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City Councilors request ticketing enforcement for moving violations



Somerville City Councilors are asking the Police Department to write more tickets to traffic violators instead of merely issuing warnings.

By Harry Kane

City Councilors want drivers to obey traffic laws and regulations, so they have asked the Somerville Police Department to issue more tickets and fewer warnings.

An order was put forward by President and Ward 3 City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen that the Chief of Police resume the practice of issuing tickets rather than warnings for serious moving violations that endanger public safety, including speeding and running red lights.

"Dangerous driving is one of the single most pressing public health dangers in the city," said Councilor Ewen-Campen.

Making streets safer is a top priority. And redesigning the roads is in the works, *Continued on page 4*

HONK! Festival 2024 on its way to Somerville

The HONK! Festival 19th Annual Festival of Activist Street Bands takes place October 4-6, throughout Somerville, Cambridge, and Boston neighborhoods. Outdoors rain or shine.

HONK! Festival 2024 has revealed their participating bands roster for this year's 19th annual gathering of activist street musicians.

The current count is at 29+ unplugged mobile bands, several who will travel some distance, as far away as Brazil, as well as from NOLA, Minneapolis (MN), NYC and Brooklyn (NY), Pittsburgh (PA), Austin (TX), Olympia and Seattle (WA), Madison (WI). With much representation from New England-based groups, HONK! 2024 will swell to a capacity of at least 29 bands, with several of those bands being as large as 30 or more players, all performing unplugged right on the *Continued on page 9*



The HONK! Festival 19th Annual Festival of Activist Street Bands kicks off on Thursday, October 3, with the Pre-HONK! Brass Band Blowout in Union Square.

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Community members are invited to a **neighborhood meeting** on **Wednesday, October 9**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., to discuss public safety and homelessness in the broader **Seven Hills/Davis Square area**. Join **Mayor Katjana Ballantyne**, **Police Chief Shumeane Benford**, **Health and Human Services staff** and more for an update and discussion on these issues. All members of the community including individuals and businesses are invited. The meeting will take place at: **Somerville Community Baptist Church**, 31 College Ave.








In honor of **Italian American Heritage Month**, the **City of Somerville** will raise the **Italian Flag** at **City Hall** (93 Highland Ave) on **Thursday, October 3**, at 5:00 p.m.

Friends of the Somerville Public Library will be holding a **Book Sale** at the **East Branch Library**, 115 Broadway, on **October 5**. All items are \$1. Proceeds from the sale will help fund library programming and cultural passes. The sale will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., any questions can be emailed to friendssomervillepubliclibrary@gmail.com.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to **Ben Echevarria**. We wish him well. We wish **Sal Mingace** a very happy birthday. We wish him well and hope he enjoys his day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Terri Monsalve**, *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of October 2 – October 8 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>October 2</i>	Cloudy	66°/50°	8%	4%	ENE 11 mph
 Thursday <i>October 3</i>	Sunny	73°/53°	9%	4%	NE 9 mph
 Friday <i>October 4</i>	Partly Cloudy	77°/58°	10%	7%	S 9 mph
 Saturday <i>October 5</i>	Rain	69°/50°	40%	33%	NW 10 mph
 Sunday <i>October 6</i>	Sunny	66°/51°	4%	2%	NE 9 mph
 Monday <i>October 7</i>	Cloudy	69°/53°	22%	15%	S 13 mph
 Tuesday <i>October 8</i>	Rain	63°/47°	41%	32%	NNW 11 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Powder House Park revisited

Nicky Stiles says:

I remember the draft board building very much. I registered and when the draft numbers were picked my number was 30. So instead of waiting to be picked I joined the marines for a 2 year hitch. Which a lot of kids from Somerville did. We served our country proudly and with Somerville pride and distinction. Some didn't come home. Many of us who did come home went on to serve the city. Which I did for 48 years. Yes I do remember the powder house.

Log onto [TheSomervilleTimes.com](https://www.thesomervilletimes.com) to leave your own comments

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Community Meeting on Seven Hills/Davis Square Area Public Safety and Homelessness

Community members are invited to a neighborhood meeting on October 9, to discuss public safety and homelessness in the broader Seven Hills/Davis Square area. Join Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Police Chief Shumeane Benford, Health and Human Services staff and more for an up-date and discussion on these issues. All members of the community including individuals and businesses are invited.

The meeting will take place at:

Somerville Community Baptist Church

31 College Ave.

Wednesday, October 9, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

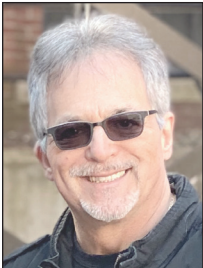
PLEASE NOTE: The Ward 6 Community Meeting originally planned for this time has been re-scheduled to Monday, October 21, at 6:30 p.m. at the same location: Somerville Community Baptist Church, 31 College Ave. Additional announcements to note this date change will be made.

Life in the



by Jimmy Del Ponte

Harvest Time in Somerville – why are all the gutters purple?



This article first appeared in the November 9, 2013 edition of The Somerville Times

In the cellar of my grandpa’s house in West Somerville, you can still see wine barrels, bottle cappers, and other winemaking paraphernalia. I have the last known bottle of his wine. Please enjoy this entertaining and informative story by my friend Anthony Accardi.

Thanksgiving is just weeks away and the fall harvest season as we know it will come to a close. For the old time Europeans however, the fall harvest traditions actually started back in August.

For my family, mushroom picking usually kicked off the fall harvest. I remember my grandfather and his friends driving up to the Maine/Canadian border to pick mushrooms. Only those from “his generation” knew which ones were safe to eat. To my knowledge, they never got it wrong, as I cannot remember anyone ever getting sick. By this time of year, the mushrooms have now all been picked and placed into mason jars for preservation. Some are preserved in a brine and some are marinated for that unique taste.

Next in the harvest line of succession were the tomatoes, also carefully placed into Mason jars. The tomatoes had been picked from the garden or for those without gardens, had been purchased at the Chelsea Produce Market. They had all been boiled, ground up and placed into their new glass homes. Fresh pasta sauce

(yes, I call it sauce) for the next year was just a trip downstairs to the cellar.

The only thing left to do now is to take one last trip to the Chelsea Market to buy the grapes. It is October in Somerville and it is time to make the wine. Soon the gutters will be purple from the cleaning of the oak barrels and the discarded empty grape crates which will be left at the curb for the weekly trash pick up.

Homemade wine is a European tradition that they brought to this country back in the early 1900’s. Many thought wine making would have faded away once all the elders had passed on. Still, their children and even their grandchildren carry on this tradition. In my old neighborhood on Winter Hill (Heath St. and Langmaid Ave.), there were about 7 or 8 families that made their own wine.

Wine making season usually starts in mid-September and goes on until mid-to late October. The grapes are first crushed using a grape crusher (contrary to the funny I Love Lucy episode, foot stomping is no longer the method). The crushed grapes and their juice (called “must”) is sometimes mixed with sugar for both taste and to speed up the fermentation process. The crushed grapes are then left to sit for as long as a week or for as little as 3-4 days, depending on the desired color and taste. While the grapes sit and start their fermentation process, the barrels are then cleaned.

The “Big Event” usually takes place during one weekend when the crushed grapes get placed into the wine press and the juice is extracted. The extracted juice then gets placed into the barrels for their



final fermentation. After about a month, a stabilizer is added to knock all the sediment to the bottom of the barrel. Within a month or two after that, fresh homemade wine can be enjoyed for the next year.

In my old neighborhood, wine making was a huge undertaking. My cellar did not have the room to make wine. My grandfather, Joe Marletta, made wine with my friend Val Deperrio’s grandfather, Tony DeChristofaro, who lived next door to us.

My grandfather used Mr. DeChristofaro’s wine press. He also kept his wine barrel down Tony’s cellar. Next door (on the other side of us), the Barsanti’s also made wine. Down and across the street, the Calisi’s made their own wine and across from them, the Carnazzo’s made their own wine as well. On Langmaid Ave, my friend Shawn Sullivan’s grandfa-

ther, Ermano Donati, made wine, as did my grandfather’s other friend Lorenzo (we never knew his last name).

Now, in my neighborhood there was only one grape crusher (owned by Lorenzo) that was used by the entire neighborhood. The grape crusher itself was home made. It was an old grape crate with the bottom taken out. A motor attached to the side drove a pulley which made two 2 x 4 pieces of wood sort of slap together just enough to break the grapes open. It then shot the broken grapes into a barrel that was cut in half. The motor was electric and the power cord was old and broken with loose and exposed wires. It’s no wonder one of the houses didn’t burn down.

Still, it all worked out. Once the wine was ready, it was placed into glass bottles (usually empty store

Continued on page 5



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Somerville Police Dept Crime Log September 17 – 23

Assault

24057908: On 9/19/24 at approximately 9:59 a.m., Somerville Police responded to Partridge Ave. for report of an assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he got into an altercation with a male party known to him. During the altercation, the male party grabbed the victim's neck then threatened him with a hammer. Officers identified the male suspect.

Assault

24057637: On 9/18/24 at approximately 11:11 a.m., Somerville Police responded to Davis Sq. for report of a fight. Upon arrival, officers spoke with two male parties who stated they were involved in a fight with each other. Officers identified both males.

Assault

24057480: On 9/17/24 at approximately 6:54 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Washington St. for report of a past assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated she was shot with an airsoft gun by two juvenile males riding bicycles.

Assault

24057466: On 9/17/24 at approximately 5:54 p.m, Somerville Police responded to 299 Broadway for report of a past assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he was shot with an airsoft gun by three juvenile males riding bicycles.

Assault

24057450: On 9/17/24 at approximately 5:10 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Gilman St. for report of a past assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated she was shot with an airsoft gun by three juvenile males riding bicycles.

Assault

24057127: On 9/16/24 at approximately 4:15 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Beacon St. for report of a sick person. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he was walking his dog in the area of Webster Ave & Concord Ave and was shot with an airsoft gun by two juvenile males riding bicycles.

Other Crimes: 9 Package Thefts + 6 Bike Thefts + 2 MV Vandalisms + 2 Car Breaks + 2 Vandalisms

— Somerville Police Department



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Thank you for your assistance.

Help Keep Somerville Safe!

City Councilors request ticketing enforcement for moving violations

CONT. FROM PG 1

he said during the September 26 City Council meeting.

There have been many traffic calming solutions and crosswalk infrastructure additions that have led to “meaningful outcomes,” he added.

In 2023, Somerville installed 56 traffic calming treatments including curb extensions, speed humps, raised crosswalks and more. Over 400 crosswalk improvements were added last calendar year, according to the 2023 Somerville Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee’s annual report.

In addition to the infrastructure updates, Councilor Ewen-Campen said that police enforcement is the way to maintain safety for pedestrians and drivers.

Of the 901 stops for speeding in 2023, 44 were actual tickets and the

rest were marked as warnings, said Councilor Ewen-Campen.

The traffic enforcement data was calculated by a Somerville resident with “quantitative know-how.” Roughly 95 percent of the police stops for speeding resulted in a warning, according to published SPD datasets that the City released publicly.

“I was really struck by the 95 percent number,” said Councilor Ewen-Campen.

It’s a similar percentage for other moving violations, he added.

Some of these stops may be for minor speed violations so the percentage data may not accurately depict the number of monetary citations that would have been issued if ticketing for speeding was fully-enforced.

According to Councilor Ewen-Campen, there has been increased reckless driving,

such as driving the wrong way on one-way streets, blowing through red lights and driving at dangerous speeds.

“I don’t think any of us can pretend that we can ticket our way out of this,” he said.

Councilor Ewen-Campen said the Councilors would have a conversation with the new Chief of Police Shumeane Benford and staff analysts to enforce these violations with more serious consequences.

“We [can] take a look at the most dangerous kind of driving behaviors, the things that could really hurt or kill residents,” said Councilor Ewen-Campen.

City Councilor-At-Large Jake Wilson added his viewpoint and assessment of the ongoing issue.

“Infrastructure improvements have shown to be the best practice in the long

run,” said Councilor Wilson.

The installation of speed humps on Meacham Street and other transit-friendly solutions such extending green lights at Davis Square were brought up later in the City Council meeting.

“Drivers just increasingly fear no consequence for their behavior behind the wheel,” said Councilman Wilson. “Our focus for educational warnings, while well-intentioned, just doesn’t seem to be working.”

Ward 1 City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin weighed in by reiterating the sentiment. “There is a lack of fear of consequences. There are people scoffing at a lot of laws in this city, and I think people are rightfully confused what laws are enforced and what laws are not enforced,” said Councilor Matthew McLaughlin.

Somerville Central Library resumes normal hours

The Central Branch of the Somerville Public Library will resume its regular hours of operation beginning Wednesday, October 2.

“The Central Library will be back to its normal hours next week as planned, and new supports in place will help us foster a safe and positive environment for everyone,” said Mayor Ballantyne. “We appreciate the dedication of our librarians and staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure the library remains a welcoming space.”

Updated Safety Measures

The return to regular hours comes with two important new resources aimed at creating a safe and supportive library environment. Security cameras have been installed in strategic locations in the library, and a professional security company trained in de-escalation will provide an on-site guard at targeted hours. The city selected Internal Security Associates as our new security vendor. They have extensive experience working with youth and in public spaces, including schools and libraries. Additionally, the security personnel are trained in CPR and first-aid, ensuring an extra layer of safety for library staff and visitors.

In addition to these safety measures, additional programming is also planned for the coming weeks for all ages including crafts, music and more. The city also continues its efforts to enhance support services at the Central Library. As part of ongoing planning for broader library needs, the city is in the final stages of the hiring process for an on-site social worker to serve library patrons. This professional will provide direct support to vulnerable members of the community and will further enhance the supportive environment at the library.

For more information on the Central Library’s operating hours and services, please visit somervillepubliclibrary.org or contact the library at (617) 623-5000 ext. 2900.



Harvest Time in Somerville – why are all the gutters purple? CONT. FROM PG 3

bought wine gallons). After that the wine was enjoyed for the next year. My grandfather’s wine was very strong, as was that of most of the neighbors.

Naturally, once the wine was ready it was time to compare how each other’s came out. They would each bring a bottle of their own wine and meet down one of the cellars to compare how each person’s wine tasted. Needless to say, this little comparison usually turned into a party of some sort. It was funny when this little comparison/party broke up at the end of the night. Each of them would stagger back to their respective homes, my grandfather included. Needless to say, they all got a good night’s sleep that night.

Now I make the wine with my father-in-law, Rocco Schirripa, in East Boston. Everyone that knows him can tell you how good his wine is. For my wife’s family it is truly a family effort. My mother-in-law Marianna and both my brothers-in-law, Sal and Lou, and all of the grandchildren each help out in some way.

When I met my wife Maria 15 years ago,

I couldn’t wait to make the wine with her family. My father-in-law always tries to make his wine on Columbus Day weekend. I remember the first time I made the wine with her family. We started at around 8 a.m. and didn’t finish till about 11 p.m. that night.

After that first time, I had my father-in-law get me my own barrel. I still made the wine with him, except now I had my own barrel to use. That one year I soon found out that I cannot consume 50 gallons of wine in one year. Not to worry though, it didn’t go to waste.

Now I just enjoy what he makes and earn my keep by helping him make it. He usually makes about 75 gallons a year. For him and like my grandfather, it is a passion and a necessary tradition. My father-in-law always said two things about making wine. The first was, “I enjoy it so much that I will continue to make it until I physically can no longer do it.” The other was of the hard work involved. He always says, “For one weekend’s sacrifice of hard work, you get an entire years worth of enjoyment.”

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE: There were no roll calls in the House and Senate last week. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reports on the number of times each representative sided with Gov. Maura Healey on her 20 vetoes of state budget items in the 2024 legislative session.

A two-thirds vote is required to override a gubernatorial veto. In a full 160-member House, the governor needs the support of 54 representatives to sustain a veto when all 160 representatives vote – and fewer votes when some members are absent or a seat is vacant. Healey fell far short of that goal as 25 votes was the most support she received on any veto. The House easily overrode all 20 vetoes.

No Democrats voted with Healey to sustain any vetoes. All 133 voted to override all the vetoes. Of the 25 Republican members, only two voted with Healey 100 percent of the time to sustain the vetoes: Reps. Nick Boldyga (R-Southwick) and Marc Lombardo (R-Billerica).

The two GOP members who supported Healey the least number of times were Reps. David Vieira (R-Falmouth) and Kelly Pease (R-Westfield) who each voted with Healey only six times (30 percent of the time).

NUMBER OF TIMES REPRESENTATIVES SUPPORTED GOV. HEALEY’S VETOES IN THE 2024 SESSION

Here is how your representative fared in his or her support of Gov. Healey on the vetoes.

The percentage next to the representative’s name represents the percentage of times that he or she supported Healey. The number in parentheses represents the actual number of times the representative supported Healey.

Rep. Christine Barber	0 percent (0)
Rep. Mike Connolly	0 percent (0)
Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven	0 percent (0)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

USE INTEREST FROM STATE’S “RAIN DAY FUND” TO LEVERAGE FEDERAL FUNDS (S 2954) - Gov. Maura Healey signed into law legislation that would leverage the interest from the state’s Rainy Day Fund to better compete for federal dollars, to ensure the state receives the maximum possible share of federal funds and to pay down the state’s long term debt liabilities. The Rainy Day Fund currently has a historic balance of \$8.2 billion.

Supporters said the bill would require the state comptroller to transfer interest from the Rainy Day Fund to the

Commonwealth Federal Matching and Debt Reduction Fund on a quarterly basis if the Rainy Day balance contains a healthy amount of money. The Secretary of Administration and Finance would then pursue federal funds for infrastructure, resiliency and economic development.

“From day one of our administration, we’ve been committed to competing aggressively to win more federal investments in Massachusetts,” said Gov. Healey. “We know that every federal dollar we pull in is vital to repairing our bridges and roads, improving transportation infrastructure in all parts of the state, leading the clean energy revolution, and supporting our workforce at every step. With this legislation, we will be able to provide unprecedented tools for our communities to seek the federal support they need.”

“We are constantly competing with 49 other states for our share of limited federal dollars,” said Rep. Matt Muratore (R-Plymouth). “Leveraging the interest on our Rainy Day Fund will give us a significant advantage by better positioning Massachusetts to successfully secure much-needed federal dollars that will help pay for a wide range of infrastructure projects.”

“This legislation puts Massachusetts in a position to take full advantage of federal grant opportunities to ensure we don’t leave a single dollar on the table,” said Sen. John Cronin (D-Fitchburg). “This bill will help our commonwealth partner with the federal government to meet our challenges and build for the future.”

“Remaining competitive, equitable and affordable as a commonwealth means thinking creatively about our state’s finances and seizing opportunities,” said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). “We have been fiscally prudent in building up the largest rainy day fund in Massachusetts’ history, and with the governor’s signature, our communities will now be able to leverage our robust interest earnings to compete for federal dollars to fund transformative projects.

FOSTER HOMES AND DOGS (H 4911) – The Senate approved a House-approved bill that prohibits the Department of Children and Families (DCF) from prohibiting placement of a child in a foster home solely based on the presence of any specific breed of dog in the home. The bill also updates animal cruelty and abuse reporting regulation for human services employees or contractors.

Supporters said that currently, DCF is allowed to prohibit placement of a child in a home with German Shepherds, Pit Bulls and Rottweilers.

“This legislation will open the door for seemingly count-

less additional families to potentially become foster families addressing the great need for emergency, short-term and permanent supportive housing for the commonwealth’s children,” said sponsor Rep. Jack Lewis (D-Framingham). “From my work as the co-chair of the bipartisan Protecting Animal Welfare Caucus and my own personal experience of becoming a pre-adoptive foster parent, I know the power of this legislation.”

The bill needs final approval in the House and Senate before it goes to Gov. Healey for her signature.

\$12.4 MILLION FOR ROAD SAFETY – The Healey administration announced it has awarded some \$12.4 million in federal traffic safety funds for programs to promote safer roads in across the state.

“These programs, taken together, represent a holistic approach to addressing road safety concerns,” said Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll. “No one agency or approach can resolve these issues, but the combination of prevention, enforcement, education and outreach initiatives funded through these grants will ensure safer roads for all in Massachusetts.”

“The initiatives funded through these grant programs will ensure that drivers in communities across the state are better informed and safer behind the wheel,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. “These grants promote strong partnerships between nonprofits, community members and public safety officials. Those relationships are key to our public safety strategy.”

\$5 MILLION FOR FIREFIGHTER SAFETY GRANTS – The Healey administration announced that \$5 million in grant are available to support the purchase of firefighter turnout gear, fire suppression equipment, and other related items by local cities and towns.

“Modern firefighters do much more than fight fires,” said State Fire Marshal Jon Davine. “They perform technical rescues, mitigate the release of hazardous materials and treat traumatic injuries. Many of their day-to-day activities expose them to carcinogens and other health hazards. These grants give local fire departments the flexibility to purchase the safety equipment that will best serve their needs, from small rural towns to large urban areas. It’s an investment in the safety of our firefighters and all our communities.”

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“I was a little bit outraged by the fact that her opponent declared himself the winner when he

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COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



HONK! if you love fun, music, and socio-political activism.

Our View Of The Times



Whether it be homegrown or imported, we have at our fingertips an incredibly diverse and nearly exhaustive supply of mellifluous entertainment to keep us amused and amazed as we watch it pass through our community.

The same goes for commitment to political and social issues. It's natural for the HONK! Festival organizers to choose our community in which to hold this event.

Activism thrives here, driven by a long tradition of dialog on important issues of the day and a genuine concern for the betterment of our own community as well as that of the world at large.

Of course, our city has a rich history to tell, from the days of the Revolutionary War right up to today's most pressing issues.

We enjoy gathering together and celebrating life at its fullest and most reward-

ing, while at the same time coming to terms with vital issues that affect all our lives. And, of course, doing it in a responsible and efficient way is also something that we strive for.

Somerville's got talent. That we know. And it's got commitment as well. It extends to many forms of expression, both artistic and pragmatic.

In seeking a workable balance of the

two, we may yet create a symphony of sorts. One based in harmony and keeping perfect time. After the dust of the busy day settles, we know we've done our part to make it all a bit better.

The upcoming HONK! festival event will not only celebrate music combined with socio-political activism, it will show that we can do it in the spirit of fun and community engagement.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Kevin Driscoll, AnnMarie Carey-Browne, Diane Kerins Conneely, Mike Capuano, Ben Echevarria, Kerri Shannon Schaefer and Michael Buckley a happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

The HONK! Festival of Activist Street Bands returns for another year of reclaiming the streets for horns, bikes and feet. This free 3-day festival will take place from October 4 to October 6 in Davis Square. Keep up to date at <https://honk-fest.org>.

Boston Ave. block party (neighbors are welcome) takes place on Sunday, October 6. It's low-key and kid friendly. Bring some food to share if you can. On Sunday, October 6, Boston Ave. will be closed to cars from 3:00 to 10:00 p.m. between Prichard and Kidder Ave. Festivities starting at 5:00 p.m. (rain date is October 20).

The Fall-ing for Plants Market takes place this Sunday, October 6, at the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highlnd Ave, 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. If you love plants this is the event for you. Featuring 40

local artists and small businesses who offer unique plants and plant adjacent products. Bring your unwanted, pest free plants for the plant swap table.

The Somerville Community Growing Center will be holding their Salvage Sale and Markers' Market on October 19, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., 22 Vinal Ave. An innovative yard sale in two parts: the first a curated, seasonally-themed sale featuring salvaged housewares, clothing, jewelry, books and decorative items; the second, a craft/artisan fair offering everything from locally-designed clothing, original artwork and prints, to handmade

jewelry and other treasures. More about the event at www.thegrowingcenter.org/yard-sale. To find out more about donating to the "Salvage Sale" portion, visit bit.ly/ssg-give-24. To Volunteer, go to bit.ly/scgc-volunteer. To become a craft/art vendor, visit bit.ly/ssg-sell-24 to register.

Are you an emerging artist looking to share your artistic skills with your community? The City of Somerville, through the Somerville Arts Council (SAC), invites emerging artists (or a group of artists working as a team) to submit project concepts to be considered for a commission to create a temporary

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FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's
Olio
#943

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. Who was the first group of people in history to use scare-crows?

2. What is the official word for the sound of leaves and trees rustling in the wind?

3. What pigment is responsible for trees with red and purple leaves?

4. When is fall in the Southern Hemisphere?

5. What was Johnny Appleseed's real name?

6. What's the name for the science of growing apples?
7. What country started the tradition of pumpkin carving?

8. In what fall month will you see a full corn moon?

9. Which U.S. state has named apple cider their official state drink?

10. What insect flies south to Mexico for the winter during the fall months?

11. What kind of trees lose their leaves in autumn months?

12. Where can you see the world's largest bat colony?

Answers on page 14

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. The movie *Toy Story* helped sell the Etch-a-Sketch.
2. Barbie and Ken broke up in 2004.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
FAMOUS WORLD SITES

- ACROSS
1. To grab meat off a grill

5. Tire meas.

8. Flock member

11. Hollywood sidewalk mark

12. Architect's drawing

13. Muhammad's teachings

15. Leaning Tower city

16. Co-eds' military org.

17. a.k.a. Pleasant Island

18. Angkor Wat country

20. Like some Christmas sweaters

21. Walt's Mickey

22. Blunder

23. Emerge

26. "Midsommar" flower arrangements

30. Avenue des Champs-...lysées, technically

31. Plural of stria

34. Prescribed food selection

35. On pins and needles

37. Knee-related acronym

38. Fur of the marten

39. Hissy fit

40. Political "shelter"

42. The night before Christmas

43. Eyewash vessel

45. Food tester

47. King Kong, e.g.

48. Milk quantity

50. ____ Verde National Park

52. Black Hills' Mount ____ National Memorial

55. Short-trunked ungulate

56. Geometric calculation

57. Barbequed anatomy

59. Not upright

60. Mountain lake

61. Easter Island statues

62. Short for detective

63. Follow ems

64. "Mr. Roboto" band

- DOWN
1. Recipe amt.

2. Related to ear

3. U.S. space agency, acr.

4. Gram, in Great Britain

5. Walks weary

6. Composer of "Gymnopédies" fame Erik

7. Machu Picchu empire

8. Twelfth month of Jewish civil year

9. On one's guard

10. Ostrich-like bird

12. Marcel of "Remembrance of Things Past" fame

13. Harden

14. ____ Familia, Spain

19. Autocratic

22. Earlier in time, archaic

23. Use blunt end of pencil

24. Sack fabric

25. Change shoelace knot, e.g.

26. China's Great attraction

27. Mt. Everest's northern slope location

28. Tool handle

29. Ranch grazer

32. Poison ivy woe

33. ____ Strait, Alaskan cruise destination

36. Famous onion-domed cathedral's name-sake in Russia

38. Ingratiating behavior

40. Gobbled up

41. Relating to Utah

44. Like exes

46. Violent weather, pl.

48. #13 Across' sacred writings

49. Site frequenters

50. First one on a ship

51. Long narrative poem

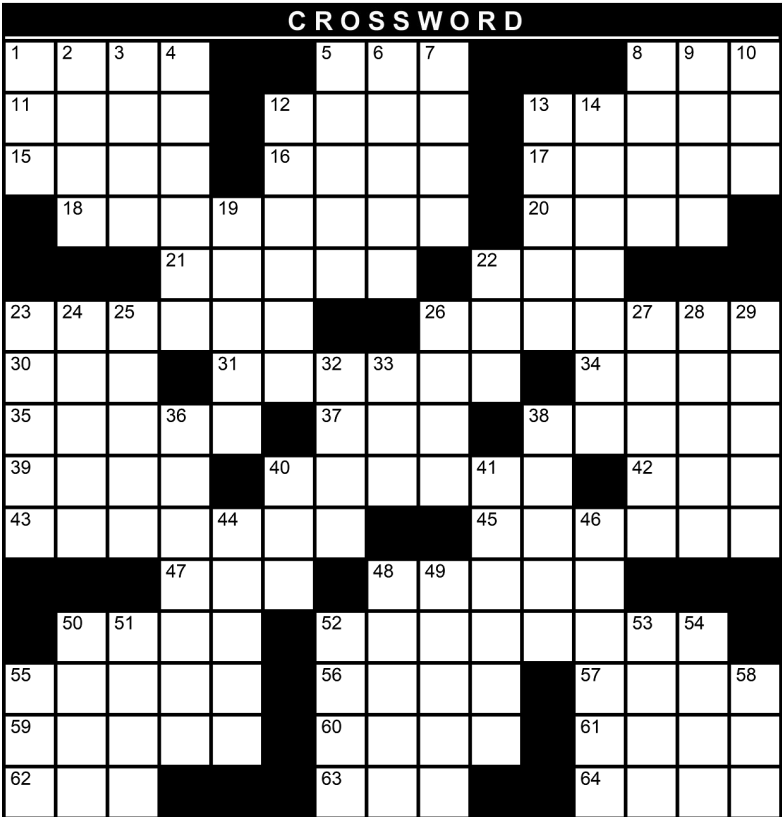
52. Loan attribute

53. Heavy metal's Quiet ____

54. E-commerce website

55. Sylvester, to Tweety

58. Broadway musical about wives of Henry VIII



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Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

HONK! Festival 2024 on its way to Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 1



streets of Davis and Harvard Squares.

For those who are not familiar, HONK! is an annual uproariously jubilant purposeful gathering held every October since 2006. The entire Festival is inspired by a commitment to social change through music, embodied in the powerful upbeat sounds generated by activist street bands who have traveled from near and far to participate in this particular annual HONK! Because, after all, this is where the HONK! movement all started, spawning many a HONK! elsewhere since then. Hence, this world-wide HONK! phenomenon warrants its own wiki to boot: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HONK!

HONK! is now short-hand for what is fully expressed at honkfest.org/about/: "At full power, these bands create an irresistible spectacle of creative movement and sonic self-expression directed at making the world a better place. This is the movement we call HONK!"

When announcing there will be a total of 29 bands with a plus sign, it definitely implies that between now and the first weekend in October, there will be opportunities that will surface for more musicians to gather and be involved.

HONK! 2024 will follow the familiar tried and true scheduling patterns, with outdoor street level band concerts held throughout Somerville's Davis Square and the nearby neighborhoods on HONK! Friday and Saturday. Then on to the vast "Reclaim the Streets for Horns, Bikes, and Feet" Parade, as it winds its way from Davis Square to Harvard Square in Cambridge, on HONK! Sunday, to participate in Harvard Square's 45th annual Oktoberfest. But every year there are also the HONK! surprise(ing) elements, often reflecting the signs of our particular given times. The schedule of events are as follows:

Thursday, October 3

Pre-HONK! Brass Band Blowout in Union Square, Somerville

Friday, October 4

Lantern-making workshops

4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Hodgkins-Curtin Park, Holland St. between Paulina St. and Simpson Ave. in Somerville

Free and open to the public.

Lantern parades

6:30 – 7:30 p.m., stepping off from and returning to Hodgkins-Curtin Park, Somerville.

These nighttime parades are small-scale processions, leaving from and returning to Hodgkins-Curtin Park and traversing the surrounding neighborhoods. We are inviting local artists and families to bring their own illuminations, and we also invite musicians to build lanterns, wear bike lights, glow sticks, any kind of blinking-glittering-glowing ornaments you like.

Friday Night in Union Square

See HONK! bands play at multiple locations in Union Square, both within walking distance.

Saturday, October 5

HONK! in Davis Square

Opening ceremonies at noon in Seven Hills Park.

Bands play all afternoon from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. in locations around Davis Square rain or shine.

Elm Street Interactive Area

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

We are closing Elm Street to cars and turning it into a dynamic arena for interactive art making and activism. Please join in — work with our amazing HONK! artists to create something for yourself or for the Sunday Parade. Learn about some urgent issues with the grass roots volunteers and organizers working on community issues. Help amplify messages for positive change and activist causes with art.

Sunday, October 6

The HONK! Parade

12:00 – 2:00 p.m. down Mass. Ave. from Davis Square to Harvard Square

Sunday in Harvard Square

Performances on the Main Stage and other performance venues at Oktoberfest 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Contact info: honkfest.org/contact/, info@honkfest.org, 781-285-8639.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



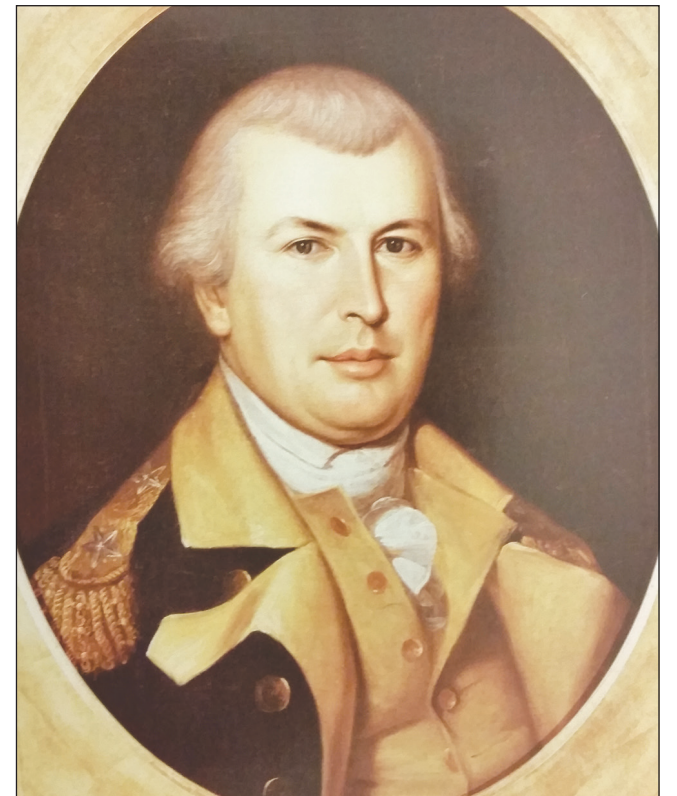
Eagle feathers #314

This article first appeared in the June 10, 2015 edition of The Somerville Times

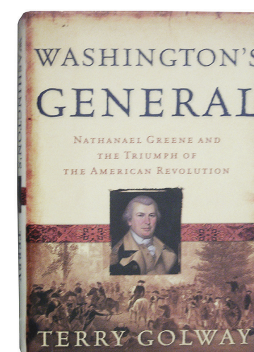
Second In Command

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

After the battle of April 19, 1775, which began in Lexington and ended in what is now Somerville, the budding country needed leaders. Out of the thirty-five American generals who served in the Revolutionary War, Rhode Island's 33 year-old Nathanael Greene was the youngest. He was born in 1742, exactly one hundred years before Somerville's birth in 1842.



He and his superior, General George Washington, were the only two generals to hold command for the entire length of the eight-year Revolutionary War. Their close relationship began at Prospect Hill where Washington promoted Greene to command that area. Prospect, meaning "wide view," became the most prominent of the many fortifications surrounding Boston during its year-long siege. Washington's headquarters were in Cambridge. Greene's headquarters were located in a house that is now Saint Anthony's Church and schoolyard at the corner of Somerville Avenue and Properzi Way. Greene Street, located off Summer Street, was named in his honor.



During that first year of the Revolution, strong family friendships began. At that time, many wives of officers and soldiers developed a common bond. Martha

Continued on page 12

LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

October 2, 2024
Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, Massachusetts 02114
Telephone # 617-573-1300

City of Somerville
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143
Telephone # 617-625-6600 x2527

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) and the City of Somerville (the City).

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about **October 18, 2024** EOHLC and the City will submit separate requests to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of the following funds, Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) funds under Section 8, The Housing Act of 1937, as amended, HOME Program Funds (HOME) available through the HOME Investment Partnerships Act, under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, 42 U.S.C. 12701 et. Seq. as amended, to undertake a project to be known as 24 Webster Ave located at 24 Webster Ave in Somerville, MA. The proposed new construction development of 42 units is a mix of studio, one-, two- and three- bedroom units, of which eight (8) units will be affordable to households earning up to 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI) and 34-units will be affordable to households earning up to 60% of the AMI. 24 Webster will be built to Passive House standards, aligning with city and state goals of reducing energy consumption. An award of 1,500,000 in HOME funds is anticipated for this project. Other public funding may include Federal and State low-income housing tax credits and as well as additional state funding. The project sponsor is Just a Start. The total estimated cost is approximately \$32,416,607 for the project.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Both agencies have determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) and is available upon request. Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Dan Tobyn, Bureau of Rental Assistance, 100 Cambridge Street Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114 or to Miranda Rubin, City of Somerville, OSPCD, 93 Highland Ave 3rd Floor Somerville, MA 02143. ERR may be examined or copied during normal business hours; EOHLC: Mon-Fri 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM or at the City of Somerville: Mon, Tues, and Wed, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Thurs. 8:30 AM–7:30 PM and Friday 8:30 AM to 12:30PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on this activity may submit written comments to EOHLC or to the City at the respective addresses indicated above. All comments received by October 17, 2024, will be considered by these agencies prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice and proposed project they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

EOHLC certifies to HUD that Catherine Racer in her capacity as Certifying Officer, and the City certifies to HUD that Katjana Ballantyne in her capacity as Mayor of the City of Somerville, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows both agencies to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and this certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City or EOHLC; (b) the City or EOHLC has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at the following email address: CPDRROFBOS@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Katjana Ballantyne, Mayor
Catherine Racer, Undersecretary, EOHLC
10/2/24 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee** and the **Somerville Planning Board** will hold a joint public hearing on **Thursday, October 17, 2024** at 6:30 pm. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

REGISTER ONLINE

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_huIJfnEGRja9fA0NbOJ8MQ

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

- Walter Tauro requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 282 McGrath Highway from Neighborhood Residence (NR) to Small Business (SB) Overlay District.
- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to Sections 2.2.1, 3.1.16, 3.2.15, 4.1.13, 4.2.13, 4.3.13, 4.4.14, 5.1.15, 6.1.11, 6.2.13, 6.3.11, 6.4.14, 9.2.6.h, 9.2.14.b.v, and Table 9.1.1 of the Zoning Ordinance to streamline the regulation of daycare services and permit additional daycare operation in the Residential, Mid-Rise, and Commercial zoning districts.
- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to Sections 1.1.4, 2.1.1, 3.1.18, 3.2.17, 4.1.15, 4.2.15, 4.3.15, 4.4.16, 5.1.17, 6.1.13, 6.2.15, 6.3.13, 6.4.16, 7.2.9, 7.3.9, 8.2.4.c, 9.2.3, 9.2.6, 11.2.4, 11.2.5, 11.2.6, 11.3, 12.1.7, 15.2.1, and Table 9.1.1 of the Zoning Ordinance to address various parking requirements.
- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to Articles 2-7, Articles 9-11, Article 13, and Article 15 of the Zoning Ordinance to make corrections, clarifications, and regulatory framework improvements.
- Charles DeCecca requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 501 Mystic Valley Parkway from Neighborhood Residence (NR) to Urban Residence (UR)

Zoning amendments may be viewed online by searching the Somerville City Council's [online meeting calendar](#) for the address or item number.

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 the Planning Board and the City Council at publiccomments@somervillema.gov. Comments must be received no later than 12 Noon the day of the Hearing to ensure they are conveyed to the Committee for inclusion with the hearing testimony. The Chair(s) may opt to extend the period for written comments, in which case additional comments will be accepted until the date indicated. This information can be found in the minutes of the meeting.

10/2/24 The Somerville Times

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR BIDS
IFB #25-21**

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, Invites Sealed Bids For:

Temporary Boiler Unit for The DPW Complex

A bid package may be obtained online at:

<https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/procurement-and-contracting-services> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at

<http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress> on or after: **Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024**. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: **11am, Thursday, October 17th, 2024**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please email Sonia Castro scaastro@somervillema.gov for more info.

Sonia Castro
Procurement Manager
617-625-6600 x3407

10/2/24 The Somerville Times

Middle graders winter sports registration



Registration is open for middle graders interested in playing winter sports. There are basketball teams for grades 6-8 and opportunities to try out for select high school teams.

Students in grades 6-8 are invited to play on our boys or girls basketball teams for middle graders. The teams will compete against teams from other towns.

Registration starts October 1 and ends December 2. Please visit the Sports Registration page to get started.

Sports opportunities for grades 7 and 8: Students in 8th grade may also try out for the Somerville High School Swim Team or Girls Basketball Team. Students in grades 7 or 8 may try out for the Boys Ice Hockey Team. Contact the Athletics Director to learn more.

Learn more and register: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/mgathletics>

Somerville releases groundbreaking Pollinator Action Plan

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville Division of Public Space and Urban Forestry (PSUF) are proud to announce the release of the city's comprehensive Pollinator Action Plan, a community-driven initiative aimed at supporting pollinator species within the city's urban environment. This first-of-its-kind plan for a densely populated city not only sets a new precedent for urban pollinator conservation, but also reflects Somerville's commitment to addressing the environmental challenges of our time.

"Our pollinators are in crisis," said Mayor Ballantyne. "Bees, butterflies, beetles, flies, wasps, and other insects that play a crucial role in our ecosystem are facing significant threats. But cities and individuals can make a difference, and this plan gives us the roadmap to do just that. I am inspired by the dedication of our community to take meaningful action in protecting these vital species."

The Pollinator Action Plan is a unique effort that takes a hyper-local approach to enhancing habitats in Somerville's landscape. Collaboration between city staff, the consultant team at Offshoots, Inc., entomologist Dr. Nicholas Dorian, and the Pollinator Action Plan Advisory Committee, collaborated to develop a science-based framework for creating pollinator-friendly urban environments. The project team's meticulous analysis of years of local data grounds the plan in a uniquely robust and specific data set. The plan identifies nearly 300 species currently residing in the city and another 250 that could be supported with



Somerville's Pollinator Action Plan aims to protect and propagate species that are vital to environmental stability.

improved habitat conditions. Planting recommendations are tailored to provide these species with the plants they need to live and reproduce. "Recipe cards" (garden designs and plant lists) offer a wide range of options for site conditions and desired aesthetics. There is something for everyone.

"The goal is to create habitat, and this plan is useful for the individual porch or yard gardener as well as those creating large public parks," said Luisa Olivera, Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry. "It offers not only valuable planting recommendations for novices to professionals, but also landscape practices we can all follow to help pollinators. I believe it will be an important resource to increase biodiversity in Somerville and in the region."

The Pollinator Action Plan is rooted in Somerville's ongoing environmental efforts, building on the City's Native Species Ordinance, Tree Preservation Ordinance, and broader initiatives like Somerville Climate Forward and SomerVision 2040. It outlines strategies to foster pollinator-friendly habitats on both public

and private lands. Just as with all environmental efforts in a city as densely developed as Somerville, success will depend on the participation of both city officials and residents.

The plan is designed to be accessible to a wide audience. Whether you're a backyard gardener or a municipal planner, the Pollinator Action Plan offers clear steps to help pollinators. This includes a myriad of scales from planting a single pot of native plants to converting larger green spaces into pollinator-friendly habitat.

"Our goal is to extend this knowledge beyond our city's borders," added Mayor Ballantyne. "The plan is open source, allowing other municipalities to adopt and adapt it to help protect pollinators across the region."

Somerville's Pollinator Action Plan is now available to the public and can be viewed on the Somerville Voice page: voice.somervillema.gov/somerville-pollinator-action-plan. The city encourages residents to get involved and learn how they can contribute to creating a healthier environment for pollinators in Somerville and beyond.

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

Washington, Catherine Greene, and their husbands became lifelong friends. The wives were treated to visits to Prospect Hill to experience its panoramic view of Boston. General Greene became Washington's most trusted associate. He was later given command of all of the American forces fighting in the South. In this position, he would be in charge of the entire Continental Army if Washington fell in battle.

Nathanael idolized General Washington. The Washingtons had no

children and were deeply moved and honored when the Greenes named their first son, George Washington Greene, and their first daughter, Martha Washington Greene.

At the war's end, the state of Georgia gave land in Savannah to the Greenes. This was in appreciation of the General's efforts during the conflict. After Greene's death, his wife, Catharine, continued to run the farm. Eli Whitney, who was credited with the invention of the cotton gin, worked for her. Although he received

the laurels, she played a big part in its design. He paid her royalties on his patent because she had provided him with ideas for the gin, financial help and a workshop to tinker in. It is important to note that during that time, women were not allowed to establish patents; hence, she received no official recognition.

General Nathanael Greene died of sunstroke in 1786, at the early age of 44, and is honored with a statue in Savannah and Washington D.C.

Highlanders Football wins big in double overtime game, 42-40

By Harry Kane and Dave Pereira

Somerville’s big win over Malden on September 20 gave their team a boost in morale. The Highlanders defeated the Malden Golden Tornadoes in a double overtime game.

“I was extremely impressed with our team’s resilience and perseverance,” said Head Coach Dave Pereira. “There were multiple moments they could have folded, but they believed in each other, and were able to overcome together.”

The first quarter was relatively quiet, with only Malden scoring on a big play from Jaiden McDuffie. At the end of the first quarter, Malden had rushed 88 yards with a touchdown by McDuffie. Their 2-point conversion was no good, and the score was Malden 6-0.

“Our goal all night was to stop #9 Senior Kevin Exilhomme, who is an extremely talented player,” said Pereira. “We put one of our best cover guys Junior Esmael Mack on him all night, and he did a phenomenal job all night. We made sure Sophomore safety Jaxon Smith was there to help him all night. That’s the amount of respect we had for Exilhomme.”

In the second quarter the teams traded touchdowns, with both the Highlanders and Golden Tornadoes successful on only 50 percent of their 2-point conversion tries.

Somerville’s Gavin Fucile rushed for 28-yards to a touchdown with the 2-point conversion credited to quarterback Sam De Souza’s pass to Mateus Fernandes. Malden answered with a 78-yard rush, and scored a touchdown. The 2-point conversion pass attempt was no good. Somer-



#9 Sam De Souza hand off to #1 Gavin Fucile.

ville got the ball back and rushed 22 yards for a touchdown credited to quarterback Sam De Souza. The 2-point conversion was no good. Malden then answered back again with a 60-yard touchdown pass. The 2-point conversion was good. The score at the end of the half was Malden 20 – Somerville 14.

“I cannot talk enough about Gavin Fucile; he’s an unbelievable running back and an important part of our program. He is a tough, hard-nosed, physical runner who does his best work late in games,” said Pereira.

The Golden Tornadoes got the ball to begin the second half. Malden moved the ball on a drive that lasted over 10 minutes. With 2 minutes to go in the third quarter, Mateus Fernandes forced a Malden fumble on the 1-yard line recovered by Kerry Alphonse. This would have allowed Malden to go up two scores late in the third on a night when Malden running back Jaiden McGuffie was tough to stop. That was one of the key plays to the game, Pereira explained.

Somerville’s 3-yard rush touchdown by Gavin Fucile tied the game 20-20. The 2-point conversion was unsuccessful.

In the fourth quarter, the Golden Tornadoes had a 54-yard rush touchdown. Their 2-point conversion was good. Down 28-20 with 5 minutes left, Highlanders were able to drive down the field, running the ball with Senior Gavin Fucile and Junior Esmael Mack.

On a 4th and 9 from the Malden 20-yard line, quarterback Sam De Souza ran for 19 yards for the biggest play of the night. From there, Highlanders handed the ball to the 5’10, 220-pound,



1 Gavin Fucile rush between #3 Mateus Fernandes and #16 Kerry Alphonse blocks.



#3 Mateus Fernandes extends the ball over the goal line for a two point conversion. — Photos by Lisa Sotir

Gavin Fucile for both the touchdown and 2-point conversion.

“The fumble on the goal line from Fernandes and De Souza’s scramble on fourth at the end of regulations were big plays made by big players in big moments,” said Pereira.

The score was 28-28 at the end of regulation play, and the game went into overtime.

In the first overtime, Malden started with the ball and was able to score, however they missed the 2-point conversion. On the Somerville possession, De Souza was injured on a scramble. Offensive Coordinator Bob Silva then switched to a wildcat offense putting Fucile at fullback and snapping the ball directly to Sophomore Marcos Pineda. Pineda scored on a run to the right, but the 2-point conversion was stopped by Malden.

“Malden is a well-coached team with a

lot of talent. They are without a doubt, one of the fastest teams around,” said Pereira.

The second overtime began the same as the first with Malden starting on the offense. They scored on their second play, said Pereira. However, a blitz by Fucile stopped the Malden 2-point conversion.

On the Somerville possession, De Souza returned to hand the ball to Fernandes and Fucile to score. Somerville needed the two-point conversion to win the game. Going back into wildcat formation, Marcos Pineda plunged into the endzone to win the game in walk-off fashion.

Gavin Fucile had 26 carries for 167 yards with 3 touchdowns. The final score was Somerville 42 - Malden 40.

“I don’t think that this is a game we win in previous years,” said Pereira. “These kids have shown what they are capable of, and the faith they have in each other was an amazing thing to watch on Friday night.”



Sophomore #4 Ryan Louis makes a catch down field vs Malden.



#1 Gavin Fucile runs over a Malden player for a touchdown in the first overtime.

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Ms. Cam's

Olío

Answers

1. The Egyptians

2. Psithurism

3. Anthocyanins

4. March through May

5. John Chapman

6. Pomology

7. Ireland

8. September

9. New Hampshire

10. Monarch butterflies

11. Deciduous

12. San Antonio, Texas at Bracken Cave

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.

'It Takes All Shapes to Make a Square' campaign a bit square to start with a promise of more local support

There is no question, if you ask anyone who's lived in or visited Somerville, that none of our squares are actually shaped like squares. Most of them represent some other shape and sometimes, not familiar ones (think of Davis Square's main area with 7 streets)! Well, the City of Somerville's Economic Development Division is using a play on geometry to promote the "It Takes All Shapes to Make a Square" campaign. The campaign asks folks to visit explore.somervillema.gov or scan a QR code on MBTA buses or at Logan Airport to sign up for forthcoming informational emails that will include local events, features about squares and neighborhoods in Somerville, resources for business owners, and more. Advertisements can be seen on area MBTA buses and at Logan Airport. The website can be viewed in 5 languages, including Spanish and Nepali, which is excellent to see.

"Somerville's business districts are a reflection of our city's spirit—diverse, eclectic, and ever-evolving," according to city officials. "It Takes All Shapes to Make a Square" encourages everyone to come and experience the local flavor that makes each square in Somerville special. Whether it's the iconic charm of Davis Square, the welcoming energy of Teele Square, or the unique offerings in Union, Magoun, and Ball Squares, this campaign invites residents and visitors alike to explore and support the incredible array of businesses that call Somerville home."

This is certainly good to hear and a valid attempt at bringing things local in a convenient format. On closer inspection of this burgeoning ad campaign, I was a bit underwhelmed. First off, I signed up about 10 days ago and have yet to receive an email. I did get confirmation on the website that my email had been added. And the city officials did say the first email should be out in October. It will be either a quarterly or monthly email, to be determined.

I am no marketing critic but the ads I have seen thus far, and there are a few versions out there, showed image boxes that had mostly triangular shapes and what looked like stock photos. I have yet to see one actual Somerville business represented. One ad mentioned pasta, to which I thought of Dave's Fresh Pasta on Holland Street or Deano's Pasta in East Somerville, who, according to its eponymous website, talks about their "cold pressed" pasta through "special bronze dies." Another mentions custom bikes - I assume a reference to Peter Mooney who opened Wheelworks in 1977, but am unsure. I know, it is hard to prioritize one image over another, with hundreds of businesses across three zip codes and thousands of residents. Either way, all of the shapes in the ad are actually triangles, which I find more confusing.

What may be helpful going forward is making the marketing campaign more human and real. Perhaps they could take pictures of a business from each of our squares to show the diversity around town. Somerville's Diversity Catalog has business logos of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQIA), Service Disabled Veteran, Veteran, Disability, Women, Immigrant, Black, Indigenous, and people of color, or Minority-owned businesses. Adding these to image squares is something I can get behind that lift up and actually depict the businesses already in Somerville. Or maybe there could be residents from each of the squares that could be imaged. I'd rather celebrate the diversity of, say, 02143 with images of the community than nondescript stock photos that could be anywhere.

When my wife and I moved into our first place together on Lexington Avenue just past the park, our urban planning friend gave us a wall painting titled quote "a guide to the squares of Cambridge & Somerville." With the artist



unknown, this image to me is a better geometric representation of the area's squares. It is hard to tame these shapes, and though mostly comical and sarcastic, they do bring our minds to a more varied, more non-traditional city...a city of immigrants, a streetcar suburb, an urban village filled with, as the explore.somervillema.gov website states, "the wacky, the weird, the wonderful."

I have served as an organizer of Ball Square Businesses, shepherding COVID-19 information like grant opportunities to businesses during the early pandemic and, later, helped coordinate conversations about the changing streetscape along Broadway. I also have served as a member of the Small Enterprise Committee for the Anti-Displacement Task Force. My experience with Economic Development is that as important as their role is in bringing and nurturing large development into Somerville (i.e. jobs and more tax revenue), they should be focused equally or more so on keeping and sustaining the small ones that are here. Even if, to start,

I think the ad campaign is a bit generic, I welcome this campaign and encourage folks to sign up. There are great folks who work in this department and though the shapes may have not taken their final form, I am quite hopeful that it will.

The City acknowledges the need to continue to support businesses recovering from challenges, assumed to be COVID-19, displacement, and the everyday hustle that is owning a small business. Supporting our local businesses, which gives Somerville its entrepreneurial and cultural spirit, is more important than ever, which I couldn't agree with more. "The goal...is to help highlight the neighborhoods that make Somerville a destination for dining, shopping, and entertainment and help strengthen the collective identity of our local business community." Amen to this, and here's to hoping for more.

Jeff Shwom
Somerville Resident, Former Organizer of the Ball Square District Association

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Book Review: 'A Kids Book About Overdose' by Lee Varon

Review by Rivkah Lapidus, Ph.D.,
LMHC, CGP

Stanton Peele's *Diseasing of America* is handy, well designed, and clear. Kudos to writing to people at this level, giving them clarity and understanding of a multifaceted problem.

My only quibble is the use of the disease model, which is a controversy in the field of experts.

Many respected scholars and researchers in the field of substance use disorder refer to a bio-psycho-social phenomenon that mimics a disease when it's full blown but is made of many factors.

What is a disease? Does someone have it from birth, or catch it? Can it go away? Is it caused by a substance, or a psychological deficit, or the world we live in? Is abstinence the only cure?

"Disease" is a useful metaphor and is a great improvement on the idea from previous centuries that users and "insane" people were possessed by the devil. The disease model certainly reduces some of the stigma, but it implies that there is

something inherently wrong with the user. Scientists have not identified any gene that causes substance use disorder.

Maybe there is something "wrong" with the world as we find it now. Social setting on a small scale (family and friends) to a global scale (global warming, unchecked violence). Whatever it is it is scary.

The author should say more about harm reduction since she says she uses harm reduction ideas. For example, there are medically assisted treatments, and successful overdose prevention sites in Canada, Portugal, New York City. What other interventions reduce harm and engage people who use substances?

Harm reduction also means providing a safe setting to live in. It means not kicking people out of programs if they have a lapse in dealing with the problem they came to treatment for. It means meeting people where they are at, and providing resources about good treatment as they begin to contemplate making changes.

My last quibble is minor for the purposes of the book, but is interesting. Did you know that the idea of licit and illicit

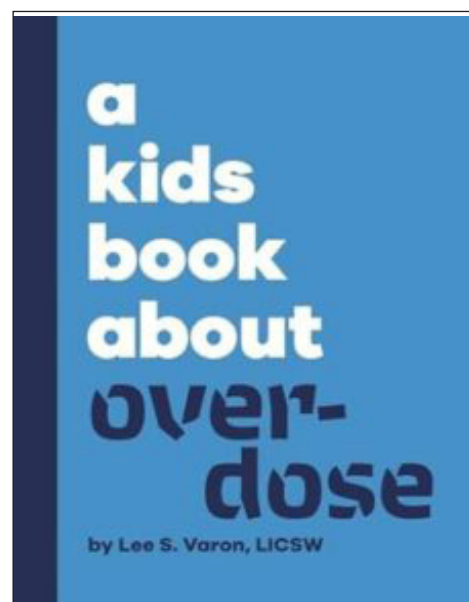
substances change according to the times? Bach wrote *The Coffee Cantatas* about a young woman who could not marry because she would not give up the evil brew – of coffee! And opioids were legitimate medications for a long time; paragoric was given to teething babies.

Overall, this book is decidedly respectful, not condescending, and is lightyears ahead of the Just Say No programs of the 1980s. It gives power to the helpless bystander. I recommend it young people who want to know what they can do in a scary situation.

There is much that needs to be done in ending stigma, understanding why people choose to "self-medicate," and supporting the return of an active public health system.

I think everyone should read this book, and if they want to explore the "whys" of how we got here, this is an excellent beginning.

For further reading, I can recommend Stanton Peele's *Love and Addiction* and Harm Reduction internet pages for families and friends, and users themselves.



Rivkah has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, and is a licensed psychotherapist. She practices harm reduction psychotherapy, teaches Moderation Management, and employs Narrative Therapy concepts in her work. She has been working with people who use substances almost continually since 1992 in a variety of settings. Her dissertation (2004) focused on compulsive users, non-treatment users (heroin) and non-users.

Somerville resident receives Grace Paley Prize for Short Fiction from AWP

Somerville resident Lesley Bannatyne received the 2024 Grace Paley Award for Short Fiction from the Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP). Her manuscript, *Lake Song* was selected by judge Deesha Philyaw, award-winning author of *The Secret Life of Church Ladies*. Bannatyne's manuscript will be published by Mad Creek Books, an imprint of The Ohio State University Press in fall of 2025.

"Kinder Falls is home to four generations of folks who might consider their lives to be ordinary," Philyaw writes. "Yet in *Lake Song*, their beautifully told stories are at turns haunting and enchanting, overflowing with delicious details and breathtaking revelations about love, family, grief, desire, progress, regret, revenge, and every other facet of what it means to be fractured and human. This book dazzles and surprises, from line to line, page to page, and decade to decade over the course of these finely wrought characters' lives."

Bannatyne received the 2018 fiction prize from *bosque* literary journal, the 2019 Tucson Festival of Books Literary Award for fiction and *The Ghost Story's* 2020 summer fiction prize. Her debut collection of short stories, *Unaccustomed to Grace*, was published in 2022 by Kallisto Gaia Press.

As a freelance journalist, she covered stories ranging from druids in Massachusetts to relief workers in Bolivia, and her most recent nonfiction book, *Halloween Nation*, was a Bram Stoker Award finalist. She is a resident of Somerville, MA.

All 2024 AWP Award Winners: <https://www.awpwriter.org/AWP/AWP/Magazine-Media/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2024-AWP-Award-Series-Winners.aspx>



MCAS scores for Somerville Public Schools remain relatively stable from 2023

Following the release of statewide MCAS scores this week, the Somerville Public Schools (SPS) has seen relatively stable MCAS scores compared to the previous school year. Overall, the district saw improvements in 5th grade and 8th grade science compared to last year, a particular highlight for SPS given recent investments in science and computer science curriculum and enrichment.

We also saw an increase in the percentage of 8th grade students meeting or exceeding expectations in ELA and Math compared to last year. In both Math and ELA, percentages were similar to 2023, and ELA scores for grades 3 – 8 combined are on par with the state average.

“While we did not see an increase in students meeting or exceeding expectations that we had hoped to see, we continue to see moderate growth across grade levels and subject areas in average student growth percentiles. We have made significant adjustments in many areas in just the last year that we fully expect will have positive, long-term impacts on student growth. This applies not only to performance on assessments, but also academic achievement overall,” Dr. Carmona noted. “Our long-held approach in SPS is to support the whole child, providing critical wraparound supports to help all students grow and succeed. This year, we are strengthening not only our core curriculum with new math and literacy programs, but we are also investing in additional Social-Emotional curriculum and in Common Planning Time for educators and staff to share best practice and ensure data-driven collaboration in teaching and learning districtwide. We believe that these short-term investments will lead to sustainable long-term results. To quote

Education Secretary Tutwiler, ‘Change in education is a process, not an event. The road back from the pandemic is not short.’”

SPS is looking toward strategic investments the district has made over the last 12 months - and more planned investments this school year - to bolster both curriculum for students and professional development for educators and staff.

Key investments in SPS for School Year 2024-25 include:

Launching new math and literacy curricula with aligned professional development for teachers.

In K-5 mathematics, we are implementing a new curriculum, Illustrative Mathematics, a problem-based curriculum built around focus, coherence, and deeper learning through discourse. The curriculum is in place across the district in grades 3-8, while some schools are “early adopters” in grades K-2. Next year all schools K-5 will implement, creating full curricular alignment K-8.

This year we adopted a new ELA curriculum, Fishtank ELA, for 6th-8th grade students. Fishtank is a rigorous curriculum that engages students in reading high quality, high interest, grade level texts organized around year-long essential questions. It emphasizes close reading and text analysis as well as frequent writing about text.

Common Planning Time. Common Planning Time provides educators with a consistent, structured time for planning and educator collaboration across all grades, departments, and schools during contractual hours (early release Wednesdays). Through CPT, educators have dedicated time each week for improving lesson quality, instructional effectiveness, co-teaching practices, sharing best practices,

cross-departmental collaboration, and student achievement.

Strategic Plan. In Fall 2024, SPS will publish its 3-5 year Strategic Plan that includes both areas of strength and areas for targeted growth, with key indicators for success. Among the goals for the plan are implementing high-quality, evidenced-based, and culturally responsive PK-12 curriculum, promoting instructional rigor through educator development, and implementing best practices for targeted supports to meet the academic and social emotional needs of students.

K-5 Literacy Needs Assessment and 3-5 year Literacy Plan. Last year we partnered with Hill for literacy to conduct a review of our K-5 literacy programs, using the results to craft a multi-year plan to address areas of growth. This year, one major action step will be the selection of a research and evidence based K-5 reading and writing curriculum. Grades 3-5 will launch this new curriculum in 2025-2026, and K-2 will follow on 2026-2027.

Continued implementation of i-Ready online assessment and instruction. SPS launched i-Ready in School Year 2023-24, and has already utilized the system to guide instruction. This fall the district will launch the personalized instruction component of i-Ready in grades 6-8, which will provide personalized lessons for middle grades students in math and ELA. Surrounding districts have already seen positive results through the use of i-Ready in public schools.

“While the MCAS offers a useful data point for understanding overall achievement in literacy, math, science, we believe other assessments, such as i-Ready, DIBELS, and unit tests, provide more meaningful insights for addressing the needs



of current students,” Dr. Carmona said. “I welcome families to contact the district with any questions about these assessments and their role in our teaching strategies and professional development.”

In its simultaneous release of the 2024 Massachusetts Accountability System, DESE identified three schools in the district as “Requiring Assistance or Intervention.” DESE’s Center for School and District Partnership (CSDP) will work with SPS this school year to implement systems and practices that advance equity and result in positive outcomes and learning experiences for all students. Support from CSDP may include financial resources, professional development, and additional targeted assistance. The high school grade range met their accountability targets for the ELA achievement and growth and progress towards attaining English language proficiency indicators, and exceeded their targets for the advanced coursework completion and dropout rate indicators. Overall, the 3-8 grade ranges met targets for the progress towards attaining English language proficiency and chronic absenteeism indicators.

Green Line derailment near Lechmere Station

On Tuesday, October 1, during the evening commute, shuttle buses replaced service between North Station and Medford/Tufts due to a derailment near Lechmere. Union Sq. passengers used Route 87 bus for alternate service.

Cambridge Fire Department posted the following message on X.

Final update on the Green Line train derailment near Lechmere MBTA: Catenary power to the train was shut down, several patients were transported for non-life-threatening injuries. FD companies have now cleared from the incident.



Health care leaders to address pressing social issues at second annual forum on aging

Robin Lipson, Acting Secretary of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs for Massachusetts; Ed Augustus, Secretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities for Massachusetts; and Dr. Rishi Manchanda, MD, MPH, and CEO of HealthBegins, are among the featured speakers at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services' daylong forum on aligning social and health care to advance health, equity, and independence.

The event will take place on October 9 from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Boston University's Metcalf Trustee Center at 1 Silber Way, Boston.

Among the topics covered will be improving health outcomes for dual-eligible populations through integrated, data-focused models, advancing health equity through innovative housing partnerships, and building age-friendly communities. The forum's panel discussions will convene leaders with expertise across the health care, public policy, and human services fields from organizations like the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission, the Administration for Community Living, and the Massachusetts Medicaid Policy Institute, among others. Across these discussions, speakers will highlight how we can collectively meet the needs of Massachusetts' rapidly aging population to drive social change.

"Last year, Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services' inaugural forum event brought together industry leaders to engage in critical dialogue centered on promoting equity and dignity for our state's rapidly aging population. This year, we are honored to be joined by luminaries who will build on these themes as we envision a future in which our systems of care address health issues at their root," said Marta Corvêlo, Chief Executive Officer of Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services.

For more information about Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services' Future of Aging Forum, including the event agenda and full list of sponsors, please visit www.eldercare.org/forum.

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services is a Massachusetts nonprofit agency that has supported the independence and well-being of older adults and adults of all ages with disabilities in Somerville and Cambridge for the past 51 years.

SCES offers free advice and guidance on questions of aging, caregiving, and disability through its Community Support Center which can be reached at 617-628-2601 or via email at info@eldercare.org. Visit SCES' website to learn more at www.eldercare.org.



Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

knew there were ballots that had to be counted." — House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy) commenting on a statement on primary election night on September 3 by challenger Evan MacKay declaring a 40-vote victory over incumbent Rep. Marjorie Decker (D-Cambridge). After all the ballots were counted, Decker in fact was declared the winner.

"We're outlining and preparing our final draft framework with an internal working team. We are targeting before the end of the year for the public presentation. Then we'll engage in the promulgation process and continue ongoing outreach." — Acting Cannabis Control Commission Chair Bruce Stebbins announcing the progress the commission has made in establishing the rules that will govern creation of cannabis cafes where adults could use marijuana together in a social setting.

"Johnny Appleseed may be one of the most enigmatic figures in American history. People near and far from his Leominster birthplace, know of his journey. Those treks not only included planting apple seedlings for pioneers but also the spreading of his religious beliefs and minimalist lifestyle. One of America's most unusual characters, Johnny Appleseed's legacy speaks to us today as a gentle reminder of slowing down, consuming only what is necessary, and remaining steadfast in one's personal beliefs despite popular opinion." — Mark Bodanza, historian and

author of *Johnny Appleseed – the Man Behind the Folklore*, on commemorating the 250th birthday of John Chapman, known as Johnny Appleseed, who was born in the city of Leominster on September 26, 1774.

"Our shared history and traditions should be on full display here at the State House, where we are celebrating the strength and culture of our Hispanic and Latino community in Massachusetts. These pieces will enrich the experience of thousands of visitors who come to the State House to see our shared roots on display." — Gov. Maura Healey hosting a celebration for Hispanic Heritage Month, at which she unveiled a temporary art installment by Hispanic and Latino artists living in Massachusetts.

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 Sept.23-27, the House met for a total of 16 minutes and the Senate met for a total of 20 minutes.

Mon. Sept. 23	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. Senate 11:26 a.m. to 11:32 a.m.
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Tues. Sept. 24	No House session No Senate session
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Wed. Sept. 25	No House session No Senate session
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Thurs. Sept. 26	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:08 a.m. Senate 11:20 a.m. to 11:34 a.m.
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Fri. Sept. 27	No House session No Senate session
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Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Party Under The Harvest Moon

On Friday, October 18, hundreds of supporters, donors, and community members will unite at Party Under The Harvest Moon, an annual celebration hosted by Food For Free to celebrate community spirit and raise awareness and funds to fight food insecurity across Eastern Massachusetts. The event goal is to raise \$115,000.



Party Under The Harvest Moon raises critical funds to support the nonprofit's innovative programs that serve more than 132,000 Massachusetts residents facing food insecurity and distributes 6.2 million pounds of nutritious fresh and prepared foods annually. This year, guests will hear from community partners and enjoy live music by Bubble Wave.

There will be appetizers and refreshments, a raffle, wine toss, and more. During the event, the nonprofit will present its inaugural Community Partner Award to Harvard University, celebrating the organization's 10-year investment in Food For Free's Heat-n-Eats program and commitment to reducing food waste and feeding those in need.

Party Under The Harvest Moon will take place from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at MIT's Walker Memorial Morss Hall, located at 142 Memorial Drive in Cambridge. Ticket prices range from \$75 for individuals to \$1,000 for groups. For more information or to reserve tickets, visit: www.foodforfree.org/harvest-moon.

Want to write local Somerville stories?
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BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER
By Bobbygeorge Potaris

Why shouldn't you tell a secret in a cornfield?
Because the corn has ears.

Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Street art: blue fish mosaic... — Photo by Denise Provost

On This Day in History

October 2

- 1263 – At Largs, King Alexander III of Scotland repels an amphibious invasion by King Haakon IV of Norway.
- 1535 – Having landed in Quebec a month before, Jacques Cartier reaches a town which he names Montreal.
- 1871 – Mormon leader Brigham Young, 70, is arrested for polygamy.
- 1909 – Orville Wright sets an altitude record, flying at 1,600 feet.
- 1941 – The German army launches Operation Typhoon, the drive towards Moscow.
- 1950 – The comic strip *Peanuts*, by Charles M. Schultz, makes its first appearance in newspapers.
- 1959 – The groundbreaking TV series *The Twilight Zone*, hosted by Rod Serling, premiers on CBS.
- 1964 – Scientists announce findings that smoking can cause cancer.
- 1967 – Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American Supreme Court justice, is sworn in.

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

public artwork. This opportunity is funded in partnership with the **New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA)**, making it public program. \$750 for Finalists. \$15,000 Selected Project budget, Applications are due on **October 31**, by 11:59PM. Apply here: www.somervillearts council.org/TemporaryPublicArt

The **9th Curated Vintage Market at Bow Market** will take place **Sunday, October 13**, 1 Bow Market, 12:00 – 8:00 p.m.. The market will have **80+ vintage vendors** from New England and beyond gather to bring the best and baddest vintage finds to the heart of Union Square.

To celebrate a decade of success, **Assembly Row** will host their first-ever **drone show** on **Saturday, October 19**, 355 Artisan Way. Sponsored by **Capital One Café**, this public event kicks off at 3:00 p.m. Enjoy a variety of activities, including free play at **Club Volo**, live music on **The Lawn**, and drinks from our **Downtown Cider pop-up**. The festivities will conclude with a 150-drone light show at 7:00 p.m. Family-friendly fun includes a bouncy house obstacle course and a **Touch-A-Truck** area sponsored by **Millennium Companies**, along with photo ops, giveaways, special deals, and more.

Ward-based City Hall Community Meetings are back this fall. Hear from **Mayor Katjana Ballantyne** and **city staff** to find out what's happening in your neighborhood, how to get involved, and ask questions about issues that are important to you. All ward meetings are in-person and will begin at 6:30 p.m.. **Ward 5** (Magoun Sq., NE Ball Sq., Cedar and Lowell St. areas, NW Porter Sq., and more) takes place **Tuesday, October 1, Kennedy School Cafeteria**, 5 Cherry St. A meet-and-greet with refreshments will begin at 6:00 p.m. For additional accommodations, please call 311 (617-666-3311). To learn more, visit [somervillema.gov/communitymeetings](http://www.somervillema.gov/communitymeetings).

Somerville SEPAC fall Social, all parents and guardians welcome to attend. Share your thoughts and ideas to help make our schools more Inclusive for all. **October 8**, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. **The Neighborhood Café**, 25 Bow St, Somerville.

RESPOND will celebrate 50 years of impact, resilience, and community at their **Golden Gala**. Mark your calendars

for **Thursday, October 24**, at 6:00 p.m. at the **Royal Sonesta** in Cambridge for an unforgettable evening as they commemorate this incredible milestone and the progress they have made in the fight to end domestic violence. Ticket sales close on **October 4**, to purchase tickets visit <https://www.respondinc.org/gala/>.

The **Elections Department** is looking to hire multiple inspectors for the upcoming **November 5 Presidential Election** and will be holding a brief information session where you can learn some basic knowledge of the polls. The hours the polls are open to voters are from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 5**. Register to attend an information session on **Tuesday, October 8**, at **City Hall** (93 Highland Ave.) at 10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m. If you can't make an information session but would like to learn more, please call the **Elections Office** at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200. <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/elections>.

The **Somerville Homeless Coalition** is gearing up for its annual **Somerville 5K Road Race** on **October 5**, to support the most underprivileged neighbors experiencing homelessness and this year. For 29 years, supporters from across the Greater Boston area have run throughout the streets of Somerville in solidarity to ensure that our clients receive the critical resources and services they need on their journey to securing a forever home. Visit <https://somervillehomelesscoalition.org/>.

Somerville Public Schools are now in session for the 2024/2025 school year. Visit **SPS district website calendar** for more information: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/events/calendar>. Visit the **2024–2025 School Year Calendar page** for an English, Spanish, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole calendar to print: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/school-yearcalendar>. Visit the **Food and Nutrition Services Department page** for school meal menus. Breakfast and lunch are free for all students: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/fnsd>.

Register to vote for the November 5 election, one of three ways: **online** at somerville-ma.gov/register tovot e, in person at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.), or by **calling the Elections Department** (617-625-6600 ext. 4200) and requesting

a **voter registration form**. The in-person registration deadline is **Saturday, October 26**, by 5:00 p.m. or online by midnight. Your registration can also be mailed and will be accepted with a postmark of October 26 or earlier.

SPS is hiring **substitute teachers** for all of our **PK-12 schools**. For more information or to apply visit <https://somerville.tedk12.com/hire>.

Central Library, 79 Highland Ave will hold **Exploring Images of Protest, Friday, October 4**, 2:45 p.m. From the raised fist to the peace sign to the simple word "NO," symbols of protest have played a big role in protesting injustice and ushering in change. Learn about different images of resistance then choose one to make a t-shirt of your own. This program is intended for all ages. No registration required.

The **2024-25 Racial and Social Justice Youth League Cohort application** is now live through **Wednesday, October 16**. This is an exciting paid opportunity for Somerville youth to bring youth concerns to the forefront and help shape the future of our city: http://bit.ly/YouthLeague_24

The **Somerville Arts Council** is looking for 3-4 passionate **community members** to join its **Board** and help shape the city's vibrant arts scene. As a Board member, you'll provide guidance, network with artists, and play a role in funding local arts initiatives. We're especially interested in those with experience in music, literature, or public art. Submit your statement of interest by **October 10**. Learn more <https://www.somervillema.gov/news/join-somerville-arts-council-board>

The **Somerville Flea** is back at **52 Holland St**. Join in as they celebrate their 12th year smack dab in the middle of **Davis Square**. Vintage vendors, artisan makers, farm stand and DJ. Find that treasure you never knew you even existed. 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Sundays, August through October**.

East Somerville Main Streets is looking for vendors for their **Halloween Block Party** on **Saturday, October 26**, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at **Chuckie Harris Park**. Please sign up through the form (<https://forms.gle/BvSwZX8YYUe-g3rGB7>) for more information. Don't miss this opportunity to have fun and meet the community.

Docent tours take place from **May through October** at three historic sites in Somerville: **Milk Row Cemetery** (Somerville Avenue), **Prospect Hill Tower** (above Union Square), and **Old Powder House** (Nathan Tufts Park). They are open to the public on certain days and evenings. Inclement weather cancels any event. For full schedule and more information on the **Docent Program**: <https://www.somervillemuseum.org/docentprogram>.

All Wednesdays during the school year are now **early release days**. You may talk to your child's teacher or school administrators if you have any questions about drop-off and pickup. **Pre-kindergarten**: 12:00 p.m., **Grades K–8** (except Next Wave): 1:00 p.m., **Next Wave/Full Circle**: 12:10 p.m., **Somerville High School**: 1:33 p.m.

Visit the **Somerville Bike Kitchen**, a volunteer-run bicycle repair cooperative, hosting open shop nights at **The Dojo** (15 Properzi Way, Somerville). Come maintain your bike or learn more about cycling. **Tuesdays and Thursdays** from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. **Every Thursday** from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. join **Parkour Generations Boston for Teen Jams at The Dojo**. This is a flexible time for teen community members to use the pop-up training space at The Dojo @ Somernova and connect with fellow community members in the process.

The **Council on Aging Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Dates** at the **Holland St. Senior Center**, 167 Holland St. **Senior Only Clinics**, please register by calling the COA directly at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300. **October 10**, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Clinics open to the general public, please register via the **City of Somerville website**. **October 21** (ages 19+) noon-2:00 p.m., **November 18** (ages 19+) noon – 2:00 p.m., **December 12** (ages 19+) 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

The **Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH)** recently detected **West Nile virus (WNV)** in mosquito samples from Cambridge. While no human or animal cases of WNV or **Eastern equine encephalitis**

Balla Kouyate from Mali and Matchume Zango from Mozambique meet on stage in Somerville

The Center for Arts at the Armory announces BALA BILA featuring Balla Kouyate and Matchume Zango, East Africa Meets West Africa in Somerville on October 11.

BALA-BILA brings together two African master musicians – Balla Kouyate on balafon, calabash, bass guitar and voice, and Matchume Zango on timbila, mbira, percussion and voice--through a live concert framed as an intercultural musical conversation between the two artists. Kouyate, from the West African country of Mali, and Zango, from the East African country of Mozambique, are leading exponents of their respective principal instruments – BALAfon and timBILA – two world heritage instruments that are played together for the first time.

This living-room-style concert features Kouyate and Zango as composers and multi-instrumentalists sharing the joy, beauty and complexity of their music but also provides a unique opportunity for the audience to get to know Kouyate and Zango as human beings, artists, ambassadors, and global citizens as they explore their connection to each other, their art, and their cultural patrimony.

The concert is part of a New England tour being produced by Tertulia.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m., show starts at 8:00 p.m. with Boubacar Diabate playing a 20-minute opening set.

Both the balafon (representing Mali, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire) and the timbila (Mozambique) are part of the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (tim-bila is plural, and m-bila is singular). Kouyate and Zango are leading exponents of their respective instruments, and known for preserving, advancing and contemporizing their rich musical traditions.

Balla Kouyate is a renowned balafon player and djeli who is originally from Mali and currently based in the U.S. Kouyate teaches at the prestigious New England Conservatory of Music, is a member of Yo Yo Ma's Silk Road Project, and is recognized by the U.S. National Endowment for the Arts as an NEA National Heritage Fellow.

Matchume Zango is a master timbila player, percussionist, composer and producer from Maputo, Mozambique. He has a Masters Degree in Music Performance from the University of Cape Town, and has toured extensively throughout the world, collaborating with local and international artists. Zango has received funding support from international donor agencies, and has built Nzango Artist Residency, a recording studio and artist residency located in Maputo where he collaborates with local and visiting artists.



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 21

(EEE) have been reported, it is important to take steps to protect yourself from mosquitoes and mosquito-borne illnesses. For tips and information, visit: mass.gov/dph/mosquito.

Join **Union Square Main Streets** and **50+ of your favorite local food producers** for the **20th Annual Union Square Farmers Market**, 6670 Union Square. Shop local on **Saturdays through October 26**, except September 21, from 9:00

a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the **Union Square Plaza**. The market provides visitors and residents with top-quality, fresh, and local produce at fair prices; encourages active lifestyle values; educates consumers about farming and locally sourced foods; and gives customers opportunities to interact directly with farmers. For more information about the Union Square Farmers Market, visit unionsquaremain.org/2024fmseason. SNAP customers get \$1 for \$1 match up to \$15. See the Mar-

ket Manager tent for more info.

The **Davis Square Farmers Market** is now open. **Every Wednesday through November 22**, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. visit the Davis Square Farmers Market, across from American Flatbread at 44 Day St. Visit: www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis. This long-running market features over two dozen Massachusetts farmers and food producers offering a vibrant selection of delicious produce, protein, baked goods,

ready-to-eat meals, alongside a host of other locally made products. The market accepts cash, credit/debit cards, WIC/Senior coupons, and EBT cards and offers a weekly \$15 SNAP Match.

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

A Day in the Life: The Bagel



Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Miriam Sagan is the author of over thirty books of poetry, fiction, and memoir. Her most recent include *Castaway* (Red Mountain, 2023) and *A Hundred Cups of Coffee* (Tres Chicas, 2019). She is a two-time winner of the New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards as well as a recipient of the City of Santa Fe Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts and a New Mexico Literary Arts Gratitude Award. She has been a writer in residence in four national parks, Yaddo, MacDowell, Gullkistan in Iceland, Kura Studio in Japan, and a dozen more remote and interesting places. She works with text and sculptural installation as part of the mother/daughter creative team Maternal Mitochondria (with Isabel Winson-Sagan) in venues ranging from RV parks to galleries. She founded and directed the creative writing program at Santa Fe Community College until her retirement. Her poetry was set to music for the Santa Fe Women's Chorus, incised on stone-ware for two haiku pathways, and projected as video inside an abandoned building during the pandemic under the auspices of Vital Spaces.



Ring-of-Fire

We went up to San Isidro campground
to see the annular eclipse.
The gate was unlocked,
kids were running about, with dogs,
I drank a cup of hot tea
from my son-in-law
in the RV. We had NASA-approved
glasses, and welding goggles
and sat in our lawn chairs
all pointing in the same direction
like the heads on Easter Island.

My four-year old granddaughter
yelled: "It's starting"
and had a longer
attention span

A day in the life ... I usually leave my home in Somerville around 5:30 AM because my classes at Endicott College start at 8AM, and I like to get my work finished, and chew the fat with a colleague of mine. Now, most who know me associate me with bagels and poetry. I discovered years ago that there was a Finagle-a Bagel on campus. And Finagle-a-Bagel was the first place the Bagel Bards literary group met in Harvard Square some 20 years ago. Anyway ... for the last 15 years I have been getting a whole wheat

bagel (a concession to age) with tomato and hummus. On a Tuesday, I walked in the shop, and they had everything prepared for me in advance. I assume this a great campus honor – my ritual, my hunger for this doughy treat, my Stendhal Syndrome Swoon in the face of its beauty. The counterwomen said (laughing): "If you call in sick ... you must notify us." I told my dean about this, and he laughed, "Doug you have finally arrived." Excuse me ... I think my bagel is waiting for me.

than I'd predicted. After all
at some point, everyone turned away
and you told me to look behind us
to see Venus shining
as the sky darkened.

And then some of the kids
who'd been watching the eclipse projection
got bored
and one boy put the cardboard box
over his head
and biked around blind
except for the tiny pinhole
through which we'd expected to see
the universe.

something untamable—

and not kind—
wild bird of prey or
one that feeds on carrion
its cramped wings
rattle a cage of bone
in my chest
my ribs its prison bars

I can't feed it
and yet its hunger
fills my throat
I fear its wants
its struggle, its
desire to kill or
should I sympathize
with any feathered
creature's urge
to fly

— Miriam Sagan

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