



Somerville's original independent newspaper

The Somerville Times

www.thesomervilletimes.com



VOL. 7 NO. 42

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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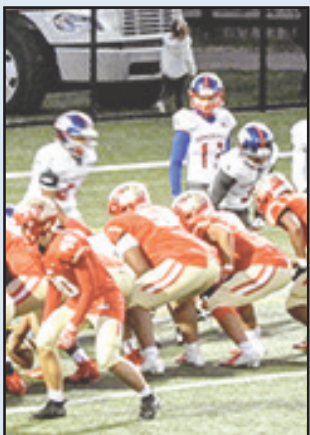
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City Council calls on first responders to report on gas transmission meetings



The City Council is asking the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer to share information gleaned from their meetings with Spectra Energy relating to possible risks public safety posed by gas pipelines.

By Jim Clark

An order was put forward at the latest regular meeting of the Somerville City Council asking that the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer provide an update on upcoming and past meetings with Spectra Energy (now Enbridge) related to the Algonquin Gas Transmission line and the J2 loop and any communications on risks and safety procedures related to those pipelines.

Speaking on the matter, Councilor At-Large Stephanie Hirsch told the Council, "It is my understanding that this line runs past, under, or very close to Clarendon and also along the Green Line by Gilman Station. And according to the constituent who is advocating for this, she said that the U.S. Department of Transportation is required to, every three years, have a meeting with the local first responders to talk about what you would do in

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Spooky family fun and games at 'Monster Mashed-Up' at SomerStreets

The last SomerStreets festival of the year, the spooky and fun "Monster Mashed-Up" took place last Sunday on Somerville Ave. between Union Square and Park St.

SomerStreets is the City of Somerville's take on the internationally renowned Open Streets concept, closing busy city streets to vehicles, and opening them up for cycling, walking, dancing, running, and other modes of activity. Through SomerStreets, the city and its community partners aim to promote and encourage easy access to physical activity, fresh foods, and reconnecting with neighborhoods and businesses and their unique cultural elements in a thriving urban environment.

Additionally, the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission, Historic Somerville, and the Somerville Museum for the "Ghosts of Milk Row Cemetery" conducted tours at the historic Milk Row Cemetery at 400 Somerville Ave.

Visitors walked through the city's 19th century burial grounds and took

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Scary and not-so-scary fun seekers took part in the festivities at last Sunday's "Monster Mashed-Up" extravaganza on Somerville Ave.

— Photo by Claudia Ferro

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

The Little Sisters of the Poor are holding their very last Bazaar on on Saturday, November 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. They hope to have a large showing in order to continue to support the residents through this transition process and in order to bring a lot of Christmas cheer into the home. Please go out and support this home. They always have great raffles, food and much more. The Little Sisters of the Poor is located at 186 Highland Ave.

Join the City of Somerville on Thursday, October 24, for the annual “Haunted Hall” event on the City Hall concourse from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The family-friendly event will feature costumed safe Trick-or-Treating, giant pumpkin decorating, games, and activities, refreshments, and more. Due to construction at Somerville High School, the haunted pathway element of the event will be replaced this year with painting giant pumpkins as well as children’s games, sponsored by the Somerville Recreation Department. Costumes are encouraged for all ages, and all “haunted” elements will be appropriate for attendees of all ages. In case of inclement weather, the event will be canceled. Check www.somervillema.gov for updates, or call 311.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to a very good friend Richard Hart of the famous Hart family. Happy birthday to former writer for The Times, Harry Kane. We wish him a great day. Happy birthday to our good friend Marie Civello. Happy birthday to one of Somerville’s nicest real estate agents, Clifton Verdieu, who also grew up in East Somerville. He works at the Century 21 North East Norton Group RE office. Happy birthday to Barry Rollins who is celebrating this week and we wish him a good day. Happy birthday to Erin DiBenedetto from Medford, nut 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

Continued on page 11

The Somerville Times

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TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Statement from Ward 5 Resistat meeting

Old Taxpayer says:
Clearly does not understand the needs of the people. So much of this is untrue. Another situation where the city comes in to help and really screws it up. Sadly I am not in ward 5 or I would run and get him out of there. I would at least do what the people want.

...But No Thanks says:
I hope the residents of the Winter Hill neighborhoods and all that use Broadway to get to work and school are ready for the ****show that is coming once the snow starts to fly. Yet another slap in the face of the working-class people of Somerville.

.Incentives? says:
What, on Earth, are the incentives given to car owners? I’m missing something.
Thanks for the nod to those of us who drive, but be honest, please. Your goal is to get rid of cars. As outlined above, what will you do without excise, parking Tix, permits, etc. Will dpw get things done on bikes? What will we do without our precious beer when cars/trucks are squeezed out? Ironic that you’re so transparent, but not the way you think

New Taxpayer says:
So sorry to hear some people feel that Mr. Neidergang doesn’t understand the needs of the people. I wonder why they voted for him? And I wonder why he’s running uncontested? I guess maybe he really does understand the needs of his community.

Casimir H. Prohosky Jr. says:
Mark is as good as it gets. And I mean that in the best way possible. No public servant can fulfill everybody’s wish lists, they can only achieve what is possible. Mark does OK. When the the bridge and street closures were imminent a year or so ago he was all over it, trying to mitigate the problems in some ways, appealing to the state (which had actual control over the situation), etc. This and many other things he’s done to fulfill his duties as Councilor. Be realistic, and be careful what you wish for.

Response to: Somerville seeking residents to serve on city’s Urban Forestry Committee

joe says:
The city, as far as I can tell, does absolutely no work on public trees aside from planting a vastly insufficient number of replacement trees each year, which are then abandoned.
Here is what needs to happen: Sufficient full-time city tree personnel need to be tasked with maintaining and developing the public trees. This means shaping every single tree seasonally, trimming lower branches to allow for 7ft of height clearance on all sidewalks, fixing all strings of lights in the trees, fixing all cobblestones and weeding the base regularly, and removing and replacing all dead trees and then properly caring for the replacements. The crews should have a regular schedule for performing this maintenance, especially along all major streets and squares, and also be proactive in patrolling side streets for obvious maintenance issues. Walk even along Somerville Ave from Porter into Union Square. The trees are HORRIBLE. None of the above is being done on any of the trees at all. Why?
I know it costs money, but everybody can get onboard with public tree maintenance. MAKE IT HAPPEN!!!

Herman Munster says:
I agree with what the guy above said. But hey, we get our SomerStreets and Fluff Fests. That’s all that matters!

Sally says:
And they have planted some terrible tree species! The ones on my street have sap that covers cars and the street in a sticky mess that’s difficult to remove.

Response to: Marijuana: The campaign to criminalize cannabis

Gaspar Fomento says:
Good information very well presented. Unfortunately, change often comes so slowly, especially when it comes to nearly a century of institutional propaganda.

Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Still leading the way



I heard these wise words on a Kia commercial: "The problem of holding onto the past, is that if we're always looking back, we can't see what's coming."

I am proud to have been part of the team that competed for and won the 2009 All America City award. It was a great bunch of Somer-Villens who worked hard together for months. The contingent consisted of former and current elected officials, folks with diverse ethnic backgrounds longtime and newly arrived residents, old and young. We spread the Somerville spirit and conveyed our city's determination for improvement, progress, and growth. I think we should all reassess our pride in Somerville with its colorful past and encouraging future.

Sure, we can complain about what we don't like about our city. Detours, bus lanes, and so many bikes. Anyone in any growing and changing city feels the same way when we have to adapt to a monkey wrench being tossed into our routines. But change can't come without sacrifice. Even as we are submerged in so much change at one time, there's still a lot to like too. Don't lose sight of the good things.

This week let's concentrate on the positive and put the negativity aside for a while.

SomerStreets' recent Monster Mash-up was fun and festive time for everyone. The city has a lot to offer so let's not lose sight of how cool Somerville is.

After living in Somerville my whole life I think the first feeling that comes to mind is being comfortable. I have favorite restaurants, pubs and stores and know all the shortcuts to get there in traffic. I have my favorite spot to park and sip coffee while listening to sports radio on an early Saturday morning.

I asked some other Somerville people what they liked about living here. Yes, it's time to be positive! This is what I threw out there: I love Somerville because...

"Learning to circumvent the different neighborhoods there as a kid, prepared me on how to operate in third world countries."

"For all the wonderful memories I have of growing up there."

"We were all incredibly fortunate to grow up in Somerville in a time when families had dinner together and went to church together."

"We all played together to learn what team work and compromise was all about, when friendships were important and respect for each other really mattered."

"A place we learned right from wrong and what hard work was."

"To be confident and have the tools

to go out in the world and make a difference in your own life and everyone around you!"

If you grew up in Somerville in the 50's, 60's, 70's or 80's, you enjoyed special times.

As a lifer here in the 02144 zip code, my good memories of Somerville are many. It's nice when I bump into a guy at Stop 'N Shop who sat beside me in ninth grade Algebra class. I still enjoy attending a class reunion now and then.

Some long time Somerville people went on to be great elected officials. They took their love for the city to new heights. Men like Gene Brune left a legacy that includes the rejuvenation of Somerville, including the Red Line extension. He picked the city up, dusted it off, and pointed Somerville in the right direction. I have great faith that some of our current ejected officials will leave us with good things to remember them by.

People who love Somerville have deep rooted friendships. Many of us were born here and never left, except to go on vacation. Some moved to Billerica, which is sometimes referred to as "Somerville with trees," and some found more for their real estate dollars further away from Boston and The Ville. A lot of these transplants can be heard saying, "I'm glad I left Somerville before it changed and became unaffordable."

Though some may be disgruntled with so much change so fast, Somerville has always been and always will be a proud city. We overcame a somewhat shady past that involved crooked politics. We became a more diversity aware and nurturing place to live.

A true lover of Somerville can remember the good old days while embracing the future. And it's only natural that we freak out when we hear that a student housing development may obliterate a big hunk of Davis Square. Hopefully, it will never happen and we won't lose The Burren, McKinnons, Sliggo and other businesses. I believe voters would like to think that their elected officials would also see the importance of preserving some semblance of our past and history.

So no matter how much we miss them, we're not gonna see Brigham's, The Venice Cafe, Johnny D's, Frascati's, The Jumbo, The Paddock, Dapper Dan's, BoBo's, Khoury's, or Patsy's suddenly reappear. And if they do, our old friends aren't



going to still be inside. Time goes on. I should say time flies by because it does. I'm going to try to enjoy every day the best I can. They say having a positive attitude and a rosy outlook is good for your health. I'm going to give it a try. Live and let live and family first.

The detours, closures and ongoing construction throughout the city is only going to become more difficult when the snow arrives. Now's the time for all of us to suck it up. Breathe, then breathe again. Grab your coffee, pack up the car, and head out a little earlier. If you're a little late I'm sure your wonderful boss will understand.

A growing city has to have some pitfalls to deal with. Remember, the current annoyances are not going to last forever. When the smoke clears, we will have some sparkling and safer bridges, a brand new state of the art high school, and six exciting new T stops around the city. Stake your ground now because Somerville is still leading the way and soon will be THE place to live! Of course, we all feel that way already. I wouldn't live anywhere else.

And while we're at it, please give one of your four Councilor At-Large votes to our good friend Jack Connolly. As a lifelong Somerville resident, family man, successful business man, and former elected official, Jack's proven track record is very much needed as Somerville braces for more changes than ever. Jack understands the needs of the city and will work together with the community to make sure Somerville remains the great city it is. So please give Jack one of your Councilor At-Large votes on Tuesday, November 5.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Drunk driver started early that day

Somerville Police officers and EMT's were dispatched to the intersection of Beacon St. and Beacon Pl. last Saturday for a motor vehicle accident.

Upon arrival, police were met by two ambulances and three fire units. The officers observed a motor vehicle situated at an angle with the driver side damaged.

As the police officers looked around for the other motor vehicle, they were approached by personnel from the Somerville Fire Department who advised them that they had the other motor vehicle further down the street near Beacon St. and Washington St. and that the driver of the other vehicle stated that he is drunk and had been drinking, and that the other op-

erator was taken to Cambridge City Hospital for his injuries.

As officers approached the operator, later identified as Leo Murphy, of Weymouth, they found him sitting in the front passenger seat. The officers asked Murphy if he needed any medical attention and was advised by one of the EMT's on the scene that Murphy was adamant about not going to the hospital and that he had signed a medical refusal form.

Police spoke with a witness who stated that she left S&S restaurant and was behind Murphy's vehicle. She stated that the vehicle was swerving in and out of the lane a lot, as if he was going to park, but at the last minute deciding not to park.

Once on Beacon St., the vehicle allegedly took out one of the yellow poles in the street then swerved into the oncoming lane of traffic. After going into the oncoming lane he reportedly continued driving in that lane then his head plopped down before colliding with the other vehicle.

The officers spoke with another witness who stated that she was driving behind the vehicle that was struck and that she saw the other vehicle swerving out of his lane and into their lane. While in their lane, Murphy's vehicle reportedly struck a truck and spun it around before going back into his lane and continued to where he was stopped on the sidewalk. This witness also stated that it appeared as if

Murphy's head was down while he was driving.

The officers asked Murphy if he had anything to drink and he reportedly stated that he had been drinking all day. He also stated that he knew he was drunk because he had a few drinks earlier and shortly before driving he again had four more shots of alcohol.

At that point the officers asked Murphy to step away from his vehicle in order to administer a field sobriety test. Murphy then reportedly said, "Why waste your time? I know I'm drunk and I won't pass it."

Murphy reportedly told the police officers that he will not pass because he has been drinking before beginning the test.

While doing the test, Murphy was not able to stay on the line, took eleven steps, and on his way back did not walk on the line. It was at that point that Murphy was placed under arrest on charges of failure to stop or yield and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.

Murphy was asked where was he drinking, when was he drinking, and how much did he drink. He reportedly stated that he had been drinking all day and that he went to the package store that morning and that is where he got the booze, but he would not say from where.

While at the station, Murphy chose to take a breathalyzer test. The test came back with a reading of .13%.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Luciano Salazar, of 404 Broadway, October 19, 8:31	a.m., arrested at Garfield Ave. on charges of failure to stop or yield and unlicensed operation	of a motor vehicle.	Leo Murphy, of 10 Prospect Hill Rd. N., Weymouth, October 19, 2:03 p.m., arrested at Beacon Pl. on a charge of failure to stop or yield and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.
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City Council calls on first responders to report on gas transmission meetings

CONT. FROM PG 1

the case of an emergency in high density areas – which of course we are – that are near these transmission lines."

Hirsch indicated that the meeting that would happen between municipal employees and others at the state level and would not include constituents.

"So we want to know did that happen, what was in the information, and what can our local government tell us about what risks the lines pose to us and what we're doing to mitigate the risk," Hirsch said.

In expressing support for the order, Councilor At-Large Wilfred N. Mbah added, "I think this is something that should alarm everyone because those are high pressure gas lines that we are dealing with. And some

of those gas lines were installed decades ago. It will be good if we all keep alert on this, study it really closely to make sure that we don't have any disaster in the near future."

The Algonquin Gas Transmission is a 1,100 miles long pipeline system, which delivers natural gas to New England. It is connected to the Texas Eastern Pipeline and the Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline.

The transport about 20 billion cubic meters of natural gas per annum. The Algonquin Gas Transmission is owned by Enbridge.

The order was approved with a copy going to the Public Utilities and Public Works Committee.

A related order was also put forward and approved at the

meeting requesting that the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management, the Chief Fire Engineer, the Chief of Police and other necessary city departments discuss and advise the Council of the impacts that any further development along Alewife Brook Parkway would have on the Algonquin Gas Transmission Pipeline running along Alewife Brook in addition to the following questions:

- When installed.
- What is the pressure.
- What is the diameter of the pipeline.
- What is the maintenance plan.
- Does a maintenance plan trigger requiring Algonquin to notify the city.



Councilor At-Large Stephanie Hirsch explained concerns over gas pipelines brought forward by a constituent to the City Council at their latest meeting.

- Which city staff is Algonquin required to contact.
- What kind of work triggers requiring Algonquin to contact the city.

- Was there expansion to the pipe? If yes, when?
- What impact would a development along Alewife Brook Parkway have on this pipeline.

Candidate Climate Forum responses

On October 5, nine city council candidates and two mayoral candidates appeared before an audience of 75 climate change preparedness advocates and answered tough questions about how Somerville will prepare for, and in any way possible lessen or prevent, the many impacts we will face in the near future.

A number of questions for and responses by candidates for Councilor At-Large are presented here to help you decide who should get your vote:

Question 1 asked by Julia Taliesin - Five years ago, the City declared that it would become carbon neutral by 2050. What is your plan and what are your intended actions to assure that Somerville actually fulfills that promise?

Will Mbah, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

I came to Somerville in 2010 on a Diversity Lottery Visa and instantly fell in love with the community. Back in my home country of Cameroon, I had been very involved in student activism and I was looking for ways I could get involved with the community here. One of the first projects I got involved with in Somerville was volunteering on an environmental justice project that looked at the negative health effects of living close to I 93. That study has given us data on the negative effects of living close to a major highway and shows how environmental issues also tend to impact lower-income, working

class and typically people of color majority communities more than others. We need to make sure that when we are discussing the environment and climate change, that climate justice and environmental justice are at the forefront of our minds. As city councilor I have voted to preserve and expand our tree canopy and regulate plastic straw use in the city. But there is much more we could be doing—a lot of the answer involves zoning, the mayor's budget and incentives.

Stephanie Hirsch, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

The Climate Forward plan, which lays out steps to help the city achieve climate neutrality, identifies buildings and transportation as the two carbon sources within the municipal boundary. For buildings, approaches include changing expectations for new construction, such as shifting toward passive house standards, and eliminating investment in natural gas infrastructure for new neighborhoods. Retrofitting buildings that make up a majority of our properties is another problem. The plan suggests creating a rental registry to help monitor baseline energy use and progress on a shift. Changing incentives within the construction and renovation industry will help as well, though I'm not yet sure on the state and federal political process that enables that to happen. The MassSaves program does not add much value in terms of the as-

sessments, and incentives offered do not match the current research on what will help most. For transportation, I believe we should add no new cars in developments, make transit free, and create incentives to enable people most interested in eliminating their private car ownership to become car-free. Both areas of focus can be supported by adding high-density, mixed-income housing, near shared open space and indoor space that adds no new cars.

Kristen Strezo, At-large candidate:

For those who don't know me, I'm a mom of two kids, and I care for my 92-year-old grandmother, and I care for a broad spectrum of family issues. So when it comes to your question, I think the first — first, I love that you brought the attention to air quality, because that's an issue that's really important to me, including sound barriers, I've been doing a lot of work for that, really talking about our air quality, because that's an issue for all of us, we're in this together. And I have been working with air quality and working with residents along the I-93 and how that affects living in that space, and what kind of air filters we can use for best quality of life and air quality and I'm glad that was brought to the attention. I think when it comes to the future of our city and where we go with this, I think it is instrumental that we start putting in solar and renewable energy trade school programs in the high school, and funding that immediately to the next generation, I think that's essential. Divesting of course from fossil fuels, and any form of fracking, not negotiable, and I'm going to work hard for that, continue to, this is for all of us, remember that. I'm honored to serve you, thank you so much.

Jack Connolly, At-large candidate:

I'm a Somerville native, and a former elected official, and someone who has actually been very active with transportation-related issues, getting people out of vehicles. Back in the 70s we realized the Red Line could offer a huge impact. Not only has it done so economically, but it has certainly helped the community and has been a huge economic incentive. Incentive is the name of the game. For over 30 years I've had a solar hot water system at my house, and I can tell you as a father of three girls growing up taking a couple showers a day, I've saved an awful lot of gas as a result of using that solar hot water system. Why aren't we incentivizing people with perhaps a reduction in the property tax for using some of these alternative means of energy? Why aren't we going to the Commonwealth of MA and saying, why don't we give people a reduction in their vehicle registration if they use a hybrid or an electric vehicle? These are the things that a city not only can do, but should be doing. We have the impetus here with people here who are running for office, all of like mind. I think the Mayor of a community like Somerville can certainly help lead the way. We are not moving fast enough as a community to take hold of what we have, one of

the most progressive places in the country. Sen. Ed Markey has led the nation on climate change events, let's continue to do so, we can do that as a community, I'm happy to do that if elected, thank you.

Bill White, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

My plan is to work to implement the City's Climate Action Plan. There are 13 action items and 22 key priority items. One cannot really answer this question in 200 words, so I can only highlight some actions. In our new zoning, adopt requirements that create green, energy efficient buildings. This would include promoting zero energy buildings, passive solar housing, use of solar panels, and creation of usable green and open space. Similarly, provide incentives to landlords of existing buildings to retrofit to become more energy efficient. Increase dedicated bicycle lanes, increase the number of electric vehicle charging stations, and examine the reduction of parking requirements for new construction in transit oriented developments so that new residents will not rely on automobile transportation. Improve our storm water system and require the use of pervious material and remove impervious materials. Expand our tree canopy, protect our current tree canopy and promote resilient and native plantings. We should be aggressive in dealing with natural gas distribution utilities to address gas leaks and to improve their infrastructure and pay for trees killed by natural gas leaks. The City should also lead by example.

JoAnn Riviuccio, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):

that will be 30 years from now, I will probably not be here. I will do my best to make Somerville a Better place to live for my family and yours. First more use of solar energy, passive solar and wind power should be used . for motor vehicle use solely electric and hybrid use I drive a hybrid I fill my car every 3 weeks and most of the time through the city I am driving on electric.

Mary Jo Rossetti, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

Our City's well thought out Climate Action Plan continues to receive my FULL SUPPORT. Just last evening I was happy to sign onto a Council Resolution written as follows: That the Director of Sustainability & Environment and others in the Administration work with this Council to convene a task force to provide recommendations to eliminate the use of natural gas and other fossil fuels in new buildings.

Question 2 asked by Steven Nutter - Our City is a farm, a forest, and a wetland; we just happen to have put a lot of buildings and roads on top of it -- to the point where Somerville is the densest city in New England. Yet the natural environment still offers so much to our city -- from parks that restore our native ecosystems and reduce toxicity in the water

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE: *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records the votes of local representatives and senators from the week of October 14-18.

\$715 MILLION SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 4127)

House 154-0, approved and sent to the Senate a \$715 million fiscal 2020 supplemental budget to cover expenses and to fund various state programs and agencies that are running out of money.

Provisions include \$30 million for the Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program to help low-income elders, working families and other households pay winter heating bills; \$10 million for emergency shelter assistance; \$8 million for the collection and testing of sexual assault evidence kits; and creation of the Massachusetts Veterans and Warriors to Agriculture Program to help the education, training and employment of veterans currently working or who hope to work in the field of agriculture.

The bill did not include Gov. Charlie Baker’s proposal to save taxpayers \$175 million over two years by doubling the tax exemption for taxpayers with children and other dependent relatives who are elderly or have a disability. Instead, the bill deposits \$428 million into the Rainy Day Account, an increase of \$360 million from the governor’s proposed \$168 million deposit. The current Rainy Day Fund is estimated to be at \$3.3 billion.

Supporters said the package is a reasonable and fiscally responsible one that will begin to close out the books on the fiscal 2020 state budget.

No one spoke against the budget during debate on the House floor but Rep. Russell Holmes (D-Boston) was the only person to vote against the budget. Holmes did not respond to repeated requests from Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on why he opposed the bill.

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$715 million budget. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes

\$500 MILLION TO COMBAT FENTANYL TRAFFICKING (H 4127)

House 38-115, rejected an amendment that would establish a \$5 million grant program to help support regional fentanyl interdiction programs focused on combatting fentanyl trafficking.

“There have been thousands of opioid-related overdose deaths recorded in Massachusetts over the last several years, and fentanyl is playing an increasingly larger role in contributing to these fatalities,” said the amendment’s sponsor House GOP Minority Leader Brad Jones (R-North Reading.) “Fentanyl has been present in 92 percent of all opioid-related deaths this year, compared to 30 percent just five years ago ...We need to do everything we can to help law enforcement stop those individuals who are putting this poison on our streets.”

No one spoke against the amendment during debate on the House floor. House budget chief Rep. Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston) did not respond to repeated requests from Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on why he opposed the amendment.

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$5 million program. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	No
Rep. Mike Connolly	No
Rep. Denise Provost	No

MEET BEYOND 9 P.M.

House 125-28, approved a motion to suspend rules to allow the House session to continue beyond 9 p.m. Under House rules, the House cannot meet after 9 p.m. unless the rule is suspended.

Supporters of rule suspension said that the House has business to finish and should stay in session to work on it.

Opponents of rule suspension said it is irresponsible for the House to debate and vote late at night when taxpayers are asleep.

(A “Yes” vote is for meeting beyond 9 p.m. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes

PROTECT DISABLED PERSONS – NICKY’S BILL (S 2367)

Senate 40-0, approved a measure that would establish a registry that identifies individuals who have been found to have committed abuse against persons with disabilities. The measure was filed by Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury) at the request of a constituent who is the mother of Nicky, an intellectually disabled and non-verbal individual.

Nicky had been inappropriately restrained and struck multiple times by her caretaker. Under current law, unless the offender is criminally convicted, no system exists to identify caretakers and prevent them from finding employment with another provider licensed by the state.

“Enacting this registry will help disrupt a cycle of abuse of individuals with disabilities and put in place common-sense protections that families in the commonwealth deserve,” said Sen. Moore. “There are clear benefits to screening prospective employees who intend to work within the licensed caretaker field and I am hopeful that the bill will advance to the governor’s desk to help protect our most vulnerable residents like Nicky.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes
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CHILDREN’S HEALTH (S 2368)

Senate 38-0, approved legislation designed to make it easier for children and their families to navigate the state’s complicated and often difficult to understand health care system. A key provision requires health insurance companies to perform monthly updates of their provider databases that tell patients which doctors and other medical resources are available to them. Patients complain that many physicians are listed as local and taking new patients despite having retired, moved or stopped accepting new patients.

The measure also allows foster children to remain covered by MassHealth until they turn 26, the same option that children covered by their parents’ private

insurance currently have; allows children who have aged out of the foster care system to automatically be enrolled in MassHealth; examines the barriers to mental and behavioral health supports for children; establishes a commission to study mandated reporting laws and provides for increased education around child sex abuse and exploitation.

“The wellbeing of children has been a longtime priority of mine, and I am thrilled that our chamber has passed this comprehensive piece of legislation,” said Assistant Majority Leader Sen. Sal DiDomenico (D-Everett). “By ensuring continuous healthcare coverage until age 26 for these young people, we guarantee they have the same access to basic healthcare that their peers are afforded. We are giving more at-risk youth across the commonwealth a better chance to lead a healthy and successful life. I am confident that legislation will go a long way towards helping thousands of children access the healthcare coverage they deserve.”

The House has already approved a different version of the bill. A House-Senate conference committee will likely be appointed to hammer out a compromise version.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes
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ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDES IN CURRICULUM (H566) – The Education Committee is considering a proposal that requires every school district to include in its curriculum a unit of instruction on the Holocaust and genocide. It provides that these topics will be taught in middle school and/or high school with the specific grades to be decided by the local authority.

“Education is key to combating hatred and by including genocide in the curriculum students will have the opportunity to explore how stereotypes, prejudice, and religious and ethnic hatred can escalate to atrocity,” said the bill’s sponsor Rep. Jeff Roy (D-Franklin). “Inclusion of genocide education also seeks to deter indifference to crimes against humanity and human suffering wherever they may occur. It has been said that no problem in the world poses the question on what it means to be human quite like genocide, because genocide is not simply about killing people, but about destroying humanity.”

LOWER TOLLS DURING OFF-PEAK HOURS (S 2033) – The Transportation Committee held a hearing on legislation requiring the state to design and implement a statewide program for transponder users that charges toll rates that are different depending on time of day and are at least 25 percent lower during off-peak hours.

Supporters say the bill is designed to encourage motorists to travel during non-peak hours and help relieve the traffic congestion in the state.

ELECTION LAWS – The Committee on Election laws held a hearing on several bills including giving cities and towns the option to allow local business owners who pay the community more than \$1,000 in taxes to vote in local municipal elections (H 3650); establishing a pilot program to provide for convenient voting via smart phone for military personnel, their families and civilians

Beacon Hill Roll Call

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stationed or working abroad who are allowed to register and vote (H 3763); and requiring voters to show identification at their polling places in order to be allowed to vote (H 658).

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"I've been very particular and specific ... about staying out of presidential politics and I continue to plan to stay there because the one thing I do know is the minute I get into talking about presidential politics that's all anybody's going to want to talk to me about every single day and I would much rather talk about issues that I was hired by the people of Massachusetts to work on." — Gov. Baker on the Greg Hill Show on WEEI Radio.

"Our communities and businesses face a barrage of attempted ransomware attacks, hacks and data breaches daily. So it's not an exaggeration when I say that we're under siege and we need to be resilient and ready at all times. That means making sure that the vibrant state economy that we have has all the best minds and is in the best position to thwart these attacks." — Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland) on the Baker administration's announcement of a new \$300,000 effort to help each of the state's 351 cities and towns bolster their cybersecurity readiness.

"The unemployment rate in Massachusetts has held at 2.9 percent for the third consecutive month and is six-tenths of a percentage point below the U.S. rate. Massachusetts is estimated to have now added 286,100 jobs since the previous high level in February of 2001,

and 350,000 jobs from the April 2008 pre-recession peak." — Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Rosalin Acosta.

"We know that in this line of work, there are often times when your feet are tired, but your soul is rested. Our goal today is to give you sustenance so that at the end of each day going forward, your souls may be rested." — Jim Klocke ,CEO of the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network at their annual conference that brings together nonprofits, funders, business leaders and elected officials to strengthen nonprofits and raise the sector's voice on critical issues.

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

During the week of October 14-18, the House met for a total of 11 hours and 24 minutes while the Senate met for a total of two hours and 19 minutes.

Mon. Oct. 14	No House session No Senate session
Tues. Oct. 15	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 11:16 a.m.
Wed. Oct. 16	House 11:02 a.m. to 9:48 p.m. No Senate session
Thurs. Oct. 17	House 11:06 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Senate 1:00 p.m. to 3:07 p.m.
Fri. Oct. 18	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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Candidate Climate Forum responses

CONT. FROM PG 5

and the air, to living open spaces that help restore our residents' well-being, to green infrastructure that protects us from flooding, to surfaces and tree canopies that shield us from the effects of longer summer heat waves. If broad swaths of residents care about the land inside our borders, celebrate our local environment, and participate in the growing cycle, we can make change together that is more equitable, more resilient, and more livable. How do you feel we can re-engage residents to participate in our local, natural environment?

Will Mbah, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):
Great question! I was really pleased to vote yes on the tree preservation ordinance in my first term and preserving the local, natural environment is of the utmost importance to me. I think programs like Groundwork Somerville (also our many community gardens) help community members engage with and understand their local, natural environment and can serve as a model.

Stephanie Hirsch, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):
If we were to take only data-informed approaches to what steps have the biggest impact on the carbon footprint, we might direct spending to retrofit homes somewhere else where there's a bigger impact per dollar spent. Also, some priorities don't have a big impact on the carbon footprint, but do impact other aspects of our world, including climate resiliency, air quality, waste reduction, and preservation

or re-creation of habitats (eg. pollinator gardens, forest habitats.) We probably need to find a balance between taking steps that have the biggest impact and taking steps that are ones we can see and experience. An example of an issue like that is waste reduction in our schools. In prior years, school cafeterias allowed for no recycling (despite the law requiring it), and cafeterias threw out an enormous amount of food waste. With advocacy, this year schools have composing and recycling in each school. And we are working to set up systems by which children can save whole foods they haven't eaten. Among students I know, this shift has been very exciting and has led to their interest in other aspects of climate change and habitat preservation.

JoAnn Riviuccio, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):
first I feel being so densely populated we should stop the insanity. Somerville should have and should still use all of our unused building to housing 100% affordable housing,. We need to add more trees.

Jack Connolly, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):
1. We should educate all residents on what non-engagement is doing. 2. We should implement education, programs, and/or curriculum in Somerville school systems about climate control, conservation measures for individuals and households, saving heat light and power through insulation, and learning more about the free program Mass Save.

Mary Jo Rossetti, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):
Every ResiStat meeting should always include this dialogue. As an At-Large Councilor, I always attempt to attend each and every Ward meeting, most of which are very well attended. Bringing this important conversation at the beginning of each Ward meeting would reap benefits to all.

Bill White, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):
The City holds a clean up once a year. We have major successes in promoting events such as Art Beat and the Fluff Festival. We should hold at least one major festival in the City with a local, natural environment theme. It could be fun and educational at the same time. Together with the Garden Club, we could promote competition among our residents to plant instead of pave and have a garden contest with tours of the various gardens. We would emphasize native plantings in these gardens. We could mobilize folks to participate as tree wardens, looking to care for city planted trees. I also think that it is important to incorporate children into the need to preserve our local, natural environment. This could be accomplished by field trips to places like the Mystic/River and Draw 7 Park. Also, all of our schools could have gardens to use as a learning experience for students.

Question 3 asked by Tina Lu - As a Somerville resident who bikes daily with my son

to school and work, I enjoy my daily time to bond with my child, reduce my carbon footprint by not driving a car, and engage in aerobic activity. However, with each commute, I am reminded of the following issues:

1. *With increased aerobic activity, we are breathing in more air and breathing it more deeply into our lungs. Our bike route is along busy streets (without bike lanes), where we are breathing in a constant stream of car exhaust.*

2. *While my son is a great biker, I am constantly worried for his safety during our commutes. We need more designated bike lanes to incentivize those who might be scared of biking in the city to be willing to try it out.*

3. *With more and more people moving into Somerville, we need to incentivize community members to use greener methods of commuting. We need to get more cars off the road and motivate people to use public transportation, bike or walk. What are your strategies for how you aim to make an impact in this area?*

Stephanie Hirsch, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):
Making streets safer has been one of my top issues since getting elected. As a household, we have not had a car since 2011, and certain factors have made that easier (access to transit, doing everything locally, mobile technology, and services like Zipcar.) See here for a related article: <https://somerville.wickedlocal.com/news/20190423/hirsch-thoughts-on-car-free-living-in-somerville> I believe that we should focus on helping any household that wants to give up a car – and that is probably

Sean Collier Memorial Fundraiser



7th Annual Sean Collier Memorial Fundraiser took place over the weekend Lyndell's Bakery on Broadway in Somerville. They had Boston sports memorabilia that they raffled off, along with gift cards and much more. \$1 from every half-moon sold went to the Sean Collier Memorial Fundraiser.

Over the years, the owners of Lyndell's have always created ways to give back to the community and participate in efforts to help others. In 2013, when the Boston Marathon Bombing occurred and MIT officer Sean Collier was gunned down, David Galatis, a member of the family, wanted to create a fundraiser that would help perpetuate Sean's memory and heroism.

In the Fall of 2014, David along with help from the Somerville Auxiliary Police and the Collier Family created The Sean Collier Memorial Scholarship that would be awarded annually to Somerville High School seniors interested in pursuing a career in Law enforcement.

Lyndell's offered to contribute \$1.00 for every famous half-moon sold and also sponsor a raffle with extraordinary prizes. In six years, since 2013, the annual drive has raised over \$40,000 for the fund with Lyndell's setting aside one weekend each year in October for the fundraising activities. This year's will be added to that amount.

The Galatis Family will pledge to continue to host and support this annual event until the \$100,000 mark is reached. It is the Family's way of paying tribute to Sean Collier's memory and assure that others understand the sacrifice Sean made to protect us all.

The Sean Collier Memorial Scholarship Fund is a separate permanent endowment fund under the auspices of the Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation. For more information about Lyndell's Bakery, go to Lyndells.com.



The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #190

All Hallows' Eve

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Halloween, the last day of October and the day before the Christian, All Saints Day, had its origin in ancient Celtic lore. It was considered a time of year when both good and evil spirits and ghosts flourished. Bonfires were lit, masks were made, jack-o-lanterns were carved out, and witches were said to have haunted the skies on brooms. Most of these fables and myths never crossed the ocean, but some unfortunately took root here.



Some say the Mystic River's name was originated from old women who gathered medicinal and mystical herbs along its shore. They gathered them to help the sick, but suspicious minds accused them of being witches. In 1648, Margaret Jones of Charlestown was the first woman in the Massachusetts Bay Colony to be executed for witchcraft. This occurred forty-four years before the Salem Witch Trials. Governor Winthrop of Ten Hills presided at her trial.



During the American Revolutionary War, Somerville's hills were a prison to over 4,000 prisoners of war, half British troops and half German/Hessians. Through the years, ghost stories have flourished about their stay there.

Washington Irving, the author of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, a Halloween classic, wrote

Continued on page 20

CENTURY 21

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Manuel’s story: caregiving is about good relationships

By Nathan Lamb

Surrounded by his artwork and mementos of the many lives he’s touched, Manuel loves his home in Somerville.

On this day he’s at the kitchen table, telling the story of how an art student at his last job painted a large portrait of him, which hangs on a nearby wall.

“She was very talented,” he said. “I worked with so many good people.”

Manuel, 83, puts a high value on positive relationships. His daughter Lisa has a similar outlook, explaining how their extended family lives together and she provides assistance for her parents.

“I love my mom and dad,” she said. “I can’t imagine them not living with us as a family unit.”

Lisa is a caregiver through the Adult Family Care (AFC) program, which provides support and assistance for family caregivers. The program provides monthly training and support from a nurse and social worker, and Lisa said they’ve been a

great resource.

“They always come with such great ideas and suggestions,” she said. “They are so dedicated and knowledgeable.”

Lisa provides daily assistance for Manuel and her mother Gloria, with her daughter Erika helping too. AFC Social Worker Allison Alaimo credited Lisa for going above and beyond as a family caregiver.

“This home is full of love and music and cooking and dancing,” said Alaimo. “This house is so full of life, and it all starts with her.”

The family connected with AFC through Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) in 2017. Manuel was receiving Home Care services through SCES and his family looked into AFC on the advice of their primary care physician.

Originally from Colombia, Manuel has fond memories of the people he met while in the army there. He has similar recollections about his days as a hospital councilor and working at an art museum. In talking



Caregiving is an inter-generational effort for Lisa (right), Manuel (second from left) and Gloria (center). The family enjoys monthly support and assistance from Allison (left) and Donna (second from right), of the Adult Family Care program.

with him, it was clear that Alaimo and his AFC nurse, Donna Lopes, are also high on that list of happy fellowships.

“They are the most beautiful people I’ve ever met,” he said.

“They make me feel so happy.”

Adult Family Care is a non-profit program of Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services that supports in-home caregivers across the Greater

Boston, North Shore, and Merrimack Valley areas. For more information, visit adultfamilycare.org or call 617-628-2601.



Sally O’Brien’s
335 Somerville Ave.
617-666-3589



MONDAY October 28
Comedy Night! The Up n Coming Open Mic 7 p.m.
Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

TUESDAY October 29
TBA

WEDNESDAY October 30
Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.

THURSDAY October 31
BT/ALC Big Band Halloween Extravaganza!
\$10 cover 8 p.m.

FRIDAY November 1
TBA

SATURDAY November 2
TBA

SUNDAY November 3
TBA



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Somerville Community Greening Celebration



The Somerville Community Growing Center and Somerville Garden Club welcome you to join us for their Somerville Community Greening Celebration. On Sunday, November 10, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., come celebrate 25 years of “community greening” with the Somerville Community Growing Center and Somerville Garden Club.

Let’s get together and:
Celebrate 25 years of history together
Get to know one another
Learn more about the great work each organization does
Enjoy live music, food, drink, and a raffle

Suggested donation: \$10.

Location: Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Rd, Somerville.
This event is free, but please let them know to expect you by RSVPing at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/somerville-community-greening-celebration-tickets-76316321171>



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COMMENTARY

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

Be Somerville



By Joseph A. Curtatone

A monthly look at ways to get involved with your city: Don't just live in Somerville, be Somerville!

Don't Forget to Vote, November 5

Remember to visit your polling place on Tuesday, November 5, to cast your ballot in the municipal election. This year there are contested races for Mayor, Councilor-at-Large, and Ward 3 School Committee. Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and if you're not sure where you vote, you can use the address lookup tool at www.somervillema.gov/mysomerville to find out. Because of ongoing construction at Somerville High School, the polling locations for

Ward 3 Precincts 1 and 2 have been relocated. Ward 3 Precinct 1 residents will vote at Properzi Manor, 13-25 Warren Ave., and Ward 3 Precinct 2 residents will vote at the Cummings School, using the entrance at 42 Prescott St. You can find more information about the upcoming election and voting at www.somervillema.gov/elections.

Ward 4 ResiStat, October 24

Join us for the final ResiStat neighborhood meeting of the fall season in Ward 4. The meeting is at the Healey School, 5 Meacham St., from 6:30 to 8 p.m., but come at 6 to enjoy pizza and other refreshments. You can get updates on citywide issues, as well as things happening in your neighborhood and there is time before, during, and after the meeting to ask questions and talk with elected officials, City staff, and your neighbors. If you missed your Ward's meeting this round, visit www.somervillema.gov/resistat to see a copy of the slides and don't forget to keep an

eye out for the spring schedule. A great way to find out about ResiStat and other upcoming meetings is to subscribe to our City newsletter at www.somervillema.gov/newsletter.

Update on Tufts Partnership Agreement Negotiations Community Meeting, October 30

Get an update on negotiations with Tufts University on a partnership agreement at a community meeting on Wednesday, October 30. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. at the TAB, 167 Holland St. Last year the City sought feedback from residents about they would like to see in the new partnership agreement and that information has helped to guide the current negotiations. You can learn more at www.somervillema.gov/TuftsPILOT.

Share Feedback on Community Preservation Act Funding Requests by November 1

Somerville's Community Preservation Committee is seeking feedback on five requests for

Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding it received for fiscal year 2020. There were five applications submitted – three for open space projects and two for historic preservation. A portion of CPA funds will also be allocated to the Affordable Housing Trust, which will release its own call for applications later in the year. You can learn more about this year's proposals at www.somervillema.gov/cpa. Comments on the proposals can be sent to CPA Manager Judith Tumusiime at jtumusiime@somervillema.gov by Friday, November 1.

Foss Park Community Meetings, October 30 and November 13

Join your neighbors in talking about how Foss Park can meet community needs at one of two upcoming meetings. The first is on Wednesday, October 30, and the Healey School, 5 Meacham St. and the second is on Wednesday, November 13, at the East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St. Both

meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. Although you're welcome to attend both meetings, you won't miss any information if you attend one. At each meeting there will be discussions held in Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Kreyol, and English.

City Alerts

Get important City notifications for snow emergencies, construction, detours, and other public safety matters delivered to your phone (voice and text) and/or your email. Sign up for alerts at www.somervillema.gov/alerts.

City Newsletter

For weekly updates on city cultural and civic events, City services, job openings, and more, sign up for the City e-newsletter at www.somervillema.gov/newsletter.

City Calendar

Look up city events and meetings (as well as agendas and minutes) 24/7 on the City calendar at www.somervillema.gov.

Candidate Climate Forum responses

CONT. FROM PG 7

a majority of households – achieve that goal. Additional steps include: making transit free, adding bus rapid transit and bicycle infrastructure, creating incentives, challenging neighborhoods to (if there is consensus on the block) convert some street area to other uses such as open space, and taking many steps to achieve zero traffic fatalities (see here: <http://www.stephanieforsomerville.com/positions>) That said, in too many cases, lined up along with differences in background. I think we need to listen to all voices and have thoughtful community processes and careful implementation plans. While sustainable mobility tops my list, also at the top of my list is preserving an integrated and inclusive community. It will take care and empathy to continue to work on both goals.

Kristen Strezo, At-large candidate:

When I hear this question, I see this very much as an equity issue and bringing everyone to the table. I also echo that that we don't want to make this a cars versus bikes issue. Caring for my 92 year old grandmother, I can't put her on a bike. I have to drive her to the cardiologist. Biking is not an option. The most important thing is communication and being on the same page. We got the bike lanes recently put in on Broadway and I'm really for them. But if we don't have proper communication, my concern is that we're going to have some injuries because if we have drivers confused on

how to use them, I don't want a cyclist in any way being part of that confusion. You can all help by getting the information and communication out there on the bus lines and how to properly use them. This is a community effort. I want more safe bike lanes. I want more safe methods of transportation. But we have to do this with communication, together as a team. And that's one of my goals, as I see this.

JoAnn Riviuccio, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):

We need to have the automobile industry introduce only hybrid and electric vehicles. Many will ride bikes and take the MBTA but there will still be cars. I have observed many park their cars for days causing parking issues and probably ride a bike or take T. possibly walk all great alternatives.

Jack Connolly, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):

My strategies are to improve public transportation by working with others to make it more reliable and on time. We need to prepare for when the Green-line opens because it will be a 10 minute walk from a bus or a streetcar now possible to 80% of the City.

Mary Jo Rossetti, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

At our next Council Meeting, I plan to submit an Order requesting the Admin-

istration consider erecting banners along the roadways (as college campuses do), highlighting actual pictures of families, young & old, walking or bicycling. As for encouraging public transportation, we have a lot of work to do in collaboration with our state leaders.

Will Mbah, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

I think we need to build more protected bike lanes in the city, more storage and parking for bikes, and we need to make the roads safer for pedestrians and bikers alike. We need to take some of these issues to the statehouse- we need transit that works for working people and it should be FREE, we shouldn't be raising the price of public transit at a time when we need people to use it more than ever. It is an issue of climate change, but also an issue of environmental justice and equity.

Bill White, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

Once the Green Line Extension is opened together with the Community Path, there will be less reliance on automobile use. I suspect that many of our new residents will be attracted by the new Green Line Extension transit stops and Community Path in the City. Our zoning will promote transit oriented development to utilize these transit stops and will drastically reduce on site parking requirements and restrict parking permits for new developments. As such, it is rea-

sonable to believe that many of our future residents will not own motor vehicles. We may also have to restrict parking by zones in the City so that folks will walk to the T stops instead of driving and parking near them. Because of the important role that the Community Path will play, we have to design the feeder bicycle lanes and walkways to tie into the Community Path in a safe manner. For the other parts of the City, we need additional designated bike lanes. New developments must also be designed to be bicycle and pedestrian friendly, especially for those with mobility issues.

Question 4 asked by Meredith Elbaum - The City is committed to being Carbon Neutral by 2050 and as you know, buildings account for 66% of GHG emissions in Somerville. Any building we build in Somerville today that is not zero energy we would need to spend more money to retrofit in the future to hit our 2050 goals. This is akin to scoring on our own net on the soccer field. A new report released by the US Green Building Council MA, finds that Zero Energy Buildings are feasible today for low and no added upfront costs. They are in fact great investments. The report debunks the myth that Zero Energy buildings need to cost more money. What's your plan for all new construction to be Zero Energy?

Stephanie Hirsch, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

Continued on page 17

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Happy Halloween, Somerville!

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 observe the divisions and discord that has been so prevalent in our society over the past few years.

The local election is just around the corner, and the national election is coming up next year. The balance of power in Washington will be in play, and more than ever it seems as though so much will be at stake in that particular election cycle, no matter which side we align with.

But first comes an old friendly tradition: the celebration of Halloween. We are treated to the sights and sounds of kids dressing up and role playing, going door-to-door gather their sweets, and just plain having fun in the doing.

Grown-ups have their celebration 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 we all need.

So, take this advice and join in with the kids a little. Wear a silly costume. Cut loose at a festive party. Be a kid again yourself, 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. It couldn’t hurt, and it just might ease a few unwanted tensions.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

city. A special happy birthday to our good friend and Winter Hill resident, **Vicki Potaris**, who is one of Somerville's nicest ladies. A great mother, sister and daughter, always helpful and considerate. Happy birthday to everyone here and from the city who is celebrating this week. We wish every one of them a very happy birthday.

The **annual flu vaccine clinics** offered by the **City of Somerville Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** are back. All clinics offer free flu vaccines for Somerville residents ages three and older (children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian). Clinics will be held at various times and locations in the community until the city’s supply of vaccine is exhausted. Due to limited availability, vaccines will be offered during official flu clinic hours only. While there is no charge for vaccinations, attendees are asked to bring an insurance card if available, including Medicaid cards. Residents requiring additional assistance or other accommodations should contact the Health and Human Services Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 4320. The city will add or adjust clinic schedules as necessary, and the most up to date information can always be found at

www.somervillema.gov or by calling 311 (617-666-3311).

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and members of the **Tufts Partnership Negotiating Committee** invite residents to a community meeting on **Wednesday, October 30**, for an update on the current status of negotiations with Tufts University about a new **Partnership Agreement** between the city and the university. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the **TAB Building**, 167 Holland St. The previous Partnership Agreement expired on June 30, 2018. In addition to Tufts’ Payments in Lieu of Taxes (aka “PILOT” payments”), the Partnership Agreement covers issues related to student housing, partnership with Somerville schools, the university’s planning process, and other topics. More information about that process is available at www.somervillema.gov/TuftsPILOT.

As part of **Community Media Week**, enjoy a stroll down memory lane with the special SCATV throwback screening of **The Wonderful World of Public Access TV**, hosted at the **Arts at the Armory Cafe**. **October 23**, 6:30 – 8 p.m. This short retrospective screening will be an engaging and curated

experience some of SCATV's hidden gems from the past 35+ years. Spoiler: Think **"Somerville Dance Party!"** This 60-minute curated experience is supported by the help of friends at **Buy Me, Boston Video Loft** and **Brian Coleman**. For more info visit: <http://www.BuyMeBoston.com> To find the full list of Community Media Week events and to support this weeklong Fundraising Drive, visit: <https://www.somervillemedia.org/cmw2019/>

Do you have **unused or expired prescription medication** in your home? Dispose of them the safe way. Bring medication you no longer need to the **Somerville Public Safety Building**, 220 Washington St. or **Somerville Fire Department**, 6 Newbury Street, **Saturday, October 26**, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Drop-offs are anonymous. For your own privacy, please remove any identifying information from medication bottles before you arrive. There is always a permanent **Med Return Drug Collection Kiosk** in the lobby of the **Somerville Police Department**, 220 Washington Street in Somerville. Disposal is free, anonymous and available 24/7.

The Duhamel Education Initiative

(DEI) invites you to its annual **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** to support the good work of Somerville’s teachers. The event takes place **Saturday, October 26**, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the **First Church Somerville**, UCC 89 College Ave. in Somerville. Tickets are \$12 adult, \$9 -senior, \$6 child, or \$30 family. Enjoy a fantastic spaghetti dinner and support Somerville youth.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the **City Council** invite residents to the **Fall 2019 ResiStat Community Meetings**, a twice-yearly effort to share the latest city news, data, and neighborhood updates directly with residents and gather their feedback. ResiStat is both a great way to learn more about what’s happening in your neighborhood and around Somerville and a chance to talk with elected officials, city staff, and neighbors. A social half hour before the meeting and time after the meeting provide an easy opportunity for one-on-one chats. Pizza and kid-friendly, healthy snacks will be served too. This week's meetings: **Ward 7 Wed, Oct 23 - West Somerville Neighborhood School Cafeteria**, 177 Powder House Blvd. **Ward 4: Thu, Oct 24 - Healey School Cafeteria**, 5 Meacham St.

'Monster Mashed-Up' at SomerStreets

CONT. FROM PG 1

a guided tour of the grave sites. At each site a “ghost” engaged in conversation about his or her life in Somerville in centuries past.



Photos by Claudia Ferro

SPORTS

SHS Football loses one to Everett

By Adam Parise

Your Somerville Highlanders were back in action last Friday evening, October 18, 2019 as they played one of the best teams in the MIAA, the Everett Crimson Tide. The game was played at Everett Memorial Stadium with kickoff at 5:00 p.m. Somerville dropped a heart-breaker to Everett with a final score of 50-7. The team's only touchdown was scored by Quar-

terback Louis Montana, which came in the first quarter. The Crimson Tide kept rolling as they scored a total of 37 points before the first half ended and also added 14 more points. The Somerville Highlanders fall to 1-6 on the season while Everett improves to 7-1. The next game for the Highlanders is on Friday, October 25, 2019 at Hormel Stadium vs the winless Medford Mustangs at 6:00p.m.



Everett High School's Crimson Tide rolled over the SHS Highlanders last Friday in 50-7 point rout. — Photos by Adam Parise

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#702

1. What is the difference between apple cider and apple juice?

2. When did Massachusetts ban Happy Hour in bars?

3. Who is American pioneer nurseryman John Chapman better known as?

4. What is the oldest city park in the United States?

5. Where was the first Dunkin' Dounts located?

6. What was Nirvana's first single?

7. What is the oldest producer of chocolate in the United States?

8. What kind of fruit is a SugarBee?

9. What is the official state sport of Alaska?

10. What music video did actress Keri Russell appear in?

11. Where was candlepin bowling was first played?

12. Where did the largest-value recorded theft of private property in history take place?

Answers on page 21



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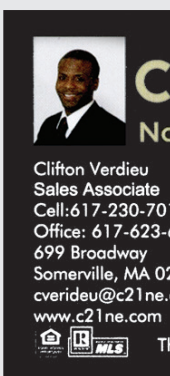
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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

GEORGE J. PROAKIS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the **Zoning Board of Appeals** on **Wednesday, November 6, 2019** at 6:00 p.m. at the **Visiting Nurse Association, 3rd Floor Community Room, 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA** to discuss the following in addition to any other items previously advertised and listed on the ZBA agenda. Please check the city website 48 hours prior to the start of the ZBA meeting to view the hearing status of pending projects.

8 Sycamore Street (ZBA 2019-61): Applicant, Creative Property Solutions, LLC, and Owner, Eight Sycamore Trust, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property including increasing the GFA by more than 25% and under \$7.11 to change from 3 to 5 residential units. Parking relief under Article 9 for number of spaces and providing compact spaces. RC zone. Ward 4.

103 Washington (ZBA 2019-xxx): Applicant & Owner, Clover Leaf Capital Holdings, LLC, seek an Extension to their Special Permit under §5.3.10 of the SZO to exercise their previous approval for a mixed-use building with one commercial unit and 6 residential units. RC zone. Ward 1.

121-123 Washington Street (ZBA 2019-111): Applicant & Owner, Wooden Teeth, LLC, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property to build a mixed-use building. A Special Permit under §7.11.1 to establish 5 residential units and a Special Permit with Design Review for a café in a commercial space. Parking relief under Article 9. RC zone. Ward 1.

110-112 Yorktown Street (ZBA 2019-106): Applicant, Sean Anderson, and Owners, Basam, Kim, Rahman, and Bashar Nabulsi, seek a special permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by constructing a dormer within the left side yard setback. RB Zone. Ward 7.

17-25 Murdock Street and 227-229 Cedar Street (ZBA 2016-129-R2-10/19): Applicant and Owner, Cedar Murdock Partners, LLC, seeks a revision to their previously approved special permit with site plan review under SZO §5.3.8 in order to change the height of the foundation for building 5 due to ground water levels. RB zone. Ward 5.


41 Myrtle Street (ZBA 2018-65-R1-10/19): Applicant, JC Mercer Development, and Owner, 41 Myrtle Street Realty Trust, seek a revision under SZO §5.3.8 to revise a previously approved special permit by altering the site plan. A special permit under SZO §9.13 is also required to modify parking design standards. RB Zone. Ward 1.

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30pm www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning.

As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending a meeting. **Continued cases will not be re-advertised.** Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

Attest: Sarah Lewis, Planning Director
As published in The Somerville Times on 10/23/19 & 10/30/19

10/23/19 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
REBID IFB#20-22

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:

Vactor Truck Repair, Service and Parts

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at <http://www.somerville-ma.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids> or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **10/23/2019**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **11/06/2019 2:30PM EST**. 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 contract term shall be for a period of 1 year from 11/01/2019 to 10/31/2020.

Please contact Prajkta Waditwar at pwaditwar@somervillema.gov for more information.

Angela M. Allen
Purchasing Director
617-625-6600 x. 3400

10/23/19 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 11/11/2019 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Hanwei Zhu unit #2413; Judith Nunes/Vinfin Corp. unit #307B; East End House unit #3383. 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.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is to inform you that the Somerville Housing Authority (SHA)' s waiting list for the Standard Federal Family Public Housing for the one (1) waiting list will remain **CLOSED** until **October 15, 2020**.

The SHA will continue accepting **EMERGENCY** applications for the State and Federal Family Public Housing waiting list.

The SHA is currently accepting State applications for the one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4) and five (5) bedrooms public housing waiting list and Standard Federal for two (2), three (3), four (4), five (5) bedrooms public housing waiting list. It will also continue accepting applications for the State and Federal Elderly/Disabled Public Housing and Section 8 Rental Assistance Programs.

Applications can be obtained on line at www.sha-web.org by phone at 617-625-1152, and/or in person at the Administration Office, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, or at the Tenant Selection Office, 530 Mystic Avenue, Somerville. The offices are opened Monday-Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon).

10/23/19 The Somerville Times




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IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE

The Somerville Housing Authority (SHA) announces a **PUBLIC HEARING** regarding the **2020 Annual Plan** on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 4:45 p.m., at Properzi Manor, 13-25 Warren Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts. The Plan and related documents are available at the Somerville Housing Authority, 30 Memorial Road and the City of Somerville, Housing Division, 50 Evergreen Ave, Somerville, Massachusetts during regular business hours. A forty-five (45) day review and comment period will commence on Wednesday, October 31, 2019. Any questions may be directed to Kevin Bumpus, Director of Operations at 617-625-1152.



10/23/19 The Somerville Times



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The **Somerville** Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **Mystic River Penthouse Door Replacement Project, SHA Job#1902, DHCD Fish#274126** for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **EHA Design, Inc., dated October 15, 2019**.

The Project consists of: **Work is to furnish all labor, materials and equipment, as necessary to complete the penthouse door replacement. Work is to include the complete removal and legal disposal of the existing penthouse doors and hinges, the preparation, minor repair and priming of the existing steel door framing, and the installation of new steel door and hinges with new door hardware.**

The work is estimated to cost **\$52,000.00** and estimated to be completed in **60 days**.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §526 to 27H inclusive.

For projects with an estimated construction cost of over \$100,000, by DHCD contractual requirement, General Bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM), according to Article 2.1 in Section 00.21.00 Instructions to Bidders, in the category of: General Contracting No Filed Sub Bids are required.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Thursday, November 7, 2019, online** and publicly opened, forthwith.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. Tutorials and instruction on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer). All Bids will be submitted online at www.biddocsonline.com and received no later than the date and time specified above.

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

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for pick-up at: www.biddocsonline.com on **October 23, 2019** (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested)

There is a plan deposit of **\$ 50.00** per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to the Awarding Authority.

Deposits must be a certified or cashier's check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders upon return of the sets in good condition within thirty days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise the deposit shall be the property of the Awarding Authority.


Additional sets may be purchased for **\$ 50.00 per set**.

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for **\$ 40.00 per set**, payable to the Awarding Authority, to cover mail handling costs.

The job site and/or existing building will be available for inspection at **Time 10:30 A.M. on October 30, 2019**.

For an appointment call **Somerville Housing Authority, Department of Modernization, (617) 625-1152**.

10/16/19, 10/23/19 The Somerville Times



LEGAL NOTICE
City of Somerville, Massachusetts
SOMERVILLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
Mayor

Community Preservation Act Funds are available for Affordable Housing Development/Housing Support Programs in the City of Somerville.

The Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund (SAHTF) is conducting its annual process of local distribution of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds that are designated for Somerville community housing projects and programs. Approximately \$848,241 in FY20 CPA Housing funds will be made available through two competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) processes to provide funding for:

- The creation, acquisition or preservation of affordable rental or home-ownership units in Somerville by developers of affordable housing.
- The support of affordable housing in Somerville by housing program providers (rental assistance programs, etc.).

The two RFPs will be posted and available starting on October 23, 2019. The proposal submission deadline for both RFPs is 3:00pm on Monday, December 9, 2019.

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

More information about eligible uses and funding priorities is available in pages 1-2 of each RFPs.

For questions please contact Heidi Burbidge, Housing Programs Coordinator, City of Somerville, (617) 625-6600 x2587 or by email at hburbidge@somervillema.gov

10/23/19 The Somerville Times

Candidate Climate Forum responses

CONT. FROM PG 10

Thanks to the work of advocates, the zoning overhaul includes incentives for buildings to meet new standards, however, it does not go so far as to require buildings to meet these standards. That is something we as a Council and community should consider. My only concern is how that requirement may impact incentives to create affordable housing. Whether or not we can do both is worth researching. As I mentioned in the forum, I believe all new development must add value to our community, and currently, in my opinion, the in-fill development of five or fewer units too often takes away value from our community by reducing the percent affordable units, and impacting traffic and flooding. I will be advocating that all of this infill development meet zero energy standards and add no new parking cars to the community. Perhaps innovation in this sub-sector will provide more examples of what can happen in other development.

Kristen Strezo, At-large candidate:

I don't really have much more to add. I'm all for it. I'm really grateful for your activism in bringing that point forward, I'm on board, I am grateful to work alongside all that want to put that forward. Let's go now, it's awesome!

JoAnn Riveccio, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):

Solar energy, passive solar and wind turbine energy. I super insulated my house 20 yrs ago. Higher R factor in the roof and walls. more efficient windows with quilted shades on runners helps energy waste and cost. adding solar panels for heating water for heat, hot water and adding piping under flooring helps as well. By doing these improvements they say you will be able to warm your house with a light bulb. Maybe all these options can help ...

Jack Connolly, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):

One of my plans for all new construction to be Zero Energy is to propose awarding tax credits towards maximum zero energy efforts and the use of solar or alternative energy resources. Mary Jo Rossetti, At-large candidate for reelection - (answer submitted in writing) My experiences advocating in this direction during discussions of the SHS renovation project, disappointingly brought to light the challenges we have in getting developers and others to understand its vital importance for all our futures. As we continue to discuss our Zoning Overhaul, I continue to advocate for Passive housing as one example. A Passive house is "a rigorous, voluntary standard for energy efficiency in a building, which reduces the building's ecological footprint. It results in ultra-low energy buildings that require little energy for space heating or cooling."

Will Mbah, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

We need to be more upfront with this information with developers and have it guide our choices on big development projects. We can also think about how to incorporate this into our zoning regulations, to make a true commitment to it.

Bill White, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

Under Massachusetts law, we cannot impose requirements on new construction that go beyond the State building code. I would lobby and urge the State to adopt a zero energy code. The referenced Green Building Council report stated that buildings can be Zero Energy for upfront costs of 0 – 7%, and with zero energy, all types break even in eight years or less when there are no additional upfront costs. Therefore, we can create incentives for new construction to off-set the up front costs so that developers who want to realize financial benefits (say added height) have to be zero energy. Likewise, where developers are seeking special permits or require other types of special approvals, those approvals can be conditioned upon requirements to make their buildings carbon neutral. If the City sells City property to developers, we can condition the sale upon requirements of being zero energy. With regard to the construction of our own buildings, zero energy is within our control and should be utilized.

Question 5 asked by Julia Taliesin for Julie Wood - Although no one really thinks of Somerville as a "waterfront" community we have an impressive amount of river front shoreline, and some recent developments have made the river more accessible and celebrated in the community. That being said, the City has not always made river protection and water quality a priority, whether it's working to reduce combined sewer overflows or improve stormwater treatment. Investments in green infrastructure, riverbank restoration, and expanding tree canopy would help not only clean the Mystic and Charles Rivers but protect our community from climate-related weather extremes. Would you support making these investments? What additional ideas do you have to ensure the City is doing what it can to protect the river and prepare to potential future flooding?

Stephanie Hirsch, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

I have supported the City's efforts to separate sewer/stormwater systems and to improve water/sewer infrastructure, including by voting yes to support rate increases, despite very significant frustration from voters on the additional utility cost. I support the steps mentioned in the Climate Forward plan, including a combination of: 1. Investment in major city water/sewer projects to separate water and storm water and add/maintain capacity; and 2. Increase requirements for on-site water management plans for properties. In terms of cleaning the Mys-

tic and Charles Rivers, reducing sewage discharges will help. Storm water runoff from other sources, such as parking lots, also contribute to poor water quality in lakes and rivers. Identifying those causes and planning for remediation is necessary. I hope to learn more on this topic. While not directly related to water quality, public access is also a priority. That can be achieved through projects like the expansion of bike/pedestrian paths along the Mystic, active use and renovation of the Blessing of the Bay Boathouse, the connection of Assembly to Everett via a pedestrian bridge at Draw 7, public education efforts, and the addition of noise and air barriers along Highway 93.

Kristen Strezo, At-large candidate:

I live along the Mystic and it's awesome. I also see the riverfront protecting the tree canopy. It's important to expand on the work Mothers Out Front has been doing to take gas companies to task for gas leaks that are killing the trees. I believe Denise Provost put forward a bill this week. We need to expand on her work to allow us to make gas companies responsible for the gas leaks that are killing the trees and affecting the tree canopy. We need to protect the tree canopy; it's a trickle down. I'm committed to doing that and I want to make sure that we're all working together to make that work possible.

Jack Connolly, At-large candidate:

As many of the panelists have mentioned, it's not the people in this room; everybody here is well aware of the problem. How do we let everybody else know? Isn't it time for some sort of educational curriculum, especially starting in the school systems where young people can be made aware of the terrible environmental impacts, such as the sewer overflows going into the Mystic. Sure, Deer Island has led to an incredible increase in the quality of water in the Greater Boston area. But there are still days when the bacteria count is way up. It's still going to cost additional money, so we have to give people an incentive and maybe we have to give some type of property tax relief to those people who do take the time and energy to make additional improvements to their sewage systems in a private development. As a community, we have to do more ourselves. I think the impetus is here, in Somerville.

JoAnn Riveccio, At-large candidate (answer submitted in writing):

For the past 10 yrs many have complained about water in their cellars. It seems the work done on my street created water to build in front of my house. I am totally concerned each time it rains now. The sewerage system has become a nightmare. I have asked with all the building of new construction is there going to be concerns with sewerage and electricity as well ?? Not only water in cellars the streets are flooding and the water isn't receding fast enough. I would like to know why and what we can do to rectify the situation.

Water damage and mold will form if not taken care of. by the way they have been cleaning the Charles for years and have been very successful doing so. The Museum of Science has an exhibit explaining the cleanup project. Would I invest in improvement absolutely.

Mary Jo Rossetti, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

I wholeheartedly support this endeavor. I have gone on Record voting in support of our recent tree ordinance. I have also successfully advocated for use of storm water drainage in the reconstruction of our High School, which sits high atop a hill in our community.

Will Mbah, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

Somerville will face increased flooding along the Mystic River as a result of climate change. It is also true that our decaying infrastructure desperately needs to be replaced. In order to better prepare for flooding issues, I suggest we 1. Increase Permeable Surfaces – Only 6% of Somerville's land is currently permeable open space. Add more tree canopy and green infrastructure (i.e. permeable paving, bioswales, rain gardens, parks, community gardens) in areas that currently are mostly impermeable surfaces, which hold water and overwhelm stormwater systems. 2. Require waterfront properties to retrofit – this typically includes elevating mechanicals above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) (i.e. no basement mechanical systems), elevating buildings, using wet and dry floodproofing.

Bill White, At-large candidate for reelection (answer submitted in writing):

Because of the control of the Mystic Riverbank by the State's Department of Conservation and Recreation, the City cannot take direct action on improvements on that bank or adjacent green area. DCR, however, has begun the planning process for the restoration of the bank of the Mystic River in the Ten Hills section of Somerville and the total renovation of the Draw 7 Park at Assembly Square. It is incumbent upon us to lobby that such plans take into account climate-related weather extremes. The City's climate action plan examined the threat of flooding in the Mystic River watershed and concluded that the protection of the Mystic River from flooding requires regional cooperation. Currently, the Amelia Earhart Dam regulates the Mystic River water level and it is controlled by the state. A tidal surge from Boston Harbor could overwhelm the Dam and bypass it, flooding both Somerville and Everett. As a result of State control over the Mystic Riverbank and the Dam, regional cooperation between the state and local communities is required to insure resilience. It is within our control to separate our sewer system so that overflows do not run into the Mystic River, which we should do.

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|October 23

East Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group
10:15 a.m.-12 p.m.
Teen Escape from Hill House - Somerville Reads 2019
3 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|October 24

Central Library
Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-year-olds
10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Comic Book Drawing Workshop for Kid
3 p.m.- 4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Friday|October 25

Central Library
Preschool Storytime for 2-year-olds
10:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
Teen Empowerment Library Leaders meeting
3:30 p.m.- 6 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library
East Branch Book Group - Somerville Reads 2019
11 a.m. -2 p.m.| 115 Broadway

Saturday|October 26

Central Library
Escape from Hill House - Somerville Reads 2019
1:30. – 4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Sunday|October 27

Central Library
Escape from Hill House - Somerville Reads 2019
1:30. – 4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Monday|October 28

Central Library
Sing Along with Matt
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

West at TAB
Kids' Book Club
6 p.m.- 7 p.m.|167 Holland St, 2nd floor

Tuesday|October 29

Central Library
Language Is Our Music
10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Kidstock Theater
3 p.m.-4:15 p.m.
Girls Who Code club
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Somerville Community Baptist Church
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.| 31 College Ave.

Wednesday|October 30

East Branch Library
Preschool Storytime for Little Pumpkins
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group
10:15 a.m.-12 p.m.
Somerville High School Anime Club
2:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

MUSIC|ARTS

Wednesday|October 23

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Free Poker, lots of prizes!
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Americana Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m.
Backroom: Gerry O'Beirne AND Frankie Gavin, Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello|7:30 p.m.
Comedy Night with Janet McNamara|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub
The A-Beez
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Bearly Dead – A Tribute To The Grateful Dead
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Starcrawler w/ Dan Luke + Test Meat
7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Jack Byrne
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell
Global Arts Live Presents: Nella
7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Somerville Theatre
Reel Rock Film Tour
7 p.m.|55 Davis Sq

Thursday|October 24

Sally O'Brien's
Weissstronauts, Bark, The I Want You
9 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Americana Session with Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company |7 p.m.
Back Room: Katie Barbato, Rise Twain|7 p.m.
Scattershots|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's
Krush Faktory(Dub Down)
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Baabes with special guests Glider, Triple Thick, Sara & the Scaliwags, and Thee Fightin' Fish
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Titus Andronicus, Mal Blum
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Erik Van Dam
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell
Shit-faced Shakespeare@: Macbeth
7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
The Loop
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday|October 25

Sally O'Brien's
Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band|6 p.m.
Hear Now Live / Tiny Oak present - \$10 cover|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Backroom: Scissormen (final show), Ted Drozdowski's Coyote Motel|7 p.m.
Jimmy's Down|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Once Somerville
Flamin Groovies, Richard Lloyd Group, Tiger Bomb
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
DJ starting at 10 p.m.
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's
Background Orcs & Air Congo
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree
DJ McRiddleton
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Casey's
Entertainment every Friday

173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road
Java Jukebox “Rise Up” Album Release Show with special guests Jahriffe & Jah-N-I-Roots Movement, GRJ and The Recipe, and DJ Bonte Conte
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
The Collective
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Pulp Diction: Haunted Halloween
8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Shit-faced Shakespeare@: Macbeth|7 p.m.
B.U.M.P.|9:15 p.m.
Dirty Disney|10:30 p.m.
255 Elm St

Saturday|October 26

Sally O'Brien's
Patsy Hamel Band|6 p.m.
Hallo-Wayne: Return of SYM + special guests! - \$10 cover|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Bluegrass Session|2 p.m.
Hunter Americana|5 p.m.|Irish Session|2 p.m.
Back Room: An Evening With Bill Janovitz and Friends|7 p.m.
Pop Disaster|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

Bull McCabe's
Kong Thunderfunk
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Casey's
Entertainment every Saturday
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Halloween Buzz Market|10 a.m.
TheFleshtones, GLiDER, Muck & theMires, Baabes|6 p.m.
156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Copilot
6 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Rick and Friends
10 a.m.|Café|
Pulp Diction: Haunted Halloween
8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Shit-faced Shakespeare@: Macbeth|7 p.m.
Dreamland Silent Disco|10 p.m.
255 Elm St

Sunday|October 27

Sally O'Brien's Bar
The Natural Wonders|4:30 p.m.
African Night, SambaLolo and guests|10 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: John Gannon & Friends|2 p.m., Alan Kaufman & Friends|6 p.m., Los Goutos|9 p.m.
Classical Brunch -Groupmuse|11:30 a.m.
Genticorum & Friends|4 p.m.
Frogbelly and Symphony|7:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub
Dub Apocalypse
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass
Sunday Night Live Music
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Game Night
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Thunder Road

379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Claud w/ Grace Ives + Butch Baby
7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Arts at the Armory
Cafe Raqs|7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
The Late Risers
2 p.m.||14 Tyler Street

Monday|October 28

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Comedy Night! The Up n Coming Open Mic|7 p.m.
Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors reggae|10 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Bur-Run|6:45 p.m., Run, Helena Delaney & Friends|9:30 p.m.
Back Room:Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub
Jimmy James Trivia|8:30 p.m.
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave.

Once Somerville
Halloween Hall of Dreams 2019
7 p.m.,|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Board Game Bonanza
6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Queer Tango
6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|October 29

Sally O'Brien's Bar
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Jason Anick & The Swingers|8:30 p.m.
Back Room: Songwriter Roundup with Katie Dobbins and Various Special Guests!|7 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub
Ghetto People Band
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night
hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.
The fun starts at 10:00p.m.
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

PJ Ryan's
Pub Quiz
10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
1349, Uada, Cloak
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co
Indie Trivia
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Wednesday|October 30

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Free Poker, lots of prizes!
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Americana Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m.
Backroom: Winifred Horan|7:30 p.m.
Comedy Night with Janet McNamara|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub
The A-Beez
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Bearly Dead – A Tribute To The Grate-

ful Dead
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Chilluminati
7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Last Wednesday Residency: Grant Bloom Duo
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Wednesday|October 23

Central Library
Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft
12 p.m.-2 p.m.
The Haunting (1963) Film - Somerville Reads 2019
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Davis Square Farmers Market
12 p.m.-6 p.m.|Day & Herbert Streets

Thursday|October 24

Ciampa Manor
Learn English with the Library!
6 p.m.- 8 p.m.|27 College Avenue

Central Library
City of Somerville Fair Housing Commission
4 p.m.-5:15 p.m.
Tarot Reading Workshop - Somerville Reads 2019
7 p.m.- 8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

First Church Somerville
Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).
For more info call: 781-762-6629

Saturday|October 26

Central Library
Citizenship Class
9:30 p.m.-12:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Union Square Farmers Market
9 a.m.- 1 p.m.|Union Square Plaza

Bagel Bards
Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work
9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St

Sunday|October 27

Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street
Unity Church of God
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

Monday|October 28

Central Library
Creative Drama Workshop with Laurie!
4 p.m.- 5 p.m.
Wage Theft Ordinance Briefing
5:30 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library
Learn English at the Library!
6 p.m.- 8 p.m.|115 Broadway

West at TAB
Books-to-Movies Club - Somerville Reads 2019
7 p.m.-8 p.m.|167 Holland St, 2nd floor

Tuesday|October 29

East Branch Library
Learn English at the Library!
6 p.m.- 8 p.m.|115 Broadway

Wednesday|October 30

Central Library
Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft
12 p.m.-2 p.m.
Let's Watch Beetlejuice!: Hey Siri, How Do I Make New Friends After College?
6:15 p.m.-8 p.m.
Mystery Book Club
7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Davis Square Farmers Market
12 p.m.-6 p.m.|Day & Herbert Streets

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES

Holland Street Senior Center: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square)
Monday through Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
617-625-6600, ext. 2300

Cross Street Center: located at 165 Broadway (East Somerville)
Mondays & Tuesdays – 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Thursdays – 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Fridays – 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
617-625-6600, ext. 2335
Fax: 617-625-1414

Ralph and Jenny Center: located at 9 New Washington Street (behind the Holiday Inn)
Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
617- 666-5223

Main Office: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square.)
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
617-625-6600, ext. 2300
Fax: 617-625-0688
TTY: 866-808-4851

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteers needed for the Engage for Brain Health Study. Are you starting to have problems with your memory or have trouble climbing stairs? Engage B might be right for you! 24 week study for people 60 to 89 years of age. Call Chris at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email him at ckowaleski@Somervillema.gov for questions and additional information.

Fit-4-Life Nutrition Classes – Thursday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with our Nutritionist Caitlin McAfee. Learn about our new and upcoming nutrition programs including, Cooking with Caitlin, Fit-4-Life Nutrition Class, Meal in a Mug and more. For more information call Caitlin at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316.

Healthy Steps – Thursdays – Holland Street from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Healthy Steps is a therapeutic, gentle, movement class for anyone who needs to get moving, particularly anyone recovering from surgery, frail elders or those living with chronic fatigue or arthritis. Class is free. For additional information or questions to call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

Country Western Line Dancing – The 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month- Holland Street Center . – class is free. No experience needed. For additional information or questions call at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Somerville Mobile Farmer’s Market – Running until Saturday, October 19. Fridays: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Council on Aging Holland Street Center. 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. East Somerville Community School. Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. North Street Housing Development and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Mystic Housing Development.. The Somerville Mobile Farmer’s Market sells fresh, affordable produce. 50% off for residents of Mystic or North Street Housing, or for showing your SNAP, MassHealth, WIC or Senior Coupons. Info: 617-625-6600, ext. 4321.

Bowling – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Sacco’s Bowl Haven at Flatbread Pizza located in Davis Square. There is a \$3 weekly fee which covers shoe rental, three strings candlepin bowling and due for a bowling banquet. For more information and to sign up please contact Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Caregivers Support Series – at our Holland Street Center from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursdays for six weeks. Oct. 24 – Nutrition, Oct. 31 – Self Care, homecare resources and when is it unsafe to remain at home, Nov. 7 – Activities you can do together, Nov. 14 – Attend a Memory Café and Nov. 21 – Coping with the holidays and having honest discussions with family and friends. To reserve your spot please call Ashley at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318.

Medicare Check Up – Wednesday, October 23 – starting at 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. It’s time for your Medicare Check Up. Is your Medicare Plan still right for you? Join us for our free Medicare benefits presentation. Please RSVP by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Lunch to follow.

Finances 50+ Workshop – Thursday, October 24 – 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Finances 50+ Workshop was designed to help you make and keep smart money habits. To register please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Paint Day – Monday, November 4 – 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. \$15 per person Seats are very limited. Payment due a time of reservation. Please call Connie at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319 to make your reservation.

Wrentham Outlets – Sunday, November 10 – check in at 10:00 a.m. at Holland with an approximate return time of 5:00 p.m. \$10 per person for transportation to the outlets; lunch is on your own. For more information or to sign up please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Dollar Days at the Movies – Tuesday, November 19 - movie starts at 12:00 p.m. door open at 11:30 a.m. This month’s movie is A Dog’s Journey. \$1 per person for the movie paid to the theatre. They will have the refreshment stand open to make purchases on your own. For more information or to RSVP call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Mamma Mia – Wednesday, November 20 at the Norwood Theatre. \$38 dollars per person. Price includes lunch (a chicken dish, potatoes or rice, a small salad, a vegetable and a dessert) before the show (11:30 to 12:30.) Performance begins at 1:15 p.m. and last approximately 2-1/2 hours. Space is limited. First come first serve. Payment due at time of reservation. No refunds. Check in time is 10:00 a.m. at Holland Street with an approximate return time of 5:30 p.m. Please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to make your reservation.

Wright’s Chicken Farm Restaurant & LaSalette Shrine – Thursday, December 5 - \$69 per person includes luxury coach transportation, lunch, Christmas Choral Concert with Father Pat and a spectacular display of over 400,000 lights. Check in is 9:30 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny with an approximate return time of 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

LGBTQ EVENTS

LBT Women Fit-4-Life at Holland Street Center 167 Holland Street - Fitness class is Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If have any questions or require additional information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHEDULE (PLEASE CUT OUT AND SAVE)

Monday:
Keep Moving Walking Club - 9:00 a.m. (H)
Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life – 11:00 a.m. (C)
Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Tuesday:
Strengthening - 9:00 a.m. - \$3 per class (H)
Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C)
Bike Club – 12:15 p.m. (H)

Wednesdays:
Fit-4-Life Group A (exercise) – 8:45 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Thursdays:
Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C)
Healthy Steps – 12:30 p.m. (H)
Nutrition Class – 3:00 p.m. (H)
LBT Fit-4-Life, 6:00 p.m. (H)

Fridays:
Fit-4-Life Group A – 8:45 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H)

Adventure Group – Please call for details
All Fit-4-Life classes are \$10 per month and require pre-registration

HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

Book Club – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or

require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Caregiver Support Group – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, spouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318.

Conversations of the Heart – Meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. at our Holland Street Center. Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317.

Cribbage Club – Meets every Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group is facilitated by volunteer Norbert DeAmato. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Current Events Group – Meets every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317.

De-cluttering support group – If you have concerns around your clutter, this group may be for you. This closed group meets both in the spring and fall for 6-8 weeks. This group is co-facilitated by Natasha Naim and Marina Colonas. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317.

Gardening Club – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. Vilma Sullivan facilitates this group. There is a different topic each month ranging from gardening tips & secrets to inexpensive greenhouses. Group runs for approximately an hour. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Low Vision Support Group – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional info please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318.

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION

Lunch is served every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 for sign up.

Coffee & Conversation – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer, work together to facilitate this group. Come meet people from all over the world and join in the discussion of a different topic every day. Conversation is followed by the Fit-4-Life exercise program and then lunch. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Game Hour – Every Tuesday from noon to 1:00 p.m. at our Cross Street Center. Join us for lunch and activities. Immediately following lunch we will have a “Game Hour.” Yahtzee, Sorry, Jenga, Cards, Scrabble, Checkers, Clue, Qwirkle, Dominoes, Uno & Connect 4 are available to play. Community Cooks provides us with a family style lunch on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays and Food Services provides us with lunch on the off days. If you are interested in joining, please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Gardening Club – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. Vilma Sullivan, facilitates this group. There is a different topic each month ranging from gardening tips & secrets to inexpensive greenhouses. Group runs for approximately an hour. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Historical Fact

CONT. FROM PG 8



a short story titled, *The Devil and Tom Walker*. It takes place along the edge of the Mystic River where he lived. In this tale, Tom sells his soul to the devil in exchange for Captain Kidd’s treasure, which is said to be buried near Ten Hills.

For fifty-seven years, *The Monster Mash*, by Bobby Boris Pickett, has delighted those who enjoy celebrating Halloween. Bobby was born in Somerville in 1938 and grew up on Winter Hill. He captained the Somerville High School’s basketball team and worked at the Somerville Theatre with his father. After a failed acting start in California, he joined a rock band where he produced a record ... It was a smash ... It was *The*

Monster Mash and on Halloween “it’s the hit of the land!”



Somerville Youth Hockey

The SYHA Learn to Skate/Learn to Play Hockey Clinic begins October 19.

Rolling registration throughout the Fall/Winter. Details and registration at www.somervillyouthhockey.org.

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire? Frostbite!

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What's new on Somerville Neighborhood News

REGINA BERTHOLDO
Dir., Enrollment Office, Somerville Public Schools

Somerville immigrant advocates discuss potential “public charge” rule changes

By Keminni Amanor, *Somerville Neighborhood News*

Immigration advocates and allies expressed alarm at certain immigration rule changes the Trump administration was proposing that would primarily affect low-income individuals and families during a meeting at City Hall on October 10.

KEMINNI AMANOR
Reporter, Somerville Neighborhood News

Even though the proposed rule changes were blocked on October 15 by three federal judges, that does not mean that they have not already had what advocates called a “chilling effect” by scaring immigrant families away from much-needed health care and other social services.

Watch this SNN news video online at somervillemedia.org/snn.

Free Boys Basketball Clinics

For students in grades 4-9. Clinics are held Wednesday evenings at the Winter Hill Community Innovation School 115 Sycamore, and are conducted by Somerville High School Boys Basketball staff and Somerville Tradition Basketball staff. Upcoming clinic dates are: Wednesday, 10/23: Grades 4-6 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.; Grades 7-9 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. and Wednesday, 10/30: Grades 4-6 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.; Grades 7-9 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

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Ms. Cam's

Olío

Answers

1. Cider is raw pressed apples that has not been filtered, apple juice is filtered

2. In 1984, after the drunk driving death of 20 year-old Kathleen Barry

3. Johnny Appleseed

4. Boston Common

5. Quincy, Massachusetts, in 1950

6. A cover of Shocking Blue's Love Buzz

7. The Baker Chocolate Company, started in Dorchester, MA

8. Apple

9. Dog mushing

10. Bon Jovi's Always

11. Worcester, MA

12. Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's art theft in 1990

SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

SCATV is part of Somerville Media Center, home to Boston Free Radio, Somerville Neighborhood News and SMC Youth Media!

Join SMC today to make your own TV or Radio Production, learn skills like editing and field production and sign up for special media making workshops and classes for youth and adults! somervillemedia.org

Wednesday, October 23

12:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am Community Bulletin Board
7:30am DW In Good Shape
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Global 3000
9:30am Both Sides of the Bars
10:00am Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
10:30am Somerville Neighborhood News
11:00am SNN Neighborhood Update
11:30am From My Heart to Yours
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
1:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News
2:00pm Colores Latinos
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm DW Conflict Zone
4:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library
5:00pm Hello Neighbor
5:30pm From My Heart to Yours
6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
6:30pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects
7:00pm "The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP
7:30pm Sidewalks Entertainment
8:00pm LIVE - Somerville Pundits
8:30pm DW Euromaxx
9:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP
10:00pm LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
11:00pm Flotilla

Thursday, October 24

12:00am SCATV Secret Stash
12:30am SCATV Secret Stash
1:00am Free Speech TV
1:30am Free Speech TV
2:00am Free Speech TV
3:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley
7:00am DW Conflict Zone
7:30am DW Euromaxx
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Tomorrow Today
9:30am Hello Neighbor
10:00am The Chef's Table Series
10:30am The Chef's Table Series
11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
11:30am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm The Somerville Line

1:30pm The Somerville Line
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects
4:30pm The Struggle
5:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
6:00pm #AFAD
6:30pm #AFAD
7:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
8:00pm LIVE - Our View
9:00pm PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony
10:00pm Community Bulletin Board
10:30pm The World Fusion Show
11:00pm VOX POP Comedy Night

Friday, October 25

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
1:00am SCATV Secret Stash
1:30am SCATV Secret Stash
2:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Euromaxx
9:30am Strata
10:00am NASA TV
11:00am SOM ARTS
11:30am Cambridge Calendar
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm Community Benefits Agreement
2:00pm Somerville Pundits
2:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm Gay USA
5:00pm DW Global 3000
5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?
6:00pm Grandstanders
7:00pm Emergency Preparedness
7:30pm The Somerville Labor Show
8:00pm LIVE - Greater Somerville
8:30pm Greater Somerville
9:00pm Fur, Fins and Feathers
10:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
11:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

Saturday, October 26

12:00am VOX POP Comedy Night
1:00am Free Speech TV
2:00am Free Speech TV
3:00am Free Speech TV
5:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am DW Focus on Europe

7:00am Effort Pour Christ
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am SMC Youth Media
9:30am Science 360
10:00am Dead Air Live
11:00am TeleGalaxie
12:00pm Somerville Storytellers
1:00pm Tele Magazine
2:00pm Reeling Review
3:00pm MA House of Representatives Formal Session
4:00pm Tele Kreyol
5:00pm Henry Parker Presents
5:30pm Henry Parker Presents
6:00pm Somerville Pundits
6:30pm The Somerville Labor Show
7:00pm BLOWW Show a Go Go
7:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News
8:00pm #AFAD
9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes
10:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show
11:00pm SCATV Secret Stash
11:30pm Queer Cats

Sunday, October 27

12:00am Flotilla
1:00am NASA TV
1:30am NASA TV
2:00am NASA TV
3:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley
7:00am Nossa Gentes e Costumes
8:00am Effort Pour Christ
9:00am NASA TV
10:00am Tele Kreyol
11:00pmMA House of Representatives Formal Session
12:00pm Sidewalks Entertainment
1:00pm SOM ARTS
1:30pm SNN Neighborhood Update
2:00pm Chico and B-Man
3:00pm African Television Network
4:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade
5:00pm Gay USA
6:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects
6:30pm DW Tomorrow Today
7:00pm Emergency Preparedness
8:00pm Dead Air Live
9:00pm Tele Magazine
10:00pm Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour
11:00pm TUTV
11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

Monday, October 28

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
5:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am Somerville Storytellers
7:30am Going Postal
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am Science 360
10:00am Somerville Neighborhood News
11:00am Our View
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm SOM ARTS
1:30pm Somerville Storytellers
2:00pm NASA TV
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm African Television Network
5:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
6:00pm LIVE from VOX POP
6:30pm Fur, Fins and Feathers
7:00pm Tele Galaxie
8:00pm LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction
9:00pm Dedilhando au Saudade
10:00pm Colores Latinos
11:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

Tuesday, October 29

12:00amPublic Safety and Homeland Security Hearing
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am NASA TV
8:00am Democracy Now!
9:00am The Chef's Table Series
10:00am Strata
11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP
2:00pm Somerville Overcoming Addiction
3:00pm Democracy Now!
4:00pm SMC Youth Media
4:30pm Going Postal
5:00pm LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?
6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
6:30pm From My Heart to Yours
7:00pm The Somerville Labor Show
7:30pm LIVE - Greater Somerville
8:00pm LIVE - Dead Air Live
9:00pm The World Fusion Show
10:00pm Totally Working Out
11:00pm Box House Productions Presents
11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

CITY TV 22 (Comcast) | 13 (RCN) Schedule

Wednesday, October 23

9:00am Honk! Parade 2019
9:30am SFD Recruitment 2019
9:39am SFD Recruitment 2019
11:00am Domestic Violence Vigil 10.2.19
11:21am Flood & Stormwater PSA
11:30am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Oct. 2019
12:00pm School Committee Meeting - 10.21.19
3:00pm SomerViva em Português - 10/19
3:30pm SPD Ride Along
6:00pm Celling Your Soul
8:00pm Licensing Commission Public Meeting

Thursday, October 24

12:00am What the Fluff Fest?
12:30am SFD Recruitment 2019
12:43am SFD Recruitment 2019
1:00am Honk! Parade 2019
1:30am Mystic Ave. Safety Meeting - 10.1.19
7:30am SFD Recruitment 2019
7:39am SFD Recruitment 2019
8:00am Celling Your Soul
10:00am Healey School Playground Mtg.
11:30am Honk! Parade 2019
11:55am Flood & Stormwater PSA
12:00pm Senior Circuit "Cooking with Caitlin II"
12:30pm City Council Meeting - 10.10.19
4:00pm Upcoming Meeting Agenda
7:00pm City Council Meeting - LIVE

Friday, October 25

12:00am Senior Circuit "Cooking with Caitlin II"
12:30am Licensing Commission Public Meeting
3:30am Ball Sq. Walking Tour
7:30am Healey School Playground Mtg.
8:40am SPD Ride Along
8:55am Flood & Stormwater PSA

9:00am SFD Recruitment 2019
9:09am SFD Recruitment 2019
9:30am Honk! Parade 2019
11:00am Domestic Violence Vigil 10.2.19
11:30am Mystic Ave. Safety Meeting - 10.1.19
2:12pm SFD Recruitment 2019
2:22pm SFD Recruitment 2019
3:00pm Ball Sq. Walking Tour
6:00pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
6:26pm Flood & Stormwater PSA
6:30pm Licensing Commission Public Meeting
10:00pm SFD Recruitment 2019
10:09pm SFD Recruitment 2019
10:30pm SomerViva em Português - 10/19
11:00pm Healey School Playground Mtg.

Saturday, October 26

12:10am SPD Ride Along
12:30am Honk! Parade 2019
1:00am What the Fluff Fest?
1:30am SomerStreets: Monster Mashed Up
2:00am Ghosts of Somerville
2:30am City Council Meeting - 10.24.19
7:30am Healey School Playground Mtg.
8:40am SPD Ride Along
9:00am Evolution of Hip Hop
9:30am Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
10:00am SFD Recruitment 2019
10:12am SFD Recruitment 2019
11:00am Ghosts of Somerville
11:30am SomerStreets: Monster Mashed Up
12:00pm SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Oct. 2019
12:18pm SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis
12:30pm What the Fluff Fest?
1:00pm SomerViva em Português - 10/19
1:31pm City Council Spotlight: Bill White
2:01pm Honk! Parade 2019

2:26pm Flood & Stormwater PSA
2:30pm PHCS Groundbreaking
3:00pm Domestic Violence Vigil 10.2.19
3:30pm SPD Ride Along
6:00pmCelling Your Soul: Raising Kids in a Digital Age
8:00pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
8:30pm SomerViva en Español - 9.19.19
9:00pm PHCS Groundbreaking
9:30pm School Committee Meeting - 10.21.19

Sunday, October 27

12:00am SomerStreets: Monster Mashed Up
12:30am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Oct. 2019
12:48am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis
1:00am Mystic Ave. Safety Meeting - 10.1.19
8:00am SFD Recruitment 2019
8:12am SFD Recruitment 2019
8:30am Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
9:00am Ball Sq. Walking Tour
11:00am Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
11:30am City Council Spotlight: Bill White
12:00pm Senior Circuit "Cooking with Caitlin II"
12:30pm City Council Meeting - 10.24.19
4:00pm Evolution of Hip Hop
4:30pm SomerViva em Português - 10/19
6:00pm PHCS Groundbreaking
6:30pm SomerStreets: Monster Mashed Up
7:00pm Senior Circuit "Cooking with Caitlin II"
7:30pm Ghosts of Somerville
8:00pm City Council Spotlight: Bill White
8:30pm City Council Meeting - 10.24.19

Monday, October 28

12:00am City Council Spotlight: Bill White
12:30am PHCS Groundbreaking
1:00am Licensing Commission Public Meeting
3:00am SomerViva en Español - 9.19.19

3:30am SFD Recruitment 2019
3:42am SFD Recruitment 2019
7:30am Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan
8:00am Sit & Be Fit Fibromyalgia Workout
8:30am PHCS Groundbreaking
9:00am City Council Spotlight: Bill White
9:30am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Oct. 2019
11:00am SomerStreets: Monster Mashed Up
11:30am CC - Land Use Meeting - 10.22.19
2:30pm PHCS Groundbreaking
3:00pm Licensing Commission Public Meeting
6:30pm Letters of World War II at Council on Aging
7:43pm SPD Ride Along
8:00pm CC - Land Use Meeting - 10.22.19
11:00pm What the Fluff Fest?

Tuesday, October 29

12:00am CC - Land Use Meeting
3:30am SomerStreets: Monster Mashed Up
7:30am Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
7:56am Flood & Stormwater PSA
8:00am School Committee Meeting - 10.21.19
11:30am City Council Spotlight: Bill White
12:00pm Senior Circuit "Cooking with Caitlin II"
12:30pm PHCS Groundbreaking
1:00pm SomerStreets: Monster Mashed Up
1:30pm Healey School Playground Mtg.
2:40pm SPD Ride Along
3:00pm Honk! Parade 2019
3:25pm Flood & Stormwater PSA
3:30pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
6:00pm CC - Land Use Meeting - 10.29.19
11:00pm SomerViva em Português - 10/19

Wednesday, October 30

12:00am Senior Circuit "Cooking with Caitlin II"
12:30am Mystic Ave. Safety Meeting

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, October 23

9:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover
11:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
1:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
3:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett
4:30pm Our Schools, Our City - Equity
5:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover
7:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
9:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
10:30pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett

Thursday, October 24

12:00am Our Schools, Our City - Equity
12:30am Healey Schoolyard Community Mtg.
2:00am Public Domain Theater [10.19]
9:00am SHS Football vs Falmouth 9.14.19
11:30am Our Schools, Our City - Equity
12:00pm SHS Football vs Malden
2:30pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
3:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
4:30pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
6:00pm SHS Football vs Falmouth 9.14.19
8:30pm Our Schools, Our City - Equity
9:00pm SHS Football vs Malden

11:30pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety

Friday, October 25

12:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
1:30am SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
9:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett
11:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover
12:30pm Healey Schoolyard Community Mtg.
2:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
3:30pm SHS Football vs Ipswich
5:30pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
6:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett
8:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover
9:30pm SHS Football vs Ipswich
11:10pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden

Saturday, October 26

12:35am SHS Football vs Ipswich
2:30am Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
4:00am Public Domain Theater [10.19]
9:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Saugus
10:30am SHS Girls Soccer vs Medford
12:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
1:30pm Our Schools, Our City - Equity
2:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett

4:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
6:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Saugus
7:30pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Medford
9:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
10:30pm Our Schools, Our City - Equity
11:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett

Sunday, October 27

1:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
2:30am Public Domain Theater [10.19]
9:00am Healey Schoolyard Community Mtg.
10:30am Our Schools, Our City - Equity
11:00am SHS Football vs Ipswich
1:00pm SHS Football vs Malden
3:30pm SHS Football vs Malden
6:00pm Healey Schoolyard Community Mtg.
7:30pm Our Schools, Our City - Equity
8:00pm SHS Football vs Ipswich
10:00pm SHS Football vs Malden

Monday, October 28

12:30am SHS Football vs Malden
9:00am Our Schools, Our City - Equity
9:30am Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
10:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover

12:00pm Healey Schoolyard Community Mtg.
2:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Dracut
4:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Waltham
6:00pm Our Schools, Our City - Equity
6:30pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
7:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover
9:00pm Healey Schoolyard Community Mtg.
11:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Dracut

Tuesday, October 29

1:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Waltham
3:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Dracut
5:00am Public Domain Theater [10.19]
9:00am SHS Football vs Falmouth 9.14.19
11:30am Our Schools, Our City - Equity
12:00pm SHS Football vs Malden
2:30pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
3:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden
4:30pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
6:00pm SHS Football vs Falmouth 9.14.19
8:30pm Our Schools, Our City - Equity
9:00pm SHS Football vs Malden
11:30pm Connecting Communities - Fire Safety
12:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Waltham
1:30am SHS Boys Soccer vs Dracut

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Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

MacKenzie Rork is a sophomore at Endicott College majoring in linguistics. She writes poetry as a way to build a connection to the world through emotion. MacKenzie has a passion for the exploration of wildlife relating to plants and animals. She is from a small town in Vermont and loves spending time with her family when she is not traveling the world.

Room 304

Dear Doc,

No,
I'm not okay.
So please,
Stop asking.

Each consonant piercing my ears,
Sterile needles begging for blood.
Just...
please,
Stop asking.

My lungs have been torn,
Scraped into pieces,
Too many holes to mend.
They don't work anymore,
No oxygen meets my tongue.
When I close my eyes,
I feel the cold breeze kissing my ribs,
And fucking my heart.
Don't you understand,
I will never be okay.
How can you expect me to laugh, when I can't even breathe.

You force me to maintain this mask,
But what you don't understand,
Is that there comes a point,
When we all must surrender the facade,
And confront the revolting reflection staring back into our eyes.

None of us,
Are okay.
We are sick,
We are defective,
We are incurable.
When a mind breaks,
There is no glue to bind the matter again as one.
The understanding within,
Is simply lost.
It becomes a puzzle,
One where none of the pieces,
Fit together.
Yet chaos remains,
Demanding us to try!
Furiously grabbing piece after piece,
Just to see if they'll touch,
Pray that maybe,
this time,
something,
anything,
will make sense.

Sincerely,
Room 304

— MacKenzie Rork

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

OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Ibbetson Street 45

Ibbetson Street 45
(Somerville-based literary magazine)

Review by Wendell Smith

Ibbetson Street #45 is unique in my experience, a poetry magazine that may be picked up and read cover to cover. The editors lead us into the issue and catch our attention with three poems about craft, about the skills and observation needed to achieve and to perceive visual meaning. I think this arrangement serves a purpose; it provided an esthetic preparation for what follows. The first poem, “Song of Three Skies” by Eileen McCluskey, links this discussion of the visual arts to poetry.

You didn't usually talk
about your art, but this triptych,
you explained on the day you hung it,
was called The Song
of Wandering Aengus,
after the Yeats Poem.

The second poem, “Portrait Lesson” by Jesse Brown, is a humorous note on the frustrations of learning any craft when her instructor concludes her lesson, “Don't worry. I'm just giving you/everything in one shot.” But it is the third poem, “A Still Life” by Jennifer Barber that introduces the importance of paying attention. It speaks of attention to detail in the preparation before one even picks up a brush, and it follows through to the reward that may come to a viewer for paying attention when in the last two stanzas It happens [*] to Jennifer and, because of her use of the second person, to us:

the instant of your trespassing
the layers of the visible
to watch the painter's hands

arranging three oranges
that glow like coals in you
before you disappear in them.

The clue that this opening arrangement has been intentional is the editorial decision not to interrupt this sequence by placing a second poem by Jesse Brown, “Eve Astonished,” alongside “Portrait Lesson,” where it would have been in most poetry collections, but to insert it some six poems later. Because of that decision these three poems become an invitation to pay attention to the poetry that follows them and let It happen. Some of these poems will have more of It than others and some less of It, but all of them have some of It. And, of course, which of those poems is which, when it comes down to It, will depend upon taste, upon what flavors of It trigger our receptors; here are a few selections that triggered mine.

I thought It happened in the contemplation of a central story of our classical heritage, “Stealing Troy i.,” by Gary Metras, which ends:

Blame a father's honor, a brother's honor.
Blame the lust and love the gods
inspire and envy so that, today, neither

the blood of passion nor the blood of
courage stain this soil, these broken stones
the rains of ages blotch without mercy.

I felt It happen in “A Quiet Afternoon,” as Beatriz Alba del Rio told us that a marriage may end in divorce, but love doesn't:

it is a benign summer day
we just had a light dinner at the Museum
we laughed while drinking our beloved Chianti
we reminisce of our times in Florence...

and ends,

it is dark
you say i want to get divorced
i look at you i answer softly it's okay it's okay

it is irresistibly dark.

When It happens, It is not sentimental. In fact It may be quite unpleasant as It is in “That's My Story and I'm Sticking To It” by Claire Scott.

I was abused as a child. Period.
My body foraged. Period.

and ends



I know full well if the ice melts
his hands will be there – again.
Waves of shame will flood – again.
The cold stings, my face is numb.
there is frost on my fingers.
Suspended in ice, frozen forever.
–Period.

One innovation of Ibbetson Street #45 compared with earlier issues is its inclusion of longer poems. This allows us to enjoy It happening in the 91 lines of humor, “Walking Backward Along the Path of the Promenade,” by Ravi Teja Yelamanchili. These ten lines occupy the middle of the poem:

I laughed when I saw the bags
of frozen chicken in the supermarket.
Some people asked me what was so funny,
and I replied saying, “What tragedy has befallen
Plato's man!” as I walked away, I heard someone
whisper, “There's all sorts of crazy at this time of night.”

Plato defined man as featherless biped and was applauded for his clever definition. Diogenes plucked the feathers from a cock, let it run loose on Plato and his crowd and proclaimed, “Behold Plato's man!”

The issue itself ends in humor with a superb parody of Robert Frost, “Awaking by Words on a Snowy Evening” by Robert Whelan. As It happens in this poem Ibbetson Street #45 ends its survey by anchoring itself to a corner post of American poetry, with a comparison that leaves us wondering about the price of progress.

Whose words these are I think I know.
His name is in my contacts though;
He will not see me waking here
To watch his words display and glow.

My little phone must think it queer
To call without a voice to hear
Because the words make devices quake
Their insistence in the evening, clear.

It rings its bells and starts to shake
I wonder if there's some mistake.
The annoying sound disrupts my sleep
With noises its vibrations make.

The words are shallow, hardly deep,
Tell of appointments I must keep,
And now awakened I can't sleep,
And now awakened I can't sleep.

So there you have It; the satire directed, not at Frost, but at us. Wouldn't we be better off thinking about the promises we have to keep than being annoyed by this technology, which only leads to insomnia?
Go for IT.

[*] Whether or not “It happens” is a critical criterion I have purloined from Ramon Guthrie's poem and guide to what's important in art “It Happens,” Maximum Security Ward and Other Poems, Persea Books, New York, 1984, p. 56.

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Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72518462	16 Homer Sq	7 room, 4 bed, 2f bath	42	\$809,500	\$770,000
72548749	20 Avon St	6 room, 4 bed, 1f 1h bath	6	\$995,000	\$1,200,000
72540878	10 Harrison Rd	10 room, 5 bed, 2f 1h bath	62	\$999,000	\$930,000
72427391	16 Kingston Street	8 room, 5 bed, 2f 1h bath	56	\$1,150,000	\$1,595,000
72529802	27 Columbus Ave	9 room, 5 bed, 1f 1h bath	34	\$1,595,000	\$1,450,000
Single Family Listings: 5 Avg. Liv. Area SqFt: 2099.8 Avg. List \$: \$1,109,700 Avg. List \$/SqFt: \$525 Avg. DOM: 40 Avg. DTO: 32 Avg. Sale \$: \$1,189,000 Avg. Sale \$/SqFt: \$560					

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72536808	480 Medford St U:1	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	27	\$325,000	\$325,000
72533272	480 Medford St U:3	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	22	\$395,000	\$386,000
72528905	22 Laurel St U:24	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	49	\$425,000	\$415,000
72558853	26 Montrose St U:3	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	21	\$489,000	\$497,500
72554858	241 School St U:5	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	4	\$499,000	\$550,000
72550501	241 School St U:6	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	23	\$499,000	\$495,000
72542884	351 Lowell St U:1	4 room, 2 bed, 1f bath	20	\$500,000	\$510,000
72517462	23 Elm St U:309	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	7	\$525,000	\$583,000
72552629	80 Webster Ave U:2C	3 room, 1 bed, 1f bath	7	\$599,000	\$630,000
72549727	12 Houghton Street U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 1f bath	6	\$599,900	\$650,000
72539404	5 Granite St U:2L	4 room, 2 bed, 2f bath	23	\$639,000	\$635,000
72491760	21 Dell street U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 2f bath	32	\$749,000	\$740,000
72518530	15 Illinois Ave U:15	6 room, 2 bed, 2f bath	95	\$749,900	\$749,900
72538942	148 Lowell St U:1	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath	20	\$775,000	\$875,000
72547273	36 PowderHouse Blvd.U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 1f bath	33	\$789,999	\$760,000
72531145	331 Beacon St U:1	5 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath	8	\$798,000	\$798,000
72546026	429 Norfolk St U:13	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath	14	\$829,000	\$855,000
72550489	241 School St U:1	6 room, 3 bed, 3f bath	33	\$849,000	\$840,000
72552120	241 School St U:2	6 room, 3 bed, 3f bath	15	\$865,000	\$865,000
72557659	45 Endicott Avenue U:8	5 room, 2 bed, 2f bath	21	\$875,000	\$877,000
72502453	17 Illinois Ave U:17	7 room, 3 bed, 2f bath	90	\$899,900	\$867,500
72448500	117 Highland Ave U:B	6 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath	231	\$999,900	\$975,000
72568731	9 Medford Street U:608	5 room, 2 bed, 2f bath	6	\$1,014,000	\$1,014,000
72508004	90 Line St U:90	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath	17	\$1,099,000	\$1,170,000
72509762	21 Hall Ave U:21	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath	58	\$1,199,000	\$1,250,000
72538355	50 Bow St U:11	8 room, 3 bed, 3f bath	14	\$1,199,000	\$1,215,000
72420017	260 Beacon Street U:201	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath	199	\$1,225,000	\$1,180,000
72519375	271 Summer Street U:1	12 room, 4 bed, 3f bath	102	\$1,395,000	\$1,377,000
Condominium Listings: 28 Avg. Liv. Area SqFt: 1335.5 Avg. List \$: \$778,771 Avg. List \$/SqFt: \$615 Avg. DOM: 42.75 Avg. DTO: 34.11 Avg. Sale \$: \$788,746 Avg. Sale \$/SqFt: \$625					

Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72532388	97 Woods Ave	2 unit, 11 total rooms, 4 total bedrooms	60	\$829,000	\$795,000
72546743	10 Ashland Street	2 unit, 8 total rooms, 4 total bedrooms	16	\$935,000	\$875,000
72501642	11 Partridge Ave	3 unit, 15 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	49	\$1,250,000	\$1,155,000
72523087	186 Morrison Ave	2 unit, 13 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	57	\$1,339,999	\$1,270,000
72529149	141 Orchard St	2 unit, 10 total rooms, 4 total bedrooms	2	\$1,350,000	\$1,350,000
72561532	10 Hancock St	2 unit, 12 total rooms, 8 total bedrooms	15	\$1,395,000	\$1,370,000
72467664	32 Murdock Street	2 unit, 14 total rooms, 7 total bedrooms	20	\$1,400,000	\$1,250,000
72446504	5 Smith Ave	5 unit, 9 total bedrooms	44	\$1,750,000	\$1,588,000
72522240	755 Somerville Ave	3 unit, 14 total rooms, 8 total bedrooms	40	\$1,899,000	\$1,800,000
72474228	6 Rush Street	6 unit, 25 total rooms, 9 total bedrooms	84	\$2,600,000	\$2,600,000
Multi Family Listings: 10 Avg. Liv. Area SqFt: 3246.8 Avg. List \$: \$1,474,800 Avg. List \$/SqFt: \$469 Avg. DOM: 38.7 Avg. DTO: 32.9 Avg. Sale \$: \$1,405,300 Avg. Sale \$/SqFt: \$447					

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