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# The Somerville Times

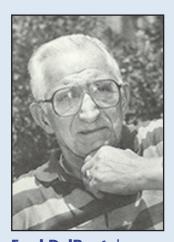


VOL. 8 NO. 41

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

# Inside:



Fred DelPonte's 100th page 3



still on hold

page 5



Pizza for veggie lovers

page 6

# Zoning Board of Appeals approves Clarendon Hill Redevelopment Project



A pre-COVID19 public meeting at City Hall.

#### By Denise Keniston tw:@denisekeniston

The Clarendon Hill Redevelopment Project has been approved by the Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals clearing the way for Somerville's most ambitious affordable housing project in recent years.

Currently, there are 216 worn-down affordable housing units at the Clarendon Hill site. The project proposes 591 total units: 216 affordable housing units, 80 new moderate-income units, and 295 new market rate units.

Ward 7 City Councilor Katjana Ballantyne has supported the project from its inception in 2016. "Somerville desperately needs affordable housing and Clarendon Hill needs to be redeveloped," she says. "It's been four long years bringing it this far. It's a mixture of affordable and market rate housing which Continued on page 4

# Ball Square's Neighborhood Produce open and welcoming online orders

By Anqi Zhang

"It's here and it's epic, folks. It's something we started pre-Covid and we didn't let the pandemic stop us - we're opening a second location in Ball Square!" wrote on the latest Instagram post from Neighborhood Produce, a grocery store located in the community of Sommerville.

The new space is now only available for online orders. From Thursday through Tuesday, customers can pick up between noon and 6:00 p.m. Under the team's efforts, they made the turnaround to one hour, decreased from the 48hour waiting time before.

From household items to vegetables, fruits, dairy, eggs, meat and bulk staples, Neighborhood Produce takes pride in their variety of products. Customers can visit the store and get everything they need to build a meal, the owner and founder Matt Gray noted.

Under the post announcing their opening, comments manifested a sense Continued on page 6



Neighborhood Produce in Ball Square is offering fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, baked goods, and much more via online ordering. — Photo by Bobbie Toner

# ATTN: LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

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# JANINE BALISTRERI INDEPENDENT for CONGRESS



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and from their jobs.



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

For the past 15 years, an October weekend has been the moment when thousands of participants from the Greater Boston area in the USA have enjoyed the HONK! Festival of Activist Street Bands, a raucous celebration of music and community that took Somerville, by storm in 2006. Although the pandemic has made both intimate and spectacular gatherings impossible, they did not want to let a year go by without honoring and activating the HONK! spirit, especially in these times when it is urgent to fight for social justice and to renew our lives with the joy of music and art. HONK!United started on October 5 and will run through October 11. The best way to watch will be on YouTube at youtube.com/watch?v=l2K9XkWIPcc or on their website at honkunited.org/.

Free Bluebikes rides for essential workers: Grocery store and pharmacy workers in Somerville can apply for free 90-day Bluebikes passes at bluebikes.com. The pass will allow for unlimited free Bluebikes rides for essential workers. The program is designed to give essential workers another option to get to

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to local activist and good guy Ben Echevarria. We wish him well. From a great family and a proud Somerville guy. Happy birthday to Mike Buckley, another proud Somerville guy. We wish him the very best. He's a dedicated and good guy. Happy birthday to the matriarch of the Moccias and of the former Victor's Deli, Rosa Moccia. We wish her a very happy birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Kerri Shannon Schaefer, Sue Casazza Smith, Steven Connarton, Phyllis D'Anna, Mary Marshall, Pamela Bono Bromberg, George **Bevans** and **Joe Schragea** very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

\*\*\*\*\*\* The city and MBTA are working to quickly Continued on page 7

# The Somerville Times

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#### The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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### Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of October 7 – October 13 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
	Wednesday October 7	Rain	73°/51°	39%	31%	SSW 11 mph
*	Thursday October 8	Sunny	60°/40°	0%	12%	SW 15 mph
*	Friday October 9	Sunny	59°/47°	1%	10%	W 8 mph
	Saturday October 10	Partly Cloudy	73°/57°	11%	19%	SW 15 mph
	Sunday October 11	Partly Cloudy	65°/43°	19%	17%	NNW 10 mph
	Monday October 12	Partly Cloudy	62°/44°	20%	21%	NNE 8 mph
*	Tuesday October 13	Sunny	65°/49°	21%	8%	SSW 8 mph

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

### TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

#### Response to: A BLM mural in Magoun Square

I applaud the Somerville Community for supporting this important Artistic expression and what it represents. If the city contributed 15k, it was 15k well spent as far as I'm concerned. Cheers to Somerville for having a voice against racial injustice.

#### Scoop says:

In regards to the mural in Magoun Square, most of it has washed away or whatever. Wondering how much money the city spent supposedly out of free cash for police details, DPW workers to set up a perimeter to keep the painters safe. It is amazing that the councilor(s) possibly made an approval of this while monies were defunded from the police department.

#### Response to: Rodent Issues Special Committee proposes updated IPM plan

#### Thanks for 'Listening' says:

Why is it the city 'addresses' rodent problems every few years, but nothing ever changes? How about:

- -admitting the 'rodent free' trash barrels are most definitely not.
- -admitting that baiting the sewers is totally ineffective.
- -No longer allowing contractors to erect porta-potties (we've been looking at one, right in front of the house in my neighborhood for about a year now.), they're unsightly and attract rats.
- -Collect trash daily from parks, bike path, etc. You have people walking dogs and having gatherings in the parks and then the trash, food, and dog feces sits there for days.
- -What happened to the sterilization program, very successful in NYC, that was talked about years ago?
- -What does this even mean?? "When it comes to reporting a chewed barrel and having it replaced, attendees emphasized that related staff will investigate the issue, and give warnings and instructions to the person who should be responsible for it. The ticket will only be issued if the person takes no further steps to address the issue, Silveira added."

#### Ratty rat says:

Who cares about rats? They're out there, but I hardly ever come across them because they're nocturnal and I'm not. What really pisses me off, though, are the squirrels. I wish they'd kill every last one of them. They mess up your garden, chew into your walls, dig up your yard, make noise, etc.

#### Helena Handbasket says:

Poor squirrels.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



# Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Happy 100th birthday dad



On October 5 my would have been 100 years old. He grew up in Somerville when a movie ticket was 15 cents, gas cost 30 cents a gallon, and a

new house was around five grand.

Ferdinando DelPonte, or Fred for short, was born right in the house, on Elmwood St., between Teele and Davis Squares, in 1920. He was the oldest of six with a younger brother and 4 sisters. So, on this momentous occasion, on what would have been my Dad's 100th birthday, I present this remembrance/ tribute to lifelong Somerville resident, my dad, Fred DelPonte.

There were stories about the family dinners where my grandpa threw a loaf of French bread at dad. He ducked and it broke the window in the ... French door. When his father (my grandpa) was out of the state for a while, dad sold the family piano to buy a television set.

At age 20 (1940) he enlisted in the Air Force and was promoted to Technical Sargent. He was stationed in Italy where we still had lots of family. Legend has it that the DelPontes in the hills of the little hillbilly town of Roccasicura were kept warm by surplus US Air Force blankets. They also found a way to cook

up K Rations with meatballs and sauce. Dad utilized the good neighbor policy, and shared some overflow of Uncle Sam's goodwill.

Dad had a few favorite stories he liked to tell. At his Air Force rank, he could ... finagle paper work. He once had Frank Sinatra bumped off of a flight after a USO show because he had been very rude to the staff. Dad did things his way.

He was against motorcycles because as a teenager he had fallen off the back of one. He said he bounced for about half a mile! In 1950 when he was on his way home from his job at the shipyard, his car was stopped and searched the night of The Brinks Robbery.

He once convinced the staff at Fort Devans that he was a Somerville Alderman and got him, me and my brother a chauffeured VIP tour of the base. When we joined the Scouts, dad did too. Imagine being 13 years old, at Scout camp for a week, and your dad comes along? Me and my brother got teased relentlessly by some of our wise guy fellow scouts. Dad took no crap though. He gave them garbage detail! He also did a few years as an usher at St. Clements Church strictly for the delicious free breakfasts in the Rectory. During mass he was known to playfully "tap" people he knew with the collection basket.

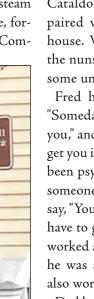
In the 60's and 70's dad hung around a



Joey, Fred, Gerry, Christine and me, 1975.

lot of the "gin mills" in Davis Square, like Pat Connelly's, The Coronet, (Currently Redbones) and The Cadillac. It was from hanging around in those joints that dad brought home merchandise that as he said "fell off the truck." Items like guitars, an accordion, a violin, clothes, boots and tools. I remember him bringing home 20 lb. hunks of cheese and other bulk foods. Mom didn't like the ill begotten stuff he'd come home with. I know where I inherited the "I love junk" gene.

Fred DelPonte worked as the chief power plant engineer and ran the steam boilers at WR Grace in Cambridge, formerly Dewey and Almy Chemical Com-



DelPonte Square on Elmwood St, across from the

pany, for 38 years. He loved his job and was commended often. One of the fringe benefits of that job were huge rolls of plastic wrap and aluminum foil and big, heavy, empty metal barrels that we used for household trash. I had to roll those possibly once toxic material filled barrels in and out for years.

Dad really took advantage of SWAG... stuff we all get. At work, dad made a steel ice chopper and a plexiglass ice scrapper that we still have. Dad also worked part time as a limo driver for Cataldo Funeral Home, and he repaired watches in a workshop in our house. We still have a few watches of the nuns from St. Clements school and some uncles that he never got to.

Fred had some favorite sayings like, "Someday the roof is going to fall in on you," and "Jimmy, your mouth is going to get you in a lot of trouble!" He must have been psychic! If he was telling me about someone who passed away, he would say, "You know who cashed in?" Then I'd have to guess until he told me. Dad also worked at The Somerville Theatre when he was a teenager. Both my son and I also worked there.

Dad had friends from childhood that he kept close throughout his life. He grew up with beloved Somerville educator Dr. David W Jones. Dad, my Uncle Sal and Dr. Jones, or "Wendy" as they called him were golf buddies. Continued on page 12

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

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Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

### **LEGAL NOTICE**



SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY 30 Memorial Road Somerville, Massachusetts 02145 Telephone (617) 625-1152 Fax (617) 628-7057 TDD (617) 628-8889

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

This notice is to inform you that the Somerville Housing Authority (SHA)'s waiting list for the Standard Federal Family Public Housing for the one (1) waiting list will remain **CLOSED** until **October 15, 2021**.

The SHA will continue accepting EMERGENCY applications for the State and Federal Family Public Housing

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

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

10/7/20 The Somerville Times

# By Jim Clark

# A luxury snooze behind the wheel

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to the Mercedes-Benz of Boston dealership on McGrath Hwy, in the early morning hours of last Thursday for a check condition of a male party in a vehicle located in the parking lot.

Up arrival, police made contact with a delivery driver, who pointed out a man sitting inside one of the dealership's Mercedes.

The officers approached the vehicle and asked man, later identified as Tyler Baker, if he was all right and if this was his car.

Baker reportedly replied that it was not his vehicle. He was then ordered out of the vehicle, placed into handcuffs, and pat frisked.

Officers asked Baker if he worked at Mercedes and he replied that he did not. When they asked him why he was in the vehicle he stated that he "was around" and "I'm here". They asked him to further clarify what that meant, but he reportedly became uncooperative.

Inside of the vehicle various items had been tossed around. As the officers waited for the transport wagon, Baker bent over and a large amount of change fell out of his pocket while stating, "Would you look at that".

The officers asked Baker if the money was his and if he wanted them to pick it up so he could have it. He refused to answer. The change was collected and entered into evidence.

Baker was transported to Somerville Police headquarters and booked in the usual manner on a charge of misdemeanor nighttime breaking and entering of a vehicle or boat.

# **Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210**

**Arrests**:

Steven Andrade, September 30, 10:23 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on warrant charges of carrying a firearm with ammunition, improper storage of a firearm, possession of a firearm without FID card, distribution of a class D drug, carrying a firearm without a license, and possession of ammunition without FID card.

Marvin Vivas-Miguel, October 1, 1:45 a.m., arrested at Glen St. on multiple warrant charges of possession of a class B drug and distribution of a class B drug.

Tyler Baker, October 1, 4:00 a.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on a charge of misdemeanor nighttime breaking and entering of a vehicle or boat.

Cong Nguyen, of Revere,

October 2, 6:37 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on charges of larceny under \$1200 and furnishing a false ID, and on a warrant charge of shoplifting by asportation.

#### Zoning Board of Appeals approves Clarendon Hill Redevelopment **Project** CONT. FROM PG 1

is so different from the 1970's model where affordable housing was kept separate. Clarendon is a "social model" as well as an economic one. I think mixing affordable housing and market rate housing is going to prove extremely successful. This will mitigate some of the gentrification of Somerville."

Clarendon Hill has had a rough and tumble past. It was initially built in 1948 for returning WWII veterans, but over the decades it's been neglected and underfunded. Public perception has been marred by an evictions scandal in 2013, a stabbing death this April, prostitution, and drug busts.

Jess Turner of Clarendon Residents Unite has worked

with city officials since 2016 to make the redevelopment a reality. "We couldn't be more excited to have this move forward," says Turner, "Clarendon residents have fought hard for years to ensure the project considers every detail and that every Clarendon family is protected throughout the process. The Zoning Board approval is another leap forward for housing justice and a great achievement, not just for Clarendon families, but for our neighbors and future families in West Somerville as well," she said, adding, "We are grateful for the overwhelming community support and opportunity for a safer, newer place to live. We are proud to continue to call

Somerville our home." The redevelopment, which is being managed by the Preser-

vation of Affordable Housing (POAH), Somerville Housing Authority, the Somerville Community Corporation, and Redgate Residential, has faced several financial challenges and setbacks that have delayed the timeline. Senior Vice President of Real Estate Development for POAH, Cory Mian, speaks to the financial setbacks. She says, "The redevelopment of the Clarendon Hill property is part of the state's initiative called the Partnership to Expand Housing Opportunity. The program is providing many of the funds for the redevelopment of the site and is predicated on the introduction of a market-rate housing component to contribute to the reconstruction of the state affordable housing units." Continuing, she says, "The State's Department of Housing and Community Development is also s primary funder for the relocation. Beyond those sources, we continue to work with public and private lend-

ers and investors, including the

City of Somerville, to put in

place the necessary funding for

the redevelopment."



along with 34 townhomes.

The project includes four separate buildings, seven to ten stories high, and townhomes three stories high. Optimistic assessments predict it will likely take five years to complete. In total, the project includes 591 homes, 368 parking spaces, three street connections, 16,000 sf Central Park, 241 new trees, and all native plantings. Developer Gate Residential (who also developed Maxwell's Green on Lowell Street) looks forward to getting started.

"We look forward to working with our partners and building on our experience with Maxwell's Green to advance a

mixed-income development that will benefit the current residents, the surrounding neighborhood and the City of Somerville," said Greg Bialecki, a principal at Gate Residential, a multifaceted real estate investment and development firm specializing in the multifamily sector.

The Clarendon Hill Redevelopment project is slated to begin next summer. Every resident currently residing in the affordable housing units will be relocated and offered a unit in one of the new buildings. Current residents will be relocated as soon as the project gets underway in August of 2021.



The Clarendon Hill developer, Gate Residential, also developed Maxwell's Green on Lowell Street with 184 luxury apartments.

# Somerville's Phase 3 Step 2 reopening remains on hold

With broad scientific consensus pointing to a high risk of virus transmission at large gatherings, especially those indoors in poorly ventilated spaces, Somerville will take a more cautious approach to Phase 3 Step 2. Businesses and activities in this step will not be reopening on the state's schedule. Local officials will continue to review the situation and provide updates. In Somerville, indoor and outdoor gatherings remain limited to no more than 10 persons until further notice, unless specifically permitted in city activity-specific guidelines. Businesses and activities in the

state's Phase 3 Step 2 reopening include indoor and outdoor performance venues, arcades and other indoor and outdoor recreation businesses, and retail fitting rooms. Capacity increases announced for gyms and other Phase 3 Step 2 businesses will also not move forward at this time in Somerville.

Along with a handful of other municipalities including Boston and Framingham, Somerville will also not be moving forward at this time with new restaurant guidelines and capacity increases announced in September, including an increase in the number of people allowed to sit at a table and the use of bar seating within restaurants, reusable menus, and shared condiment dispensers.

At each step of reopening, Somerville has carefully reviewed all guidelines in coordination with area experts, and with local proprietors as well where possible, to determine the safest possible standards to protect the staff, customers, and broader community. The intention is both to slow the spread of the virus and ensure a sustainable, long-term reopening to avoid costly reclosures for our local businesses.

For more information and



regular COVID-19 updates, visit www.somervillema.gov/ coronavirus and sign up for city alerts at www.somervillema.gov/Alerts. We urge you to

sign up for every alert method you are able to receive: phone call, text, email. Also follow FB.com/SomervilleCity and @ SomervilleCity.

## Gilman Square Community Planning Update Meeting, October 7

Ward Councilors, City staff, and the Gilman Square Neighborhood Association will be holding a virtual meeting on Wednesday, October 7, to present conceptual streetscape designs and roadway improvements for the Gilman Square area. The meeting will run from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and interested parties can register to attend it at http://bit. ly/GilmanSqMeeting.

The planning process aims to give the community the ability to prepare for a future in the Gilman area built around the soon-to-be-constructed MBTA station. This work follows on the Gilman Square Station Area Plan and new zoning that have already been approved. To learn more about this ongoing work, visit https://somervoice.somervillema.gov/ gilman-square-plan-implementation



# Dorothy's Corner By Dorothy DIMARZO



#### Squash, Plain & Simple

I really look forward to the fall season every year. However, I always think it comes on too fast, especially since I was just getting used to the summer weather. But I always think that about every other season too.

Apple picking, apple cider, cider donuts, foliage, the cool, crisp air, comfort food, and snuggling under a down blanket are just a few things I look forward to. Oh yes, back to comfort food like hearty stews, soups, casseroles, and roasts, etc.

One of the best accompaniments to go with most of the fore mentioned dishes, squash! There are many varieties of these delicious gourds. The ones I'm covering here are the butternut, acorn, turban, and the delicata varieties.

One of the great advantages of having squash on hand is if you store it properly, it can last for months! For more detailed information about storing all types of squash, along with a myriad of other interesting information, go to whatscookingameri-

I find to get the best flavor out of any vegetable is roasting, and squash is no exception. Regardless of serving the squash as a side or make soup from it, I always roast it with olive oil, salt, and pepper.

If I'm not making a butternut squash soup, I usually dice it up and roast it with purple onions and drizzle a tahini sauce over it and finish with a sprinkle of za'atar.

Another squash I look forward to eating is the acorn squash. I cut it in half, clean it out, add olive oil, salt, and pepper and roast it. In the meantime, I



make a brown rice and add the ground turkey mixture with apples, cranberries, thyme, and walnuts, then stuff it into the roasted squash. A fantastic and satisfying dinner it is.

The delicata squash makes a really nice presentation of color since the skin doesn't need to be peeled. A really nice pale yellow with hints or orange and green stripes on its outer skin. Slice into half-moons or a full circle. I use a cookie cutter to remove the seeds once it's sliced. Roast, then drizzle with an agrodolce sauce. Great with pork chops or roasted chicken.

And finally, the turban squash. I find it makes for a fantastic soup. Very creamy without all the added fat. Stay tuned for that recipe. But for now, here's a link to the butternut squash I shared in the past: https://www.thesomervilletimes.com/archives/66798.

If you're interested adding the agrodolce sauce on the delicata squash, here's a link to it: https://www. thesomervilletimes.com/archives/101805.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and eat plenty of squash.

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

# Veggie Crust meatless pizza shop kicks it up a notch

By Denise Keniston tw:@denisekeniston

Veggie Crust's neon "OPEN" sign welcomes you past the restaurant's kitschy exterior and into an aromatic world of Indian culinary tradition and creativity. Here pizza is the name of the game.

You'll find classic pizza with robust Indian flavors, as well as any sauce and topping combination you can imagine, along with some traditional flavors Americans are used to, like spinach and feta or cheese with red sauce! You may even run into something completely off the map, like a Falafel pizza! All pizzas are vegetarian, and most can be made vegan with slight tweaks.

Co-owner, Prabhjot Kaur says her goal is to infuse Indian flavors into every pie. "Our goal is to offer delicious traditional flavors along with more American-style toppings that infuse the flavors directly into the pizza while it's being baked," she says.

"We have traditional Indian pizzas and many other pizzas that are our own creations that our Somerville customers love. They keep coming back. We have a lot of repeat customers."

The Paneer Tikka Masala pizza is the perfect blend of paneer, sauce, onions and cilantro, and its sister pie, the Paneer Tikka Barbecue pizza, delights with the chef's special barbeque sauce, marinated paneer, red onion, and fresh cilantro.

The flavorful Cauliflower Manchurian pizza with spiced cauliflower, ginger, garlic, Manchurian sauce, mozzarella or vegan mozzarella, and cilantro, and the Falafel pizza with homemade falafel, red onion, fresh tomato, homemade vegan garlic aioli, mozzarella or vegan mozzarella, and cilantro both top our list.

"Our menu is completely meatless," says Kaur. "We are very traditional and we don't believe in eating anything that was killed exclusively for humans to eat. That is the philosophy behind



Veggie Crust's kitschy exterior leads you into a world of Indian spices and aromas. Veggie Crust is known for its pizzas, but they also offer dosa, panini, pasta, salads, and vegan ice cream. - Photos by Riann Keniston-Hale

deeply sentimental and poignant

feeling that we associate with

the unique smells of our coun-

try. These fragrances celebrate

the culture of our country - its

why we're meatless. We are strict vegetarians so that's what you'll find here at Veggie Crust."

Aditya Gidh and Leandra Menezes (hangry\_tummy on Instagram) frequent Veggie Crust once a week or so. On this night they split a Falafel pizza and a giant Mysore Masala dosa. They "enjoy the flavors of home" and have explored "many things on the menu."

"We first tried the pizzas from Veggie Crust at a birthday celebration and we were awestruck with the interesting combinations," says Adi. "Paneer Tikka Masala pizza, Pav Bhaji pizza and Falafel pizza were such distinctively textured classics offering a nice fusion between Indian flavors on a pie. The pizzas here have a unique blend of flavors to entice your taste buds especially with the different combinations available. We also love the different types of dosas here with Mysore Masala dosa being one of our favorites."

Customers can get almost every menu item made vegan (vegan can order your crust gluten-free is well-known for its aromas and ery menu item made vegan (vegan dits food."

Kaur says the Veggie Crust "menu is for everyone." Indian customers come here for the traditional food, but others come for something flavorful

customers come here for the traditional food, but others come for something flavorful and unique that meets their dietary preferences. Veggie Crust is located at 445 Somerville Ave. They deliver within a two-mile radius. Enjoy!



whole wheat thin crust. To the front: ½ Falafel pizza and ½ Broccoli, Spinach, Feta pizza on traditional crust.



Instagram foodies Aditya Gidh and Leandra Menezes dig into a Mysore Masala dosa and Falafel pizza. They recommend Veggie Crust to their followers.

# Ball Square's Neighborhood Produce CONT. F

of community Neighborhood Produce has been building since the founding of their first store in Winter Hill in 2017. Seventy-five percent of the opening funds were collected from neighbors and friends through a campaign at that time.

Targeting itself as "a neighborhood market that you can actually do your grocery shopping," Gray said the store was "kind of the idea to get away from ordering everything online, and kind of getting back to the neighborhood shopping for your groceries in a place where people actually know you."

You can see Neighborhood Produce's philosophy of building connections and community in the details. Gray envisioned a bulk section for customers to self-serve themselves when designing the new space in Ball Square. Aiming to reduce plastic waste, Gray expected the store to be a place without plastic bags at all. The plan has yet to be realized due to the pandemic, but is still being arranged.

Out of such concern for the community and the environment, Neighborhood Produce collaborates with a bunch of small local organizations, including Elizabeth Peabody House, a non-profit organization in Somerville, and Food Link MA, a food rescue organization. They make donations and reduce food waste. "We compost anything that we can't

of community Neighborhood envisioned a bulk section for donate," Gray said. "So as far as Produce has been building since customers to self-serve them-selves when designing the new in Winter Hill in 2017. Seven-space in Ball Square. Aiming waste stream."

CONT. FROM PG 1

Although the online operation exceeded Gray's expectations, their belief in building community is still blossoming. "My wife and I, we live in the neighborhood of our first store in Winter Hill, so we've really gotten to know everybody that lives there," Gray said. "We can already tell the same things are happening here at Ball Square already, meeting everybody in the neighborhood."

Neighborhood Produce is located at 691 Broadway in Somerville. Visit them online at https://neighborhoodproduce.square.site/.



## **COMMENTARY**

# SIGNS OF THE TIMES

**Illustrated by Jim Clark** 



## **Our View Of The Times**

Freedom of speech isn't always so free, is it?



If there's one thing that most Americans cherish and revere it's our freedom to express ourselves in our political and social opinions, and to even openly protest when we disagree so strongly about various issues that confront us – peaceful protest, of course.

While this holds true for all of us as individuals, the question looms as to whether or not leaders of cities, states,

and other governmental entities should back one side or another in social or political movements. Should they be taking sides or should they remain neutral?

Of special concern to some is the financial support that is sometimes granted in support of such movements. Not all of us may agree on any given issue that gains support from those who are charged with spending these funds. Even when a majority of citizens agree on supporting something, there will practically always be dissenters who resent seeing their hard-earned monies spent in support of something they feel should be privately funded.

So, it is up to our civic leaders to decide whether or not funding a socio-political movement is an appropriate action to be taken. Is neutrality the way to go or is it

important to take a stand on one side or the other on a particular issue.

Protest and shedding light on social ills is a time-honored tradition in our country. It has affected important change throughout our history. Notably, civil rights and Vietnam in the 60's. But should public funding be a part of the process?

It seems like a question far above our pay grade.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

improve bus service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Route 86 bus, which travels on the western portion of Washington Street in Somerville, has sustained high ridership throughout the coronavirus emergency. To build safer facilities for all users and better meet current public health needs, city and MBTA staff have developed plans for a pilot project that includes: New bus-priority lanes that let buses bypass waiting traffic at busy intersections. Protected bike lanes along sections of the corridor. Narrowed travel lanes to deter speeding and improve safety for all road users. This project could repurpose up to 75 on-street parking spaces for the duration of the pilot, which is a little more than half the available inventory in that section of Washington Street. City staff will develop a final plan based on feedback from community stakeholders. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7, at 6:30 p.m. on the GoTo-Meeting webinar platform. Learn more and register for the meeting at https:// somervoice.somervillema.gov/quickbuild-bus-lanes

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

On Wednesday, October 14 at 6:00 p.m., Lesley University will host a vir-

tual discussion with insect ecologist Dr. Amy Mertl, a Somerville resident, on urban pollinators, why they matter, why they are in trouble and what can be done to conserve them. Mertl, a Lesley professor, has studied insects from the Amazonian rainforests to Cambridge's Mount Auburn Cemetery and most recently the wilds of Somerville. Besides habitat loss, pesticide use and climate change, which affect bugs worldwide, urban non-native plants and "tidy" lawns can diminish the local pollinator population. Mertl says urbanites, even those with tiny lawns, can do a number of easy things to protect a diverse group of pollinators, such as letting lawns grow, avoiding pesticides and planting native flowers in the ground or in pots. Mertl will share more information and answer questions during the lecture, which will take place on Zoom as part of Lesley's Campus Sustainability Week. Event link: https://lesley.edu/events/virtual-campus-sustainability-week-conserving-urban-pollinators.

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

As the weather gets colder, tents and outdoor heaters may be cropping up on Somerville streets as local restaurants dig in to continue outdoor dining during

the cooler weather. The recent expansion of outdoor dining in Somerville in response to the pandemic had been scheduled to end November 1, but it will now be allowed to continue **through December 31, 2021**, weather and safety permitting.

Like everything else, this year will look a little different. The 25th Annual Somerville 5K Road Race will be held over the long weekend of Friday, October 9 - Monday, October 12 with a virtual twist; you choose your exercise. Run, walk, bike or hike, you've got it covered. Choose your preferred method and go alone or gather your family or even your dog. Feel good and do good together. For the course, the world is your oyster and the choice is yours. Need to be inspired? Routes will be communicated soon! To register for the race, go to: https:// runsignup.com/Race/MA/Somerville/ Somerville5KDetourRace.

If you are not **registered to vote**, or need to update your address or party affiliation, you have until **Saturday**, **October 24**, to do so. Visit the city website at www.somervillema.gov/elections or the state website at www.sec.state.ma.us/

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

ele/eleifv/howreg.htm to learn more about your options for registering. October 28 is the last day for your vote by mail application to be received by the Elections Office.

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

**#WearAMask** to protect your friends and family. Wear one for the people in your community you don't know you're connected to: the friend of a friend, the elderly neighbor, the person with an underlying condition who shops at your grocery store.

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

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

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

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

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

Support your neighbors through the Somerville Cares Continued on page 11

# **FUN & GAMES**

# Ms. Cam's

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#751

- 1. How many rooms are in the board game Clue?
- 7. When did Burger King open their first location?
- 2. Which singer is a godmother to Elton John's two sons?
- 8. What Smashing Pumpkins song was originally done by Fleetwood Mac?
- 3. What is located on the most eastern point of the continental United States?
- 9. Who played Diane Chambers on the TV show Cheers?
- 4. How many acres in a square mile?
- 10. In *Star Trek*, what was Dr. Leonard Mc-Coy's nickname?
- 5. What is the most populated city in New England?
- 11. In what African country were parts of Star Wars filmed?
- 6. What academy is located on the high west bank of New York's Hudson River?
- 12. U2's Angel of Harlem was written about what singer?

Answers on page 14

#### SUDOKU American Standard FREE! WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE! SAVE \$1,500 ✓ Backed by American Standard's 140 years of experience ✓ Ultra low entry for easy entering & exiting ✓ Patented Quick Drain® Technology Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard ′ 44 Hydrotherapy jets for an invigorating massage 866-612-7490 A PAYED 3 7 5 9 8 6 4 6 9 4 3 6 5 7 8 2 3 1 6

© StatePoint Media

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

#### The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- 1. Of all the words in the English language, the word "set" has the most definitions.
- 2. A bolt of lighting can strike the earth with a force as great as 100 million volts.

#### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THE 1970s

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Muscular contraction
- 6. D.C. mover and shaker
- 9. "That was close!"
- 13. Blood circulation organ
- 14. FEMA provisions, e.g.
- 15. Not bob, to a boxer
- 16. Like a whistle?
- 17. UN labor org.
- 18. Speck in the ocean
- 19. Fallen South Vietnamese capital
- 21. War movie and Oscar-winner
- 23. Once around
- 24. Hippocrates' promise
- 25. Ribonucleic acid
- 28. Bakery unit
- 30. Foliage vein
- 35. In fine fettle
- 37. Scoop or skinny
- 39. Nephew's sister
- 40. "Metamorphoses" poet
- 41. ABBA's genre
- 43. Thailand money
- 44. Temporarily ban
- 46. Way to fry
- 47. Jamie Fraser of "Outlander"
- $48.\, "The \ Gods \ Themselves" \ author$
- 50. Romanov ruler
- 52. Give it a go
- 53. It prevents objectivity
- 55. Brewed beverage
- 57. First U.S. space station
- 60. Mr. Jefferson
- 63. Nest for an eagle
- 64. Between Fla. and Miss.
- 66. Cold cream brand
- 68. Does like some coffee makers
- 69. Tasseled hat
- 70. Not snail mail
- 71. Back talk
- 71. Dack talk
  72. Nicklaus' peg
- 73. Smartly dressed

#### DOWN

- 1. Anatomical pouch
  2. Plural of #6 Across
- 2. Plural of #6 Across3. \_\_\_\_\_ 51, Nevada

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8			9	10	11	12
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
	19				20			21	22					
			23				24							
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40					41				42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
	57	58	59					60				61	62	
63						64	65			66				67
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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

\*Savings shown over aggregated single item base p Standard S&H applies. ©2020 Omaha Steaks, Inc.

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4. "\_\_\_way to Heaven"

5. Feed beet

6. Some have a high tolerance for it

7. 1072

7. 1973 \_\_\_\_ crisis

8. Oliver Sacks' "Awakenings" drug

9. Boll weevil, e.g.

10. Saintly sign

11. Like never-losing Steven

12. Kind of nurse

15. Not outside

20. Face about

20. Egg-shaped

22. Cash dispenser

24. Compensating equivalents

25. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"

25. "The Mary Tyler Moore spin-off

26. Center of a church, pl.

27. Defendant's excuse

29. Black tropical cuckoo

31. "I call first \_\_\_\_\_!"32. Undergo a chemical reaction

33. Blood of the Greek gods

34. First Lady, familiarly

36. Dutch export

38. South American wood sorrels

42. Talk like Demosthenes

45. Paso \_\_\_\_, CA

49. By means of

51. Go back into business

54. Behind a stern

56. Pleasant odor

57. Serum, pl.

58. Cheryl Ladd on "Charlie's Angels"

59. Golfer's dread

60. Fixed look

61. Flying biter

62. Blue pencil mark

63. Internet pop-ups65. "Enter the Dragon" star

67. "Rocky" star's nickname

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

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

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

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



Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

#### **OBITUARY**

#### 1/16/1931 – 9/29/2020 COHEN, Harold



Harold Cohen - of Salem, MA and Boca Raton, FL, formerly of Swampscott and Nantucket, MA, entered into rest on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 surrounded by his family, at the age of 89. Beloved husband of the late Janice (Samuelson) Cohen. Devoted father of Jill & Tom Bloom of Hollywood, FL, Beth & Peter Shribman of Swampscott, MA, Linda & Steven Weinstein of Marblehead, MA, and Brian & Michele Cohen of Marblehead MA. Cherished grandfather of Jeremy & Sharlene Weber, Ross & Ari Weber, Cory Weber, Randy Weber, Danny & Laura Shribman, Nikki & Doug Lutin, Katie & Mark O'Shea, Samantha & Zach Weiss, Tim Weinstein, Karly Cohen, Jake Cohen, Jessica Cohen, and the late Charlie Madyson Weber. Treasured great-grandfather to Ava Weber, Tyler Weber, Harry Shribman, Benny Shribman, Lizzie Shribman, Kelsey Lutin, Jake Lutin, Nathan Weber and William O'Shea. The loving brother of Gertrude Gilman, the late James Cohen and the late Melvin Cohen. Dear son of the late Samuel and Minnie (Goldstein) Cohen.

Harold was born on January 16, 1931 and grew up in Chelsea, MA. After graduating from Cushing Academy in 1948, he attended the Business School at Indiana University. While at IU, Harold and his Pi Lambda Phi fraternity brothers rode in the first Little 500 bicycle race and set the pole position. Upon his graduation in 1952, he married his college sweetheart, Janice Samuelson, and whisked her off to Germany, where he served in the army for the next two years. When his tour was up, the young couple returned to New England, ultimately settling in Swampscott, MA to raise their family. In 1956, along with his brother Melvin, Harold purchased Prospect Lum-

ber on McGrath Highway in Somerville, MA and renamed it Somerville Lumber. The business grew into a chain of 10 stores throughout the 70s and 80s, reaching the pinnacle of its success in 1981 when the National Home Retailers Association named it the Home Center of the Year.

Harold was a dedicated member of Temple Israel (later Congregation Shirat Hayam in Swampscott), where he served on the Board and was an active member of the temple Brotherhood. Harold was extraordinarily philanthropic; he donated generously to many charitable causes, including Congregation Shirat Hayam, The MS society, MGH, Dana Farber, the Special Olympics, and Israel Bonds, who honored him in Boca Raton, Florida for his work on their behalf in 2015. He and his late wife Janice funded college scholarships for students in multiple communities close to their hearts, including Chelsea, Somerville, Swampscott and even as far as Whitwall, Tennessee, after a documentary about the Holocaust education project at the Whitwall Middle School inspired them to visit. Harold and Janice also set up a scholarship program for the families of former Somerville Lumber employees, which awarded grants through 2019.

Without question, Harold believed that his greatest achievement was his closeknit, ever-growing family. He cherished time spent with them during holidays and family celebrations, and he loved nothing more than sitting on a cold, wet, bleacher seat, watching a child, grandchild or great-grandchild play with a ball or a puck.

Due to safety regulations imposed by the coronavirus pandemic, burial was private.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Harold's memory to The Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, National Headquarters, 6520 N. Andrews Ave Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-2132, https:// msfocus.org/Donate.aspx or to The Mass General Fund, Mass General Development Office, 125 Nashua Street, Suite 540 Boston, MA 02114-1101, <a href="https://giving.massgen-">https://giving.massgen-</a> eral.org/mgh-fund/donate/.

For more information or to register in the online guestbook, please visit www.stanetskyhymansonsalem.com.

#### **OBITUARY**

#### Joey L. Marano



Joey L. Marano of Norfolk formerly of Somerville, October 2, 2020.

Beloved husband of Lori Marano. Dear Son of Pasquale and Elizabeth Marano. Loving father of Justin and Amanda Berneburg of Norfolk. Devoted brother of Louis Marano and his wife Jennifer of Tewksbury. Cherished uncle of Brooke and Sarah Marano.

Also survived by many Brothers and Sisters in Public Safety.

Funeral procession from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville, Wednesday morning at 9:15, followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Ignatius Church, Chestnut Hill at 10:00. Relatives and friends invited. Calling hours

Tuesday, 3:30 – 8:00.

There will be a Firefighter and police walk through at 3:00

Interment private.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Joey's memory to the Somerville Firefighter's Scholarship Fund, Federal Credit Union, 266 Broadway Somerville, MA 02145.

Joey was a Somerville Fire fighter and Paramedic, Boston College Police Officer and Foxboro Police Officer, he will be truly missed by all who knew him.

In Memoriam: Donald and Patricia Norton

Can't believe it has been a year already since God called you and Patty home. Your time and work here on earth is gone. Memories of your life and love shine brightly from above. As we look at the stars at night, we know those are your smiles we see through the light. Remembering you today and always!

## Follow-up meetings for Somerville **Arts Community scheduled**

As a follow-up to an Arts Community Town Hall held in September, two additional virtual meetings have been scheduled to discuss issues related to Somerville's arts and culture community.

The first meeting will be held Wednesday, October 28, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss what should be included in the City of Somerville's cultural plan. The second meeting will be held Tuesday, December 8, at 6:30 p.m. to provide updates on Somerville Arts Council grant programs, COVID-19 reopening plans, and progress on the city's cultural plan.



The meetings will be hosted on the Zoom online meeting platform and livestreamed on YouTube and City Cable TV, and those who prefer can also call into the meeting from any phone (no computer or smartphone needed). Visit www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall at the start time of the meeting to join live or get call-in information. Call-in information will also be available on the day of each meeting on City Cable (channel 13 on RCN, channel 22 on Comcast) or by calling 311. Repeat showings of recordings of the meetings will be aired on City Cable TV and available at www.youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV.;

Both meetings will be captioned and will have live interpretation into Spanish. Interpretation into Portuguese, Haitian Creole, and Nepali can be provided by request. If you're unable to attend the meeting live but would still like us to answer your questions, you can submit them ahead of time at www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall.

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact Nency Salamoun, at 617-625-6600 x2323 or NSalamoun@somervillema.gov.

#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

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



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on <u>Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:45pm</u> 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 Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public meeting and hearings will be conducted via remote participation.

#### **TO USE A COMPUTER**

Registration URL: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7782818700112349710

Webinar ID: 140-249-579

#### **TO CALL IN**

Phone #: +1 (562) 247-8422 Access code: 567-490-798

**DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS (PUBLIC HEARINGS)** 

#### HPC.ALT 2020.38 - 145 Central Street

Applicant: Josh Safdie
Owner: same as applicant
Extend decorative wood fence.

DETERMINATIONS OF "HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT" (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS) (NOT public hearings)

#### HPC.DMO 2020.21 – 211 Holland Street

Applicant: Silva Realty 8, LLC Owner: same as applicant Demolish principal structure

#### HPC.DMO 2020.22 – 213 Holland Street

Applicant: Silva Realty 8, LLC Owner: same as applicant Demolish principal structure

#### HPC.DMO 2020.23 – 872 Broadway

Applicant: Stephen Cafferky Owner: Elan Sassoon Demolish principal structure

DETERMINATIONS OF "PREFERABLY PRESERVED" (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS) (Public Hearings)

#### HPC.DMO 2020.19 – 24 Webster Avenue

Applicant: The 24 Webster Building Trust Owner: same as applicant Demolish principal structure

#### HPC.DMO 2020.20 – 13 Clyde Street

Applicant: Scott Zink Owner: Clyde St, LLC / Scott Zink Demolish principal structure

As 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 <a href="https://distoric@somervillema.gov">historic@somervillema.gov</a> to inquire if specific cases will be heard. <a href="https://distoric@somervillema.gov">Continued cases will not be re-advertised</a>. Interested persons may provide public comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the public hearing or via e-mail to <a href="https://distoric@somervillema.gov">historic@somervillema.gov</a>. All emailed comments <a href="must">must</a> be received <a href="https://distoric@somervillema.gov">hy NOON</a>, one week prior to the date of the HPC meeting.

9/30/20, 10/7/20 The Somerville Times



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

Web: www.sha-web.org

#### ADVERTISEMENT

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority the Awarding Authority, invites quotes from Vendors for the Elderly 667-4, Development for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by SHA Modernization Department

Quotes are subject M.G.L. c.30  $\S$  39M & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149  $\S$ 826 to 27H inclusive.

The work is estimated to cost \$ 49,000.00

Quote packages will be available after 11:00AM on Thursday, October 8th, 2020. Please email Travis Panzini at <a href="mailto:travisp@sha-web.org">travisp@sha-web.org</a> to request a quote package.

Quotes must be received no later than 2:00PM on Thursday, October 22nd, 2020 by preferred method of email to <a href="mailto:travisp@sha-web.org">travisp@sha-web.org</a>.

Questions should be directed to Travis Panzini at 617-625-1152 x 330  $\,$ 

9/30//20, 10/7/20 The Somerville Times



#### City of Somerville PLANNING BOARD

City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

#### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

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

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

Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/788149036425885456

Webinar ID: 449-700-339

TO CALL IN

Phone number: +1 (562) 247-8321 Access code: 215-369-213

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

#### (PB 2017-05-R2-09/20)

455 Grand Union Boulevard (Block 5B) - Applicant PUMA North America Inc. proposes to construct rooftop signage in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District (ASMD) under \$6.4.14 as a revision to a Special Permit with Site Plan Review-A (SPSR-A).

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

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

9/30/20, 10/7/20 The Somerville Times



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

Web: www.sha-web.org

#### ADVERTISEMENT

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority invites Quotes from contractors to complete the Capen Court HVAC Controls Upgrades at 1 Capen Court in Somerville, MA.

Quotes are subject to M.G.L. c.30 and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

A walkthrough will be held at 10:00AM on Thursday, October 15th, 2020.

Quote packages will be available Thursday, October 8th, 2020. Please email Travis Panzini at <u>travisp@sha-web.org</u> to request a quote package.

Quotes must be received no later than **2:00PM on Thursday, October 22nd, 2020** by preferred method of email to <u>travisp@sha-web.org</u>.

Questions should be directed to Travis Panzini at  $617-625-1152 \times 330$  9/30//20, 10/7/20 The Somerville Times



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

Web: www.sha-web.org

#### ADVERTISEMENT

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority invites bids for a Three-Year Service Contract for Corian Shower Surrounds and Installation for the Federal Elderly Housing Developments in Somerville, MA.

 ${\bf Bids\ are\ subject\ to\ Davis\text{-}Bacon\ Rates}.$ 

Bid packages will be available after 11:00AM on Thursday, October 8th, 2020. Please email Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org to request a bid package.

Bids must be received no later than <u>2:00PM on Thursday, October</u> <u>22nd, 2020</u> by preferred method of email to <u>travisp@sha-web.org</u>.

Questions should be directed to Travis Panzini at 617-625-1152 x 330

9/30//20, 10/7/20 The Somerville Times



#### City of Somerville ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

#### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 6:00pm. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, \$18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

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

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

ter/5061834185286504715 Webinar ID: 480-998-803

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (415) 655-0060 Access code: 770-122-675

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

ne Zoning Ordinance:

34 St. James Ave Applicants and O

Applicants and Owners, Mona Kotecha and Nikhil Shanbhag, request the removal of condition #10 from the previously-granted special permit ZBA 2013-39.

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

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

9/30/20, 10/7/20 The Somerville Times

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

PROJECT: Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan

LOCATION: Winter Hill, Somerville, MA

PROPONENT: Somerville Redevelopment Authority

The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before October 7, 2020

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

Lauren Drago

Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development 93 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA 02143 617-625-6600 ext. 2515

LDrago@SomervilleMA.gov

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

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



v

(Proponent)

Eileen McGettigan

10/7/20 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:00PM**, to be held by remote participation, on the Application for an Alteration of Premises for Area Celeste LLC D/B/A Celeste, 21 Bow St., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the

calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

For the Commission
Christopher Allen
Joseph P. Lynch Jr.
Christine M. Lindgren

Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant

10/7/20 The Somerville Times

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



#### City of Somerville **PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. c. 131 § 40, the SOMERVILLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION will hold a Public Hearing on October 27th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to review the Request for Determination of Applicability by submitted by Fair Dermody Consulting Engineers on behalf of applicant Keolis Commuter Services for Vegetation management, control and maintenance activities for the years 2021-2025 for the railroad right-of-way [FRA, 49 CFR 237]. The Vegetation management plan for the railroad incorporates the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach towards promoting a safer railroad for employees, passengers, and neighboring communities by means of implementing various approaches towards removal of nuisance vegetation along the ROW. This work includes both chemical and mechanical controls as represented within the VMP available for viewing at fdcerailroadvegetation.com.

Copies of the application can be viewed at the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA. Contact Malik Drayton, Conservation Agent, at 617-625-6600 x2514, or send an email to mdrayton@somervillema.gov for more information

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

TO USE A COMPUTER Webinar ID 220-941-035 **Registration URL** 

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5923308142875255312

TO CALL IN UNITED STATES +1 (562) 247-8422 Access code: 204-181-503 10/7/20 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application for an All Forms Alcohol License, an Entertainment by Devices License and an Alteration of Premises for Ebi Sushi Inc. D/B/A Ebi Sushi, 290 Somerville Ave., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or

contact the City Clerk's Office. For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Christine M. Lindgren

> **Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court**

**Middlesex Probate and Family Court** 

208 Cambridge Street

Cambridge, MA. 02141

**INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE** 

Middle Name

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Castle of

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the

Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are

Petitioner Frederick A. Castle of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State

[x] a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

estate to serve [ ] with [x] without surety on the bond

First Name M.I. Last Name

**Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant** 

Docket No. MI20P4117EA

(City/Town) (State)

(City/Town) (State)

Somerville

Castle

**Last Name** 

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**MIDDLESEX Division** 

Also Known As:

William

First Name

Date of Death: July 5, 2020

Frederick A.



#### CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFP 21-22

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

#### Net Zero Building Development and Zoning Review

A request for proposals (RFP) may be obtained online https://www. somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing on or after 10/7/2020. Separately sealed price and technical proposals will be received at the above office until: 10/21/2020 at 2:00 p.m. ET. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The City is seeking a consultant or team of consultants to review the City's existing suite of sustainability policies and procedures for new construction, provide technical assistance to city staff reviewing Net Zero Ready and LEED certifiable projects, and to develop recommendations for improving the zoning and project review processes. The contract will be awarded in the fall of 2020 and all work must be completed by 6/30/21.

Contact the Purchasing Director at amallen@somervillema.gov for more information.

10/7/20 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somer**ville Licensing Commission on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application for a Transfer of a Wine and Malt Package Store License from Everest Mart Inc. D/B/A Union Square Beer and Wine, 71 Union Sq. to Lady Grace LLC D/B/A Top Shelf at Assembly, 365 Canal St., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

> For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Christine M. Lindgren

**Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant** 

10/7/20 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application for an Alteration of Premises/Outdoor Seating License for The Portuguese American Civic League, 26 Springfield St., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

> For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Christine M. Lindaren

Attest: Lori Batzek **Administrative Assistant** 

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The work is estimated to cost \$ 25,000.00

Quote packages will be available after 11:00AM on Thursday, October 8th, 2020. Please email Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org to request a quote package

Quotes must be received no later than 2:00PM on Thursday, October 22nd, 2020 by preferred method of email to travisp@sha-web.org.

Questions should be directed to Travis Panzini at 617-625-1152 x 330 10/7/20 The Somerville Times

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### **SPS Grab and Go Breakfast and Lunch**



Visit the Food and Nutrition Services website (www.somerville.k12.ma.us/fns) for this month's Grab and Go Breakfast and Lunch menus and an expanded list of pickup times. Meals can be picked up Mondays through Fridays at the following sites (SHS and NWFC students may pick up meals at their neighborhood school):

Argenziano School (290 Washington St, Cafe Door near playground) 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Capuano Early Childhood Center (150 Glen St, main office front door) 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Brown School** (201 Willow Ave, school yard door) 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

East Somerville Community School (50 Cross Street, loading dock) 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Arthur D. Healey School (5 Meacham Street, door in back lot) 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Kennedy School** (5 Cherry St, café back entrance door) 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Winter Hill Community Innovation School (115 Sycamore Street, front of school off Medford Street) 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

West Somerville Neighborhood School (177 Powder House Boulevard) 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Fund (or apply for assistance): Now that the additional \$600 per week federal unemployment benefit has ended, more people in our community are facing financial hardship and making tough choices when it comes to paying for essentials. If you're fortunate enough to be able to, please consider making a donation to the Somerville Cares Fund. If you are in need of assistance, you can apply to the fund via the same link. This donation-based fund gives direct assistance to Somerville residents, workers, and families to help cover basic needs like groceries, diapers, personal hygiene products, medical copays, and prescriptions. The community has been immensely generous, donating more than \$650,000 so far, but the fund has run dry. Even a small donation will help.

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

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

not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representative appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner

10/7/20 The Somerville Times

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

### Happy 100th birthday dad CONT. FROM PG 3

Uncle Sal, my Auntie Olga's husband was his best friend. Dad never got a "haircut" but he did get his "ears lowered " at Alibrandi's Barber Shop, like most of my uncles did

In the 1980's, dad became a big shot in the Masons. He was truly devout and took it extremely seriously. I even went through the ranks and became a Shriner which made him very proud.

I remember my Dad's friends. He was a member of the ITAMs, which stood for The Italian American War Veterans. They had a little clubhouse on Cameron Ave. for meetings (Recently condo-ized). There was a big party there every year after the Memorial Day Parade. Some of us kids marched with the ITAMs in the parade, which was a huge thrill. Joe Antonelli entertained everyone on the piano back at the clubhouse after the parade. Joe was a big influence on my piano playing and silly song writing.

My father's friends meant a lot to him. Sabby and Andy Capuano, Marie Howe, Joe Antonelli, Eddie Pellagrini, Lenny Scott, Mary Forni, Frank Moran, Billy McKenzie, Johnny Bowe were a few of his lifelong pals. Former mayor and Somerville royalty, Gene Brune, was one of my dad's and my whole family's dearest

friends. We all love Gene.

Dad also remained close to his brother and sisters and their spouses. In later years Donald Norton, Lloyd Neal, and Ross Blouin were his buddies. But his best pal was his dog Poopsie. They were inseparable.

My dad's brother was Joe, the former Somerville fireman. Dad worked helping out in his business, "Del's Glass." Dad brought me and my sister and brother to the fire station often. Uncle Joe would let us climb all over Engine 7, ring the bells, and slide down the pole when we got older. Big thrills for kids.

Dad married Somerville girl Geraldine Artone in August of 1951. They met teaching Sunday school at St. Anthony's Church and were married by Father Properzi, who also baptized me and my siblings. Mom attended Southern Junior High School and graduated from Somerville High School in 1944. Dad went to the Western Junior High School and graduated SHS in 1938. True Highlanders!

Dad loved to give stuff away. My brother and I weren't using our Lionel trains enough so dad gave them away. We were afraid to stop playing with our toys! He was very generous and would help anyone



Fred and Gerry with dad's parents, Concetta and Giuseppe DelPonte, 1951.

who needed it.

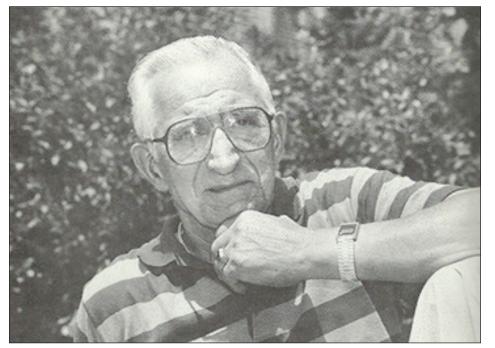
When I was around 12, my dad decided to take guitar lessons from Mr. Cuneo, who my dad always called Maestro. He got himself a nice folk guitar "off the truck" and we would play together in the yard. Great memory. He also lent me \$5,000 in cash to buy a Pontiac Trans Am complete with the decals. I gave him \$100 a week for a few months and then he told me to "forget the rest of the dough." He was extremely generous with a huge heart. A typical Somerville guy. In later life, dad's favorite spot was The Supreme Deli, formerly in Davis Square.

Dad lost our mom in 1986, and his daughter (my sister) in 1992. Around 1993 we learned that his son (my brother ) was terminally ill. Dad passed away in 1994 and outlived my brother by just six months. My sister left a young daughter. Dad and his granddaughter became best pals. He was the best grandpa ever. Dad

had a few very tough years toward the end of his life but never lost his sense of humor. Well, almost never.

I hope my kids remember me as lovingly as I remember my father. God knows I've bought them enough musical equipment over the years! But seriously, my dad was quite a colorful character, with a loud voice and huge heart. He was always in a good mood unless he needed to be stern. He stood by me in some dark times, always being supportive in his own gruff way.

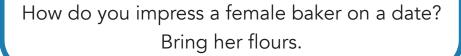
I realized that at the ripe old age of 67, that my father, Fred DelPonte, was my very best friend. Another one of his favorite sayings that stands out for me was, "Just tell them your daddy said so!" He was a fierce defender of his family and friends. After all, he was all Somerville, born and bred. Happy heavenly 100th birthday dad. You're still very much alive in my heart.



Fred, 1990.

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By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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1765 – Delegates from nine of the American colonies meet in New York to discuss the Stamp Act Crisis and colonial response to it.

1849 - Edgar Allan Poe, aged 40, dies a tragic death in Baltimore.

1870 – French Minister of the Interior Leon Gambetta escapes besieged Paris by balloon

1913 – Henry Ford implements the assembly line, reducing the time it takes to manufacture a car from 12 hours to 93 minutes.

1944 – A prisoner uprising takes place at Birkenau concentration camp.

1949 – East Germany, the German Democratic Republic, is formed.

1996 – Fox News Channel begins broadcasting.

2001 – US invasion of Afghanistan in reaction to the terrorist attacks of 9/11 begins.

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# yrıca **SOMERVILLE** edited by Doug Holder

Janelle Solviletti is a twenty-five-yearold writer from Boston. The poem is an excerpt from her debut poetry book, The Cameo, which explores the tensions and competing entities between time and love. She hopes that those who delve into her poetry will recollect moments that were once tak-



en for granted by time's natural order. You can find out more about Janelle or order her new book on janellesolviletti.com

#### Runner

I could trace the Charles River with my eyes shut feet dragging along its dirt path every Sunday at sunup it's spring and the air is cool people brush by in limbo take no notice that the sky is auto-tuned

the paint stripped bench at the river's edge has sunken in or that the geese disband the pedway but I run by and watch the water pull in and out teasing the shoreline persistent in its lure the trees which shade us are my canopy my body is heavy like a sandbag set on the warm pavement

— Janelle Solviletti

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

# From page 8 Ms. Cam's

1. Nine rooms

States Military Academy

2. Lady Gaga

7. 1954, Miami, Florida

3. West Quoddy Head Lighthouse, Maine

8. Landslide

4.640

9. Shelley Long

10. Bones

5. Boston

11. Tunisia

West Point, United 12. Billie Holiday

## OFF THE

by Doug Holder

# The Essential Doug Holder: **New and Selected Poems**

The Essential Doug Holder: New and Selected Poems By Doug Holder \$15 Big Table Publishing http://bigtablepublishing.com

Review by Ravi Teja Yelamanchili

Doug Holder's poetry is an examination of people and things, but more importantly their patinas. In many of the poems there is a gentle awareness conveyed to the reader - an acknowledgement that everything will eventually deteriorate. Holder's poetry is subtle, deeply empathetic, and captures moments of vulnerability with unmatched elegance and fragility. In the poem On the Ward: Stuffed Animals, Holder writes:

"At night as you check the rooms the flashlight discovers these animals attached to grown women like suckling babes held tightly against the darknessmemories of morning abandonment—. the deep chasms that were never bridged. On these lonely nights any union will do" (Holder 48)

On the cover of The Essential Doug Holder: New and Selected Poems, Doug Holder, the poet of the collection, stands modestly in the bottom right hand corner of his own book, his hands are placed defensively in his pockets, and under his arms he carries a newspaper. It is hard to tell if his weary eyes are gazing at you, at the ground, or if he lost in his own thoughts. Bold white text is superpositioned on the page, pushing the poet to the back of his own cover. The cover seems off balanced, as though the subject (Doug Holder) is about to leave the reader any minute. The background is composed mostly of silhouettes of trees and buildings, while the foreground is composed of shadows. The sun is either rising or setting, and a ray of sunlight falls on Holder.

On the bottom of the page, a quote from Boston's first Poet Laureate Sam Cornish reads, "Holder is a poet of the street... an observer of the everyday... he sees the world not for what it is, but on his own terms". At first, I thought that the picture was a strange choice for the cover of a book - surely, Holder had a centered picture of himself he could have used instead. But, after reading Holder's collection this cover art was in fact the perfect choice. In the poem *Life of the Party*, Holder writes:

"After all, you were the center [...]

the approving smiles



from the women the perfect opiate delightful but never enough

And for this moment you were a man among men above-[...]

And then in the bathroom mirror who was this imposter short and bald struggling with his fly [...]" (Holder 76)

(Insert drumroll here) While you're not supposed to judge a book by its cover, or so we are told, in the case of this book, the cover art perfectly captures the essence of Holder's style. Similar, to how Holder doesn't stand in the center of his cover, his poetry employs innovative stylistic techniques that invite the reader into the poem without ever directly breaking the fourth wall. This is achieved by both the tone of the poems, and how vulnerable and honest the speaker of the poems makes himself. There is a "Confessional" quality to the poetry, yet unlike Confessional poetry the poetry is not as emotionally forceful. This often catches the reader off-guard, but the poems themselves are so well balanced - either thematically, or in their emotional content that the reader can easily regain their footing.

Holder uses ellipses, like no one else. Ellipses are normally used to exclude less relevant text from passages. You will often find Holder using ellipses to cut his own conclusions short, as though to indicate to the reader that his conclusions are not that important, or perhaps that he has not formed any. These unresolved conclusions become almost a rhetorical question that can significantly alter the meaning and tone of the poem. Take for instance the poem A Dream of Minnie Baum:

"She exchanges Yiddish for English with mother tit for tat.

I am trapped...

Continued on page 15

# City to hold four flu vaccination clinics

The City of Somerville has set up four free flu vaccination clinics for residents in October and November that will be open by appointment. The city is also partnering with schools to offer additional clinics to students. Residents are strongly encouraged to get the vaccine to protect their health as well as to support the community's efforts to lessen the impacts of both influenza and the coronavirus.

Clinics are for anyone ages 3 and up, with or without health insurance. As a coronavirus safety measure, attendees must make an appointment in advance so that staff can safely manage the flow of those seeking vaccinations (sign up information is below). City flu clinics offer both the high dose vaccine for persons 65 and older and the standard dose vaccine for those under 65.



#### Schedule:

Seniors and Veterans only, Thursday, Oct. 1: The first clinic will be for seniors and Veterans only this Thursday, October 1, at 167 Holland Street (the TAB building) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Drive-up clinics for all residents Oct. 17 and Nov. 7: Saturday, October 17, Somerville Department of Public Works site at 1 Franey Rd. from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Saturday, November 7, Somerville Department of Public Works site at 1 Franey Rd. from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Walk-up clinic for all residents: Tuesday, November 3, at the East Somerville Community School at 50 Cross St. from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

School clinics for students and families: School-aged students are required by the state to receive a flu vaccination before returning to in-person schooling. Many of Somerville's public schools as well as Prospect Hill Academy will be hosting additional walk-up and drive-up flu vaccine clinics for students and their families. Somerville Public School families should check with their school or on their school website to find out details for clinic dates and times at those facilities.

Other providers: Local pharmacies also offer free flu vaccinations, and residents may also seek flu vaccinations from their medical provider.

Pre-registration at somervillema.gov/flu is required for all city flu clinics. Additional information is also available on the website.

## The Essential Doug Holder: New and Selected Poems

my stomach leaden with chicken fat. Bronx cheers from the pavement below" (Holder 80)

In the poem above, the word "trapped" is followed by an ellipsis. This leads the reader to wonder if the speaker is trying to escape. Depending on the answer, yes or no, the meaning of the poem can greatly change. The charm of Holder's poetry is that it does not impose its views on the reader. It does not try to force a way of thinking on the reader. It draws a clear distinction between the 'real world', and the poet's interpretation of the world. There are fantastical moments in Holder's poetry, but the reader is rarely left wondering where the line between reality, and Holder's interpretations of reality falls. At times they don't align, and this is often where we see ellipses - omissions of conclusions, or pseudo-questions, where Holder seems to be asking himself and the reader how to negotiate "everyday observations with his own terms".

Confessional poetry is often extremely assertive. The emotions are so raw, that the reader is often overwhelmed and consumed by them - they impose their will on the reader. This can be a very powerful artistic choice, but ultimately limits the reader's interpretive freedom. Holder's poetry often includes very intimate details, but the raw emotions are toned down. Holder's emotions do not convolute reality, and not force the reader to interpret events one way or another. Even though the poems are written from Holder's point of view, the poems are not just about him. This allows the reader to explore Holder's world with him—not just be passive listeners. For example on page 146, I don't know why, Holder writes:

"i don't know why i have visions of elevated tracks subways defiantly roaring at the dark damaged men pawing costume jewelry[...]" (Holder 146)

The first two lines of the poem start with "i", yet they are both lowercase, which draws less attention to the repetition. This is followed by the powerful image of a "subway defiantly roaring at the dark", followed by another powerful image. When Holder uses the word "i" in this poetry it is simply to provide the reader with context.

The entire collection opens with the poem Daddy, Is He a Monster?:

"A child caught sight of me on a bus propped up on his seat

safe within his father's fold he said "Is he a monster?"

poking out of a protective shell of newspaper a suspicious crab peering at a threatening predator" (Holder 23)

Holder's poetry shares very intimate details. Initially, this can throw the reader off a bit, because we just aren't used to people sharing such personal thoughts. Thoughts that are so personal, we may even feel uncomfortable hearing them if some of our closest family or friends shared this information with us. But, Holder does not withhold much from his reader, but quickly the reader realizes that this honesty is what makes his work so captivating. At certain points you almost wonder if you are even supposed to be reading these extremely personal reflections. The poem Unknown in a Crowd, to some degree expresses this sentiment:

"And that's when you felt most at peace lost in the cornucopia. Feeling like the multi-eyed fly on the wall away from the claustrophobic intimacy. Observing not observed owner of you own dialogue..." (Holder 37)

But, the reader despite being thrown off by the unguarded nature of the poems, can easily regain their footing, because of how Holder brilliantly balances everything. Opposing themes, and tones act as counterbalances to each other. The poem At the Reading: Young Poet, is a brilliant example of how Holder uses a poetry reading to explore the question of what is and isn't worthy of art, and more importantly gives us insight into his own aesthetic philosophy.

"She talked of making love as if a new discovery[...] of old Cambridge Victorians cigarette smoke lipstick traces romantic places half-empty glasses the lingering scent remembered words... phrases [...]

From the corner an old woman lifted her head from the rim of her shot glass and cackled breaking the spell:

"What's the big deal, kid, and two dogs could do that." (Holder 31)

This poem is particularly interesting because of its many layers. The young woman, and the old woman represent two opposite sides of the same coin. Both are in ways equally cliché. Yet, Holder finds them both to be equally important subjects, and he is simultaneously interested and critical of both. Using themes to counterbalance each other, is one-way Holder's work keeps the reader constantly engaged. In another poem Holder writes, "The bridge/to the Bronx/a spurt of connective tissue./ Bridging a new limb to an old" (Holder 51).

In addition to using themes as counterbalances, Holder also uses dramatic and comedic elements to create balance in his poems. In the poem First Night on the Job on the Psychiatric Ward, Holder starts the poem off by painting a very dramatic scene. But the mythical elements are quickly pushed aside and replaced with humor. These sharp turns in poems, are particularly interesting because of how they change the pace of the poems without using any grammar or white space.

"The night seemed perfectly cast... tormy, thunder and rain the patient was biblical long hair and a beard with his staff at his command.

He put a paternal hand on me and called me his finest creation what could I do but thank him? He smiled with divine patronization" (Holder 33)

Ravi Teja Yelamanchili currently works at Boston University as a Functional Analyst. His writing has previously been published in Ibbetson Street, The Muddy River Poetry Review, Somerville Times,



Sahitya Akademi's Indian Literature, Muse India, and several other journals. He also won the Boston Mayor's Poetry Program Contest.

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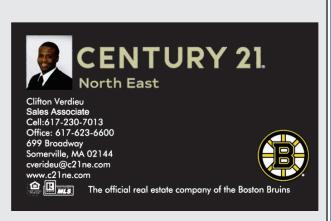
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