VOL. 11 NO. 39 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023 SOMERVILLE, MASS.

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No parking

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Union Square Ignited page 12 – 13



5K Road Race returns

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Every Rosebud has its thorn



Significant changes to the iconic Somerville eatery's menu is hoped to keep the popular restaurant going. — Photo by Bobbie Toner

By Jason Gutierrez

After a quiet acquisition in June, the neighborhood joint announced a temporary, renovation-driven closure with plans to re-emerge with a new menu, staff, and feel. This marks the third time the business, best identified by its street-level box car and overhead pink neon sign, has emerged from the ashes.

Davis locals may remember the original Rosebud Diner, owned by the Nichols family and built by the Worcester Lunch Car Company. The family-operated diner set up shop in 1941 and sold to Joe Cassinelli, chef and restaurateur, and John Delpha, chef, in 2013.

Rosebud's second iteration retained its predecessor's gothic aesthetic and debuted an expanded global menu anchored by diner classics. Upon its pending return, the restaurant will serve a fresh new menu with some Indian twists

Continued on page 3

HONK! Festival 2023 this weekend

HONK! Festival 2023 gets underway this week, with this year's participants hailing from all across the United States.

HONK! is a very unique musical movement that first began right here in Somerville back in 2006. Out of those humble beginnings, HONK! has become a recognizable worldwide phenomenon.

Held in Somerville, Cambridge, and Boston neighborhoods, these bands create an irresistible spectacle of creative movement and sonic self-expression directed at making the world a better place.

The annual 3-day free festival brings brass bands from all over the United States and the world to the local region for a celebration of music, community and activism.

Schedule of events:

Thursday, October 5

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

Continued on page 23



WOUT IN Union

Continued on page 23 HONK! Festival 2023 festivities kick off this Thursday, October 5, with the Pre-HONK! Brass Band
Blowout in Union Square.





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Fall 2023 City Hall Community meetings are underway. These meetings are held twice a year in each of Somerville's seven wards to share the latest city and neighborhood updates with community members. They are an opportunity to get an overview of the latest city news, learn more about city programs and initiatives, meet your neighbors, find ways to get involved, and talk with elected officials and city staff. Join them in person from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to ask questions and get updates from the mayor and city staff. Swing by early at 6:00 p.m. for pizza and refreshments. To learn more and find the meeting in your ward visit somervillema.gov/communitymeetings.

Join the Arts at the Armory on October 4 for Cirque Us Stories, a new, thoughtfully curated show that flips through the pages of Cirque Us's favorite stories to bring you a touching, thrilling narrative about community and identity. Interweaving a collection of folktales, classic literature, children's stories, modern fiction, and more, this show jumps off the page with twists, flips, rewrites, and retellings of stories you'll love. The show features aerialists, jugglers, acrobats, contortionists, clowns, and more, all ready to fly off the shelf and straight to you. For tickets and more information https://artsatthearmory.org/events/cirque-us-stories/

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to local activist **Ben Echevarria**. We wish him well. Continued on page 7

The Somerville Times

news@thesomervilletimes.com www.thesomervilletimes.com Phone: 857-488-5138



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Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.

Editor – Jim Clark

Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Molly Rains, Fernando Cervantes Jr., Ryan DiLellio, Kyle Dante

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo, Joe Creason, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of October 4 – October 10 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday October 4	Sunny	78°/60°	9%	5%	NE 8 mph
Thursday October 5	Partly Cloudy	73°/59°	12%	8%	SSE 9 mph
Friday October 6	Cloudy	69°/61°	25%	17%	SE 8 mph
Saturday October 7	Rain	67°/55°	86%	67%	E 12 mph
Sunday October 8	Rain	60°/48°	34%	24%	W 13 mph
Monday October 9	Partly Cloudy	56°/43°	16%	9%	WSW 11 mph
Tuesday October 10	Partly Cloudy	58°/48°	7%	4%	WSW 11 mph
	Wednesday October 4 Thursday October 5 Friday October 6 Saturday October 7 Sunday October 8 Monday October 9 Tuesday	Wednesday October 4SunnyThursday October 5Partly CloudyFriday October 6CloudySaturday October 7RainSunday October 8RainMonday October 9Partly CloudyTuesdayPartly Cloudy	Wednesday October 4Sunny78°/60°Thursday October 5Partly Cloudy73°/59°Friday October 6Cloudy69°/61°Saturday 	Wednesday October 4 Sunny 78°/60° 9% Thursday October 5 Partly Cloudy 73°/59° 12% Friday October 6 Cloudy 69°/61° 25% Saturday October 7 Rain 67°/55° 86% Sunday October 8 Rain 60°/48° 34% Monday October 9 Partly Cloudy 56°/43° 16% Tuesday Partly Cloudy 58°/48° 7%	Wednesday October 4 Sunny 78°/60° 9% 5% Thursday October 5 Partly Cloudy 73°/59° 12% 8% Friday October 6 Cloudy 69°/61° 25% 17% Saturday October 7 Rain 67°/55° 86% 67% Sunday October 8 Rain 60°/48° 34% 24% Monday October 9 Partly Cloudy 56°/43° 16% 9% Tuesday Partly Cloudy 58°/48° 7% 4%

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: Somernova and Fabrication Districts

Sean Cryts says:

Well said Chris.

I couldn't agree more. I sometimes feel as a long time Somerville resident that the city talks up are "cool & unique" artist city but the development behind the scenes does not match up. Traffic is an ongoing issue with a lot to be discussed but I would say that if we are to keep what keeps Somerville so great and the place I chose to raise my family we need to hold the city to task on all the promises it has made.

I worry about raising my family in a Somerville I will not recognize and then why should I live in a city that is packed with 15 story glass & steel boxes with no sense of community or "great vibe".

Response to: Compassion and accountability needed to address homeless crisis

Jim Bossi says:

We need to emphasize to our state reps that pressure needs to be put on our senators and congress people to push for more control at our borders. The deaths from fentanyl are robbing us of our younger generations. We need to stop the poison from reaching the ones we love. This can be done, it just needs the necessary and proper commitment.

Response to: Funny now, scary then

Mike Bonanno says:

I remember oh so well. I cant stop laughing remember sipher sipher

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

No parking



Between Davis
Square and Teele
Square there is no
parking on Holland
St. there is a public
parking lot but no
other spaces on the
street. Here are your

comments in quotes:

"Cambridge has spread into west Somerville, and completely taken over. You want change? Get out and vote."

"Turnout is low because many current residents are transient therefore are not really invested in the city. No longer a family city as in the past. Sad."

"What every normal city does. Broadway backup on weekends are ridiculousempty bike lanes and weekend schedule of busses as cars idle all the way up Broadway – geniuses at the helm."

"There are still many parking spots (metered) including many Handicapped spots. A large municipal parking lot

across Orleans and garage parking under for HVMA. Some of the parking spaces have moved to next to the bike lane maybe you missed them?"

"This is it in a nutshell. We have low voter turnout. People need to show up and vote her out!"

"Why can't people park in front of their houses like they did before? Because of bike and bus lanes? Let's tell the elderly that they have to walk a quarter of a mile away in the ice and snow. Just shameful!"

"Bike lanes are a disgrace and lawsuits should be filed for discrimination of the handicapped and elderly. Killing small business too – shameful. Back in the day this NEVER would have happened because we cared about our neighbors and families. Bike lanes should be outlawed along with beta men wearing spandex. Wow!"

All I can say is thank goodness for residential parking stickers.



Every Rosebud has its thorn

CONT. FROM PG 1

while keeping some classics. Chef Keith, a New England native with an ardor for Indian cuisine, has curated the new menu.

There is no doubt that the community will rally behind the business that will slip into the place of the iconic Rosebud Diner. However, change aches. As long as the restaurant's temporary shuttering lasts, residents will endure the sprin-

kling of salt in the beloved establishment's wound.

When asked about Rosebud American Kitchen & Bar's legacy, an employee stated, "I want [Rosebud] to be remembered as the incredible historic staple in the Davis Square neighborhood. [Rosebud] is a small business that came so far because of the community and staff's loyalty."

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Latin American and Caribbean Roots and Heritage

Mayor Ballantyne would like to invite all to attend this year's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, organized by Somerville community members. The celebration will showcase Latin American and Caribbean countries and their respective culture. Come learn, enjoy performances, food, and more!

Saturday, October 14th
Time: 2pm to 5pm
East Somerville Community School
50 Cross Street

For more information, contact Courtney Henderson at chenderson@somervillema.gov







Somerville passes resolution in support of prison moratorium

Councilor Willie Burnley Jr, supported by Somerville residents, advances a resolution backing the advocacy of currently and formerly incarcerated women to pass a prison and jail construction moratorium bill. Read the resolution at: https://somervillema.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6363301&GUID=1B2FA32B-47B6-43D5-9A5B-AD90DDBF32CD&Options=&-Search=

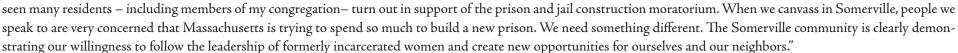
On Thursday, September 28, Somerville became the first municipality in Massachusetts to make a clear statement of support for a five year pause on new prison and jail construction in the state.

"Residents of Somerville as well as those across the Commonwealth understand that investments in our communities' infrastructure, housing, and care do far more to make us safe than the failed policies of mass incarceration," said Councilor Willie Burnley Jr., who proposed the resolution.

"Instead of spending \$50 million on a new women's prison, the Somerville City Council calls upon Governor Healey to publicly support state bills that promote decarceration through a prison moratorium and elder parole as a means of gender, racial, and class justice," Burnley said in a statement.

The resolution supports advocacy by The National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls and Families for Justice as Healing - including advocacy by their members incarcerated at MCI-Framingham - to pass bills S.1979 and H.1795 through the Massachusetts State House. Mallory Hanora, Executive Director of Families for Justice as Healing celebrated the resolution. "We're grateful to the Somerville City Council and residents for recognizing that women and our communities need and deserve so much more than a \$50 million women's prison. We hope that state officials will take this as a sign of an ever-growing popular mandate to pass the Prison Moratorium, maximize pathways to release from incarceration, and reinvest resources into alternatives," said Hanora. "We hope more cities and towns will stand with incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and take action to support the Prison Moratorium and Elder Parole."

The No New Women's Campaign has been canvassing across the state since 2021 to talk to thousands of Massachusetts residents about what the state can do with its funding instead of building a new women's prison. Somerville Rabbi Eliana Jacobowitz of Congregation B'nai Brith says, "I have



The Jail and Prison Construction Moratorium would pause major construction of jails, prisons, and detention centers for five years. The Prison Moratorium would not prevent necessary repairs. The Prison Moratorium was passed by the legislature last session before it was vetoed by then Governor Baker. Advocates hope that Governor Healey will chart a different path forward. As the resolution notes, by passing a moratorium, the state can instead advance pathways to decarceration such as Act relative to Parole Review for Aging Incarcerated People (Elder Parole S1547/H2397), which would make people ages 55 and older eligible to see the Parole Board after they have served half of their sentence or at least 15 years.

The National Council and Families for Justice as Healing are also leading Reimagining Communities organizing to create and sustain infrastructure for healing and advancement in neighborhoods most impacted by incarceration. — Families for Justice as Healing



Somerville's Artsy Bites Challenge

The Artsy Bites Challenge, brought to life by The Public Tavern, a soon-to-be-unveiled arcade bar in Somerville, invites locals and art enthusiasts on a scavenger hunt to discover and celebrate the city's rich tapestry of diverse public art.

How to dive into this art-filled adventure:

- Visit www.PublicSomerville.com for the new "Masterpiece" posted every 24 hours.
- + Identify and submit its Somerville location.

Since the Artsy Bites Challenge began September 11, 2023, Somerville Arts Council has spotlighted and re-shared the Challenge's daily art hunts, calling its spotlight on Somerville art and local businesses, a great initiative. The Public Tavern: Nestled at 565 Broadway, across from Trum Field in Somerville, The Public Tavern is where community, fun and flavor unite. It's where culinary delights dance with arcade games, pool tables, great food and cocktails – a haven for foodies, gamers, and everyone in between.

The Somerville Arts Council Since 2005 we've spearheaded cultural economic development through its work with ArtsUnion, ensuring that arts and culture are a priority throughout Somerville. Learn more at www.somervilleartscouncil.org

The Artsy Bites Challenge: The Artsy Bites Challenge will continue featuring new artwork every day until December 1. No purchase or payment necessary to enter or win. Detailed rules, featured art, and contest forms found at www.PublicSomerville.com.



Finance committee discusses additions to the community

By Jennifer Purcell

Last Tuesday, Somerville's finance committee held a meeting to discuss and approve several grants that had previously been requested for approval by Mayor Ballantyne. The meeting lasted about two hours as a variety of topics that would ultimately lead to the betterment of the community were discussed.

MassDOT sound walls

The primary topic of discussion brought up by Committee Chair Councilor At-Large Jake Wilson was Order #23-1234, requesting to accept and expend a \$250,000 grant that would go towards the construction of sound walls along Interstate 93 around the Mystic housing developments. Ward 4 Councilor Clingan expressed his support for this cause, noting that there has not been proper coverage for residents living around 193. In regards to the changes that would result from this, he stated that a tunnel noise would be created if these walls were to be constructed as the noise from the passing vehicles would bounce off of them. When asked for a timeline from Councilor Kelly, it was stated that while a timeline has not yet been established, such studies usually take between 9-12 months to complete.

As a resident of the community himself, Chair Wilson concluded that this change is long overdue and very much welcome, thus

recommending it for approval. **Unpaid Invoices and Grants**

Chair Wilson proceeded to invite Karin Carroll, Somerville's Director of Health and Human Services, to speak on several of the subjects at hand. It became evident that several of last year's invoices had been left unpaid, and she requested to pay them on behalf of the rest of the Health and Human Services Committee. Additionally, there are several grants that she has been hoping to get approved. These invoices and grants were as follows:

- Requesting \$3,867.08 using funds from the account for Medicaid billing services. This invoice had been sent to a retired staff member and no one else had been notified.
- + Requesting \$2,684 using funds from the account for The Throne Depot for portable restrooms, as the invoice came in larger than they had initially budgeted for.
- Requesting a \$300,000 grant from the Department of Public Health, a grant that will aid in tracing COVID-19 by funding an epidemiologist who will monitor data trends in Somerville and several nearby communities.
- Requesting a \$61,710 grant from the Metro North Regional Employment Board, an annual grant for the YouthWorks summer program.

All four of these requests were approved by the committee with-



Appropriating funds to further the construction of a sound wall along I-93 at the Mystic housing developments was among the top items of business addressed by the City Council's Finance Committee at their latest meeting. — Photo by Bobbie Toner

out question or further concerns. Somerville Police Department

The Somerville Police Department had several requests for the committee. The first Item that Captain Jeffrey Di-Gregorio wanted to address was the pending application for a \$13,616.79 grant that would fund helmets with hand-free headsets for officers on motorcycles in order to make them less prone to accidents. However, when asked about the whereabouts of the documentation regarding where the grant funding will be coming from, the Captain did not have an answer and agreed to look into that further before the committee made a decision. Additionally, they requested \$75,000 to upgrade their emergency operations center (EOC), which had the same outcome.

The SPD's final request was to be granted \$513,421 in order to replace seven of their police vehicles. Their current vehicles are about four years old, and Captain DiGregorio stressed that police vehicles need to be replaced much more frequently

than standard vehicles as they are used more often and need to be in good condition at all times. Councilor Kelly and Councilor Scott both expressed concern because this Item would reflect a 100% increase in the police department's ordinary maintenance spending, alongside the fact that several other vehicles have already been requested but haven't been received yet. Upon holding a Roll Call at the end of the meeting, it was revealed that four Councilors were in favor of this Item whilst Councilor Scott

Somerville Police requesting information related to pedestrian accident

Somerville Police Department is looking for information related to a pedestrian accident.

This incident took place on September 15,2023 at the intersection of Pearl St. and Marshall St.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Officer Joseph Teves at 617-625-1600 ext. 7248 or 617-702-6852.



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Beacon Hill Roll Call



Volume 48 – Report No. 39• September 25-29, 2023 • Copyright © 2023 Beacon Hill Roll Call. All Rights Reserved. By Bob Katzen

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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. Beacon Hill Roll Call records local representatives' and senators' votes from the week of September 25-29.

LEGISLATURE APPROVES TAX RELIEF PACKAGE (H 4104)

House 155-1, Senate 38-1, approved and sent to Gov. Maura Healey the conference committee version of a tax relief package. It was drafted as a compromise to the different versions approved by the House and Senate. Supporters say this will provide \$561.3 million in tax relief in fiscal year 2024 and \$1.02 billion per year in subsequent years.

Provisions include increasing the rental deduction cap from \$3,000 to \$4,000; reducing the estate tax for all taxpayers and eliminating the tax for all estates under \$2 million by allowing a uniform credit of \$99,600; increasing the refundable tax credit for a dependent child, disabled adult or senior from \$180 to \$310 per dependent in taxable year 2023, and then to \$440 in subsequent years while eliminating the child/dependent cap; doubling the refundable senior circuit breaker tax credit from \$1,200 to \$2,400; increasing the refundable Earned Income Tax Credit from 30 percent to 40 percent of the federal credit; and reducing the short-term capital gains tax rate from 12 percent to 8.5 percent.

Other provisions double the lead paint tax credit to \$3,000 for full abatement and \$1,000 for partial abatement; ensure that employer student loan payments are not treated as taxable compensation; make public transit fares, as well as ferry and regional transit passes and bike commuter expenses, eligible for the commuter expense tax deduction; increase from \$1,500 to \$2,000 the maximum that municipalities may pay seniors to do volunteer work to reduce their property taxes; raise the annual authorization for the low income housing tax credit from \$40 million to \$60 million; and allow cities and towns to adopt a local property tax exemption for affordable real estate that is rente

"This is the most significant tax relief package in a generation," said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). "This legislation is going to put real dollars into the pockets of the people who need it most, including parents, seniors, young people and middle class families who are struggling to keep up with rising costs. This bill includes a historic expansion of housing programs that will ignite affordable housing development and ease the housing crunch, as well as significant relief for families with young children. It will also make Massachusetts a more competitive place to live and work and encourages businesses to continue investing in our region."

"This tax relief package strikes the critically important bal-

ance of providing permanent financial relief to residents and businesses across Massachusetts, without compromising the long-term financial security of the commonwealth," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "I'm confident that this tax reform legislation will help to make Massachusetts more affordable for all residents, while also helping to make the commonwealth more competitive with other states."

"Back in April, I stood at the rostrum for about 13 minutes and expressed a mix of support for the many elements of this bill that will help working families and people experiencing poverty — while at the same time criticizing the elements of this bill that will benefit large corporations and the super-rich," said Rep. Mike Connolly (D-Cambridge), the only House member to vote against the package.

"From my vantage point, this bill was significantly improved through the conference committee process, and there are several elements of the bill I enthusiastically support," continued Connolly. "And yet, as I stand here today, I still cannot bring myself to support the total price tag of \$1.1 billion once fully implemented. Not after we just spent a decade working to pass the Fair Share Amendment to gain desperately needed new revenue ... A lot more needs to be done, including bigger public investments in programs, services and infrastructure — investments that could be significantly constrained by the overall cost of today's tax cut bill."

The measure also includes two provisions which the Mass Fiscal Alliance says will result in tax hikes. One would require Massachusetts married couples who file income tax returns jointly at the federal level to do the same at the state level. The other changes the system under Chapter 62F that requires that annual tax revenue above a certain amount collected by the state go back to the taxpayers. Under current law, the money is returned to taxpayers based on what he or she earned and paid in taxes. The new tax package changed that and provides that each taxpayer will receive a flat rate refund, unrelated to what they earned or paid in taxes.

"Never before have so many waited so long for so little," said Paul Craney, a spokesman for the Mass Fiscal Alliance. "Leave it up to two career politicians to not only deliver a two-year late tax relief package while almost every other state saw immediate relief but include tax hikes in their relief package. The speaker and Senate president's proposal includes a marriage penalty, applying the new income surtax to married couples who have a combined income of over a million dollars."

Craney further explained that changing how Chapter 62F surplus money is distributed to taxpayers actually hijacks the system and turns it into a socialist wealth

redistribution scheme.

(A "Yes" vote is for the tax relief package. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Mike Connolly No Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven Yes Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

\$1 MILLION FOR HEADSTART PROGRAMS (H 4040)

House 156-0, overrode Gov. Healey's veto of \$1 million (reducing funding from \$17.5 million to \$16.5 million) in funding for grants to Head Start programs.

"I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary," said Healey in her veto message. "The adjusted funding level proposed here is consistent with the fiscal year 2023 General Appropriations Act and sustains significant expansion to this line-item in recent fiscal years."

(A"Yes" vote is for the \$1 million. A"No" vote is against it.)

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

\$1.4 MILLION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES (H 4040)

House 154-0, overrode Gov. Healey's veto of \$1.4 million (reducing funding from \$1.8 million to \$400,000) in funding for suicide prevention programs.

"I am reducing this item to an amount consistent with my House [budget] ... recommendation," said Healey in her veto message. "The program goals are sufficiently funded through an expansion in the Suicide Prevention and Intervention ... line item.

(A"Yes" vote is for the \$1.4 million. A"No" vote is against it.)

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

\$250,000 FOR PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH (H 4040)

House 154-0, overrode Gov. Healy's veto of \$250,000 (reducing funding from \$1.25 million to \$1 million) in funding for prostate cancer research.

"I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary," said Healey in her veto message. "This will allow the program to continue its current Continued on page 21

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark

Somerville is so family friendly.

Our View Of The Times



It's no secret to the people of this city that with all the open-space and recreational opportunities available, Somerville provides an ideal environment for families to live, play and stay healthy and happy.

But it it's also nice when this is recognized by outside parties, those who compare what cities across the country offer to their residents in the way of family-friendly amenities.

One such act of recognition was recently revealed, as the City of Somerville was named the number one family-friendly city in America by Opendoor.

Opendoor's 2023 Family-Friendly Cities celebrates communities across the U.S. that offer outdoor spaces and parks. This year's reflects families' desire for community, simpler living, and an opportunity to build a network of like-minded families.

From outdoor movie nights and summer camps to pumpkin patches, farmers' markets and splash pads, outdoor programming encourages communities to come together and be active.

For many families, access to outdoor spaces is a major factor when deciding where to put down roots. Spending time outside improves your health, and can help kids' learning, behavior and mental

well-being.

Opendoor Technologies Inc. is an online company that buys and sells residential real estate and publishes is list of family-friendly cities annually.

Kudos to the city's schools, Parks and Recreation Department, and privately operated facilities for helping to make Somerville the ideal community for families that is certainly is.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

We wish Sal Mingace a very happy 35th birthday. We wish him well and hope he enjoys his day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as AnnMarie Carey-Browne, Millie Vecchia Curley, Diane Kerins Conneely, Mike Capuano, 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.

Free Historic Bike Tour this Sunday, October 8. They will collect ingredients to make fluffernutter sandwiches along the way. Meet at Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. and end at **Somernova**, 21 Properzi Way. Ideally RSVP to **Brandon** at bwilson@somervillema.gov or 617-776-3938.

Reminder: Green Line Union Branch service is suspended through Thursday, October 12, to allow for MassDOT work on the Route 28 Squires Bridge. Riders can use Routes 86, 91, and CT2 between Union Square and East Somerville Station on the Medford Branch. These routes also service Sullivan Square Station on the Orange Line. Route 87 can also be used between Union Square and Lechmere Station.

Are you looking for a job and want the opportunity to speak with employers in person? Somerville Community Corporation (SCC) wants to connect you with employers and resource providers in Somerville and surrounding areas on Thursday, October 12, Center at The Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave. starting at 10:00 a.m. Go to bit.ly/SC-Ccareerfair to register and learn more. Questions? Please email them at First-SourceExt@somervillecdc.org or call 617-410-9905 and press 2. Are you an employer looking to fill positions? Somerville Community Corporation (SCC)

wants to connect employers with job seekers and residents in the city of Somerville and surrounding. Please email at rtaylor@somervillecdc.org or call 617-410-9907.

Stop by the East Branch Library, 115 Broadway and try your hand at capoeira from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, October 14, and October 28. These classes will combine the Brazilian art of capoeira with fitness science to deliver a full body workout that showcases the elegance of dance, the power of martial arts, and the rhythms of Brazilian music. No registration is required for this event and it's Continued on page 18

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's lio Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous

1. What is the official flower of October?

mixture, hodgepodge

- 2. How many cards are in a standard deck of playing cards?
- 3. Who is considered the "Father of Modern Magic"?
- 4. What candy bar is viewed as a meal replacement?
- 5. What game manufacturer began in Salem, MA?
- 6. Who had the second highest IQ?
- 7. What is the most popular pizza topping in the U.S.?

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- 8. What Massachusetts city is the birthplace of the National Guard?
- 9. In radio terminology, what does the abbreviation "AM" stand for?
- 10. In Irish folklore, what type of creature is a banshee?
- 11. What is the name of the famous magic duo who performed with tigers?
- 12. What is the name of the school in the movie Mean Girls?

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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Answers on page 10

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The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- 1. It is possible to turn peanut butter into diamonds.
 - 2. The largest bill in the U.S. was a \$10,000 note.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD CHEMISTRY 101

ACROSS

- 1. "Planted" customer
- 6. Pie and mode connection (2 words)
- 9. Atomic ____ unit
- 13. Salk's conquest
- 14. Beesly of "The Office"
- 15. Secret storage
- 16. Créme de la créme
- 17. Flow alternative
- 18. a.k.a. vampire
- 19. Any substance in chemistry
- 21. Periodic table entry
- 23. Douse or soak
- 24. Pavarotti's song
- 25. Between Big and Wolf
- 28. Mattress description
- 30. Positively charged particle
- 35. Elevator manufacturing giant
- 37. Horsefly
- 39. Rabbit trap
- 40. Sure or uh-huh
- 41. Saintly rings
- 43. North Sea feeder
- 44. Flax flower genus
- 46. Shrivel, as in plant
- 47. Like undesirable row
- 48. Related on mother's side
- 50. Barbara of "I Dream of Jeannie"
- 52. Porky's home
- 53. Practice in the ring
- 55. Burmese neighbor
- 57. Core of an atom
- 64. Theater guide
- 65. Org. that gets parents involved in school
- 67. Sign up again
- 69. Supernatural being
- 70. Three, to Caesar
- 71. Grouchy Muppet
- 72. European sea eagles
- 73. News channel acronym
- 74. Liable to cry
- **DOWN**
- 1. Health resort in Baden-Baden, e.g.
- 2. River islet
- 3. Hip bones
- 4. To-do enumerations
- 5. Bingo and keno

48

CROSSWORD



© StatePoint Media

- 6. Imitator
- 7. Chemistry classroom
- 8. Fly in ___ ___, or a reminder of the past
- 9. Hat-tipper's word
- 10. Highest point
- 11. Splints site
- 12. Assigned spot
- 15. Rids of obstuction
- 20. Period in history
- 22. Mouth piece
- 24. Designer's studio
- 25. ____-Mariotte Law
- 26. Dined at home
- 27. Late Princess of Wales
- 29. Defect
- 31. Two halves of two
- 32. Discussion intended to produce agree-
- 33. Galactic path

- 34. Demanding attention
- 36. Like a barred door
- 38. Aurum, in English
- 42. Type of grave marker
- 45. It loves company?
- 49. PC "brain"
- 51. Limited in scope
- 54. Gelatin
- 56. Like one with high BMI
- 57. Artist's model, sometimes
- 58. Application utilizer
- 59. Keep it up?
- 60. TV classic "____ Make a Deal"
- 61. Jealous biblical brother
- 62. Fairy-tale opening
- 63. Less than average tide
- 66. Sn, or stannum, on periodic table
- 68. Like dry humor
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

'Party Under the Harvest Moon' raises \$170K to **Benefit Food For Free**



L to R: John Smith-St. Cyere of Camfield Estates, Jessica Cantin, the new CEO of Food For Free, and Justice Kumahia of Bunker Hill Community College.

Last week, more than 300 supporters, donors, and community members gathered for Party Under the Harvest Moon, hosted by Food For Free. The annual event raised \$170,000 to support the nonprofit's year-round food rescue and redistribution efforts in 27 communities across Eastern Massachusetts.

During the event, guests met Food For Free's new CEO Jessica Cantin who expressed her excitement to join the team. Representatives from two of the nonprofit's 115 food distribution partners, John Smith-St. Cyere, Program Coordinator at Camfield Estates, Justice Kumahia, Dean of Students at Bunker Hill Community College, spoke about the importance of donated food deliveries transported by Food For Free.

esteemed community partners' stories underscore not just the value of what we provide, but the absolute necessity of our work here at Food For Free," said Jessica Cantin, CEO of Food For Free. "Together, with the continued support of our donors and community members, we will ensure that every individual in Eastern Massachusetts has reliable access to fresh and nutritious food."

The atmosphere at MIT's Walker Memorial Building was that of community. Guests enjoyed beverages and heavy appetizers by Something Savory, donated beverages from Cambridge Brewing Company, Lamplighter Brewing Company and Tito's Vodka, a silent auction, and live music by an MIT student jazz quartet. Members from across the community were in attendance, from Barbara August, one of the co-founders of Food For Free who recently renewed her commitment to volunteer with us, to several students, alums and staff members of Bunker Hill Community College who attended the event in various capacities as volunteers, guest speakers, and special guests.

Each year, Party Under the Harvest Moon raises critical funding in support of the nonprofit's innovative programs that address nutrition insecurity. Founded in 1981 as one of the nation's first food rescue organizations, the nonprofit now serves more than 150,000 food-insecure Massachusetts residents and distributes 7.5 million pounds of nutritious fresh and prepared foods annually.

Currently, 1 in 3 adults in Massachusetts does not have enough to eat on a regular basis. Hunger in America isn't just a lack of access to food, it's a lack of access to nutrition. Today's inflation not only makes it harder for people to afford higher priced fresh fruits and vegetables, but also increases the costs for hunger relief organizations to make purchases and transport goods to those in need. That's where Food For Free comes in.

"Thanks to our partnership with Food For Free, we are able to help combat food insecurity," said Smith-St. "Food For Free is essential to improving the quality of life for residents in Lower Roxbury."

Food For Free acquires rescued, donated, and purchased food from a number of sources to meet the increased demand to ensure everyone in the community - regardless of age, income, or ability - has consistent access to nutrition. For more information, visit: www.foodforfree.org.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #289

The Season of the Witch

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

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



• On June 15, 1648, Margaret Jones of Charlestown was the first woman in Massachusetts to be executed for witchcraft. Governor John Winthrop and his son John Jr. of Ten Hills were on the court that tried, convicted, and ordered her execution. This took place 44 years before the Salem Witch trials. It has been said the Mystic River's name originated from old women, like Margaret, whose only crime was gathering mystical and medicinal herbs along her shore for the sick. Some insecure, suspicious and religious minds accused them of being witches.



• The same year of Margaret's execution, Jane Walford, the wife of Thomas Walford, Somerville's first European settler and a smith by trade, was accused of witchcraft. They lived in a stockade-surrounded, thatched home near today's Dane Street for six years before the arrival of the Continued on page 11

LEGAL NOTICES

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

LEGAL NOTICE - Vehicle Sale 10/21/2023

Pro Tech Towing notice to owner. The following abandoned motor vehicle will be privately sold unless claimed.

Car information	VIN#	Last registered owner	Address
2008 Land Rover Range Rover Sport	SALSK25438122117	Ali Zaiter	2258 Pawtucket Ave. East Providence RI 02914

Date of Sale **10/21/2023**. A 5-day notice to the Waltham Police Department Chief will be provided before sale. Location: ProTech Towing, 205 Willow St. Waltham, MA, Phone: 781-894-5058

9/27/23, 10/4/23 The Somerville Times



Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Funds are available for Affordable Housing Support Programs in the City of Somerville.

The Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund (SAHTF) is reopening its annual process of local distribution of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds and non-CPA funds that are designated for Somerville community housing projects and programs. Up to \$500,000 of combined CPA and non-CPA Housing funds will be made available through one competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) processes to provide funding for:

• The support of affordable housing in Somerville by housing program providers (Tenancy Stabilization Programs).

The RFP will be posted and available starting on $\underline{\textbf{October 2nd, 2023}}$. The proposal submission deadline for the RFP is 12:00pm on November 2nd,

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

More information about eligible uses and funding priorities is available on pages 1-2 of the RFP. For questions, please contact City of Somerville, (617) 625-6600 x2587 or by email at

ngoldstein@somervillema.gov

10/4/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the Licensing Commission on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

New Garage License, Quick Auto Center, 30 Joy Street, 0 cars inside, 40 cars outside, for charging money to store vehicles, maintaining and operating a tow vehicle, and storing unregistered vehicles, Mon-Fri:8am-6pm, Sat: 8am-2pm, and Sun: closed.

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Virtually through the Zoom Webinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CORqnj9eTzuOahEkFua-2A You can also find this link on the City Council's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.

2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to <u>publiccomments@somervillema.gov</u>, send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or drop them into the secure drop box outside the back door on the School Street side of City Hall. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed $% \left(x\right) =\left(x\right) +\left(x\right) =\left(x\right)$

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

LORI JEAN BATZEK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT **KATJANA BALLANTYNE** MAYOR

THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 - 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to historic@somervillema.gov

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VIqpt47fRTWZdrSnNwFTUw

Webinar ID: 858 7638 5108

TO CALL IN

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING

DETERMINATIONS OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE (STEP 1 IN THE DEM-OLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HP23-000024 - 97 Highland Avenue

Applicant: Somerville Young Men's Christian Association Owner: Same as Applicant

The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of

DETERMINATIONS OF PREFERABLY PRESERVED (STEP 2 IN THE DEM-**OLITION REVIEW PROCESS)**

HP23-000025 - 101 Highland Avenue

Applicant: Somerville Young Men's Christian Association Owner: Same as Applicant

The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of

Case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases.

Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Note: Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov NO LATER THAN NOON one week prior to the meeting date. Email hist <u>v</u> with inquiries.

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TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, **CONTACT US BY 12 PM MONDAY** PHONE: 857-488-5138



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 <u>Thursday, October 19, 2023</u> 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_SrJ_ZchATd6IKhkFEHgamQ

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comments concerning

- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinances, Sections 3.1 Neighborhood Residence and 3.2 Urban Residence, to permit the house and triple decker building types without any conditions, and to repeal the lot depth, dwelling units per lot, and development benefits require-
- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to repeal Section 10.9 Steep Slopes.
- John Fragione and Agostino Feola, Trustees of Frala Realty Trust, requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 295-297 Medford Street and 93 Walnut Street from Mid-Rise 3 (MR3) to Mid-Rise 5 (MR5).
- Mai Lau, 635 Somerville Avenue LLC, requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 627 Somerville Avenue from Neighborhood Residence (NR) to Mid-Rise 3 (MR3).
- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinances to replace the text of Section 9.1.11 Residential Use Categories and revise Table 9.1.1 Permitted Uses and the corresponding permitted use table of each zoning district, in accordance with changes to Table 9.1.1, to replace the two residential use categories.

Zoning amendments may be viewed online by searching the Somerville City Council's online meeting calendar for the address or item

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 at planning@somervillema.gov and the City Council at publiccomments@somervillema.gov

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS City of Somerville OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES NOTICE OF TAX TAKING

TO THE OWNERS OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LAND AND TO ALL OTHERS CONCERNED: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT on Thursday, the 19th day of October, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at Treasury, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, IT IS MY INTENTION TO TAKE for the City of Somerville the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and an incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same has been paid before that date.

Linda Dubuque, Treasurer/Collector of Taxes.

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 0 MALVERN AVE

ASSESSED OWNER(S): HENRY P WAGNER & CAROLE G WAGNER SUPPOSED SUBSEQUENT OWNER(S): ZERO MALVERN LLC PARCEL ID: 013-A.00038-000000 ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: 02047030 TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 60752, Page: 157; Book: 77013, Page: 364.

This land is taken because taxes, as defined in Chapter 60, Section 43, assessed on the property to WAGNER HENRY P & CAROLE G for the fiscal year 2021, which were not paid within fourteen days after a demand for payment was made on May 14, 2021. After notice of intention to take said land was given as required by law, they remain unpaid along with interest and incidental interests and costs to the date of taking as follows:

Fiscal Year 2021 Taxes Remaining Unpaid: \$971.67 Interest to Date of Taking: \$328.95
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking: \$225.00 Total for which Land will be Taken: \$1,525.62

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LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 329 SOMERVILLE AVE ASSESSED OWNER(S): ROMAO INACIO M ROMAO & MARIA F

ROMAO, TRUSTEES, THE ROMAO REALTY TRUST PARCEL ID: 074-C.00021-000000 ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: 13442032 TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 19794,

This land is taken because taxes, as defined in Chapter 60, Section 43, assessed on the property to ROMAO INACIO M & MARIA F TRUSTEES for the fiscal year 2021, which were not paid within fourteen days after a demand for payment was made on May 14, 2021. After notice of intention to take said land was given as required by law, they remain unpaid along with interest and incidental interests and costs to the date of taking as follows:

Fiscal Year **2021** Taxes Remaining Unpaid: Interest to Date of Taking:
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking: \$105.68 \$225.00 Total for which Land will be Taken:

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Page: 599.

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 22 STONE AVE 1 ASSESSED OWNER(S): JOSEPH C BECKMANN PARCEL ID: 073-D.00012-000001 ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: 20211630 TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 25380, Page: 425.

This land is taken because taxes, as defined in Chapter 60, Section 43, assessed on the property to BECKMANN JOSEPH C for the fiscal year 2021, which were not paid within fourteen days after a demand for payment was made on May 14, 2021. After notice of intention to take said land was given as required by law, they remain unpaid along with interest and incidental interests and costs to the date of taking as follows:

\$197.13 Fiscal Year 2021 Taxes Remaining Unpaid: Interest to Date of Taking: \$64.89 Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking: \$225.00 Total for which Land will be Taken: \$487.02

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the Licensing Commission on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

New Garage License, Rayelo's Auto Service, 61 Washington St. 3 vehicles inside, 4 vehicles outside for mechanical repairs and autobody work, Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm, Sat: 8am-2pm, Sun: closed.

This meeting will be held by remote participation, using the Zoom We-

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

- 1. Virtually through the Zoom Webinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CORqnj9eTzuOahEkFua-2A
- You can also find this link on the City Council's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
- 2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to publiccomments@somervillema.gov, send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or drop them into the secure drop box outside the back door on the School Street side of City Hall. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

LORI JEAN BATZEK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

10/4/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the Licensing Commission on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

New Extended Operating Hours License, Dumpling Garden, 273 Broadway, opening Sunday-Saturday from 10am to 2am for in-store, take-out and delivery service.

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

- 1. Virtually through the Zoom Webinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CORqnj9eTzuOahEkFua-2A
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10/4/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the Licensing Commission on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

New Garage License, Ravelo's Auto Service, 61 Washington Street, 3 cars inside, 4 cars outside, for mechanical repairs, autobody work, and charging money to store vehicles, Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm, Sat: 8am-2pm, and Sun: closed.

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

- 1. Virtually through the Zoom Webinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CORqnj9eTzuOahEkFua-2A
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LORI JEAN BATZEK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY **LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV**

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Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

Puritans in 1629. The Anglican Walfords defied Puritan authority until they reluctantly moved to Strawberry Bank in today's Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Jane won the trials against her accusers in 1648, 1656 and 1669.

• Reverend John Hale was one of the most noted clergymen

identified with the 1692 witch trials in Salem. He was born in Charlestown, educated at Harvard, ordained as the first minister of the First Parish Church in Beverly and died in Charlestown. As a twelve-year-old child, he witnessed the execution of Margaret Jones. Hale supported the trials deep into the Salem

hysteria until accusations turned against his own wife. It is believed this event helped end the prose-

+ John Hale's great- grandson, Nathan Hale, was a Revolutionary War hero who trained on Winter Hill. Hanged by the British as a spy on September 22, 1776, his famous last words were:

"I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." The last hangings of the Salem trials coincidentally took place on September 22, 1692.

United States Senate Chaplin Without A Country."

+ In 1692 due to fear, intolerance and injustice, the Salem Witch trials took the lives of 25 innocent men, women and children. Out of nine judges, + Further down John's lin- Samuel Sewall was the only eage is Edward Everett Hale, one who publicly apologized. Somerville's Sewall Street on and the author of "The Man Winter Hill is said to honor him ... Lest We Forget!

Ignite Festival lights up the night

By Kayla Sharpe

Several groups and families gathered at Union Square to celebrate a night centered around international culture and food at the Ignite Festival on Saturday.

The event included activities like life-sized board games, face painting, and hands-on crafts such as lantern making. Throughout the event, appearances were featured by the Flutterby Faeries, Chels Errante, Qatherine, Flor, Circe Rowan, Ethan Rosman, Bonny Chen, and Consuelo.

In the early part of the festival, there were food demonstrations from restaurants featured in Nibble Kitchen, an outlet for entrepreneurs to highlight their international cuisine. Festivalgoers had the opportunity to try the foods shown at the vendor's tents during the event.

In the Nibble Kitchen demonstration, vendor Edwin Orellana showed how he makes Salvadorian pupusas, featured at his restaurant, Dos Manos Kitchen. "This makes me so happy," he said. To him, being able to sell his pupusas in this space is, "A dream coming true."

There were a variety of international vendors like Carolicious Venezuelan Food, Taquisimo Tacos, and Nagomi Bento— all from Nibble Kitchen. Other vendors included Machu Picchu, Masala Square, Gracie's Ice Cream, Union Square Pizza, Jana Grill, and Mineirao.

For the locally owned Armenian restaurant, Jana Grill & Bakery, this was their first time at the Ignite Festival. They thought it was a thoughtful way to present themselves to the community.

"I will say that people love it," founder Suren Keryan said about their food. "Everyone comes to try, and we give them samples. They always come back."

To add some entertainment to the food provided, Masala Square had a curry-eating competition between five lucky participants.

Throughout the festival, performances were featured in the fire square in the Union Square parking lot. Cultural performances were featured from groups such as KS Dance Studio performing traditional Haitian dances, Ten Hill Morris, Latin dance group MetaMovements, the Afro-Brazilian Sinha Capoeira Performance Group, and Gund Kwok Asian Women's Dance Troupe, who showed us a never-before-seen lion and dragon dance.

To close the Ignite Festival, the Boston Circus Guild gave a spectacular fire performance, which brought the audience together in amazement.































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MISCELLANEOUS

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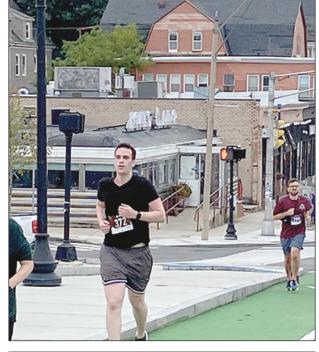
Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub.
Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off - limited time! Fi-nancing available.
1-855-417-1306

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Somerville Homeless Coalition Road Race 2023

The Somerville 5K Road Race returned for a 28th year on Saturday, September 30, in Davis Square. Staff, clients, supporters, and local partners came together once again to raise awareness and support for our most underrepresented neighbors, helping in the fight to end homelessness, hunger, and eviction. Learn more here: https://bit.ly/ Some rville 5 KRoad Race.— Photos by Bobbie Toner





Somerville 5K Road Race 2023 Top 10 Finishers:					
Place	Name	Gender	City	State	Time
1	Adam Pacheck	M	Somerville	MA	16:31
2	Jeff Candell	M	Somerville	MA	17:06
3	Jordan Safer	M	Somerville	MA	17:19
4	A.J. Pandina	M	Hightstown	NJ	17:25
5	Christopher Herbs	M	Somerville	MA	17:46
6	Eli Meretta	M	Belmont	MA	17:47
7	Carter Zerweck	M	Phoenixville	PA	17:59
8	Ethan LeClair	M	Watertown	MA	18:19
9	Russell Mawn	M	Newton	MA	18:36
10 (Corinne Victoria Bats	u F		US	18:37

For a full list of finishers go to https://runsignup.com/Race/Results/78482#resultSetId-409502;perpage:100













SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Upcoming events:

Open Enrollment Begins on October 15th and runs to December 7th – Medicare recipients can change their health insurance plans for January 1, 2024. While having the freedom to change your health insurance plan can save you money, there are many health insurance plans and companies to choose from. You don't have to make the decision alone, the Somerville Council on Aging has SHINE Counseling available in person, over the phone, or on Zoom, to assist you with comparing what health insurance options are available for you. You can call Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 or Molly Pagliuca at ext. 2318 to book an appointment.

Medicare Open Enrollment Seminar – Wednesday, October 25th at the Holland Street Center starting at 11:00 a.m. Marion Severynse, a SHINE counselor from Minuteman Senior Services will be hosting a seminar to speak about open enrollment, introduce different health insurance options, and will provide an opportunity for you to have your questions answered in a group setting. RSVP by contacting Molly Pagliuca at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318 or mpagliuca@somervillema.gov.

Mayor Ballantyne's Thanksgiving Luncheon – Tuesday, November 14th at the Dilboy Post located at 351 Summer Street from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Enjoy a Thanksgiving Celebration of turkey, stuffing and all the fixings! Please reserve your spot by calling Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Kiwanis Thanksgiving Dinner – Thursday, November 9th at the Highlander Café at Somerville High School. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by the Somerville Kiwanis and prepared by the Somerville Culinary Arts program. Please reserve your spot by calling Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

The A & W Ukulele Players – Thursday, October 19th at the Holland Street Center starting at 11:00 a.m. The A & W Ukulele Players are ukulele enthusiasts from all over the Greater Boston area. For the last five years, they have been delighting audiences with their mix of holiday songs and favorites spanning the decades from the 1920s to the 2010s. Lunch and performance is brought to you at no cost by Somerville Cambridge Elder Services Multicultural Meal Program. Please reserve your spot by calling Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Multicultural Meals Program – Congratulations to Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) who was the recent recipient of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding from the

City of Somerville. SCES will use this funding to provide free, hot, lunches to Somerville's older adults at both the Holland Street Center and the Ralph and Jenny Senior Centers through June of 2024. Multicultural lunches will be catered by Somerville businesses and will be served at noon, following BINGO or Special Programming.

Tuesday, October 3rd Ralph & Jenny Center: Portuguese - J&J Restaurant

Tuesday, October 10th Ralph & Jenny Center: Italian - Alfredo's Italian Kitchen

Tuesday, October 17th Ralph & Jenny Center: Chinese - Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center

Tuesday, October 24th Ralph & Jenny Center: Haitian - Highland Creole Cuisine

Thursday, October 5th Holland Street Center: Chinese - Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center

Thursday, October 12th Holland Street Center: Haitian - Highland Creole Cuisine

Thursday, October 19th Holland Street Center: Portuguese - J&J Restaurant

Thursday, October 26th Holland Street Center: Italian - Alfredo's Italian Kitchen

All are welcome! Registration is required as space is limited. Please call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321. Grab and Go lunches are still available.

Trick or Treat at the COA – Tuesday, October 31st at the Holland Street Center, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Celebrate Halloween at the Council on Aging. Enjoy music, a costume contest and trick or treating with the COA staff. Lunch will be served following Trick or Treat - \$5 per person. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov

Council on Aging Flu Clinic – Thursday, October 12th at the Holland Street Center from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Thursday, October 26th at the Holland Street Center from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The City of Somerville's Public Health nurse will be hosting the two flu clinics. For more information or to book an appointment please call the COA at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Knitting with Natasha Group –Tuesday, October 10th and 24th at the Holland Street Center starting at 2:00 p.m. If you are looking to learn how to knit, rekindle your love of knitting, or knit with others, join us for our new knitting group. This October we will be making mittens. Drop-in sessions or extra help will be held on Tuesday, October 17th and 31st at the Holland Street Center starting at 2:00 p.m. Students can use this time to knit together, ask Natasha any questions or receive additional help. All supplies, including yarn and needles will be provided. Please RSVP to Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 or email Natasha at nnaim@somervillema.gov

Beginner's De-Cluttering Group – This sixweek group is open to residents of Somerville and Cambridge over the age of 60. The group meets on Wednesdays from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. starting on September 20th at the Holland Street Center. Does the thought of cleaning overwhelm you? Have you tried to de-clutter only to find yourself stuck? If you are looking for tips and tricks on how to let go of some of your belongings, look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging. For more information or to RSVP please call Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

LCR Game Day – Wednesday, October 11th at 1:30 p.m. at the Holland St. Center. LCR-Left Center Right is a fun, fast-paced dice game that you won't be able to put down! Players roll the dice to determine where they pass their chips. The last player with chips is the winner and wins the center pot. RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov Grab & Go lunch available.

Bingo – Every Tuesday except October 31st at the Ralph & Jenny Center starting at 10:00 a.m. Lunch is available following Bingo. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

Follow the Somerville Council on Aging on Instagram! You can find us under the Instagram handle: somervillecouncilonaging If you have any questions or need help following us, contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email her at dhiggins@somervillema.gov

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

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

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

GovTV - Xfinity 22/Astound 13/613

AAFDIAF	AI, OCIODEN 4
6:30 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II
7:30 AM	Senior Picnic 2023
8:00 AM	City Council Spotlight
8:30 AM	India Flag Raising
9:00 AM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
9:30 AM	USTDA Visits Somerville
11:00 AM	Finance Committee Meeting
12:30 PM	School Committee Meeting
3:30 PM	Junction Park Groundbreaking
4:00 PM	Sept. 11th Remembrance
4:30 PM	SomerViva an Kreyol
5:00 PM	Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards
6:30 PM	
	City Council Spotlight
7:00 PM	USTDA Visits Somerville
8:15 PM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
8:30 PM	SomerViva an Kreyol
9:00 PM	Senior Picnic 2023
9:15 PM	SPD Ride Along
9:30 PM S	panish All Ward Spring Meeting
11:30 PM	SomerViva an Kreyol
THURSDA	Y, OCTOBER 5
12:00 AM	School Committee Meeting
2:30 AM	Union Sq. Walking Tour
7:00 AM	
	Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy
7:30 AM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
7:45 AM	Junction Park Groundbreaking
8:00 AM	Somerville Homeless Coalition
	Tour & Ribbon Cutting
9:00 AM	Senior Picnic 2023
9:15 AM	Finance Committee Meeting
9-12-23	
10:30 AM	Driver's License Info Session em
	Portugues
12:00 PM	Senior Picnic 2023
12:30 PM	City Council Meeting 9-28-23
4:00 PM	ArtBeat 2023
4:30 PM	City Council Meeting 9-28-23
8:00 PM	City Council Spotlight Ben
0.001111	Ewen-Campen
8:30 PM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
9:00 PM	School Committee Update
9:30 PM	Somerville Homeless Coalition
4045514	Tour & Ribbon Cutting
10:15 PM	Junction Park Groundbreaking
	COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel
FRIDAY, C	OCTOBER 6
12:00 AM	School Committee Update:
	Sarah Phillips
12:30 AM	Spring Hill Walking Tour 2023
2:00 AM	India Flag Raising
7:00 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout
7.00 / (IVI	w/Phelan #2
	vv/r iiciaii #Z

7:30 AM C 9:00 AM	OHR and SPD: Discussion Panel School Committee Update:
9:30 AM	Sarah Phillips School Committee Meeting 10-2-23
12:00 PM	Community Path Extension
1:00 PM 1:30 PM 4:01 PM	Ribbon-Cutting ArtBeat 2023 City Council Meeting 7-13-23 Driver's License Info Session em Portugues
5:30 PM	City Council Spotlight
6:00 PM	Ben Ewen-Campen Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting
8:00 PM 8:30 PM	SomerStreets: Monster Mash School Committee Update: Sarah Phillips
9:00 PM	Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond
10:30 PM	Sept. 11th Remembrance
11:00 PM	Ceremony 2023 Civilian Oversight Listening Session 8-3-23
11:45 PM	SPD Ride Along
	Y, OCTOBER 7
12:00 AM	ArtBeat 2023
12:18 AM	Senior Picnic 2023
12:31 AM	Sept. 11th Remembrance Ceremony 2023
12:45 AM 1:00 AM	ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting India Independence Day
1:30 AM	Flag Raising USTDA Visits Somerville
7:00 AM 7:35 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I Civilian Oversight Listening
	Session 8-3-23
8:30 AM	City Council Spotlight Ewen-Campen
9:00 AM 12:30 PM	City Council Meeting 9-28-23 Driver's License Info Session
2:00 PM	em Portugues Finance Committee Meeting 9-12-23
3:10 PM	Junction Park Groundbreaking
3:30 PM 4:00 PM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor Fit 4 Life Home Workout
4:30 PM	w/Phelan #1 City Council Spotlight
5:00 PM	Ben Ewen-Campen An Afternoon with General
6:31 PM	and Mrs. Washington City Council Spotlight:
J.J. 1 IVI	Kristen Strezo

7:00 PM	School Committee Meeting
9:30 PM	10-2-23 School Committee Update:
9.30 FIVI	Sarah Phillips
10:00 PM	An Afternoon with General
11:31 PM	and Mrs. Washington SomerViva an Kreyol
SUNDAY, C	
12:00 AM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
12:30 AM	Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond
1:40 AM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington
7:00 AM Y	and Mrs. Washington oga with Jenn Falk - Practice III
8:00 AM	City Council Spotlight
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8:30 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol
9:00 AM	School Committee Update:
2.00 / tivi	Sarah Phillips
9:30 AM	Phil Reavis: Highlander to
7.30 7.11	Olympian & Beyond
10:40 AM	Junction Park Groundbreaking
11:00 AM	SomerStreets: Monster Mash
11:30 AM	India Independence Day
	Flag Raising
12:00 PM	Senior Picnic 2023
12:15 PM	SPD Ride Along
12:30 PM	City Council Meeting 9-28-23
4:00 PM CC	OHR and SPD: Discussion Panel
5:30 PM	USTDA Visits Somerville
7:00 PM	Senior Picnic 2023
7:15 PM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
7:15 PM	Phil Reavis: Highlander to
0.20.51.4	Olympian & Beyond
8:30 PM	School Committee Update:
0.00 DN4	Sarah Phillips
9:00 PM	School Committee Meeting 10-2-23
11:30 PM	An Afternoon with General
11:30 PW	and Mrs. Washington
MONDAY	OCTOBER 9
1:01 AM 2:30 AM	USTDA Visits Somerville SomerStreets: Monster Mash
	oga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
8:00 AM	Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy
8:30 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol
9:00 AM	Phil Reavis: Highlander to
2.00 AW	Olympian & Beyond
10:10 AM	Junction Park Groundbreaking
10:30 AM	City Council Spotlight
	Ben Ewen-Campen
11:00 AM	Somerville Homeless Coalition
	Tour & Ribbon Cutting
	3

12:00 PM	SomerStreets: Monster Mash
12:30 PM	City Council Meeting 9-28-23
4:00 PM	An Afternoon with General
5.21 DM	and Mrs. Washington
5:31 PM	City Council Spotlight
C.OO DN 4	Ben Ewen-Campen
6:00 PM	Spanish All Ward Spring
8:00 PM	Community Meeting School Committee Update:
0.00 F W	Sarah Phillips
8:30 PM	Phil Reavis: Highlander to
0.50 1 101	Olympian & Beyond
9:40 PM	Junction Park Groundbreaking
10:00 PM	Sept. 11th Remembrance
	Ceremony 2023
10:15 PM	Senior Picnic 2023
10:30 PM	City Council Spotlight
	Ben Ewen-Campen
11:00 PM	Civilian Oversight Listening
	Session 8-3-23
11:40 PM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
TUESDAY	OCTOBER 10
12:00 AM	School Committee Meeting
	10-2-23
6:30 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout
	w/Phelan #1
7:00 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
8:00 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol
8:30 AM	School Committee Update:
	Sarah Phillips
9:00 AM	Senior Picnic 2023
9:15 AM	USTDA Visits Somerville
10:30 AM	City Council Spotlight
11 00 11 1	Ben Ewen-Campen
11:00 AM	Museum of Bad Art Tour
12:00 PM	Phil Reavis: Highlander to
1.10 DM	Olympian & Beyond
1:10 PM	Finance Committee Meeting 9-12-23
2:30 PM	An Afternoon with General and
Mrs. Wash	
4:01 PM	Senior Picnic 2023
4:30 PM	School Committee Meeting
10-2-23	seriour committee meeting
7:00 PM	Senior Picnic 2023
7:30 PM	City Council Spotlight
	Ewen-Campen
8:00 PM	City Council Meeting 9-28-23
11:30 PM	Civic Day: If I Were Mayor
WEDNESD	DAY, OCTOBER 11
12:00 AM	Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards
1:30 AM	SomerStreets: Monster Mash
2:00 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol
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EdTV - Xfinity 15/Astound 15/614

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:00 AM School Committee Meeting 11:00 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 1.00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 2:30 PM Junction Park Groundbreaking 3:00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 5:00 PMEl Sistema Somerville June Concert School Committee Meeting 6:00 PM 9.00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 11:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

12:30 AM Junction Park Groundbreaking 1:00 AM SHS Football vs Lvnn Classical 3:00 AMEI Sistema Somerville June Concert 7:00 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 8:30 AM SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 10:00 AM SHS Jazz Ensemble Concert 11:00 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 1:00 PM SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 3:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 4:30 PM School Committee Meeting 7:30 PM School Committee Update 8:00 PM SHS Jazz Ensemble Concert 9:00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical

11:00 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

12:30 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 2.00 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 8:00 AM 10.00 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Malden 12:00 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 1:30 PM School Committee Update 2:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 4:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Lynn Class 6:00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 8:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 9:30 PM School Committee Update 10:00 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

12:00 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 2:00 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Lynn Class 3:30 AM SHS Jazz Ensemble Concert 8:00 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 10:00 AM **School Committee Update** 10:30 AM SHS Girls Soccer vs Chelsea 12:00 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 2:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 4:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Lynn Class

6:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 8:00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 10:00 PM School Committee Update 10:30 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

12:00 AMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 1:30 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 3:00 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Lynn Class 8:00 AM SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 10:00 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 11:30 AM School Committee Meeting 2:00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 4:00 PM SHS Jazz Ensemble Concert 5:00 PM SHS Bovs Soccer vs Medford 7:00 PM SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 8:30 PM School Committee Update School Committee Meeting 9:00 PM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

12:00 AM School Committee Update
1:00 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical
3:00 AM SHS Jazz Ensemble Concert
4:00 AM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
8:00 AM School Committee Meeting
10:30 AM School Committee Update

11:00 AMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English
1:00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical
3:00 PM School Committee Meeting
5:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford
7:00 PM School Committee Meeting
8:02 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett
10:00 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English
11:30 PM School Committee Update

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

12:00 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 2:00 AM School Committee Meeting 8:00 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 10:00 AM **School Committee Update** 12:00 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English 1:30 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 3:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer vs Lynn Class 5:00 PM School Committee Meeting 8:00 PM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical 10:30 PM School Committee Update 11:00 PMSHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn English

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

12:30 AM SHS Football vs Lynn Classical2:30 AM School Committee Update

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

open to all ages.

Lyndell's Bakery announced that they will extend the Moon Madness promotion to every day of the week until Sunday December 31, 2023. Buy 1 Half Moon, Get 1 Half Moon free. (limit 1 per customer) To date Lyndell's has sold over 50,000 Half Moons and expects to sell over 75,000 by the end of the year. Half Moons are the signature sweet at the bakery for over 100 years. Visit Lyndell's today at 720 Broadway.

School season is in full swing, but the Somerville Homeless Coalition still have a handful of children in need of backpacks. They have babies in need of diapers too, sizes 1–5. For a full list of items please see their Amazon Wishlist: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2PKG3LS84XJMF?ref_=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR2hGRE_D8M-8Jr2TUUV6fN0PlqOrGCRHFXsD-BqfK6alM2jR3dsxNUv3AFus or, drop off your donations at their food pantry, Project SOUP, at 165 Broadway, Somerville. Visit https://somervillehomelessco-

The city is hiring polling place workers in preparation for the 2023 election cycle. Polling place staffers work on November 7 and earn at least \$200. Learn more at an information session on tomorrow September 27, at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.) from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., or 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Register to attend at: somervillema.gov/pollworkerinfosessions. Can't make a session? Contact the Elections Office at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200 to learn more.

alition.org/.

Somerville Math Fund's high school engineering challenge is coming. Time to sign up (deadline is October 6), for the October 22 event. Get details and links here https://somervillemathematics. blogspot.com/.

Registration is open for Learn to Skate and Learn to Play Somerville Youth Hockey. All sessions take place at either Veterans or Founders rinks in Somerville. Beginner classes are geared towards kids 3-9 who have never skated nor played hockey before. There's also a new Advanced option for kids aged 9 and older who are ready for a more fast-paced introduction to the fundamentals of hockey and skating. Financial aid (and some equipment) is available. To learn more and register, visit https://www.somervilleyouthhockey.org/ltsltp.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 1 Councilor Matthew McLaughlin, and City of Somerville staff invite you to a virtual community meeting about proposed transportation safety improvements on Tufts Street. The city is repaving Tufts Street and reconstructing its sidewalks as part of the citywide Pavement and Sidewalk Management Program. This presents an opportunity to redesign the street to make it safer for all users. Tufts Street is designated as a Neighborway in the Somerville Bicycle Network Plan, so the new design will prioritize traffic calming elements to reduce speeds and discourage cut-through traffic. The meeting will take place Wednesday, October 11, at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom. Learn more about the project and find the virtual meeting link at somervillema.gov/tuftsstreet.

Somerville Education Foundation presents Try-A-Sport Day. 1st-6th graders are invited to the Healey School on Sunday, October 15, 2:00 – 5:00 pm. Children can try out different sports and families can pick up program registration information. Children are encouraged to bring water and a snack. For more information visit https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleEducationFoundation.

The Somerville Community Growing Center is holding their 2nd annual Seasonal Salvage Sale & Makers' Market on October 21, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m., 22 Vinal Ave. Rather than a traditional yard sale, it became a two-part shopping experience: a curated, seasonally-themed secondhand sale where 100% of the proceeds go to the Growing Center, and a new "Makers'

Market" filled with local craft vendors who participate for a nominal fee but get to keep all the proceeds of their sales. To volunteer, be a vendor or donate visit: www.thegrowingcenter.org/yard-sale

Is your family looking for adventure? Cub Scouts is a program for kids and their families. Every family pitches in to help out. No experience needed, just enthusiasm and a Do Your Best attitude. Pack 3 is an all-volunteer group of families who welcome and embrace people of diverse race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, economic status, family structure, and physical or mental ability. Contact the pack, for more info visit facebook.com/somervillepack3 or email: info@somervillepack3.org. Visit somervillepack3.org.

Free Beginner English/U.S. Citizenship class. This is a 12-week beginner ESOL/civics class for adults who are interested in improving their English skills in or-

in improving their English skills in order to apply for U.S. citizenship. ESOL workbooks will be provided. Classes are in-person at East Branch Library (115 Broadway) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Requirements: Must have a green card or in the process of getting one in order to attend. Register here: tinyurl.com/pathwaystocitizenshipfall2023. For questions or help with registration, please contact Brigid Pigott: Email: bpigott@somervillema. gov or 617-623-5000 x.2935. The Pathways to Citizenship class is being offered in partnership with St. Mark Communi-

ty Education Program and MIRA.

Free classes available to parents and guardians. Register on the first Monday of each month from 6:00–9:00 p.m. Somerville Center for Adult Learning Experiences (SCALE) offers free, in-person high school equivalency classes at 167 Holland Street and can be reached at 617-625-6600 x6920.

Elm Street Taproom, 256 Elm Street, Somerville, will be holding a Nightmare

on Elm Street Halloween Bash on Fri-

day., October 28 at 6:00 p.m. There will be lots of spooky fun and cool prizes.

********* Moving Somerville Forward Climate Forward is a free event is open to the entire Somerville community. At this event, you'll have the opportunity to learn about Somerville's climate action plan update, speak with city staff and volunteers about plan topic areas, provide your ideas and suggestions, and celebrate the progress we've made as a community already. Whether you're an environmental enthusiast or just curious about ways to reduce your carbon footprint, this event is for you. Wednesday, October 11, Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave. Doors open at 6:30pm. Program will include an overview of the update process at 7:00 p.m. A gallery walk with refreshments

Did you know students at Somerville High School can access free dental care during the school year? All services are provided at the CHA Teen Connection. Students are encouraged to make an appointment and learn more through the school nurse or by visiting the CHA Teen Connection (phone 617-575-5690).

starts at 7:30 p.m. Featured speakers in-

clude Mayor Katjana Ballantyne.

Safety tips and resources to help during the current hurricane season: Secure outdoor property and ensure you are in a safe location before the onset of strong winds. Charge cell phones and other electronic devices. Do not attempt to relocate or move any downed wires, as they are dangerous to handle. Reports of downed wires can be reported by calling 911. Downed tree limbs can be reported via 311 (dial 311 or 617-666-3311). Power outages can be reported and monitored via Eversource's website: eversource.com/cg/customer/reportoutage.

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

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Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

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.

Reviewing the HUD annual performance report - CAPER



By Will Mbah Candidate for Somerville City Councilor at Large

Every year at the end of summer, the city's housing and economic development planning staff carries out a performance and financial review of the city's Community Development Block

Grant programs. Even though this involves a relatively modest grant of \$2 to \$3 million per year, the annual review offers insight into the progress that the city is making to achieve its goals of affordable housing and community development.

The evaluation and reporting process is called "CAPER" - Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report. The federal government requires the city to detail how its grant money last year has been used along with other local and state funding for programs in three categories:

- · Affordable Housing, Housing Stabilization and Services for the Homeless;
- Emergency Services for Individuals or Families in Crisis:
- + Jobs Creation and Neighborhood Revitalization with Historic Preservation.

The CAPER compiles the financial data and measures program achievements against goals and projections that were previously fixed in a five-year plan. The last plan was 2018-2023, and earlier plans and annual reports date back to 2008. Thus, by providing a standard framework for measurement that is repeated year to year, the CAPER reports track the trends of spending and accomplishment over more than 15 years.

What insights can we get from this year's CAPER?

This past year (2022-23), the federal government transferred to the city a total of \$2.9 million in the main Community Development Block Grant, which is divided into the three program areas - creation of affordable housing

units by acquisition and rehabilitation (50%), and local economic development support (10%) and infrastructure, park and green space improvements (30%).

The largest successful project, completed this year has been the first project of the new Community Land Trust. The trust used \$1.3 million to buy the house at 7 Summer Street and reconstruct it for three new units of low-income housing. Two families with incomes under 50% of median and one family with income under 80% median are now condo owners at 7 Sullivan Street.

This is a small number of units when added to the 146 new units that the zoning Inclusionary Housing program delivered in FY2023 and to the units under construction by the Somerville Community Corporation. Nevertheless, it shows how the federal grant has added steadily, year by year, an accumulating number of units.

Another source of revenue from the federal government, that is accounted for in the CAPER, are COVID emergency funds that went toward the program of rental assistance for 94 households and emergency shelter for 44 people who became homeless. These activities cost about \$240,000 of from the COVID funding, and the city and state added another \$407,000 to support the outreach, shelter and emergency services run by the Somerville Homeless Coalition.

Using the CAPER to understand the limitations and obstacles of affordable housing development and housing assistance

What the CAPER illustrates, therefore, is how the city's financial experts and program managers are able to piece together the monies that come in from various sources state and federal grants, contributions from developers, other grants, and the appropriations that the Mayor and Council make from the city's own budget.

The CAPER, of course, identifies areas of activity and spending that are not successful, that fall short of the goals in the Five-Year plans.

For example, according to the 2018-2023 Five Year Plan, the city had expected to carry out in FY2023 the rehabilitation of 20 rental units that are owned or managed for low-income tenants by the Public Housing Authority or the contracted housing NGO's. For a variety of reasons, including the lingering disruption of COVID and other administrative, design, permitting and construction delays, only one unit was, in fact, completed.

By highlighting this deficiency, the next round of planning will require the city staff to make some adjustments and the money is held in reserve to add to next year's available funds and to be spent as soon as the eligible projects are ready to go.

Another important insight that tracking the CAPER and the future-oriented HUD Action Plan year to year reveal, are the trends of federal grants as part of the city's expected revenues and spending potential. In particular, the 2024 plan shows that the COVID-related grant funds will be running out. These grants for housing programs were in the amounts of \$400,000 to \$600,000 in the last three years, in addition to the \$2.9 million in the main block grant. In 2024, the total will revert back to the \$3 million level.

Significance for the Council and the public to oversee housing and community development program performance

The CAPER and two related other documents - the "HUD Action Plan Development 2023" and a set of presentation slides on this plan - are now posted on the city's website under the heading HUD Plans and Reports. Citizens who take a look at them can better understand how the routine activity of city government financial and program performance works. This is what your Council members and other elected and appointed city officers do on a week-by-week basis. They follow the numbers, track the completion of agency programs, and look into delays and problems that come to light. It is not the part of the job that usually generates headlines or controversies, but it is an essential activity of governing.

If you want to learn more or support my campaign, please visit my website at willmbah.com.

Yafa Bakery & Cafe attends 'Small Business of the Game'

In partnership with Vistaprint last week, The Boston Celtics hosted its second annual Small Business Celebration to highlight all of the small businesses the team works with around the region.

Attendees included business owners from three programs they have dedicated to highlighting small businesses – the Power Forward Grant, Small Business of the Game, and Banner Business.

The Somerville, MA-based Yafa Bakery & Cafe had representatives in attendance for being highlighted as a Small Business of the Game.

At every Celtics home game, the team highlights a small business of the game in person on the court. Its Banner Business program is a digital content series focusing on businesses making an impact in the community.

Boston Celtics 2023 NBA Draft pick Jordan Walsh was in attendance for the celebration and mingled with the business owners.



Climate Café: Talking About Climate Change with Our Children

Join Mothers Out Front and Mass Audubon on Sunday, October 15, 2:00-3:30 p.m., to discuss ways to talk about climate change with our kids. Meanwhile, the kids can have their own adventure in the park with Audubon staff.

This "climate café" will be a safe and welcoming guided conversation, exploring ways for parents and caregivers to have productive and hopeful conversations with children about climate. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Magazine Beach Park Nature Center, 688 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA. The event is free of charge, though registration via Mass Audubon is required: https://www.massaudubon.org/programs/magazine-beach/89292-climate-cafe-talking-about-climate-change-with-our-children.

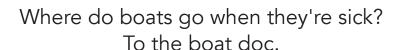


Parents and Mothers Out Front volunteers engaging in discussion at an April 2023 climate café. — Photo by Kristine Jelstrup

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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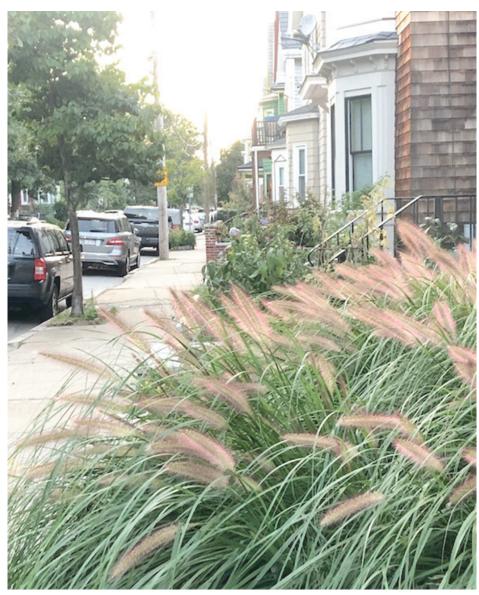
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Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Streetscape with ornamental grass...

— Photo by Denise Provost

On This Day in Kistery

October 4

1861 – The Union ship USS South Carolina captures two Confederate blockade runners outside of New Orleans, La.

1905 - Orville Wright pilots the first flight longer than 30 minutes.

1914 - The first German Zeppelin raids London.

1927 – Gutzon Borglum begins sculpting the heads of four US presidents on Mt. Rushmore.

1940 - Germany's Adolf Hitler and Italy's Benito Mussolini meet.

1943 – US captures the Solomon Islands in the Pacific.

1957 – Sputnik 1, the first man-made satellite, is launched, beginning the "space race."

1965 – Pope Paul VI arrives in New York, the first Pope ever to visit the US and the Western hemisphere.

1972 - Judge John Sirca imposes a gag order on the Watergate break-in case.

1992 - Mozambique's 16-year civil war ends with the Rome General Peace Accords.

The Somerville Times -

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

level of services."

(A "Yes" vote is for \$250,000. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

\$250,000 FOR PARENT-CHILD PLUS PRO-GRAM (H 4040)

House 131-24, overrode Gov. Healey's veto of \$250,000 (reducing funding from \$4,250,000 to \$4,000,000) in funding for the Parent-Child Plus Program. According to its website, "The goals of this intensive, evidence-based home visiting model are to promote school readiness and academic success by strengthening parent-child verbal interaction and reading and play activities in the home."

"I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary," said Healey in her veto message. "The adjusted funding level proposed here is consistent with the fiscal year 2023 General Appropriations Act and sustains significant expansion to this line-item in recent fiscal years."

(A "Yes" vote is for the \$250,000. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

\$880,000 FOR MASSACHUSETTS SERVICE AL-LIANCE (H 4040)

House 130-24, overrode Gov. Healey's veto of \$880,000 (reducing funding from \$2,280,000 to \$1,400,000) in funding for the Massachusetts Service Alliance. According to its website, the Massachusetts Service Alliance is a "private, nonprofit ... organization, established in 1991, that expands volunteerism and service in Massachusetts. It provides funding, training and support to individuals and organizations, enabling them to tackle pressing issues, strengthen communities, and make our commonwealth a better place to live."

"I am vetoing this item because it is not consistent with my House [budget] ... recommendation," said Healey in her veto message. "This is a passthrough and will not impact core Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development programming."

(A "Yes" vote is for the \$880,000 million. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

SUSPEND RULES TO ALLOW AMENDMENTS TO TAX PACKAGE (H 4104)

Senate 3-33, voting along party lines, rejected a motion to suspend the Senate rule that prohibits amendments from being proposed to the conference committee version of the tax package. Republicans supported rule suspension

while Democrats opposed it.

Supporters of rule suspension said Senate rules allow only a Yes or No vote on the tax package. They argued there are some flaws in the bill and that rule suspension is the only way to allow amendments to be proposed.

Opponents of rule suspension said that suspending the rule would result in hundreds of amendments being proposed to the package and lead to starting tax relief debate all over again. They noted that both Republican members of the conference committee signed off on the bill.

(A"Yes" vote is for rule suspension to allow amendments. A"No" vote is against rule suspension.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

EQUITY IN EDUCATION - What can our business, political and education leaders do differently to connect Black and Latino students to pathways to careers that our thriving life sciences, health, clean tech and other sectors so urgently need to fill?

INCREASE MINIMUM WAGE (H 1925, S 1200)

– The Labor and Workforce Development Committee held a hearing on legislation that would raise the current \$15 minimum hourly wage for workers, including municipal workers, by \$1.25 per year until it reaches \$20 per hour in 2027. Other provisions index the minimum wage to inflation beginning in January 2028; increase the minimum wage for tipped workers from \$6.75 to \$12 by 2027 and then set it at 60 percent of the full minimum wage in future years.

"Increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour has had a tremendously positive impact on hundreds of thousands of working individuals and families in the commonwealth who have seen their take-home pay increase and improve their standard of living," said Senate sponsor Sen. Jason Lewis (D-Winchester). "However, due to high inflation, the buying power of \$15 has been significantly eroded, and it is estimated by the MIT Living Wage Calculator that a single person living in the Greater Boston area would need to earn more than \$22 per hour just to cover the basic necessities of life --and far more to support a family. This is why we need to start phasing in another increase to the minimum wage in Massachusetts."

"We know that working families and individuals are under enormous financial stress with rising inflation and increased costs of housing and living," said House sponsor Rep. Tram Nguyen (D-Andover). "As workers are struggling to meet their basic needs and provide for their families, I am glad to [file] this bill to provide fair wages in our commonwealth."

UNBIASED SUMMARIES IN CHILD REMOVAL CASES (H 182) - The Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities held a hearing on a proposal

that would require the Department of Children and Families (DCF), when considering a child's removal from his or her family, to establish a case review team that produces summaries that do not include demographic and identifying information such as gender, race, ethnicity, disability, geographic location and socioeconomic status.

Sponsor Rep. Joan Meschino (D-Hull) said the bill is designed to prevent discrimination in the child removal processes. "The goal is for DCF to provide a bias-free summary of a child's situation that takes into account safety and risk factors, the family's strengths and opportunities for supportive interventions before removing a child from their home," said Meschino.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"The Green Communities program helps our cities and towns make important investments at the local level to achieve their own climate goals and lower carbon emissions. This moves us forward on our clean energy path and lessens our reliance on volatile fossil fuels, lowering costs and risks for our communities and their residents and businesses." – Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper announcing the awarding of \$3.3 million in Green Communities competitive grants to 27 municipalities across Massachusetts to fund clean energy projects.

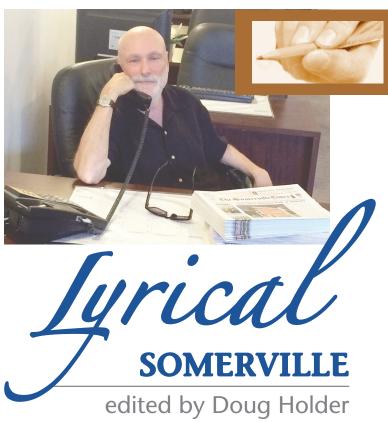
HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

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. During the week of September 25-29, the House met for a total of eight hours and 23 minutes while the Senate met for a total of two hours and 53 minutes.

Mon. Sept. 25	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:49 a.m. Senate 11:09 a.m. to 11:53 a.m.
Tues. Sept. 26	No House session No Senate session
Wed. Sept. 27	House 11:01 a.m. to 5:16 p.m. No Senate session
Thurs. Sept. 28	House 11:03 a.m. to 12:24 p.m. Senate 11:22 a.m. to 1:31 p.m.
Fri. Sept. 29	No House session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

No Senate session



Mary Buchinger is the author of seven collections of poetry; her most recent books are *Navigating the Reach* (Salmon Poetry, 2023) and *Virology* (Lily Poetry Review Books, 2022); *The Book of Shores* is forthcoming. Her work has appeared in *AGNI*, *Maine Review*, *Plume*, *Salamander*, *Salt Hill*,



Seneca Review, and elsewhere. She teaches at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and serves on the board of the New England Poetry Club. Website: www. MaryBuchinger.com.

At Mt. Auburn Cemetery

Sundays I walk across acres of the dead.

Grey tombs arch like eyelids.

Stone angels loom from pedestals, wings weathering to sharpened nibs.

Blue jays quiz the air, insistent,

forage acorns, cache their goods.

A hawk's shriek ricochets overhead and sometimes I feel hunted.

— Mary Buchinger

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

OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Poet Dan Tobin Sees the Dazzle of the Sun in his New Book of Poetry 'The Mansions'

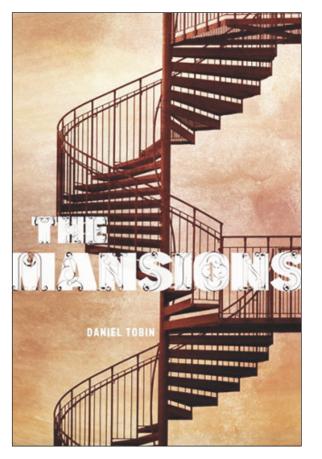
Interview by New England Poetry Club Co- President Doug Holder

I recently caught up with poet Daniel Tobin to discuss his new book of poetry *The Mansions*. From the publisher's website (Four Way Books):

From award-winning poet Daniel Tobin comes The Mansions, an epic trilogy of book-length poems which examines exemplary 20th Century figures Georges Lemaître, Simone Weil, and Teilhard de Chardin, all at the crossroads of science, history, and religion. Capacious in their philosophical explorations, immaculate in their form, stirring in their alchemy of faith and empiricism, each complete section works both autonomously and as part of the whole, building a house that contains many mansions, simulating the dynamic enormity of creation itself - always already entire and yet unfinished, borderless, infinite. Immersed in a time when cataclysmic geopolitical events coincided with revolutionary scientific progress, The Mansions charts a Dantean journey as it confronts the exigencies and contingencies which define modernity: history, religion, our planet's fate, and the purpose of humankind. A fractal symphony of voices, Tobin's tripartite collection represents a staggering literary achievement - a lyric narrative that can hold the totality of the divine and of godlessness, that harmonizes time as change and as eternity, that sees "pendant grapes" as "embodied wine." Its music is the harvest "cutting free the perfectly nurtured bruise-colored fruit, hour / by hour," and its wisdom embraces the transience of all things as well as the transfiguration of the self, that everlasting impermanence: "I see the landscape as it is when I'm not there."

Doug Holder: Ryan Wilson wrote in the preface of your new collection of poetry that after reading it "We may again see deep in our hearts, as children do, the dazzle of the sun." How hard was it for you to get back, or should I say forward, to that childhood sensibility?

Daniel Tobin: Ryan Wilson's insightful, and generous, introduction makes some parallels between Dante's *The Divine Comedy* and *The Mansions* and the echoes structural and otherwise are as I intend. When Dante finally comes back to earth, as it were, from his fictive paradise he sees the world anew. I can't say that *The Mansions* encompasses such a journey, or that I, myself, see the sun with new eyes having written the poem over some fourteen years. What I hope, of course, is that beyond whatever I intend there is something more that the poem of-



fers, some further place in terms of perception that the poem brings the reader. I don't assume that, of course, but I think any poet wants that for the work. I'm immensely gratified that Ryan saw some of that furtherance in the poem.

DH: Your book is an ontological exploration. I heard it took you many years to put it together. Perhaps, at this point of your life, it seemed more germane to finish the book.

DT: The Mansions is the second very long piece I've written. The first was The Narrows, a mural in verse as I call it, and that one took something like seventeen years since I had the kernel of the conception. I'm older now, so it meant a great deal to me to finish the book, which is very much an ontological exploration, as well as an existential one, through the lives it delves into and tries to embody. For whatever reason, I've always been tuned ontologically, not only in poetry but also in my obsessions and ultimate concerns. There is a thread that runs in and around the three "books" of The Mansions, a kind of double helix of couplets. The last contains a phrase I jotted in a notebook when I was something like seventeen or eighteen years old. "All Being Becomes All," which forms an acrostic for the word "Father" in Aramaic (not the Swedish pop group!), to whom Jesus cries out on the cross: "Father, father why have you forsaken me." This material has been with Continued on page 23

The Somerville Times -

HONK! Festival 2023 this weekend CONT. FROM PG 1

7:00-10:00 p.m. outdoors in Union Square Plaza and 8:00-12:00 a.m at The Jungle.

The semi-official Pre-HONK performances return to Union Square.

Friday, October 6

Hoot Pick-Up Band rehearsal, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Dilboy VFW.

Lantern-making workshops, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Hodgkins-Curtin Park, Holland Street between Paulina St. and Simpson Ave. in Somerville. Free and open to the public. People of all ages will join Puppeteers Coop, Spontaneous Celebrations, and Extinction Rebellion to make their own lanterns, and then meet us in the park before parades step off at 6:30 p.m.

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

7:00 – 10:00 p.m., Aeronaut Brewery at 14 Tyler Street, Somerville. This venue is indoors and outdoors.

7:00 - 7:45 p.m.: Yes Ma'am Brass Band

7:50 - 8:35 p.m.: Clamor & Lace Noise Brigade

8:40 - 9:25 p.m.: Undertow Brass Band

7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Bow Market at 1 Bow Market Way, Somerville. This venue is outdoors, open to the public and has free admission.

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.: Emperor Norton's Stationary Marching Band

8:00 – 9:00 p.m.: Young Fellaz Brass Band

Saturday, Oct 7

HONK! in Davis Square: Opening ceremonies at noon in Seven Hills Park. Bands play all afternoon from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. in locations around Davis Square.

Elm Street Interactive Area: 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Elm St. will be closed to cars and turned into a dynamic arena for interactive art making and activism. Please join in, work with the 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, Oct 8

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.

2:30-5:30PM Social Movement Songwriting Workshop

The HONK! Festival will host a movement songwriting workshop on Sunday October 8th in Winthrop Park. Street Theater: We know that folks will need to come late/leave early as other commitments (playing a set with your band, etc.) happen. This workshop is designed such that folks can come and go, so drop by any time.

For a detailed schedule of events, go to: https://honk-fest.org/2023-festival/schedule-2023/. For complete information and continuous updates on this year's HONK! Festival, visit honkfest.org, facebook.com/honkfestival, and twitter.com/honkfest.

Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 22

me a long time.

DH: The book drips with scholarship, and difficult concepts. In your opinion would this book be more likely to be appreciated by a rarefied crowd or the casual reader?

DT: Well, I hope it doesn't "drip," but rides along. There can be some rapids, so to speak, as one moves through the sections, but the concepts and allusions and so forth, are grounded in the lives and in the felt necessity of the quest, both intellectually and emotionally. I don't know what a casual reader of poetry is, to tell you the truth. I go to poems to have my brain re-wired and my emotional, intellectual, and contemplative life enlarged beyond my expectations. That would be as true for Elizabeth Bishop as for T.S. Eliot, or Robert Hayden. Hayden is a good example. Would a "casual reader" go to Hayden's work without accepting the premise that learning something about the Baha'I faith might be required to appreciate the poems fully? Good poems and surely great poems carry the reader along on their music first, but that doesn't mean concepts and forms of knowledge are necessarily obstructive of the poem's music. Of course, I want readers, casual, rarefied and everything in between, but the audience needs to go to the work as well, since poetry can and should make demands on the reader, like all literature that aspires to be something more than entertainment, or merely an underscoring of what the reader already believed before they read the work. As I argued recently in an essay that appeared in the English online journal Berfrois, I try to write for the dead with the expectation that the living will listen.

DH: You write in one poem – and I paraphrase – that we reach for something that we can't penetrate. Throughout the book, I sense the need to have consummation with the world, the universe. I remember, many years ago I experienced that after taking a psychedelic. In essence, I felt I was merging with a tree and becoming

part of it. Can you comment?

DT: Yes, that is true. I have a need try to get beyond the veil of things, and pretty much always have. I think somewhere along the line I made a kind of bargain so that my poetry, hopefully, would be the trace of my spiritual journey, though that doesn't mean "I" have gotten very far myself. Like I said, the poems need to press beyond the individual life of the poet, unless of course you are sufficiently blessed to have both. I'm thinking of Juan de la Cruz, for example, or Faiz Amed Faiz. I wish that for myself, but well, I am a failed mystic I'm afraid. I had one experience like the one you describe and without psychedelics. A rendering of a sort is woven into *The Mansions*, but I'm not comfortable talking about it casually or in print. Some "consummation with the world, with the universe" would be a good phrase, but fleeting and not final.

DH: How did you choose the scientists, etc., that you write about in the collection?

DT: I came across Georges Lemaître watching a PBS special on the history of physics some fourteen years ago. The circumstances of his life – a priest, the first physicist to conceptualize what we now call "the big bang," his life as s soldier in World War I and his activities with the resistance during World War II, fed right into my obsessions. I first read Simone Weil when I was in graduate school. I'm also drawn by the drama of her life, the extremity of her commitment to justice, her refusal to fit in. I first read Teilhard de Chardin when I was in college. Such visionary idealism and optimism, the exact opposite of Weil! Their lives overlap historically, track in somewhat different directions - one might call it ontological conflict - and yet together they create a forward moving confluence of lives. When I was writing From Nothing, I realized the whole design required three "books" and the shape of the whole, and the importance of these lives, came from that realization.

DH: Why should we read your book?

DT: My wife just yesterday directed me to this quotation by Thoreau and asked if I had ever read it. I must have, since I read *Walden* more than once, but it did not come to mind when I was writing *The Mansions*: "The stars are the apexes of what wonderful triangles! What distant and different beings in the various mansions of the universe are contemplating the same one at the same moment!" If that doesn't tell you why to read the book, I probably can't convince you!

Garden

"These designs attributed to God are cuttings made by us, chosen from infinite turns, connections that might be made

by any intelligence, human, non-human, no matter the scale.

throughout space and time..." Let this cutting be morning in the Luxembourg Gardens: They have come by streetcar across the Seine—son, mother, baby Simone who refuses

to be fed, except by bottle, holes cut in the nipple to let solid foods pass. Not yet two. Sickly. This baby cannot survive.

Each day they walk the paths so she breathes the fresher air,

this intricate parterre of flowers and lawn, the central

with its water jet, these balustrades, the marionette

like an unbroken symmetry... And people sitting, passing,

as in a painting by Watteau. Is she looking at the toy boats?

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Bobbie Toner – Real Estate Consultant Bobbietoner@aol.com 857 488 5138

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