Outdoor seating available in our spacious tent. Limited inside dining available.

Kitchen Hours: Sun-Wed 11:30am to 8:30pm • Thurs-Sat 11:30am to 9:00pm

For delivery, please visit doordash.com

Somerville's original independent newspaper

# The Somerville Times



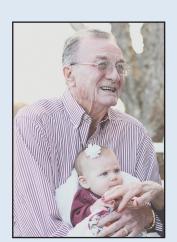


VOL. 8 NO. 43

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## Inside:



page 3



'I Spy Somerville' challenge page 6



The Jungle goes into hibernation

page 9

## City-sponsored, permitted Halloween events not allowed in Somerville



City-sponsored and permitted Halloween events have been cancelled this year, and door to door trick-ortreating is discouraged out of an abundance of caution based on COVID-19 pandemic guidance measures.

## By Jim Clark

Is Halloween in Somerville ever the same without trick-or-treating by the little ones? Or wining and dining at the city's night spots by the

Without a doubt, the coronavirus situation has put a crimp in the usual activities and celebrations that most of us enjoy annually. This year, the City of Somerville has decided, for safety's sake, to curtail publicly sponsored Halloween activities and advises everyone to continue following officially established guidelines.

According to a recent public release of information, as part of the city's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the Somerville Board of Health recently announced Halloween guidance and related updates. They strongly urge all community members to forgo trick- Continued on page 4

## Union Square's Nu Kitchen has found a recipe for success

By Denise Keniston and Riann Keniston-Hale tw:@denisekeniston

Any casual restaurant worth its salt has a proper neon sign and Union Square's Nu Kitchen (nu translates to naked in French) has a sign that really takes the cake. Their "EAT CLEAN, drink naked" neon is a nod to its French name and a call-out to customers to dig into Nu's fresh, healthy menu.

But, hey, don't take the drink naked part too seriously! Owner Joshua Van Dkye says, "Nu Kitchen is meant to be a playful take on delicious, fresh food. We try not to take ourselves too seriously, but our menu and customers are a different story." He adds, "We believe your food, drink, and lifestyle should be free from all the junk. We're committed to keeping our customer healthy and happy with a lot of options - more and more vegan – and so far, that's working out."

Although many restaurants Continued on page 12



Nu Kitchen is located 195 Washington Street, Somerville, MA and serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Indoor seating is available with COVID-19 restrictions — Photo by Riann Keniston-Hale

REASON #10 WHY ADVERTISING IN PRINT IS BETTER:

Digital ads are adequate for delivering quick results with lots of data. But if you want to penetrate your market, print ads should probably be part of your strategy. By physically placing your brand in people's hands, you create lasting impressions that engage your audience in meaningful ways. The positive

> Contact us and let us show you the many ways we can help you achieve your marketing goals

The Somerville Times

phone - 617-666-4010 email - adv@thesomervilletimes.com BETTER THAN EVER 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144



Logan reservations our specialty - Call 3 days in advance to book your trip.

617-628-0600

617-625-5000

**OPEN 24-HOURS** A DAY!

24 hour GPS automated dispatching system

Please don't drink and drive.

Over 50 Years Experience

Plumbing • Heating • Gas Fitting • Industrial Work • Water Heater Replacement • Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

625-987

Proud to be a Somerville resident

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106



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.

Early Voting for the 2020 State (Presidential) Election began on October 17 at Somerville City Hall. Please be advised that early voting will be available exclusively at Somerville City Hall. Visit https://www.somervillema. gov/events/2020/10/17/early-voting-2020-state-presidential-election for a complete list of dates and times. If you are not registered to vote, or if you need to update your address or party affiliation, you have until Saturday, October 24 to do so. Visit the city's Register to Vote page: https://www. somervillema.gov/departments/elections/register-to-vote to learn more about your options for registering.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Stay vigilant, this week, Somerville moved into the red category on the State's COVID-19 map. Communities move into the red category when they have more than eight cases per 100,000 residents in the previous 14 days. Somerville's rate is currently 8.2. This serves as an important reminder that we all need to keep up the good practices that helped flatten the curve in the spring – social distancing, limiting gatherings with people you don't live with, wearing a face covering in any public indoor or outdoor space, and frequently washing or sanitizing your hands and high-touch surfaces.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to former writer for The Times, Harry Kane. We wish him a great day. Happy birthday to Barry Rollins, who is celebrating this week and we wish him a good day. Happy birthday to Erin

DiBenedetto from Medford, but Erin grew up here in Winter Hill. We wish her a happy birthday. Happy birthday to Valarie Spinale-Bolduc, who grew up in East Somerville and is well known as someone who loves the city. A special happy birthday to our good friend and Winter Hill resident, Vicki Potaris. We wish her a great day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as George Lally, Jim Douthart, Jackie Lucas, Charlene Murphy, Stephen Bertoncini, David LaCroix, Kip Lyall, Patricia Capadanno, Harry Levasseur and Continued on page 7

## The Somerville Times

699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144 news@thesomervilletimes.com www.thesomervilletimes.com 617-666-4010 + Fax: 617-628-0422



📘 @somervilletimes



www.facebook.com/ thesomervilletimes

Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc. Editor – Jim Clark Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Denise Keniston, Isabel Sami, Rachel Berets, Elizabeth Long

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo, Blake Maddux, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin Photographer: Claudia Ferro

## The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

A proud member of the following newspaper organizations:







@ 2020 The Somerville Times except where noted. All rights reserved.

## Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of October 21 – October 27 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
	Wednesday October 21	Cloudy	70°/58°	19%	16%	SSE 10 mph
*	Thursday October 22	Sunny	69°/50°	11%	9%	NNE 8 mph
*	Friday October 23	Sunny	63°/51°	10%	10%	E 9 mph
	Saturday October 24	Partly Cloudy	71°/46°	9%	18%	W 8 mph
	Sunday October 25	Partly Cloudy	53°/46°	11%	19%	NNE 11 mph
•	Monday October 26	Rain	60°/54°	49%	27%	SSE 10 mph
÷	Tuesday October 27	Rain	60°/47°	58%	29%	WNW 11 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: We need a city-wide 'Affordable Housing **Overlay District' in Somerville**

Harry Lafonte says:

hmmm.... one of the most densely packed cities in the country and the most densely in New England and the geniuses want to create low-income "towers". This from the same crew who wants to "defund the police".

We have  $\sim 80,000$  people now.... add in another 5 or 10K of low-income (i.e subsidized) people and a police force that is cut the bone and what could possibly go wrong?!!?

I have an idea on how to handle affordable housing issues: if you can't afford to live in a certain 4 sq mile area then move to where you can afford. Solved.

How well did the Clarendon Hill Towers work out?

## TheoNa says:

"Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it"

— George Santayana

What the author of this article is advocating is the construction of a large-scale warehousing solution for poor people, commonly called housing projects. That approach has worked really well in other cities such as New York, Chicago, and many other cities. Instead of turning into thriving communities for the "disadvantaged" they instead wound up instead becoming crumbling slums and crime zones as well as financial burdens for the governments that initially advocated their creation. The only ones who benefit from this approach are the developers who construct the housing and then walk away with their profits.

The desire to live in a particular community is a desire and not an entitlement or right. It's a "want" and not a "need." If one cannot afford to live in a particular community there are many options available for them. They can pursue methods that most responsible citizens do. They can look at ways to increase their income or consider moving to more affordable communities. The role of government is to assist with the needs of the people and not the wants.

Somerville is already one of the most densely populated areas in New England. I fail to see how adding to that population density improves the quality of life for those of us living here. I don't see or hear the chorus of people wanting more crowds and congestion, more crime, less sky, more traffic, more pollution, more taxes, etc. We're a small community and not a large city. That's what makes Somerville an attractive place to live.

## Response to: Hello from Ball Square: An Interview with Jeffrey Shwom

Alex Feldman says:

Great article. It really is notable diverse the small businesses are. They give back to our community. And there are hardly any national chains here, either.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



## Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

## What do you miss most?



I'm using this week's space to share my Somerville fellow friend's feelings about this pandemic until we get the all safe signal. What do Somerville peo-

ple miss the most during these trying times? All the following comments are by Somerville folks and are in quotations.

"Our parents made great sacrifices during WWII so if wearing a mask and social distancing are sacrifices, I need to make like I'm ok with the inconvenience."

"We will get through these difficult times. Saving lives is worth the small sacrifices we are asked to do!"

"I miss ... Seeing my grandsons in NJ ... spending time with my grandkids in Stoneham ... pending time with friends and family!"

"I miss being able to sit down with my wife eating out. I'm now afraid of anything outside the house involving people



I don't know well."

"I miss being able to hug my friends that I run into when I am out and about."

"I miss the fact that along with dealing with the virus, I've lost family members over ridiculous politics."

Our neighbors from Union Square to Teele Square miss ... "the simplicity of breathing without a mask, seeing people smile, outdoor festivals and music, and living life without ALL this worrying. I miss seeing my kids who live out of state."

One of my friends who is retired says, " it feels like we're being punished for something we did not do, I feel like I'm in a third world country. God Bless America!" Someone else shares; it would be great "to be able to just go out at will without worrying about catching something like the flu or worse!"

We have to keep being vigilant and follow the advice of the doctors and scientists.

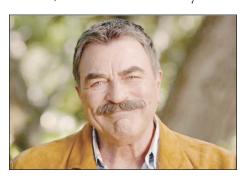
I'm splitting my time between playing the piano, trying to exercise and watching way too much television. My lifelong dream was to be able to watch TV all day and not work, but it's getting out of hand. I've been singing too many TV commercials like the Skyrizzi song, (Nothing is everything) the Secret deodorant tune, (all strength, no sweat!). And if I see one more ad with Tom Selleck hawking re-



verse mortgages, I'm going to freak out. Didn't he make enough dough doing Magnum and Blue Bloods? I love network TV but thankfully, we also have Netflix . I'm glad I have the complete DVD sets of Seinfeld, The Three Stooges, The Andy Griffith Show, The King of Queens, and last but not least, Leave it to Beaver. That's all I need (and my Back To The Future DVD set!).

Bottom line, we all need to keep ourselves and our families safe. My 91-year-old friend is battling back from a serious bout with COVID-19 and doing much better.

Hopefully, it won't be long before we can visit, hug and enjoy our loved ones again. In the meantime, don't forget to stay well, be safe, keep positive and vote. Let's all hope this thing is over soon. Remember, Somerville leads the way.



## O'Donovan Law Office 741 Broadway Sean T. O'Donovan, Esq.

## **Specializing in:**

- Zoning/Permitting
- Real Estate
- Civil and Criminal Litigation
- Estate Planning/Wills & Trusts

**CALL FOR INITIAL** FREE CONSULTATION 617 629-8888 FAX 617 623-7990

## **MOUNT VERNON**

RESTAURANT

14 Broadway, Somerville MA

617-666-3830



A tradition of fine foods since 1935

**Outdoor seating** available in our spacious tent. Limited inside dining available.

Please note that we are offering in addition to our full menu platters and trays of food to go as well.

For delivery, please visit doordash.com

Our menus and specials are posted on our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/Mount-Vernon-Restaurants-103209019028/

We ask you to bear with us while we follow established guidelines. The safety of our patrons and employees remain our number one priority as we continue to operate and maintain our small business during this difficult time.

Kitchen Hours:

**Sun-Wed 11:30am to 8:30pm** Thurs-Sat 11:30am to 9:00pm

Be safe and stay healthy - The Mount Vernon Restaurant

# By Jim Clark

## Speedway run disappoints suspected dealer

Members of the Somerville Police Department Criminal Investigations Division as part of an ongoing investigation conducted surveillance last week at a Perkins St. location, in order to locate David Robinson, place him under arrest and execute the search warrant.

While conducting the surveillance, Robinson was observed exiting his residence with a female, later identified as Alicia Salisbury. Both parties exited the rear of the residence on bicycles. Robinson and Salisbury were surveilled to the Speedway gas station on McGrath Hwy., where police made approached them.

Officers informed Robinson that they had a warrant for his arrest and placed him in custody. Salisbury was properly identified and a query of her name showed she had two outstanding warrants for her arrest. At this time, she was taken into custody.

Robinson was searched and among the property located on his person were 2 grams of heroin, 10 grams of crack cocaine, and 3 grams of methamphetamine. All three substances were bagged separately and reports indicate that they were in amounts consistent distribution. Robinson

also reportedly had \$880 in his wallet. The money was separated into three different folds.

During the subsequent execution of the search warrant at his residence, among the items seized from Robinson's residence were a scale, several unused baggies and an additional small glassine bag that contained a small amount of what appeared to be methamphetamine.

Robinson was charged with drug possession to distribute a class A drug and drug possession to distribute a class B drug

Salisbury was also searched and located in her backpack in a bag of syringes were three separate packages of heroin totaling 1.5 grams preliminary weight. She was placed under arrest and charged with possession of a class A substance.

## SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

#### **Arrests**:

**David Robinson**, October 14, 8:47 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on charges of drug possession to distribute a class A drug and drug possession to distribute a class B drug, and on warrant charges

of witness intimidation, larceny from a building, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Alicia Salisbury, October 14, 8:47 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on a charge of drug possession to distribute a class A

drug, and on warrant charges of possession of a class A drug, larceny by check under \$1200, and municipal bylaw or ordinance violation.

**Jason Ventolieri**, October 14, 9:18 p.m., arrested at Perkins St. on warrant charges of lar-

ceny from a building, receiving stolen property under \$1200, possession of a class A drug, and receiving stolen property over \$1200.

Pierre Jordende, of Cambridge, October 16, 1:08 a.m., arrested at Washington St. on

warrant charges of receiving stolen property under \$1200, misdemeanor breaking and entering, malicious wanton defacement of property, disorderly conduct, trespassing, and uninsured motor vehicle or trailer.

## City-sponsored, permitted Halloween events not allowed in Somerville CONT. FROM PG 1

or-treating in favor of lower-risk activities as defined by the Centers for Disease Control such as at-home activities and holiday crafts.

All in-person city-sponsored and permitted events, such as the annual Haunted Hall event or block parties, will also not be held or permitted. The limits on gatherings and all other pandemic safety orders in Somerville also apply to any planned private or commercial Halloween activities. As a reminder, gathering limits in Somerville remain lower than the State: no more than ten people may gather indoors or outdoors.

"We fully understand how difficult it has been for everyone, and especially our children, to deal with a sustained state of emergency. But as we face a rise locally and statewide in COVID-19 cases with the arrival of colder weather, we cannot let our guard down now," said Mayor Curtatone. "We are a creative and connected community, and I hope each family, household, or bubble will choose safe but fun ways to celebrate this year at home that observe all health guidance. We really need everyone to do their part."

Community members are encouraged to review CDC sugges-

tions for lower-risk Halloween activities and MA Department of Public Health recommendations and guidance. Due to the higher risk of virus transmission indoors and in groups, parties are strongly discouraged, and as previously noted, gatherings of more than ten people are not allowed in Somerville.

"While celebrating holidays and observing traditions can provide a boost to your mental health, it is critical that we all commit to doing so safely," said Health and Human Services Director Doug Kress. "The safest option is always to only gather with those you live with. We strongly advise against trick-or-treating, but if you do decide to go out, please follow CDC guidelines for reducing COVID-19 risk such as wearing face coverings, maintaining a sixfoot distance from others, and frequent hand washing or sanitizing. Remember, it takes only one infected person to spread this disease among a group."

## Halloween masks don't replace safety masks

The CDC also provides the following face covering guidance for Halloween:

- + Do not use costume masks in place of cloth masks
- Do not use a costume mask

(such as for Halloween) as a substitute for a cloth mask unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers your mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around your face.

+ Do not wear a costume mask over a cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.

## Alternate Halloween Activities: Howl-o-Ween, Spook-tacular Stroll and more

To help support the holiday spirit, the Somerville Arts Council and Library are offering some alternative safe activities and the city is also hosting a citywide Howl-o-Ween, inviting community members to don a face covering and then give their best Halloween growls, ghost boos, and woops (or to just politely holler out their COVID-19 woes and frustrations) from their doors and windows at 6:30 p.m. on Halloween, Saturday, October 31.

The Arts Council is working on an online map of outdoor Halloween decorations for a self-guided Somerville Spook-tacular Stroll. On Friday, October 30, and Saturday, October 31, pull up the map at

somervilleartscouncil.org/halloween and take a walk around your neighborhood to see how many ghosts, goblins, and ghouls you can find. Help everyone join in the fun by posting photos with the hashtag #SomervilleSpooktacular.

The Arts Council is also compiling a list of virtual Halloween happenings. If you're planning to host a spooky virtual concert, show off your pumpkin carving skills online, or have a Halloween craft you'd like to teach others via the web, fill out the form on somervilleartscouncil.org/halloween to have your event included in the resource guide, which will be posted closer to Halloween.

The Somerville Parks and Recreation Department has planned a week of Halloween activities for children participating in its afterschool program. Currently there are still open spots available on Monday, October 26; Tuesday, October 27; Thursday, October 29; and Friday, October 30. To register a child for the afterschool program, visit somervillerec.com and click on the "Programs" tab.

If you're planning your own Halloween fun, the CDC considers the following activities to be lower risk:

- Carving or decorating pumpkins with members of your household
- Carving or decorating pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends
- Decorating your house, apartment, or living space
- \* Doing a Halloween scavenger hunt where children are given lists of Halloween-themed things to look for while they walk outdoors from house to house, admiring Halloween decorations at a distance
- Having a virtual Halloween costume contest
- + Having a Halloween movie night with people you live with
- + Having a scavenger huntstyle trick-or-treat search with your household members in or around your home rather than going house to house

Again, the Board of Health strongly advises against trick-or-treating, and sharing links to safer ways to do so does not condone the activity. For those who choose nonetheless to provide or seek treats, the MA Department of Public Health has provided guidance on alternatives such as one-way trick-or-treating "with treats placed outside of the home for trick-or-treaters as a 'grab and go' while keeping distance from others."

#### PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CITY OF SOMERVILLE



#### **OFFICE OF BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS**

In City Council

The Board of Elections Commissioners is hereby directed to cause notice to be given in the manner prescribed by law that meetings of the qualified voters of this city will be held in the several polling places which have been designated by said Council for or within the voting precincts in which they respectively are qualified to vote, said polling places are located as follows, namely for;

Precinct 1. A room in the MICHAEL E CAPUANO SCHOOL, 150 Glen Street;

Precinct 2. A room in the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 50 Cross Street - Glen Street Entrance;

Precinct 3. A room in the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 50 Cross Street - Glen Street Entrance;

Precinct 1. A room in the THE POLICE STATION, 220 Washington Street;

Precinct 2. A room in the ARGENZIANO SCHOOL at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington St;

Precinct 3. A room in the ARGENZIANO SCHOOL at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington St;

#### WARD THREE

Precinct 1. THE CENTRAL LIBRARY; 79 Highland Ave;

Precinct 2. A room in THE CUMMINGS SCHOOL, 42 Prescott Street;

Precinct 3. GYM AT ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, 179 Summer Street;

#### **WARD FOUR**

Precinct 1. A room in the MYSTIC ACTIVITY CENTER, 530 Mystic Avenue;

Precinct 2. A room in the WINTER HILL COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 115 Sycamore Street:

Precinct 3. A room in the WINTER HILL COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 115 Sycamore Street;

Precinct 1. A room in the DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE, 1 Franey Road;

Precinct 2. Gym in the JOHN F KENNEDY SCHOOL, 5 Cherry Street. - Sartwell Avenue Entrance;

<u>Precinct 3</u>. Gym in the JOHN F KENNEDY SCHOOL, 5 Cherry Street. - Sartwell Avenue Entrance;

Precinct 1. A room in the GEORGE DILBOY POST, 351 Summer St;

Precinct 2. A room in the SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 31 College Avenue; Precinct 3. A room in the WEST SOMERVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL, 177 Powder House Blvd;

#### WARD SEVEN

Precinct 1. A room in the SENIOR CENTER, TAB BUILDING, 167 Holland Street:

Precinct 2. A room in the WEST SOMERVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL, 177 Powder House Blvd – Raymond Ave. Entrance:

Precinct 3. A room in the WEST SOMERVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL, 177 Powder House Blvd;

#### ON Tuesday, November 3, 2020

AT SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, when the polls shall open and there and then between that time and the closing of the polls, which shall be at EIGHT O'CLOCK in the evening, the said qualified voters will give their ballots for:

**Electors of President and Vice President, Statewide** 

A Candidate for Senator in Congress for the Commonwealth,

A Candidate for Representative in Congress for the Seventh Congressional District.

A Candidate for Governor's Council for the Sixth Councillor District,

A Candidate for Senator for the Second Middlesex Senatorial District, (To be voted for in all Precincts),

A Candidate for Representative in the General Court for the Twenty-Sixth Middlesex District (To be voted for in all Precincts of Ward One and Precinct 1 of Ward Two Only),

A Candidate for Representative in the General Court for the Twenty-Seventh Middlesex District (To be voted for in Precincts 2 and 3 of Ward Two, all Precincts of Wards Three, Five, and Six)

A Candidate for Representative in the General Court for the Thirty-Fourth Middlesex District (to be voted for in all Precincts of Wards Four and Seven),

A Candidate for Register of Probate for Middlesex County,

#### **QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 5, 2020?

This proposed law would require that motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities be provided with expanded access to mechanical data related to vehicle maintenance and repair. Starting with model year 2022, the proposed law would require manufacturers of motor vehicles sold in Massachusetts to equip any such vehicles that use telematics systems -- systems that collect and wirelessly transmit mechanical data to a remote server — with a standardized open access data platform. Owners of motor vehicles with telematics systems would get access to mechanical data through a mobile device application. With vehicle owner authorization, independent repair facilities (those not affiliated with a manufacturer) and independent dealerships would be able to retrieve mechanical data from, and send commands to, the vehicle for repair, maintenance, and diagnostic testing. Under the proposed law, manufacturers would not be allowed to require authorization before owners or repair facilities could access mechanical data stored in a motor vehicle's on-board diagnostic system, except through an authorization process standardized across all makes and models and administered by an entity unaffiliated with the manufacturer. The proposed law would require the Attorney General to prepare a notice for prospective motor vehicle owners and lessees explaining telematics systems and the proposed law's requirements concerning access to the vehicle's mechanical data. Under the proposed law, dealers would have to provide prospective owners with, and prospective owners would have to acknowledge receipt of, the notice before buying or leasing a vehicle. Failure to comply with these notice requirements would subject motor vehicle dealers to sanctions by the applicable licensing authority. Motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities could enforce this law through state consumer protection laws and recover civil penalties of the

A YES VOTE would permit the state Gaming Commission to license one additional slot-machine gaming establishment at a location that meets certain conditions specified in the law.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws regarding gaming.

## **QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 5, 2020?

This proposed law would implement a voting system known as "ranked-choice voting," in which voters rank one or more candidates by order of preference. Ranked-choice voting would be used in primary and general elections for all Massachusetts statewide offices, state legislative offices, federal congressional offices, and certain other offices beginning in 2022. Ranked-choice voting would not be used in elections for president, county commissioner, or regional district school committee member. Under the proposed law, votes would be counted in a series of rounds. In the first round, if one candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place votes, that candidate would be declared the winner and no other rounds would be necessary. If no candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place

votes, then the candidate or candidates who received the fewest first-place votes would be eliminated and, in the next round, each vote for an eliminated candidate would instead be counted toward the next highest-ranked candidate on that voter's ballot. Depending on the number of candidates, additional rounds of counting could occur, with the last-place candidate or candidates in each round being eliminated and the votes for an eliminated

next choice out of the remaining candidates. A tie for last place in any round would be broken by comparing the tied candidates' support in earlier rounds. Ultimately, the candidate who was, out of the remaining candidates, the preference of a majority of voters would be declared the winner. Ranked-choice voting would be used only in races where a single candidate is to be declared the winner and not in races where more than one person is to be elected. Under the proposed law, if no candidate received more than 50 percent of first-place votes in the first round, the rounds of ballot-counting necessary for ranked-choice voting would be conducted at a central tabulation facility. At the facility, voters' rankings would be entered into a computer, which would then be used to calculate the results of each round of the counting process. The proposed law provides that candidates in a statewide or district election would have at least three days to request a recount. The Secretary of State would be required to issue regulations to implement the proposed law and conduct a voter education campaign about the rankedchoice

voting process. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022.

A YES VOTE would create a system of ranked-choice voting in which voters would have the option to rank candidates in order of preference and votes would be counted in rounds, eliminating candidates with the lowest votes until one candidate has received a majority. A NO VOTE would make no change in the laws governing voting and how votes are counted.

Question 3 and 4 applies to the following wards and precincts only: Wd 2 Pcts 2&3, Wds 3,5 &6

## **QUESTION 3: THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING**

Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would require Massachusetts to achieve 100% renewable energy use within the next two decades, starting immediately and making significant progress within the first five years while protecting impacted workers and business?

## NO

**QUESTION 4: THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING** Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of changes to the applicable House of Representative rules to make the results of all the votes in that body's Legislative committees publicly available

NO

Nicholas P. Salerno, Chairman Anthony J. Alibrandi Douglas M. Bosley Louise A. McCarthy **BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS** 

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

10/21/20 The Somerville Times

# 'I Spy Somerville' series follows Somerville residents through the pandemic

## By Anqi Zhang

Just returning from her bike tour dealing with a dispute over a historic house in Spring Hill, Somerville, with a large 18-foot, 12-panel, stained glass window, Brandon Wilson was short of breath while speaking on the phone with *The Somerville Times*.

As Executive Director of the Somerville Historical Preservation Commission (SHPC), Wilson resonated with residents who were upset when they were informed that the developer who bought the house, located on Benton Rd., decided to remove the stained window for the new layout.

The "gorgeous" window belongs to the whole neighborhood, and residents are making efforts to save it, not only for themselves, but also for future generations, Wilson said. To maintain such preservation consciousness towards historic properties circulated and passed on, Wilson and the SHPC staff remain committed to their missions daily, "protecting historic properties, collecting photos and documents, and raising awareness of Somerville's history as a community."

Despite the various activities and education events that have been canceled since the pandemic, Wilson came up with an idea aiming to reach out to Somerville residents of all ages, integrating historic resources into their life. This is the "I Spy Somerville" series, a campaign encouraging residents to discover things that they may have otherwise neglected in their neigh-

borhoods – those historical and beautiful objects and properties.

Every week or so, Wilson releases a theme through SHPC's media accounts, on Instagram and Facebook, and their newsletters. Participants take reference from example photos, begin their searching, and submit photos with basic background information. The winners get the honor to have their works shown on SHPC's media platforms.

When thinking about the themes of the challenges, Wilson tried to highlight things that have existed in the city for more than 30 years, or 50 years in some cases. Past themes included finding vintage oddities or curios from the past in Somerville, long-standing businesses and historically designated properties.

In the meantime, Wilson wants to connect historic preservation with things happening around the community and bring attention to local small businesses. When What The Fluff Festival kicked off, the "I Spy Somerville" challenge was to balance a container of Marshmallow Fluff using your bodies, and shoot the video in any Local Historic District property.

As a direct outcome of the pandemic, Wilson hopes that the campaign could give people a focus and add some fun while they are strolling or biking around the community, while breathing fresh air outside. Trying to attract participants of all ages, the campaign also encourages senior citizens who have to stay at home to do online searching



"I Spy Somerville" participants are prompted to seek out places and objects of historical interest in Somerville for fun and for their edification.

and submit photos.

Having received the photos from participants, SHPC is consolidating a digital interactive map labeling all the interesting and historical objects from "I Spy Somerville" entries. With the ongoing digital map, Somerville residents "can visit and/or learn more about the features identified by their fellow residents," according to SHPC's newsletter.

"I grew up in New York City, and I love New York and such," Wilson said. "But it wasn't until I left New York that I began to appreciate things about the city that I had not paid any attention to before." Thanks to a book called Beyond the Neck: The Architecture and Development of Somerville, Massachusetts, she started to see things she was not aware of in her twenties.

Those old buildings in Somerville have character, Wilson stated. The architecture in the 18th and 19th centuries had a lot more details, craftsmanship, and variety. You can hardly see those on buildings nowadays, except for very expensive ones, Wilson said.

Changes and discoveries are good, but "you also need some kind of grounding. You need to feel as if the sand is not totally shifting below you," Wilson said. "I think people appreciate having some things that they can just count on being there." No matter if it's trees, houses or memorable structures, under those historic objects that the city develops and evolves, in the meantime maintaining its originality, she said.

Some local historic assets and resources are disappearing. Wilson hopes that campaigns like "I Spy Somerville" continue at the level where people raise their awareness and spreading words about historic preservation. "Instead of just tearing down the building and saying we don't need that anymore, you can fix it up and repurpose it," she said.

"Some people think of historic preservation as something that's just for people that have a lot of extra time and money. And that's really unfortunate because that's really not what it's all about," Wilson said. "You can do preservation in protecting resources regardless of how much money you have."

Mystic Water Works in Somerville is nominated by the 2020 Preservation Awards held by Preservation Massachusetts. SHPC encourages readers to vote for the historic building, which is a stellar example of a re-use project converting an early 20th-century structure to the provision of critical affordable and ADA-accessible housing for senior citizens. Voting will close at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 22.









## Healey School Students' harvest tradition revised, still brings joy

The annual Healey School apple-picking field trip was cancelled because of the pandemic, but Principal Cobbs alerted teachers, families, and students that helpers planned to bring the orchard to the Healey School community instead. Thanks to a generous donation from a Healey family, each Healey School prekindergarten through grade 4 student received a fall treat bag this week.

Over three days of staggered pickup times, and from a safe social distance on the back lot, adult helpers distributed hundreds of apples, apple cider, snacks, and plump orange pumpkins to Healey students. A big thanks to the family who donated the treats as well as to Mrs. Baxter and her band of hardworking volunteers for keeping this fall harvest tradition alive and bringing a bit of joy to the students.



## **COMMENTARY**

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

**Illustrated by Jim Clark** 



Halloween is meant to be scary, but not Election Day.

## **Our View Of The Times**



For some of us it feels like forever since we've shaken off the cares and concerns that seem to be bearing down so heavily as we deal with the divisions and discord that has been so prevalent over the past year or so. Not to mention a spirit and economy-breaking pandemic.

The presidential election is just around the corner, and it feels as though a great burden will be off our shoulders once it's over. Either a new president will be elected or not, congressional seats will be filled, and ballot measures determined. More than ever it seems as though so much is at stake with this particular election cycle, no matter which side of the political spectrum we align with.

But first comes an old friendly tradition: the celebration of Halloween. While COVID-19 safety restrictions may put a

damper on the usual festivities, we are still treated to the sights and sounds of kids dressing up and role playing, engaging in alternative activities, and just plain having fun in the doing.

Grown-ups have their celebratory traditions too. Maybe it would be smart to cut loose a little bit this time around – safely, of course. Let out a little steam and spend at least one day when we don't quite take

the world as seriously as we normally do. Somehow it seems like this just might be what the (witch) doctor ordered.

So, take this advice and join in with the kids a little. Wear a silly costume. Cut loose at a safe gathering. Be a kid again, if only for this one day.

We often spend too much time at odds with each other. Let's consider uniting for once, in the name of good clean fun.

## Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Mel Fraser 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.

Sadly, yet another Somerville restaurant will be closing its doors because of the financial losses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Moroccan Hospitality Restaurant recently announced that it will cease operations indefinitely. In a statement on Facebook, co-owner Amina Nouzha expressed her gratitude to the community and revealed that the restaurant could not recover from the coronavirus shutdown.

pires, Somerville's moratorium remains in place. The state's eviction moratorium expired on Saturday, October 17, which means landlords will be able to begin eviction proceedings through the courts. In Somerville, however, a local moratorium remains in place that prevents the physical removal of people or their belongings from a residential or commercial property. If you are served with eviction papers, the city's Office of Housing Stability (OHS) can help connect you with resources and support. Anyone in

Somerville facing housing insecurity should contact the OHS either by visiting somervillema.gov/ohs and clicking on "Make a Referral" or by calling 617-625-66000 x2581.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Earlier this week, **the state** announced that an additional \$171 million would be invested in **eviction prevention programs**. Again, if you are facing housing insecurity, please contact **OHS** either by visiting somervillema.gov/ohs and clicking on "Make a Referral" or by calling 617-625-66000 x2581.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

ResiStat will host a series of virtual events in the coming weeks, giving residents the opportunity to engage with Somerville elected officials and staff on key topics. The remaining meetings will cover: October 28 - Mental Health and Wellness, and TBA - Racial and Social Justice. The meeting geared toward seniors planned for tonight, October 21, has been postponed. A new meeting date will be announced as soon as it is available. For more information on this fall's series of ResiStat meetings, visit the city's website. All meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. and are scheduled to run at least an hour. Residents can log in to the meetings through somervillema. gov/virtualtownhall. Live simultaneous Spanish interpretation and English captioning will be available. Portuguese, Haitian Kreyol and Nepali interpretation can be requested by emailing sbernt@somervillema.gov.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Funding available to support artists, schools, organizations for 2021 is now available. The deadline this year is Monday, November 16, 2020. To review this year's guidelines, visit http:// somervilleartscouncil.org/grants. addition, the SAC offers grants specifically to Somerville schools in support of cultural fieldtrips. The Local Cultural Council (LCC) Grant Program is funded and overseen by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Somerville LCC program grants are reviewed by SAC board members and local peers with expertise in the appropriate disciplines. Each year new panelists are convened to review new submissions. There will be two virtual workshop info sessions: Thursday, October 22, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., virtual meeting via Zoom, and Tuesday, October 27, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m., virtual meeting via Zoom. Please go to SAC's website for specific Zoom

links: https://somervilleartscouncil.org/grants/info.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Making masks you'd like to donate? We're nearly halfway to our goal for our 10,000 Mask Drive. So far, you've made and donated 4,605 masks. If you're a crafty Somerville resident who has been sewing reusable face masks, please consider donating some to help us meet our 10,000 mask goal. After being laundered, masks are distributed to seniors and other vulnerable populations. If you would like to donate masks, put them in a sealed bag and bring them to the drop box at either the Central Library, 79 Highland Ave., or the East Branch Library, 115 Broadway. \*\*\*\*\*\*

CHA Somerville Hospital offers free testing at Assembly Row by appointment. To make an appointment, call 617-665-2928, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The mobile COVID-19 testing unit also offers testing in our neighborhoods to make access easier for residents. Mobile testing schedules and more information on both can be found under the "Symptoms, Testing, & Medical Info" tab on somervillema. gov/covid19.

\*\*Continued on page 11\*\*

CROSSWORD

14

## **FUN & GAMES**

# Ms. Cam's Cam's Zio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. How many A Nightmare on Elm Street movies were made in the 80's?
- 7. Where and when was the first Rotary Club founded?
- 2. In the three little pigs story the second pig built his house out of what?
- 8. In books by Beatrix Potter, what creature was Mr. Tod?
- 3. Mintonette was the original name of what sport?
- 9. In which sport would you have an Eskimo roll?
- 4. Walk Like a Man, Rag Doll and Sherry are all hits for which group?
- 10. What was the name of the agent in The Girl from U.N.C.L.E.?
- 5. Who had a US number one hit with Bad, Bad Leroy Brown?
- 11. What are the tiny air sacs in the lungs called?
- 6. Peniaphobia is a fear of what?
- 12. Who played the role of Ralph Malph in Happy Days?

SUDOKU

American Standard

WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE! SAVE \$1.500

✓ Backed by American Standard's 140 years of experience
 ✓ Ultra low entry for easy entering & exiting

Patented Quick Drain® Technology
 Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard

44 Hydrotherapy jets for an invigorating massage

Limited Time Offer! Call Today

866-612-7490

Answers on page 11

## The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- 1. In Cleveland, Ohio it is illegal to catch mice without a hunting license.
- 2. On average, 100 people choke to death on ball-point pens every year.

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

CIVICS 101

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Beginning of flu, e.g.
- 6. Espionage agent
- 9. Warsaw Pact opponent
- 13. Ringworm
- 14. Romanian monetary unit
- 15. Well-known
- 16. Contain the ashes
- 17. Paris' \_\_ \_\_\_ De Triomphe
- 18. Wear away
- 19. Group of President's advisors
- 21. Balance partner, pl.
- 23. Ever, to a poet
- 24. Joker, e.g.
- 25. Type of coniferous
- 28. Man Ray's genre
- 30. Switches topics
- 35. "Beware the \_\_\_\_ of March"
- 37. Large casks
- 39. Beyond suburban
- 40. Fatalist's future
- 41. Weasel's aquatic cousin
- 43. City of Taj Mahal
- 44. Tossed or passed
- 46. Ready and eager
- \_\_\_ With You" by Modern En-
- 48. Water pipe
- 50. Diplomat's forte
- 52. Grain in J.D. Salinger's novel
- 53. Miso bean
- 55. One of Indiana Jones' quests
- 57. Part of Congress
- 60. One who introduces a bill
- 64. Recurring pain
- 65. Consumed
- 67. Baby grand, e.g.
- 68. Relating to Hinduism
- 69. Siren's domain
- 70. Tiny island
- 71. Fencing weapon
- 72. Trinitrotoluene, for short
- 73. Two-player strategy board game

## **DOWN**

**Z** 

3

9

5

6

2

7

4

- 1. Ear-related
- 2. Santa Maria's companion
- 3. Give the cold shoulder
- 4. Like Halloween night

36. Radio button

+ 4 MORE BURGERS FREE

ORDER NOW! 1.833.406.1259 ask for 63281KXJ

www.OmahaSteaks.com/family588

- 5. Turned skin into leather 6. Blind segment
- \_ capita

© StatePoint Media

- 8. New Mexico's state flower
- 9. Narcotics agent, for short
- 10. Every which way
- 11. Koppel and Kennedy
- 12. Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem, e.g.
- 15. Avian rest stop
- 20. Muse of love poetry
- 22. Store posting, abbr.
- 24. Choral composition
- 25. "Miranda Rights" amendment
- 26. Leading potato-producing state
- 27. Yesteryear style
- 29. Serving on a jury
- 31. One of five U.S. territories
- 32. One that insists
- 33. Ahead of time
- 34. List of candidates

GET THE GRILLER'S BUNDLE

INTRODUCTORY PRICE: \$7999

4 (5 oz.) Butcher's Cut Filet Mignon

4 (4 oz.) Boneless Pork Chops

4 (2.8 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin

4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets Omaha Steaks Seasoning Packet

4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers 4 (3 oz.) Gourmet Jumbo Franks

- 38. Red Cross supplies
- 42. Summary
- 45. Sushi restaurant burner
- 49. "Too \_\_\_\_ to handle"
- 51. \_\_\_\_ of Cancer
- 54. Brewer's staple
- 56. Snack of Jewish origin
- 57. Edmund Fitzgerald, e.g.
- 58. Marine eagle
- 59. Lymphatic swelling
- 60. John Roberts' spot, e.g.
- 61. Black Friday lure 62. Half of binary code, pl.
- 63. Decomposes
- 64. Definite article
- 66. Number of amendments in the Bill
- of Rights
- 68. Fleur-de-\_ Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

#### 3 9 8 5 6 4 3 2 5 7 1 9 8 6 4 6 9 8 5 3 2 9 6 4 8 1 2 5 9 8 6 4 2 6 4 3 9 5 1 8 5 4 8 6 3 9

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:														
С	Н	Ε	S	S		S	K	Α			S	Т	0	Р
R	Α	S	Т	Α		Ν	Τ	L		F	L	U	М	Ε
Т	R	Α	Т	Т		Α	R	Р		L	Ε	Р	Е	R
	Т	U	R	N	_	Р		Н	0	U	D	Ι	Ν	1
			S	Α	С		R	Α	С	Κ				
Т	Т	S		٧	_	В	Ε		Т	Ε	R	С	Е	Т
R	Α	Т	Е		Z	0	Т	Ε		S	Α	U	Т	Ε
Т	В	Е	Х		G	Н	0	S	Т		С	R	С	Х
S	0	R	Е	S		R	0	Р	Е		Е	D	D	Α
Н	0	Ν	С	Н	0		L	Υ	R	Ε		Υ	Ε	S
				_	D	Ε	S		S	Τ	Ν			
С	Α	D	Α	٧	Е	R		G	Ε	Т	0	U	Т	
Ε	∟	J	D	Е		Е	G	0		Ι	0	R	Α	L
D	0	L	0	R		С	0	N		Е	N	N	U	Τ
E	E	L	S			Т	0	E		R	E	s	Т	S

5

6

2

8

5

8

9

8

2

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

## The Jungle shuts down for winter

## By Isabel Sami

The Jungle in Union Square closed for the winter this week as temperatures begin to drop. The music club and restaurant has been operating since June by serving guests on an outdoor patio set up in the parking lot, a change that many restaurants in Boston and Somerville have also made.

In May, after shutting down completely in March, the Jungle opened for takeout only with owner and manager Sam Epstein working alone in the kitchen. When Massachusetts began reopening restaurants with outdoor patios in early June, Epstein increased his staff by one, adding a bartender to help him serve guests at the six tables outside.

Not long after the opening of the patio, Epstein started inviting artists to come perform, but due to Somerville's ban on concerts at venues with outdoor seating, artists have to perform inside the Jungle alone while their performance streams to a screen on the patio as well as to Facebook. Epstein says that while guests still seem to enjoy the music, the ban on outdoor music is unfair.

"The whole point of performing live is to be able to make money and connect with customers, and I don't think that there's going to be many - or any - customers very soon," Epstein said. "It's so cold outside. Our patio is rarely, rarely full. Any given night, if it's cold and windy, there'll just be no one out there. Other nights, maybe we'll fill all six tables, but instead of having 85 people inside, we have just six tables outside on the patio, because we have to have social distance."

Normally the process to get a license for a patio is tedious and time-consuming, but the city worked with restaurants to expedite the process over the summer. Restaurants that were previously takeout only could set up tables on streets and in parking lots, like the Painted Burro in Davis Square.

Despite this, the city still denied artists the right to perform outdoors, fearing it would attract "uncontrollable crowds," according to Epstein, who spoke with city officials to no avail. After speaking with city staff and eventually having his question posed to Mayor Curtatone during a virtual town hall, Epstein still was unable to change the policy. Now with winter quickly approaching and nights getting too cold for patio seating, the prospect of outdoor concerts is slipping away as well.

Epstein began voicing his concerns regarding outdoor concerts to city officials in July, and his decision to close the Jungle comes after months of inaction by the city. Before closing for winter, the Jungle was giving 50 percent of food sales to artists and donating the other 50 percent to the Southern Poverty Law Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and advancing civil rights.

"There's no profits," Epstein said. "It's basically like a failing nonprofit, because we're not succeeding and breaking even. We're operating as best as we can



to let musicians play as much as they can while it's possible for customers to kind of enjoy live music with the musicians."

The Jungle's website – https:// www.thejunglemusicclub.com/ - features a link to a form by the National Independent Venue Association to "Save Our Stages", which is an act that creates funds and grants for musicians and venues. Filling out the form sends a letter to local Congressional representatives encouraging them to pass the Save Our Stages Act, which would help venues like the Jungle stay open through the pandemic.

## 'In This Together' and 'New Parents' support groups

In This Together is a support group for families with young children who would like to connect with other parents, share ideas, frustrations, and resources, especially in these chaotic, confusing times with COVID-19 stress. Open to all parents of toddlers and young children, the group meets Thursdays from 4:00-5:30pm.

This group is open to Somerville and non-Somerville residents for the 2020-2021 school year. The New Parents support group meets Fridays, 1:00-2:30pm and is for expectant parents and parents of babies from Birth - 15 months old. Talking with others who are going through similar experiences can help.

Support groups are facilitated by Amy Bamforth, MS (ED.), LICSW, Early Childhood Specialist at the SFLC. Please email sfn@k12.somerville.ma.us for the Zoom link to join.

# Dorothy's Corner



## Turban Squash Soup

Here's a recipe for one of the squash I highlighted a couple of weeks ago. The result is a creamy soup without any cream. It's very healthy without the need to feel guilty having that second serving. Goes great with a salad on the side, like mixed greens with sliced apples, dried cranberries, and walnuts with a drizzle of balsamic vinegar, olive oil, salt and pepper. Just perfect for this time of year.

- 15 lb. piece of turban squash
- 4 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 2 leeks, thinly sliced and rinsed
- 2 carrots, small dice
- 2 celery stalks, small dice
- 1 medium yellow onion, small dice
- 4 garlic cloves, chopped
- 2 inch piece ginger, peeled and finely chopped
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt, divided
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pep-

per, divided

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg

2 teaspoons chicken or vegetable base

Preheat oven to 375°. Place the squash onto a foil lined baking sheet. Drizzle 2 tablespoons of olive oil, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1 teaspoon pepper. Place in the oven and roast until completely soft, about 45 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a 10-quart pot, add the remaining olive oil, leeks, carrots, celery, onion, ginger, and the remaining salt, and pepper. Cook over medium heat for 5-7 minutes, until the onion is translucent.

Add the garlic, cinnamon and nutmeg, stir well and cook for another minute. Add the water and chicken base. Scoop the roasted squash away from the skin and add it to the pot. Cook for additional 30-45 minutes until all the vegetables are soft. Us-



ing an immersion blender, blend until completely smooth. It will be thick. If it's too thick, just add a little water.

Taste and adjust seasoning if needed. Garnish with a good quality olive oil and pumpkin seeds, optional. Serves about 6 people.

Visit Dorothy's website at http://ddimarzo2002.wix.

## The Somerville Times

## **LEGAL NOTICES**

## Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.05(c)(2) and subpart B of the federal regulations relative to citizen participation for Community Planning and Development Programs and applicable waivers made available to those requirements through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), the City of Somerville is making an amendment to the 2019-2020 Housing and Urban Development Annual Action Plan for the City of Somerville available to the public through

**Public Comment Period and Process:** 

This Annual Action Plan amendment is available for a 5-day public review and comment period from October 21, 2020 to October 27, 2020. Citizens wishing to submit written comments during the public review and comment period may mail them, postmarked no later than October 27, 2020, to the following:

OSPCD 93 Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02143 Attn: Alan Inacio

You may also email comments no later than October 27, 2020 to ospcd@somervillema.gov

This is an amendment to the 2019-2020 Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for the City of Somerville to enable the City to receive and administer an additional \$878,051 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) made available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). These funds are being added as an additional available resource available in the 2019-2020 plan.

Previous amendments to the plan were made to receive the first and second rounds of CARES Act funding totaling \$1,493,384 in CDBG and \$1,383,190 in ESG funding. These funds will be used for the same purpose of the initial allocations indicated above which is to prevent the spread of coronavirus 19 (COVID-19) and facilitate assistance to eligible communities, households, and persons economically impacted by COVID-19. In addition, the City has reprogrammed up to 60% of the original FY 2019-2020 CDBG funding allocation as needed to respond to COVID-19. FY 2020-2021 CDBG funds already allocated to the City may also be used to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible CDBG activities include, but are not limited to, assisting lowand moderate-income households with rental assistance for no more than three months, general food security and meal programs, workforce development and re-training programs, business assistance to retain employees that are low- and moderate-income, and support of other COVID-19 response services to ensure public health and well-being. Eligible ESG activities include street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing, Homeless Management Information System and administration.

Further, eligible CDBG and ESG costs incurred as of March 27, 2020, which is the date in which the CARES Act was signed, and paid for with nonfederal funds may be repaid with CDBG and ESG funding, including those made under the CARES Act. These pre-award costs will meet all HUD requirements applicable to CDBG and ESG, including those under the CARES Act. Unless waived by HUD, CDBG pre-award costs for FY 2020-2021 will not exceed 25% of the grant and will be used for the CDBG eligible activities as indicated above.

Public notices regarding future amendments to the Consolidated Plan will be printed in local newspapers and posted online on the City of Somerville website at www.somervillema.gov. Specific activities using ESG funding under the CARES Act will not require a 5-day public comment period but will be posted on the City of Somerville website.

Lastly, as part of this amendment, the City of Somerville has revised the Consolidated Plan's Citizen Participation Plan to include the 5-day comment period as indicated above as well as to make other changes. The revised Citizen Participation Plan is available for review on the City of Somerville website at: https://www.somervillema.gov/sites/ covid-19.pdf

Background on the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans:

The Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans describe the housing and community development needs, as well as activities to address those needs through the City of Somerville, as defined and funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As required by HUD, the Consolidated Plan and subsequent Annual Plans bring together, in one consolidated submission, the planning and application aspects of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs.

10/21/20 The Somerville Times

## **Notice of Self Storage Sale**

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on 11/9/2020 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Russel Eliacin unit #0171; Emily Paron unit #0261; Roberta Mendoza unit #0431; Patricia Knight unit #1302; Judith Nunes/Vinfen Corp. unit #307B. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

10/21/20 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 public hearing on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 6:00pm. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

#### The meeting will be held using GoToWebinar. TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/524231061764304139

Webinar ID: 357-358-091

**TO CALL IN** 

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422 282-956-925 Access code:

The Zoning Board will consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A

and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

Applicant and Owner, LaCourt Foundation, LLC, 200 North St c/o Mouhab Rizkallah, seeks a revision to

Condition #1 of the previously granted special nermit 7BA 2017-125.

Applicant and Owner, Sherri Gildersma, proposes 9 Clifton St to split the existing lot into two and to construct a permitted building type on the resulting noncon forming vacant lot. The development proposal

requires multiple variances.

120-132 Middlesex Ave Brickyard at Assembly, LLC proposes a master plan for a 1.03 acre development site in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District of a 18-story laboratory building providing approximately 644,000 gsf and a payment in lieu of the required civic space, which requires a Hardship Variance.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <a href="https://www.somervillema.gov/">https://www.somervillema.gov/</a> <u>departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions.</u>

Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to Planning & Zoning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; or by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

10/21/20 The Somerville Times



#### CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS **OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOSEPH A. CURTATONE** MAYOR

**GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

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

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a virtual public meeting / public hearing on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 6:45pm

The purpose of this public meeting / public hearing is to approve materials and minor architectural details for two new residential structures at 9-11 Aldersey Street and to approve the restoration of the existing historic structure located at same, as ordered by Judge William Ritter of the Massachusetts Superior Court, Middlesex District, in accordance with his remand order. A Certificate of Appropriateness will be issued. Somerville Historic Preservation Commission case number: HPC 2013.085 . Applicant Name: Gerard Meehan, Trustee for **G&T** Realty Trust.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public meeting and hearings will be conducted via remote participation.

To use a computer: <a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/regis-">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/regis-</a> ter/2060389543363693840 Access code: 793-069-563 To use a phone: call 1 (415) 655-0060 & use access code 338-800-294

Note: Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov NO LATER THAN NOON one week prior to meeting date. Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.

10/21/20 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website: www.TheSomervilleTimes.com



#### 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 public hearing on Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 6:00pm. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

## The meeting will be held using GoToWebinar. TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/regis-

ter/669920750131564557 Webinar ID: 237-994-835

TO CALL IN

Phone number: +1 (415) 930-5321 214-362-495 Access code:

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

**76-82 Central Street** East Coast Remedies, Corp. seeks a Use Special Permit to establish a Cannabis Retail

Establishment in the MR4 district.

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 mail to Planning & Zoning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; or by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

10/21/20 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY 30 Memorial Road Somerville, Massachusetts 02145 Telephone (617) 625-1152

## **IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Somerville Housing Authority (SHA) announces a PUBLIC HEAR-<u>ING</u> regarding the 2021 Federal Annual Plan and the 2022 State-Aided Annual Plan on Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 1:00 pm. Due to social distancing guidelines related to the COVID-19 state of emergency, this hearing will be held remotely. The public is invited to listen to the meeting via phone, computer, laptop, or tablet.

> Somerville Housing Authority Public Hearing Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at 1:00 PM

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/958177653

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States (Toll Free): <u>1 866 899 4679</u> United States: <u>1 (571) 317-3116</u> Access Code: 958-177-653

The Plan(s) and related documents are available on the Somerville Housing Authority's website at <a href="http://www.sha-web.org/">http://www.sha-web.org/</a>. You may also view the Plan(s) at 30 Memorial Road in Somerville, MA by appointment only. Residents and the general public are invited to review the Annul Plan before the hearing and may submit public comments. Substantive comments will be summarized and included in the Annual Plan when it is submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A forty-five (45) day review and comment period will commence on Friday, October 30, 2020. Any questions may be directed to Kevin Bumpus, Director of Operations, at 617-625-1152.

10/14/20, 10/21/20 The Somerville Times

## **NOTICE OF TIER CLASSIFICATION**

**DCR Veterans Memorial Skating Rink** 570 Somerville Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts RTN 3-35868

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. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. The site has been classified as Tier . II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On September 23, 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Recreation and Conservation (DCR) filed a Tier II Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Robert Lowell, DCR, 251 Causeway Street, Ste. 600, Boston, MA 02114, 617-626-1340. The Tier Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-35868 at http://public.dep. state.ma.us/SearchableSites2/Search.aspx or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA, 978-694-3200. Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.

10/21/20 The Somerville Times

## **LEGAL NOTICES**

## Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFP # 21-24

Lease or Purchase of Space for Assembly Square Fire Station

The City of Somerville, acting through the Purchasing Department invites sealed proposals for a lease or purchase of commercial space for use as a fire station to service the neighborhoods of Assembly

A request for proposals (RFP) and specifications may be obtained online at <a href="https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/pur-ntments/financ chasing and from the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 on or after Wednesday, October 14, 2020. Sealed proposals will be received at the above office until **November** 13, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at which time sealed proposals will be opened. The Purchasing Director 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.

The preferred space will be located within the Assembly Square / Ten Hills neighborhood and encompass a minimum of 15,000 sq. ft. The City anticipates building out and finishing the space to function as a branch fire station.

If the property owner is offering a lease, the lease term must be for thirty (30) years. All property leases held by the City of Somerville are subject to approval by the City Council. Refer to the RFP for details and contact the Purchasing Department in writing with any questions by October 28, 2020.

10/21/20 The Somerville Times

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

**PROJECT:** Gateway Innovation Center

LOCATION: 200 McGrath Highway, Somerville, Massachusetts

PROPONENT: Gateway QOZB, LLC

The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before October 15, 2020

This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, s.s. 61-621). Copies of the ENF may be obtained from:

Epsilon Associates, Inc. 3 Mill & Main Place, Suite 250, Maynard, MA 01754 978-897-7100

Copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Somerville where they may be inspected.

The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 20 days, and will then decide, within ten days, if an Environmental Impact Report is needed. A site visit and consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit or consultation session, should write to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project.

By Gateway QOZB, LLC

10/21/20 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website:

#### www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

## **Roll out the red carpet: SMC Honors 2020 Virtual Watch Party**

Wednesday, October 21, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

"We are excited for you to join us at our annual event, which this year is part of Community Media Week!"

Celebrate and honor the diverse voices and local media show-

cased on Somerville Media Center TV, Internet Radio, Podcast and Streaming Networks.

Registration for this virtual event is free at Eventbright, though donations are appreciated if you are in a place to do so right now. They need your help to ensure community media is here to stay in Somerville and all proceeds from this event go into an "SMC Future Home" campaign. Your support will help them achieve their goal of raising money to help with their move to a new facility in 2021.

Find out the SMC Honors 2020 Award Winners and Nominees at https://www.somerville-

## Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

The Wheat Paste Photo Series features six local Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) who have photographed their experiences during the pandemic, as well as commented on the racial injustices their BIPOC community has experienced. The photographs were printed on large sheets of paper and then applied with wheat paste to a brick wall located on Glen Street intersecting with Broadway in East Somerville. This project has been sponsored by the City of Somerville and the Somerville Arts Council. For more information on the artist visit http://somervilleartscouncil. org/eastpaste.

## \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Teen Empowerment is looking for Somerville youth ages 13 - 21 to join their team of youth organizers. Learn more about Teen Empowerment at https://teenempowerment.org/somerville/. Sign up for an interview this month at https://tinyurl.com/ApplyTESomerville.

Kitty Connection, an all-volunteer non-profit dedicated to rescuing and

\*\*\*\*\*\*

finding safe, loving homes for local cats and dogs, will hold its fourth annual Silent Auction online this year due to health and safety concerns during the

COVID-19 pandemic. The online event will run from 6:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12 through 6:00 p.m. Sunday, November 15 at www. myminiauction.com/kittyconnection. Kitty Connection will share auction guidelines and policies on the auction website the week before the November 12 – 15 online event. Items up for bid will be listed at the auction start time. Kitty Connection is still accepting donations for the silent auction. To donate, or for any questions, please email kcsilentauction@gmail.com. To learn more about Kitty Connection and pets available for adoption, visit: www.kit-

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Reminder: city buildings are still closed to the public. Although city buildings remain closed to the public, a number of city services are still available online or by calling 311. Check the "City Service Status" tab on the city's COVID-19 page for more information.

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.

## From page 8 Ms. Cam's Answers

- 1. Five
- 7. Chicago, Illinois, 1905
- 2. Sticks
- 8. A fox
- 3. Volleyball
- 9. Kayaking or canoeing
- 4. The Four Seasons
- 10. April Dancer
- 5. Jim Croce
- 11. Alveoli
- 6. An abnormal fear of 12. Donny Most

Want to write local Somerville stories?

Call 617-666-4010 and speak to the Assignment Editor

**Two Family - Winter Hill, Somerville** 



\$1,100,000

Saturday October 24 • 11:30 - 1:30 p.m. Sunday October 25 • 11:00 - 12:30 p.m. 12 Rooms - 4 Bedrooms - 3 Baths

222 School St, Somerville

NORTON GROUP RE

**Bobbie Toner** • 857-488-5138 bobbietoner@aol.com

## Somerville to begin charter review process

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and City Council President Matt Mc-Laughlin announced today their intention to undertake a comprehensive review of the City's charter, committing to working together to complete this effort as expeditiously as possible. The charter is the City's constitution and determines how the City is structured and run. It establishes the responsibilities of the Mayor, City Council, School Committee, and other decision-making bodies and informs governance in Somerville.

"City government must remain responsive to the challenges of

the ever-changing world around us. Doing so often requires that we be flexible in our approach to the structure and rules of our government," said Mayor Curtatone. "Charter review -- as technocratic as it sounds -- allows us to do just that. We do not undertake this process lightly; while government must be flexible, it must not change hastily. We will give this effort the resources and serious consideration it demands to ensure we are providing for the best possible government for the residents of Somerville now and for many years to come."

The City is launching the charter review effort with initial funding requests to the City Council to contract with a technical expert to guide the process as well as to hire a part-time City employee to manage this important effort. These funding requests will appear on the final agenda for the City Council's October 22 meeting. Assuming the request is approved by the Council, the City expects to have an expert and staff member on board by the end of the calendar year.

To ensure residents have a strong voice in this effort, May-

or Curtatone and President McLaughlin will seek community members for a Charter Advisory Commission, which will ultimately be responsible for submitting recommendations to the Mayor and City Council. Any changes made to Somerville's charter will need to be approved at the state level. A call for participants will be released later this fall.

"Somerville has changed tremendously over the years. Our form of government should change to meet the times as well," said Councilor McLaughlin. "Our charter should reflect the community's active participation in government, strengthen the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branch, and increase transparency and accountability in government. I look forward to working with Mayor Curtatone to create a city charter of the 21st century."

Somerville's charter was originally approved in 1871 and a revised charter was accepted in 1899. Since 1899, the charter has been amended several times – most recently in 2012 – to keep it in line with modern needs.

## Union Square's Nu Kitchen has found a recipe for success CONT. FROM PG 1

in Somerville have closed, Nu Kitchen is sinking roots. Van Dyke purchased the property at 195 Washington Street in Union Square as he did with his first location in Worcester and his newest venture in Newburyport. Most restaurants hedge their bets by leasing, but Van Dyke takes the risk in stride.

Still, 2020 hasn't been an easy year for Nu Kitchen with COVID-19 restrictions along with construction on Washington Street, but Van Dyke continues to expand. He says, "Despite



Steve Carr fights the construction and traffic to make his way over to Nu Kitchen several times a month. His goto is the Oahu Acai Bowl (\$9.99) with a helping of homemade peanut butter.

the pandemic and regulations and the construction we're just 5% off where we were this time last year." He goes on to say, "I'm not a trained cook myself, but I surround myself with great cooks who help create the menu and keep things new and interesting. I'm a believer in owning real estate and that's the part of the success story I personally do best."

Nu Kitchen is vegan and vegetarian friendly, but that doesn't compromise the meaty side of the menu. Their spread is all over the board from fresh salmon with rice, to the popular granola acai bowl, harvest tofu scramble breakfast bowl, chicken Caesar warp, and real fruit smoothies.

Steve Carr works over in Charlestown and is a Nu Kitchen regular. He says, "Nu Kitchen has become my go- to spot for a healthy lunch or dinner. I head over to Nu a few times a month and you cannot go wrong with anything on the menu from the salads, wraps or super grain bowls." He adds,

"If I had to pick one item that keeps me coming back it would be the Oahu Acai bowl with an extra serving of their homemade peanut butter."

The grain bowls and panini sandwiches are also standouts. The Chipotle Avocado and Lime Bowl (\$10.49) is a healthy mix of organic quinoa and brown rice, steamed kale, fire-roasted corn, black beans, fresh salsa, and avocado topped with our spicy chipotle lime dressing. The Pesto Chicken Panini (\$10.49) is grilled chicken, pesto, sliced tomatoes, caramelized onions, spinach, and melted mozzarella on grilled flatbread.

Nu Kitchen delivers – via third party apps – and does pickup or you can eat inside in the roomy café while practicing COVID-19 restrictions. You can find their hours and online ordering on their website at www.thenukitchen.com. They're open most weekdays 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. and weekends 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Bon Appetit!



Nu Kitchen has three locations in Somerville, Worcester, and soon-to-be Newburyport. They specialize in smoothies, fresh juices, acai bowls, paninis, grain bowls, and craft beer and wine.

— Photo by Riann Keniston-Hale



Nu Kitchen is well-known for its super grain bowls. The Buddha Bowl, Sushi Bowl, Chick Pea and Parmesan Bowl, and the Chipotle Avocado and Lime Bowl are all \$10.49.

— Photo by Riann Keniston-Hale

## Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Why did the Headless Horseman get a job? He was trying to get ahead in life.

## The "Original" All Types Vent Cleaning

Restaurant Hood Cleaning
Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning

Power Washing
Licensed and Insured
in Massachusetts

We travel all over Massachusetts

Call today to find out our weekly specials!

**Call Jimmy 857-366-3761** 

To advertise in
The
Somerville
Times
call
Bobbie Toner
617-666-4010

# On This Day in Kistory October 21

1529 – The Pope names Henry VIII of England Defender of the Faith after defending the seven sacraments against Luther.

1872 – The U.S. Naval Academy admits John H. Conyers, the first African American to be accepted.

1879 – After 14 months of testing, Thomas Edison first demonstrates his electric lamp, hoping to one day compete with gaslight.

1917 – The first U.S. troops enter the front lines at Sommerviller under French command.

1959 – The Guggenheim Museum, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, opens in Manhattan.

1961 – Bob Dylan records his first album in a single day at a cost of \$400.

**1967** – The "March on the Pentagon," protesting American involvement in Vietnam, draws 50,000 protesters.

1983 - The United States sends a ten-ship task force to Grenada.

## Gilman Square neighborhood plans discussed

## By Rebecca Bakken

The City of Somerville presented new plans for the Gilman Square neighborhood at a meeting on October 7 and is now seeking public input as it moves forward finalizing designs.

At a virtual meeting attended by about 50 residents, city officials presented updated streetscape plans that propose significant changes to the mostly residential neighborhood, which will be home to a new T station next year.

Officials presented a plan that proposes turning the Medford Street Bridge, which has been closed due to construction since May 2019, into a plaza or open space area. This would permanently close the bridge to through-traffic.

A recently completed traffic study revealed that 73 to 75% of vehicles moving through the square are "cut-through" trips, or traffic that does not serve or patronize Gilman Square businesses or residences, said Viola Augustin, a project manager for the city, at the meeting.

The traffic model suggests that the bridge closure would not affect wait times for drivers moving through the square if traffic signals are adjusted, said Augustin.

Resident Tom Lamar said via Zoom chat at the meeting that the Medford Street bridge plans look great. He said quick-build solutions could be implemented to accommodate outdoor gatherings sooner.

City officials said making the neighborhood more accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists is a priority. Between the bridge and School Street, the plan proposes an expanded bike lane and sidewalk and a "green zone" for trees and benches.

The plan includes 8 feet of "flexible zone" at the widest part of Medford Street, Augustin said at the meeting.

The flex zones would allow for pick-up, drop-off, and parking space during peak hours, Augustin said. During the day, these flex zones could also serve bikes and pedestrians.

"Flex zones are new to Somerville," said Somerville Senior Planner Sunayana Thomas in an interview. "They're usually

used for public socializing, parklets, streeteries, pick-up/dropoff, and function as a multi-use space. The reality is we do need to accommodate for things like quick shopping and visitor parking. But all those discussions still need to be had."

Gilman Square is unique in that the city owns two large parcels in the relatively small area, so there is opportunity to work with residents and other stakeholders to develop a square that truly serves the community, said Thomas.

"All across the city we're getting ready for the Green Line stations to open," said Thomas. "While we're doing that, we still want development to happen in an equitable way."

Part of this means creating a housing plan that includes family-friendly rental units, said Thomas.

To prepare for additional housing, the Gilman Square Neighborhood Association (GSNA) filed for, and was granted on October 8, a zoning map change. This change allows for six-story buildings to be developed on two privately owned parcels.

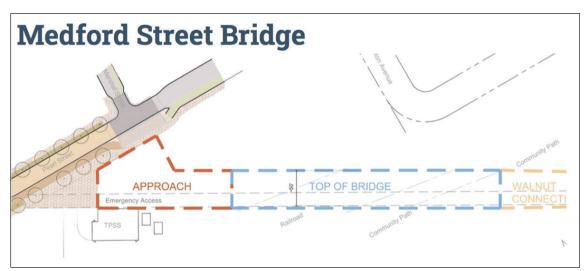
Christine Carlino, a resident and steering committee member of the GSNA, and 15 neighborhood residents filed the request for the zoning map change in June.

She said in an interview after the meeting that the GSNA has had a strong partnership with the city over the past couple of years, working with them to develop the streetscape project.

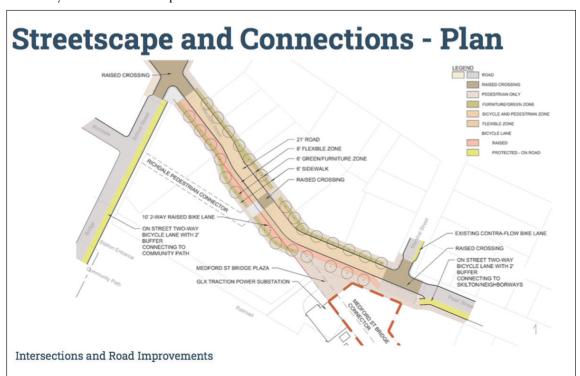
"We gave a lot of feedback on the plans that had been developed, to help drive the city toward something the folks in our community would respond positively to. That worked well," said Carlino.

The zoning map change, which passed unanimously in the city council, affects the Good Gas and ABJ sites mapped out in the plan.

The largest parcels, the Mobil and Homans site, include 124,000 square feet of space combined. Potential uses outlined in the Gilman Square neighborhood plan include a 6,000 square-foot commercial space with 78 residential units. It could also include artist and



Source: City of Somerville Streetscape Presentation.





craft manufacturing space.

Carlino said with the zoning map now amended, the Good Gas site could accommodate a 6-floor residential building with ground-floor space for restaurants or retail. She said the priority for the GSNA is making sure people have places to live, work, and play.

"We want to make sure we're hitting good sustainability goals

and that we're designing a community for the future. Our goals are to bring people together," said Carlino.

The Gilman Square Station Area Plan was introduced in 2014. Gilman Square will be home to a new T station as part of the ongoing Green Line Extension (GLX) project.

The City of Somerville is seeking feedback on its pro-

posed designs for Gilman through October Square 31. To submit your feedback, please follow this link and take the survey: https:// somervoice.somervillema. gov/gilman-square-plan-implementation/survey\_tools/ what-do-you-think-about-theproposed-improvements-tothe-streets-and-intersectionsin-gilman-square1.

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1 and follow us on Twitter at @somervilletimes

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

## Place your classified ad today – only \$1 per word! E-mail: ads@thesomervilletimes.com

## **AUTOS WANTED**

CASH FOR CARS! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled-it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! Call 844-813-0213

CARS/TRUCKS WANT-ED!!! All Makes/Models 2002-2019! Any Condition. Running or Not.Top \$\$\$ Paid! FreeTowing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: 1-888-985-1806

CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!! 2002 and Newer! Any Condition. Running or Not. Competitive Offer! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: 1-888-416-2330.

#### **EDUCATION**

Train online to do medical billing! Become a Medical Office Professional at CTI! Get trained & certified to work in months! 888-572-6790. (M-F 8-6 ET)

#### **FOR RENT**

Warm Weather Is Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

## **HEALTH & FITNESS**

DOYOU HAVE CHRONIC KNEE OR BACK PAIN? If you have insurance, you may qualify for the perfect brace at little to no cost. Get yours today! Call 1-800-217-0504

OXYGEN-Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: Call 1-855-917-4693

GENERIC VIAGRA and CIA-LIS! 100 Pills \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-889-5515

Recently Diagnosed w/Lung Cancer or Mesothelioma? Exposed to Asbestos Pre-1980 at Work or Navy? You May Be Entitled to a Significant Cash Award! Smoking History Okay! Call 1-855-591-0517

SERIOUSLY INJURED in an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 1-888-409-1261

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 100 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Espanol

#### MISCELLANEOUS

DEALING WITH WATER DAMAGE requires immediate action. Local professionals that respond immediately. Nationwide and 24/7. No Mold Calls. 1-800-506-3367

DISHTV - \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Call 1-877-925-7371

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! Leaffilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE Leaffilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-964-1491

GENERAC Standby Generators. The weather is increasingly unpredictable. Be prepared for power outages. FREE 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!) Schedule your FREE in-home assessment today. Call 1-877-378-1582 Special financing for qualified customers.

INVENTORS-FREE INFOR-MATION PACKAGE Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-855-380-5976 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation.

MOBILEHELP, AMERICA'S PREMIER MOBILE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM. Whether you're Home or Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-844-892-1017

STAY INYOUR HOME longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-866-945-3783 or visit www.walk-intubquote.com/pennysaver

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for [350+] procedures. Real dental insurance -NOT just a discount plan. [Don't wait!] Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-877-308-2834 www.dental50plus. com/cadnet #6258

Two great new offers from

AT&T Wireless! Ask how to get the Next Generation Samsung Galaxy S10e FREE. FREE iPhone with AT&T's Buy one, Give One. While supplies last! CALL 1-866-565-8452 or www. freephonesnow.com//cadnet

Stay in your home longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-855-481-3969 or visit www.walk-intubquote.com/national

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-402-0373

Cross country Moving, Long distance Moving Company, out of state move \$799 Long Distance Movers. Get Free quote on your Long distance move. 1-844-452-1706

Call Empire Today® to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-855-404-2366

DIRECTV - Switch and Save! \$39.99/month. Select All-Included Package. 155 Channels. 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand. FREE Genie HD DVR Upgrade. Premium movie channels, FREE for 3 mos! Call 1-855-781-1565

Need IRS Relief \$10K -\$125K+ Get Fresh Start or Forgiveness Call 1-877-378-1182 Monday through Friday 7AM-5PM PST

HEARING AIDS!! Buy one/ get one FREE! High-quality rechargeable Nano hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Nearly invisible! 45-day money back guarantee! 888-986-3616

DISH Network \$59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY \$19.95/month. Call Today for \$100 Gift Card! Best Value & Technology. FREE Installation. Call 1-855-837-9146 (some restrictions apply)

Dental insurance - Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Covers 350 procedures. Real insurance - not a discount plan. Get your free dental info kit! 1-888-623-3036 www.dental50plus.com/58 #6258

Protect your home w/home security monitored by ADT.

Starting at \$27.99/mo. Get free equipment bundle including keypad, motion sensor, wireless door & windows sensors. 833-719-1073

Computer & IT training program! Train to become Computer & Help Desk Professional! Grants & scholarships for qualified applicants on certain programs. 888-449-1713 (M-F 8-6 ET)

Life Alert. One press of a button sends help fast, 24/7! At home & on the go. Mobile Pendant w/GPS. Free first aid kit with subscription. 877-537-8817 free brochure.

AT&T Internet. Starting at \$40/month w/12-mo agmt. 1 TB of data/mo. Ask how to bundle & SAVE! Geo & svc restrictions apply. 1-888-796-8850

Directv Now. No Satellite. \$40/mo 65 Channels. Stream news, live events, sports & on demand titles. No contract/commitment. 1-866-825-6523

Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

Dish TV \$59.99 190 channels + \$14.95 high speed internet. Free Install, smart HD DVR & voice remote. Restrictions apply. 1-833-872-2545.

New authors wanted! Page Publishing will help self-publish your book. Free author submission kit! Limited offer! 866-951-7214

Hearing aids! Bogo free! High-quality rechargeable Nano hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Nearly invisible! 45-day money back guarantee! 833-669-5806

Thinking about installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. Free design consult.1-888-674-3005 today to see how to save \$1,000 on installation or visit www. newshowerdeal.com/display

Attention homeowners! You can protect your appliances & systems. For just a little more than a \$1.00/day. Call now for 1st month free, \$75.00 /off 1st year. 1-855-514-1183

Boy Scout compensation fund - Anyone inappropriately touched by a Scout leader deserves justice & compensation! Victims may be eligible for significant cash settlement. Time is limited. 833-729-0164

Wesley Financial Group, LLC timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consult. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 844-909-3339

Generac generators. Weather is increasingly unpredictable. Be prepared for power outages. Free 7-yr ext warranty. Schedule free in-home assessment 1-844-334-8353. Special financing if qualified.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, most advanced debris-blocking protection. Schedule free estimate. 15% off Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-995-2490

CASH FOR CARS: We Buy Any Condition Vehicle, 2002 and Newer. Nationwide Free Pick Up! Call Now: 1-800-864-5960.

## WANTED TO BUY

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, Co. 80201

Reader Advisory: The National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the above classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather supply the readers with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients establish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card numbers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll free numbers may or may not reach Canada.

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

# yruca **SOMERVILLE** edited by Doug Holder

Our poet this week writes, "My name is Samantha Hines and I'm an English major with a focus in secondary education at Endicott College. I'm from Cheshire, Connecticut and I am a sophomore this year."



#### Bird in Thunder

"I wasn't in love with him." I said

I was so in love with the idea of being in love

That I sipped the poison like wine

And pretended that the burning in the back of my throat

Was the acidity of aged pinot noir

And not the blistering toxins dissolving my voice

"I wasn't in love with him," I said

I was so infatuated with the idea of being wanted

That like a rat to cheese,

I was drawn to the trap

So while my neck was being crushed beneath the spring,

The sweet smell of cheddar numbed my breaking bones

"I wasn't in love with him," I said

I was so convinced that that love, was the only love

And like a bird in thunder, I saw the signs

I felt the pressure, I watched the clouds roll in

But remained perched up high instead of seeking shelter

For I was more fearful of the ground below

— Samantha Hines

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to: Doug Holder, 25 School St.; Somerville, MA 02143. dougholder@post.harvard.edu

## FF THE

by Doug Holder

## **Somerville Poet Mark McKay** / Writes a Poem A Day



I have trouble writing a poem a month, at best. But every day since 2017, Somerville poet Mark McKay has posted a poem on Instagram, and has developed a large following. I had a chance to catch up with Mark via the Internet.

Doug Holder: You have lived in Somerville for 2.5 years. How has it been for your creative life?

Mark McKay: Living in Somerville has really kickstarted my creative life. At the beginning of my concerted efforts to write in 2017, I was living in the suburbs and relying on my own imagination to concoct and coax stories and poems from previous life experience. The vibrant art community and more urban setting in Somerville has changed the way I approach my craft, providing inspiration in everything from organized events, art shows, recognition of artists to the street art and ways that residents feel free to decorate the outside of their homes. Since moving to Somerville, I've also enrolled as a student with a painting school, Katherine Martin Widmer School of Painting. Being part of such a welcoming community and the prospect of learning a new way to express myself is one of my very favorite things. It's so inviting and surprising every day just to walk the streets, community paths and observe the community's active approach and appreciation of the arts.

DH: You started a poem project on Instagram where you have been posting a poem every day since January 1, 2017. What was the germ of the idea for this?

MM: I began this project in 2016 in honor of National Poetry Month (April), titling it mckaystoryaday. I have never considered myself to be a "poet" but have always engaged in correspondence and short story writing so wanted to contribute something literary to such an important celebration of the written word. I chose Instagram because I felt that words were not well represented there, that breaking up the format a bit with writing instead of photos would help my writing to be noticed. I have since found that Instagram is home to many poets and storytellers, a wonderful vibrant community.

My contributions in 2016 were infrequent, as I had not yet decided to make this a continuing project. Beginning in earnest on January 1, 2017, I vowed to keep it up as long as I could manage, changing my format from a fully formed "story" to conjuring images and feelings, hoping to challenge the reader to use their own imaginations to fill in those gaps.

DH: Your poems are haiku-like - short snippets that capture a moment in time. I also noticed you have short love poems that seem to be addressing an object of your affection. What poets have influenced you?

MM: I have always loved the haiku form since it was presented to me in grade school English class, and through the years, I feel that reading such masters as Matsuo Basho have influenced me my whole literary life. Occasionally, I will visit and write in the traditional haiku form, I find that I reach for that form when I am in need of a calming influence. There's just something both natural and mystical about it in my mind. I have since been introduced to many wonderful poets and poems I had missed, but honestly cannot say I have been directly influenced by them. My own words just feel they come from inspiration found reading short stories by my favorite authors like H.G. Wells, Kurt Vonnegut, Ray Bradbury and John Steinbeck.

As for addressing the object of my affection via the poems, I try to write with universal themes and simple scenarios that anyone can relate to. We all desire to reach the heart of someone with our art, I am no different.

DH: Has writing become more essential to you during the pandemic?

MM: Absolutely essential. Prior to this, I felt that I was sending these missives out as a blanket, hoping they would find a sympathetic reader. Now I feel that they are direct communications - a cry, arms opened to receive those who need, statements of intent and purpose, arrows to the hearts that need it. It also allows me to

visit places and people in my mind that are not accessible during these times, a measure of much needed sanity.

DH: You told me you started a fanzine in the 80s and 90s, which will be compiled into a book in 2021. Can you give us more details about it?

MM: I worked in a copy shop in the late '80's and was challenged by a friend to create a fanzine of the collages and short writings I had been doing while there was downtime. It was not intended to be circulated, but just as a fun project to share with the folks in the shop, but it was enjoyed and I was urged to continue. The cut and paste nature of it felt fantastic, and at the time I was discovering abstract art and particularly fascinated with the Dadaist movement from early in the century such fertile ground! I wanted to contribute and having an outlet totally under my control was such a rush. I was able to create four issues - and many unused pieces - which became more literary-based as I went on and felt better about putting my writing in front of people. I read back over them a few years ago and did not dislike what was created so I decided to compile all the pages and write a book around it, discussing everything from the social climate at the time, my personal experiences and words of explanation for some of the more "esoteric" pieces included. Still a work in progress, but I will indeed self-publish the completed project in 2021.

DH: You were a drummer for a number of years, then you switched to high tech. Was that because it is hard to make the daily nut as a musician?

MM: I was deeply involved in the Boston Punk scene for a few years before deciding that there were not enough drummers to go around, so I bought myself a kit and started to teach myself to keep a beat. Some friends from high school were just breaking up their band, and I had achieved some basic proficiency so we formed a new band called Slapshot in 1985. We were able to keep this running for many years - they are still going, though I am long since retired from performing and playing - and travel extensively throughout the US, Canada and Europe, made several records and sold a few t-shirts. It was never about the money, so we always maintained day jobs to allow us to fund travel and band expenses. I've always loved how technology can keep people and ideas flowing, solve problems and connect us, so a career in this field was a natural fit. It's not my passion, but I have a deep respect for the positive aspects that it can add to daily life.

**DH:** Have you ever played the drum break for *Funky* Drummer by James Brown?

MM: If you ever have the chance to check out any recordings I made with Slapshot, you will realize that although I have a deep appreciation for music of all sorts - I was not built to be a virtuoso on my chosen instrument! So no, have never tried it – but indeed love JB!.

DH: How long will this poetry project go on, or will it never be finished?

MM: Coming up on four years of daily writing is so much more than I hoped to accomplish and I'm driven by the positive feedback from readers which still both boggles my mind and warms my heart. There are times when it feels like a project of this length has run its course, that I have nothing more to say, but then I find a thread deep in my mind or heart that I feel encompasses everything that I am, giving me strength and resolve to continue for another day. I am trying my hand at some longer form writing, but have enjoyed this shorter format and feel very comfortable here. In short, there are no plans to stop.

## 9/26/2020

under dim streetlights, hands pushed deep into pockets the sting of habit the absence of purpose...

## The Somerville Times

To advertise in our Business Directory, call or fax.

Phone: 617-666-4010 Fax: 617-628-0422

Let your customers find you in Somerville's most widely read newspaper!

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

# CENTURY 21. North East Len Ferrari Sales Associate Cell: 781.608.5008 Office: 617.623.6600 Ienferrari@c21ne.com The Official Real Estate Company of the Boston Bruins



## Richard G. Di Girolamo Anne M. Vigorito Michael LaRosa

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Real Estate Law
Zoning
Civil Litigation
Criminal Defense
Family Law
Personal Injury

TELEPHONE: (617) 666-8200

FAX: (617) 776-5435

EMAIL: digirolamolegal@verizon.net

424 BROADWAY, SOMERVILLE, MA 02145



"We'll sell your house fast!"



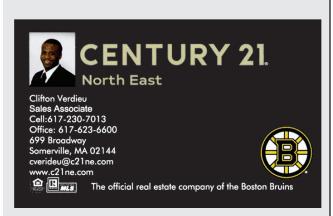
~ Notary Public ~ Justice of the Peace ~

MARIE HOWE REAL ESTATE

617-666-4040









194 Holland St, Somerville, MA 02144 617-628-4282



Josue Velney

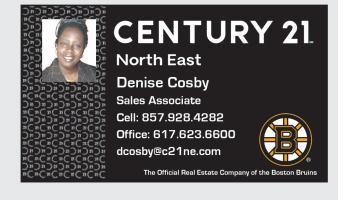
Director of Acquisitions

WE BUY HOUSES

ANY CONDITION CASH & FAST

617-684-5363

Josue@WinterHillHomes.com www.WinterHillHomes.com



Telephone: (617) 625-2244 (617) 625-4344

Fax: (617) 625-4350

EDWIN J. SMITH ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

**RUMERY & SMITH** 

403 HIGHLAND AVENUE SOMERVILLE, MA 02144

edsmithlaw@gmail.com



Over 50 Years Experience Proud to be a Somerville Business Resident



- Plumbing Heating
- Gas Fitting Industrial Work
- Water Heater Replacement
  - Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106 62

625-9877

To advertise in

The Somerville Times

call Bobbie Toner: 617-666-4 010



## DROPKIN & MATZA LLP

Attorneys at Law

424 Broadway Somerville MA 02145

Bankruptcy

Family Law Immigration

Personal Injury

**Business Law** 

**Estate Planning and Probate** 

Real Estate

**Elder Law** 

**Civil Litigation** 

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com