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In Somerville, Big Brother is watching — your car

New camera devices have heard all the parking excuses. The ticket's in the mail.

By Spencer Buell
GLOBE STAFF

SOMERVILLE — Over and over, every single day, drivers in Davis Square pull up to the corner of Elm and Chester streets and park illegally.

On one side of the road, motorists will leave their cars in the bus

lane, or in front of a fire hydrant. On the other, they idle in front of a crosswalk.

Many seem to be making the same calculation: Since they're only running into a store quickly, or grabbing a bite to eat on the go, they'll get back before a parking enforcement officer has time to spot

them and write a ticket.

For years, they've been right. Not anymore.

Last month, Somerville City Council members signed off on a plan to activate camera-equipped devices that can catch scofflaws in the act at both of the notoriously misused street spaces, and then send them tickets in the mail.

The gray, cylindrical devices, called SafetySticks, are part of a program set to launch before the end of

the year that officials hope will be so efficient at issuing fines, it'll make drivers think twice before leaving their cars where they don't belong.

Illegal parking is rampant in Somerville, where curbside spots are often at a premium. That poses dangers for the high volume of pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit users traveling in all directions.

"There are always these quick stops people do," said Suzanne SAFETYSTICKS, Page A9

Cease-fire expected to start on Friday

Families had hoped hostages would be freed Thursday

By Patrick Kingsley, Ronen Bergman, and Hiba Yazbek
NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM — A four-day cease-fire between Israel and Hamas — the first extended break in almost seven weeks of war — will most likely not begin until Friday at the earliest, Israeli officials said Wednesday night, as negotiators hammered out details of an agreement between Israel and Hamas that would pause the fighting to allow the release of hostages and Palestinian prisoners.

The timing for the releases, which may also not begin until Friday, was released in a statement issued by the National Security Council through the Israeli prime minister's office, and appeared to rule out the possibility that hostages could be freed on Thursday, as many of their families had hoped.

The timing of the cease-fire was disclosed by an Israeli official who spoke on the condition of anonymity about the highly sensitive issue.

The new information underscored the fluidity of the negotiations between Israel and Hamas, which are being mediated by Qatar. Earlier Wednesday, Moussa Abu Marzouk, a senior Hamas official, told Al Jazeera from Qatar that his group had agreed to a temporary cease-fire starting at 10 a.m. local time Thursday, and an Israeli official had set out the same timing.

MIDEAST, Page A4

A MOMENT TO CELEBRATE



Djema Olivier, founder of the nonprofit Shut Up Until You There (SUUTY), performed a traditional Haitian dance to begin a Thanksgiving dinner Tuesday in Hyde Park for over 200 Haitian migrants living in area hotels. At right, Regina Galette shared a moment with her aunt Aurore Charles Andre as they volunteered during the event.



PHOTOS BY DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

A vehicle speeding toward a US-Canada bridge from the American side crashed and exploded at a checkpoint in Niagara Falls, killing two people and closing multiple crossings. A2.

Two people accused of operating a high-end brothel ring in Massachusetts and Virginia agreed to remain in custody while the case is pending. B1.

On the 60th anniversary of his death, people gathered at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum to view artifacts from the funeral and share memories of him. B1, A8.

The Celtics stumbled late but held on to beat the Bucks, 119-116, at TD Garden. C1.

Getting more blood samples from those with autism opens doors to research

By Felice J. Freyer
GLOBE STAFF

Dr. Jacob Hooker was stunned: There were only 45.

Among the 145,000 people who had agreed to provide blood for research at Mass General Brigham since it began collecting samples in 2010, only 45 had autism.

Hooker, scientific director of the Lurie Center for Autism at Massachusetts General Hospital, wants to identify subtypes of autism to better target research and treatment, but he couldn't do much with so few

samples. He fears that other scientists will also be discouraged.

"A lot of times scientists look where there's opportunity," he said. As long as the resources are so paltry, "we can't attract the world's talent to ask questions about autism."

For the sake of finding answers to those many questions, Hooker in May launched a campaign to encourage people with autism to contribute to the Mass General Brigham Biobank, a repository of blood samples donated for research.

Other academic medical centers

have such biobanks, but MGB's is among the largest. MGB patients agree to provide their blood, and researchers from throughout the MGB system can request data or samples to study any number of medical questions, such as how genetic and lifestyle factors affect obesity or the role of genes in prostate cancer.

But why were there so few samples from people with autism? "It's kind of obvious, in hindsight," Hooker said. Drawing blood can be challenging when the patient is hyper-

AUTISM, Page A9

A hunger for recognition of a deep heritage

Herring Pond Tribe pushes for federal funds

By Beth Treffeisen
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

PLYMOUTH — Raised by a tribal elder, Melissa Ferretti remembers growing up in a two-room shack in the woods in the 1970s on the southern border of Plymouth known as "the valley," where her family lived off the land.

Ferretti is a member of the Herring Pond Tribe, one of a

handful comprising the Wampanoag Nation, which many years ago had a small reservation in Plymouth.

In the back of the home was a shed used to smoke herring caught in the nearby river. In a garden that was bigger than the house, the family grew corn, beans, and squash, and raised chickens. Now 55, Ferretti remembers foraging in the woods, looking for herbs, sweet ferns, and cedar chips.

Her aunt, Vera May Harding, who was born in 1905 and was 89 when she died, used to say they were "living off the fat

of the land," said Ferretti, who lives in Bourne.

Many tribe members integrated into society, but others held onto their heritage and connection to the land for generations. Now, the Herring Pond Tribe is pushing for federal recognition, as their sister tribes in the Wampanoag Nation, Mashpee and Aquinnah, have.

"In this day and age, nothing erases you quicker than your silence," said Ferretti, chairperson of the Herring Pond Tribe and vice chairper-

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JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

"In this day and age, nothing erases you quicker than your silence," said Melissa Ferretti, chairperson of the Herring Pond Tribe in Plymouth. She's shown in the meetinghouse.

The right stuffing

Thursday: Sunny, pleasant. High 50-55. Low 37-42.

Friday: More of the same. High 45-50. Low 23-28.

High tide: 7:19 a.m., 7:46 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:44 Sunset: 4:16

Weather and Comics, D4-5. Obituaries, C11.

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