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# The Somerville Times

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VOL. 9 NO. 43 | SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021 | TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## Inside:

Driving in Somerville page 3

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Ribbon cutting at the library page 20

# Opioid crisis in the crosshairs of the Board of Health

Purple flags are placed at City Hall to represent the lives lost due to overdoses.

By Eileen Qiu

A motion to adopt the declaration of the opioid addiction and overdose epidemic as an existing public health emergency was unanimously favored during last Thursday's Board of Health meeting.

"The city of Somerville has lost 29 residents to fatal overdoses in the past five years," Doug Kress, the Director of Health and Human Services said.

Since 2015, Somerville has had an average 11 non-fatal overdose cases for every 100 cases in Massachusetts, Kress said.

Some of the requests we're trying to put together would be to add additional support and outreach programs, Kress said.

How the opioid crisis has grown and impacted the community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, which *Continued on page 4*

# A soulful furniture maker in an era of automation

## How a furniture shop in Somerville is keeping alive the appetite for nostalgia and creating items with personality

By Anh Nguyen

On any given day, it is not uncommon to find people between the ages of 17 to 70 walking into a peculiar store in Davis Square. The wooden sign out front indicates that the store is called "Metamorphosis," but tells passers-by nothing more.

Perhaps it's the smell of oak wood and burning incense, the tasteful vintage clothing, or the scattered stacks of books and Russian posters that draw people inside. Maybe it's the warm sound of Brazilian jazz, or sometimes upbeat British rock, playing on vinyl (a testament to the Brazilian owner's eclectic taste in music). Or, maybe, it's the fact that this store can create any piece of furniture one could think of upon request. *Continued on page 16*

The inside of Metamorphosis, an eclectic furniture store in Davis Square, Somerville, that sells everything from cabinets, lamps, tapestries, to books, magazines, and vinyl records. — *Photos by Anh Nguyen*

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# NEWSTALK

*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.*

Don't forget to **vote Tuesday, November 2**. Three of Somerville's polling places have been relocated as of the current 2021 election cycle. All other polling locations will remain in the same location as they were in 2020. Before voting in the November 2 general election, don't forget to **double-check your polling location**. Voters can check their polling location or Ward and Precinct by entering their address at somervillema.gov/mysomerville or calling 311. This election includes races for Mayor of Somerville; four City Councilor At-Large seats; Ward City Councilor in Wards 2, 5, and 7; and School Committee Members in Wards 3 and 7. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

**********

**Early voting** is being held prior to this year's **Election Day on November 2**. All early voting takes place in the **City Council Chambers at City Hall**, 93 Highland Ave. Early voting days and times are as follows: Wednesday, October 27, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursday, October 28, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Friday, October 29, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please note that face coverings are required in all indoor public spaces.

**********

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to a very good friend a great family guy, **Richard Hart**, of the famous Hart family. We wish him a very happy birthday. He deserves the best. Happy birthday to another great family guy, **Clifton Verdieu**, who also grew up in East Somerville. He works for **Century 21 North**. Happy birthday to a former alderman and great guy, **Dennis Sullivan**. A nice guy who served Somerville for many years. We wish him a very happy birthday. Happy birthday to another guy who served Somerville years ago, **Charles Chisholm**. We hope he has a great birthday. Happy birthday to poet and writer, **Timothy Gager**, a very talented guy. We hope he has a great day. And finally, happy birthday to our own **Mike Rais**, who celebrated last week. You see him out delivering the papers each week for us. We wish him a great year to come. We wish all of our Facebook *Continued on page 9*

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# Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of October 27 – November 2 as provided by the National Weather Service

| DAY | CONDITIONS | HIGH/LOW | PRECIPITATION | HUMIDITY | WIND |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Wednesday** *October 27* | Rain | 52°/47° | 72% | 69% | N 24 mph |
| **Thursday** *October 28* | Cloudy | 54°/44° | 9% | 7% | NNE 13 mph |
| **Friday** *October 29* | Rain | 56°/52° | 32% | 27% | NE 13 mph |
| **Saturday** *October 30* | Rain | 62°/53° | 72% | 62% | ESE 12 mph |
| **Sunday** *October 31* | Rain | 64°/50° | 31% | 17% | WSW 11 mph |
| **Monday** *November 1* | Sunny | 60°/43° | 12% | 8% | W 11 mph |
| **Tuesday** *November 2* | Partly Cloudy | 59°/45° | 9% | 6% | WSW 9 mph |

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

# TheSomervilleTimes.com
## Comments of the Week

### Response to: *Who to support in the At-Large races?*

**Andrew** says:

I think it's dishonest to mention that Ayanna Pressley endorsed Kristen Strezo and not Willie Burnley, Jr.
Even if this is an opinion piece that detail makes me distrust it.

**Ken Brociner** says:

Andrew
Your point is well taken – however, as you well know, the main thrust of the column was to point out why I think Kristen Strezo, Justin Klekota, Tracey Leah Pratt, and Jake Wilson are the most qualified to serve on the Council.
I explained in some detail why I believe that the three candidates running on the so called "Somerville For All" slate have, in effect, disqualified themselves by running a deliberately deceptive campaign. Given that, who might or might not have endorsed any of them is besides the point – which is why I didn't mention it.

### Response to: *Somerville's housing affordability crisis concerns its residents*

**BMac** says:

Is crisis the right word for something that has been happening for over two decades?
To people who may be about to lose their home, it is a crisis for them, but people getting priced out started in the mid 90s when rent and home prices really started going up.
Most of the people currently in crisis are the ones who were willing to pay higher prices than those who came before them and caused a crisis when they moved in.

**Tom** says:

Good evening
Raising the low income housing to 25% is just going to make things worse. Look at the numbers of Development in Somerville in last three years. Once they increases low income to 20% the developers left. At 25% there will be no new units and will just drive prices higher.

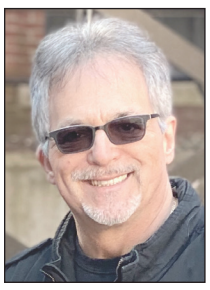
**TheoNa** says:

It's sad to see that there's such a large group of spoiled people who feel that they are entitled to live in Somerville. Were these people ever taught civics in school? Were they ever taught basic economics? Living in Somerville is a choice and not a right. It's not the governments role to fund or enact laws to fulfill someone's wish list. The self-entitled crowd needs to learn to live within their means just as most people do. If one can't afford to live in Somerville then it's up to them to find housing in a more affordable community and live within their means.

***Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments***

Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Driving in Somerville



Driving in Somerville has become a nightmare. Not only because of all the construction and street repairs, but for the pedestrians walking while looking at their phones and listening to their earbuds. They often walk into an intersection without looking for cars.

There is also an influx of motorized scooters that jut in and out of traffic and often come out of nowhere.

Often there will also be a bicyclist inches away from your car which can be very harrowing. There is often the need to drive into oncoming traffic to avoid a bicycle.

Is there a solution to these problems? Hopefully everyone can just start paying more attention to their surroundings.

Here are some comments on the matter:

"The roads today are like a Daytona speedway."

"So many detours."

"Ban cars. That would solve the traffic problem in Somerville."

"If they stop catering more to bikes, it would help!"

"Get rid of the bus and bike lanes!"

"Pedestrians need to be off their phones when in a crosswalk."

"Solution: should be fined $250 for each offense."

"Bikers need to follow rules of the road. 90% follow the rules."

"All bikes (including ride shares) should be regulated. They should pay a fee for registering their bikes and like drivers can be pulled over and fined. Fines need to be $50 and up depending on infraction."

"Drivers are just as bad, eating, drinking, applying makeup, reading a book or newspaper and running red lights."

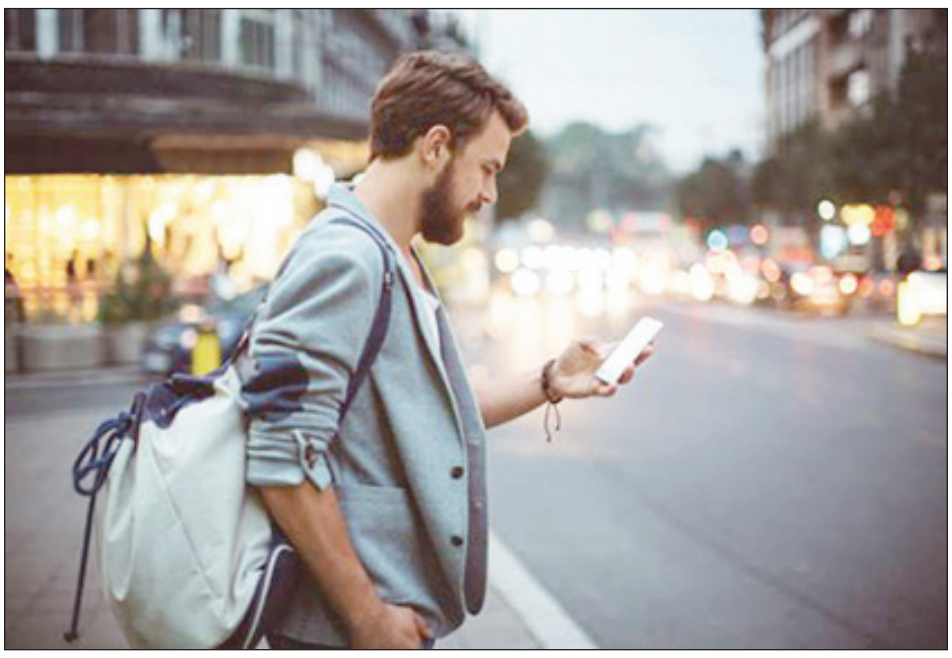
"Start pulling them over and everyone can exist on the roads."

"No bike lanes! The bikers don't use them anyway. No bus lanes, just go around them or wait behind them. Go back to what we had 10 years ago. There were no problems and nobody complained."

"Get rid of the bike lanes and respect the older Somervillians."

"It's happening everywhere, not just Somerville!"

"Bus lane on Winter Hill should have mornings, evening and weekend hours. More exhaust pollution now with traffic backups than before."



"Additionally, less respect on the road and more entitlement!"

"I was in Somerville last week and man I don't even recognize it anymore. What a mess it was driving through. Glad I moved out years ago."

"So different from our younger daze!"

"You are not allowed to drive a car in Somerville now. You need to walk, bike, grab a scooter, or get a horse."

"The number of cars on our tiny street is through the roof! Between the increase in car ownership and all the pass-through traffic, if they would give people an efficient transit system, they wouldn't need to drive!"

"The bicyclists need to pay and contribute! Just like the people with cars. They pay excise tax every yea. It's only fair and everyone is about being fair."

"I need a path to walk my dog so he won't get hit by a bike, bus or car and dump in a pedestrian path. I will be calling the mayor!"

"Places to bag and dispose of the sh*t would be nice too. These automobiles get in the way of everything!"

"Slow down and smell the coffee! Life's too short to be in such a hurry! Stop, say hello! Help one another!"

"More respect for others just may help the situation."

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— Judy Pineda Neufeld

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# THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## Impatient delivery man jumps the gun

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to the Papa John's restaurant on Somerville Ave. last week on reports of a fight.

The responding officers were informed that six men were fighting inside the parking lot. They were also informed that one man showed a firearm and took off in a car.

Dispatch further informed responding units that the license plate came back canceled to a different vehicle and was traveling on Somerville Ave. toward Union Sq.

Upon arrival at Papa John's there was no one in the parking lot fighting, with only two men standing on the sidewalk in front of the store.

The officers questioned one of the men who stated that he was inside Papa John's waiting for his food when a man, later identified as Mohamed Mohamed, of Cambridge, walked inside to pick up a Door Dash order.

The witness stated that Mohamed was asked to wait a minute and someone would be right with him. It seemed to the witness that Mohamed was in a rush as he got aggravated and walked behind the counter to get his order.

That was when employees and Mohamed began to argue, due to the fact that he was in an employee only area. At this point Mohamed reportedly began to yell and swear at the employees, causing one of the managers to come out from the back room to try to calm the situation down. Once the manager made contact with Mohamed, they both walked outside and out of view of the surveillance camera.

According to witness accounts, this is when the manager and Mohamed began to have words with each other, and during their argument Mohamed reportedly swung his hands toward the manager's face.

Thinking that he was going to be hit in the face, the manager pulled Mohamed to the ground and held him down.

Mohamed eventually got up, went into his car, pulled out and cocked a silver and black handgun and stated that he was going to kill them. At this time there were about six people outside, all of whom ran in fear of being shot.

That is when Mohamed got back into his car and backed out of his parking spot and stopped once again, reaching into the middle console and grabbing his handgun and yelling, "I'm going to come back and kill all of you," and then sped away down Somerville Ave.

Mohamed's car was located by police while patrolling on Somerville Ave. at Kilby Street. Due to the nature of the call and the fact that a handgun was shown, officers advised Mohamed to keep his hands on the steering wheel where they could be seen.

The officers then approached the car and ordered Mohamed out. Once out of the car, Mohamed was brought to the front of the police cruiser so that he was beyond reach of his car and he was handcuffed.

A search of the car turned up a handgun, though it had no round in the chamber, as well as no magazine in the gun. A magazine was found in the center console with 14 rounds. A second magazine, which was wrapped in a paper towel, was found in the glove box during the search.

Mohamed reportedly stated that he arrived at Papa John's to pick up a Door Dash delivery when the employees began to yell at him and kicked him out of the store. He further stated that while in the store he was surrounded and feared that he was going to be jumped and told them to fight him or let him leave. He said the he told them, "I have a gun in my car, I'm not going to get jumped."

Mohamed was formally placed under arrest and taken to the police station for booking on charges of possession of a firearm without FID card, assault with a dangerous weapon, and possession of ammunition without FID card.

At the police station, Mohamed stated that he did not believe that he communicated correctly and he wanted to give the real story. He stated that while outside of the store three or four employees of Papa John's surrounded him while one person held him down while the three others assaulted him, causing a small cut to his right elbow and right knee. Mohamed also stated that he was punched in the face and thinks his jaw might be broken.

## SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

**Arrests:**

**Mohamed Mohamed**, of Cambridge, October 20, 7:03 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on charges of possession of a firearm without FID card, assault with a dangerous weapon, and possession of ammunition without FID card.

**John Malone**, October 21, 11:56 p.m., arrested at Highland Ave. on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.

**John Gomes**, October 22, 9:19 p.m., arrested at Lincoln Ave. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor second offense.

**James Hogan**, October 24, 2:00 a.m., arrested at Sidney St. on charges of possession of a firearm without FID card, assault with a dangerous weapon, and possession of ammunition without FID card.

**Christopher Cebula**, October 24, 4:37 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on a charge of methamphetamine trafficking.

## Tufts student dies after charity event mishap

Tufts University student Madelyn Nicpon was attending a fundraising event at a private Somerville residence in support of breast cancer research on Saturday, October 16, when she began choking while participating in a hot dog eating contest. She was rushed to the hospital for emergency treatment after losing consciousness, but passed away on Sunday.

Nicpon, 20, from Suffern, NY, was a standout lacrosse player at her hometown high school as well as at Tufts.

Family and friends of Nicpon, as well as her Tufts classmates, have expressed their deepest feelings of grief at her loss. A candlelight vigil took place on the Tufts campus, attended by approximately 3,00 mourners.

A gofundme fundraiser has been established to assist Nicpon's family to pay expenses: https://gofund.me/73a0d366

— *Photo courtesy of Alonso Nichols/Tufts University*

## Opioid crisis in the crosshairs of the Board of Health

CONT. FROM PG 1

presented additional stressors would be a topic of research under the declaration Kress said.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts now has the eighth highest rate of overdose mortality in the country and second highest rate in New England, Kress said.

"Increasing overdose rates among Black Massachusetts residents underscores the racial health and equities that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic," Kress said. "The Somerville Board of Health recognizes the need for regional action."

In addition to raising awareness regarding the opioid epidemic, Kress also encouraged people to view the Somerville COVID-19 dashboard for the most up to date data regarding the pandemic.

There are currently around 7,000 total positive cases in the city with 93 fatalities and a 1% positivity rate within the last 14 days.

The suspension of a license for three days as a first offense of a sale of tobacco products to a minor was also discussed by staff member Bonny Carroll and Tobacco Control Director DJ. Wilson and Prevention Services Manager Matthew Mitchell. State law requires at least one day of license suspension as a first offense for selling to a minor and a suspension of seven days as a penalty for a second offense.

"A three suspension is kind of in the middle and might be what makes sense," Carroll said.

The city of Chelsea had already adopted a three-day suspension policy, and Cambridge and Revere are likely to follow suit, according to Carroll.

The three-day suspension is a suggestion, Carroll said and could be changed, but it would be useful to clarify to retailers, exactly what the repercussions of offenses are when one occurs.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, November 18.

# Somerville mayoral candidates answer constituents' questions

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

*The Somerville Times* put four questions of interest to the voters of Somerville to the last two remaining candidates running for Mayor of Somerville, Will Mbah and Katjana Ballantyne. The candidates' answers are presented in alphabetical order, according to their last names. The questions and answers are as follows:

## Katjana Ballantyne

**Now that the field of candidates has been thinned out to just two, why should people that did not vote for you, do it on November 2?**

Our next mayor must have three qualities to do the job we expect and deserve: a commitment to our values and culture, an inclusive leadership style based on transparency and engagement, and the proven experience to be the chief executive. I best bring those qualities to the mayor's office.

My values-driven initiatives have made Somerville a national leader in combating climate change, increased affordable housing, access to jobs, and in protecting vulnerable communities.

My experience in business, non-profit community organizations, and in government, uniquely qualifies me to understand and align the incentives and strengths of all stakeholders to solve complex problems together.

My inclusive leadership has delivered results. I make sure that not only the voices of our many active residents are heard, but that we listen also to the voices of our neighbors who can't always attend meetings. Often, the residents who are most affected by our policy choices face the greatest barriers to participation.

At this pivotal moment, I'm confident that with my leadership we can confront climate change, inequality, and the pandemic to create a city that works for all of our residents. I ask for your vote so that we can reach these goals together.

**How can you help Somerville deal better with traffic, cycling and parking?**

Eight out of ten cars using Somerville streets pass through our neighborhoods on their way to and from other communities. These drivers do not stop at local businesses or at a residence; they only make Somerville streets more congested, more polluted, and less safe.

As Mayor, I'll keep working with the community to create a safe, complete network of shared streets for all who live, work and shop here. We will plan our streets to accommodate multiple transportation modes including bus and bike lanes, shared curbs, traffic calming, and hands-free pedestrian signals. These features will make moving around Somerville safer for everyone, including children, adults, and people with disabilities.

Somerville is poised to be a regional leader in transportation. Working together we can demonstrate that everyone can safely coexist with smarter planning and better streets.

Together with neighborhoods, we have made some important and highly visible improvements, but there is much more to do.

As mayor, we will continue to improve local transit options by working for better local bus and shuttle services. These shared mobility options will help to make local transportation more affordable, limiting our dependence on fossil fuel use, thereby improving sustainability, and economic and environmental equity.

**What are some proposals that you are planning to bring to the table in terms of police reform in Somerville?**

The foremost priority in public safety is to serve Somerville's needs. We need to provide appropriate mental health and abuse recovery services as alternatives to arrest, training in de-escalation techniques, and enhanced accountability–especially for issues of systemic racism and implicit bias.

To make fundamental changes, we need to focus on goals. I support the 10-point plan, proposed last year by Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and a broad coalition of Massachusetts elected officials of color. The plan provides an ambitious but achievable roadmap for improving training and disciplinary procedures and reducing confrontational or abusive tactics.

I've committed; to establishing civilian oversight, supporting our new Racial & Social Justice department and its new staff, using data and best practices, having community input to find the right approach for Somerville, and to include our most vulnerable communities who often face the greatest barriers to participation.

We must push for greater diversity in the police force. Other improvements include ensuring that officers are licensed under Peace Officer Standards and Training protocols, establishing a full curriculum of training and refresher courses in implicit bias, de-escalation, crisis intervention, and health and mental wellness. I am committed to making changes to public safety that will best serve the needs and safety of Somerville.

**Do you support rent control and how would you plan to establish rent control?**

Right now we can't even have the conversation, because state law doesn't allow it. We need to be able to have that conversation. We must use every municipal tool available to address affordability, and the urgency of our time, including rent stabilization.

As for the policy, there are many ways to go about any kind of rent control or rent stabilization programs. If the state lifts the ban, then we need to move forward on the affordable housing discussion. We have to have to: make sure owners and renters are at the table together discussing our approach to affordable housing, and how it will strengthen our communities, and building on continuity. This is ultimately what is going to make Somerville more affordable and more appealing.

I am committed to working together to make Somerville a leader on rent stabilization.

## Wilfred N. Mbah

**Now that the field of candidates has been thinned out to just two, why should people that did not vote for you, do it on November 2?**

Voters should know that I will always put their needs first, regardless of if they voted for me or not. I ran for office in 2017 because I saw that our city government was not addressing the needs of working-class families and marginalized communities. It frustrated me to see the city put the needs of special interests and developers from outside of the city ahead of the needs of families that have lived here for generations. This is why I have never accepted money from developers, and I am the only candidate in this race that can say that. Voters can be reassured that I will always put their needs ahead of the needs of special interests, because that's what I've done during my time on the city council.

The final reason I think voters who didn't vote for me originally, should consider it on November 2 is my ability to bring people together and bridge gaps. If you look at my testimonials and endorsements (as well as my time on the city council) you will notice that people cite my willingness to listen and find ways to bring together residents who have lived in Somerville their whole lives with those who might have only recently moved to Somerville. I truly listen to people, regardless of whether or not I received their vote.

**You have also talked about free public transportation in Somerville but public transportation is run by the MBTA. How do you propose to provide free public transportation in Somerville?**

Public transportation should be available to all, not just those who can afford it. We do not charge people to attend public schools, use a public library, or go to a public park, and we should aim to make it free for people to use public transportation. This will take time, collaboration with regional partners and the MBTA, but we can start to take the steps that will take us down the path of free public transportation. It is not overambitious or unrealistic to make busses fare free in Somerville. We are already seeing this in Boston where pilot programs have established fare free bus routes. As Mayor, I will advocate for the MBTA to introduce similar pilot programs in Somerville that make bus routes like the 89 or 101 fare free.

This can be funded through the combination of a variety of revenue sources. First, in Olympia, Washington, the city was able to cut down on the cost of plastic fare cards, which were becoming expensive due to tariffs imposed by the Trump administration, by going fare free. In many cities, the cost of the fare card combined with the cost of processing the fare can be more expensive than the fare itself. Second, cities that have eliminated fares for busses have seen an increase in ridership as a result. This would allow the MBTA to charge more for advertising on busses and bus stops. Another way to provide free transportation is to subsidize fares for low income and working-class families that rely on public transportation. I will advocate for this and collaborate with our regional partners to push the MBTA to make public transportation free and accessible for everyone.

**What are some proposals that you are planning to bring to the table in terms of police reform in Somerville?**

As a person of color, the father of two black children, and an immigrant, this issue is deeply personal to me. Some of the problems with our current system of policing is the result of tasking policing officers with jobs that they are not equipped to handle. This can often result in the unnecessary escalation of incidents they are called to and have dire consequences. We should not be sending someone with a gun to address calls that involve the unhoused, addiction, and mental health. These issues can be best handled by professionals with backgrounds in public health, not police. Cities that have taken this approach have saved money by cutting down on the costs associated with arresting individuals and improving public health outcomes by addressing the root problems of houselessness, addiction, and mental health.

We also need to implement the Civilian Oversight Board and ensure it has the resources necessary to serve as another layer of oversight and protection for residents of Somerville in instances of police misconduct.

Police officers should be representative of the communities that they are charged with protecting. We need to have more officers of *Continued on page 17*

# Beacon Hill Roll Call

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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE.** *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives' and senators' votes on roll calls from the week of October 18-22.

**HOUSE REDISTRICTING (H 4210)**
House 158-1, approved and sent to the Senate a bill redrawing the boundaries of all 160 representatives' districts. The House plan would increase from 20 to 33 the number of districts where minorities make up the majority of the population. Traditionally, the Senate does not tinker with the House's version of redistricting just like the House won't make any changes to the Senate's upcoming version of Senate redistricting.

Rep. Mike Moran (D-Boston), the House Chair of the Special Committee on Redistricting, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on passage of the plan.

"This increase in majority opportunity districts is due to the demographic changes within the commonwealth," said Moran in a message attached to his legislation. "The committee did not unduly, however, subordinate traditional redistricting principles for racial or ethnic considerations, but rather gave due weight to all of the competing state interests. The new districts reflect neighborhoods and communities of interest. They preserve compactness and contiguity. And they advance equal electoral opportunity for all residents. These districts are a direct result of our extensive public outreach effort during the COVID-19 pandemic and the public response that overcame the handicap of late census data and strengthened the plan."

"There is an inherent conflict of interest in sitting office holders choosing their own districts because they'll always do it in a way that protects their political power," said Rep. Lenny Mirra (R-Georgetown), the only representative to vote against the plan. "What is needed is an independent commission drawing the districts so that it is done in a fair and impartial manner. Other states have done this and it's time Massachusetts does the same."

(A "Yes" vote is for the redistricting plan. A "No" vote is against it.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Rep. Christine Barber | Yes |
| Rep. Mike Connolly | Yes |
| Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven | Yes |

**BENEFITS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES (S 2558)**
Senate 39-0, approved and sent to the House a bill that would support military families who relocate to the Bay State by providing career stability for the spouses of service members and education for their children.

Provisions include making it easier for military personnel and their spouses who move to the Bay State to get a Massachusetts professional license, if their job requires one, so that they can continue their civilian careers and provide for their families without interruption; requiring the Commissioner of Education to issue a military spouse a valid certificate for teaching if he or she holds a valid teaching license from another state; allowing children of military members to register and enroll in a school district at the same time it is open to the general population by waiving the proof of residency requirement until the student actually begins school; creating a purple-star campus designation for certain schools that are military-kid friendly and show a major commitment to students and families connected to the nation's military; and requiring that a child or spouse of an active-duty service member in Massachusetts continue to pay the in-state less expensive tuition rate at state universities even if the service member is assigned to move out of the state.

"Our commonwealth has always led from the front in terms of taking care of our active-duty service members and veterans, but I strongly believe that there is more we can do for the spouses and children of service-members who also call Massachusetts their home," said sponsor Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield). "Anyone who has worn the uniform or has a family member who has worn the uniform knows that the sacrifice of military service goes far beyond the individual service member. By passing this legislation, we are saying to these families that we understand their challenges, that we recognize the great sacrifices that they have made, and that we are committed to doing everything we can to support them."

"Supporting our brave service members who call Massachusetts home means lifting up the families who stand behind them," stated Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). "This bill would eliminate barriers which make it difficult for military spouses to gain employment despite holding a valid license or certificate and would also strengthen educational supports for the children of service members who relocate to the commonwealth."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Sen. Patricia Jehlen | Yes |

**REQUIRE SCHOOLS TO TEACH ABOUT GENOCIDE (S 2557)**
Senate 39-0, approved and sent to the House a bill requiring public schools to educate middle and high school students on the history of genocide. This measure also establishes a Genocide Education Trust Fund to help fund the teaching. The funds would come from the Legislature, private and public gifts and grants and revenue from fines imposed for hate crimes.

Supporters cited a 2020 survey, commissioned by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, which gauged Holocaust knowledge and found that 63 per cent of millennials and Generation Z population, did not know six million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust. The survey also found that nearly half were unfamiliar with Nazi concentration camps like Auschwitz.

"To ensure that the atrocities of the past never again scar our world, we must act to ensure young people are meaningfully educated about the history of genocide and armed with the knowledge to stand against its root causes, today and into the future," said Senate Ways and Means chair Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport).

"It is shocking how many young people today have never heard of the Auschwitz concentration camp, the Holocaust or other heinous genocides perpetrated in the past," said Sen. Jason Lewis (D-Winchester), Senate Chair of the Committee on Education. "This important legislation will ensure that more students understand the history of genocide so that it never happens again."

"This year, we have seen stark reminders of the need for genocide education as Holocaust terminology has been misused in our community on athletic fields and in the public square," said Robert Trestan, Anti-Defamation League New England Regional Director. "Massachusetts now has an opportunity to use the power of education to address hate through this essential initiative for Holocaust and genocide education in the commonwealth."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Sen. Patricia Jehlen | Yes |

**ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL**

**PROMOTE TEACHER DIVERSITY (H 682/S 366)** – The Education Committee held a virtual hearing on legislation designed to diversify teachers in the Bay State by establishing a pathway for alternative methods of certification to be a teacher in Massachusetts. Currently, aspiring teachers are required to pass the Massachusetts Test for Educational Licensure (MTEL) which was created in 1998 for educators seeking pre-K to 12 teaching licenses. According to the Massachusetts Department of Education's website, MTEL "includes a test of communication and literacy skills as well as tests of subject matter knowledge. The tests are designed to help ensure that Massachusetts educators can communicate adequately with students, parents/guardians, and other educators and that they are knowledgeable in the subject matter of the license sought."

Other provisions require uniformity across school districts to appoint diversity officers or teams; mandatory diversity and inclusion training for the school committee and all staff; anti-bias training for all screening committees prior to reviewing candidate applications; and establish Educator Diversity Councils to serve as advisory councils to school committees to address issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.

"The commonwealth needs to diversify its teaching workforce," said House sponsor Rep. Alice Peisch (D-Wellesley), the House Chair of the Committee on Education. "Not only will greater educator diversity introduce our students to different perspectives and life experiences, it is essential that all of our students see themselves better reflected in the ranks of those who are teaching them."

"Increasing educator diversity will improve educational outcomes for all students, especially students of color and is a critical part of the anti-racism work that we must pursue in all our public schools," said Senate sponsor Sen. Jason Lewis (D-Winchester), the Senate Chair of the Committee on Education. "This bill, which is supported by a variety of educational stakeholders and advocates, would create a path towards improved recruitment and retention of teachers of color in Massachusetts."

**CREATE NEW LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE (S 2050)** – The State Administration and Regulatory Oversight Committee held a virtual hearing on a proposal that would create a Legislative Fiscal Office to research and provide assistance and analysis to legislators, legislative staff and legislative committees on the fiscal impact of proposed legislation or the state budget. The findings and recommendations of the office are not binding on the Legislature. The director and deputy director would be appointed by joint decision of the lieutenant governor, treasurer, secretary of administration and finance and the House and Senate chairs of the Ways and Means Committee and must have substantial experience in financial management, accounting or other related fields.

"This is a good government bill," said sponsor Sen. Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton). "Professional fiscal analysts could present nonpartisan scoring of legislative proposals free from political bias.

*Continued on page 7*

## Beacon Hill Roll Call

CONT. FROM PG 6

Today, in Massachusetts, legislators often have nowhere to turn to get cost estimates on their bills. By contrast, Congress has a legislative fiscal office, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [which] produces reliable, highly respected work that both parties rely on in drafting and analyzing legislation."

**ALLOW LEGISLATIVE AIDES TO UNIONIZE (H 3131)** – A bill that would allow aides to senators and representative to unionize was also on the agenda of the State Administration and Regulatory Oversight Committee hearing.

"Currently in this great commonwealth, we provide strong protections to our public servants," said sponsor Rep. Shawn Dooley (R-Norfolk). "Nearly all are allowed to unionize, so that they have a strong unified voice when bargaining with their employer. Currently our own legislative aides are unable to form a union. Their pay is set for them and each one of them works at the will of the member they serve and the House of Representatives as a whole, either of which can remove the assigned aide at any time. This puts our aides in an unfair position. We expect so much from them and they do so much work for us behind the scenes, we should provide them with the same basic fairness we provide to other public employees."

**REVENUE COMMITTEE HEARING** – The Revenue Committee held a virtual hearing on several tax-related measures including:

**ALLOW CITIES AND TOWNS TO IMPOSE A 3-CENTS-PER-GALLON GAS TAX (H 3039)** – Allows cities and towns to implement a local excise tax of 3-cents-per-gallon on gas and diesel fuel sold within its borders. One cent of the tax would go to each of the following: the maintenance, repair, upkeep, construction or improvement of roads, bridges, sidewalks, bikeways, public parking areas or roadside drainage; the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority or regional transportation authority serving the city or town; and projects which promote and improve non-single occupancy motor vehicle transportation including pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities, senior transportation programs, telecommuting programs and carpool programs.

"I filed this legislation after three of the municipalities I represent filed home rule petitions requesting that a gasoline tax be authorized," said co-sponsor Rep. Smitty Pignatelli (D-Lenox). "I'm a firm believer that if the state government cannot provide the necessary funds for communities to maintain their transportation infrastructure, we should not stand in the way of solutions that allow communities to make these decisions and get needed revenue for themselves."

"This legislation gives municipalities the ability to raise additional revenue and the flexibility to address their most pressing transportation needs," said co-sponsor Rep. Tommy Vitolo (D-Brookline). "Across the commonwealth, our transportation systems need improvement and [this bill] helps communities implement local solutions."

"According to the Reason Foundation's annual highway report, Massachusetts ranked as the second most expensive state in the country for how much taxpayers spend on roads," said Paul Craney, spokesman for the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance. "Massachusetts is the second most expensive state for its administrative cost and cost for maintenance. In those categories, Massachusetts is paying three or four times the national average. Clearly the problem is how our state spends money. Taxpayers are generous enough and they should not pay a penny more in gas taxes."

"A local gas tax is nothing more than another sneaky attempt to raise municipal revenue outside and above the restrictions of Proposition 2½," said Chip Ford, executive director of Citizens for Limited Taxation. "The state can certainly provide the funds to maintain transportation infrastructure if Beacon Hill prioritizes it," added Ford. "Reason Foundation's 25th Annual Highway Report 2020 ranks Massachusetts 49th (second highest) in total spending per road mile. Its state-controlled *Continued on page 21*

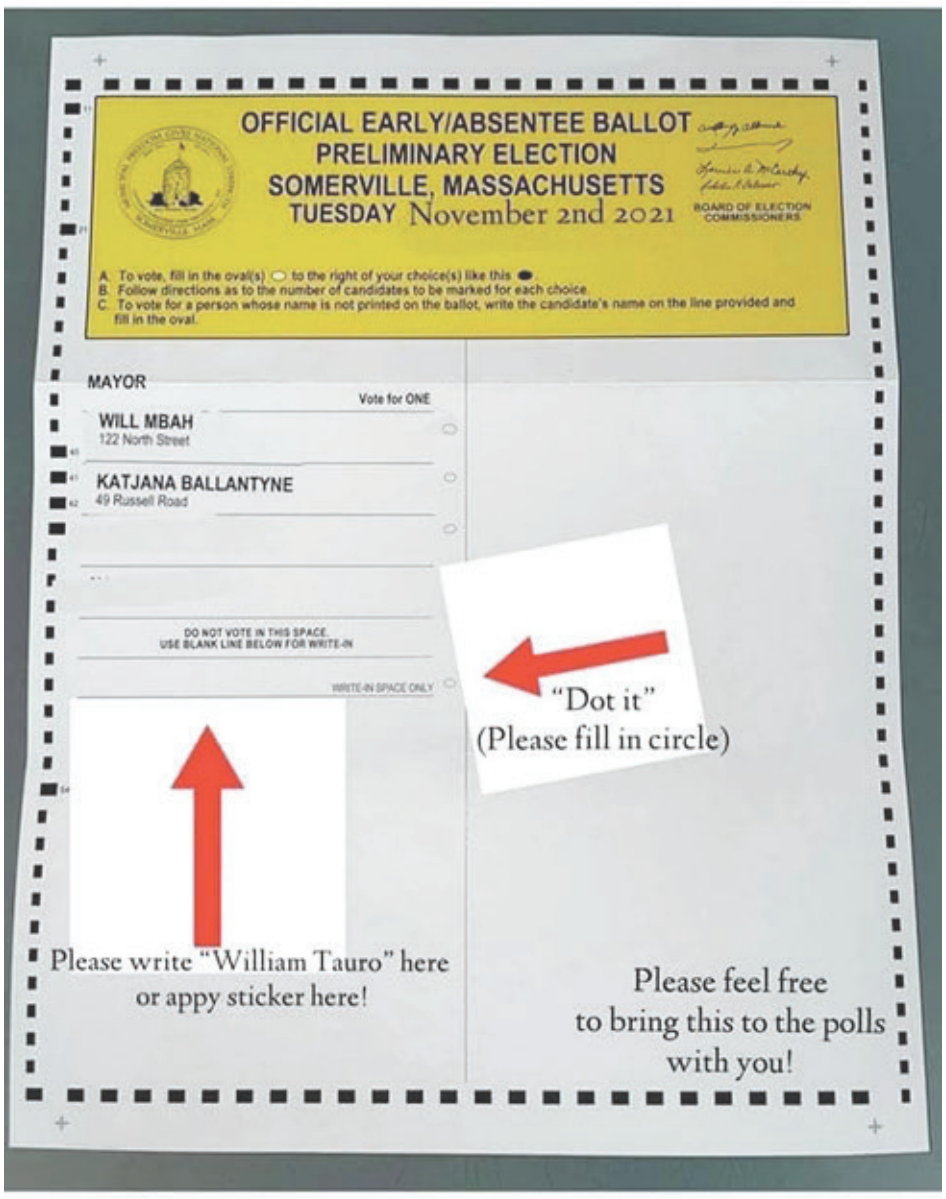
## Treasury Department Launches Online Self-Service Tool

The City of Somerville's Treasury Department launched Citizen Self-Service (CSS), an online tool that allows residents to look up and access bill information. Residents can now view real estate tax bills, water and sewer bills, and personal property tax bills online, in real time, 24/7. CSS also allows residents to see official City records and check their payment history directly, and it links to City Hall Systems, the City's online payment vendor, enabling easy payment access that is safe, secure, and free of charge if a checking account is used as the payment method.

To use CSS, visit somervillema.gov/treasury.


We Are In It To Win It!
On November 2nd
Write In: William Tauro

On November 2nd
Either: "Write it", "Stick it" & "Dot it"




William Tauro

# 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.*

## On Somerville's November 2nd Ballot:

### Abolish the Somerville Police Department – Yes or No?

**By Joe Lynch**
**Former Ward 5 Democratic City Committee Chair**

Should we abolish the Somerville Police Department? The answer to this question should be next to every candidate's name on this year's Somerville ballot.

The slogan "defund the police" means many things. But the repeated message from the Democratic Socialists of America-Boston (DSA), candidates for office in Somerville is clear: the outright abolition of the Somerville Police Department.

The political organization Our Revolution Somerville (ORS) has many members who are also members of DSA-Boston. In a recent questionnaire for the candidates seeking the ORS endorsement, every DSA candidate affirmed their commitment to abolishing our police department. They committed to a 65 percent, or more, cut in the police budget. Most candidates have since removed this commitment from their campaign literature. Don't be fooled. They have never refuted their stated efforts to use the Somerville City Council to abolish our police department.

In June of 2020, the existing City Council cut the police department by 13 percent in response to immense pressure from activists. Since then police staff have been working forced overtime shifts to perform our community's needed safety duties. Yet, the DSA activists, including the Somerville DSA candidates for ward and at-large councilors, think this cut did not go far enough. When their demands were not met they demanded that the City Council reject the entire city budget in protest. It is grossly irresponsible and reckless to expect the City Council to reject a budget that includes not only policing, but DPW, the Fire Department, the Somerville Public School system and every city department and function. Talk about the far right Republican strategy of "starve the beast." Because their unrealistic, irresponsible and reckless demand was not realized, the DSA activists now want to prevent the appointment of Somerville's next Chief of Police. This attitude is exactly why we currently don't have a permanent chief. If the police are to exist, then the city should hire the most forward thinking, progressive and reform minded chief possible. Refusing to allow the city to move forward on this hiring process guarantees that reform will not happen. Preventing the hiring of a new police chief only makes sense if the goal is to abolish the Somerville Police Department.

National and statewide polling clearly indicates a growing lack of support for defunding the police. And an absolute rejection for abolition. A recent USA Today poll shows that only 28 percent of Black people and 34 percent of Democrats support defunding local police departments. Even fewer support abolition.

I think this speaks volumes about this DSA initiative. The abolition/defund till it's gone DSA policy is punitive and driven by ideology instead of reality.

The 2021 Somerville municipal election is not about supporting police. It is about supporting and protecting the many people in our community who need the police: people of color, gay/queer and straight, young and old, rich and less affluent, caregivers and their kids, businesses, and the many victims of hate and violent crimes. The DSA candidates have proven through their actions and words that they have no regard for the people they claim to represent. What does matter to the DSA candidates is winning Somerville, the Council and the Mayor's office, to further the "abolish the police movement" that they have appointed themselves the leaders of while excluding everyone else, including the many people who want true change in Somerville policing.

When you vote this year, please let the DSA candidates know that they cannot use our city as a battlefield for their divisive agenda.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of *The Somerville Times* do not reflect the views and opinions of *The Somerville Times*, its publishers or staff. Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to *The Somerville Times*. Please email your letters to News@TheSomervilleTimes.com. *The Somerville Times* Reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and length. All letters must include an name and contact information. Contact information will not be shared with the public. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Becca Miller for Ward 7 Councilor**

With the municipal election only days away, Somerville voters are carefully considering who they want to represent them on city council and in the mayor's office next year. Whatever happens, we know this election will mean a big change, because we're going to have a new mayor and at least five new councilors, including in my own ward 7.

I will be voting for Becca Miller and hope you will join me in ensuring she is our next Ward 7 Councilor. I've been a homeowner in West Somerville for 34 years, and I've seen how big developers make millions off sweetheart deals that the city foots the bill for: by raising my property taxes.

Our neighbors struggle to pay increasing taxes and water bills to stay in their homes. When they decide to sell and move to a cheaper town, the community we have built here together gets a little weaker. It used to be that after you raised your kids in Somerville, they could purchase a home near you and stay close. That's unachievable for most now. And that is disgraceful!

Becca has the vision to fight for a housing policy that works for all of us, whether you're a homeowner like me, or a renter, whether you've lived here 30 years, or moved in last year. She'll fight for more affordable housing, tenant protections, and to tax big developers so they pay for things like new sewer systems their construction will require and not expect my water bill to make up the difference.

Becca is a climate activist, and she's the only candidate who has called for making Somerville Carbon Neutral by 2030. Our city's plan calls for that in 2050, but I know that's not soon enough to catch up from the setbacks of the last 5 years in Washington. Becca doesn't just have ideas, she knows how to get things done.

I was impressed to learn about her work over the years at the State House, winning more than $47M in funding for food security programs to ensure that everyone in this state can get healthy food and live a decent life.

She doesn't just work with people who agree with her; one of the lead sponsors of her legislation is a Republican! She has to work with people who are conservative, people who are moderate, and people who are liberals. I know she will be able to bring all of us in Somerville together after the election.

Yes, she's a democratic socialist. To me, that means she puts the needs of her community first, before corporate profits and political expediency. She's fighting for policies that will help the many in Somerville – housing affordability; better, greener city infrastructure; and fully funded city services. To me, electing a socialist means electing someone who has the beliefs and ability to follow through on an agenda that will help residents to flourish.

I'm supporting Becca Miller because she has the experience, the vision, and the commitment to enact the policies we need with the rest of the council. I ask you to join me in voting for Becca Miller on Tuesday, November 2.

By Patricia Thatcher
*Ward 7 Resident*

---

It's reasonable to say that when most people see a problem, they take all steps possible to correct the issue. We know that dirty energy is a problem and the time to do something about it was yesterday.

It's widely understood in Massachusetts that burning fossil fuels leads to a lot of bad things. Carbon emissions accelerate global warming, which in turn threatens Massachusetts with rising sea levels and more frequent extreme heat days. Air pollution increases the risk of health conditions, including greater susceptibility to diseases like COVID-19. This isn't abstract anymore – stopping emissions saves lives and protects communities.

We know that this is a problem, and the 100% Clean Act is the solution. Massachusetts' 100% Clean Act lays out a plan to transition the state to sustainable electricity by 2035 and clean heating and transportation by 2045. A plan like this is critical to shut down pollution from the source and keep our air clean and safe. We know the right thing to do – now it's time to get it done.

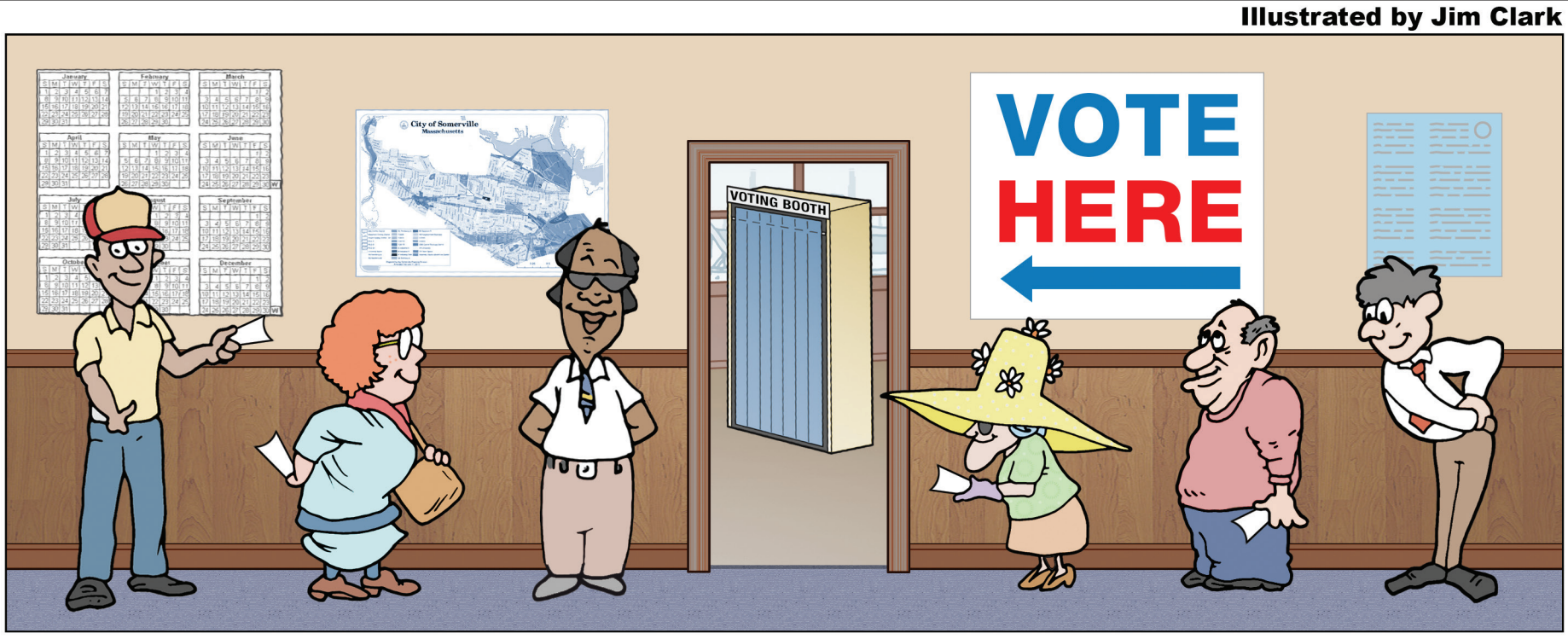
Sarah Nick
*Somerville*

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

# COMMENTARY

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark




Let's all get out there and vote on November 2.

## Our View Of The Times

As we still contend with the awful effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, then do our best to give the little ones some semblance of normalcy as they look to celebrate Halloween, we are triply tasked with searching our souls for the right answers to questions posed at the ballot box next week.

For some of us the choices are blessedly clear, while others may have difficulty culling the wheat from the chaff amidst all of the conflicting messages put forward on each side of almost every issue. Politics as usual, really.

As we are tasked with choosing our next mayor and a number of City Councilors, it is an important election day. Every eligible voter should consider it his or her duty to vote and do the thing that makes life in this land such a precious gift: help to decide the course that we are to follow in the immediate future, and play their parts in writing the historical record for what is to follow.

Every single vote does count, be assured of that. Vote by mail ballots can be returned by mail to Somerville Elections Department, or through one of five drop boxes located around the city.

So, don't let a little rain or chilly weather or anything else stop you. From the troops at Valley Forge straight through to our humble present-day letter carriers, service to one's country should not be hindered or halted due to a bit of inconvenient inclement weather. Or almost anything else, actually.

Let it be so for us as well. We are no less important, so let's get out there and make our choices count.

## Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

friends, such as **Diana Riel, Dorothy O'Malley, Jeffery Varney, Russell Chiary, Erin DiBenedetto, Gene Beraldi, Joe Bear, Candy Feldt** and **John Blute** a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

**********

Last year, the **Healey School** received a grant from the **Somerville Arts Council** for a collaborative art project. Working with Healey Art teacher **Mikkel DellaCamera** and parent artists **Ben DiSarcina** and **Ben Kauffman**, students painted canvasses inspired by **Chris Uphues** and **Takashi Murakami**. The canvasses were put together on wood panels and readied for permanent display on the school's newly renovated **Healey Community Play Area**.

**********

The number of **confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Somerville** has risen from 32 in June to 147 in July to 328 in August to 400 in September. Currently 75% of all Somerville residents are fully vaccinated. See the latest Somerville case data at somervillema.gov/covid-19dashboard. Need a COVID test? Go to somervillema.gov/covid19testing to find a testing location.

**********

The **CHA vaccination site** at 176 Somerville Ave. (next to Target in Union Square) and **many local pharmacies** offer **walk-in vaccinations**. To find out more about these three clinics and where else you can get vaccinated, visit somervillema.gov/vaccine. Remember, vaccines are free, regardless of immigration status or health insurance. If you're not vaccinated, make a plan today to get your shot. **At-home vaccinations available:** Massachusetts offers in-home vaccinations for anyone who can't travel to a vaccination location. To learn more and sign up for an in-home vaccination, call (833) 983-0485.

**********

The **Somerville Council on Aging** is holding **Nutrition Classes**, in-person, **Mondays** at 12:30 p.m. at our **Ralph and Jenny Center** located at 9 New Washington Street, and **Wednesdays** at 10:00 a.m. at our **Holland Street Center** located at 167 Holland Street. **Virtual classes** are offered **Mondays** at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom. New and returning members are welcome. To RSVP please call **Mary Marshall** at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316 or email her at headtofitness10@yahoo.com. Masks are required.

**********

The **Somerville Museum** is looking for an **independent contractor** to support the museum's facilities on a part-time basis. Part-time (average 4 hours/week). This position should be available for on-call building requirements (evenings and/or weekends as required). It may be necessary to respond to off-hours emergencies one or two times per year. This position should also be familiar with building heating, mechanical, or electrical systems. The Somerville Museum building, built in 1924, at One Westwood Road, Somerville has been recently renovated with a new elevator and redesigned basement layout. To apply please email cover letter, resume, and reference list to info@somervillemuseum.org. Please use **"Facilities Assistant"** in the subject line.

**********

The **Somerville Theatre** will hold a special screening of Tod Browning's Universal Classic ***Dracula*** on Halloween night. They will be showing a 35mm print featuring live musical accompaniment by **Jeff Rapsis** for a movie with virtually no score beyond the opening credits. *Dracula* is not rated. Tickets at: https://20163.formovietickets.com:2235/T.ASP?WCI=BT. Masks are required. Proof of COVID vaccination or a 72-hour negative COVID test required for entry. Sunday, October 31, 7:30 p.m., 55 Davis Sq.

**********

The **Somerville Board of Health** has extended the citywide residential **eviction moratorium** until April 30 of next year. The moratorium applies to both renters and homeowners, and it means residents cannot be physically removed from their homes, though eviction cases may proceed through court. Back rent ultimately must be paid. If you find yourself or anyone you know unable to make rent or mortgage payments (or if you are a landlord owed back rent), assistance may be available. Contact our Office of Housing Stability at 617-625-6600 x2581 or the Community Action Agency of Somerville at 617-623-7370 for more information.

**********

The final **SomerStreets** event of 2021, **Monster Mashed Up!**, presented by **Parkour Generations Boston** and the **Somerville Arts** *Continued on page 21*

# FUN & GAMES

## Ms. Cam's Olio #800

**Olio** - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. Which phobia means having an intense fear of Halloween?

2. From which vegetable were Jack O' Lanterns originally made?

3. In 2004, the city of Hollywood banned the use of what party item on Halloween?

4. What is the original name for what we now call candy corn?

5. Who famously died on October 31, 1926?

6. What is a hallow?

7. What two countries are widely credited with originating the idea of wearing costumes on Halloween?

8. What is the third most important tropical fruit in world production?

9. Who invented basketball?

10. Where did the largest earthquakes in the U.S. occur?

11. What is a toxophilite?

12. What is the name of the shipwrecked boat in TV's *Gilligan Island?*

*Answers on page 10*

## The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. A shark can detect one part of blood in 100 million parts of water.
2. Children grow faster in the springtime.

## SUDOKU

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| | | | 7 | 5 | 4 | 3 | | 8 |
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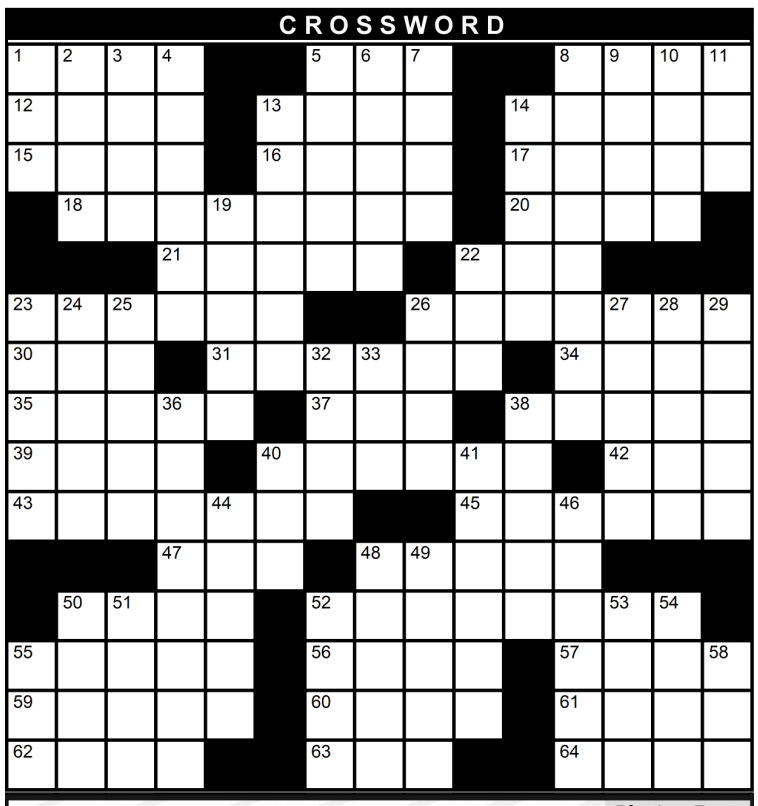
***Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.***

*Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.*

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

*CANDY*



### ACROSS

1. Good earth
5. Pea soup bone
8. Transport, with a U
12. Top notch
13. Copenhagen native
14. Boggy
15. Who would
16. Play parts
17. "Sesame Street" roommate
18. World's best-selling candy bar
20. Law school entry requirement, acr.
21. Use a garrote
22. Homer Simpson's exclamation
23. "Gimme a break" bar
26. Scrimmage line group
30. Dollar
31. Saltwater game fish
34. Hindu workout
35. 4 years for a U.S. President, pl.
37. Hyde & ___ Boutique candy
38. Seize a throne
39. Popular aquarium performer
40. Germany's National Socialism, for short
42. Ryder Cup peg
43. Excellent
45. Jet setters' vessels
47. Scientist's office
48. Game ragout
50. One from Glasgow
52. Twizzlers competitor
55. There's none like home?
56. Vocal piece for one
57. Small ladies' handbag
59. Black cat crossing the street, e.g.
60. One with biggest share?
61. Actor Wahlberg
62. Secondary school
63. Follow ems
64. Sheltered, nautically

### DOWN

1. Order's partner?
2. Sounds of amazement
3. Any day now
4. a.k.a. hop clover or nonesuch
5. Certain consonant marker
6. Cavern or cave
7. Army ____ hall, or dining room
8. Who's Kisses?
9. Pavlova or Kournikova
10. Newton, e.g.
11. Caustic chemical
13. One of Fanning sisters
14. Cell dweller
19. Online conversations
22. Cacophony
23. Japanese string instrument, pl.
24. Apathetic
25. 9 a.m. prayer
26. Mischievous Norse deity
27. Pop Rocks sizzle and pop in it
28. Kind of heron
29. Back of the neck, pl.
32. Back of military formation
33. Short for Pfefferminz
36. Chocolate-covered whipped marshmallow (2 words)
38. Savory taste sensation
40. Apprehend
41. Spirit of the woods
44. Not now
46. Auteur's art
48. European finch
49. Goodbye, in Puerto Vallarta
50. Hurtful remark
51. Zoo room
52. Respiratory rattling
53. Et alibi, abbr.
54. "You betcha!"
55. OB-GYN test
58. Mike and ____ fruity, chewy candy

*Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.*

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**Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| 7 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 5 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 6 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 2 |
| 8 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 5 |

**Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:**

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| I | R | A | N | | | S | P | A | | | C | L | E | F |
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| S | E | E | D | | R | I | L | E | | I | M | M | I | X |
| | S | R | I | L | A | N | K | A | | E | B | B | S | |
| | | | R | A | G | G | A | | A | G | O | | | |
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# COVID-19 booster shots explained

Booster shots of all COVID-19 vaccines have been approved by the FDA for people who are considered to be at higher risk if they contract the virus or who are at higher risk of exposure due to their work or residential settings.

The FDA has also approved "mixing and matching" booster shots, so you can get a booster of any of the COVID-19 vaccines regardless of what type of COVID-19 vaccine you previously received. Please keep in mind the eligibility categories may change in the future. If you are not sure if you are eligible for a booster, consult with your doctor.

For those who have received Pfizer and Moderna vaccinations these are the categories for whom a booster shot is recommended:

- People age 65 or older and residents in long-term care facilities
- Anyone ages 50-64 with underlying medical conditions. Heart disease, chronic lung diseases, and diabetes are on the list, but please review the list to see if you might qualify. Also, consult a doctor or health clinic if you have questions about whether you qualify.

For those who have received Pfizer and Moderna vaccinations these are the categories for who is also eligible to receive a booster shot:

- People ages 18-49 with underlying medical conditions. Again, consult with a doctor or health clinic if you have questions about whether you qualify.
- People ages 18-64 who live or work in high-risk settings. The list includes first responders, education staff, and grocery store workers.

Anyone who received a Johnson & Johnson vaccine is eligible for a booster.

If you believe you meet these eligibility criteria, here are the steps to getting a booster shot:

If you received two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine:

- Wait at least 6 months after your second dose before getting a booster
- You can get a booster shot of Moderna, Pfizer, or Johnson & Johnson

If you received one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine:

- Wait at least 2 months after your first dose before getting a booster
- You can get a booster shot of Moderna, Pfizer, or Johnson & Johnson

Right now City vaccine clinics are not able to provide booster shots, but you may walk-in or schedule a booster vaccine at most local pharmacies or vaccination sites. You can search for specific locations at vaxfinder.mass.gov, talk to your healthcare provider about your options for a booster shot, or call 2-1-1 or 3-1-1 if you need assistance in finding a location to receive a booster vaccine.

# Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO

## Warren's Almond Flour Blueberry Pancakes

By now I'm sure most of you have heard of the Paleo lifestyle. No dairy, no legumes, no grains, no processed sugars, no gluten, no soybean, peanut, corn or canola oils. Only eating fresh fruits and vegetables that are in season. Limited raw nuts and seeds, grass fed beef, organic chicken and other organic meats without added nitrates. Basically, no processed foods and added sugar, which is not such a bad thing!

Packed full of protein, these delicious pancakes will surely be part of your breakfast rotation.

2 cups Almond flour (labeled as almond meal)
2 Tbl. Coconut flour
1/4 tsp. Nutmeg, freshly ground
1/2 tsp. Cinnamon
1/2 tsp. Sea salt or kosher salt
1 cup Bananas, mashed (about 2 medium sized)
1/2 tsp. Lemon zest
4 Eggs, lightly beaten, (large)
1/4 cup Sparkling water (lemon works well), or regular water
1 cup Fresh blueberries
Coconut oil (3 tsp.)*
Fresh mixed berries for garnish

I like to use an electric skillet to make the pancakes since it's easier to regulate the temperature. If using the electric skillet, set the temperature to 300 degrees. If using a non-stick frying pan, make sure not to use a high heat, since the coconut oil will burn easily. With each batch, use 1 teaspoon of coconut oil to grease the pan and distribute evenly.

In a medium sized bowl, add the almond meal, coconut flour, nutmeg, cinnamon, and salt. Mix well, using a fork, making sure there are no lumps. In a separate bowl, mash the bananas, add the eggs, lemon zest and sparkling water and blend well. Combine the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients, making sure all the ingredients are well blended without lumps.

Scoop the batter into a 1/4 cup measuring unit, pour the batter onto the heated surface of the frying pan or electric skillet. With a spoon, spread the pancake batter evenly to about a 4 inch diameter. Place some loose blueberries onto the pancake and repeat, making sure not overcrowd the pan. Flip the pancakes once they are lightly browned, about 4-5 min. Serve with fresh berries.

Serves 4, (3 pancakes per person). Gluten Free and dairy free.

For more information on and where to get the ingredients, please go to www.bobsredmill.com

Recipe adapted from PALEOPLAN.COM

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

# A field trip to Salem

The freshman class from the Full Circle School took a field trip into downtown Salem last Friday for the Halloween season. They learned more about the history of Salem and the witch trials of the 1600's.

*— Photos by Melissa Ianzieri*

# Citywide parking and curb use study kick-off

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the Somerville Parking Study Task Force invite you to a virtual community meeting to kick off the Citywide Parking and Curb Use Study.

The Citywide Parking and Curb Use Study will collect data to comprehensively understand Somerville's parking system and develop recommendations to guide the city in bringing its parking policies in alignment with its goals, community values, and future needs.

The study will be informed by public and expert input as well as the Parking Study Task Force, a 21-member group consisting of representatives from the City Council, the business community, the Council on Aging, the Commission for Persons with Disabilities, the Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee, the Bicycle Advisory Committee, and many city departments.

At this meeting, city staff and consultants will introduce the study's scope and timeline and present the results of a citywide curb inventory and existing-conditions analysis.

Attendees will be invited to share feedback about on-street parking and other uses for curbside space in Somerville.

The meeting will take place virtually, with two options to attend: Tuesday, November 9, at 12:30 p.m., or Wednesday, November 10, at 6:00 p.m.

To learn more about the study and register for the meeting, visit somervillema.gov/parkingstudy.

# City proposes zoning ordinance amendment to help affordable housing developers

By Joe Creason

The Land Use Committee convened on Tuesday, October 19, to discuss a number of items on the agenda, some which had been discussed previously in a public hearing forum during an earlier committee meeting.

One such item was a request from the Mayor's Office asking for the approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for payments of Certificates of Occupancy. The issue had previously sparked a number of questions for Councilors.

"As an overview, having to make an upfront payment for a fractional buyout or an in-lieu payment can basically be a non-starter, especially for small and mid-sized developments, so they supported this in order to these projects financed and completed and then get the fractional payments at the certificate of occupancy," said Land Use Committee Chair and Ward 3 Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen.

Ward 6 Councilor had a number of questions regarding the new system and how it will address the challenges which the Council has tried to manage through other strategies.

"We made the decision to the direction that we went back in 2017 having heard these concerns because we were very concerned about the delay in receiving the funds for affordable housing, if they were not to be forthcoming until a certificate of occupancy, particularly in the context of a project like Union Square," Councilor Davis said.

*"As an overview, having to make an upfront payment for a fractional buyout or an in-lieu payment can basically be a non-starter..."*

While Davis noted the Administration's view that the current approach is not working and needs to be adjusted, the councilor followed up on his line of questioning.

"Is it the case that the Union Square projects are well enough underway that there is funding in the affordable housing trust to do the necessary operations for affordable housing and make this change more palatable? That would make sense but I haven't heard that particular argument made so far," Davis said, "I want to make sure that we are conscious of the fact that we decided to go in a different direction so that we would get affordable housing money sooner when we made this decision initially so I would like to hear that this is no longer a concern and that going in this other direction would not impact our ability to develop affordable housing."

According to Ewen-Campen, a fractional payment occurs when a building is permitted and the building has an odd number of units to factor into the proportional payment system by which the City then issues a certificate of occupancy. An example the councilor made was paying for 20 percent of a 23-unit building.

"Administratively its more effective for us to calculate the fractional payment when its due at certificate of occupancy, we have a better idea of what the development is going to be and that helps when we start pulling our market comps to calculate that payment," said Inclusionary Housing Program Director at OSPCD Philip Crean.

Crean reiterated the fact that this ordinance should have a beneficial impact on smaller developers because of the heavy financial challenge that comes with making the fractional payment upon being granted a building permit versus a certificate of occupancy.

"The reason for that is construction lenders typically tie financing to issuance of a building permit so it creates a catch 22 for those developers we are looking to help," Crean said.

According to Crean, the affordable housing trust is more well-funded now than it has been in the past. Receiving money at the issuance of a certificate of occupancy versus a building permit, will mean higher revenues for the Housing Division due to the factoring of market rate information while calculating payments as well as trends in housing.

The item was approved by the Land Use Committee and recommended to the full City Council.

## Town hall with Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

**Update:** *This forum will take place as scheduled, but due to the unstable weather forecast caused by the Nor'easter affecting Massachusetts, the outdoor portion of the event is on hold. Depending on weather conditions, a decision will be made on Thursday to either allow for a casual reception outside or mingling inside following the town hall portion of the event. If the mingling is held inside, attendees will need to wear masks the entire time and food/drink will not be allowed due to COVID safety restrictions. If weather permits for the outdoor portion of the event, the reception will be held with casual snacks and pizza.*

As Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone prepares to leave office in January after serving 18 years as Mayor, the City of Somerville will host an in-person community conversation with him. The discussion will look back at both City and community efforts during his administration, check in on the ongoing response to the pandemic, and look forward to the challenges and opportunities in the city's future. Emmy Award-winning broadcast journalist Byron Barnett (recently retired from 7News WHDH) will facilitate the town-hall-style event, which will be open to attendees' questions. A casual outdoor reception with local foods will follow, and city staff will be available at the reception to check in with community members on specific questions.

"Community conversations over the years have kept me inspired and informed and I want to get out one more time to check in with the people of Somerville, thank them for all they do, and talk about where we are heading next. I may be stepping away from City Hall, but Somerville is my home, and we have so much more important work ahead of us. So, I think of this not as the last conversation but rather one of many more to come in different forms," said Mayor Curtatone.

**When & Where:** The town hall event will take place on Thursday, October 28, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St. The event will include both indoor and outdoor components, taking advantage of the newly improved ventilation systems within the school buildings to maximize protection from COVID-19. The community conversation will take place from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the school auditorium, where masks will be required at all times, seating will be socially distanced, and ventilation systems will be running. Afterward, community members will be invited outside for a casual reception with refreshments from local food establishments.

The town hall portion of the event will be livestreamed at somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall and available for later viewing at youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV. Live simultaneous Spanish interpretation and English captioning will be available. Portuguese, Haitian Kreyol, and Nepali interpretation can be requested in advance by emailing sbernt@somervillema.gov.

# LEGAL NOTICES

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

**Section 00.11.00**
**ADVERTISEMENT TO BID**

The **Somerville Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **667-2 Interior Apartment Rear Door Replacements, #274146** in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **Reverse Architecture**.

The Project consists of: The removal and replacement of interior unit rear entry doors and frames and asbestos remediation. The existing doors and the joint compound in the walls contain asbestos. The new assembly will be fire-rated with steel frames and wood doors with new hardware. The units will remain occupied; new doors must be installed immediately after old doors are removed.

The work is estimated to cost **$259,000**.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.l49 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

**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 instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer).

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work, **General Building Construction**, and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime/General Contractor Update Statement.

General Bids will be received until **3:00 PM** on **Friday, 12 November 2021** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

Filed Sub-bids for the trades listed below will be received until on and publicly opened online, forthwith.

**SUBTRADES**

NONE

All Bids should be submitted online at www.biddocsonline.com and received no later than the date and time specified above.

General bids and sub-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 (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

There is a plan deposit of **$50.00** per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to BidDocs ONLINE Inc.

Plan deposits may be electronically paid or by check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders and for one set for sub-bidders upon return of the sets in good condition within thirty (30) 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**

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for **$40.00** per set for UPS Ground (or $65.00 per set for UPS overnight), nonrefundable, payable to the BidDocs ONLINE Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

General bidders must agree to contract with minority and women business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), formerly known as SOMWBA. The combined participation benchmark reserved for such enterprises shall not be less than 10.4% of the final contract price including accepted alternates. **Request for waivers must be sent to DHCD (David.McClave@mass.gov) 5 calendar days prior to the General Bid date if the work is estimated to cost less than $500,000 OR 10 calendar days prior to the General Bid date if the work is estimated to cost $500,000 or more – NO WAIVERS WILL BE GRANTED AFTER THE BID DATE.** ***See Contract Documents - Article 3 of the Instructions to Bidders.***

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT:
Date and Time: Wednesday, 3 November 2021 at 12:00 PM
Address: 125 Jaques Street, Somerville
Instructions: Meet at Front Entrance adjacent to Community Room.

SITE VISIT BY APPOINTMENT:
For an appointment call Travis Panzini at (617) 625-1152.

The Contract Documents may be seen, but not removed at:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Somerville Housing Authority** | Nashoba Blue Inc. |
| 30 Memorial Road | 433 Main Street |
| Somerville, MA 02145 | Hudson, MA 01749 |
| 617-625-1152 | 978-568-1167 |

10/27/21 The Somerville Times

**CITIZEN SELF SERVICE Is a New Online Look-up for Real Estate, Water, and Personal Property Now Available on the Somerville Treasury Website**

The City of Somerville treasury department has launched a new feature on its website page called **Citizen Self-Service (CSS)** providing web-based look-up access to bill information directly from official City records. View real estate tax bills, water (utility) bills, and personal property tax bills online, in real time, 24/7. CSS enables access to official City records without the need to contact the treasury department. There is even a payoff date calculation option if you change the date to a future one. Because it is in real time and live, when a payment posts in the office it shows on CSS immediately. **Citizen Self Service is the same database the treasury staff members use to answer your questions**. Note that payments made on City Hall Systems (city's online payment vendor) will appear on CSS the next business day after the payment file is loaded. CSS also links to City Hall Systems, enabling easy payment access that is safe, secure and free of charge if a checking account is used as the payment method.

Go to www.somervillema.gov/treasury for 24/7 CSS access.

10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

**ADVERTISEMENT**

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Electrical Contractors for the Various Electrical and Systems Replacements project at various developments for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Nangle Engineering Inc.

The Project consists of: Smoke alarm, loadcenter and video intercom system replacements at four sites, fire alarm control panel repair at Brady Tower and switchgear replacement at Weston Manor.

The work is estimated to cost **$729,713.00 (including all alternates)**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.l49 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the category of Electrical.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Thursday, November 11, 2021** and posted online, forthwith.

This project is being Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be submitted online at www.Projectdog.com. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. E-Bid tutorials and instructions are available within the specifications and online at www.Projectdog.com. For assistance, call Projectdog, Inc at (978)499-9014, M-F 8:30AM-5PM.

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 on **Wednesday October 20, 2021** at www.Projectdog.com or for pick-up at: Projectdog, Inc, 18 Graf Road, Suite 8 Newburyport, MA 978-499-9014 (M - F 8:30AM - 5PM).

Go to www.Projectdog.com and login with an existing account or click Sign Up to register for free. Enter Project Code **846100** in the project locator box. Select "Acquire Documents" to download documents, review a hard copy at Projectdog's physical location, or request a free project CD.

Bidders may obtain one full paper bid set from Projectdog for a refundable deposit of **$75.00** made payable to Projectdog in the form of certified check or money order. The full amount of the deposit will be refunded to all responsive bidders returning the Contract Documents in good condition within ten (10) days after date of general bid opening. Otherwise, the deposit will become the property of the Awarding Authority. Bidders requesting their refundable paper set to be mailed must supply a non-refundable shipping and handling fee of **$35.00** payable to Projectdog.

The job site and/or existing building will be available for observation starting at **10:30 am Thursday, October 28, 2021**, starting at Weston Manor, 15 Weston Avenue, Somerville, MA 02145. To limit the number of bidders present at any one time, multiple observation times may be held. Bidders must contact Nangle Engineering Inc. (gpnangle@nangleengineering.com or (978)777-7650) prior to close of business on the Monday prior to schedule an appointment. Bidders attending may be limited to one person per firm. Attendees are advised to bring, and may be required to wear, a face mask which covers the nose and mouth, and may wear gloves. To maintain social distancing, attendees may be asked to enter the work spaces one at a time.

The inspection is an opportunity to visit and observe the site only. Any oral interpretations offered at the site inspection are non-binding. Any questions must be submitted in writing to the Designer, at the e-mail address on the Project Manual cover, no later than 4:00 PM on the Friday prior to the date stated above for the receipt of quotes. Questions after that time may not be responded to, at the sole discretion of the designer.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all bids, or to waive any informalities in the bidding. No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after approval of the award by the Somerville Housing Authority without written consent of the Somerville Housing Authority.

Joseph Macaluso, Executive Director
Somerville Housing Authority
October 20, 2021

10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, CONTACT US **BY 12 PM MONDAY** PH: 617.666.4010

**MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Elm Court, LLC, to Athas Capital Group, Inc., dated March 5, 2019, and recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 72305, at page 398, as assigned to The Rama Fund, LLC, by assignment recorded on March 29, 2019, in said Deeds in Book 72400, at page 204, and as further assigned to PS Funding, Inc., by assignment recorded on April 11, 2019, in said Deeds in Book 72443, at page 93, and as further assigned to Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee of MFRA TRUST 2016-1, by assignment dated July 21, 2020, recorded on August 10, 2020, in said Deeds in Book 75328, at page 438, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at One o'clock PM, on the 4th day of November A.D., 2021, on the premises below described being known as 111 Elm Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage as set forth below:

To wit: "A certain parcel of land together with the buildings thereon situated in the City of Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and being lot numbered 27 on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Somerville, belonging to Timothy Tufts arranged and numbered by L.R.W., May 6, 1890" which plan is recorded with Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 62, Plan 39. Said land is bounded and described as follows:
SOUTHWESTERLY by Elm Street, eighty-six and 01/100 (86.01) feet;
NORTHWESTERLY by land now or formerly of Wentworth, Trustee, fifty-one and 47/100 (51.47) feet;
NORTHEASTERLY by lot numbered 26 on said plan, seventy-seven 88/100 (77.88) feet; SOUTHEASTERLY by Hancock Street, eighty-seven and 96/100 (87.96) feet. Containing 5,429 square feet more or less, according to said plan of land.

Subject to restrictions of record insofar as the same are now in force and applicable, Said premises are conveyed subject to and with the benefit of easements and restrictions of record insofar as the same are now in force and applicable.

APN: 030-C. 00019-000000

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 111 ELM STREET, SOMERVILLE, MA 02144"

The above premises will be sold subject as above and to the following: any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal assessments and liens; any and all outstanding water and/or sewer charges; any and all covenants, easements, restrictions, rights, reservations, conditions and/or other enforceable encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage; and to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession, if any of the aforesaid there be.

Terms: Thirty-five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars ($35,000.00) will be required to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale as earnest money, with an additional deposit to be paid within five (5) business days after the sale to bring the total deposit to five percent (5%) of the successful bid price. The successful bidder (other than the mortgagee) shall also be responsible for a five percent (5%) buyer's commission payable to the auctioneer at the time of closing. The balance of all amounts due is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the sale at the Law Offices of Ford & Paulekas, LLP, 280 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT 06103. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

WILMINGTON TRUST, N.A., NOT IN
ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY
AS TRUSTEE OF MFRA TRUST 2016-1
Present Holder of Said Mortgage

By: /s/ David A. Hill, Jr.
David A. Hill, Jr.
Its Attorney

Attorneys for Mortgagee:
Ford & Paulekas, LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103
(860) 527-0400

Dated: October 6, 2021

10/13/21, 10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE**
**PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT**
**IFB # 22-14**

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:
**On-Call Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance of Overhead Doors**

An Invitation for Bid (IFB) and specifications may be obtained online at: www.bidexpress.com; www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids, or Procurement and Contracting Services Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after: **Wednesday, October 27, 2021**.

Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **11/12/2021 12:00 PM EST** at which time sealed bids will be opened. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgement, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

A 5% bid deposit is required. Prevailing wage applies to this procurement.

For more information, please contact:
Sandra Wackman
Administrative Assistant/Associate MCPPO
swackman@somervillema.gov or purchasing@somervillema.gov

**Procurement & Contracting Services**
**City of Somerville**
**617-625-6600 x. 3400**

10/27/21 The Somerville Times

# LEGAL NOTICES

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**City of Somerville**
**PLANNING BOARD**
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, November 4, 2021, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to planning@somervillema.gov.

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Link:
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2931409468776354063
Webinar ID: 716-010-163

**TO CALL IN**

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422
Access code: 598-604-210

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

**371 Highland Avenue** J&C Realty Trust proposes to develop a 4-story LEED Gold general building and establish a Household Living principle use for 23 dwelling units in the Mid-Rise 4 (MR4) zoning district. This proposal requires Site Plan Approval and one (1) Special Permit.

**315 Broadway** Pilatesrx LLC seeks to establish a Fitness Services Use and a Healthcare Services Use on a Pedestrian Street, which requires two Special Permits.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at
https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions.

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

10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**

**Removal of Public Shade Trees**

**City of Somerville**

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a **virtual public shade tree hearing on November 1st, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.** using GotoWebinar software to consider the removal of the following public shade trees:

1. 5 Middlesex Avenue – Removal of fifteen (15) Callery Pear trees (4.4", 3.5", 4.5", 4.5", 5.7", 3.6", 3.4", 3.3", 4.3", 5.3", 6.6", 6.6", 5.25", 6.25", and 11.5" diameter) for mixed-use development. The area will be replanted.
2. 101 South Street – Removal of three (3) Littleleaf Linden trees (16.3", 15.0", and 15.7" diameter) on Windsor Street for mixed-use development. The area will be replanted.
3. East Somerville Community School – Removal of (2) trees on City Property, including one (1) Elm tree 20" diameter and one (1) Norway Maple tree 8" diameter. Both trees are in decline, structurally unsound, and damaging private property at 8 Ellsworth Street.

The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 87, any objections to the removal of any of these trees must be submitted in writing to the Tree Warden prior to or at this public hearing. Documents may be sent via email to: trees@somervilleMA.gov, or mailed to: 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this Public Shade Tree Hearing will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of this hearing will be available upon request to trees@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER
**Webinar ID**
484-972-379
**Registration URL**
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1249302913323063822

TO CALL IN
**UNITED STATES**
+1 (562) 247-8321
**Access code:** 855-362-981

10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**
**JOSEPH A. CURTATONE**
**MAYOR**

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee and the Somerville Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on **Monday, November 8, 2021** at 6:30 pm. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

**REGISTER ONLINE**
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7819360977839376397

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comments concerning the following:

- **Comar Real Estate Trust proposing a zoning map amendment to change the zoning districts of 299 Broadway and 15 Temple Street from MR5, MR3, and the NR District to MR6, MR4, and the NR District.**
- **10 registered voters proposing a zoning map amendment to change the zoning district of 3 Prescott Street from UR to NR.**
- **A text amendment to repeal subsections of 8.4.10.c Parking Relief of the Master Planned Development Overlay District that authorize an increase in the maximum number of off-street parking spaces by Special Permit. (Council Item #212471)**
- **A text amendment to amend Section 2.1 Glossary and Section 2.4 Standards & Measurements.**

Zoning map amendments and Council Items may be viewed online by searching the Somerville City Council's online meeting calendar for the address or item number. Other proposed amendments may be viewed online at www.somervillezoning.com/amendments.

Final language of the above amendments may be modified by the City Council during the legislative process.

Persons unable to attend the hearing may provide comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

**City of Somerville**
**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Somerville **Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to planning@somervillema.gov.

**TO USE A COMPUTER**
Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3935606632563699215
Webinar ID: 615-971-555

**TO CALL IN**
Phone number: 1 (415) 655-0060
Access code: 453-004-570

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

**120-132 Middlesex Avenue** DWCH Assembly Row, LLC seeks to extend the validity of a previously approved Hardship Variance.

**494 Medford Street** James Rissling seeks a Hardship Variance to construct a principal building on a lot which is too narrow.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at
https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions.

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

10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

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**www.TheSomervilleTimes.com**

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

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Web: www.sha-web.org

**ADVERTISEMENT**

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority is requesting quotes from qualified Electrical Contractors to perform electrical work including installations and repairs on an as needed basis. Proposals should include an hourly rate for electrical services.

Term: 6 – 12 months

Labor costs not to exceed $45,000.00.

Quotes are subject to M.G.L c.149 sec.44A (2)(A) and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

Scope of work: The Contractor shall provide all labor and tools to provide the necessary work as directed for the completion of the electrical services at the SHA's various developments. The Contractor shall apply for and obtain permits and regulatory approvals as may be required. The SHA shall reimburse the contractor the amount paid. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice.

Stock and Materials: Quotes will be for labor only. SHA will provide all materials required to complete the scope of work. A $4,000.00 allowance will be reserved for materials purchased by the contractor in the event of an emergency.

The Contractor shall be required on site within one week as scheduled by SHA.

Payment Invoicing: Contractor's invoicing must be itemized to reflect contract pricing for each item.

Contractors who intend on providing a quote shall email Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org after **11:00AM on Thursday, October 21st** to request a quote package.

Proposals must be received by **2:00PM on Thursday, November 11th**. Proposals can be emailed to travisp@sha-web.org. Please contact Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org with any questions.

10/20/21, 10/27/21 The Somerville Times

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

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

**IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Somerville Housing Authority (SHA) announces a PUBLIC HEARING regarding the 2022 Federal Annual Plan and the 2023 State-Aided Annual Plan on **Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.** Due to social distancing guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic, this hearing will be held remotely. The public is invited to listen to the meeting via phone, computer, laptop, or tablet.

**Somerville Housing Authority Public Hearing**
**Wed, December 15, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.**

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/818122117

**You can also dial in using your phone.**
United States (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073
United States: +1 (571) 317-3129
Access Code: 818-122-117

The Plan(s) and related documents are available on the Somerville Housing Authority's website at http://www.sha-web.org/. You may also view the Plan(s) at 30 Memorial Road in Somerville, MA by appointment only. Substantive comments will be summarized and included in the Annual Plan when it is submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A forty-five (45) day review and comment period will commence on **Friday, October 29, 2021**. Any questions may be directed to Kevin Bumpus, Director of Operations, at 617-625-1152.

10/27/21 The Somerville Times

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

*From on page 10*

## Ms. Cam's Olio Answers

1. Samhainophobia
2. Turnips
3. Silly string
4. Chicken feed
5. Magician Harry Houdini
6. A saint or a holy person
7. Scotland and Ireland
8. Pineapple
9. Dr. James Naismith, from Springfield, MA
10. Alaska
11. A person fond of or expert at archery
12. The S. S. Minnow

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PHONE: 857-488-5138

# LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

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

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:45pm** on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to historic@somervillema.gov.

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Registration URL:
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4763862144852174859

Webinar 169-740-939

**TO CALL IN**

Phone Number: 1 (213) 929-4212

Access Code: 168-922-100

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

**Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties**

**HPC.ALT 2021.54 – 49-55 DAVIS SQUARE**
Applicant: Somerville Theatre
Owner: B.F. Somerville Properties, LLC
*Installation of a sign; Retroactive Commission approval for window installation*

**Determinations of Historic Significance (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)**

**HPC.DMO 2021.26 – 38 Laurel Street**
Applicant: Shang Yang
Owner: Same as Applicant
Demolish principal structure

**HPC.DMO 2021.28 – 227 Holland Avenue**
Applicant: 227 Holland, LLC
Owner: Maria Melo and Carmilla Turner, Trustees of the Gilda Santos 2019 Revocable Trust
Demolish principal structure

**HPC.DMO 2021.29 – 722 Broadway**
Applicant: Di Camillo Associates, LLC
Owner: Same as Applicant
Demolish principal structure

**HPC.DMO 2021.30 –274 Willow Ave/720 Broadway**
Applicant: Di Camillo Associates, LLC
Owner: Same as Applicant
Demolish principal structure

**Determinations of Preferably Preserved (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)**

**HPC.DMO 2021.22 – 9 Hanson Avenue**
Applicant: Brendon Boot
Owner: Same as Applicant
Demolish principal structure

**HPC.DMO 2021.23 – 256 ELM STREET**
Applicant: Welch Liles
Owner: AP Davis Square Plaza, LLC
Demolish principal structure

**HPC.DMO 2021.25 – 2 QUINCY STREET**
Applicant: Mystic Realty Trust
Owner: Joseph S. & Sheila B. Savini
Demolish all structures

*While City Hall continues to be closed in response to the COVID19 pandemic, case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at* **https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases**. *Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email* **historic@somervillema.gov** *to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised.* ***Note****: Written comments due to* **historic@somervillema.gov** ***NO LATER THAN NOON*** *one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.*

10/27/21 The Somerville Times

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# A soulful furniture maker in an era of automation

CONT. FROM PG 1

Eddie Gomes, 52, sitting at the back of his store during a lunch break. He is often wearing a bandana around his neck, and always an interesting graphic t-shirt.

"When you walk into [most stores], your eyes are drawn to one thing," said Tina Nguyen, 22, a student at The New School-Parsons who found the store in passing and purchased a book titled The Zodiac and Its Mysteries. "In here, your eyes are drawn to everything."

Eddie "The Last Bohemian" Gomes is the owner of this eccentric furniture store on 93 Holland St. Following his brother's retirement from the business nine years ago, Gomes decided to carry on the name Metamorphosis for his own furniture shop. He's been running the place for a total of 12 years now.

While unable to put into words what defines his "bohemian" style, Gomes thinks it can be felt upon walking through the doors. The casual atmosphere invites people to wander around and lose track of time. It can also be felt through Gomes' personal touches on every piece of furniture he collects or makes.

"I don't compromise too much," said Gomes. "I just pick out stuff I like. And when it comes to my business, I just don't take stuff too seriously."

The store challenges and redefines what one would expect from a furniture or antique store.

"Who buys antiques?" said Gomes, "I'll tell you who buys antiques: old people." He tries to stay away from the term "antiques." Gomes thinks that he has created and curated his own vibe – one that is timeless.

It is a store that reflects the spirit of Davis Square and how the Somerville community nurtures quirkiness and creativity. That appears to be one of the reasons it's survived, and in some ways, thrived during the pandemic.

"A store like this is what makes Davis Square so special," said Gianna Schuhknecht, 31, a local resident who has been getting furniture made by Metamorphosis since she first moved here two years ago. On this particular day, she was picking up a blue side table with a natural wood-color drawer.

In an increasingly digital age, it feels special to pick up something handcrafted. This sentiment is especially true for many people who spent a large part of the last year indoors on screens. When life feels like it's dependent on technology and everything is automated, people can find comfort in nostalgia.

"You can go to places like Ikea, West Elm, Bob's Furniture. There's a lot of great furniture places out there, but I don't see the point," said Gomes.

His customers seem to agree.

"You want something with a little more personality for your home, so it doesn't just feel like a showroom," said Alice Ly, 32, who recently moved into the Davis Square neighborhood with her partner and has been looking to furnish their place.

Gomes sorts through boxes of vinyl records to decide what to buy. He has regular sellers who contact him about personal or collected items they think Gomes would be interested in.

The appeal of Metamorphosis' furniture is that each customer will be the only person who has a particular item. There's nothing else like it. This was appreciated by customers browsing the store on a recent Saturday morning. Each piece was customized and seen as equally special. Also, Gomes makes an effort to form relationships with the people who commission and buy his furniture.

The items most commonly requested are bookshelves, nightstands, bed frames, and record storage boxes, but Gomes says that there is nothing he wouldn't make. "My mind is always creating and seeing things differently," he said.

But Gomes doesn't make all the furniture himself. He considers himself a "good middle man." With many years of experience running the business, Gomes has formed a large network of creators and artists – consisting of carpenters, woodworkers, metal workers, people who work with glass, mirrors and other materials.

When working with other creators, Gomes's role is to give ideas to them and make things come to life for his customers. He expresses excitement about his work when he gets to repurpose items, give new life to it, and see customers buy the pieces.

The name Metamorphosis is, in part, inspired by the famous Franz Kafka book and Rolling Stones album. It means to always transform, evolve. This is exactly how Gomes sees his store. It is always changing and something is always happening there.

In a few months, Gomes will be fulfilling one of his longest-held dreams: to open a record store. And that will be a part of his metamorphosis.

*Metamorphosis is located at 93 Holland St, Somerville, MA 02144. Phone: (617) 616-5440.*

# 'Monster Mashed-Up' at SomerStreets on Somerville Ave.

Join in at the last SomerStreets festival of the year, the spooky and fun "Monster Mashed-up" on Sunday, October 31, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. (rain date November 7) on Somerville Avenue between Hawkins Street and Laurel Street.

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 activities. Through SomerStreets, the city and its community partners aim to promote and encourage easy access to physical activity and reconnecting with neighborhoods and businesses and their unique cultural elements in a thriving urban environment.

Activities will include:

- Live music on two stages:
- Stage at 455 Somerville Avenue featuring:
- 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. The School of Rock Wakefield
- 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. The School of Rock Watertown
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. The School of Rock Natick
- Stage at 389 Somerville Avenue featuring:
- 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Headband
- 3:35 – 4:45 p.m. Pressure Cooker
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Louder than Milk
- 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. – "Ghosts of Milk Row Cemetery" tours, hosted by the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission and the Somerville Museum at 400 Somerville Avenue. Tour the historic burial grounds and chat with "ghosts" about their past lives in Somerville. Suggested $5 donation for the tour.
- 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Roller-Skating Disco Party with DJ Brother Cleve. Bring your skates and roll with us!
- 3:00 p.m. – Halloween costume parade led by the School of Honk! Bring your costume and meet us at Hawkins Street.
- Face Painting by Flor Delgadillo
- Dia de los Muertos Celebration Activities with Andrea and Angelica Menchaca and food with Nibble Kitchen's Estela Calzada
- Handstands, juggling, acrobatics, and comedy for all ages with Cate the Great
- Magic with Just Felice
- Parkour
- Pumpkin carving with Somerville Recreation

To ensure public safety at this SomerStreets event, the following road closures and parking bans will be in effect:

- Somerville Avenue (Hawkins to Laurel Street): Closed to all vehicular traffic 12:00 – 8 p.m.; no parking 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Laurel, School, Quincy, Church, and Putnam streets will be two-way between Summer Street and Somerville Avenue, 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., to allow access for abutters. Bow Street will also be two-way for abutters.
- MBTA bus 87 will be rerouted from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For locations of rerouted bus stops, visit MBTA.com.

For more information, visit somervillema.gov or somervilleartscouncil.org.

# Somerville mayoral candidates answer constituents' questions

CONT. FROM PG 5

color in senior positions of the police force so that we have leaders with different backgrounds and experiences. This will lead to better decision making among our police force's leadership and give the police force a perspective it has been missing for decades.

**Do you support rent control and how would you plan to establish rent control?**

I support rent control and as mayor would advocate from the office of the mayor for our state legislature to make rent control legal and plan on collaborating with our city's state representative to facilitate the implementation of rent control. One of my first actions as mayor will be to hold a rent control summit with regional partners and community groups where we will build a strategy for getting rent control brought back to Massachusetts.

# SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Game Club** – starting Monday, October 18 and every Monday following from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street (behind the Holiday Inn.) Please join us as we play a wide variety of board and card games. Please RSVP to Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 or email Maureen at mbastardi@somervillema.gov.

**Nutrition Classes** – In-person, Mondays at 12:30 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. Virtual classes are offered Monday at 11am via Zoom. New and returning members are welcome! To RSVP please call Mary Marshall at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316 or email her at headtofitness10@yahoo.com. Masks are required.

**Ageless Grace Program** – Ageless Grace is a fitness and wellness program consisting of 21 simple exercise tools designed for all ages and abilities. These exercises, based on everyday movements, focus on the healthy longevity of the body and mind. Classes are held via Zoom. Please contact Chris at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 or email ckowaleski@somervillema.gov with any questions or for additional information.

**Walking Group** – Fridays at 9:30 a.m. The walking group will meet in front of the Holland Street Center and will enjoy walks through area neighborhoods. All classes and groups will be limited to 8 participants and will follow City of Somerville social distancing and mask policy. Pre-registration is required. For additional info or to register for one of the above programs, contact Chris by email at ckowaleski@somervillema.gov or by phone at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315.

**English Conversation** – Every Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street (Behind the Holiday Inn.) Meet people from all over the world as we discuss a range of topics. No books – no test – Just friendly conversation. This program is in person; pre-registration is required as space is limited. Please contact Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 to RSVP.

**Music & Munch** – Wednesday, October 27 at noontime. Why not pair your lunch with a celebration of music? This 45-minute session via Zoom will treat you to a playlist of diverse musical offerings: a little jazz, some "oldies but goodies," a smidgen of classical, a dip into barbershop, a trip to Broadway. The music is taped but the experience is live. Your guide is Somerville Resident, Laura Zoll, trained as a medieval musicologist and with a life-long love of all things musical. Your preferences will help shape the session. Learn a little, sing-along, relax and enjoy some Music while you Munch. Please RSVP to Natasha Naim at nnaim@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2317. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via ZOOM.

**Connect with CaptionCall** - Thursday, November 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Caption Call is a federally funded program to benefit people with hearing loss. Caption Call provides phones to eligible residents that displays easy-to-read text, captioned voice messages, are hearing aid friendly and have Bluetooth connectivity. Caption Call phones are no cost if you have hearing loss and need captions to use the phone efficiently. Come meet a CaptionCall representive.

**ONGOING EVENTS**

**Taxi Rides** - Do you need a ride? The COA has a program just for you. Taxi Rides for Somerville Residents 60 and Over Rides can be used for: Grocery Shopping in Somerville Pharmacy Prescription pick up in Somerville, Routine Medical Appointments in the follow areas: Somerville, Cambr idge, Medford, Boston or the V.A. in Jamaica Plain or West Roxbury. Two Days Advanced Notice Required. For more info, please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319.

**Friendly Caller Program** - Looking for a way to practice social distancing but still remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. We have many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

**EXERCISE**

**VIRTUAL FIT-4-LIFE SCHEDULE**

Mondays 1:00 p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

Thursdays 1:00 p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

Thursdays 6:30 p.m. = LBT Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

**Fit-4-Life YouTube**

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video # 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hd26HjpwBI&t=68s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwHfyoEZaws&t=247s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #3: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcI2eBSS024&t=158s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #4: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EDtaIdYSz0

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #5: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAnwfwGybTI

**OUTDOOR EXERCISE PROGRAM**

Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

**OUTDOOR WALKING GROUP**

Fridays at 9:30 a.m.

**Somerville City Cable**

RCN = 13/Comcast = 22

The Fit-4-Life Exercise Show = Daily at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

**Yoga YouTube**

Yoga with Janine video #1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDGF_EEbqF0&t=130s

Yoga with Janine video #3: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Zezcj9XXBU

For questions or to register for a Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise class, please contact Chris at CKowaleski@somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600, ext. 2315.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

Stay connected via our Facebook page - often updated by Debby or Maureen. Informative, entertaining, lots of photos and updates. Visit our page at https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCOA/

**JOIN OUR MAILING LIST**

If you would like to receive a virtual copy of our monthly newsletter and daily tips please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 or email Maureen at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov.

If you would like to become part of our Google Group please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at DHiggins@Somervillema.gov

## Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

What do witches call their garage?
A broom closet.

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## On This Day in History

### October 27

*0097* – To placate the Praetorians of Germany, Nerva of Rome adopts Trajan, the Spanish-born governor of lower Germany.

*1553* – Michael Servetus, who discovered the pulmonary circulation of the blood, is burned for heresy in Switzerland.

*1791* – President George Washington transmits to Congress the results of the first US census.

*1809* – President James Madison orders the annexation of the western part of West Florida. Settlers there had rebelled against Spanish authority.

*1904* – The New York subway officially opens running from the Brooklyn Bridge uptown to Broadway at 145th Street.

*1927* – Fox Movie-tone news, the first sound news film, is released.

*1962* – Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev offers to remove Soviet missile bases in Cuba if the U.S. removes its missile bases in Turkey.

*1997* – Stock markets crash around the world over fears of a global economic meltdown.

# Somerville Veterans Day Ceremony, November 11

The City of Somerville is hosting a Veterans Day ceremony to honor those who have served in the military.

The event will take place Thursday, November 11, at Veterans' Memorial Cemetery on Broadway at North Street. Speaking remarks will begin at 10:00 a.m. featuring City Council President Matthew McLaughlin and Somerville Director of Veterans' Services Ted Louis-Jacques.

A wreath-laying ceremony will follow. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The ceremony will be livestreamed on the CityTV Facebook page (facebook.com/SomervilleCityTV) and broadcast after the event on GovTV (RCN channels 13 or 613; Comcast channel 22) and on the City's YouTube channel (youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV).

For more information, email veterans@somervillema.gov.

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

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The Somerville Times

# West Branch Library ribbon cutting ceremony

Please join Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Ward 6 City Councilor Lance Davis, and the Somerville Library Trustees for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the newly renovated and restored West Branch Library on Friday, November 5, at 11:00 a.m.

After a short speaking program, guests will be invited to tour the library and mingle in the landscaped backyard. Face coverings are required indoors.

Built in 1909, the West Branch Library is a historic landmark, an architectural exemplar, and a local civic and cultural institution that has served the Somerville community for more than a century. Constructed with funds provided by Andrew Carnegie, the library is one of approximately 2,500 Carnegie libraries worldwide and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; however, the building was in dire need of repairs, accessibility improvements, and updated facilities to make it a responsive and inviting space for all.

Partially funded using Community Preservation Act funds, the restored and expanded West Branch is a fully accessible building that preserves the library's historic character while offering new amenities to enhance library programs and services. A new addition built on the north and east side of the original building provides a universally accessible entrance, an elevator, restrooms, and seating with floor-to-ceiling glass doors that open directly to a beautifully landscaped multi-purpose area. All-new mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems were also installed, and exterior landscaping was updated to maximize green and open space onsite.

The renovated portion of the building now features a multi-purpose community room and conference space on the lower level, plus new browsing and circulation areas on the first floor. The children's area, formerly in the basement, now occupies the upper level, with kid-sized reading nooks, activity areas, and a restored skylight overhead. The entire exterior of the original building was restored, as were the front entry and staircase, all windows, and architectural details including stone masonry and ornamental woodwork.

For more information about services and programming at the West Branch, visit somervillepubliclibrary.org.

West Branch Library, Somerville.

Interior entry.

Children's area.

## Public Safety Building Project Community Meeting, November 10

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and City staff invite you to attend a virtual community meeting about the Public Safety Building Project.

The Public Safety Building Project will provide new facilities for the Somerville Police and Somerville Fire Department Headquarters and the Somerville Fire Department's Engine 3 at 90 Washington Street, near the East Somerville Green Line station. The project will also include a community meeting space, a new park, and a realignment of New Washington Street to meet Franklin Street. Construction is expected to begin in earnest in the summer of 2022.

At this meeting, staff will share design progress of the new building, present plans for the realigned New Washington Street, and outline site preparation work planned for this winter, which includes tree removal. Attendees will be able to provide input on the public space related to the project.

The meeting will take place Wednesday, November 10, at 6:00 p.m. To learn more and register to attend, go to somervillema.gov/publicsafetybuilding.

## Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 7

highway miles (3,659) is the fourth smallest highway system in the nation yet just its administrative cost per mile alone is second-highest."

**EXEMPT CITIES AND TOWNS FROM GAS TAX (H 2957)** – Exempts cities and towns from the state's 24 cents-per-gallon gas tax.

"Our current system requires communities to wait for the annual distribution of local aid before seeing any kind of rebate or return of the taxes paid on municipal fuel purchases," said House Republican Minority Leader Rep. Brad Jones (R-North Reading). "By offering a permanent exemption from the excise tax, we can provide much needed tax relief to cities and towns while giving them immediate access to additional local revenues to use as they see fit. The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, the MBTA and Massport are already exempt from the fuel excise tax, and I think it's only fair that we provide our local communities with the same benefit."

**TAX COLLEGE ENDOWMENTS (H 2931)** – Imposes an excise tax on private universities that have an endowment fund in excess of $1 billion. The tax would be 2.5 percent of the institution's funds that exceed $1 billion. The bill earmarks the revenue for subsidizing the cost of higher education, early education and childcare for lower-income and middle-class residents. Current state law exempts nonprofit institutions, including universities, from paying property taxes.

"Massachusetts continues experiencing an affordability crisis for both skyrocketing higher education and inaccessible childcare, exacerbated by COVID," said Rep. Christine Barber (D-Somerville ). "This $1.6 billion in projected revenue would fund public colleges and universities and early childhood education. In a state with 114 colleges and universities, only the richest institutions—about eleven—would be impacted by this minor tax. As billion-dollar university endowments grew exponentially during the pandemic, those trying to improve their lives and expand opportunities through education have been neglected. [The measure] prioritizes accessible education for people, over profits."

"Both higher education and childcare are essential to our state's equitable recovery," said co-sponsor Rep. Natalie Higgins (D-Leominster). "Private institutions continue to profit off of tax-free holdings, but a small portion of this wealth can provide opportunities for generations of residents across the commonwealth."

Some opponents say that many schools already pay their host communities millions of dollars under the voluntary Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program that encourages institutions to provide money to their host communities through a wide variety of ways ranging from outright cash payments to scholarships for local students. Others say the tax is unconstitutional and could hurt the Bay State's image as the leader in higher education. Some expressed concern that the funds, although earmarked for these educational purposes, might end up in the General Fund.

**QUOTABLE QUOTES**

"Each year, thousands of babies are born in Massachusetts and we need to do everything we can to keep them healthy and safe. We're calling on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to protect children from the serious developmental risks associated with these dangerous metals by taking immediate steps to remove them from baby food." — *Attorney General Maura Healey on joining a coalition of 20 attorneys general in petitioning the FDA to protect the health and well-being of babies across the country by accelerating actions to remove toxic heavy metals from infant and toddler foods.*

"Adults should regularly communicate with teenagers about safe driving habits. National Teen Driver Safety Week is an opportune time to have these conversations, emphasizing that wearing a seatbelt, traveling at the posted speed limit or lower and driving hands-free are all actions that will result in getting to where you are going in a safe manner." — *Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie.*

"At a time when the experience of childhood trauma is being exacerbated by a global pandemic, I am proud we are taking this important step to ensure all systems that interact with children are trauma-informed and responsive. At the Office of the Child Advocate, we focus on the unique needs of children because we know that if they have access to high quality services, it can change the entire trajectory of their lives." — *Maria Mossaides, director of the Office of the Child Advocate, on the launch of the Center on Child Wellbeing and Trauma designed to address childhood trauma in the state.*

"The Cultural Facilities Fund supports local economies across Massachusetts by ensuring our cultural institutions have the capital they need to build, expand, renovate, and most importantly, continue welcoming visitors. We are excited to announce initial grants to 12 organizations who will benefit strongly from these resources, and we encourage all cultural institutions in the commonwealth to take advantage of our upcoming application round." — *MassDevelopment President and CEO Dan Rivera announcing the approval of $1.2 million in grants to twelve cultural organizations.*

**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 18-22, the House met for a total of three hours and 50 minutes while the Senate met for a total of one hour and 43 minutes.

| | |
|---|---|
| Mon. Oct. 18 | House 11:02 a.m. to 11:08 a.m.<br>Senate 11:25 a.m. to 11:33 a.m. |
| Tues. Oct. 19 | No House session<br>No Senate session |
| Wed. Oct. 20 | House 11:02 a.m. to 11:12 a.m.<br>No Senate session |
| Thurs. Oct. 21 | House 11:05 a.m. to 2:39 p.m.<br>Senate 11:08 a.m. to 12:43 p.m. |
| Fri. Oct. 22 | No House session<br>No Senate session |

*Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com*

## Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 9

**Council**, will take place on **Sunday, October 31** (rain date November 7) from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. **outside of Union Square** on **Somerville Ave. between Hawkins St. to Park Ave**. Get ready for two stages of music. One stage will be a partnership with **School of Rock** and another stage curated by **"PorchFest Staff Picks!"** There will also be spooktacular activities and a Halloween costume parade. RSVP to our event to receive updates. https://fb.me/e/1tWFHrniK.

**********

The **Green Line** to **Union Square** will be delayed at least until **March 2022**. No news on how delayed the **Medford branch** will be affected.

**********

Join the **Somerville Museum** on **Halloween, October 31**, for two events at **Somerville Arts Council's "Monster Mashed-Up" Somerstreets! 2021 Ghosts of Somerville**, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at **Milk Row Cemetery**. **"Make your own postcard"** event for kids and adults from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., **outside of Union Square between Hawkins Street to Park Ave**. The event is free, donations to the museum's **Access for All & More campaign** are always welcome. There will also be a **Halloween costume parade**.

**********

Check out the new **digital A/R (augmented reality) exhibit** in front of the **Somerville Museum**, 1 Westwood Rd., Somerville. This A/R feature works showcase local artists, musicians, and students from **Somerville Schools**. The images above highlight artwork created by students of **Jessica Howard's** and **Emily Alcott's** art classes in response to a recent exhibition at the museum.

**********

**East Somerville Main Streets** and the **Somerville Arts Council** will host a **Halloween Block Party and Pet Parade, Saturday, October 30**, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at **Chuckie Harris Park**, 15 Cross At., Somerville. There will be family friendly/all ages events.

**********

**Somerville High School Senior Ava Hardy**, a 3-sport student-athlete at SHS was recently awarded the **Mickey Sullivan Student Achievement Award** by the **MSSADA (Massachusetts Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Association) Board**. The Mickey Sullivan award recognizes students who have made a meaningful and lasting contribution to high school athletics. Ava is a captain of the **Highlander girls Volleyball, Swim, and Softball teams**, and a true leader at SHS. She also serves on the MIAA Student Advisory Committee where she represents all of **District 5**, helping to facilitate players' and captains' leadership workshops for student-athletes across New England. Ava is an Honor Roll student and regularly volunteers for community service in Somerville. Congratulations to Ava on an outstanding achievement.

**********

The **Somerville Board of Health (BOH)** approved a **face-covering mandate** for all indoor public places. The mandate applies to anyone two or older, and face coverings can be removed when people are actively eating or drinking. Masks should have a snug fit and cover the nose and mouth. The order can be read at https://www.somervillema.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19-Mask-Order-Proposed-8.21.pdf.

**********

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

# 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 27**

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 28**

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 29**

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 30**

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 31**

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
11:00am 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, November 1**

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, November 2**

12:00am Public Safety/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 27**

6:00am Winter Hill Walking Tour
7:15am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
8:00am PorchFest 2021
8:50am Mental Health Resources
9:00am Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
9:15am SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
9:30am School Committee Update - Andre Green
10:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I
10:35am SPD Ride Along
11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3
11:30am Legislative Matters 10-21-21
2:00pm PorchFest 2021
3:00pm Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II
4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
4:30pm Art Beat 2021
5:50pm Mental Health Resources
6:00pm Winter Hill Walking Tour
7:15pm SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
7:30pm SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
8:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 10-26-21

**Thursday, October 28**

12:00am Three Paths to Italy
1:00am City Council Meeting 10-14-21
6:00am Senior Circuit
6:30am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
7:15am SPD Ride Along
7:30am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
8:00am COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
8:45am Mental Health Resources
9:00am HONK! 2021
10:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III
11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
11:30am Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
12:04pm Senior Circuit
12:30pm HONK! 2021
1:30pm PorchFest 2021
2:30pm School Committee Update - Andre Green
3:00pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
4:00pm Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
7:00pm City Council Meeting - LIVE

**Friday, October 29**

12:00am Senior Circuit
12:30am Winter Hill Walking Tour
2:00am HONK! 2021
6:00am Somerville Museum Block Party
6:15am PorchFest 2021
7:01am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
8:00am COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
8:45am Mental Health Resources
9:00am Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
9:30am Winter Hill Walking Tour
10:45am SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #1
11:30am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
12:00pm HONK! 2021
1:00pm Winter Hill Walking Tour
2:15pm Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
3:00pm The Bilingual Brain Benefits of Bilingualism
4:30pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3
5:00pm PorchFest 2021
6:00pm School Committee Meeting 10-4-21
8:15pm SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
8:30pm School Committee Update - Andre Green
9:00pm HONK! 2021
10:00pm PorchFest 2021
11:00pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
11:45pm SPD Ride Along

**Saturday, October 30**

12:00am School Committee Update - Andre Green
12:30am Finance Committee Meeting 10-26-21
6:30am SPL Gardening - Garden Tour
7:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
8:00am Chair Yoga w Chris
8:30am School Committee Update - Andre Green
9:00am PorchFest 2021
10:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I
10:35am Mental Health Resources
11:00am Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
11:30am Senior Circuit
12:00pm School Committee Meeting 10-18-21
1:35pm Finance Committee Meeting 10-26-21
4:00pm Fit-4-Life Video #4
4:30pm Climate Forward Presentations
6:30pm HONK! 2021
7:30pm Legislative Matters 10-21-21
10:00pm PorchFest 2021
10:50pm Mental Health Resources
11:00pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
11:15pm SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
11:30pm Senior Circuit

**Sunday, October 31**

12:00am Winter Hill Walking Tour
1:15am Climate Webinar Climate Resilience & Health
2:30am COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
6:30am School Committee Update - Andre Green
7:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
7:45am Mental Health Resources
8:00am Chair Yoga w Chris
8:30am School Committee Update - Andre Green
9:00am Senior Circuit
9:30am Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
9:45am Winter Hill Walking Tour
11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
11:30am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
12:00pm Senior Circuit
12:30pm Finance Committee Meeting 10-26-21
4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3
4:30pm PorchFest 2021
5:16pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
5:30pm Raising Families "Special Needs Education"
6:01pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
6:45pm SPD Ride Along
7:01pm Senior Circuit
7:30pm City Council Meeting 10-28-21

**Monday, November 1**

12:00am Senior Circuit
12:25am Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
1:00am Legislative Matters 10-21-21
6:00am Legislative Matters - 10-7-21
8:05am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III
9:00am Winter Hill Walking Tour
10:15am COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
11:00am Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
11:30am City Council Meeting 10-28-21
4:00pm Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
4:30pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
5:15pm Mental Health Resources
5:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
7:00pm School Committee Meeting - LIVE
11:00pm School Committee Update - Andre Green
11:30pm SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1

**Tuesday, November 2**

12:00am Legislative Matters 10-21-21
2:30am Celebrate Immigrants in Somerville
6:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II
7:00am HONK! 2021
8:00am COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
8:45am SPD Ride Along
9:00am Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
11:00am Fit-4-Life Video #4
11:30am SPL Gardening - Garden Tour
12:00pm Senior Circuit
12:30pm Finance Committee Meeting 10-26-21
4:00pm Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
4:30pm Winter Hill Walking Tour
5:45pm Mental Health Resources
6:00pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
6:15pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
7:00pm Senior Circuit
7:25pm Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
8:00pm SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
8:30pm School Committee Meeting 11-1-21
11:30pm School Committee Update - Andre Green

**Wednesday, November 3**

12:00am Senior Circuit
12:25am Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
1:00am Finance Committee Meeting 10-26-21

# Educational TV 15 Schedule

**Wednesday, October 27**

7:00am Let's Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
9:00am SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
11:00am School Committee Meeting 10-18-21
1:00pm Gardening at SPL
1:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
2:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 10-19-21
3:30pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Everett 10-21-21
5:02pm Let's Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
7:00pm SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
9:00pm School Committee Meeting 10-18-21
11:00pm Gardening at SPL
11:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting

**Thursday, October 28**

12:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 10-19-21
1:30am SHS Girls Soccer vs Everett 10-21-21
7:00am SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21
8:30am SHS Volleyball vs Malden 10-6-21
10:30am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
11:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn Eng 10-14-21
12:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
1:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Chelsea 10-8-21
2:30pm SPL Gardening - Garlic-Scapes
3:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
5:00pm SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21
6:30pm SHS Volleyball vs Malden 10-6-21
8:30pm SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
9:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn Eng 10-14-21
10:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
11:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Chelsea 10-8-21

**Friday, October 29**

12:30am SPL Gardening - Garlic-Scapes
1:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
7:00am School Committee Meeting 10-18-21
9:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
11:00am SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
1:00pm Let's Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
2:30pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 10-19-21
4:00pm SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21
6:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
8:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
10:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21

**Saturday, October 30**

12:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
1:30am SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 10-19-21
3:00am SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21
7:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
8:30am Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight
9:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Everett 10-21-21
11:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
1:00pm SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21
2:30pm Let's Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
4:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
5:30pm Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight
6:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Everett 10-21-21
8:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
10:00pm SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21
11:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting

**Sunday, October 31**

12:00am SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
1:35am Highlander Football 2019
2:05am Highlander Football 2018
2:30am Highlander Football 2017
7:00am Let's Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
9:00am SHS Football vs LC 9-24-21
11:00am SHS Football vs Malden 10-1-21
1:00pm SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
3:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
5:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
6:30pm Let's Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
8:00pm SHS Football vs LC 9-24-21
10:00pm SHS Football vs Malden 10-1-21

**Monday, November 1**

12:00am SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
1:35am SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
3:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
7:00am Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
7:30am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
8:00am Highlander History - ORourke and Dickerson
9:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
11:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
1:00pm SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
3:00pm Let's Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
4:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
5:00pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
5:30pm SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
6:00pm Highlander History - ORourke and Dickerson
7:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-27-21
9:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
11:00pm SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21

**Tuesday, November 2**

12:35am SHS Girls Soccer vs Everett 10-21-21
7:00am School Committee Meeting 10-18-21
10:00am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
10:30am Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
11:00am SHS Volleyball vs Malden 10-6-21
1:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Everett 10-21-21
3:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 10-19-21
5:00pm School Committee Meeting 10-18-21
7:00pm SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21
9:00pm SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
10:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21

**Wednesday, November 3**

12:00am SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
1:35am SHS Football vs LC 9-24-21

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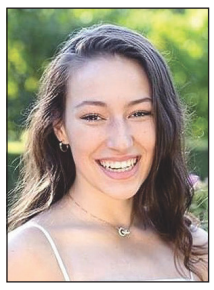
# OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

# Lyrical SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder



Emily Crain is a current sophomore at Endicott College. She is working to complete a major in English with a concentration in Secondary Education, as well as minor in Gender Studies. She has always enjoyed writing poems and stories in her free time, and she is so excited to be able to finally share her work with the world.

**Glass House**

I want to live in glass house

In the middle of the sea.

Tiny bubbles rising up

Underneath my feet.

I want to look down

And watch the light grow dim.

As the vast expanse of water

Stretches past my vision's rim.

I want to watch the waves

Immerse my house in its shell.

As I lay on my white velvet couch

thinking of a future that only time will tell.

I want a hot hazelnut latte

With extra foam on top

As I watch the sun rise in the morning

while the waves rise and drop.

I want my house to have all white furniture

So the ocean's blue is what catches the eye.

My house will smell like strong coffee

And fresh baked blueberry pie.

I want to live in solitude

With my books and maybe a spouse.

Because I want to live on the ocean

In my own little glass house.

— *Emily Crain*

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

# Lorena: a Tabloid Epic

## Boston Playwrights' Theatre

*Lorena: a Tabloid Epic*
By Eliana Pipes
Directed by Erica Terpening-Romeo
Review by Doug Holder

Back in 1993, Lorena Bobbitt castrated her husband, John Bobbitt. Lorena was the victim of violent domestic abuse from her husband, and as a result she took matters in her own "hands." By cutting the "manhood" of her partner, she received some payback from all she suffered. This production, written by Eliana Pipes was developed at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre at Boston University. It started as a classroom exercise, but now has hit the bright lights of the small stage.

If you remember this event, it created a whole median circus, with tee-shirts displaying disembodied members, crass jokes for late night comedians, the whole ball of wax. The two principal players in this play within a play, were made into gross parodies of themselves. The nuances of their lives, the deep, marrow pain, was brushed aside. These two tragic figures were part of a bizarre reality game show.

The production, to put it mildly was riveting. The cast was energetic, emotive, and seemed to bounce off of each other well. Constant images of text on the wall, strobe lights, yellow intrusive TV cameras made for an unsettling chaos for the viewers. The play starts out with a bunch of snarky young people, viewing the trials and travails of this tragic couple, as a source of popcorn-munching entertainment, nothing more. But soon enough they have their own "long journey into night," as the this "slice of life" play progresses.

A very interesting conceit is having the playwright injected into the play. Played brilliantly by Valyn Lyric Turner, she tries to hold off an increasing confrontational onslaught of questions from her cast. They demanded more raw emotion from her. But the playwright had her own black dogs to keep at bay, and wanted to intellectualize, rather than go into the shoals of messy emotion.

Lorena, played by Gabriela Medina-Toledo, is certainly not a static character, and Toledo does an effective job of portraying her evolution from a caricature to a real flesh and blood person.

As I walked out of the theatre, I saw this band of young actors, and complimented them on their performance. Later, I spied Valyn Lyric Turner and shouted, "Hey playwright, marvelous job!" I surprised myself. I am a very reserved person, but something in me wanted to make it known.

## Somerville seeks part-time multilingual youth and adult community outreach workers

The City of Somerville is looking for part-time multilingual community outreach workers to conduct surveys and collect community input on COVID-19 recovery and other public health–related initiatives.

The city seeks six adults and six youth (age 16 to 18) to engage with the community through a variety of outreach methods including but not limited to event tabling, community walkabouts, office hours, drop-ins at partner organizations and businesses, focus groups, flyering, phone calls, and door-knocking (door-knocking by adults only for select initiatives).

Adult community outreach workers will work up to 16 hours a week at $22 an hour. Youth community outreach workers will work up to 10 hours a week at $20 an hour. Verbal and written fluency in Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Kreyol, Nepali, or Mandarin is required.

Interested applicants should send their resume and a brief cover letter as soon as possible to María Teresa Nagel, Director of the SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs, at mnagel@somervillema.gov.

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