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**Waiting too long**

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## Squires Bridge construction completed early



With the completion of work on the Squires Bridge, Green Line Service has been restored on the Union Square Branch.

Construction work on the Squires Bridge in Somerville was completed ahead of schedule. As a result, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) resumed Green Line train service on the Union Square Branch last week.

The Squires Bridge carries Route 28/McGrath Highway over the Union Branch of the Green Line, the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line, and Somerville Avenue Extension.

The Squires Bridge Project was initially anticipated to take 42 days, but MassDOT was able to modify the schedule and reduce the construction period to 25 days. MassDOT crews began work in September, focusing on completing critical beam end repairs, along with additional preventive actions, to ensure the bridge can remain open and safe for use.

MassDOT work was completed *Continued on page 4*

## Urban Micro-Forest (Miyawaki) in Somerville

Somerville is piloting the planting of a micro-forest using the Miyawaki method - a technique that encourages quick forest growth by densely planting 30-50 species in a small area. Now, they need your help to bring this vision to life.

Join in on Saturday, October 21, to help plant the city's first Miyawaki forest at Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.). Planting shifts will run from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Children are encouraged to join in. To learn more and volunteer, visit <https://voice.somervillema.gov/miyawaki-micro-forest>.

What is the Miyawaki method, you ask? Dr. Aki-ira Miyawaki (1928-2021) was a botanist and ecologist in Japan who sought to restore layered forests, especially in degraded areas. He advocated for the protection of native forests and

*Continued on page 4*



The first micro-forest in Somerville will be planted this coming Saturday at Somerville High School.

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The views and opinions expressed in Newstalk do not necessarily reflect those of The Somerville Times, its publisher or staff. The column has many contributors.

Somerville Police announced the sad news of the passing of the department’s K-9, **Lobo**. Lobo entered the police service with his handler **Officer Timothy Sullivan** on December 24, 2015. He proudly served the residents of Somerville for nearly 8 years until his sudden passing on October 15, 2023. Lobo will be missed by many, especially Officer Sullivan and his family, who has taken such great care of Lobo. Our thoughts are with them during this difficult time.

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Somerville is piloting the planting of a micro-forest using the **Miyawaki method**, a technique that encourages quick forest growth by densely planting 30-50 species in a small area. Now, it needs your help to bring this vision to life. Join in on Saturday, October 21 to help plant the city's first Miyawaki forest at **Somerville High School** (81 Highland Ave.). Planting shifts will run from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Children are encouraged to join. To learn more and volunteer, visit <https://voice.somervillema.gov/miyawaki-micro-forest>.

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Happy birthday this week to several locals: We want to wish Somerville resident and Vietnam Veteran and Marine, **Leo Mingace** a very special birthday. Leo is celebrating his 75th. We hope he has a great celebration. Happy birthday to former writer for *The Somerville Times*, **Harry Kane**. We hope he is doing well and wish him a great day. Happy birthday to **Barry Rollins**, *Continued on page 7*

# The Somerville Times

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## Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of October 18 – October 24 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 <b>Wednesday</b> <i>October 18</i>	Partly Cloudy	64°/47°	9%	5%	SSW 7 mph
 <b>Thursday</b> <i>October 19</i>	Sunny	67°/50°	10%	6%	SSW 9 mph
 <b>Friday</b> <i>October 20</i>	Rain	64°/57°	43%	37%	SE 10 mph
 <b>Saturday</b> <i>October 21</i>	Rain	63°/52°	75%	69%	SE 110 mph
 <b>Sunday</b> <i>October 22</i>	Cloudy	59°/42°	22%	16%	WNW 13 mph
 <b>Monday</b> <i>October 23</i>	Partly Cloudy	52°/37°	5%	3%	NW 12 mph
 <b>Tuesday</b> <i>October 24</i>	Sunny	58°/39°	3%	2%	N 10 mph

NOTE: Conditions subject to change. Always check a daily forecast prior to activities that can be affected by the weather.

## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week – October 4

Tony Volkas @ 1PLs says:

How beautiful is it to read such topics! I love history and even more love some historical facts and stories. Like for real you like hit me with this one, thank you! I love to read about some parliamentarians and about their intrigues hahaha. And for me it is always both fun and strange to read about some withes stuff of that time. How cool is that that we are an educated generation who does not believe in such weird things. When i read stuff like this i always think about The Twilight Saga and everything what was going on in the episode about burning witches. Brrr

### Response to: Somerville launching ‘Adopt-a-Drain’ program to help prevent flooding

Charlie says:

Give me a break. The city needs to wake up and start doing their jobs.

Francis Friolies says:

Please start with the drain behind the ice rink at Conway Park near the EV Chargers. There is a sewer manhole there that continues to overflow into parking lot and then it runs down into the storm drain. The sewers should probably be fixed before we add even more tall buildings and density.

### Response to: Somerville Police Chief candidate interviews

Steve Keenan says:

I think Carmine Vivilo would make an excellent Chief of Police. I hope he is selected.

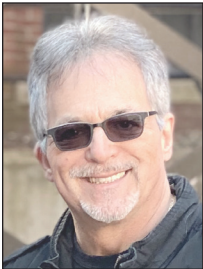
Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Somerville Wine



One of our family heirlooms is one of the last bottles of my grandfather's homemade wine. It's in a Ballantine Ale bottle. I remember my father saying it was either really good wine or very bad vinegar. It remains unopened in my kitchen cupboard but I thought I'd look into winemaking in Somerville by starting with my grandpa.

Grandpa was a Somerville school custodian.

There was a sprawling grapevine in his

yard that is still there today. All the stomping and bottling was done by my grandpa right there on Elmwood St across from the Western Junior High school. The cellar still contains the bottle capping gizmo and a press.

Here are some reader comments:

"My grandfather made wine down cellar. He had his own wine press and grew his own grapes in the backyard. My brother is going to try to make some wine as well using the old wine press!"

"I have great memories of eating grapes in grandpa's backyard with my cousins."

"My brother and I would raid a neighbor's grape arbor, often he would chase us away."

"My grandfather made wine down our cellar. He had his own wine press and grew his own grapes in the backyard. My brother is going to try to make some wine as well using the old wine press! So many memories in that house. "My family owned it for four generations, I am still so sad that it had to be sold. Of course, the new owner is making condos. I have read many posts about people saying negative things about Somerville, but despite it all I miss it terribly."

I'm sure my grandpa and his friends had plenty of wine to get them through Prohibition in the 1930's. In the meantime, the bottle of grandpa's will stay in the cabinet.



### Somerville launching 'Adopt-a-Drain' program to help prevent flooding

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, in partnership with the Mystic River Watershed Association, is inviting residents and business owners to help protect the health of our local environment and reduce flooding by adopting a storm drain in their neighborhood.

Caring for Somerville's more than 3,600 storm drains is an enormous task, and while city staff are working hard to maintain these assets and upgrade our stormwater management systems, support from community members can play a vital role.

To learn more about what it means to adopt a drain and sign up for the program, visit Somerville's "Adopt-a-Drain" page. Once on the page, you can find a drain in your area by typing in a nearby address or navigating the map.


If the drain you want to adopt is available, you can claim through the website. After signing-up you'll receive a welcome email with more information about caring for your newly-adopted piece of municipal infrastructure.

For more information, please email [contact@mysticriver.org](mailto:contact@mysticriver.org) or contact Lucica Hiller, City of Somerville Stormwater Program Manager, via email at [lhiller@somervillema.gov](mailto:lhiller@somervillema.gov) or phone at 617-625-6600 x 5400.

### Want to write local Somerville stories?

Call 857-488-5138 and speak to the Assignment Editor

## LEGAL NOTICE



### ATTENTION SPECIAL NOTICE FOR VOTERS IN Ward 4 Precincts 2, 2A and 3

**Voters in Ward 4 Precinct 2 and Precinct 2A**

Since The Winter School is currently closed you now vote at The Pearl Street Park Building at 240 Pearl Street.

On Election Day Tuesday November 7, 2023, Polls are open from 7am. – 8pm.

**Voters in Ward 4 Precinct 3**

Since The Winter School is currently closed you now vote at the Brazilian Presbyterian Church at 212 School Street

On Election Day Tuesday November 7, 2023, Polls are open from 7am. – 8pm.

Or

you can early vote Wednesday November 1, 2023, through Friday November 3, 2023

All early voting is at City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue during regular business hours only.

If you have any questions, please call 617-625-6600 and ask for Elections.



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## Somerville Police Chief search interview survey/feedback

Three finalists in the City of Somerville's Police Chief search participated in public interviews on October 10, and community members are invited to review the interview videos and provide feedback on the candidates. The deadline for community members to submit comments has been extended through Sunday, October 22, at midnight. To learn more about the finalists and the process, visit [somer villema.gov/policechief](http://somer villema.gov/policechief).

In February 2023, the City contracted GovHR – an industry-leading expert in executive recruitment – to help lead a rigorous nationwide search for suitable candidates. A community search committee was also established and community feedback was gathered during public listening sessions held in February and March and meetings with several stakeholder groups. Guided by that input and direct feedback from the members of the Search Committee, GovHR put forward recommendations for candidates earlier this year.

### The Finalists

The Search Committee conducted in-person interviews of the five candidates on Wednesday, September 20 and Thursday, September 21. The Committee selected the three candidates listed below to advance to the final stage. These following three candidates were interviewed publicly on October 10: Benjamin M. Murphy, Carmine C. Vivolo, Din R. Jenkins Sr.

### How to Watch Recordings of Finalist Interviews

Watch on-demand on CityTV's YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/somervillecitytv](https://youtube.com/somervillecitytv). Closed captioning is available.

On GovTV: Watch the interviews (on repeats) on the City's GovTV Cable TV Channels: Comcast 22 and Astound (RCN) 13 and 613. Schedules are available at [somer villema.gov/TV](http://somer villema.gov/TV) and below.

**Schedule** (each set of times includes a separate candidate interview on the half-hour):

Wednesday, October 18: Set 1: 9:00, 9:30, and 10 a.m.; Set 2: 8:00, 8:30, and 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 19: Set 1: 12:00, 12:30, and 1:00 p.m.; Set 2: 10:00, 10:30, and 11:00 p.m.

Friday, October 20: Set 1: 9:00, 9:30, and 10 a.m.; Set 2: 7:30, 8:00, and 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 21: Set 1: 3:00, 3:30, and 4:00 p.m.; Set 2: 10:30, 11:00, and 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 22: Set 1: 7:30, 8:00, and 8:30 p.m.; Set 2: 9:30, 10:00, and 10:30 p.m.

**How to provide feedback:** Visit [www.somer villema.gov/policechief](http://www.somer villema.gov/policechief). Select Police Chief Interview Feedback Form. Fill out survey.



## Squires Bridge construction completed early CONT. FROM PG 1

on Tuesday, October 10, the MBTA ran a test train through the area, and MBTA Green Line service on the Union Square Branch resumed last Wednesday.

"We're proud to have completed repairs of the Squires Bridge ahead of schedule and to have resumed Green Line train service in this area as quickly and safely as possible," said Acting Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt. "We're grateful to MBTA riders for their patience, to the MassDOT engineers and contractors for their hard work, and to Governor Healey and

Lieutenant Governor Driscoll for challenging us to think bigger about how we could shorten the construction timeline to minimize the impact on riders."

"We are pleased that the strategic decisions around the approach to this important safety work have been successful," said MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. "Our team achieved the results we had hoped for and finished on time so that Green Line service could resume as quickly as possible."

"Regularly scheduled Green Line service began early this

morning, following the successful operation of test trains on the Union Station branch," MBTA General Manager & CEO Philip Eng said. "In keeping with our commitment last month to expedite track repair work during the Squires Bridge project, the MBTA has removed all of the Green Line speed restrictions on both the Union Station branch and the Medford/Tufts Station branch. Green Line trains today are traveling at regular line speeds on both branches. I wish to thank our riders for their patience while MassDOT completed the bridge

project and we addressed the track defects discovered during an inspection last month."

Because the Squires Bridge project work had to be performed within the Green Line right of way, transit service on the Union Branch had to be terminated at Lechmere Station during construction. Bridge work did not impact motor vehicle travel across the bridge, MBTA Commuter Rail service on the Fitchburg Line, nor Green Line service to Medford/Tufts.

The Squires Bridge is a critical component of the Route 28/McGrath Highway corridor

which links Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville with communities to the north. On average, the Squires Bridge carries approximately 40,000 motor vehicles per day, roughly the equivalent of travel volumes through the Sumner Tunnel in Boston. Based on MBTA Green Line boarding information for January through March 2023, the MBTA estimates an average of approximately 1,550 customers board the Green Line at Union Square each weekday, with fewer estimated boardings on Saturdays and Sundays.

## Urban Micro-Forest (Miyawaki) in Somerville CONT. FROM PG 1

saw their value to humans, non-humans, including their role in minimizing the impacts of intense weather events. He believed it was important to foster species that were native to an area and to mimic the behaviors of plants that grow naturally in a forest.

The technique he developed,

now called the Miyawaki method, encourages quick growth by densely planting 30-50 species in a small area. This arrangement is inspired by natural forest behavior where species grow taller and more robust through competition for sun, water, and nutrients.

The result of this high-density,

native planting is a mature forest in as few as 20-30 years that is well adapted for our region.

Miyawaki forests have been planted all over the world and are extremely biodiverse, require little maintenance, and are installed on small pockets of land. Very quickly, we can bring a forest to

our densely developed city!

Planting small, dense forests is not a typical practice in cities in the United States. Each time a city or town does so, we learn a little more about ways to make our urban lands resilient, livable, and beautiful. Each strategy we use to increase our tree

canopy creates resilience to heat extremes, reduces air pollution, captures carbon dioxide, and provides a home for birds and pollinators. This is a pilot project and we will use this experience to learn about the efficacy of micro-forests and the Miyawaki method in our region.



# Traffic Commission votes to amend parking laws

By Jennifer Purcell

It is no secret that certain areas in Somerville lack appropriate and accessible parking for all community members. Therefore, Somerville’s Traffic Commission came together last Thursday via Zoom in order to discuss a variety of these issues and work together to resolve them. This meeting’s focus was on the lack of handicapped parking spaces as well as people creating traffic in the most inconvenient of places.

### Handicapped Parking on School Street

The first issue tackled was the lack of handicapped parking on School Street, among Somerville’s most utilized streets. Her concern was that there are not nearly enough handicapped parking spaces on this street and requested to add at least one more in order to accommodate those who might need it. This Item was accepted in a matter of

minutes without any discussion being held.

### Fire Lane Extensions

The second item on the agenda was one requesting the extension of the fire lane at 42 Preston Road. This extension will run from the corner of Preston Road for 45 feet in an easterly direction to the edge of the driveway, therefore taking up about one more parking space than it currently does.

The reasoning for this extension is that as of right now, emergency vehicles are unable to make clean turns around that corner, therefore delaying their arrival at any potential site in that area. According to Sean Tierney, some of these vehicles are not even able to make the turn at all.

With that being said, the Commission was quick to accept this Item as well after a singular comment from Ward 5 Councilor Beatriz Gomez Mouakad, who believes that it is imperative

that Somerville’s apparatus is able to get where they need to go with ease.

### “Do Not Enter” Signs

The third and final item to be reviewed was a request to install signs around the Ten Hills neighborhood that read “Do Not Enter 7 am-9 pm / 4 pm-6 pm Monday-Friday Except Residents.” The reasoning was that many people are turning into this neighborhood simply to cut through it, including trucks who come through illegally. Ward 4 Councilor Jes-



se Clingan stated that this has created unnecessary traffic on multiple occasions now, creating dangerous situations as many residents have been unable to leave their driveways. He noted

that three signs would be placed at the following three locations:

- The entrance at Mystic Avenue and Shore Drive.
- The entrance at Temple Road and Mystic

Continued on page 9

## LEGAL NOTICE

### VOTER REGISTRATION



### LAST DAY TO REGISTER

Friday, October 27, 2023, at 5:00pm or online until 12:00am on Saturday, October 28, 2023

### FOR THE CITY ELECTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Election Department: Somerville City Hall Hours

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY ----- 8:30 a.m. ----- 4:30 p.m.  
THURSDAY ----- 8:30 a.m. ----- 7:30 p.m.  
FRIDAY ----- 8:30 a.m. ----- 12:30 p.m.

To request a voter registration form

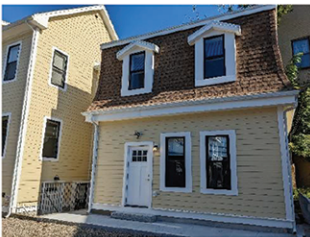
- CALL 617-625-6600 ext. 4200 for a Voter Mail-In Registration form
- Download a Mail-In Voter Registration form from the City Website and mail to the Election Department
- Register Online by visiting the City Website

All mail-in voter registration forms must be post-marked by 10/27/23.

The City of Somerville does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, age, national origin, sexual preference, disability, or any other protected category in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. Auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, reasonable modifications in policies and procedures will be provided to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and LaCourt Orphanage Trust, LLC are pleased to announce **one (1) income- restricted rental apartment** available through the City of Somerville Inclusionary Housing Program at:

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\* Min. income requirements are waived for households with rental subsidies through mobile housing vouchers such as Section 8, MRVP, VASH etc.

**APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: Tues. Oct. 10 – Thurs. Nov. 9, 2023**

Online at: [somerillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing](https://somerillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing)

Request hard applications and more information at: (617) 625-6600 X 2566 or [inclusionary@somervillema.gov](mailto:inclusionary@somervillema.gov)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: Thurs. Nov. 9 at 2:00 PM**

Faxed to: 617-591-3235; Emailed to: [inclusionary@somervillema.gov](mailto:inclusionary@somervillema.gov)

Mailed/Dropped off to: City Hall Annex: 50 Evergreen Ave., Somerville, MA 02145;

**LOTTERY:** Thurs. Nov. 16, 2023 @ 10AM | Register to view the lottery here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82584687325>

**VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS:** Thurs. @ 5:30-7:30 PM

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81106664399> / Meeting ID: 811 0666 4399 / Call in: +1 305-224-1968



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: [INCLUSIONARY@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:INCLUSIONARY@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV) / 617-625-6600 ext. 2566

Visit: [somerillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing](https://somerillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing)



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# Fair Housing Questionnaire for Candidates, 2023

## Part 2

*The Somerville Fair Housing Commission, a nonpartisan group of citizens serving the community, asked candidates for Mayor and School Committee a set of questions about Fair Housing in 2021 and again this year, in 2023.*

**Question 3: What is the most important thing that Somerville landlords, property managers, real estate agents, or owners selling their homes need to know to further Fair Housing in Somerville? What would you do to increase compliance with Fair Housing law?**

### William Tauro, Candidate for Mayor

It is very important for landlords, property managers, real estate agents to be reminded of the Fair Housing Law. Every real estate office licensed to work in Massachusetts should have Fair Housing posters and flyers in different languages stating the law. The Fair Housing Law should also be on their web sites. All city departments dealing with housing should disseminate the Fair Housing Law as a part of their interactions with residents.

It's important to have workshops where landlords and tenants learn their rights and responsibilities. I have known people who have been squeezed out of Somerville because a house was sold, and the new owner doubled their rent; I have known people who had to move out of Somerville because the property manager upped the rent to an unsustainable level that can be met by two unrelated professionals in the unit but not a family. I want to generate more commercial tax revenue to take the burden off landlords and more reasonable rents for tenants.

### Matthew Hunt, Candidate for City Council, Ward 1

Landlords, sellers, property managers, and real estate agents could certainly benefit from further training on the letter of the law when it comes to Fair Housing but also there needs to be an examination culturally of how we approach housing and development. We should be working towards a model that prioritizes a Somerville that will be sustainably vibrant and diverse.

### Naima Sait, Candidate for City Council, Ward 5

The most consequential piece of knowledge that landlords, property managers, real estate agents, and homeowners could have to ensure compliance with Fair Housing law is that swift, certain consequences will accrue to violations. Policies that lead toward real, widespread accountability include the adoption and distribution to all new tenants, every year, of a Tenants' Bill of Rights; significant expansion of the Inspectional Services Department and expansion of its mission to include proactive enforcement and timely responses to tenants' grievances; and significant expansion of the Office of Housing Stability to include

a staff of attorneys ready and able to assist tenants and prospective tenants in housing discrimination disputes.

### Jack Connolly, Candidate for City Council, Ward 6

The most important thing that these people need to know is that discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated. The City of Somerville has a responsibility to protect and respect residents whether they already live here or hope to live here in the near future. It is paramount that the City of Somerville assures that housing discrimination is abolished and it will not be tolerated by anyone.

### Wilfred Mbah, Candidate for City Council At Large

First, it is essential that the existence and work of the Somerville Fair Housing Commission and the state Fair Housing Law be well-publicized to all the professionals involved in property sales and leasing, as well as to all residents as buyers and lessees. I support the on-going efforts of the Commission to fill the seat that is vacant in the fall of 2023; and to receive sufficient staffing from the city's housing stabilization and legal departments.

Second, I will fully support the efforts, now under way, to increase the powers of the Fair Commission, which is now limited to a broad educational mission and a role of first line investigation, support and referral for services for the residents who bring complaints about housing discrimination. Some other cities have given their Fair Housing Commissions enforcement powers by Home Rule or ordinance. This is at the study stage in Fall 2023. I will be a strong supporter of this effort and insure that it moves ahead with whatever actions and funding are needed.

**Question 4: What do you see as the link between affordability and Fair Housing in Somerville?**

### William Tauro, Candidate for Mayor

The percentage of income spent on housing helps define affordability. Housing cost burdens of 30% - 50% severely burden Somerville residents many of whom are on fixed incomes or are of low income. Bidding wars on real estate, high income young professionals, expanding rapid transit makes Somerville housing costs over 150% higher than national housing costs. People of modest income, frequently immigrants and minorities, don't stand a chance of living in Somerville unless they are helped with rents adjusted for income. I think the Affordable Housing Trust Fund needs to be looked at and expanded to help with this.

### Matthew Hunt, Candidate for City Council, Ward 1

Affordability and Fair Housing and inextricably linked.

Protected classes in Fair Housing law are significantly more likely to be economically disenfranchised and lack of access to affordable housing further marginalizes these communities.

### Naima Sait, Candidate for City Council, Ward 5

Affordability and Fair Housing make each other meaningful: Discrimination via pricing reifies all of the structural inequalities in our society, and while discrimination based on identity cuts across all income brackets it cuts deeper at brackets whose inhabitants have fewer resources and fewer options. Somerville is already home to a number of organizations that strive to make housing more affordable at the margins; the City must increase funding to the Office of Housing Stability and to the organizers at the Community Action Agency of Somerville and at the Welcome Project to make sure that the services to find and keep housing are available to all tenants. The Somerville Community Land Trust is working to build a housing portfolio outside the market and the City should support it with funding and land grants. The City should also explore the creation of a municipally-owned-and-operated real estate development agency to directly construct City-owned mixed-income housing which reserve much larger fractions of units at more-deeply affordable price levels than are required by the inclusionary zoning ordinance.

### Jack Connolly, Candidate for City Council, Ward 6

The link between affordable and fair housing is availability; There is not enough housing units to meet the overwhelming demand. Somerville must work hand in hand with the Somerville Housing Authority and the real estate development community to provide incentives such as real estate tax credits, to build more housing units with the current affordable requirements percentage. As we build more in this city, we need to strive to build a city that people can afford to live in.

### Wilfred Mbah, Candidate for City Council At Large

Many of the households that fall into the groups, protected by Fair Housing are also lower income, thus, when they are shut out of the regular housing market by discriminatory practices, they turn to the subsidized and housing programs. This increases the demand for the limited numbers of units that are offered by the public and non-profit programs, adding more families to the waiting lists and further discouraging applicants. Individuals and families should not be forced into subsidized housing as the remedy for encountering discrimination.

*Additional questions and answers will be presented in next week's edition of The Somerville Times.*

Visit us online at [www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)  
Facebook at [www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1](http://www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1)



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The Monster Mash event is a great way to wrap up the SomerStreets season.

Our View Of The Times



Whatever one’s feelings may be regarding the relative merits of the city’s SomerStreets events, one thing is clear: a good number of people end up having a really great time for themselves.

For many, the best is saved for last. That, of course, is embodied in the Monster Mashed event that brings out the kid in everyone who gets involved.

There’s plenty of family fun to be had

with activities from Parkour, Event Them, and Knucklebones.

A Crafts and Vintage market will be featured with goods from Blue Bandana Relics and Tiny Turns Paperie.

Some bemoan the many street closures that take place throughout the year for similar events, road races, etc. There are valid points of view on both ends of the issue. It only seems reasonable, though, to

partake in the festivities as long as they are there for the partaking. A little giving in can feel good, in comparison to not participating at all.

For those who enjoy these types of events, this closing edition of SomerStreets serves as a fun and festive farewell to the series and a somewhat melancholy reminder that the cold wintry months will soon be upon us.

It all takes place on Sunday, October 22 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. – with a rain date of October 29 – on Somerville Ave. between School St. to Warren Ave.

Make sure to dress up in your best Halloween costume and show it off at the Halloween Parade led by School of Honk.

So, let’s get out there and enjoy the best days of the season while they are here. They won’t last forever.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

who is celebrating this week. Happy birthday to Erin DiBenedetto from Medford, who grew up here in Winter Hill. We wish her a happy birthday. Happy birthday to Valarie Spinale-Bolduc. Happy birthday to Vicki Potaris. We wish her a great day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Darell Lee Shanafelt, George Lally, Charlene Murphy, Jim Douthart, Stephen Bertoncini and David LaCroix a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Community Growing

Center is holding their 2nd Annual Seasonal Salvage Sale & Makers' Market on October 21, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m., 22 Vinal Ave. Rather than a traditional yard sale, it became a two-part shopping experience: a curated, seasonally-themed secondhand sale where 100% of the proceeds go to the Growing Center, and a new "Makers' Market" filled with local craft vendors who participate for a nominal fee but get to keep all the proceeds of their sales. Do you have excess stuff? Go through it and pull out a few items for the Growing Center's Seasonal Salvage sale. There will be on-site collecting on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings (10/18, 10/19,

10/20). More info here: <https://www.thegrowingcenter.org/yard-sale>

\*\*\*\*\*

**SomerStreets: Monster Mash** takes place on **Sunday, October 22**, from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. (rain date 10/29) on Somerville Ave. between School St. to Warren Ave. A free and family friendly event! Make sure to dress up in your best Halloween costume and show it off at the Halloween Parade led by School of Honk. Check out activities and participating partners: [somerstreets.org](http://somerstreets.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Welcome to Somerville Public Schools:**

**A Workshop for Immigrant Families, Wednesday, October 18, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.** in Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole at **Somerville High School**, 81 Highland Ave. ¡Bienvenidos a las Escuelas Públicas de Somerville! Taller para las familias inmigrantes. DIA 18 DE OCTUBRE, EN SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL DE 5:30 A 7:00 P.M. 81 HIGHLAND AVE. Bem-vindos às Escolas Públicas de Somerville! Uma oficina para famílias imigrantes. DIA 18 DE OUTUBRO, NA SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 17H30 - 19H. 81 HIGHLAND AVE. Byenveni nan Lekòl Piblik Somerville yo!

Continued on page 23



FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#894

1. How many Great Chelsea fires have there been?

2. When is Breast Cancer Awareness Month?

3. What was the first self-service grocery store?

4. What do you find at the end of a book and the end of your intestine?

5. The four-letter states in the United States?

6. What is the largest volcano on Earth?

7. Which U.S. president was a licensed
- bartender?

8. What was David Bowie's real name?

9. What is the only gemstone that comes from a living being?

10. Who was the first deaf blind person in the United States to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree?

11. In the Edward Hopper painting *Nighthawks*, how many people are sitting at the bar?

12. What was the small fifth pocket on a pair of Levi's originally designed for?

Answers on page19

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Messages from your brain travel at up to 200 mph.
2. Finland has the most metal bands per capita.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD  
HALLOWEEN

- ACROSS
1. Down in the dumps

5. Letter-writing friend

8. Trampled

12. Hokkaido people

13. D. H. Lawrence's "\_\_\_\_ and Lovers"

14. Near the wind, archaic

15. Mideast ruler

16. Hipbones

17. Pumpkin, e.g.

18. "The \_\_\_\_\_", movie

20. Jackson 5 member

21. Twinings product

22. \_\_\_\_ canto (singing style)

23. Appetite whetter

26. Chucking

30. Pilot's announcement, acr.

31. Short sock

34. Kuwaiti leader

35. Dapper

37. "\_\_\_\_ the ramparts ..."

38. Origami bird

39. Popular picnic side

40. Weary walk

42. Often precedes "whiz"

43. Larry of Oracle

45. Most idle

47. Napkin holder

48. Gamy, alt. sp.

50. What witches' brew does in 52 across

52. "Eye of newt and toe of frog" holder

55. Shell-less gastropod, pl.

56. Siren's song, e.g.

57. A Flock of Seagulls' hit (2 words)

59. Ottoman title

60. Type of mine passage

61. Head of family

62. Aid in crime

63. World's largest Halloween Parade location, acr.

64. Bulgarian or Serb

- DOWN
1. Ovine utterance

2. Margarita fruit

3. Windows alternative in computers

4. "Europa \_\_\_\_\_" movie (1990)

5. Disease in Philip Roth's "Nemesis"

6. Licorice-like flavor

7. Future atty's exam

8. Michael Jackson's spooky classic

9. Disorderly retreat

10. M lange

11. "Silent Spring" subject, acr.

13. Make ill

14. Subsequently

19. Settle a debt

22. Contrary conjunction

23. End of "incense"

24. In the least (2 words)

25. Birth-related

26. Group of cows

27. JPEG data

28. "To the \_\_\_\_\_" or "to a great extent"

29. Roll out the red carpet

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
	18			19					20			
			21					22				
23	24	25					26			27	28	29
30				31		32	33			34		
35			36			37			38			
39					40				41		42	
43				44				45		46		
			47				48	49				
	50	51				52				53	54	
55						56				57		58
59						60				61		
62						63				64		

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Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

W	A	N	T			J	O	B			D	A	D				
I	L	I	A			M	E	G	A		O	C	U	L	I		
T	A	C	H			O	L	L	A		V	R	O	O	M		
	S	K	I	T	T	L	E	S			O	A	S	T			
			T	H	E	Y	D			D	I	V					
T	S	H	I	R	T				C	E	D	I	L	L	A		
U	K	E		E	S	C	R	O	W		N	O	E	S			
T	E	R	C	E		E	E	N			A	G	A	V	E		
T	A	B	U			A	D	V	E	R	B		T	E	A		
I	N	S	P	I	R	E				A	A	C	H	E	N		
			C	O	T				M	E	N	S	H				
	F	I	A	T					R	A	N	C	H	E	R	S	
V	O	D	K	A					U	N	D	O		E	A	T	S
O	G	L	E	S					D	I	O	R		R	I	O	T
L	Y	E							D	A	N			S	L	A	Y

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.



# Traffic Commission votes to amend parking laws

CONT. FROM PG 5


Avenue.

✦ The entrance at Shore Drive and Fells Way.

This item, however, was quite controversial amongst the committee. While it was agreed that the traffic was getting out of hand and no one should be entering the neighborhood unless they are residents or have any sort of business with a resident, the idea of putting up signs did not appeal to Traffic Engineer Jessica Bellow. She mentioned that the city of Somerville is trying to find alternative ways to discourage people from driving where they're not supposed to as signs don't always work. It seems to her that this would be a step back for Somerville as it wouldn't be consistent with what they're doing in other parts of the city and that they owe it to the people to be consistent.

Although they spent quite a bit of time discussing this topic, they were unable to find an alternative solution. It was therefore recommended that there be a motion to amend this Item and that they would circle back to it at a later date.

## LEGAL NOTICE



**Somerville Housing Authority**  
**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**  
**Phase 1B (Lot C1) of the Clarendon Hills Redevelopment**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE LONG-TERM LEASE OR DISPOSITION OF SHA LAND AT 34 NORTH ST (LOT C1), SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS LAND FOR MARKET RATE AND MIXED-INCOME HOUSING**

**Issued on 10/18/2023, 2023**

To select a developer partner to assist the Somerville Housing Authority ("SHA") in implementing Phase 1B at Lot C1 of the mixed-income redevelopment of its state-aided public housing development at 34 North St., Somerville, MA in conformance with the 40B Permit (as defined below) issued for the site, subject to modifications approved by SHA as discussed further below.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Pre-Proposal Meeting/Site Tour:	<b>11/01/2023 11:00 AM</b>	at 30R Memorial Rd. Somerville
Proposal Submission Deadline:	<b>11/21/2023 1:00 PM</b>	
Developer Selection:	<b>12/20/23</b>	

**Request for Proposal Documents should be made through email to [BrianL@SHA-web.org](mailto:BrianL@SHA-web.org) on or after Wednesday Oct 18th. Brian Langton 617-625-1152 Ext.331**

**Please submit proposals to Brian Langton, no later than 12/21/23 at 1:00 PM.**

**OBJECTIVES**

SHA desires to procure a developer who will (i) maximize the purchase price/upfront ground lease rent payment for Lot C1, while proposing a budget for the redevelopment of Phase 1B that covers costs for relocation and infrastructure and utilities (to the extent not covered by public funds already awarded as described more fully below), and (ii) complete the redevelopment of Phase 1B, Lot C1 on an expeditious timeline.

**Background**

On or about March 18, 2016, SHA issued a request for proposals entitled "Request for Proposals for the Long-Term Lease of SHA Land at 34 North St., Somerville, Massachusetts and the Development of this Land for Mixed-Income Housing," in connection with the contemplated development, rehabilitation, construction and operation of mixed income rental housing, including at least 216 units of state-aided public housing on 34 North St.

On or about April 8, 2016, Preservation of Affordable Housing LLC, a Massachusetts limited liability company, Gate Residential Properties, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and The Somerville Community Corporation, Inc., a Massachusetts nonprofit corporation, collectively (the "Original Developer") submitted a proposal to develop 34 North St. On or about May 6, 2016, SHA designated the Original Developer as the developer for 34 North St. As of January 11, 2023, SHA entered into a Land Disposition/Development Agreement with the Original Developer with respect to 34 North St. (the "Original LDA").

The Original LDA divided the redevelopment of 34 North St. into the following three projects:

First Building E (Phase 1A), followed by Buildings A & B (Phase 1B), and finally completed with Building D and Townhouses (Phase 2) as detailed further in the chart below (although the order of development of Phase 1B and Phase 2 is flexible). The full redevelopment includes 3 new streets, a new park, and demolition of 9 total buildings. Infrastructure, access and utility matters will be documented through one or more cross-easement agreements, and each phase shall pay its share of construction and maintenance of the same. Respondents should assume a baseline of \$3,100,000 for its share of construction costs of infrastructure, access and utilities.

SUMMARY	TOTAL	Phase 1A Building E	Phase 1B Buildings A&B	Phase 2 Building D and Townhouses
Replacement Units	216	130	15	71
Affordable (<80% AMI) [Inclusionary zoning requirement]	75	38	16	21
Affordable (<110% AMI) [Inclusionary zoning requirement]	5	0	5	0
Market Units	295	0	295	0
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>92</b>

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# The Somerville Times

## Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #290

### Historic Ways

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

In 1842, she found her way to freedom. For two centuries, our city had been part of Charlestown which at one time encompassed ten Middlesex County towns. Woburn was the first to branch off in 1642 and two hundred years later Somerville was the last to break away.



Since then, she has had it her "way." Simply described, a way is a path, road, track, street or river utilized for direction. One of the most historically famous was the ancient Appian Way used by the Romans in 312 BC to conquer Southern Italy.

Today, ways can be found crisscrossing our city at all angles. The ways of Somerville are numerable. They can be found in the form of bikeways, parkways, railways, waterways and more.



- ✦ Somerville/Charlestown's first road was today's Washington Street, or as it was originally called, The Way to Newtowne. It was the original name of Cambridge.
- ✦ The second road was today's Broadway, initially called Menotomy Way, or the road to today's Arlington.
- ✦ This state's first shipway was used July 4, 1631 at Ten Hills to launch the colony's first vessel, The

Blessing of the Bay.

- ✦ The oldest way, or Paul Revere's original route, was the way to Newtowne.
- ✦ One of today's newest is Assembly Square's Artisan Way.

Continued on page 20



## LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING  
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
KATJANA BALLANTYNE  
MAYOR**

**THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR.**  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)**

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, November 7, 2023** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov).

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Registration URL:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN\\_tEgZP0IIRBaspkJDXVSQKq](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_tEgZP0IIRBaspkJDXVSQKq)

Webinar ID: 821 7191 6393

**TO CALL IN**

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

**ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT**

**DETERMINATIONS OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)**

**HP23-000043– 11 Auburn Avenue**

Applicant: Garrett Einis

Owner: 11 Auburn Avenue, LLC

The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

Case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>.

Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) with inquiries.

10/18/23 The Somerville Times



**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION FOR WRITTEN QUOTES**

The **Somerville Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites written quotes from Contractors for the **Rooftop Unit Replacement at the Administration Building for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville, Massachusetts**, in accordance with the documents prepared by **C.A. Crowley Engineering**.

The Project consists of: Replacement of (1) existing rooftop unit with (1) new rooftop unit.

The work is estimated to cost **\$ 35,000.00**.

Quotes are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A (2)(B) & to state prevailing wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §526 to 27H inclusive.

Written Quotes will be received until **2:00 p.m., October 26, 2023**.

All Quotes should be emailed to: [BrianL@sha-web.org](mailto:BrianL@sha-web.org) and received no later than the date & time specified above. Quotes must be emailed.

Contract Documents will be available at electronically or for purchase at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com) on

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023**, Project Code **858425**.

The job site and/or existing building will be available for inspection at **10 A.M. on October 18, 2021**.

For an appointment call **Brian Langton at the SHA at 617-625-1152**.

10/11/23, 10/18/23 The Somerville Times



**City of Somerville  
PLANNING BOARD**

City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, November 2, 2023**, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available by using the registration link once the meeting has concluded.

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN\\_oF2wp30IRASCMNUBpGXXvg](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_oF2wp30IRASCMNUBpGXXvg)  
Webinar ID: 884 3933 8708

**TO CALL IN**

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

The Planning Board will consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

**28-44 Broadway** Lower Broadway Development LLC seeks approval of a Major Amendment to a previously approved general building in the MR6 zoning district (P&Z 21-029), which required Site Plan Approval and a Special Permit for Household Living.

**32 Prospect Street** Life Alive seeks to establish a Formula Business principal use along a Pedestrian Street in the High Rise (HR) District, which requires a Special Permit.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at

<https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>.

Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

10/18/23 The Somerville Times



**City of Somerville  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The **Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Wednesday, November 1, 2023**, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN\\_h466olwVTi-L2w2SVVKlrQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_h466olwVTi-L2w2SVVKlrQ)  
Webinar ID: 846 2557 9117

**TO CALL IN**

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

The Zoning Board will consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

**620 Broadway** 620 Broadway, LLC seeks an administrative appeal of the Building Official's determination that the dimensional Variance for the subject property (P&Z 21 140) has not been exercised, and/or a determination that said Variance is equitably tolled and is in full force and effect.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at

<https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>.

Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

10/18/23 The Somerville Times



Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Funds are available for Affordable Housing Support Programs in the City of Somerville.

The Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund (SAHTF) is reopening its annual process of local distribution of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds and non-CPA funds that are designated for Somerville community housing projects and programs. Up to \$500,000 of combined CPA and non-CPA Housing funds will be made available through one competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) processes to provide funding for:

- The support of affordable housing in Somerville by housing program providers (Tenancy Stabilization Programs).

The RFP will be posted and available starting on **October 2nd, 2023**. The proposal submission deadline for the RFP is **12:00pm on November 2nd, 2023**.

Full instructions for proposal submission are included in the RFP. The RFP will be available for download at the City of Somerville's website at <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/affordable-housing-trust-fund> by clicking on "Funding and Opportunities".

More information about eligible uses and funding priorities is available on pages 1-2 of the RFP. For questions, please contact City of Somerville, (617) 625-6600 x2587 or by email at [pgoldstein@somervillema.gov](mailto:pgoldstein@somervillema.gov).

10/4/23, 10/11/23, 10/18/23 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
IFB #24-17**

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:

**Assembly Square Fire Station Fit-Out**

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **10/18/2023**.

Filed sub-bids for following DCAMM categories are due by **11/02/2023 at 1:00pm**:

Masonry Work  
Miscellaneous and Ornamental Iron  
Resilient Floors  
Painting  
Fire Protection  
Plumbing  
Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning  
Electrical

Sealed general bids with DCAMM certification General Construction are due by **11/16/2023 at 1:00pm**.

The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Andrea Caruth at [acaruth@somervillema.gov](mailto:acaruth@somervillema.gov) for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required. Prevailing wage applies.

**Andrea Caruth**  
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer  
617-625-6600, x3400

10/18/23 The Somerville Times

**TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS  
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CONTACT US BY 12 PM MONDAY  
PHONE: 857-488-5138**



LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)



Notice of names of persons appearing to be owners of funds held by City of Somerville, and deemed abandoned.

To claim funds, please go to [www.somervillema.gov/treasury](http://www.somervillema.gov/treasury) and complete the Abandoned and Unclaimed Property Form and send completed form together with required documentation to the City of Somerville treasury department by Oct. 10, 2024. Mail to **City of Somerville Treasury, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143** or email [treasury@somervillema.gov](mailto:treasury@somervillema.gov). If you would like a printed copy of the Abandoned and Unclaimed Property Form mailed to you, please email treasury or call 617-625-6600 ext. 3500. Funds not claimed by Oct. 10, 2024 will be deemed abandoned.

<b>VENDOR NAME</b> 109 SCHOOL ST LLC 40 BOW STREET LLC 99 DOVER STREET LLC AARON HENRY WHORISKEY DIENER AKHI BEGUM ALCIN, NAYALI ALEX LEON ALFANO, DARIO ALISON HIGGINS ALONSO MARJORIE L TRUSTEE & ET AL ANDREW RINGLER ANJANA SUKUMAR ASSEKEN RAYMOND AND ATTORNEY JEFFRE ATHERTON, CAROL AYANNA, AMIRI Z. BAPTISTE, NATASHA BARCZI NATHAN A & LEANN N BARROWS, ROY C. BARTON, MATTHEW R. BEACON SALES CO BECKER, MEGAN L BELEW, GENEVIEVE BELYEA, LOUIS BENNETT NOAH & MAPA CLAUDINE BERGAMOT LLC BEVINGTON MILTON BHAKTA JIGNESH D & AMOLA SHERTUKDE BIAGI, HENRY BIRD, OLIVIA BIRMAN, ASHLEY C. BLACKOWICZ, ANDON E BLUMENTHAL, JACOB BOON BRIAN & MARIETTA & DAVID TRUSTEES BORRUCA, JOSSIE BREMIS JAMES & SOPHIE & STE- PHEN J TRSTEE BRETT HENRY CATERING BRIAN F ALDRED BRITTANY A. BALLARD BROOKLYN BOULDERS BROWN, JUSTIN BRUNDAGE, JOAN BUCHANAN, CARROL R BUCHANAN, ROBERT BURNS, ROSEMARIE CAHILL, WILLIAM CALLAGHAN STEFANIE E CAPASSO, SHARON CAPOBIANCO, ALESSANDRO CARLY CULLENBERG CARPENTER MARIA CARROLL, MICHAEL A CARUSO FRANCES A & D CASTRO, MILTON CHANG ERIC CHARLES OLSON CHATFIELD, OLIVIA L. CHERILUS, NINA B. CHOU PENN CINDY HICKEY CLERGEAU, JAHVORY CLIMACO, JENNIFER I. COHEN ELLIOT & BRAVARD MAR- JORY COHEN, SARAH	COMACK, IAN CONNOR SAPAROFF FERGUSON CONTE PATRICK WILLIAM COOPER CAITLIN & SCHNEIDER IAN COSTA, BENJAMIN J. COTTER, BERNARD COUGHLIN, KARYN COX JAMES CHRISTOPHER CROWLEY, JOSEPH CRUZ, XIOMARA PATRICIA CUNNINGHAM ANDREW CURLEY, PAUL DAHLIN, JULIA DANGOL, GAURAV DANIELS, KAREN J. DASILVA, ELIZABETH DAVID ADAM CAVICCHIO DAVIS, RICHARD DELLAPACE ALEXANDER TRUSTEE DEVEREAUX, MICHAEL DEW, ELIZABETH DEWIRE FAMILY TRUST DIAO LEI DIAZ, CHAYLIN F. DICKSON, KATELYN M. 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# Union Square walking tour

Some 60 participants – some from as far away as Sharon, MA - took part in a walking tour of Union Square last Sunday. The almost 3-hour walk, entitled Union Square on the Cusp of Change with New Developments and Sensitive Preservation, was led architectural historian Ed Gordon.

Many of the buildings visited were highlighted as highly worthy of designation as locally historic and could be part of an expansion to the existing Union Square Local Historic District (LHD) that the city approved in 2010.

Almost all of the properties were surveyed by a professional architectural team more than a decade ago, but have yet to be designated by the city in order to preserve and protect them from demolition as development pressures increase in Union Square.



Owners Linda Gritz and Michael Katz of 3 Emerson St., a mid-18th century house on edge of new high rises, who would like to be designated as part of an expanded local historic district in Union Square.



15 Union Square, best known in recent decades as the Mid-Nite Convenience Store.



Brandon Wilson, Somerville city planner and tour organizer and co-leader.



Artist reproduction on a utility box of a vintage postcard of the Square in the late 19th century.



Distinctive remnant of St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 300 Somerville Avenue recently restored and incorporated within new rental apt. development.



16 Union Sq.





31-34 Union Square/The Eberle Building (1884), adjacent #35-36 which was former residence of the original owner and to new rental apartment buildings at 300 Somerville Ave.



Edward Gordon, architectural historian and tour leader highlighting significant features on various properties.



285 Washington St. property with multiple entries – Washington St., Hawkins St., and Olive Square.



Manhole cover dating back to 1890.



Architectural detail on upper floors of Eberle building.



Elaborate brick detailing at roofline of The Eberle Building.



Close up of storefront level of The Eberle Building.



Prominent mural on side of Stone Building by artist Be Allen Sargent in the 1980's.



57-61 Union Square/the Stone Building/Barrister's Hall (1891) in heart of the Square, greatly altered, but still historically significant.



216 Somerville Avenue (1896) with main facade dominated by broad, full-length, 3-story metal oriel.



66-70 Union Square, a former municipal Police Station that was renovated and converted to office and restaurant spaces in the 1980's.



216 Somerville Ave. housing multiple commercial tenants at a prominent corner.



# Somerville-based climate startup receives \$1 million VC investment

Elemental Excelerator, a leading nonprofit investor in climate technology for deep community impact, introduced its latest cohort, bringing its total amount of investments to \$79M. With this latest cohort, Elemental is infusing another \$12.5M into climate solutions and will spearhead the development of 15 transformative technologies crucial for heating and cooling our homes, reimagining critical resource extraction, advancing carbon removal and transforming our food system. These 15 climate companies will join an existing portfolio of more than 150 investments.

Elemental is expanding its support for visionary entrepreneurs who are addressing climate challenges in innovative ways. This group of investments is led by 60% of the CEOs identifying as traditionally excluded by race or ethnicity and 33% are led by CEOs who identify as traditionally excluded by gender. Of the \$12.5M invested in Cohort 12, \$7.2M is allocated to companies with traditionally excluded CEOs either by gender or race/ethnicity.

Elemental's 12th cohort focuses on a range of societal challenges, including sustainable urbanization, building decarbonization, electric vehicle charging, last-mile logistics, recycling optimization and regenerative food production. This cohort also represents Elemental's largest investment in its Project Track, which deploys innovative technology in unprecedented ways – such as a first in a new geography, first deployment at scale, first project utilizing a new business model or first project in a low-income or disadvantaged community.

In addition to prioritizing community impact in its selection process, Elemental designs community engagement into the plan of every project deployment, and offers coaching on community engagement and workforce development. A significant portion of the cohort has a dedicated

commitment to workforce development, many leaning into hiring and training locally, working with underrepresented groups and community members and upskilling and transitioning workers from the oil and gas industry.

"This year, record heat and climate-fueled disasters have devastated our communities. Investors and innovators are taking note, and are pouring in to address climate change. This year, we met some of the strongest entrepreneurs in our 13+ years investing, and I am thrilled with the boldness and ambition of the companies in this cohort," Elemental Founder & CEO Dawn Lippert said. "These are the innovators who are creating the huge companies of the future – ones that invest in workers, reduce pollution, restore our soils and lower the costs of food and energy."

With the inclusion of the 15 new investments, Elemental's portfolio has expanded to encompass more than 165 companies, establishing a global presence that spans all 50 states and reaches more than 100 countries.

The Cures for Carbon: Elemental is committed to advancing emerging technologies in deep decarbonization that leverages Earth's natural resources of air, oceans and soil to achieve necessary carbon removal levels by 2030 and beyond while fostering resilience and sustainability for communities on the frontlines.

Capture6 removes carbon from the atmosphere using direct-air capture technology while increasing freshwater production by recovering more than 70% of clean water from brine.

The why: The nearly 16,000 desalination plants around the world create enough waste to cover Florida with a foot of brine each year.

Ebb Carbon enhances the ocean's ability to absorb CO2 in a safe and natural form, delivering one of the most scalable and cost-effective carbon removal solutions on the market while



SparkCharge, a mobile electric vehicle charging network designed to make EVs more practical for the general public. SparkCharge Project Manager Gamal Sofiadi with SparkCharge mobile electric vehicle charging. — Photos by Elemental Excelerator/Chris McIntosh

benefiting coastal communities.

The why: By far the world's biggest carbon sink, the ocean absorbs more than 30% of CO2 emissions in the atmosphere.

Yard Stick PBC's probe instantly and accurately measures soil carbon to unlock the full environmental and economic potential of regenerative farming, ranching and forestry practices.

The why: Soil carbon sequestration could remove 3.5 gigatons of CO2 annually by 2030.

Reimagining Our Resources: Everything we eat, drink and build comes down to our raw ingredients and materials, typically sourced using methods that bring ecological destruction and harm to frontline communities. We are supporting solutions that redefine the sourcing of foundational elements in ways that not only avoid harm but have the potential to actively bring benefits to communities.

C16 Biosciences developed a biotechnology platform to create truly sustainable oils and fats, starting with a replacement for palm oil, which is found in 50% of consumer products and is a major culprit of deforestation.

The why: Palm oil is responsi-

ble for 1.4% of total GHG emissions, about as much as the entire aviation sector.

Edacious bridges the gap between agriculture and human health by enabling the food system to accurately measure, report and verify the nutritional content of whole foods.

The why: Agricultural practices that maximize crop yields over soil health have given us fruits and vegetables with 38% less nutrients than those grown in 1950.

Genomines uses genetically enhanced plants to pull critical minerals like nickel from lands with metal concentrations too low for conventional mining processes, but too high for agricultural use.

The why: Hitting the world's net-zero goals will require 6x today's global output for critical minerals, and current mining practices are environmentally toxic and wildly inefficient.

Glacier's low-cost, easy-to-install sorting robots make it possible to keep more recycling facilities running sustainably in more communities, and provide item-level visibility on exactly which materials are being recycled.

The why: Curbside recycling

is not accessible for nearly half of Americans (41%), and only recovers a third of available recyclables.

Maui Nui Venison simultaneously alleviates the damaging impact invasive deer have on Hawaii's beautiful and vulnerable ecosystems while unlocking a delicious, healthy, local food resource.

The why: Left unchecked, Maui's axis deer population could swell from 60,000 to 150,000 within five years, decimating local farmlands and watersheds.

Olokun Minerals extracts multiple minerals like lithium, magnesium and sodium from unconventional water resources, helping build the domestic supply chain needed for batteries and other vital clean energy technologies.

The why: With demand for lithium growing twice as fast as production, the U.S. produces less than 2% of the global total.

The Future at Your Fingertips: Cities are responsible for 75% of worldwide carbon emissions, with transportation and buildings as major culprits. Yet, urban households have a 50% lower carbon footprint *Continued on page 15*



# Public hearing on zoning change proposals to meet MBTA Communities requirements for housing needs

The Commonwealth’s new Multi-Family Zoning Requirement for MBTA Communities law requires that all communities served by the MBTA take steps to amend their zoning to encourage multi-family housing near T stations. The law’s intention is to increase housing unit production and capacity near transit to sustainably address the regional housing shortage in eastern Massachusetts. Lean more at [mass.gov/mbtacommunities](https://mass.gov/mbtacommunities).

The city has submitted a proposal to the City Council and the Planning Board to amend zoning in three ways to meet MBTA Communities requirements. The following three proposals would apply across all residential districts to encourage increased housing units and capacity:

Remove the four-unrelated persons maximum occupancy rule on housing. The current rule restricts the number of occupants to no more than four unrelated persons. Any restriction on the number of occupants is prohibited by MBTA Communities, and a removal of this measure has previously garnered strong City Council support. All state fire, health, safety and occupancy regulations would remain in effect to support safety and prevent overcrowding.

Allow three units by right, which is also required by MBTA Communities.

MBTA Communities requires residential construction to be permitted by right, without the need for a special permit. Somerville currently requires a special permit in all zoning districts for any lot with a steep slope. The City is proposing to move to oversight of steep slope construction into existing Engineering review processes.

Attend the virtual hearing online: To attend online and be heard, copy and paste, or enter the following link exactly, into your internet browser to view/attend this meeting live: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212693>

Submit written testimony: If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may provide comments by email to the Planning Board at [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov) and the City Council at [publiccomments@somervillema.gov](mailto:publiccomments@somervillema.gov). You may also send comments by U.S. mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143.

## Somerville-based climate startup receives \$1 million VC investment

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than suburban or rural counterparts. We are deepening our investments in sustainable urban solutions, focusing on building decarbonization, electric vehicle (EV) charging in cities, and enhanced delivery and logistics networks.

Bedrock Energy decarbonizes buildings like office towers or apartment complexes with large-scale geothermal systems that are smaller and faster to install.

The why: Geothermal offers the best pathway to decarbonize HVACs for large commercial buildings without adding stress to the grid.

Gradient’s window heat pumps offer a hassle-free solution for year-round heating and cooling, with cold-climate capability for winter, climate-friendly refrigerants for summers and smart grid optimization for energy efficiency.

The why: It’s expected ACs will triple the energy demand by 2050, making it a primary driver of global electricity consumption (it’s already responsible for nearly 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions).

HIVED is modernizing package delivery with 100% electric

vehicles, equitable pay for drivers and a friendly user experience for both retailers and people awaiting their purchases.

The why: The number of delivery vehicles on the road by 2030 is projected to swell by 36%, potentially adding millions of tons of CO2 emissions.

Kelvin transforms the energy inefficiency of radiator-heated buildings by integrating smart, insulated radiator covers with heat pumps and thermal batteries, achieving 80% electrification of heating at just 10% of the conventional cost.

The why: Boilers, with a 15-20 year lifespan, traditionally lock buildings into extended periods without electrification options.

SparkCharge’s mobile charging solutions allow EV drivers to get miles of range delivered anywhere, helping the company become the fastest growing charging network in the U.S.

The why: The number of EVs in the U.S. is growing faster than the infrastructure to support them, with about 18 EVs for each public charging point.

SunFi simplifies clean energy adoption in Nigeria by connecting consumers with trusted solar



SparkCharge, the Somerville-based company led by Joshua Aviv, a 30-year-old Black entrepreneur who has been featured on “Shark Tank.”

installers and providing flexible financing to keep costs low.

The why: Despite the continent’s vast potential for solar power, Africa sees only 3% of global investment in clean energy infrastructure.

Elemental will provide its extensive wraparound services to these new investments as it does to all its portfolio companies, from carbon finance, to sales, to social equity to policy coaching and beyond. Elemental has over a dozen expert coaches on roster in addition to its team of professionals across data, communications, development and more.

**About Elemental Excelerator**

Elemental is a nonprofit investor in climate technologies with deep community impact. We bring more than a decade of experience across the climate sector, with an active and maturing portfolio of 150+ companies. Elemental fills two gaps fundamental to addressing climate change: funding projects for climate technologies in communities, and embedding equity and access into climate solutions. We invest in transformative technologies to create a systems change for a more resilient, equitable future.

# Beacon Hill Roll Call



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**THE HOUSE AND SENATE.** *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives’ and senators’ votes from recent roll calls on overriding Gov. Maura Healey’s veto of several items in the \$56.2 billion fiscal 2024 budget.

**\$2.5 MILLION HOME AND HEALTHY FOR GOOD PROGRAM (H 4040)**

House 153-0, Senate 37-1, overrode Gov. Healey’s veto of \$2.5 million (reducing funding from \$8,890,000 to \$6,390,000) for the Home and Healthy for Good Program. According to its website, this is a permanent supportive housing program for chronically homeless individuals.

“I am striking language that earmarks funding not necessary for the operation of the program, and I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary,” said Healey in her veto message.

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$2.5 million. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**\$1 MILLION FOR NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANTS PILOT PROGRAM (H 4040)**

House 130-24, Senate 38-0, overrode Gov. Healey’s veto of \$1 million (reducing funding from \$2.5 million to \$1.5 million) for the nonprofit Security Grant Pilot Program. According to its website, the program provides resources to assist at-risk nonprofits improve physical security at their locations.

“I am reducing this item to an amount consistent with my House [budget] recommendation,” said Healey in her veto message. “Alternate funding for this purpose was appropriated in the American Rescue Plan Act.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$1 million. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**\$4,988,680 FOR LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH (H 4040)**

House 152-2, Senate 37-1, overrode Gov. Healey’s veto of \$4,988,680 (reducing funding from \$15,050,000 to \$10,061,320) for grants to local and regional Boards of Health.

“I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary,” said Healey in her veto message. “\$197 million

is available through the American Rescue Plan Act funding to achieve the objectives of this line item to enhance the local public health system through data and performance tracking, workforce development and grants.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$4,988,680. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**\$1 MILLION FOR CIVICS EDUCATION (H 4040)**

House 151-3, Senate 38-0, overrode Gov. Healey’s veto of \$1 million (reducing funding from \$2.5 million to \$1.5 million) for the Civics Education Trust Fund. According to the Department of Education’s website, “The purpose of this competitive grant program is to support civics teaching and learning, including ... implementation of student-led, non-partisan civics projects.

“I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary,” said Healey in her veto message. “This account funds a trust fund, which has a carry forward balance. The balance with the addition of the transfer proposed here is sufficient to meet projected demand.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$1 million. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL**

**REVENGE PORN (H 4115)** – The Judiciary Committee gave a favorable report to legislation that would prohibit the posting of sexually explicit images of another person online without their permission—commonly referred to as “revenge porn.” The practice is often used by ex-spouses or ex-partners.

“I filed [my original bill] after hearing from victims throughout Massachusetts who have had their lives torn apart and who do not have an avenue to pursue justice,” said Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), the sponsor of an earlier version of the measure. “It is unacceptable that Massachusetts is one of the last two states to criminalize revenge porn, and I am grateful that the Judiciary Committee has included my bill to rectify this issue as part of this comprehensive redrafted legislation.”

Another provision in the bill changes current law under which minors, under 18 years of age, who share explicit images of themselves or other minors, can be

charged with violating Massachusetts child pornography laws and be required to register with the Sex Offender Registry. The bill allows minors to be punished by a commitment to the Department of Youth Services or to be diverted to an educational program that would provide them with information about the consequences of posting or transmitting indecent visual depictions of minors.

Supporters say that under current law, when faced with an incident of sexting among teenagers, law enforcement officials are faced with either charging them with a felony or taking no action. They note the proposal provides law enforcement officers with a middle ground that will allow them to educate kids about the consequences of their actions without ruining their lives.

The House and Senate approved different versions of similar measures last year but the proposals eventually died in the House from inaction.

**EXEMPT SOME SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS FROM JURY DUTY (H 1570)** – A bill heard by the

Judiciary Committee would exempt from jury duty a person who is the sole owner of a business, if their juror service would require them to close the business while serving on the jury.

Current law provides several exemptions from jury duty including if a person is under the age of 18; cannot speak and understand English; has a physical or mental disability that makes them incapable of satisfactorily rendering juror service; has been convicted of a felony within the past seven years; or is solely responsible for the daily care of a permanently disabled person living in the same household whose health would be adversely impacted due to the caregiver’s juror service.

“Jury duty is one of the most basic responsibilities of citizenship in a democracy, but the law has long recognized there are some instances in which an individual cannot carry out this duty,” said sponsor House Minority Leader Rep. Brad Jones (R-North Reading). “Small business owners help drive our economy and maintain a spirit of community. In some cases, these men and women operate their businesses completely by themselves, or with minimal assistance. [The bill] recognizes their important contributions to the commonwealth as a whole and exempts them from juror service if performing that service would require the closing of the business.”

**MAKE ELECTION DAY A LEGAL HOLIDAY (H 3004)** – The Committee on State Administration and

Regulatory Oversight held a hearing on a proposal that would make Presidential Election Day, every four years, a statewide holiday.

Continued on page 18



## OBITUARY

## Richard J. Hoey



**Richard J. Hoey** (67) of Braintree, MA (formerly of Somerville, MA), passed away suddenly on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. Devoted father of Margaret "Maggie" Hoey of La Jolla, CA and Richard "Ricky" B. Hoey of Providence, RI (both formerly of Braintree). Loving brother of William Hoey of Lynnfield, MA, Marie Cimetti of Scituate, MA, Judith Chisholm of Plymouth, MA, Carol Anderson and Teresa Kupris, both of Braintree, MA, Noreen Farrar of Brookline, MA, Gail Garda of Hampton Falls, NH, Elaine Kelly of West Point, VA, and Robert Hoey of Somerville, MA. Predeceased by his parents, William Hoey of Bourne, MA and Hazel Hoey of Somerville, MA, and siblings, Ruth Perry of Tewksbury, MA and Charles Hoey of Brighton, MA. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Memorial visitation will take place on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at Cartwright Funeral Home, 419 North Main Street, Randolph, MA from 4:00-6:00 p.m. followed by a service at the funeral home. Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Diabetes Association.

Rick was born in Somerville, MA on September 12, 1956. He grew up in a large Catholic family, the eleventh child out of twelve. There were eight girls and four boys. He attended

St. Catherine's School and was an altar boy in his youth at St. Catherine of Genoa Church. He was an adorable child with blonde hair and was chosen one year to be the "Christ Child" in the May Procession. After grammar school, Rick attended Somerville High School where he played ice hockey and graduated in 1974.

Rick was a lifelong printer and took immense pride in his work. He was introduced to the commercial printing business at the age of 14 when he began working at Excelsior Press in Boston, MA, apprenticing under Arthur Felicani. Later in his career, Rick worked for several high end printing companies, including Taylor Communications in Avon, MA, MOO Print Ltd. in East Providence, RI, and most recently, Polygraphix Printing in Braintree, MA. He was the go-to printer of choice that everyone reached out to for business cards, wedding invitations, etc. Rick was thoughtful and generous and always offered his services free of charge to family and friends.

Rick was also an avid Boston sports fan cheering on the Bruins, Celtics, Red Sox, and New England Patriots. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing, cribbage, golf and ice hockey. Rick had a passion for Diet Coke and loved the lazy days of summer when he could visit with family and friends at White Horse Beach in Plymouth, MA, always referring to it as "his happy place."

Rick was a wonderful Dad, who adored his two children, Maggie and Ricky. He loved them more than anything and never missed an opportunity to tell them how proud he was of them.

Rick will be sorely missed by his family and friends and will live in our hearts forever.

For directions or to leave a sympathy message for the family, visit [www.cartwrightfuneral.com](http://www.cartwrightfuneral.com).

# MBTA announces new Green Line car exterior paint design

The MBTA has announced the exterior paint design of the new Green Line Type 10 "supercars," which was selected by a majority of respondents to an online survey hosted by the MBTA. Riders were invited to select one of three exterior paint designs for the new cars through the survey, which was available from October 2 to October 13. MBTA employees were also asked to provide their feedback. More than 16,300 responses were received with the winning design receiving 9,566 votes.

"Ensuring that we engage with riders and incorporate their feedback is critical in everything we do. I thank our riders for taking the time to engage with us on the exterior design of the new Type 10 Green Line supercars," said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "We value the time that it takes to vote, and the fact that we heard directly from thousands of riders demonstrates the importance of these new Green Line cars to the public. It's important for riders to know that we care about both their safety and also their experiences on the system, and we are incorporating their feedback into our decision-making. Thank you to our Customer Experience and Vehicle Engineering team for their work, and again to our riders for continuing to engage with us."

The MBTA Board of Directors awarded a nearly \$811 million contract on August 31, 2022, for the delivery of over 100 Green Line Type 10 supercar light rail vehicles, which will bring benefits to riders and the MBTA system through increased safety, accessibility, capacity, and maintainability. The new Green Line supercar will be 40 feet longer



The winning design is "Option 3," featuring a green and dark gray paint scheme along the body of the vehicle, green doors, and a white and navy blue lower running strip.

than the Green Line vehicles in use today and includes state-of-the-art communication systems, accessibility improvements like wider doors, and the latest generation of crash-safety technology, which will create a safer environment for both operators and riders.

The MBTA's Vehicle Engineering team is currently in the process of engaging with the public and all MBTA stakeholder groups in order to incorporate the customer experience into the Green Line Type 10 supercar design, including technical specification development. These stakeholder groups include over 15 MBTA departments from teams that include Safety, System-Wide Accessibility (SWA) and SWA's external support partners, Operations, Training, Customer Technology, Green Line Transformation, and many more.

Safety and reliability continue to be the main priority of the Green Line Type 10 supercar design process with the experience of riders and the operator as the central focus. Lessons learned from the MBTA's previous vehicle projects are also being incorporated as part of the design process. For example, the techni-

cal specifications were drafted for the future technology and safety needs of riders and employees. This technology includes redundant major systems; 100% low-floor vehicles for level boarding in the future; Green Line Train Protection Systems, which combine vehicle and wayside equipment to avoid train-on-train collisions, add red-light signal protection, and incorporate speed enforcement; live screen and announcement updates; increased priority seating; and accessibility upgrades like new bridge plate concepts.

The supercars will be in design for several more years before pilot vehicles are introduced to the system. The MBTA also anticipates a mock-up of the Green Line Type 10 supercar will be available next year for riders and the public to visit and offer their feedback.

For more information, visit [mbta.com](http://mbta.com), or connect with the T on X (the site formerly known as Twitter) @MBTA and @MBTA\_CR, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

— Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

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# Beacon Hill Roll Call

CONT. FROM PG 16

"The United States is one of the few first-world economies that does not recognize Election Day as a holiday," said sponsor Rep. Tackey Chan (D-Quincy). "The legislation will reduce the barriers that voters who are forced to choose between voting or taking time off from work face."

**NEW TAX ON REAL ESTATE SALES (S 1771)** - The Revenue Committee held a hearing on a measure that would allow cities and towns to impose a transfer tax of between .5 percent and 2 percent on real estate transactions above \$1 million. The city or town would decide whether the buyer or seller pays the tax.

If the county's median sale price for a single family home is below \$750,000, the bill allows cities and towns in those counties to set their own threshold for when sales are subject to the new tax, provided that the threshold is above their county's median single family home sales price. All funds raised by a local transfer fee would be dedicated to affordable housing production and preservation.

"Massachusetts is in the midst of an extreme housing crisis," said Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). "We do not have enough affordable housing and we are not building enough affordable housing. This bill is a flexible tool that would allow a municipality, if it chooses, to place a fee on the sale of luxury real estate. The revenue generated would stay in that municipality and be used to develop affordable housing. Many cities and towns across the commonwealth are looking for a tool to build more affordable housing and this bill provides an effective option."

Rep. Dylan Fernandes (D-Barnstable) filed a similar bill (H 2788) in the House. It applies only to sales of more than \$1 million. "The housing crisis in Massachusetts is eroding our communities, hurting our economy and making our state less competitive," said Fernandes. "Allowing cities and towns to have a mansion tax on multi-million dollar home sales to support housing will raise the capital necessary to meet the scale of the crisis. For the ultra-rich, paying a 1 or 2 percent fee on a multi-million dollar home is a rounding error. But for the middle class, it is a lifeline."

**RAISE AGE AT WHICH A PERSON CAN ENTER A POLICE FORCE (S 1712)** - The Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight held a hearing on a bill that would raise from age 32 to 40, at the time of their entrance exam, the maximum age that an applicant may enter the police force.

"Simply put, people in their late 30s are in proficient physical and mental condition to serve and protect their communities," said sponsor Sen. Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "Today, police departments across the commonwealth face staffing challenges, and [by] allowing for a broader range of applicants, we hope to help remedy these challenges."

**MUST LEARN HOW TO USE AN AED AND TRAIN IN CPR IN ORDER TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL (H 492)** - A bill heard by the Education Committee would require public high school students to be trained in the use of an automatic external defibrillators (AED) and have training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) as a prerequisite for graduation.

"No one has died because they couldn't add a column of numbers, spell a word or punctuate properly," said sponsor Rep. Pat Haddad (D-Somerset). "But people die every day because people don't know the basic hands only CPR or they don't feel confident to use an AED."

**RESTAURANTS MUST HAVE WRITTEN MENU (H 196)** - The Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities Committee held a hearing on legislation that would require restaurants to have available on the premises and provide, upon customer request, a set of photographic or visual menus which contain a written description accompanied by a photo of each food and drink item.

"I was inspired to file the bill after a student from Leicester Middle School and her mother visited my office hours," said sponsor Rep. David. Leboeuf (D-Worcester). "The student expressed how she noticed how difficult it was for non-verbal individuals to order at a restaurant and her mother, who worked in human services, also shared some anecdotes. This bill would make it easier for our nonverbal citizens to patronize local businesses by requiring restaurants to have one version of a picture menu available."

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Protecting the people of Massachusetts is my highest priority, and the best way to accomplish that goal is to forge close working relationships with our state and local partners. Federal resources like this are invaluable in the support they provide for comprehensive public safety solutions and resources specific to the unique needs of Massachusetts communities." — *Acting U.S. Attorney Levy announcing that \$118.3 in federal grants has been allocated to Massachusetts to support public safety and community justice initiatives.*

"Lack of access to menstrual care is a deal breaker for women. Without these items they can't attend class, go to work, or take care of their families during their period. Many of these students have overcome incredible barriers to get to college, and we won't let period poverty be the one that holds them back." — *Founder and Executive Director of Dignity Matters, Kate Sanetra-Butler on celebrating the two-year anniversary of the organization providing free period products to students who are fighting "period poverty" -- the inability to pay for period supplies.*

"With ResilientMass, our administration is leading by ex-

ample in preparing for mounting extreme weather events. This summer brought dangerous weather impacts to our communities and the impacts have been devastating. ResilientMass ensures that Massachusetts is well positioned for federal funds, while continuing our nation-leading work on climate." — *Gov. Healey unveiling a Statewide Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan, known as ResilientMass, detailing 142 actions across state agencies including establishing an Office of Climate Science, making the state building code more resilient and updating MBTA design standards.*

"Folks are coming in through the border because they're fleeing horrific circumstances. But when you have this many people in a shelter, in a motel, or in an unsafe setting, it's just not something that we want, we can continue. So we're really hopeful that we'll get some assistance." — *Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll predicting the Bay State is going to run out of places to shelter newly arriving immigrants and other families without housing very soon.*

## HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

*Beacon Hill Roll Call* tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions.

During the week of October 9-13, the House met for a total of one hour and 32 minutes while the Senate met for a total of one hours and one minute.

Mon. Oct. 9	No House session No Senate session
Tues. Oct. 10	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:21 a.m. Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:22 a.m.
Wed. Oct. 11	House 10:49 a.m. to 11:09 a.m. No Senate session
Thurs. Oct. 12	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:53 a.m. Senate 11:45 a.m. to 12:29 p.m.
Fri. Oct. 13	No House session No Senate session
Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com	



COMMENTARY

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff.

The City Council Considers More Small Zoning Amendments for Affordable Housing



By Will Mbah  
Candidate for Somerville  
City Councilor at Large

In recent weeks, the City Council Land Use Committee has begun to discuss several proposed changes in the text of the Zoning Ordinance, which are intended to increase the numbers of housing units in transit-oriented zones.

These proposals involve two interrelated policy goals. First, they respond to the state mandate (adopted in the MBTA Communities Act of 2022) that requires all cities and towns, served by the MBTA, to permit some multi-family housing projects to be built by-right in zones near the transit stations. Second, they reflect a policy of Somerville leaders to go beyond the state mandate and create more opportunities for affordable housing projects, in particular, those that can offer 100% of their units as affordable.

Somerville already has in its Zoning Ordinance a number of mandates and incentives for developers to create more affordable housing units. The city has encouraged developers to combine zoning “bonuses” with tax exemptions, subsidies from state and federal grants, to deliver new units at affordable rents and prices. It has also made available city-owned land parcels for several projects.

Thus the changes, now being discussed, can be understood as the next steps in a series of city actions that have been gradually increasing the number of units in the total housing stock, which are fixed as affordable by deed restrictions and permit conditions.

The city has had to follow this incremental strategy because the state legislature has so far been unwilling to grant the city broader powers to regulate rents or tax real estate transfers as a way to provide housing subsidies. While we continue to advocate at the state level, we must work to find all the small opportunities to use our powers of zoning, city property management and taxation/spending to encourage affordable housing development and overall growth of the housing stock.

How does the Zoning Ordinance now encourage the development of affordable units and more units overall?

In 2015, the city undertook a study of the housing market and found that just over 10% of the 31,500 dwelling units in Somerville were affordable – about 3,340 units. It looked at the factors of projected population growth, incomes and housing cost inflation, and concluded that

the city would need to grow its affordable component to about 9,000 units – that is, 20% of a future total stock of about 42,000 units

To help move toward the goal, the mayoral agencies and City Council undertook a series of actions. First, in 2016, the Inclusionary Zoning requirements were raised from 13% to 20% of units in all new residential building with over 8 units. Then, when I was a member of the Council, we adopted additional programs and regulations:

- In 2018 we created the Community Land Trust to combine grant monies and tax incentives for 100% affordable projects.
- In 2019, in the revised Zoning Ordinance, we removed the need for small house projects (1-4 units) to get variances and special permits for non-complying yards, setbacks and other building dimensions.
- In 2020, we adopted the Affordable Housing Overlay Zone, which gives “bonus” height, density and adjustments of building dimensions for projects with 100% affordable units.

What will the new amendments do?

Today, the proposals before the Council will involve two stages. First, on October 19th the Land Use Committee and Planning Board will hear public testimony on twenty detailed text changes in the Zoning Ordinance Chapters on the low-density Neighborhood Residence and Urban residence zones. Subsequently, the Council will receive from the city planners more draft changes that will affect higher-scale residential projects in the Mid-Rise and Mixed-Use zones.

The proposed amendments for the Neighborhood Residence and Urban Residence zones will ensure that more houses with “extra” second or third units on the land parcel can be built, easily and without complex conditions.

For example, in the NR district, the Zoning Ordinance allows three dwelling units to be built on a lot if it has sufficient size for a double-decker with finished basement, a triple decker, or a main two-unit building with a third back-yard cottage. But there are limiting location and dimensional requirement:

- A triple-decker can only locate on a lot that is adjacent to or across the street from an existing triple-decker;
- A double- or triple-decker cannot be built on any lot that has less than 80 feet depth;
- If two or three dwelling units are combined on a lot they must be stacked in a double- or triple-decker house. They cannot be laid out horizontally one behind another.
- In both the NR and UR districts, the extra third unit must be fixed as affordable.

The proposed amendments remove these limiting re-

quirements. This will mean that there will be a larger number of potential land parcels, potential building design solutions and potential financing scenarios, which can be built with three units.

For the zones with larger-scale residential projects, the intent of the City Council appears to be to make similar detailed adjustments of lot sizes, building heights, and configurations of units as “bonus” provisions for projects that will exceed the usual Inclusionary Housing requirement of 20% affordable units.

Are these changes to the Zoning Ordinance likely to produce some more affordable housing?

Based on the city’s past experience with incremental housing incentives, the answer to this question is yes. Each of the new tools, added since 2016, has resulted in some small gains.

For example, the Community Land Trust completed its first project in August 2022, when five affordable condo units at 7 Summer Street were designated by lottery to moderate-income buyers. Similarly, using the Affordable Housing Overlay regulations, there are now 16 affordable rental units getting ready for occupancy at 31 Tufts Street.

These results are not large numbers but, taken together, they are helping to make progress. In the absence of state action to give the city wider authority, these small incremental amendments deserve our attention and support.

If you want to learn more or support my campaign, please visit my website at willmbah.com.

Ms. Cam's

From on page 8

Olio

Answers

1. Two, 1908 and 1973	7. Abraham Lincoln
2. October	8. David Robert Jones
3. Piggly Wiggly	9. Pearl
4. Appendix	10. Helen Keller
5. Iowa, Utah and Ohio	11. Three
6. Mauna Loa	12. Pocket watch

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## Hitorical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9



• The deepest way is the MBTA's Red Line Davis Station located beneath its Square.

• The highest way in the city is also the busiest, fastest and slowest depending

on whether you're speeding or crawling along. It is Massachusetts' highway Route 93 and is utilized by millions as they pass through the heart of East Somerville.

• You can traverse Somerville by way of McGrath Highway, Rev. Nazareno Properzi Way, Lincoln Parkway, Mystic Valley Parkway, Alewife Brook Parkway and end in an enlightening way at Tufts Parkway and Tufts University's Latin Way. Any way you look at it, there are many "ways" in Somerville.



## BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite.

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## Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Waiting too long for October 31...

— Photo by Denise Provost

## On This Day in History

### October 18

**1648** – The “shoemakers of Boston”—the first labor organization in what would become the United States—was authorized by the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

**1813** – The Allies defeat Napoleon Bonaparte at Leipzig.

**1867** – The rules for American football are formulated at meeting in New York among delegates from Columbia, Rutgers, Princeton and Yale universities.

**1910** – M. Baudry is the first to fly a dirigible across the English Channel—from La Motte-Breil to Wormwood Scrubbs.

**1919** – Madrid opens a subway system.

**1939** – President Franklin D. Roosevelt bans war submarines from U.S. ports and waters.

**1967** – A Russian unmanned spacecraft makes the first landing on the surface of Venus.

**1968** – US athletes Tommi Smith and John Carlos suspended by US Olympic Committee for giving “black power” salute while receiving their medals at the Olympic Games in Mexico City.



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# Lyrical

## SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Jean Dany Joachim: Community artist, actor, playwright and poet. Former poet populist of Cambridge (2009 - 2011), and the current Poet in Residence at First Church. Jean Dany has been presenting since 2000 the City Night Readings Series in Cambridge which brings together poets, writers, performers, and lovers of literature, poetry, and writing for an evening of literary presentation every month. He serves on the boards of the New England Poetry Club, and (JAE), Jean Appolon Expressions, Dance Company. He says, Life is Good!



### Rain memory

The afternoon rain  
When everything  
Suddenly stops  
And all rush for cover  
When the sun too  
Takes refuge  
Under the clouds  
To watch us from afar  
And the warm shower falls  
With precipitation  
As if it is late  
For an important  
Rendezvous  
Cleaning in passing  
Deposit dust left  
On leaves of trees  
And the top  
Of houses  
Touching all  
With its regiments of  
Fine drops dripping  
Which quick to gather  
And form this  
Improvise river

Which drags for a ride  
All light-weight things  
Gathered one the ground  
All that is heard  
Is the soft streaming  
Of water  
With all it carries  
Wandering the streets  
On its way to the sea  
And the fine tune of  
The evening rain  
Carried by the wind,  
This symphony of  
Rapid drops on  
Metal rooftops

Like the blended sound  
Of countless  
Instruments  
In full harmony

Ay rain memory  
When a young boy  
In the comfort  
Of the house  
Quietly savoring  
This feast of water  
Which will for ever  
Give bliss to his mind

— Jean Dany Joachim, November 15, 2007

## OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

### All She Wrote Books – Makes its Move to East Somerville

When I heard that the All She Wrote Books is moving from Assembly Row in Somerville to Artisan Way in East Somerville, I decided to contact the owner. According to the store's website:

Christina Pascucci Ciampa is the founder/owner of All She Wrote Books. All She Wrote Books is an intersectional, inclusive feminist and queer indie bookstore that supports, celebrates, and amplifies underrepresented voices through its thoughtfully curated selection of books spanning across all genres.

**Doug Holder:** How has this relocation gone so far, and will the new location have as much foot traffic as the Assembly Mall site?

**Christina Pascucci Ciampa:** All She Wrote is being displaced from our current storefront in Assembly Row and is moving to a new location in East Somerville (off of Washington Street) on October 15. There are a mix of emotions as we close this current chapter and start a new one. However, we're excited to continue our fight for inclusivity and literacy in Somerville and beyond. As far as foot traffic is concerned, All She Wrote Books is a destination for many in our community, and don't see that being an issue in the new location.

**DH:** How has it been for you to live and work in Somerville?

**CPC:** All She Wrote Books has been in Somerville since 2019, and started as a pop-up bookstore, which I ran out of my home. We had our brick-and-mortar open in July 2020, and have been in our current space for the last 3 years. I love living and working in East Somerville, and I know I am fortunate to be able to have All She Wrote Books exist in this corner of Somerville.

**DH:** According to the store's website you were a survivor of domestic abuse, and this drove you to



look for books that addressed this. Often great pain creates great art and great vision. Your take on it?

**CPC:** Yes, I have experienced trauma and pain and that's informed things, but All She Wrote Books wasn't created from that. It came from my hope for a brighter future for my community, here in Somerville and across the globe. To say that one thing has led to all of that would be inaccurate. Do I think great things can come from dark days? Sure, but there's more to creativity and inspiration than that. All She Wrote is a perfect example.

**DH:** Are you a writer?

**CPC:** Yes, I have been writing for many years, both personally and professionally.

**DH:** You guys are a feminist and queer indie bookstore. But I believe that you are more inclusive than that. What other types of work do you carry?

**CPC:** We carry BIPOC and AAPI authors across all genres. We also carry Zines, and other hard to find queer/feminist publications. We also carry local authors who align with our mission *Continued on page 23*



NewstalkCONT. FROM PG 7

Yon atelye pou fanmi imigran. 18 OK-TÒB NAN SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 5:30 - 7PM. 81 HIGH-LAND AVE.

The **Center for Arts at the Armory (CAA)** has announced that it will host and manage the **14th Annual Somerville Winter Farmers Market (SWFM)** every Saturday beginning **November 4 through April 6**. This weekly market offers the best locally grown and regionally produced agricultural items, including vegetable produce, cheese, eggs, meats, fish, breads, pastries, and sweets. Each market will feature more than 35 weekly vendors and several rotating guest vendors while welcoming an anticipated 1,000 visitors every Saturday. The market accepts SNAP/EBT and HIP benefits. And they also offer a \$15 SNAP match to customers each week. For more information and weekly updates visit: [www.artsatthearmory.org](http://www.artsatthearmory.org).

The **Somerville Council on Aging Flu Clinic** takes place **Thursday, October 26**, at the **Holland Street Center** from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The **City of Somerville’s Public Health nurse** will be hosting the two flu clinics. For more information or to book an appointment please call the COA at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

**Fall 2023 City Hall Community meetings** are underway. These meetings are held twice a year in each of Somerville’s seven wards to share the latest city and neighborhood updates with community members. They are an opportunity to get an overview of the latest city news, learn more about city programs and initiatives, meet your neighbors, find ways to get involved, and talk with elected officials and city staff. Join them in person from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to ask questions and get updates from the mayor and city staff. Swing by early at 6:00 p.m. for pizza and refreshments. To learn more and find the meeting in your ward visit [somer ville.ma.gov/communitymeetings](http://somer ville.ma.gov/communitymeetings).

**East Somerville Main Streets Halloween Block Party and Pet Spectacular 2023** is coming. It will have a wide range of family activities, a pet costume contest, raffles, vendors, food, music, and so much more. Come and see the spookiest and cutest costumes on **Saturday, October 28**, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at **Chuckie Harris Park**.

**Sts. Louis and Zelig Martin Parish Annual Christmas Bazaar, Friday, November 3**, from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. and **Saturday, November 4**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Located in **St. Catharine’s Hall**, 179 Summer St., Somerville. There will be a silent auction, raffles, games, punch board, refreshments, and much more. Free Admission. Plenty of Parking. For more info please call (617) 666-2087.

In collaboration with **Somerville Bike Kitchen, Somernova**, and **Somerville Education Foundation, Groundwork Somerville** is starting a new subset of the **Green Team: The Biking Division**. Over the 2023-2024 school year, five high school students will be paid to learn all about bike repair and safety, fix and earn their own bikes, and fix bikes to give back to community members. Apply by **Sunday, October 22**. Visit: <https://groundworksomerville.org/>.

Open enrollment begins on **October 15** and runs to **December 7**. Medicare recipients can change their **health insurance plans** for **January 1, 2024**. While having the freedom to change your health insurance plan can save you money, there are many health insurance plans and companies to choose from. You don’t have to make the decision alone, the **Somerville Council on Aging** has **SHINE Counseling** available in person, over the phone, or on Zoom, to assist you with comparing what health insurance options are available for you. You can call **Natasha Naim** at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 or **Molly Pagliuca** at ext. 2318 to book an appointment.

**East Somerville Main Streets** will be holding their **East Somerville fall clean up** on **November 4**, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Help them beautify the neighborhood. Pastries and coffee provided by **Ola Cafe**. Meet at 115 Broadway at 10:00 a.m.

The city is hiring **polling place workers** in preparation for the **2023 election cycle**. Polling place staffers work on **November 7** and earn at least \$200. Contact the **Elections Office** at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200 to learn more.

On the night before Halloween, **Arts at the Armory** co-presents *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, the 1975 musical comedy horror cult classic in-person. Costumes and call backs are highly encouraged. The **Teseracte Players** of Boston, who have roamed New England, bringing Dr. Frank-N-Furter and friends to life for 20+ years, will lead the raucous ride. **October 30**, Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Screening at 8:00 p.m. 191 Highland Ave Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/arts-at-the-armory-and-once-present-the-rocky-horror-picture-show-tickets-706242659807>.

**Visit the Blue: The Celebration of a Color** exhibit at the **Somerville Museum**, One Westwood Rd. The exhibit showcases paintings, photography, installation, fashion, and video works of local artists who incorporate blue in their studio practice. For hours visit [www.somervillemuseum.org](http://www.somervillemuseum.org).

Registration is open for **Learn to Skate and Learn to Play Somerville Youth Hockey**. All sessions take place at either **Veterans or Founders rinks** in Somerville. Beginner classes are geared towards kids 3-9 who have never skated nor played hockey before. There’s also a new Advanced option for kids aged 9 and older who are ready for a more fast-paced introduction to the fundamentals of hockey and skating. Financial aid (and some equipment) is available. To learn more

and register, visit <https://www.somervilleyouthhockey.org/ltsltp>.

**Free Beginner English/U.S. Citizenship class.** This is a 12-week beginner ESOL/civics class for adults who are interested in improving their English skills in order to apply for U.S. citizenship. ESOL workbooks will be provided. Classes are in-person at **East Branch Library** (115 Broadway) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Requirements: Must have a green card or in the process of getting one in order to attend. Register here: [tinyurl.com/pathwaystocitizenshipfall2023](http://tinyurl.com/pathwaystocitizenshipfall2023). For questions or help with registration, please contact **Brigid Pigott**: Email: [bpigott@somer ville.ma.gov](mailto:bpigott@somer ville.ma.gov) or 617-623-5000 x.2935. The **Pathways to Citizenship class** is being offered in partnership with **St. Mark Community Education Program** and **MIRA**.

Talk with **representatives from over 50 colleges and universities** at the **Somerville High School College Fair** on **Thursday, October 19**, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the **Somerville High School Cafeteria**. Find the complete list of institutions sending representatives here: <https://somer ville.k12.ma.us/ccr>. All grades are welcome to participate.

**Elm Street Taproom**, 256 Elm Street, Somerville, will be holding a **Nightmare on Elm Street Halloween Bash** on **Friday, October 28**, at 6:00 p.m. There will be lots of spooky fun and cool prizes.

**Somerville teens** are invited to get a free membership to the **Somerville Recreation Teen Center**. Please visit their website to find hours and more information: [somer ville.ma.myrec.com](http://somer ville.ma.myrec.com).

Don’t forget, if you would like to subscribe to receive a **digital edition** of our paper, go directly online to our website over to the right side and fill out your email address to receive a free, full PDF copy of the paper.

Off The ShelfCONT. FROM PG 22

as a queer/feminist bookstore.

**DH:** What are some bestselling titles, currently?

**CPC:** Top selling titles include *Lucky Red* by Claudia Cravens, *Safe and Sound* by Mercury Stardust, *Historically Black Phrases* by Tre’veil Anderson and Jarrett Hill, and *Black Sheep* by Rachel Harrison.

**DH:** If someone asked you "Why should I visit your bookstore," what would you say?

**CPC:** All She Wrote Books is more than just a feminist/queer independent bookstore. When I think of the words “intersectional,” “feminist,” “queer” that are in our mission statement, I think of them as guiding lights for

those who are not only actively seeking queer/feminist spaces out like ours, but for those who want more spaces like ours in the world. And we need more spaces like ours like never before.

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