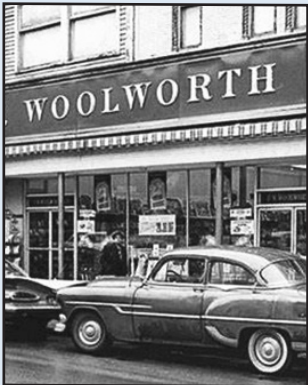




### Inside:



**2 cents on 5 and 10's**

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page 5



**Through the eyes of Denise**

page 14

## Committee approves grants and invoices, discusses requirements for UASI grants



The Somerville City Council Finance Committee discussed a number of issues of importance at their latest meeting in September.

By Jordan Pagkalinawan

Somerville's finance committee met on September 23 to approve several grants and prior year invoices, as well as extend and amend a contract with Eastern Bank. The councilors also expressed concern about proposed requirements for Urban Area Security Initiative grants, which include cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents.

### Approved grants and invoices

The committee began by approving a \$50,000 grant to the Office of Sustainability and Environment for a study to investigate potential zoning initiatives that would increase compliance with the Fossil Fuel Free Ordinance. The office's director, Christine Blais, said the study would examine transformers and explore ways to generate community benefits for neighborhoods pursuing electrification. *Continued on page 4*

## The Music of Art: From Inspiration to Improvisation

Visit Brickbottom Gallery through October 19, 2025 to view *The Music of Art: From Inspiration to Improvisation* exhibit.

Visual Artists often use language when speaking about their work that mimics the vocabulary of musicians: Composition, Improvisation, Collaboration, and Repetition. Creative endeavors of all kinds pull inspiration from the rhythms and movements around us. Artists tune into the pulse of life, whether it comes from the motion of the city, the tranquility of the country, or the noise inside our heads. *The Music of Art* brings together two painters, a print-maker, and a mixed media artist, each expressing their connection to music in their own unique way.

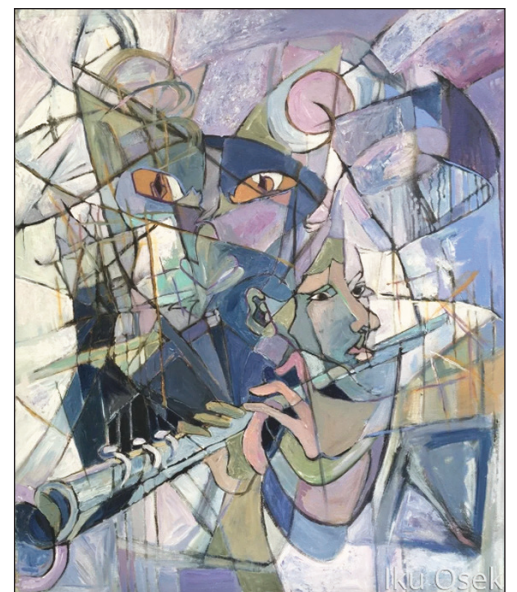
Participating artists:

**Linda Clave**, [www.lindaclavearts.com](http://www.lindaclavearts.com), paints during live performances, using the rhythms and tempos of the compositions as a collaborative element in her visual expression.

**Robert Goss** listens to improvised "free Jazz" while working in his studio, using his own visual improv process, taking an object and altering it with no preconceived idea, no sketch or model. Sometimes the pieces are never "finished" but are always a work in process.

**Iku Oseki**, [www.ikuoseki.com](http://www.ikuoseki.com), draws inspiration for her paintings from concerts and street musicians.

Her visual imagery *Continued on page 4*



*Magic Flute* by Iku Oseki, featured artist at the event.

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**Groundwork Somerville's Harvest Festival** takes place on **Saturday, October 4, 12 – 4 p.m.** at **South Street Farm, 138 South Street.** This Harvest Festival, they are celebrating Groundwork Somerville's 25th Anniversary of its founding. Activities for the day include: Hands-on stations for all ages, interactive community art project, live music from local artists, free food from local restaurants, and informational stations. (Rain Date: Sunday, October 5, from 12 to 4 p.m.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Community Get Together – Chocomingle Edition** will take place on **October 2, 6 p.m., Edward L. Leathers Community Park, 104 Walnut Street.** A relaxed and fun afternoon filled with music, games, ice cones or “fresco” and most importantly, a goal-setting activity where youth can reflect and share their intentions for the school year. This event will be a great opportunity to celebrate diversity, foster connection, and create a fun and inclusive space for young people to gather, learn, and engage. It's a great chance for community members, especially youth, to unwind, meet new friends, and enjoy a welcoming, multicultural atmosphere.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to several locals: We wish **Sal Mingace** a very happy birthday. We wish him well and hope he enjoys his day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Rick Gaetano, Terri Monsalve, Kevin Driscoll, AnnMarie Carey-Browne, and Diane Kerins Conneely** a happy birthday. We hope *Continued on page 7*

## Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of October 1 – October 7 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
<b>Wednesday</b> <i>October 1</i>	Sunny	63°/45°	3%	2%	NE 15 mph
<b>Thursday</b> <i>October 2</i>	Sunny	63°/43°	2%	1%	NE 11 mph
<b>Friday</b> <i>October 3</i>	Partly Cloudy	71°/52°	6%	3%	SW 10 mph
<b>Saturday</b> <i>October 4</i>	Sunny	78°/57°	5%	2%	ENE 7 mph
<b>Sunday</b> <i>October 5</i>	Sunny	84°/55°	7%	4%	SW 9 mph
<b>Monday</b> <i>October 6</i>	Sunny	85°/60°	8%	4%	SW 9 mph
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>October 7</i>	Partly Cloudy	84°/59°	10%	6%	SW 10 mph

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

## 20th Annual Honk Festival



The 20th Annual Honk Festival of Activist Street Bands will be hitting the streets of Somerville from October 9 through 12 (rain or shine).

HONK! 2025 will feature a wide variety of musical/activist events planned for Tufts University, in Medford (HONK! U Conference on Thursday), Davis Square, in Somerville (street music, work-shops, lantern parades on Friday and Saturday); and Harvard Square, in Cambridge (with a vast Parade out of Davis Sq. to then participate in Oktoberfest, on Sunday).

At full power, these bands create an irresistible spectacle of creative movement and sonic self-expression directed at making the world a better place. This is the movement called HONK!

More info at: <https://honkfest.org/>

## The Somerville Times

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Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.

Editor – Jim Clark

Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner

Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Harry Kane, and Cathleen Twardzik

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo, Bob Doherty  
Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

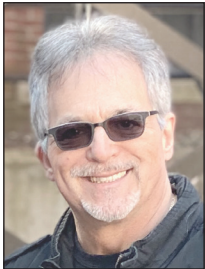
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Life in the **VILLE** by Jimmy Del Ponte

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.

# My 2 cents on 5 and 10's



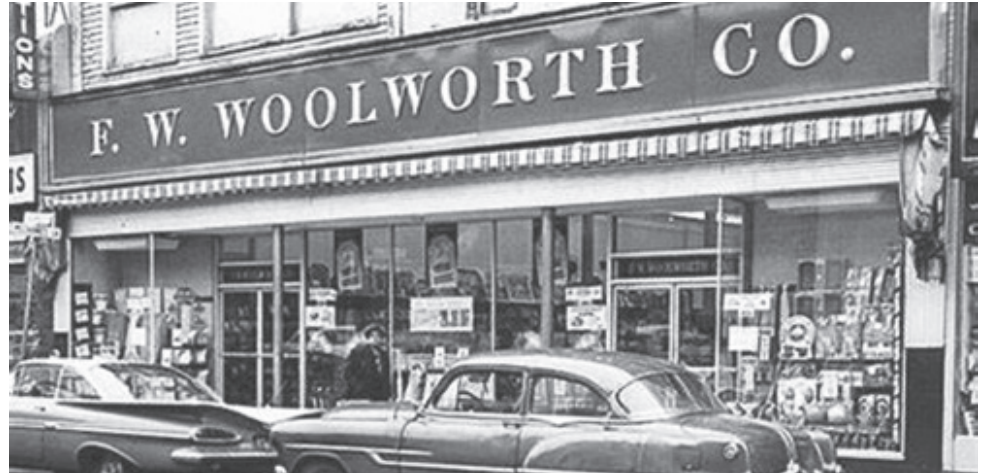
I was 16 in 1969 when I got a job at Woolworths in Davis Square. I was hired as a stock boy but graduated to the luncheonette counter. WT Grant and FW Woolworth were 5 and 10 cent stores, or "five and dimes" in the square. Those are the two, along with Savel's in Ball Square, that I grew up with.

was started, many of the items in the store cost 5 and 10 cents. By the time I was a kid, the prices weren't quite that low, but they were drastically cheaper than prices of today, that's for sure, not to mention a wider variety of products. At Woolworth's, you could get yarn, nylons, toys, clothes, a grilled cheese, and a turtle. So what if the turtle only lived for a week! And how cool were all the fish and the birds in the pet section? I loved it when a parakeet or a canary would get loose and fly all around the store.

I can't remember the names of the guy and the two women who worked at Savel's, but I can still picture what they looked like. They were always smiling and friendly. When I was 6, our upstairs neighbor, Lenny Scott, gave me an 1882 silver dollar for my birthday. I went down Savel's and bought my mother an apron. My dad went down and got the silver dollar back and gave the guy a dollar bill to cover it. That's a nice memory. An apron for a buck! How could you go wrong?

A very nice guy named Mr. Rose was the manager of Woolworths in Davis Square before I worked there (mid to late 60s). Do you remember the lady with the jet black hair and bright red lipstick who worked there? Her name was Mary, and she very rarely smiled. She was the surveillance camera back then. No one could swipe anything when she was around. Mr. Rose moved over to Fields Stationery, and I believe Mary went with him. Mr. Rose was a nice guy. I'll never forget the look on his face as I drove by him in

Continued on page 6



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# Money Map Tip of the Week

By Vincent Hicks, CPA

**Q: Have you ever heard of the mindsets of “farming vs. fishing” — and how this mindset model can shape your finances?**

**A:** Some money moves pay off over time (farming), while others aim for quick results (fishing). The best financial plans use both.

**♦ Farming moves:**

- Automatic savings & retirement investing
- Building credit or skills slowly

– Networking to grow long-term opportunities

**♦ Fishing moves:**

- Freelance or side gigs
- Selling unused items
- Applying for a loan or fast relief

**Pro tip:** Some actions — like networking — start as farming, but can lead to short-term wins.

**Ask yourself:** Which type of thinking is missing in my current plan?

Balancing both can build not just income — but peace of mind!

**Any questions? I'd be happy to help.**

I'm Vincent Hicks, CPA, based in Somerville with over 20 years of experience. Reach out at [vchicksconnect@gmail.com](mailto:vchicksconnect@gmail.com) or (859) 553-0788.

*Disclaimer: This column provides general financial information and should not be considered legal, investment, or tax advice. Individual situations vary. Always consult a qualified professional for personalized guidance.*



## Committee approves grants and invoices, discusses requirements for UASI grants

CONT. FROM PG 1

After grants to the Somerville Police Department were kept in committee, small-dollar figure invoices for office and public safety supplies were also approved. Infrastructure and Asset Management Director Michael Richards then explained requests to pay prior-year invoices for the Strategic Asset Management Plan and transfer around \$350,000 to the IAM Capital Outlay Professional & Technical Services Account, both of which were laid for approval.

The committee also authorized \$4.3 million in bonds and appropriated the same amount toward the Morrison Avenue Linear Storage Sewer Separation project. According to IAM Director of Engineering Brian Postlewaite, the project would help mitigate flooding in Davis Square by preloading stormwater in a large diameter pipe, which would run for half a mile along Morrison Avenue from Cedar Street to Grove Street.

The city's contract with Eastern Bank was extended and amended through August 31, 2026, to maintain the services of its Treasury Department.

**Sewall Court construction**

Regarding a residential project at 299 Broadway, the committee approved requests for the following changes near Sewall Court:

- ♦ A partial termination of the City Util-

ity Easement

- ♦ Temporary and permanent easements for Lot 3 of 299 Broadway

- ♦ The discontinuation of a portion of Sewall Court that stretches into the former Star Market parking lot

- ♦ Adopting an Order of Taking for Lot 3 for municipal purposes, including parking.

**Concern over ICE cooperation in future UASI grants**

The committee held a significant discussion over ICE's involvement in future Urban Area Security Initiative grants. A memo from the Somerville Law Department explained that recipients of UASI grants would be required to allocate at least 10% of the grant's funds toward a National Priority Area for “Supporting Border Crisis Response and Enforcement.”

According to the Department of Homeland Security's Notice of Funding Opportunity, “compliant” programs would “1) authorize state and local law enforcement officers to perform immigration officer functions, 2) cooperate with ICE detainees, or 3) support activities such as officer training, technology and information sharing, operational support, and community engagement.”

“Our community's been under siege by federal activity that has taken our neighbors off the streets in really scary and chilling ways,” Councilor Willie Burnley

Jr., who brought the items forward, said. “And I think as a sanctuary city, we have the responsibility to do everything we can to comply with our own laws that are meant to support our neighbors [and] ensure peaceful processes, including in law enforcement.”

As a result of the new proposed UASI requirements, Burnley “became quite concerned” and “wanted to make sure we were not inadvertently committing ourselves — legally, within contracts with the federal government — to taking actions that are contrary to our values and our laws.”

He also wanted to make his colleagues and the public aware of the potential changes to UASI funds, saying, “We should monitor [them] quite closely in order to ensure that we're not signing up to do something that we have no desire to do.”

Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Neha Singh said the city is closely monitoring the application and working with the state and communities part of the UASI consortium, including those with sanctuary city statuses. She also clarified that the state has not agreed to any new terms and conditions for the funds, but it still wants to pursue funding because “it allows cities like Somerville to fund crucial public safety equipment and initiatives.”

Councilors Jesse Clingan and J.T. Scott also shared Burnley's concerns. Clingan

hoped the city could accept funding for other programs without putting residents at risk, while Scott said he “won't be voting to approve” any grant that comes with the aforementioned conditions.

Burnley and Councilor Jake Wilson reiterated that the current UASI grants do not contain requirements from the federal government because they are from prior fiscal years. However, Burnley notes the changes “could happen soon,” potentially in the next round of funding.

“If that does happen, the city will have decisions to make about what it means to be a sanctuary city, how best to fund the real needs of our community ... while not sacrificing our neighbors,” Burnley added.

Both items were kept in committee, with Burnley urging his colleagues and the public to keep them in mind going forward and “do everything we possibly can to support all of our neighbors.”

**Reports for unspent stabilization funds**

The final item discussed was a proposal from Councilor Wilfred Mbah that the Director of Finance provide reports for unspent stabilization funds within the last three fiscal years. Wilson and Burnley appreciated the proposal's transparency regarding the allocation of funds and balances across accounts. However, the item remained in committee, given Mbah's absence.

## The Music of Art: From Inspiration to Improvisation

CONT. FROM PG 1

connects with the sound as well as the performers. Some of the compositions evoke a dreamlike state, conjuring up the feelings she experiences while the notes are in her head.

Annie Silverman, [www.anniesilverman.com](http://www.anniesilverman.com), calls herself an improvisational composer, not of music with notes and sound, but with images, colors, patterns, and form. Her process of creating multi-layered prints

with carved woodblocks feels musical to her because, like hearing music live, it happens in real time on her printing press.

<https://brickbottom.org/>

**Brickbottom Gallery**

September 12 – October 19.

**Gallery Hours:**

Friday – Sunday, noon – 5 p.m.

More info at: <https://brickbottom.org/our-exhibitions/the-music-of-art>

# Help shape a safer Community Path

Since its opening in 2023, the Community Path Extension has become a critical route in Somerville for those walking, rolling, and wheeling, with a daily average of 3,300 pedestrians in 2024 (as counted at Cedar Street). Now the city wants to hear from you about how to make the path safer for all.

The city has launched a community engagement process to inform its work to improve safety for all users on the path. The project will include both short-term improvements and longer-term design options along the path, at key intersections, and at the two Green Line station entrances on the path.

Mayor Ballantyne and the city's Mobility Division invite community members to give feedback in multiple ways:

- Take the online survey [1] (open until Tuesday, October 21)
- Review and add comments to the Public Input Map [2] (open until Tuesday, October 21)

• Chat with city staff at a pop-up event along the path:

- Saturday, September 27: Lowell St., 11 a.m. to noon
  - Thursday, October 2: East Somerville MBTA station, 8 to 9:30 a.m.
- Visit [somervillema.gov/community-pathsafety](https://somervillema.gov/community-pathsafety) to access the survey, input map, and learn more.

After reviewing all the input gathered, the project team will aim to publish a set of safety improvement strategies in early 2026 with the goal of starting quick-build implementations in the spring/summer of 2026.

**Links:**

- [1] <https://voice.somervillema.gov/communitypathsafety/surveys/community-path-safety-concerns-survey>
- [2] <https://voice.somervillema.gov/communitypathsafety/places/community-path-safety-improvements-public-input-map>



## Somerville firefighters honored



During Thursday night's City Council meeting, members of the Somerville Fire Department were recognized for their heroic actions fighting the multiple-alarm fires that occurred over the summer and for the lifesaving rescues that were made.

## Family and Children's Concert: Pep Band

The Tufts University Department of Music presents Family and Children's Concert: Pep Band at the Perry and Marty Granoff Music Center on Saturday, October 18, at 1:00pm. The Tufts Pep Band performs a concert for children and families. Michel Muller, director.

The Granoff Music Center is located at 20 Talbot Avenue on Tufts' Medford/Somerville campus.

For more information, please visit [as.tufts.edu/music/musiccenter](https://as.tufts.edu/music/musiccenter) or call the Granoff Music Center Box Office at 617-627-2253.

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*All information is kept completely confidential.*

## 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.

By Ivan Abarca-Torres

“Soccer is life,” a phrase made famous by Danny Rojas in the series *Ted Lasso* carries real meaning, especially for those of us from Latin America like me. The Uruguayan author Eduardo Galeano once wrote, “The ball is never just a ball.” Soccer is more than a game. It is connection, culture, and community. In Somerville, where I’ve lived for more than a decade, soccer has been the bridge that brought immigrant and non-immigrant Somerville families together. And no one has done more to make that possible than Jake Wilson.

I know both mayoral candidates. Each brings strengths, but for me, Jake stands out because of his record of real, hands-on leadership. While both have a vision for our community, Jake has already been building it – through years of work that has changed lives for immigrant families like mine. In politics, you don’t always get both vision and follow-through. Jake manages both – responding to all calls, emails, and texts and acknowledging concerns, whether big or small.

As president of Somerville Youth Soccer (SYS), Jake made the program more than a soccer organization. He turned it into a space where every child, regardless of income or background, could belong. Under his leadership, SYS grew from

799 to 1,155 and subsequently over 1,400 players. And most of the new registrations were kids of color from immigrant families. He also significantly increased girls’ participation in travel soccer. Jake dramatically increased financial aid so that no family was left out. He also initiated a coach recruitment program with local adult leagues, and in his final year, recruited 72 new coaches. Jake was deservedly recognized as the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Administrator of the Year in 2020, and SYS had to employ both an Executive Director and a President to match his results-driven leadership.

For Jake, soccer has always been a tool for connection, empowerment, and community-building. I saw this commitment firsthand when I became the first Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for SYS—a role Jake created. Together, we went to schools, churches, libraries, playgrounds, even homes, making sure immigrant families knew their kids were welcome. We made flyers in four languages, and provided support day and night. Jake did not just run the organization, he redefined it on the values of dignity, inclusion, and care.

While serving as a City Councilor, Jake has never stopped coaching. He still works with his daughter’s team and also coaches Healey School Boys Futsal team and Somerville Boys high school students

during the spring. Jake doesn’t just coach soccer he develops people. Players grow under his leadership, they win, and just as importantly, they love playing for him. Why? Because Jake knows how to bring out the best in others. The same qualities that make him a successful coach – his ability to connect, to inspire, and to lead – are exactly the qualities that make him a strong candidate for mayor. As he’s done on the field, Jake will bring that same vision and energy to City Hall – building winning teams, making tough calls with fairness, and always putting people first.

This is what makes Jake different. Politics is too often about promises. Jake has already delivered. As a City Councilor and a community volunteer in schools and youth sports, Jake has proven that he knows how to listen, build systems that work, and strengthen our community.

My own experience proves the point. The families I’ve met through soccer have become my community. They are the people I lean on, and who lean on me. That sense of connection doesn’t happen by accident – it is the result of leadership that believes in inclusion and follows through. Jake Wilson has already shown that he can do this—not with speeches, but with years of tangible work.

Somerville is a diverse, vibrant city. But it is also at a crossroads. We need a mayor

who can unite us, not divide us. We need someone who sees people as neighbors, not as talking points. Jake’s record shows he is that person. He has already built bridges between families, across languages, and across neighborhoods. He has already proven that he is committed to equity, opportunity, and belonging.

I am supporting Jake Wilson for Mayor because he is the leader Somerville needs right now. He has the experience, the vision, and the track record of results. And most importantly, he has the heart to bring our community together. I have seen thousands of families benefit from Jake’s bridge-building legacy. Please join those families and me in supporting and voting for Jake for mayor.

Soccer may be a metaphor, but in Jake’s hands, it has become a powerful instrument of change. And through it, Jake has changed lives—one game, one family, one community at a time. Imagine what he can do for Somerville as mayor.

*Ivan Abarca-Torres, PhD, is a Somerville resident, researcher, educator, and former diplomat, as well as a community organizer with Padres Latinos of Somerville Public Schools and a board member of local cultural and community organizations. He was also the co-curator of “Museo Inmigrante” at the Somerville Museum in 2024.*

## My 2 cents on 5 and 10’s CONT. FROM PG 3

the aisle on my Sting Ray bike with the banana seat. See, I was dared to ride my bike in the front door, and all the way through the store, and out the back entrance. What a punk.

I was hired as a stock boy in 1969. On the weekends, I worked the lunch counter, and it was great! I used to put the prices in the balloons that you popped for sundaes. The grilled cheeses I made for myself were huge. Remember those shiny metal cone-shaped drink holders? How about that smell of hot popcorn that filled Grants? The smell of freshly popped popcorn also reminds me of the

old JM Fields store in Medford.

Kresge’s in Porter Square was another of those old-time five-and-dimes that we used to shop in. Back then, kids would go in and put 50 cents into the cigarette machine and get a pack of butts. I also recall the boiled ham for 99 cents a pound. There was also a Woolworths in Central Square in Cambridge. Dukes in Teele Square was also mentioned, though I’m not sure it was an official 5 and 10. Kneeland’s on Highland and Lowell, also. Santa also had a perch in Grant’s at Christmas time.

Cassette tapes were replacing the bulky 8-tracks, and I remember buying *Best Of*

*Traffic* in 1969 (with my employee’s discount). *Dear Mr. Fantasy* was on that album, so now whenever I hear that song, I think of my working days at Woolies, as we called it. I even got my friend Phil a job there.

Who can forget the big red FW Woolworth’s sign in Davis Square? And for those of you who don’t remember five and ten stores, just think of a more personable, smaller Target store.

In 1969, Woolworths could sell you a stamp for 6 cents, a comic book for 15 cents, and a portable cassette player for \$9.99. I remember buying boxes of Rit

clothes dye to make, you guessed it, tie-dyed t-shirts. There was nothing better than spending my day off at Woolworths. I’d start off by listening to a rocking cassette, while wearing a new tie-dyed shirt, then popping a balloon for a 10-cent hot fudge sundae (by the way, I stuffed mostly 5 and 10-cent prices in the balloons). Then, for laughs, we’d watch a frantic canary fly around the store, bumping into mirrors. All this while Mary, the human surveillance camera, bagged kids for trying to steal Hot Wheels cars.

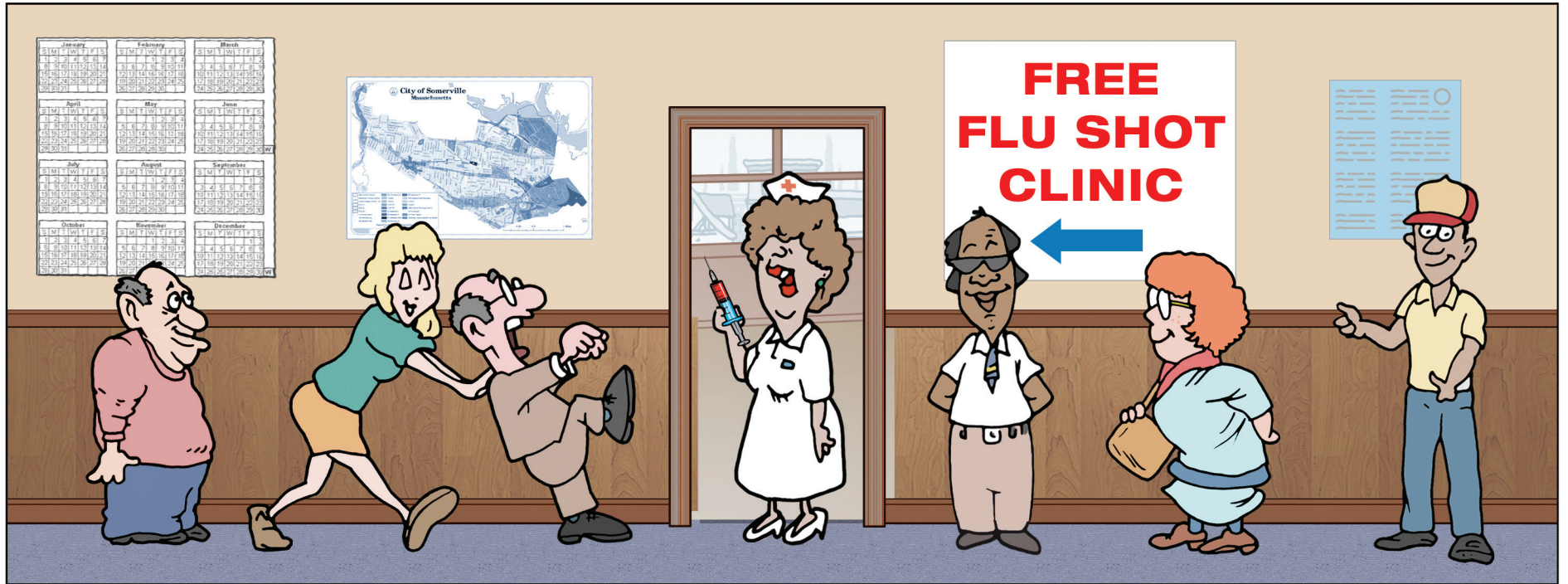
Notice: No canaries were harmed in the writing of this story.

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COMMENTARY

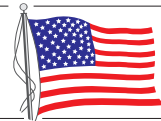
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Like it or not it's time for your shot.

Our View Of The Times



Who among us actually likes getting a shot of any kind? There are certainly a given number of masochistic types out there who don't mind taking a little jab in the arm or ... elsewhere.

But many of us put off or completely avoid the prickly deed for as long as we can push it, until the cold and flu season completely bypasses us altogether, or we fall victim to the merciless clutches of our

microbiological nemeses.

But the City of Somerville comes to the rescue with its annual flu and COVID-19 vaccine clinics, beginning on Thursday, October 9, offering free flu vaccines for Somerville residents ages four and older at various times and locations throughout the city until the city's supply of vaccine is exhausted.

Vaccines are an important tool for helping people stay safe from flu,

COVID-19, and other viruses. The City of Somerville holds regular vaccine clinics. They're also important tools for keeping Somerville safe.

The CDC recommends that everyone six months or older get a flu and COVID-19 vaccine unless otherwise advised by their doctor. Go online right away to find out the times and locations of the scheduled clinics at: <https://www.somervillema.gov/vaccinations>.

[somervillema.gov/vaccinations](https://www.somervillema.gov/vaccinations).

One quick jab in the arm or ... you know where ... can make a difference between enjoying a happy, healthy fall and winter or facing a miserably bleak one. Let's face it, taking the time and effort to do this will be well worth it.

And your family, friends, coworkers, and everyone else you regularly come into contact with will thank you, too.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 4 Councilor Jesse Clingan, Ward 1 Councilor Matt McLaughlin, and city staff invite you to an open house on Saturday, October 4, at Ed Leathers Park (between Skilton Ave. and Walnut St.) from noon to 2 p.m. The City of Somerville is working to make the western segment of Pearl Street between McGrath Highway and Medford Street safer and more accessible by redesigning and reconstructing the street. Community members can talk

directly to staff while exploring different stations for various aspects of the design. Learn more or visit [somervillema.gov/westernpearl](https://www.somervillema.gov/westernpearl) for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tufts Community Day takes place on Saturday, October 5, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Academic Quad at Tufts University. Tufts Community Day is an annual Tufts tradition, celebrating arts, innovation, and community. Campus neighbors are invited to the Medford/Somerville campus, along with community partners, students, staff, and faculty, for a day of live entertainment, family-friendly activities, and free food.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Somerville Police Chief Shumeane Benford, and the Somerville Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) invite community members to a neighborhood meeting on Monday, October 6, to discuss public safety and homelessness in the Davis Square/Seven Hills area. All members of the community, including individuals and businesses, are invited to attend. 6 – 7:30 p.m., Somerville Community Baptist Church, 31 College Ave., in the Sanctuary. This meeting will also be livestreamed on City YouTube at [youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV](https://youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV). Submit questions in advance: For people watching the livestream, ques-

tions may be submitted in advance to [davissafetymeeting@somervillema.gov](mailto:davissafetymeeting@somervillema.gov). Please submit by Friday, October 3.

\*\*\*\*\*

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Arts Editor, Doug Holder, for setting up a GoFundMe campaign for *The Somerville Times*. With the cost of printing going up and a lack of businesses having the resources to advertise, free papers feel the effect. We sincerely thank all who have already contributed and thank any future contributors. If you are interested in helping, please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-the-somerville-times>. Or if anyone is interested *Continued on page 9*

# FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

# Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#991

- Which musician was awarded the first gold record?
- Which country artist threw javelin while attending Oklahoma State University?
- In what year did MTV launch?
- What fish is capable of generating an electrical charge up to 600 volts?
- In what year was the term "Artificial Intelligence" first coined?
- When is World Vegetarian Day?
- Which pink ribbon is associated with October?
- Who broke the sound barrier for the first time?
- Which rock band was originally known as Mookie Blaylock?
- Who was the first emperor of Rome?
- Which U.S. state has the most ghost towns?
- What's the only rock that floats on water? *Answers on page 13*

## The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- Barbie and Ken broke up in 2004.
- One teaspoon of honey represents the life work of 12 bees.

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD KIDS' BOOKS

#### ACROSS

- The Big Bad Wolf: "I'll \_\_\_\_ your house down"
- Edgar Rice Burroughs' Kerchak or Kala
- Cosine's buddy
- Target of grand theft
- Influencer's journal
- Food-grinding tooth
- Bear's hang-out
- Like a maxi skirt
- Get up
- Robert McCloskey's "Make Way for \_\_\_\_"
- March Madness org.
- Expenditure, in the olden days
- "Four and twenty blackbirds baked in a \_\_\_\_"
- Turn pale
- Lachrymatory agent (2 words)
- Swimmer's distance
- Rinse and \_\_\_\_
- Consequently
- Join forces
- Bruin legend Bobby
- Jury duty event
- Per person
- Hockey player, e.g.
- Approximated landing time
- What naughty children do
- Fortification made of wagons
- Preceding month
- Unnecessary embellishment
- Customs document
- He had a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day
- Popular pie nut
- Not final
- Just a little
- Choice dish
- \_\_\_\_-do-well
- Sudden and brilliant success
- Doofus
- Is, in France
- Fail to mention

#### DOWN

- Like a certain eagle
- Oahu shindig
- Related to ear
- Exert persuasive powers (2 words)
- Jennifer Aniston's movie "\_\_\_\_ Came Polly"
- Canine father in Dodie Smith's "The Hun-

CROSSWORD													
1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13				14				
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56						57				58			
59						60				61			
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### Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

- dred and One Dalmatians"
- Dr. Seuss: "I do not like green \_\_\_\_ and ham"
- Philosopher in American edition of "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone"
- Hipbone
- U.S. space agency, acr.
- "I heard him exclaim, \_\_\_\_ he drove out of sight, Merry Christmas..."
- Not serious
- Bipolar disorder phase
- Filthy cabbage
- Favorite student
- Protected steel from rust with coating
- Hawaiian veranda
- Long stories
- The Queen of Hearts baked more than one of these
- "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard \_\_\_\_
- Popular gemstone
- Type of renewable energy
- Janette Sebring Lowrey's "The \_\_\_\_ Little Puppy"
- Pitcher's stat
- "One \_\_\_\_ and One Nights"
- \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-la refrain
- Group of exercise reps
- a.k.a. philosopher's stone
- Flavorless
- Aluminum+nickel+cobalt, magnetic alloy
- What time does
- Button on electrical outlet
- Bride's cover
- International Civil Aviation Organization
- Green Gables resident \_\_\_\_ Shirley
- Gloom's partner
- Evening purse
- Wholly engrossed
- Pipe material, acr.

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

# Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



## Cream Cheese Two Ways

One of my favorite breakfast comfort foods is bagels with cream cheese. On occasion, I like to have a choice of either a sweet or savory cream cheese to go along with my bagel.

There are many choices in the supermarket for flavored cream cheese, but there are so many additional ingredients added that I find I'm either unable to pronounce or even know what I'm looking at unless I look it up! To stay away from artificial flavors and unnecessary ingredients, I came up with these flavor combinations that fit the bill.

The great thing is you can add your own flavor combinations to your liking. These recipes below have a really nice balance of flavors and textures. Feel free to make your own flavor combinations. It's that easy!

- 8 oz. cream cheese at room temperature
- 1/4 cup orange marmalade
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cardamom
- 1/4 - 1/2 cup of chopped pecans or walnuts

### SAVORY FRESH HERB CREAM CHEESE

- 8 oz. cream cheese at room temperature

- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh parsley
- 1/4 cup finely chopped chives or green onions and extra for garnish
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon granulated garlic powder

Leave the cream cheese out at room temperature until softened, about 1-1/2 hours, add cream cheese to a medium sized bowl. Whichever recipe you choose above, add all the ingredients to the cream cheese and blend thoroughly with a spatula, or a mixer. Serve along with bagels, bagel chips or even crackers.



Visit Dorothy's website at <http://ddimarzo2002.wix.com/thymethief>.

## Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

in advertising, please contact Bobbietoner@aol.com. We offer great discounts to help our advertisers be able to advertise. Thank you all so much for your support!

**The Burren** in Davis Square will be holding a fundraiser for the **Somerville Museum** on **Saturday, October 4**, in honor of their **100th Anniversary fundraising effort**. The event will feature the music of the Irish **Miami Showband**, and legendary **Tavern Talk** presenter, **Dan Breen**, will fill in the story. \$55 gets you in to enjoy a complimentary buffet along with the program. Find tickets at [Burren.com](http://Burren.com).

We have a new tab on our website, "**Campaign Releases**." Go there to see the latest endorsements and campaign info for this year's election candidates.

The **Somerville Public Library** is asking for community feedback to help shape its next **five-year strategic plan**. Residents, workers, and visitors are invited to share their ideas for how the Library can best develop its collections, programs, services, and spaces. The survey is open **through Wednesday, October 15**, takes about five minutes to complete, and is voluntary and anonymous. Participants can take the survey online at [ti-nyurl.com/58vmk4vw](http://ti-nyurl.com/58vmk4vw) or complete a paper copy at any Somerville Public Library location.

For more information about Somerville

Public Library programs and services, visit [www.somervillepubliclibrary.org](http://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org).

Community members are invited to join **Mayor Katjana Ballantyne**, the **City Council**, and the **School Committee** at the **2025 City Hall Community Meetings**. These meetings are held every fall in each of Somerville's seven wards to share the latest city and neighborhood updates – and more – with community members. The in-person meetings kick off with a social half-hour with free pizza and healthy kid-friendly snacks, where you can chat one-on-one with elected officials, including the mayor, your Ward and At-Large City Councilors, and School Committee members, as well as staff, about issues important to you. The next meetings will be on **Tuesday, October 7, Ward 5, Kennedy School Café**, and on **Wednesday, October 8, Ward 6, Somerville Community Baptist Church**. All meetings start at 6 p.m.

**Halloween Kids Costume Swap** will be held on **Sunday, October 5**, at the **Central Library** (79 Highland Ave.) from 1 to 4 p.m. Get in the spooky spirit and join in for a free kids Halloween costume swap. Families interested in donating can drop off gently used costumes **now through October 2** in drop boxes at all three library locations.

Do you live in Somerville? Have you grad-

uated from high school yet? **Scrapheap Showdown** is coming. Time to get your teams together. Get two more friends and register your team. Choose a crazy name for the team and then all come on **October 19** to **Breed Memorial Hall at Tufts University**, 51 Winthrop St, Medford.

**Child Find Screenings:** Free for Somerville residents ages 3–5 years, **Thursday, October 9**, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m., **Capuano Early Childhood Center**, 150 Glen Street. **Somerville Public Schools** is offering free preschool and kindergarten screenings for young children residing in Somerville who are not enrolled in our schools. Screenings are a way to assess children's developmental progress and identify children who may need further evaluation for special education services. There are two additional screening dates on **January 13, 2026**, and **March 26, 2026**.

Somerville's biggest spooky party is back with **SomerStreets: Monster Mash**. **Sunday, October 19**, from 2 to 6 p.m. (Severe weather date, October 26) in **Union Square**. Get ready for a spooktacular afternoon of activities, food, music, and more: [www.somervilleartscouncil.org/events/monster-mash](http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org/events/monster-mash)

**Free Flu and COVID-19 vaccine clinics.** Visit [somervillema.gov/vaccinations](http://somervillema.gov/vaccinations) to find Flu and COVID vaccine clinics

this year and register for your appointment. More clinics will be added throughout the season.

This fall, the **Somerville Museum** is offering programs for kids, young and old, on **select Friday and Saturday mornings**. The museum is also starting its next exhibition, **Barcode Journeys** with **Barbara Jo**. Barcode Journeys Zine Workshop, for the young and young at heart, **Saturday, October 4**, 11 a.m., 1 Westwood Rd. Visit [www.somervillemuseum.org](http://www.somervillemuseum.org).

Are you an artist or craftsman who creates objects for sale? You can rent a table to display and sell your wares on **Saturday, October 25**, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the **Holiday Crafts Fair** at the **Somerville Community Baptist Church** in Davis Square. The price for renting a table is \$35. The Fair will also feature food and fun activities for all ages. To rent a table, please make out your check for \$35 to Somerville Community Baptist Church, and mail it along with your name and contact information (address, phone, email) to SCBC, 31 College Avenue, Somerville, MA 02144. For more information about the Fair, contact **Marion Annacone**, [marion.annacone@gmail.com](mailto:marion.annacone@gmail.com).

**Dilboy Post** will be holding its third **Annual Comedy Fundraiser, Elaine Pelino & Friends**, hosted by

*Continued on page 12*



LEGAL NOTICES

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**BID ADVERTISEMENT**

*The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites e-bids from DCAM Certified General Contractor in Waterproofing for Building Envelope Concrete Repairs at the (200-2) Mystic River Apartments Development, 30 Memorial Road in Somerville, Massachusetts EOHLIC No. 274172, in accordance with the documents prepared by SOCOTEC AE Consulting Inc. of Boston, Massachusetts.*

The Project consists of: Concrete repairs to existing Precast Concrete Modular Addition Structures; including but not limited to window sealants replacements, patching of delaminated and spalled concrete, crack repair, and painting and coating of the precast concrete elevations.

The work is estimated to cost **\$412,750.00 including Alternates.**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

General bidders must be certified by DCAMM pursuant to M.G.L.c. 149 Section 44D. The General Bidder must be certified eligible in the DCAMM Prime/General category in **'WATERPROOFING'**.

Filed sub-bidders must be certified by DCAMM pursuant to M.G.L.c. 149 Section 44D. The Filed sub-Bidder must be certified eligible in the DCAMM Filed Sub-Bid categories of **'PAINTING'**.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents are available online after **Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 2:00 PM** at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com). Enter Project Code **871048** in the project locator box and select "Acquire Documents" to download documents. All plan holders must have an active online account on [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com) to acquire documents and to receive project notifications.

Addenda, if issued, will be posted to the Projectdog website and shall be accompanied by e-mail notification to every individual or firm on record as having received the Contract Documents.

This project is being Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be submitted online at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com). Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. Tutorials and Instructions are available online at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com). For assistance, contact Projectdog Inc. at 978.499.9014.

Filed Sub Bids for this project will be accepted from eligible bidders until **Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 4:00 PM** and will be publicly opened, forthwith online.

General Bids for this project will be accepted from eligible bidders until **Thursday, October 23, 2025, at 4:00 PM** and will be publicly opened, forthwith online.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates) and made payable to the Somerville Housing Authority.

General bidders must agree to contract with minority and women business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), formerly known as SOMWBA. The combined participation benchmark

reserved for such enterprises shall not be less than 13% of the final contract price including accepted alternates. **Request for waivers must be sent to EOHLIC ([david.mcclave@mass.gov](mailto:david.mcclave@mass.gov)) 5 calendar days prior to the General Bid date. NO WAIVERS WILL BE GRANTED AFTER THE GENERAL BIDS ARE OPENED.**

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Labor and Material (Payment) Bond each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract sum. Bonds shall be obtained from a surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the form shall be satisfactory to the Somerville Housing Authority. The cost of such bonds shall be included in the bid price.

Attention is directed to the Department of Labor Standards (DLS), a copy of which is included in the Contract Documents, and will be made a part of the Contract. The Awarding Authority is exempt from sales and federal excise tax to the extent permitted under law. Bidders should not include such taxes in figuring or in references to any bid.

Bidding procedures and award of the Contract and Subcontracts shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 149, Sections 44A through 44J inclusive, of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including all current amendments; and the guidelines established by the Deputy Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Capital Assets Management (DCAMM), dated June 30, 1981.

The Awarding Authority reserves the right to waive any irregularities in or to reject any and all bids, if it be in the public interest to do so, and to act upon the bids and make its award in any lawful manner.

All questions and requests for interpretations must be submitted in writing via e-mail to [parul.belsare@socotec.us](mailto:parul.belsare@socotec.us) by the General Bidders until Friday, **October 10, 2025, at 4:00 PM.**

**PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT:**

Date and Time: **Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 10:00 AM**

Address: 30 Memorial Road Somerville, MA 02145.  
**Meet at the main entrance of the Administration Building.**

Attendance at this pre-bid conference is strongly recommended for parties submitting a bid

Brian Langton  
Somerville Housing Authority

10/1/25 The Somerville Times



**Advertisement**

The **Somerville Housing Authority** is seeking competitive sealed Request for Proposal (RFP) for "As Needed" Housing Inspection Services, SHA Job No. **P-INSPECT102025** in accordance with the specifications prepared by the SHA Purchasing Department.

The Term is for Three (3) years

Documents will be posted **11:00 a.m., October 6, 2025.**

Responses will be received until **2:00 p.m., October 22, 2025.**

The work is estimated to cost **\$252,000.00 for 3 years.**

RFP Documents will be available for download on SHA's Web site, [www.sha-web.org](http://www.sha-web.org), under About us, Bid opportunities tab **11:00 a.m., October 6, 2025.**

If bidding, you must contact Anthony Crespo by email at [Tonyc@sha-web.org](mailto:Tonyc@sha-web.org) and register/leave contact information including an email. You will receive a reply that your email has been received. Proposers are responsible for ensuring that their email and bids are received. Addendum's will be posted on the website and shall be the bidder's responsibility to include in bid.

10/1/25 The Somerville Times



The **Somerville Board of Health** would like to propose the following change to the City's Body Art Regulations to remove the ambiguous language as follows:

**Current regulation language:** (Section 1300.10 (D)) An apprenticeship shall conclude, and the apprentice shall be eligible for a body art practitioner's license, when the apprentice has satisfactorily completed two thousand four hundred (2400) hours or two (2) years of the body art apprenticeship program, **whichever is greater.**

**Proposed regulation language:** (Section 1300.10 (D)) An apprenticeship shall conclude, and the apprentice shall be eligible for a body art practitioner's license, when the apprentice has satisfactorily completed two thousand four hundred (2400) hours and/or two (2) years of the body art apprenticeship program, **whichever is greater.**

**The link to view the attachment is here:**

[Body Art Regulations\\_DRAFT\\_Ammended\\_9\\_2025.docx](#)

Add your comments and collaborate with others in real time. You don't need to download Acrobat or sign up to access the file.

10/1/25 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
IFB #26-11**

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

**On-Call Fleet Repairs to Commercial Vehicles**

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or from the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **10/01/2025**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **10/16/2025 by 2PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the 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 Logan Carroll at [lcarroll@somervillema.gov](mailto:lcarroll@somervillema.gov) for more information.

**Logan Carroll  
Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x3407**

10/1/25 The Somerville Times

**Boston Festival of New Jewish Music**

The Boston Festival of New Jewish Music presents its first concert of the 2025-26 season at the Multicultural Arts Center on Sunday, October 5, featuring three genre-defining acts representing decades at the top of klezmer music: Veretski Pass, Adrienne Greenbaum's Fleytmusik, and Jake Shulman-Ment and Abigale Reisman's Two Strings. In the afternoon before the concert, the artists offer a series of workshops on klezmer music for students and community members at the Granoff Music Center. Free for Tufts community members; students: \$15; General Public: \$50.

The Granoff Music Center is located at 20 Talbot Avenue on Tufts' Medford/Somerville campus. For more information, please visit [as.tufts.edu/music/musiccenter](http://as.tufts.edu/music/musiccenter) or call the Granoff Music Center Box Office at 617-627-2253.

# LEGAL NOTICES

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

**NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION**

**1 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA &  
263 Monsignor O'Brien Highway, Cambridge, MA  
Release Tracking Number 3-10852**

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. On August 19, 2025, Somerbridge Hotel LLC registered with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds a NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION on the disposal site, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1070 through 40.1080. The NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION will limit the following site activities and uses on the above property:

- (i) Use of the property as a residence, school or day care center;
- (ii) Growth of fruits and vegetables or any other agricultural product for human consumption;
- (iii) Any use of the Property where the integrity of the protective barrier does not meet the requirements set forth in Paragraphs 3(i)-(ii) below;
- (iv) Any excavation activities and/or uses that may result in the disturbance, relocation or direct contact with contaminated soil located below protective barriers, without the preparation of a Soil Management Plan (SMP) and a Health and Safety Plan developed in accordance with Obligations (iv) hereunder; and
- (v) The temporary or permanent alteration of the protective barriers unless a Licensed Site Professional Opinion is rendered which states that such alteration is consistent with maintaining a condition of No Significant Risk.

Any person interested in obtaining additional information about the NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION may contact Brian Miller at CDW Consultants, Inc. 4 California Avenue, Framingham, MA 01701, 508-875-2657.

The NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number 3-10852 at <https://eeonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/dep/wastesite/> or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 150 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801, 978-694-3200.

10/1/25 The Somerville Times



**SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
LICENSES AND PERMITS  
PUBLIC HEARING**

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits on **Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM**, on a petition for a New Garage License:

New Garage License, Roman Auto Repair LLC, 45 Mystic Avenue, 5 Vehicles inside, 4 Vehicles outside, Mon-Fri: 7am-5pm, Sat: 7am-12pm, Sun: closed.

This meeting will be held by remote participation, using the Zoom Webinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. To attend and be heard, enter the link exactly as it appears below into your internet browser. You will then be asked to register for the meeting.  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_dZxuQk6uRyGiDk-IYdj5zq](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dZxuQk6uRyGiDk-IYdj5zq)
2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to [publiccomments@somervillema.gov](mailto:publiccomments@somervillema.gov), or send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council.

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.**

KIMBERLY M. WELLS  
CITY CLERK

10/1/25 The Somerville Times



**SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
LICENSES AND PERMITS  
PUBLIC HEARING**

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits on **Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM**, on a petition for a New Flammables License:

New Flammables License, POAH Clarendon LLC, 20 Stephenson Aman Street, storing 1,001 gallons.

This meeting will be held by remote participation, using the Zoom Webinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. To attend and be heard, enter the link exactly as it appears below into your internet browser. You will then be asked to register for the meeting.  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_dZxuQk6uRyGiDk-IYdj5zq](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dZxuQk6uRyGiDk-IYdj5zq)
2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to [publiccomments@somervillema.gov](mailto:publiccomments@somervillema.gov), or send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council.

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.**

KIMBERLY M. WELLS  
CITY CLERK

10/1/25 The Somerville Times

**NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION**

**1 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA &  
263 Monsignor O'Brien Highway, Cambridge, MA  
Release Tracking Number 3-10852**

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. On August 19, 2025, Somerbridge Hotel LLC registered with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds a NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION on the disposal site, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1080 through 40.1084. The NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION was originally recorded on April 12, 1996:

Any person interested in obtaining additional information about the NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION may contact Brian Miller at CDW Consultants, Inc. 4 California Avenue, Framingham, MA 01701, 508-875-2657.

The TERMINATED NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number 3-10852 at <https://eeonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/dep/wastesite/> or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 150 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801, 978-694-3200.

10/1/25 The Somerville Times

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
IFB #26-12**

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

**On-Call Repairs to Light Duty/Non-Commercial Fleet Vehicles**

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or from the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **10/01/2025**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **10/16/2025 by 3:00 PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the 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 Logan Carroll at [lcarroll@somervillema.gov](mailto:lcarroll@somervillema.gov) for more information.

**Logan Carroll  
Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x3407**

10/1/25 The Somerville Times

**Child Find Screenings: Free for  
Somerville residents ages 3-5 years**

Thursday, October 9, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Capuano Early Childhood Center, 150 Glen Street. Somerville Public Schools is offering free preschool and kindergarten screenings for young children residing in Somerville who are not enrolled in our schools. Screenings are a way to assess children's developmental progress and identify children who may need further evaluation for special education services. There are two additional screening dates on January 13, 2026 and March 26, 2026. Learn more and register at: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/district-departments/special-education/preschool-screenings>

**Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 9**

**John Harrington.** The event will be held on **November 9, 2 - 5 p.m.**, 351 Summer St. For tickets (\$25) and more information: [www.dilboyvfw529.com](http://www.dilboyvfw529.com), [dilboy.post@comcast.net](mailto:dilboy.post@comcast.net), 617-666-8794.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Somerville Media Center** and *The Somerville Beacon* will host candidate debates for Somerville's City Councilor At Large and Mayoral races on

**Monday, October 20**, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the **Crystal Ballroom at Somerville Theater**, 55 Davis Square. Admission is free and doors open to the public at 5:30 p.m. No signs, banners, backpacks, or oversized bags will be permitted. The At Large debate, 6 - 7 p.m., will be moderated by **Keri Rodrigues**, founder and president of the **National Parents Union**. The Mayoral

debate, 7:30-8:30 p.m., will be moderated by **Ben Orenstein**, founder of *The Somerville Beacon*.

\*\*\*\*\*

Registrations are now open for **Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services' fall Savvy Caregiver course**. Savvy Caregiver is an evidence-based training program designed to help family caregivers best support a loved one with dementia and

care for themselves. The course has been proven to decrease caregiver distress, burden, and depression, while increasing a caregiver's sense of competence and confidence in their care role. Held virtually via Zoom **each Wednesday** from 12 to 2 p.m., starting **October 1** and concluding on **November 12**. To register, call 617-628-2601 ext. 3153 or email [katherine.bonilla@eldercare.org](mailto:katherine.bonilla@eldercare.org).

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From page 8

## Ms. Cam's

# Olio

Answers

1. Perry Como	7. Breast Cancer Awareness Month
2. Garth Brooks	8. Chuck Yeager
3. 1981	9. Pearl Jam
4. The electric eel	10. Augustus Caesar
5. 1956	11. Texas
6. October 1	12. Pumice



**Somerville Fair Housing Commission**  
*Question of the week*



**Q:** Is it against the law for a building to be elders-only?

**A:** We can see why you might think that, but no. Discriminating against families with children is against the law--except in legally designated "housing for older persons."

*The Somerville Fair Housing Commission generally meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. online. Call 617-625-6600 ext. 2578 for the login information.*

**A GoFundMe** has been launched by our own **Doug Holder** to help keep **The Somerville Times** free and thriving. Every dollar helps us stay independent and serve our community.

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**Multilingual Learner Parent Advisory Council meeting**

Tuesday, October 7, 6–7:30 p.m. at 50 Cross Street. The Multilingual Learner Parent Advisory Council (MLPAC) is a group of parents and guardians who discuss the social and academic needs of multilingual learners. Dinner and childcare provided at each meeting. Three more meetings are scheduled for January 13, April 7, and May 19, 2026.

**BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER**

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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**Somerville through  
the eyes of Denise**



Night door... — Photo by Denise Provost

*On This Day in History*

**October 1**

- 331 – Alexander the Great shatters King Darius III's Persian army at Gaugamela.
- 1791 – In Paris, the National Legislative Assembly holds its first meeting.
- 1890 – Yosemite National Park is dedicated in California.
- 1908 – The Ford Model T, the first car for millions of Americans, hits the market.
- 1942 – The German Army grinds to a complete halt within the city of Stalingrad.
- 1946 – Eleven Nazi war criminals are sentenced to be hanged at Nuremberg trials.
- 1949 – Mao Zedong establishes the People's Republic of China.
- 1957 – "In God We Trust" appears on U.S. paper currency as an act to distinguish the U.S. from the officially atheist USSR.
- 1958 – The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) replaces the 43-year-old National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA)
- 1962 – The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson debuts.
- 1975 – Muhammad Ali defeats Joe Frazier in the "Thrilla in Manila."



# OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

## In the Play 'My First Ex-Husband' Ex-Wives Discover Their Superpower

Joy Behar exposes marital complexities with caustic and hilarious wit at the Huntington Calderwood BCA September 12 - Sept. 28

Boston Center for the Arts along with three of her equally funny female cohorts: Veanne Cox, Judy Gold, and Tonya Pinkins.

By Jacques Fleury

When you are embarking on the often symbiotic and potentially precarious journey of marriage, the core of you are could pose as a barrier or asset depending on who you married and your ever evolving marital circumstances. The play *My First Ex-Husband* can serve as a cautionary tale when entering marriage or any type of relationships in your lifetime. *Times Square Chronicle* declares that *My First Ex-Husband* "appeals to men, women, and anyone who has ever been in a relationship." And I couldn't agree more.

Joy Behar, legendary comedienne and co-host of *The View*, gives us an intrepid and authentic adaptation of true stories with serrated comicality – minus any sort of politically correct filters. The play is an introspective of the often-muddled, hysterical realities of love, sex, and relationships. Whether you're joyfully united, guardedly devoted, or considering altering the locks, relationships are intricate– and collectively associable. These stories could be all our stories, except wittier. The basic premise of the show is every weekend, an ensemble of four stars from theatre, television, and film join the show, bringing their inimitable dispositions to voice these tales that may be uncannily familiar to you or someone you know. Shocking yet profoundly germane to the times, this show will reverberate with anyone who has piloted the tempestuous and often prickling seas of love. In addition to other titillating surprises, the show contests and questions ideologies of patriarchal authority, blind loyalty, self-esteem, physical and psychological abuse, gaslighting, subservience, physical and emotional constraints, lack of respect, and more.

We are entering the dawn of a post "Me Too Movement" era, where women find personal freedom to discover their own versions of their authentic selves while redefining their own notion of beauty, not what their husbands or patriarchal society's vision of what they think beautiful should be. In the grand scheme of things, I think until you get to know yourself and find out what your source of power is, you'll be disconnected from the world hence you would only be moved by external circumstances, not discovering that you're the one who makes things happen. In *My First Ex-Husband*, the women discover not only that their super power is self-love and self-respect but also that "true love" is one that frees not imprisons.

"The stories are very relatable," utters playwright Joy Behar. "Even if you never got a divorce, you still have problems with in-laws, or sex, or kids, or money. Marriage is a work in process all the time." Behar was emphatic about how "true" the ex-husband stories are, but said that they were admittedly tweaked for dramatic effects. A touchy yet facetious aspect of the play was when members of the *Ex-Husband* ensemble related tales of how their husbands used to cause them to feel insecure by poking fun at their weight, or "subtly hinting" that they need to improve their appearances to fit their husbands' standards of beauty. The fat jokes scored big and landed like a hilarious thud with audience members.

*My First Ex-Husband* has prodigious comic timing and socially conscious substance suitable to the times. A witty, emotionally charged and colorful artistic theatrical brush stroke of daring dramedy! I give this in-your-face smartly premeditated rumpus a 5 out of 5 stars!

*My First Ex-Husband* is a visceral, emotionally charged experience that explores and shatters any preconceived notions of marital uniformity. It extrapolates on the gradations, conceptions, and misconceptions, of marriage lore. With her signature brand of dynamic caustic and facetious wit, Joy Behar "brought it" to the Calderwood Pavilion stage at

Jacques Fleury is a *Boston Globe*-featured Haitian-American Poet, Educator, author of four books, and literary arts student at Harvard University online. His latest publication *You Are Enough: The Journey to Accepting Your Authentic Self*, and other titles are available at Public Libraries, the University of Massachusetts Healey Library, Wyoming University, Askews and Holts in the United Kingdom, The Harvard Book Store, Amazon, etc. His works appeared in publications such as *Wilderness House Literary Review*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, *Litterateur Redefining World* anthologies out of India, the *Cornell University Press* anthology *Class Lives: Stories from Our Economic Divide*, among others. Visit him at: <http://www.authorsden.com/jacquesfleury>.

# Lyrical

## SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Jacques Stanley Fleury is a Haitian American Poet, Educator, and author of four books. He has a degree in Liberal Arts and is pursuing graduate studies in the literary arts through Harvard University. His first book, *Sparks in the Dark: A Lighter Shade of Blue, A Poetic Memoir about life in Haiti and America*, was endorsed by *The Boston Globe*. Fleury is prominently featured in newspapers, anthologies, libraries, and literary journals worldwide. Visit him at: <http://www.authorsden.com/jacquesfleury>.



### The Color Purple

I choose a rich purple shade bearing a substantive connection to my ancestry the African deities who gave birth to our humanity! it is said to evoke visions of nobility, royalty, wisdom creativity, spirituality, mystery magicity a colorful synthesis of soothing blue and spirited red! becking forth recollections of powerful deities it's paler shades suggest romantic allusions and a state of peaceful composure while its darker shades shift to suggest a state of dejection and spiritual elevation its rich darker shade signity wealth luxury grandeur power but it is double sided in that it can betoken melancholy and frustration when applied superfluously I suspect for some men it can denote some feminine qualities... rightfully regulating the dominant notions of masculinity while its violet shade can symbolize passion, ambition creativity and mourning in some aspects of cultural identity it can accentuates one's individuality in a crowd replete with antiquated notions of conformity its blending of red and blue can birth deliberate intrinsic serenity and stability it is a celebrated historical scarcity purple pigment extracted from seal mollusks enhanced its costly rarity attainable only to the aristocracy... But now the color purple has been reclaimed and integrated into our everyday commonality and individuality attainable to anyone who deems themselves fit for **royalty!**

— Jacques Stanley Fleury

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to:  
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