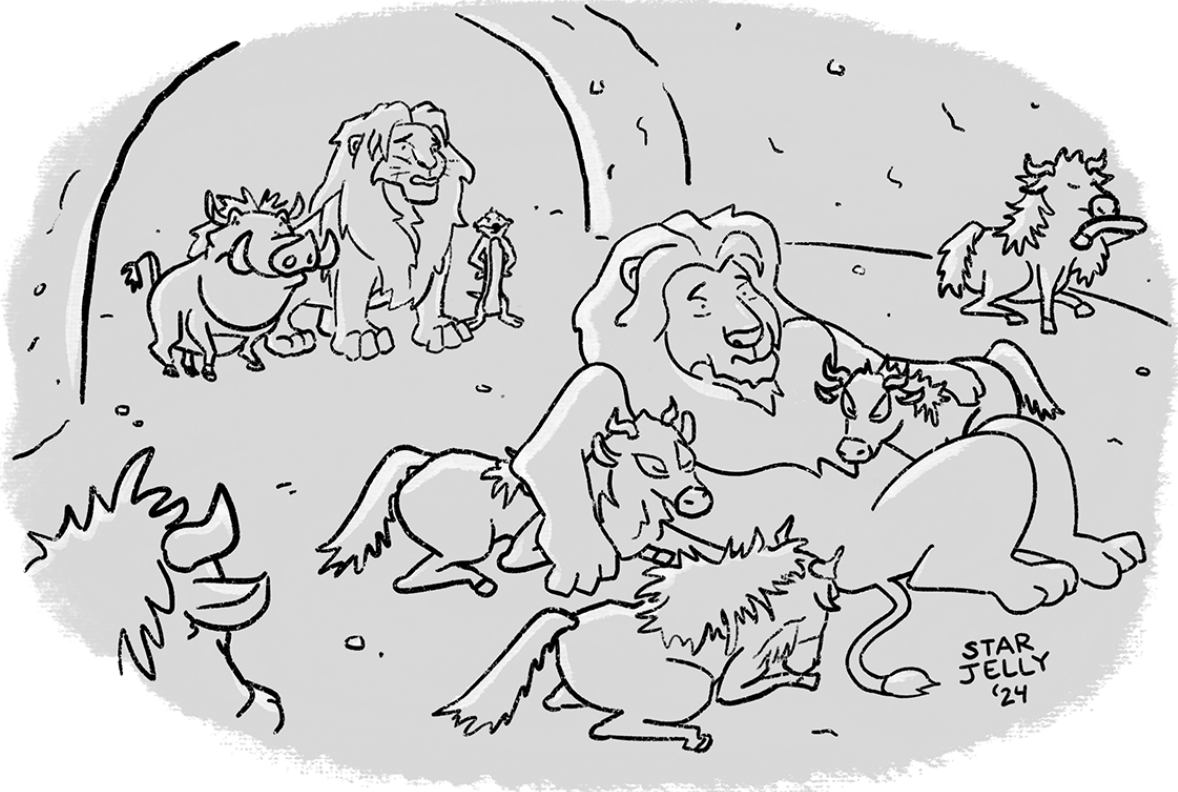
Publishing
TCI Press, Seekonk

Distribution
EDS Distribution, Boston
Fernando Alves (781) 801-9457

The Week by Cambridge Day publishes with gratitude for Jason Pramas of the **Somerville Media Fund** and Chris Faraone of the **Boston Institute of Nonprofit Journalism; Cambridge Local First**; and contributors to the website Blink donation box and GoFundMe campaign.

Star Jelly Comics

See more at [instagram.com/starjellycomics/](https://www.instagram.com/starjellycomics/)



“DAD?”



Oscar Sutton via Unsplash

Street cars’ exhaust systems can be modified to sound like gunfire and shoot sparks.

Police warning: Car exhaust mods that mimic shots put lives at risk

By JULIA WEEKS

Drivers are modifying their car exhaust systems to sound like gunfire – and unsurprisingly, police are not happy about it.

The realistic-sounding modifications are illegal and “cause panic in the community,” Somerville police said in a press release Oct. 25 posted to department social media but not to the SPD website.

A rigged car exhaust system triggered a gunfire-detection system alert on Oct. 23 near Foss Park. The modifications are risky because “officers respond to such calls with greater speed, and even though they try to keep the greater speeds reasonable with respect to public safety and the amount of traffic they encounter, the risk of an accident while responding is increased,” police said.

Were officers responding to Oct. 23’s false alarm involved in a collision or near-collision that prompted the alert? City spokesperson Grace Munns said the press release was only a general caution and not tied to a specific police incident. The false gunfire heard on Fellsway West was the second confirmed time it has happened, Munn said, after an incident at Broadway and Temple Street about four blocks west, also in the Ten Hills neighborhood.

The modifications, which can be called a “burble tune,” “straight piping” or “two-steps,” adjust a car’s timing, usually through its internal computer, so fuel ignites in the muffler instead of in the engine. In addition to the gunfirelike noises, sparks might shoot out a modified car’s tailpipes.

Sound Thinking, the maker of the ShotSpotter technology, has held a contract with the city of Somerville since 2016. The service is advertised as “AI-driven technology” that “locates shootings in seconds to protect the community.” It has faced scrutiny from the public and professionals who question its value and whether the placement of detectors can show racial bias.

The ACLU urged the city in March to end its contract with Sound Thinking, calling ShotSpotter “an expensive [and] unreliable system.” A letter submitted to the City Council described several sounds that may trigger the activation of ShotSpotter, including a car backfiring. In cases cited by the civil rights group, it was merely a car starting or revving up that triggered the activation that was seemingly not reclassified by analysts.

School search set a deadline that violated forgotten rule

By DANIELLE HOWE

There has been a hiccup in the search for a permanent schools superintendent in Cambridge, but this time the result was to move a goalpost closer.

Since the ousting of superintendent Victoria Greer in May, parents in the district have called for clarity as the search for a permanent replacement has been delayed. Chief operating officer David Murphy took over as Interim superintendent July 1, with an appointment duration between 90 days to one year.

Little was determined at an Oct. 15 meeting that included a presentation on process by Massachusetts Association of School Committees executive director Glenn Koocher, but members reasserted December 2025 as the deadline to select a candidate.

Amid calls for answers at an Oct. 29 meeting of the School Committee, Mayor E. Denise Simmons encouraged members to pace themselves. “This is just one of many meetings that we’re going to have, so I don’t want to feel precious that we have to walk out of this meeting with something,” Simmons said.

The lack of urgency dissipated when Caroline Turk, Simmons’ education liaison who served as deputy superintendent for 21 years, brought to light a previously overlooked rule of the School Committee.



Julia Levine

Cambridge School Committee member Elizabeth Hudson.

Section 17 of the rulebook asserts that no recommendations or appointments are to be made after the date of the biennial election of the committee, which will fall on Nov. 4, 2025 – a month before the committee planned to settle on a decision.

Members of the committee leaped to determine a new timeline, with member José Luis Rojas Villarreal offering up a plan that has the position filled by mid-October based on getting a list of finalists Sept. 10 from a deadline for applications at the end of August. The finalists would be interviewed over a week, leaving a month for decision-making. Member Elizabeth Hudson pushed back, describing it as “needlessly late” because it lacks a buffer for unexpected delays.

“I would advocate strongly for not

shoving it all into seven weeks when we have a year,” she said, instead she recommended that they start the process now so there’s time to talk with a candidate, “go visit their district, to dig into something that they say, to look into something that comes up in a background check.”

Member Richard Harding agreed that taking advantage of the time they have is best practice. “This is the biggest job probably in the state in terms of profile for a superintendency, and everybody knows how the last one ended,” Harding said.

Questioning the worst case-scenario, member Rachel Weinstein asked if they were able to change the rule that forces a hire before Election Day. “We can change the rules at any time we want, that’s just the reality of what it

is,” said Harding, but Simmons was quick to discourage the action, which in her words “would not look good.”

The negotiated resignation of Greer and backlash on the district promised to inform hiring practices in this round. Members of the committee have emphasized the importance of constituent involvement in the process, as well as the need for a clear, public timeline. “We are going to have a rabid public that’s looking for us to take care of this,” Harding said.

The committee planned a special meeting Tuesday to confirm the search timeline and decide on strategies for public engagement. The following week, at a Nov. 19 regular meeting of the committee, they expect to announce that their search has begun officially.

Housing is likely to replace stalled labs, but not until at least 2028

From Page 1

Indeed, the project stalled for two more years. In September 2023, Scape exited the project, and Copper Mill, a development company that Flynn started, took over the ground lease. Now, with vacancies in Boston’s overabundant lab spaces after a Covid-era boom, Copper Mill sees building housing once again as the best path forward.

The process is still early, with no set timeline for construction, although Flynn said active construction “certainly won’t be within the next 12 months, but we all hope it’s also not five years from now.” Construction would have an 18- to 24-month timeline, putting a possible opening in 2028.

The project isn’t starting overly entirely, though, as much of the work Scape did toward designing ground-floor retail was liked by residents and developers and can be adapted for the upcoming project, Flynn said.

A rezoning affecting Davis Square means that whereas Scape could have built housing by right, Copper Mill will instead need to apply for a special permit. The rezoning reflected the will of the people at the time, said Tom Galligani, executive director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development. But times have changed, partially because more people are working from home. That changes the business patterns around them.

“When we were engaging with folks for three or four or five years ago, there was a clear, consistent desire to only allow commercial development in the core,” Galligani said. “They felt that would increase the daytime population to support the existing businesses that



Marc Levy

Andrew Flynn of Copper Mill development speaks at an Oct. 30 meeting at the Somerville Public Library.

are wholly dependent on nighttime and weekend business. As we went to reengage with folks over the last year, we heard a different message. Not surprisingly, people have recognized that the world has changed.”

The decision to build housing is driven by the poor lab space market and great need for housing in Somerville, Flynn explained at a second community meeting for the site. It was attended by an audience of a couple of dozen people heavy with Copper Mill employees and city staff.

Other options considered were building a space for an electric vehicle battery company and waiting until lab

spaces were more in demand. Neither seemed viable, Flynn said.

“The two main principles we took away” from the last community meeting, Flynn said, “were that housing is a priority and the location in Davis Square to build meaningful housing is something that seems to make sense.”

It is unknown how many stories a project might rise and how many apartments would be built. To be financially feasible, it would likely need to be more than 50 units, Flynn said. City zoning calls for 20 percent of new residential construction to be affordable.

“There’s such an undersupply of housing that producing any housing

is going to help a little bit,” Galligani said. “I feel the urgency ... because I know we don’t have anything in the pipeline in the next couple years.”

Flynn emphasized his desire for the development to be genuinely a collaborative process. “Developers have earned a not-so-great reputation over the years through their actions,” Flynn said. “They design a building, shove it down a neighborhood’s throat. We’re mindful of that dynamic. We are truly committed to being different.”

Community members brought questions around parking, preserving the character of Davis Square’s storefronts and more to an early stage of a project with no decisions made.

Copper Mill is prepared to build with no parking but is open to finding a balance, Flynn said. “We all want to live in a world where there’s no parking, but we’re just not there yet,” he said. “So no parking would be too extreme. I think our view is we would probably try to find the right sweet spot.” Building underground parking is expensive and complicated by local water tables, but Flynn said one level of public underground parking looked feasible – up to 100 spaces.

One attendee brought concerns over “preserving the eclectic fabric of the square.” In response, Flynn said that small size of the retail store spaces will likely steer franchises such as CVS away.

Galligani noted that the square also has zoning in place against “formula” businesses – what most people know as chain stores such as the McDonald’s and Family Dollar stores that were once on Elm. (“We paid McDonald’s to leave,” property owner Alan Dana told the meeting.)

METRO

The ballot questions of 2024

By MADELEINE AITKEN

Cambridge and Somerville residents who voted Tuesday cast ballots for ballot questions on topics ranging from high school testing to legalizing the use of some psychedelic substances. All won locally, but two lost statewide: legalizing psychedelic substances and increasing the minimum wage of tipped employees.

Massachusetts voters were asked five questions in common and some limited to specific communities.

Question 1 Auditing the Legislature The state auditor will get explicit authority to audit the state Legislature. **WIN**

Statewide
Yes 71.5% **No** 28.5%

Cambridge votes 42,779
Yes 31,975 (74.7%)
No 10,804 (25.3%)

Somerville votes 35,954
Yes 27,424 (76.3%)
No 8,530 (23.7%)

Question 2 MCAS Eliminating the use of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System test as a requirement for high school graduation. **WIN**

Statewide
Yes 59% **No** 41%

Cambridge votes 44,844
Yes 24,946 (55.6%)
No 19,898 (44.4%)

Somerville votes 37,300
Yes 23,618 (63.3%)
No 13,682 (36.7%)

Question 3 Rideshare driver unions Labor representation would be allowed for drivers for companies such as Uber and Lyft. The vote would not apply to delivery network drivers, such as employees of DoorDash and Instacart. **WIN**

Statewide
Yes 53.8% **No** 46.2%

Cambridge votes 43,873
Yes 32,721 (74.6%)
No 11,152 (25.4%)

Somerville votes 36,804
Yes 27,864 (75.7%)
No 8,940 (24.3%)

Question 4 Psychedelics People 21 and older could use the natural psychedelics psilocybin, psilocyn, dimethyltryptamine, mescaline and ibogaine under supervision; and be allowed to grow, use and distribute personal-use amounts. A commission would oversee it. **LOSS**

Statewide
No 57% **Yes** 43%

Cambridge votes 44,086
Yes 25,083 (56.9%)
No 19,003 (43.1%)

Somerville votes 37,165
Yes 24,464 (65.8%)
No 12,701 (34.2%)

Question 5 Higher wages for tipped staff Raise the minimum wage for tipped employees to \$15 an hour (from \$6.75) by 2029 and allow pooled tips to be shared with cooks and other nonmanagement staff once all employees are paid minimum wage. **LOSS**

Statewide
No 64.3% **Yes** 35.7%

Cambridge votes 44,113
Yes 28,057 (63.6%)
No 16,056 (36.4%)

Somerville votes 37,161
Yes 21,914 (59%)
No 15,247 (41%)

erendum for two state representative districts contained partially in Cambridge: Would constituents want Daniel Ryan and David Rogers to “vote for legislation to create a single-payer system of universal health care”? There were 4,546 ballots cast on the question, with a majority of voters saying yes (3,523, or 77.5 percent), outweighing the no votes (1,023, or 22.5 percent).

Statewide results below are from The Associated Press.

A longer version of this article is at bit.ly/40y7hNq.

Turnout dropped as voters spoke of election’s importance

From Page 1

According to unofficial results from Somerville’s Elections Commission, there were 38,606 ballots cast in the election and the Democratic ticket of Harris-Walz got 32,047, or 83 percent of ballots, while the Republican ticket of Trump-Vance got 4,435 votes, or 11.5 percent of the vote.

Yet in each city, turnout was down – in Cambridge by nearly 15 percent from the turnout of 55,039 in the election four years ago and in Somerville by nearly 9 percent, to a turnout of 38,606 from 42,379. There was also less Democratic enthusiasm, with Cambridge votes for Harris-Walz dropping by 5.2 percentage points from the Democratic win four years ago of Joe Biden and Harris. Somerville saw a drop of 4.4 percentage points. Republican votes rose 2 percentage points in Cambridge and 1.4 percentage points in Somerville, according to the unofficial results.

There was little hint of this Tuesday afternoon. Leaving the polls, many people spoke of the possibility that America could soon have its first female president, and there was plenty of Harris-Walz merch being worn or toted along with red, white and blue garb complemented by “I voted” stickers.

In voting for several statewide ballot questions, things look more liberal:

There were lopsided wins for several things, including ending MCAS standardized tests as a graduation requirement and rideshare driver unionizing. (All won in Cambridge and Somerville, but two lost statewide: legalizing psychedelic substances and increase minimum wage of tipped employees.)

But while some voters said they were Harris fans who genuinely liked her statements and ideas, others chose her only because they don’t like former president Donald Trump.

We spoke with voters at two Somerville voting sites, the Albert F. Argenziano School and the East Somerville Community School, and two Cambridge voting sites, City Hall and the Morse School, to take their temperature Election Day.

Fervor for Harris

Peggy Kociubes, who voted early, said her choice was “never in question.” Likewise, Sam Seidel, 58, said he didn’t consider any other candidates.

“As Liz Cheney said, this one isn’t even close, but I would’ve voted for [Harris] anyway,” said Seidel at the Argenziano School. “To say [Trump]’s dangerous doesn’t even get close to what he is. Some of our military leaders have called him fascist in his thinking.”

Caitlyn Murphy, 39, voting at the East Somerville Community School,



Taylor Coester

Signs support ballot question 4 as well as presidential candidate Kamala Harris and running mate Tim Walz at a home in Somerville on Tuesday. Neither the candidates nor the question won.

described Harris as “a good human, not a racist, not a misogynist,” referring to her as “my girl!”

“The choice just couldn’t be more clear, in my opinion. It’s not a Republican-Democrat thing, because I have voted for both in my life,” Murphy said. “It’s about decency and depravity. I don’t want to quote her rallies, but she’s got a to-do list and he has an enemies list.”

Isabelle Hurley, a 23-year-old researcher, was at the Argenziano School voting for Harris “because of women’s rights and everyone’s rights.”

Voting against Trump

Some voters were less excited about the Democratic ticket but wound up making the same calculation.

For Matthew Ochlis, 25, the explanation is simple: “I voted for Harris because I really don’t like Trump,” he said on his way out from voting at ESCS.

Jason Sachs, 59, called Trump “divisive and not good for this country.” His wife Elif, 58, with whom he was voting at ESCS, said, “The other side of the ticket is a joke.”

“The alternative is terrifying to me and to people I love and people I don’t know yet,” said Casey Cross Zussman, 43, who voted at City Hall in Cambridge. Seidel said it would be a “very scary time for America”; the sentiment came up a lot.

Murphy, who works as an eighth-grade public school science teacher in Everett, would fear for her students, as well as herself. “We have a big immi-

grant and low-income population, and I’m nervous about what could happen to them and their families,” Murphy said. “And as a woman and as someone who supports women, I’m nervous about health care.”

Voters referred to recent descriptions of Trump as fascist by John Kelly, the longest-serving chief of staff in Trump’s White House. Kathy Aluia, 63, who was voting at ESCS, said the Republican party has shifted, becoming a “fascist party,” a thought mirrored by Kyle Amgan, 34: “My rationale was that I didn’t want to vote for a person who’s fascist.”

Maya Israelsson, an 18-year-old student voting for the first time at the Morse School in Cambridge, said she “probably wouldn’t go to school tomorrow out of sadness” if Trump wins.

Issues with Harris

Some Harris voters made their decisions begrudgingly. Molly Farust-Wylie, 42, who was voting at the Argenziano School, said she voted for Harris “honestly, mostly to keep Donald Trump out of office.”

“My values are not necessarily totally aligned with where the party is, so it was a difficult choice,” Farust-Wylie said.

Much of her decision was informed by a desire to protect reproductive rights – nine years ago, she had an ectopic pregnancy that ruptured, almost killing her. “Basically everything he stands for, I do not,” Farust-Wylie said.

But she’s also “not very excited”

about Harris as a candidate. She’s taken issue with the current administration’s handling of the Palestinian conflict, as well as Harris’ response on the campaign trail. “I’ve been really disappointed that she has not spoken up for the people of Palestine and now Lebanon,” said Farust-Wylie, who identified herself as Jewish. “We need to have an arms embargo ... the endless checks need to stop.”

Amgan, who works in sustainability, said Harris “needs some work on her policies,” but voted for her as a “vote against Trump more than anything else.” If Trump won, he would be upset, including from a sustainability perspective, on which Trump’s policies “set the U.S. back 30 to 40 years.”

“That’s a major concern of mine, and it’s also a reason I’m not as optimistic as I would like to be about the Harris administration,” Amgan said.

Other candidates and methods

Voting in her first election, Hailey Pefine, 19, who works at Mass General, voted for Trump. She believes she was better off four years ago, that life “was better when he was in office.”

“I don’t really like Kamala, I don’t really like the things she says,” Pefine said. “I think a lot of people are voting for her because of abortions, and I don’t think that’s the only thing we need in this country.”

She’s “not really” confident that Trump will win. But she said it was still important to her to vote for him.

Daphne Jochnick, 57, also declined to vote for Harris. She chose the Green Party candidate, Stein, as part of an initiative called Swap Your Vote.

“I was matched with somebody in a swing state who agreed to vote for Kamala Harris if two people in Massachusetts, a safe state, voted for their preference, Jill Stein,” Jochnick explained.

She has voted third party in the past, because like Farust-Wylie, she isn’t always pleased with Democrats. “In this situation, it would be really hard, given the genocide, for me to be voting for Kamala,” Jochnick said.

Farust-Wylie considered voting for a third party candidate or swapping her vote too.

“Those were things that I really wrestled with and had a lot of long conversations with people about,” Farust-Wylie said.

A longer version of this article is at bit.ly/40y7hNq.

LYRACLE’S
FALL ‘24 CONCERT

AT HOME
IN SWEDEN

Sat Nov 10 | 3pm
Somerville Music Spaces

Welcome the sweater weather and cozy up with tea and cookies to enjoy 17th century music and dance for a Swedish living room!

Tickets & More Info: tinyurl.com/svmz6a4w



Harvard
Art Museums

Be Immersed



Explore over 50 galleries
Free every day

Open Tuesday to Sunday,
10am–5pm

EVENTS AHEAD NOV. 7-14

Somerville Theatre's Crystal Ballroom, 55 Davis Square

8 p.m. Nov. 10

Boston's Biggest Drag Dunce

\$18 to \$30 and 18-plus. It's a race to the bottom during this one-night comedy competition of drag buffoonery in which illustrious simpletons engage in camp and slapstick and the most stupidly excellent takes the crown (er... the sparkling dunce cap).

Porter Square Books, 1815 Massachusetts Ave., Porter Square, Cambridge

7 p.m. Nov. 11

Aaron Mahnke reads from "Cabinet of Curiosities"

Free. The podcast producer has selected from his show and put into print his favorite tales of the wonderful, astounding and downright bizarre people, places and things throughout history. Writer Christopher Golden joins.

7 p.m. Nov. 12

Nigel Hamilton reads from "Lincoln vs. Davis: The War of the Presidents"

Free. From the New York Times bestselling presidential biographer comes a riveting untold story of the Civil War: how two American presidents faced off, militarily, as the fate of the nation hung in the balance – and how Abraham Lincoln came to embrace emancipation as the last, best change to save the Union.

7:30 p.m. Nov. 12

Joel Kim Booster's "Rude Little Pig"

\$30. The Chicago-bred, Los Angeles–based stand-up comedian, writer and actor's first comedy special for Netflix, called "Psychosexual," was named one of the best comedy specials of 2022 by Variety. He currently plays the role of Nicholas, Maya Rudolph's quirky assistant, on the Apple TV+ series "Loot."

8 p.m. Nov. 8-16
Theatre@First, Unity
Somerville, 6 William St.,
Somerville

"Water by the Spoonful" play performance

\$20 to \$25. In Quiara Alegria Hudes' play, Elliot, an Iraq veteran, and his cousin, Yaz, plan their beloved activist aunt's funeral while Elliot's mother, a recovering addict, finds hope and purpose.

4 to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 14

Adolphus Busch Hall, 27 Kirkland St.,
near Harvard Square, Cambridge

"Orwell's Ghosts: Wisdom and Warnings for the Twenty-First Century"

Free. American University professor Laura Beers critiques the ways George Orwell's writings are used and abused in political debate. Boston University professor Arianne Chernock joins.

7 p.m. Nov. 11

Harvard Science Center, 1 Oxford St.,
near Harvard Square, Cambridge

"The Science of Brazilian Cuisine" with Alex Atala

Free. The Science and Cooking Public Lecture Series brings in the chef and owner of D.O.M. restaurant in São Paulo, rated fourth-best restaurant in the world by the Pellegrino World's 50 Best Restaurants in 2012.

6 to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 7

Center for Government and International
Studies Knafel Building, 1737 Cambridge St.,
Baldwin neighborhood near Harvard Square,
Cambridge

Martin Puchner on "The Case for Cultural Appropriation"

Free. The Harvard comparative literature professor argues that, while well-intentioned, the theory of cultural appropriation disregards the fundamental role of exchange in how cultures develop and thrive; he proposes an alternative way of avoiding exploitation, one more in keeping with the history of culture.

7:30 p.m. Nov. 12-13

Club Passim, 47 Palmer St.,
Harvard Square, Cambridge

Zachariah Hickman's Power Outage Party

\$40. "No mics, no sound system, no stage lights – just a bunch of your favorite musicians together in the room with you, playing unamplified, with just candles and lanterns to light the way." And no worries, Salesforce is still up and running to take your ticket order (but hurry, the Friday and Saturday shows sold out fast).

Grolier Poetry Book Shop on 6 Plympton St., Harvard Square, Cambridge

7 to 8 p.m. Nov. 7

Poets Darius Atefat-Peckham, Sarah Kearsey and Raisa Tolchinsky

\$5 to \$10, but register. With an introduction by Alex Braslavsky.

7 to 8 p.m. Nov. 13

Poets Kiran Bath, Jen Funk, Sebastian Merrill and Megan Pinto

\$5 to \$10, but register. With an introduction by Katerina Zadé.

1 to 2:30 p.m. Nov. 9

Mass Audubon Nature Center at Magazine Beach,
668 Memorial Drive, Cambridgeport

Foraging for nuts

Free, but register and adults only. Explore the tree canopy and ground to find out why nuts are so important to the health of a habitat and discover the animals who eat oak acorns, linden nutlets, honey locust pods and more (and which humans can use too).

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 10

Summer Shack, 149 Alewife Brook
Parkway, Alewife, Cambridge

"Jurassic Park" drag brunch

\$20. Host Kori King and all of your favorite "Jurassic Park" characters will be there (yes, there will be dinosaurs).

7:30 p.m. Nov. 14-Dec. 8

Central Square Theater,
Cambridge, 450 Massachusetts
Ave., Central Square, Cambridge

"Galileo's Daughter"

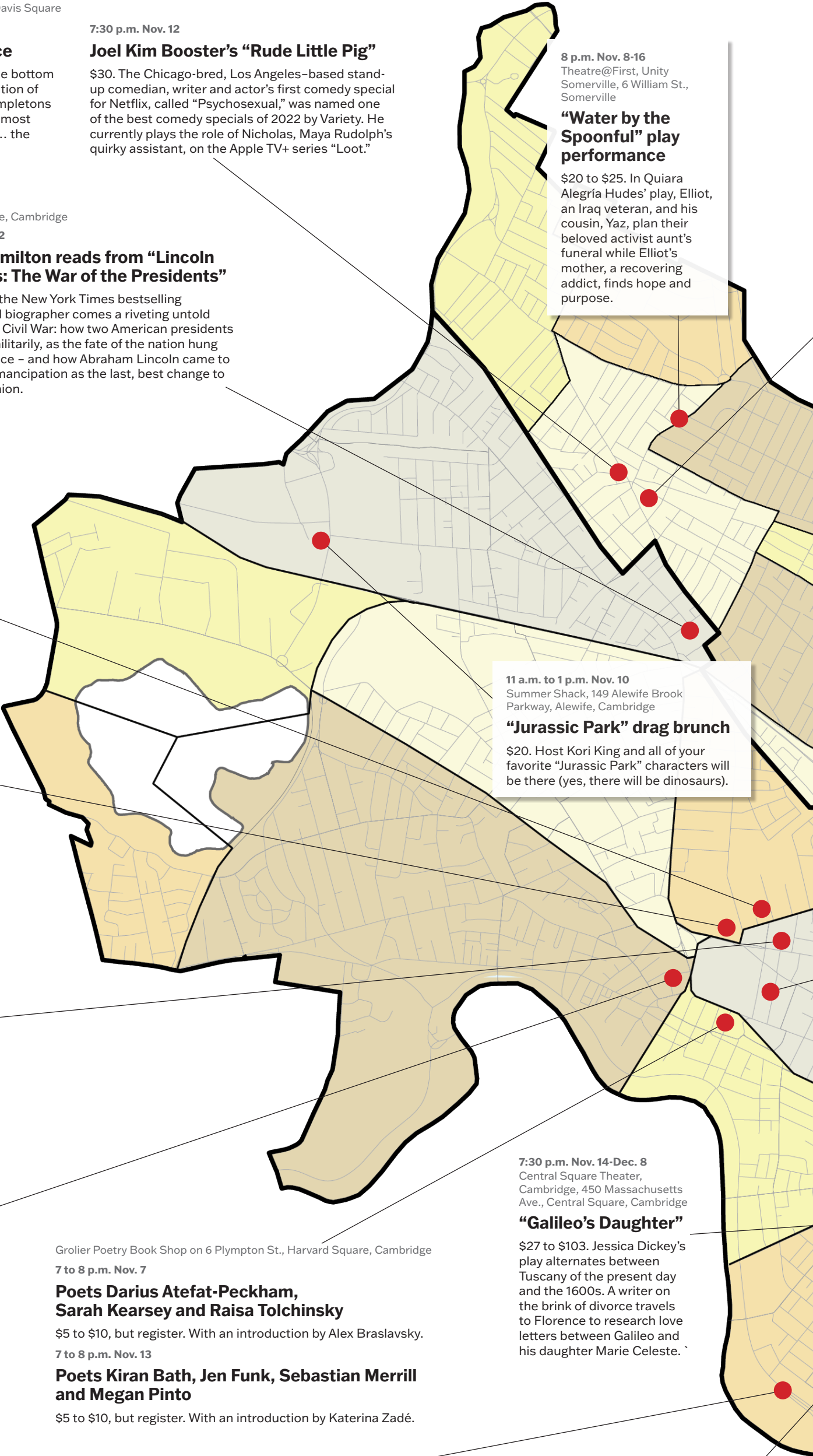
\$27 to \$103. Jessica Dickey's play alternates between Tuscany of the present day and the 1600s. A writer on the brink of divorce travels to Florence to research love letters between Galileo and his daughter Marie Celeste.

4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 10

St. Augustine's African Orthodox Christian
Church, 137 Allston St., Cambridgeport

Movement, Music and Poetry

Free. Dancing, live music and spoken word poetry from Jimena Bermejo, Judson Evans, Sakurako Kanemitsu and Alli Ross. Participation is optional. Sponsored by Black History in Action.



■ List your cultural happenings at events@cambridgeday.com.



The Rockwell, 255 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville

7 p.m. Nov. 8

The Jar presents “One Nighter with Adobo-Fish-Sauce”

\$60 for a jar of six tickets, and 21-plus. Anthony Febo and Ricky Orng fuse live cooking and spoken poetry for this interactive storytelling experience (includes finger food samples). Per the “convener model” of this Boston nonprofit, you buy six tickets, two of which you give to people outside of your circle but you’d like to know better.

7, 8:30 and 10 p.m. Nov. 14-16

Union Improv Festival

\$12 to \$15, or \$96 for a three-day pass. Improv comedy from Boston, New York City, Chicago, Rhode Island, Florida and more, with a lineup of multiple comics for each time slot.

Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave., Somerville

7:30 p.m. Nov. 8

“My Momma Told Me”

\$25. Comedians Langston Kerman and David Gborie record their podcast that dives into a wide range of Black conspiracy theories.

2:15 to 4:45 p.m. Nov. 10

Circus Up 2024 Benefit

\$10 to \$40. Live performance by the Boston-area circus troupe Kirkos, made up of young people from underserved communities, as well as local artists and dancers. Benefits the Circus Up nonprofit that has provided community-based social circus programs for youth for six years. Includes treats from Moonshine 152, refreshments, a scavenger hunt and a raffle.

7:30 p.m. Nov. 12

“Charles Coe’s Cricket Symphony”

\$20 to \$25. The Boston poet and musician reads from a new collection with musical accompaniment traversing jazz, gospel, pop, Americana, funk and improvisation, including original works by Cambridge composer, saxophonist and flutist Ken Field.

7:30 p.m. Nov. 13

Comedian Paul Chowdry

\$34. We’re the fourth stop on a debut North American tour by the British Indian stand-up comedian, actor and writer. Yes, by all means let New York City, Chicago and Toronto stress test any jokes about our recent election. Happy to oblige!

4 p.m. Nov. 10

The Press Room at 90 Oxford St., in the Spring Hill neighborhood, Somerville

Poets Eliot Cardinaux and James Cook

\$5 suggested donation. This time for his Xit the Bear Readings, Michael Franco brings Eliot Cardinaux, who’s founded an independent publishing house for poetry and a record label for jazz and improvised music, and James Cook, poet at large in Gloucester. On the walls, through December, are paintings and drawings by Thorpe Feidt.

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 14

Aeronaut Brewing, 14 Tyler St., near Union Square, Somerville

Mandy Rosengren’s “The 12 Pack” exhibition opening reception

Free, but RSVP. The Somerville engineer and artist depicts the shift of humans from hunters to shoppers with “reimagined hunters’ trophies” created from wire and (discarded) soda tabs. On display through January 6.

8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Nov. 9

Lusitania Recreation Club, 44 Fifth St., East Cambridge

Forróloween with accordionist Léo Magalhães

\$25 to \$30. A belated Halloween costume party with lots of Brazilian forró. Wanderson Terterelho, founder of Os Forrozeiros Dance Group, teaches an all-levels forró class at 8:30 p.m. followed by social dancing with DJ Fantasma at 9:30 p.m. and then Magalhães performing with Beto Camará and Tarciso Alves at 10 p.m.

10 a.m. to noon Nov. 9

The Foundry, 101 Rogers St., East Cambridge

“Community Grafting Project: Science, Art, Social Experiment, Joy” exhibition activities

Free. In conjunction with the show on view at Gallery 344 in Mid-Cambridge, watch demos of green woodworking by artist Mitch Ryerson; try an apple-themed treat by chef Nate Phinisee; printing on paper by artists Karyn Brotman and Janet Buck; and mushroom inoculation by Tyler Akabane, forager and owner of Somerville’s The Mushroom Shop.

6 to 9 p.m. Nov. 14

The MIT Museum, 314 Main St., Kendall Square, Cambridge

After Dark Series: Junk

\$10 to \$20 and 21-plus. The art and science of junk: Rock music performed on bicycles; fashion and design from chopsticks and banana crop waste; a Footwear Collective special installation; and kintsugi-inspired collage making from MIT campus “junk.” Plus, Peter Mui from Fixit Clinic talks about designing for durability. Dumplings from Mei Mei and brews from Aeronaut are available for purchase.

5:15 to 6 p.m. Nov. 12

Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Building 2, also known as The Simons Building, 182 Memorial Drive, Cambridge

“Editing Tolkien” with Wayne G. Hammond & Christina Scull

Free. The husband-and-wife team behind several essential books in Tolkien studies – and a combined chronology and encyclopedia of his work – discuss editing the writer’s children’s stories and poems during this Ancient & Medieval Studies Colloquium.

various times Nov. 7-8

MIT Building 7, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge

Infinite Solar System Walking Tour

Free, but register. Explore MIT’s Infinite Corridor with professor Richard P. Binzel, who guides participants along a model of the solar system and brings to life the immense scale of space. The tour also highlights MIT’s contributions to our understanding of the cosmos.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Kresge Auditorium, 48 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge

8 p.m. Nov. 7-9

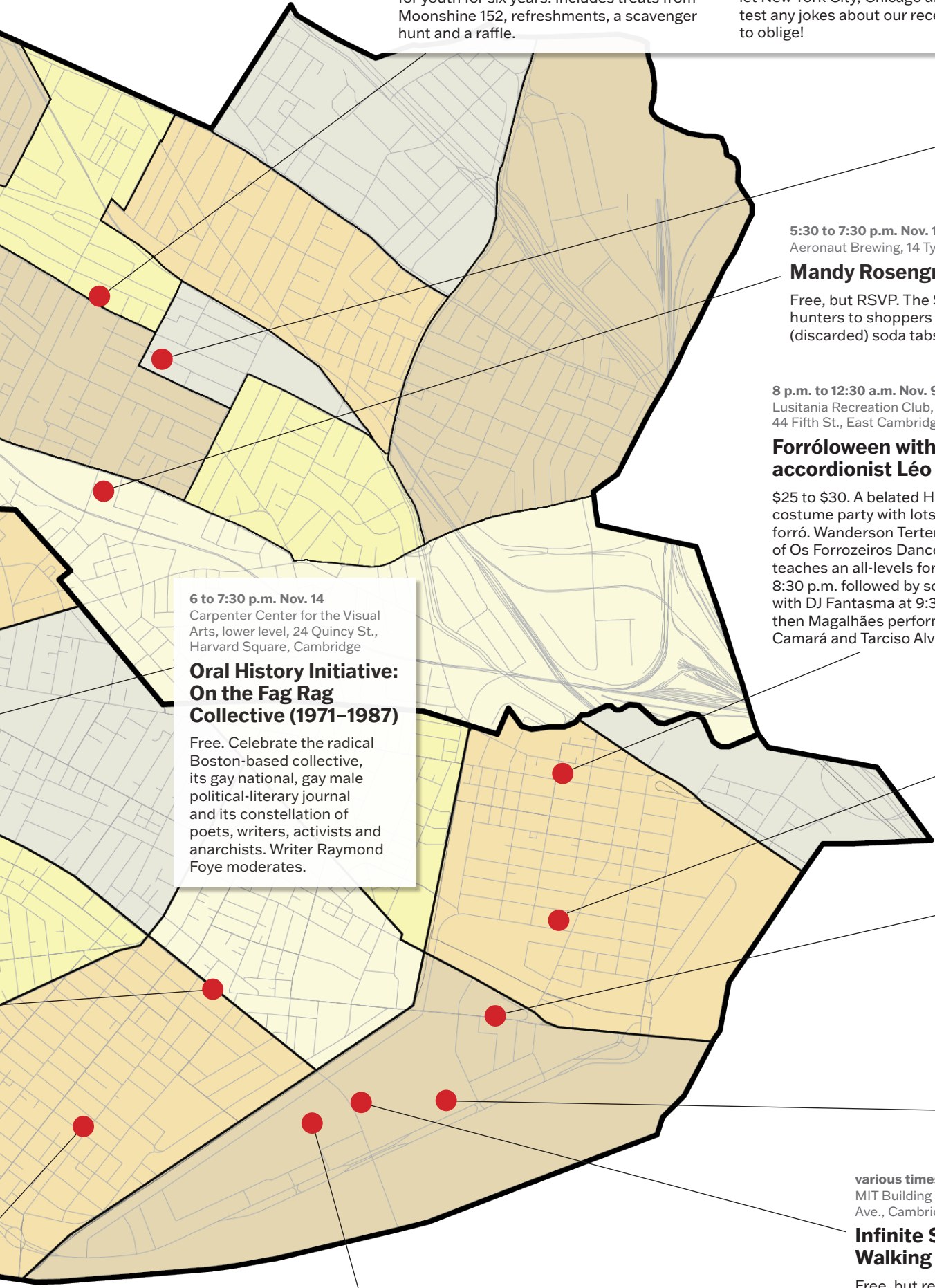
The MIT Shakespeare Ensemble presents “Macbeth”

\$7 to \$12. This production is set 100 years from now when “a deadly fungus has infected the Earth ... plunging the world into a catastrophe of apocalyptic proportions. The elite cling on to what little power they have left, fighting over resources that grow scarcer and scarcer.”

1 to 5 p.m. Nov. 10

MIT Tournament of Memory Champions

Free, but register. The country’s top 12 “memorizers” compete for a \$5,000 prize in four events: long-term memory, words-to-remember, tea party (auditory memory) and double-deck-of-cards. Between events, MIT memory-science faculty experts provide short, entertaining talks and demos on what memory is and isn’t and techniques to improve your own memory.



FILM AHEAD NOV. 7-14

LOCAL FOCUS



Three Monkees in “Head,” coming to the Harvard Film Archive.

Monkees’ strange ‘Head’ and Psychedelic Cinema match with Noirvember

By OSCAR GOFF

The **Harvard Film Archive’s** “Psychedelic Cinema” series comes to a head this week – literally. The series closes Thursday night with a free 35 mm screening of **“Head”** (1968), the sole starring vehicle for bubblegum goofballs The Monkees. The Monkees, of course, are often dismissed by more “serious” rock cognoscenti, but their countercultural credentials ran surprisingly deep: Yes, they were prefabricated for a TV show, but they were the product of the same creative brain trust that would later give us some of the greatest maverick cinema of the 1960s and ’70s.

“Head” was the directorial debut of Bob Rafelson (“Five Easy Pieces,” “The King of Marvin Gardens”), and co-written by none other than a young Jack Nicholson. It plunges its prefab four through a surreal pastiche of snide self-parody, proving that all involved were “in” on the joke. Along the way, the film enlists a truly head-spinning roster of cameo guest stars, from Annette Funicello and boxing great Sonny Liston to cult actor Timothy Carey and iconoclastic rocker Frank Zappa (a surprising friend and supporter of the band).

To top it all off, “Head” features some of the Monkees’ best songs, even if the band’s actual musical involvement was minimal: The opener “Porpoise Song” is an aching, soaring slice of vintage psychedelia penned by the great Carole King and Gerry Goffin. (Oh, and if you’re wondering about the title: Rafelson and Nicholson reasoned that, if they got to make a sequel, they could advertise it as “From the people who gave you ...”)

If you sense a darkness in the air, it might not just be the end of daylight savings. To cinephiles, the 11th month is colloquially known as **Noirvember**, a time to celebrate hardboiled tales of hard-living detectives, unscrupulous femmes fatales and hapless everyday people plunged into downward spirals of corruption and intrigue. To celebrate, **The Brattle Theatre** has merged its yearly Noirvember programming with an ongoing **Columbia 100** series, presenting 10 of the legendary studio’s darkest yarns.

The series kicks off Friday with a new 4K restoration of Nicholas Ray’s **“In a Lonely Place”** (1950), starring Humphrey Bogart as a down-and-out screenwriter falsely accused (or is he?)

of a murder. Other highlights include double features from masters of the form: Fritz Lang (“**The Big Heat**,” 1953, and “**Human Desire**,” 1954) and Samuel Fuller (“**Underworld U.S.A.**,” 1961, and “**The Crimson Kimono**,” 1959). It’s enough to make you kill the lights, crack open a bottle of the hard stuff and wonder about that suspicious car parked outside your office.

In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of legendary Boston punk venue the Rathskeller (better remembered as simply The Rat) and Harvard’s “Making a Scene” exhibition of artifacts from the Boston punk scene, the Harvard Film Archive on Friday **presents “Boston Punk Rewound/Unbound: The Arthur Freedman Collection.”** A denizen of the scene from his teenage years, Newton native Freedman was a compulsive chronicler of the bands that crossed the stage of The Rat and Boston’s other famous (and infamous) nightclubs, both on audio and video tape. Rewound/Unbound presents treasures from Freedman’s collection pertaining specifically to bands and artists who fell outside of the usual rock’n’roll demographic – that is to say, non-white, nonmale and/or nonstraight. In addition to remarks from Freedman, the night includes performances from Martha Swetozoff (of Bound & Gagged, T-Venus and Body) and Dangerous Birds alums Thalia Zedek, Margery Meadow and Karen Sekiguchi. (Note that, at press time, this show is sold out, but rush tickets may be available at the door).

Venturing a little further from home, the HFA will also this week begin a monthlong series titled “**The Yugoslav Junction: Film and Internationalism in the SFRY, 1957-1988.**” Though less heralded than the new waves of other European countries, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was home to a vibrant cinema, and the HFA will present more than 50 eclectic features and shorts from a wide range of artists. The series kicks off on Saturday with Želimir Žilnik’s crime dramedy “**The Way Steel Was Tempered**” (1988).

Oscar Goff is a writer and film critic based in Somerville. He is film editor and senior critic for the Boston Hassle, and a member of the Boston Society of Film Critics, Boston Online Film Critics Association and the Online Film Critics Society.

Cambridge-Somerville is a film mecca, with a half-dozen sites with a total 36 screens open daily:

The Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Harvard Square, Cambridge. Founded in 1953 and a nonprofit since 2001. One 250-seat theater with 7.1 surround sound and 35 mm capabilities with a specialty in themed repertory programs and classic, cutting-edge, foreign and art-house films as well as some first-runs and new releases of classics. **(617) 876-6837 and brattlefilm.org**

Harvard Film Archive at The Carpenter Center, 24 Quincy St., Harvard Square, Cambridge. Founded in 1979 at Harvard University. One 188-seat theater with DCP, 35mm, 16mm 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**

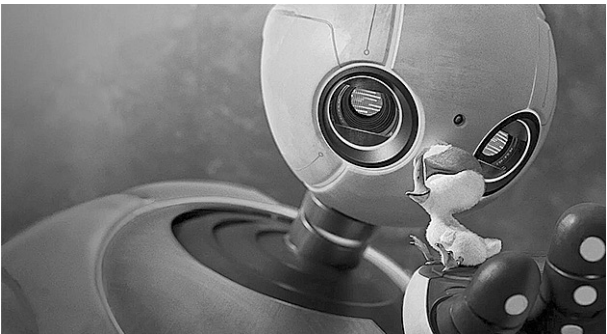
Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square. Founded in 1914. Three screens with 1,566 seats, including one with Dolby Digital Sound and 24 surround speakers and 70mm capabilities for a mix of first-run and repertory fare and classics. **(617) 625-5700 and somervilletheatre.com**

Landmark Kendall Square Cinema, 355 Binney St., Cambridge. Opened in 1995. Nine screens with 682 seats with DLP digital projection and sound showcasing independent film, foreign-language cinema, restored classics and documentaries with some first-run and even blockbuster films mixed in. **(617) 621-1202**

Apple Cinemas Cambridge, 168 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge Highlands near Alewife and Fresh Pond. First opened in 1965, reopened in 1990 with 10 screens. A specialty in screening South Asian cinema along with first-run films. **(617) 229-6555**

AMC 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) 440-4192**

FILM CLIPS



Roz the robot kisses Brightbill in “The Wild Robot.”

‘The Wild Robot’: Lost remote

By TOM MEEK

A very “Wall-E”-esque pleaser with something to say about humans, machines, emotional intelligence and environmental stewardship. Marrying all that together is an AI bot named Roz (voiced by Oscar winner Lupita Nyong’o, “12 Years a Slave,” “Us”) whose shipping container is tossed overboard during a storm, marooning her on a remote island with rich Northeastern biodiversity (pine-woods, bears, beavers, geese and possums) that feels right out of Camden, Maine. Roz is a home helper droid made by a megacompany like Amazon to perform tasks such as making beds, building sheds, shearing sheep and so on. Stranded in a humanless remote, Roz reprograms herself to learn animal lingo and learns that the fauna refer to her as “the monster.” In the awkward dance of finding a task to do, tragic happenstance has Roz becoming the mother imprint for a runt gosling named Brightbill (Kit Connor). The to-do becomes teaching the hatchling how to forage for food, swim and ultimately fly, because the fall migration is around the corner. Roz’s transmitter to HQ keeps dropping out or breaking, which ultimately brings to the island a maintenance droid (Stephanie Hsu, “The Menu”) that’s not a fan of Roz developing emotionally. The animation, as orchestrated by Oscar nominee Chris Sanders (“Lilo & Stitch,” “How to Train Your Dragon”) is well-envisioned and robust and likely to earn him another nod (though it’ll have some real competition from the Latvian gem “Flow” that just played The Brattle). But the heart of the film is castaway Roz, a tin woodswoman who becomes emotionally aware.

At Kendall and Assembly squares and Fresh Pond; and on Amazon Prime.



Rita (Saoirse Ronan) with George (Elliott Heffernan).

‘Blitz’: Race amid a bombing

By MADELEINE AITKEN

“Blitz” doesn’t start slow. Its opening scene depicts firefighters trying desperately to wrangle a hose that’s gone awry as the flames they’re trying to put out grow bigger and bigger. It’s a tense, loud moment, and it defines how I felt much of the next two hours of the movie – on edge. The setting is World War II London, where we meet mixed-race, 9-year-old George (Elliott Heffernan), his mother Rita (Saoirse Ronan) and granddad Gerald (Paul Weller). The nightly air raids have grown worse, and Rita decides the only option is to send George away to the countryside, joining the hundreds of thousands of British children evacuated during the war. George leaps off the train an hour into the journey to find his way back to London. What follows is a somber tale of a desperate mother trying to find her only son as death and destruction mount around them. (The Blitz, from September 1940 to May 1941, was responsible for the deaths of 43,000 civilians, nearly half of Britain’s total civilian deaths for the whole war.) The film, by Steve McQueen (“12 Years a Slave,” “Small Axe”), brings light to British racism of the time but tries to do too much else. It also boasts moments of kindness and joy as Ife (Benjamin Clémentine), a kind Nigerian air-raid warden, comes across George lost and hungry in London. Clémentine’s performance, and the bond he forms with George, is beautiful. Ronan is excellent, as always, Weller is steady and sweet and Heffernan is captivating and totally lovable.

At Kendall Square.



MUSIC

ATTEND

Commemorations

By MICHAEL GUTIERREZ

November’s arrival marks the one-year anniversary of DIY venue The 4th Wall, which, to navel gaze a bit, also marks the one-year anniversary of this column. In fact, the very first column I wrote in these hallowed pages highlighted the birth of the underground music series, born out of the curatorial zeal and scheduling prowess of organizers Biff and Ethan.

(I write this piece without knowing the outcome of the election, without knowing if anyone, including myself, feels like celebrating a one-year anniversary as we head into four years of ... who knows what? Then again, I got married one week before Trump was elected in 2016.)

What has The 4th Wall, ensconced within the bowels of Arlington’s Capitol Theatre, been up to this year? A lot!

The venue has become a regular landing spot for great local bands, and living legends Pile even piled into the super-sized main stage on a Monday night. Out-of-town bands are regular fixtures at The 4th Wall too. A veritable pipeline of underground talent has installed itself between upstate New York and Arlington; Jim E. Brown even delivered his brain-bending schtick all the way from merry ol’ England.

What’s in store for The 4th Wall in its second year? The outfit recently organized a show at the Regent Theatre, outside of its usual stomping grounds at the Capitol, so maybe more “off-site” shows are in the making ... Go find Biff and Ethan at upcoming 4th Wall shows (Wednesday and Nov. 15) and wish them a happy one-year anniversary. Hearing live music is the best and only way to celebrate that kind of milestone.

As for celebrating one year of this column ... How about a raise?

Hit this

Friday *Hilken Mancini Band, The Cujo, Mary Lou Lord (Middle East, Cambridge)*

The Hilken Mancini Band is celebrating a record release in Central Square with support from legend Mary Lou Lord and inveterate lawn cutters The Cujo. I was scrambling to figure out the title of the new release before realizing it’s a self-titled debut. The Hilken Mancini Band record is just called “Hilken Mancini Band,” available via Girlsville. That’s all well and good, but how is it possible that ex-Fuzzy, longtime local alt-rock-er and frequent frequenter of stages around town Hilken Mancini hasn’t yet released an album with her band? The debut LP includes cameos from Thalia Zedek, Chris Brokaw, J Mascis and more. Maybe this cameo pushes upstart rocker Mr. Mascis over the top for his 2024 “Rock Artist of the Year” nomination from the Boston Music Awards?

Sunday *Odie Leigh (The Sinclair, Cambridge)*

Odie Leigh can wheel out the full band when she wants to, like she does on the singles “No Doubt” and “Either Way” released this year. But the bluesy heart and folky soul of her latest full-length “Carrier Pigeon” is solo acoustic. A song such as the tragic and iridescent “Idiom” cuts to the quick with barely a whisper. Leigh’s melodic vocals and pointed lyrics draw

you into a world starring a protagonist who wears her heart on her sleeve, and then wipes her nose with it.

Nov. 14 *Jaguar Sun, JW Francis, Layzi (Warehouse XI, Somerville)*

Sick and tired of Warehouses I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII and IX? Can’t show your face in Warehouse X after that ... incident? Give Warehouse XI a try. The roman numerals mean its classy. Get To The Gig Boston and Mass Concerts have been teaming up to field an embarrassment of indie rock riches across the local music landscape, and this Thursday show is another gem. Reverb-heavy pop rockers Jaguar Sun and JW Francis steer their tour bus into the alley at Sanborn Court, while Layzi waves them into a parking spot to complete the Born Losers Records trifecta.

In memory of Steve Morse

Some nights you walk into a club to hear music and there are about a half-dozen other things happening inside to pull your focus from the stage. So it was at Brighton Music Hall in Allston on Oct. 28.

The garage rock headliner Hinds had no idea that the emotional axis of their show was going to be tilted, at least for a moment, on the news of the death of Steve Morse, longtime local music critic. If you want to bring the easy, breezy vibe of a live performance to a screeching halt, get on the PA to announce someone has died.

That’s okay. Life happens, and death happens too. Mark Kates (or DJ Carbo, as you like) of Fenway Recordings hit the pause button on celebrating 20 years of the concert series (there was free cake!) to toast the memory of the prolific critic, who reviewed music at The Boston Globe for many years, penned a heroic number of bylines, met and mingled with stars.

Morse will be remembered as a kind, grounded, approachable guy who pursued his calling with insight and integrity.

I met him a few times in clubs around Cambridge. Morse remained a gig junkie into retirement. He was especially fond of the Lizard Lounge. My most vivid memory of the critic is him there. A tall man, hunched beneath a low ceiling, bathed in red light, whose increasingly crepuscular range of motion could not mask the boyish glee that possessed him each and every time a new act took the stage.

The memorial toast at Brighton Music Hall came during a break between acts. Half the room listened, the other half tuned it out. Not a bad percentage for a noisy club.

Popular music, to which Morse dedicated his professional life, is a mad carousel with all kinds of unse-rious people seriously trying to grab the golden ring. Musicians, writers, producers, photographers, agents, engineers, stans, bookers, club owners and crummy executive types of all shades. If you last more than a few spins of the wheel, there’s a good chance you grow a little glum.

Steve Morse lasted five decades with a pen in his hand, and he never lost his love of the art. I’ll drink to that.

Michael Gutierrez is an author, educator, activist and editor-in-chief at Hump Day News.

FOOD

WHAT WE’RE HAVING



Tom Meek

The blackened chicken sandwich at the Cambridge Brewing Co. in Kendall Square.

One last pint at the Cambridge Brewing Co.

SNACK



Chang Foods veggie garlic noodles

Price: \$9.50
On most weekdays at lunch-time, a nondescript white truck sits in the Technology Square area of Main Street in front of Area Four. It’s recognizable mainly by a near-constant line of people waiting to be served. Chang Foods is a no-frills food truck serving delicious Chinese food for cheap. Almost everything on the menu is \$10 or less, and the portions are generous. The veggie garlic noodles came with cabbage, broccoli and carrots over thin, angel hair-esque noodles with a sweet, garlicky sauce that was the perfect complement. If anything, I wanted more sauce, but the meal was still delicious. Despite a long line, things moved fast, and food was in my hands in what felt like seconds. It’s hard to find a filling lunch for under \$10, but Chang Foods is doing it – and doing it well. We’re back at Chang’s in week for a true snack. MADELEINE AITKEN

■ **Chang Foods, roughly 600 Main St., Kendall Square, Cambridge**

By TOM MEEK

Not to date myself, but in a previous life I worked for Lotus Software during a time philosophy majors were killer coders (a degree in computer science was just becoming a thing) and Microsoft Windows was a burgeoning OS that almost didn’t fly. Lotus was based out of the office building connected to the Royal Sonesta hotel. The corrugated-steel electronics store across Land Boulevard (Lechmere) was being transformed into the CambridgeSide Galleria, and much between that stranded East Cambridge outpost and Kendall Square was vacant lots, warehouse space and old factories gone silent.

You pretty much had to trek about a mile or so to eat at the Miracle of Science or Middle East – or hit the Cambridge Brewing Co. at 1 Kendall Square, a woven hose factory newly converted into an office space complex. CBC was the second brewpub to open in the Boston area (the first, the Commonwealth Brewing Co. in 1986, was also a “CBC”) but after a 35-year run, it was announced this year that Cambridge Brewing would close Dec. 20. Bittersweet to be sure, but also an impetus to get back and hoist one last pint at a place that had marked many occasions for me.

If you’ve never been to the CBC, it’s a rustic barroom built around the giant, sparkling vats fermenting the ale. On the main wall is Liz LaManche’s iconic who’s-who-of-Cambridge mural that boasts the famous countenances of Barack Obama, Ben Affleck and Matt Damon, Mark Zuckerberg, Liz Warren and Keytar Bear mixing with bar regulars and staffers, all looking merry and imbibing beer. The shaded patio is one of the best – and was the first – beer gardens in town, tucked away in the quaint maze of brick nooks in the locale now known as Alexandria Place, after the biotech real estate firm.

As with most beer halls, the food is up and down, but the fall closeout menu is solid. The best bets historically

■ **Cambridge Brewing Co., One Kendall Square, Cambridge**

have been the blackened chicken sandwich, flatbread pizza, pressed Cubano and black bean soup. All those staples save the black bean soup are on the final menu, along with fall-appropriate eats such as the classic fish and chips, pickle-brined chicken and beer-marinated steak tips and the even more seasonal pumpkin ravioli and pork schnitzel.

When at a pub, stick to pub fare. On my last trip, before a screening at the nearby Landmark cinemas, I was pleased with that blackened chicken, a juicy filet on a brioche-like roll with crisp lettuce, ripe tomato and herb mayo.

But the reason anyone goes to the CBC is the beer. The Cambridge Amber and Charles River Porter that started it all are still here, as well as a seasonal Great Pumpkin Ale and the Letter to Jimmy Page (a nitro session) and Pulp Non-Fiction (citrus wheat). There are also daily cask specials.

Ownership is looking to retire, but it’s also true that decreased foot traffic has added this rebranded complex post-Covid, and the original Andy Husbands Smoke Shop BBQ next door is shuttered. Long gone too is old friend and date-night destination the Blue Room. Cambridge Brewing predated the Internet and saw the rise of the biotech and social media, and the amount of startup deals sealed with ale and burgers here must be countless. But like all good things, its time seems to have passed.

I hadn’t been to the CBC in a while and was happy I popped in. It felt like reconnecting with an old friend.

Tom Meek is a writer living in Cambridge. His reviews, essays, short stories and articles have appeared in the WBUR ARTery, The Boston Phoenix, The Boston Globe, The Rumpus, The Charleston City Paper and SLAB literary journal. Tom is also a member of the Boston Society of Film Critics and rides his bike everywhere.

BUSINESS & MONEY

■ Do you know of a business opening or closing in Cambridge or Somerville? Send news to business@cambridgeday.com.

Pay raises are a start at CHA

By SUE REINERT

Union doctors in training at Cambridge Health Alliance have ratified a contract that gives some of them a 20.5 percent salary hike and others approximately 17 percent over a three-year agreement, their union announced last month. But the contract didn't include specific improvements in mental health benefits and workload protections that union members had pressed for with rallies and support from Cambridge city councillors.

Instead, the agreement calls for establishing two committees to negotiate further on mental health and workload.

One will discuss offering "protected time for residents to access mental health treatment" and exploring "alternatives" to the current mental health provider "to ensure physicians receive the care they need," a union official said. Another will focus on "reducing workload for internal medicine physicians."

The union is also advocating for increased pay for doctors who work more than a certain number of night shifts.

A union press release said the contract provides "a crucial intervention to ensure physician well-being, continued quality of care and the strength of the residency and fellowship programs at CHA." It quoted Dr. Justin Halloran, a resident at the health care



Committee of Interns and Residents

Cambridge Health Alliance medical staff rally for a contract Aug. 28 at Cambridge Hospital.

system and regional vice president of the union, as saying union members "worked really hard to make sure that this contract would especially help us access mental health resources, which we feel is critical to both physician well-being and our ability to do this job well.

"By taking action, we won support that will both enable us to lead more full lives outside of the hospital while continuing to show up at our best for the communities who rely on CHA," Halloran said.

Cambridge Health Alliance spokesperson David Cecere said: "We value the tremendous contributions our resident physicians and interns make to patient care, and we are happy to come to an agreement for a new contract with them. The salary increases are a market adjustment, and the committees will be established to discuss key issues."

The union, the Committee of Interns and Residents, is part of the Service Employees International Union. It represents residents and fellows in 10 states and the District of Colum-

bia. Residents and fellows are getting postgraduate education and experience at hospitals such as those in the Alliance. The hospitals rely on these doctors in training to provide a significant amount of patient care.

At rallies outside Cambridge Hospital in August and City Hall in September, doctors said CHA had reduced their mental health benefits, which they needed to deal with the stress of their work and financial situation and to help patients effectively. Unlimited therapy and drug-prescribing visits from Tend Health, a provider experienced in treating health care workers, were cut to 10 therapy sessions and four prescribing appointments a year starting in July, doctors said. They could see CHA providers, but working with a colleague might be uncomfortable, they said.

Doctors also said they might work as many as 80 hours a week.

The City Council voted for a resolution supporting the union on Sept. 30 but only after it was amended to also support ensuring the financial viability of the Alliance.

Firefighter contract wins approval in Somerville

By JULIA WEEKS

A collective bargaining agreement for firefighters was approved Oct. 24 by the Somerville City Council at a meeting that included a second public safety issue: events that might draw threats, such as the bomb threat called in at the time of an Oct. 5 drag story hour at the city's Main Library.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne requested a supplemental \$940,000 appropriation from the tax levy and \$233,881 appropriation from the salary budget to fund the agreement with Local 76, which councillors approved. The agreement was announced by Ballantyne's office Oct. 10. The appropriations represent

a 9 percent wage increase over three years, as well as financial incentives for increased training: base pay increases for advanced degrees and tuition reimbursements for employees interested in pursuing a degree.

The money will also pay for two infection control officer positions.

The terms of the agreement allow for a "more dynamic skills-based assessment" for promotion opportunities, which will "allow us to make promotions not just based on seniority, but on the specialized skills needed to lead in today's rapidly changing environment," Ballantyne said. The assessment will include the civil service exam, as well as more specialized testing at assessment centers.

Since April, prospective firefighters and Local 76 had protested Ballantyne's plan to fill a new fire station in Assembly Square with lateral transfers from departments in other communities rather than with Somerville residents who have passed the civil service exam.

Councilor Matthew McLaughlin also sponsored an order asking that the director of libraries create safety protocols for "events that may draw protests." He cited the bomb threat that canceled the drag queen story hour. The order, which passed and was sent for discussion in the Public Health and Public Safety Committee, aims to make the community better prepared for future incidents.

Bred's smoked burgers enter competition around Central

By MADELEINE AITKEN

Bred Gourmet, a Dorchester burger restaurant, has expanded to Cambridge, at MIT-owned 730 Main St., in The Port neighborhood between Kendall and Central squares.

It's entering a burger-rich landscape – within easy walking distance are Tasty Burger, Roxy's, Veggie Galaxy, Miracle of Science, Cambridge Deli and more – but founder Tambo Barrow believes his burgers can hold their own. All the burgers at Bred are made with smoked prime beef patties, an invention that happened by accident: Barrow's Dorchester store was formerly a barbecue restaurant, and when it moved out and Barrow moved in, there was a smoker left behind.

"Our griddle was only about 24 inches, so one of our first issues was that it was taking too long for people to get their food," Barrow said. "I said, all right, let's try smoking the burgers. That cut the ticket times down drastically, but it also made the burgers 100 times better."

The smoked burger concept won Bred Boston Magazine's award for best burger in Boston in 2021, an honor that went to its now-neighbor Little Donkey the following year.

Barrow didn't have a background in food when he opened Bred in the Lower Mills section of Dorchester in 2014, just a passion for burgers and a recognition that big chains such as Five Guys and Shake Shack were starting to grow in popularity.

"I knew I could make a great burger too, so I decided to take the leap of faith," Barrow said.

Pulling on his family's roots in the West Indies, Barrow wanted to make burgers that rethought the classics and represented his culture's flavors. Today, the menu is full of funky combinations.

The Maui, for instance, is a smoked prime beef patty topped with grilled pineapple, pork belly, sweet plantains, crispy onions, habanero pepper Jack cheese and sweet barbecue sauce. The Yosemite has applewood smoked bacon, caramelized onions, tomato, jalapeños, smoked gouda and aioli atop its smoked prime beef patty.

The chicken sandwiches are equally distinctive: The Rude Bwoy has jerk chicken, red onion, peppers, habanero pepper sauce, pepper sauce, pineapple and barbecue sauce, while the Kobe is buttermilk fried chicken tossed in a gochujang sauce with cilantro and pineapple.



Bred via social media

A burger from Bred, which opened this month in The Port neighborhood in Cambridge.

Sides include creole slaw and sweet plantains alongside parmesan truffle fries and sweet potato fries, and there are wings, chicken tenders, smoothies, salads and desserts.

Bred offers a happy hour special from 2 to 6 p.m. weekdays with \$5 buttermilk fried chicken and smoked cheeseburger sliders and \$3 fries. The Cambridge restaurant, unlike the Dorchester original, has a full bar with a variety of cocktails and other drinks. On Saturdays, Bred serves brunch – there's a Breakfast Sando with smoked pork belly, tomato jam, egg, cheddar, greens and chipotle aioli, and the Honey Butter Chicken of buttermilk fried chicken and honey butter served on a waffle, among others – along with its usual menu.

"We're trying to get our brunch series up and running; we have a DJ come in on Saturdays and just try to have a little vibe," Barrow said.

That bar means Bred is open to hosting events, something that wasn't possible in its smaller Dorchester site. Bred also offers catering with customizable packages for office lunches or personal events such as birthday parties.

Since opening Oct. 11, Barrow has struggled to fill the 3,900-square-foot space, largely due to an issue with Google maps not verifying its location, so Bred doesn't appear on the map. Its website and Instagram are reliable for the most up-to-date information.

"It's been hard, but we have seen a steady increase in business every day since we've been open, so we hope to keep going up from here," Barrow said.

Print Shop building is unusually run down after only 15 years, affordable trust acknowledges

From Page 1

The Print Shop condominium project isn't the only affordable homeownership building facing unaffordable expenses, and its condo owners aren't the only lower-income buyers who can't pay for maintenance. Owners who bought affordable homes under other city programs complained of rising condo fees and assessments in messages to the trust when it decided in January to change its formula for calculating how much equity a subsidized owner can capture when selling an affordable unit.

When the trust voted to lend \$3 million to the Print Shop condominiums on Oct. 26, 2023, a memorandum from Community Development Department housing director Christopher Cotter and senior manager for homeownership Anna Dolmatch said that "as the affordable homeownership stock ages, there will be cases where additional subsidy may be necessary to address major rehab needs and to prevent units from becoming

unaffordable or unsaleable." The memo said "this is not just an issue for all-affordable buildings; there is a mixed-income building where condo fees have doubled to more than \$600 for the affordable units to fund ongoing building envelope work, causing some owners to struggle to maintain their housing."

At last month's meeting, trust member Susan Schlesinger summed it up: "We're facing the issue of a maturing homeownership program." Cotter said staff members will present more information on the issue at the November meeting.

As for the Print Shop condominiums, some owners want to relinquish their units and be allowed to return to first-time homebuyer status so they can buy something else, the councillors' letter said. Another request: "Lift the city's deed restrictions so owners can recoup costs in a variety of ways, including by having roommates or subletting the units temporarily or allowing a higher rate of return upon sale." Owners also are asking for emergency grants to make emergency repairs.



Cascap

The Print Shop condominiums in The Port neighborhood of Cambridge.

Two Print Shop condo owners who spoke at the Oct. 23 trust meeting said problems with leaks and the solar-based electric system – such as no connection between rooftop solar panels and wall outlets – became evident as soon as they moved in in 2009, and residents faced large bills to fix them. Residents have contended that the

project, developed by Somerville-based affordable housing and residential services provider Cascap, was poorly constructed.

"It seems like the problems range from ordinary aging to extraordinary work not being done to code," trust member Raffi Freeman said. "Is there any recourse to the contractor?"

"The short answer is no," Cotter said. "The building envelope is complicated by 15 years of age." Still, the staff memo to the trust in October 2023 said: "There are likely many causes for the ongoing issues in this building, including the design, materials, possible construction errors and maintenance problems. Overall, the building has significant, chronic issues that we would not expect to see in a new construction building that is only 15 years old."

The memo also said that to fund the repairs themselves, owners would have needed to contribute an additional \$700 a month each to the reserve fund for the building since residents first moved in.

■ Send legal ads and public notices at least six business days ahead of the intended publication date to advertising@cambridgeday.com with contact information that includes a contact name, phone number and address.

Public Notice
Relative to Zoning
City of Cambridge,
Massachusetts
Office of the City Clerk

The Ordinance Committee, comprised of the entire membership of the City Council, will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.** on two Zoning Petitions by the Cambridge City Council. As of this notice, the Ordinance Committee has also scheduled two additional public meetings on **Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 2:30 p.m.** and **Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.** to continue discussion.

The first Petition (Multifamily Housing Zoning Petition Part One) would amend the Cambridge Zoning Map and Ordinance in Articles 2.000, 3.000, 4.000, 5.000, 6.000, 7.000, 8.000, 10.000, 11.000, 13.000, 14.000, 16.000, 17.000, 20.000, and 21.000 with the intent of:

- (1) removing zoning districts that are intended to permit single-family or two-family but not multifamily residences;
- (2) permitting multifamily and townhouse residences as-of-right in all zoning districts except Open Space and removing special requirements applicable to multifamily and townhouse residences;
- (3) removing dimensional requirements including minimum lot width and area and minimum lot area per dwelling unit, removing floor area ratio (FAR) limitations for residences, reducing minimum yard requirements for residences, and increasing height limitations for residences to permit at least six stories above grade in all districts except Open Space to allow for additional housing units beyond what is permitted under current zoning;
- (4) removing remaining references to minimum parking requirements; and
- (5) revising other parts of the Zoning Ordinance for internal consistency.

The second petition (Multifamily Housing Zoning Petition Part Two) would amend the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance in Articles 5.000, 11.000, 15.000, 17.000, 19.000, and 20.000 with the intent of:

- (1) revising open space standards to provide greater flexibility by allowing all types of open space to contribute to meeting requirements;
- (2) revising certain standards of the Affordable Housing Overlay so they are not more restrictive than comparable standards for residences in base zoning;
- (3) making project review special permit requirements applicable in all zoning districts and applicable to residential development of 75,000 square feet or more;
- (4) updating advisory development review procedures and introducing a new Planning Board Advisory Consultation for some larger development not subject to a special permit, similar to what is currently required in the Affordable Housing Overlay; and
- (5) revising other parts of the Zoning Ordinance for internal consistency.

This public hearing will be hybrid allowing participation in the Sullivan Chamber, City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA and remotely via ZOOM. The ZOOM URL to view the meeting is <https://cambridgema.zoom.us/j/97895847144>. **If you would like to speak at this Public Hearing, please register to do so using this URL:** <https://www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/CityCouncil/PublicCommentSignUpForm>. You may also email comments to the City Clerk at Cityclerk@cambridgema.gov.

To request a copy of the amendment in full, e-mail City Clerk, Diane LeBlanc at DLeBlanc@Cambridgema.gov. Copies are also available at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and online at www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/zoninganddevelopment/zoning/amendments.

The City of Cambridge will provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities upon request. Please contact the City Clerk at 617-349-4260 or at DLeBlanc@Cambridgema.gov.
For the Committee,
Vice Mayor Marc McGovern,
Co-Chair
Councillor Paul Toner, Co-Chair

City of Cambridge
Massachusetts
BOARD OF ZONING
APPEAL
831 Mass Avenue,
Cambridge, MA.
617) 349-6100

The Board of Zoning Appeal will hold a Virtual Public Meeting, **THURSDAY – NOVEMBER 21, 2024**. Members of the public can participate or view the meeting remotely using the Zoom Webinar link: <https://cambridgema.zoom.us/j/85299551558>
Or join by phone: Dial +1 929 436 2866 or +1 301 715 8592 - Webinar ID: 852 9955 1558

6:30 P.M. CASE NO. BZA-1139918: 1350 MASS AVENUE Business B Zone
PRESIDENT & FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE – CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS C/O BRETT SMITH, ESQ.
Special Permit: Verizon Wireless proposes to REMOVE two (2) existing LTE antennas and hardware from the existing Alpha Sector, one (1) existing Alpha Sector 6 x 12 hybrid cable and one (1) existing Alpha Sector 6-OVP, and INSTALL one (1) new MS-6.3-DB90-T antenna to the proposed heavy duty wall bracket, seven (7) new RRHS inside of the existing penthouse, two (2) new Alpha Sector 12-OVP, two (2) new Alpha Sector 6 x 12 hybrid cables, as well as updated support equipment and cables as shown in greater detail on the Plans. Art. 4.000, Sec. 4.32.g.1 & Sec. 4.40 (Footnote 49) (Telecommunication Facility). Art. 10.40-10.46 (Special Permit).
6409 Federal Middle Class Tax Relief Act (Spectrum Act).
6:45 P.M. CASE NO. BZA-1140206: 1350 MASS AVENUE Business B Zone
PRESIDENT & FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE – C/O

ALLISON CONWELL, AGENT FOR CENTERLINE
Special Permit: To replace 2 existing antennas with 2 new antennas in nearly the same locations, replace 6 remote radio heads with 10 new remote radio heads in nearly the same locations, replace certain cabling with new cables, add diplexers, and remove and replace certain equipment in AT&T's existing rooftop equipment shelter.
Art. 4.000, Sec. 4.32.g.1 & Sec. 4.40 (Footnote 49) (Telecommunication Facility). Art. 10.40-10.46 (Special Permit). 6409 Federal Middle Class Tax Relief Act (Spectrum Act).

7:00 P.M. CASE NO. BZA-585557: 120 CHILTON STREET Residence B Zone SETH TASKER & KAREN ELLIS – C/O PAUL MAHONEY, ARCHITECT
Special Permit: Build an addition at rear of house to extend nonconforming house within nonconforming side yard setbacks and increase non-conforming FAR. Windows within setback. Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements).
Art. 8.000, Sec. 8.22.2.d & Sec. 8.22.2.c (Pre-Existing Non-Conforming Structure). Art. 10.000, Sec. 10.40 (Special Permit).

7:15 P.M. CASE NO. BZA-279459: 359 WALDEN STREET Residence B Zone 359 WALDEN LLC – C/O ADAM MUNNELLY & LAUREN MARRETT
Special Permit: Relocation, enlargement, and addition of windows and doors on the nonconforming right-side facade. Addition to the existing enclosed front porch that will increase the existing building mass that is currently nonconforming to the required front and right-side setback. Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements).
Art. 8.000, Sec. 8.22.2.c & Sec. 8.22.2.d (Non-Conforming Structure). Art. 10.000, Sec. 10.40 (Special Permit).

7:30 P.M. CASE NO. BZA-287510: 94 FAYERWEATHER STREET Residence B Zone ELLIOT & KATHYR RANGER
Special Permit: To replace our existing, non-conforming 2nd story porch with a 2-story enclosed addition. We are requesting to extend the porch to the edge of the house on the driveway side and overhang on the second story by two feet over the existing structure footprint. Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements). Art. 8.000, Sec. 8.22.2.d (Non-Conforming Structure).
Art. 10.000, Sec. 10.40 (Special Permit).

7:45 P.M. CASE NO. BZA-1139335: 11-15 DOVER STREET Residence B Zone KENNETH CHIN, KEN SAM CHIN & FONDA CHIN
Variance: To convert existing 3 residential/ 1 commercial units into 4 residential units. Add 2 dormers, along back part of house: allowing the rooms at the rear of the top floor to be more usable space. Proposed dormer is less than 12' in length and within side setbacks; the dormers increase the interior ceiling height and create FAR. Add skylight and window within setback.
Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements). Sec.

5.26 (Conversion).
Art. 8.000, Sec. 8.22.3 (Alteration or Enlargement of a Non-Conforming Structure). Art. 10.000, Sec. 10.30 (Variance).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

The Planning Board of the City of Cambridge will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.** held remotely (see below for instructions to participate) on a Zoning Petition by Cambridge City Council to amend the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance in Articles 2.000, 4.000, and 6.000 with the intent to add a definition of **“Flexible Parking Corridor”** to Article 2.000, add footnotes 64 and 65 to Section 4.30 Table of Use Regulations, and add Section 6.25 Flexible Parking Corridor Regulations which would allow existing off street parking facilities and vacant lots to have less restrictive zoning limitations in order to serve parking needs in areas with limited on-street parking and would allow parking facilities on municipally owned lots to be used for automobile parking as a principal use.

This hearing will be on Zoom Webinar. Go to www.cambridgema.gov/planningboard to view petition documents, send written comments before the hearing, or learn how to join the hearing online or by phone. Contact the Community Development Department at cddzoning@cambridgema.gov or 617-349-4600 with questions. Written comments received by 12:00 P.M. on the Friday before the meeting will be considered by Board Members in advance of the meeting. Comments received later will be entered into the record.

Public Notice
Relative to Zoning and
Municipal
City of Cambridge,
Massachusetts
Office of the City Clerk

The Ordinance Committee will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, November 21, 2024, from 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.** on a Zoning Petition by the Cambridge City Council to amend the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance in Articles 2.000, 4.000, and 6.000 with the intent to add a definition of **“Flexible Parking Corridor”** to Article 2.000, add footnotes 64 and 65 to Section 4.30 Table of Use Regulations, and add Section 6.25 Flexible Parking Corridor Regulations which would allow existing off street parking facilities and vacant lots to have less restrictive zoning limitations in order to serve parking needs in areas with limited on-street parking and would allow parking facilities on municipally owned lots to be used for automobile parking as a principal use.

This public hearing is also to discuss amendments to the Parking and Transportation Demand Management Ordinance, and the Commercial Parking Space Permits Ordinance.

This public hearing will be hybrid allowing participation in the Sullivan Chamber, City Hall, 795 Massachusetts

Avenue, Cambridge, MA and remotely via ZOOM. The ZOOM URL to view the meeting is <https://cambridgema.zoom.us/j/97895847144>. **If you would like to speak at this Public Hearing, please register to do so using this URL:** <https://www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/CityCouncil/PublicCommentSignUpForm>. You may also email comments to the City Clerk at Cityclerk@cambridgema.gov.

To request a copy of the amendments in full, e-mail City Clerk, Diane LeBlanc at DLeBlanc@Cambridgema.gov. Copies are also available at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and online at www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/zoninganddevelopment/zoning/amendments.

The City of Cambridge will provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities upon request. Please contact the City Clerk at 617-349-4260 or at DLeBlanc@Cambridgema.gov.

For the Committee,

Vice Mayor Marc McGovern,
Co-Chair
Councillor Paul Toner, Co-Chair

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING
SPECIAL PERMIT
APPLICATION

The Planning Board of the City of Cambridge will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** located at Remote participation on Zoom (see below) on special permit application case PB-22 Amendment for the property located at 3 Michael Way for which the Applicant is Justin Caravella and Shwu Kong seeking special permits pursuant to Section 11.15. b. Modification to a townhouse development after a subdivision has been recorded for a proposal to Construct an addition and a dormer to an existing townhouse.

This hearing will be on Zoom Webinar. Go to www.cambridgema.gov/planningboard to view application documents, send written comments before the hearing, or learn how to join the hearing online or by phone. Contact the Community Development Department at cddzoning@cambridgema.gov or 617-349-4600 with questions.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
PURCHASING
DEPARTMENT

As of September 12th, the City has transitioned to a new eProcurement solution for publishing solicitations and receiving vendor responses. Vendors should visit www.cambridgema.gov/purchasing or <https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/cambridgema> to register to begin receiving email notifications for the City's competitive procurement opportunities. Registration is 100% free for vendors.

Elizabeth Unger

Purchasing Agent

Once populous, bobwhites struggle to survive hunting, winters

Frail quails

By JEANINE FARLEY

If you are like me, you remember reading stories as a kid in which bobwhites (*Colinus virginianus*) were mentioned, but you have never actually seen one. These little quails were once common in Massachusetts but are seen now only occasionally in Cambridge and Somerville.

Settlers in the 1600s encountered and wrote about these birds. In 1632, Thomas Morton (author of the first book banned in the United States) wrote that he saw 60 from his house in Quincy. In Morton's era, these birds lived in coastal areas and along Massachusetts rivers. As more and more colonists arrived, they cleared the land, creating the perfect habitat – a mix of grass, brush, woods and bare ground where bobwhites and their chicks could both forage and hide from predators. By the mid-1800s, around 80 percent of Massachusetts land was used for farms, and bobwhites flourished.

Some people call bobwhites firebirds because the quails thrive in areas that have been burned: open areas where the understory is not thick. It is the spring call of the male that gives the bird its name, though. The call is described, perhaps unsurprisingly, as sounding like bobwhite or bob-bob-white. The males call throughout the summer.

Unlike in most bird species, the male builds the nest. He scoops out a shallow depression in thick vegetation and lines it with dead grass. Then he weaves an arch over the nest, concealing it, except for a side opening just large enough to enter

and exit. While incubating the eggs, the parent looks out this opening.

Females lay about 14 to 16 eggs. For about 23 days, the male and female take turns keeping the eggs warm until they hatch. The young leave the nest soon after hatching and grow rapidly. Within a few days, they can fly several yards and are fully grown after only 49.

While up to 16 eggs may sound like a lot, nesting on the ground makes for high mortality. Raccoons, skunks, possum, hawks, snakes and foxes all prey on young bobwhites or their eggs. According to Bent, if a brood of young is flushed, they “will buzz up like so many overgrown grasshoppers, fly a short distance, then dive into cover” to remain motionless until the danger has passed.

Well-heeled hunters using dogs found they also make bobwhites freeze in place, and hunting became a fashionable sport for wealthy men after the Civil War, when technology improved guns and made them lighter in weight and more reliable.

No shock that during the day bobwhites forage in groups (called coveys) and during the night roost in a tight circle, tails pointing inward. In this way they can be alerted to predators coming from any direction. The circle also helps keep them warm. Lynds Jones (1903) described this formation:

First one stepped around over the spot selected, then another joined him, the two standing pressed close together, forming the first arc of the circle. Another and another joined themselves to this nucleus, always with

heads pointing out, tails touching, until the circle was complete. But two were left out! One stepped up to the group, made an opening, then crowded himself in, with much ruffling of feathers. One remained outside, with no room to get in. He, too, ran round and round, trying here and there in vain; it was a sold mass. Undaunted, he nimbly jumped upon the line of backs, felt here and there for a yielding spot, began wedging himself between two brothers, slipped lower and lower, and finally became one of the bristling heads.

Massachusetts is already at the northern edge of the range for these birds, which do not migrate, and these little birds have difficulty surviving when there is too much snow or ice on the ground. If snow is deep, the birds cannot find seeds on the ground. In addition, the birds might get buried in a snowstorm.

According to 20th-century ornithologist Arthur Cleveland Bent, “At the approach of a snowstorm, they huddle together in some sheltered spot and let the snow cover them. This gives them good protection from wind and cold; but if the snow turns to rain, followed by a severe freeze the birds are imprisoned and often perish from hunger before they can escape.” Severe winters in the late 1800s wiped out most of the bobwhites from New Hampshire down to the Cape.

Over time, the population rebounded partially in southern parts of the state where winters are warmer and milder. In 1910, Massachusetts became the first



Tom Murray

A bobwhite surveys its area in Lunenburg on July 4, 2017.

state to start raising and restocking them. According to state ornithologist Edward Howe Forbush in 1912: “The Massachusetts commissioners on fisheries and game have their various game farms in full operation ... The greatest success with native game birds has been attained with the bobwhite, hundreds of which are now being reared by the commission.”

From 1920 to 1947, the commission released more than 73,000 of the farm-raised birds that were not as hardy as natives and most likely did not survive the winters. Any natives probably hybridized with the farmed birds, weakening the native stock even more. Today, MassWildlife restocks bobwhites for hunters in Plymouth and Falmouth each year, but it has not led to a population increase. And, in fact, these birds are threatened due to habitat loss.

Since 1970, northern bobwhite populations have dropped by 77 percent, according to the Cor-

nell Lab of Ornithology. We will probably never again see the days described by William Brewster in 1906:

[Bobwhites] were always found in autumn and winter in the Fresh Pond Swamps ... but such instances ... were quite eclipsed by the presence of a bevy during the greater part of each autumn in the immediate neighborhood of Harvard Square. [The bevy] usually contained eight or ten, and its range included Norton's Woods, Jarvis Field, and the gardens and grounds lying along Kirkland Street and the western portions of Broadway and Harvard Streets. On one occasion several of the birds alighted on Cambridge Common in the midst of a number of boys who were playing baseball.

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.

Tiny bobwhites stick together to forage and roost.

Danita Dellmont

