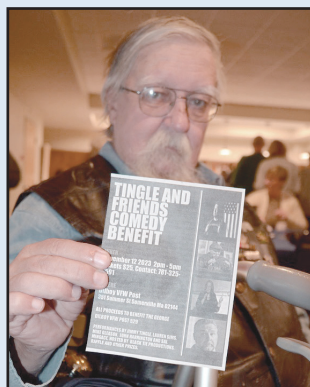




Inside:



The Surrey Room
page 3



A comedy benefit
pages 12-13



Seniors Thanksgiving dinner
page 17

Awareness for homeless during winter being raised



The Sleep Out event on Friday, November 17, is intended to raise awareness of the needs of the homeless in our community.
— Photos courtesy of the Somerville Housing Coalition

By Olivia LeDuc

As the winter months are fast approaching, with temperatures expected [1] to drop to frigid levels, homeless advocates and university students are stepping up to raise awareness for the city's homeless population.

The Somerville Housing Coalition (SHC), a local organization committed to providing support services to homeless individuals and families, is gearing itself with resources to meet its client's needs during the icy season, including winter clothing items, food and toiletries.

"(Homeless people) are looking for somewhere to stay that's warm and when the wind starts picking up, they have to find somewhere to go," said Paul Murphy, SHC's development and
Continued on page 4

SHS carpentry students contribute school additions to Capuano

Somerville High School (SHS) senior students in the Carpentry Program have completed another successful community project.

Students from the SHS CTE Carpentry program worked with administrators at Capuano Early Education Center throughout the design and construction process of these wonderful additions to the school community.

The students gained valuable real-world skills and experience as they navigated the project from the initial work request for a school lending library, to project completion. They were responsible for drawing plans, selecting materials and estimating the project before presenting their proposals to school personnel.

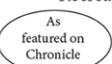
Originally planned as one lending library, the thoughtful designs by students
Continued on page 4



Somerville High School Carpentry program students recently added three lending library installations to the school community.

Bay State Skating School

LEARN TO SKATE CLASSES for
Recreational • Figure • Hockey Skating Skills



Over 50 Years Experience
Children (4-18 years)



781-890-8480 • www.BayStateSkatingSchool.org

The safety of our customers and staff is our #1 priority!
Cambridge, Brookline, Cleveland Circle, Medford,
Newton-Brighton, Quincy, Somerville,
Waltham, West Roxbury, Weymouth



BUSINESS BANKING

With a Complete Line of Online and Mobile
Banking Services Business Banking is...

Better Than Ever!



617-666-8600

1-800-444-4300

winterhillbank.com

A Mutual Bank Serving the Community Since 1906.



T.J.SILLARI, INC.

Over 50 Years
Experience

Plumbing • Heating • Gas Fitting • Industrial Work • Water Heater Replacement • Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

625-9877

Proud to be a Somerville resident

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106



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








The Fuel Assistance Program, also known as the Home Energy Assistance Program, helps low-income households pay their winter heating bills between November 1 and April 30. Renters and homeowners in Somerville are eligible to apply if they meet federal income guidelines. Learn more at an information and registration event on Thursday, November 16, at 167 Holland St. from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Learn more at somervillema.gov/heatingassistance.

Come out to Aeronaut Somerville on November 15, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. for the Somerville Bicycle Committee’s November Street-wise Talk, featuring Ari Belathar, the new Executive Director of the Boston Cyclists Union. Come hear their perspective on the bike path forward. Aeronaut, 14 Tyler St, Somerville.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to Bobby Potaris, who celebrates this week. A great guy and a great father. Happy birthday to Joan Puglia, a lifelong resident and activist who is celebrating this week as well. She’s the wife of former alderman Andy. Happy birthday to a great friend of ours, Malitta Knaut. A great person. We wish her the very best. Happy birthday to Diane Johansen, another lifelong and well-known resident from Winter Hill. A gracious and great person, we wish her the very best on this her birthday. Happy birthday to Joshua Lewin, of Juliet in Union Square. We wish him the very best. Happy birthday to one of Somerville’s well-known activists, Continued on page 7

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of November 15 – November 21 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday November 15	Sunny	50°/30°	8%	5%	WSW 9 mph
 Thursday November 16	Sunny	60°/40°	5%	2%	SW 8 mph
 Friday November 17	Cloudy	60°/50°	16%	12%	SW 13 mph
 Saturday November 18	Rain	55°/38°	50%	41%	W 10 mph
 Sunday November 19	Sunny	49°/34°	7%	3%	W 11 mph
 Monday November 20	Sunny	48°/36°	12%	8%	WNW 11 mph
 Tuesday November 21	Rain	50°/39°	45%	36%	SW 10 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: Citywide election 2023 unofficial results

TheoNa says:

Appears that the biggest winner in the Councilor at Large race is Blank. I recommend that we fill one councilor seat with an empty chair. It will be just as effective, as they all vote the same way, and save the taxpayers money.

Ron Newman says:

Blank is any vote not cast that could have been cast. If you voted for only one councilor-at-large candidate, you cast three blank votes as well. In a real race with more people running, this can be a strategically wise thing to do.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

news@thesomervilletimes.com

www.thesomervilletimes.com

Phone: 857-488-5138



@somervilletimes



www.facebook.com/thesomervilletimes

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

A proud member of the following newspaper organizations:



© 2022 The Somerville Times except where noted. All rights reserved.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Ceremony

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville Department of Health and Human Services are inviting the Somerville community to join a Transgender Day of Remembrance ceremony on Monday, November 20, at 5:00 p.m. in honor of those members of the community who have lost their lives to violence.

The ceremony will take place at the main entrance to Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.). A short speaking program, with live ASL interpretation, will include remarks from Mayor Ballantyne and Somerville LGBTQ+ Services Coordinator Izzy Starr. The event is open to the public, and all are welcome. In order to protect vulnerable members of our community, masking is encouraged at this event; free masks will be provided.

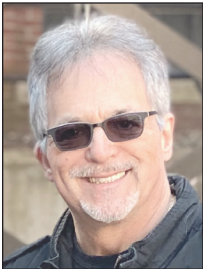
For more information about LGBTQ+ programming, events, and information, please contact LGBTQ+ Services Coordinator Izzy Starr at istarr@somervillema.gov.

Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

The Surrey Room



The backroom lounge area of the Rosebud Diner in Davis Square was once called The Surrey Room. One of its nicknames was The Sorry Room. When I asked people to share their Surrey Room memories a lot of them said, “Sorry, can’t talk about it.” There seems to be a code of silence that some past patrons still abide by today. Here’s what I know from my own experience and from talking to some friends.

There was always something happening there. There were large wrought iron (or plastic) images of horse drawn carriages also known as surreys on the wall, thus the name The Surrey Room.

One the bartenders (no names please!) was the nicest guy in the world, as long as you didn’t mess with him. I saw him spin a guy up over his head once. I’m not great with specific dates but I started playing in bands at the Surrey Room sometime in the late 70’ and early 80’s.

There was a disco ball on the ceiling over the dance floor. One of my friends remembers being scolded time and time again for dancing with a drink in her hand. They solved the problem by making her a bartender.

One lady recalls walking out of there sideways a lot, and many other people don’t remember leaving at all. A few of my Greek friends recalled receiving VIP treatment since that was the owner’s nationality. Supposedly you might (just might) have been able to pick up a six pack there back before it was legal to sell booze on Sunday.

Yes, The Surrey Room had it all. My

friend Rick played with the Marie Michaels Band in 1977. A fight broke out on the dance floor and the cops actually told the band to keep playing while they dragged the combatants off. I believe it was a KC and the Sunshine Band song! (Get Down Tonight?) They held “The Bong Show” where patrons would sing and slur, and compete for prizes. It was the era of platform shoes, and shirts with huge, pointy collars.

It seems that on occasion, you might even get in if you were under aged! What a shocker! A friend’s father was a cop on detail there and he asked a girl for her ID. She told him that her dad was also a cop. When he asked what her father’s name was, she gave his name. He said, “I have five daughters, and you’re not one of them!” A lot of girls were flat out not allowed to go to The Surrey Room. Needless to say, they went anyway. It was the Studio 54 of Somerville with all the trimmings.

In the wild days of The Surrey Room here are some of the songs that remind me of the wild times. *I’ll Always Love My Mama* by The Intruders, *Don’t Take Away The Music* by Tavares, *Love is In The Air* by John Paul Young, *Emotion* by Samantha Sang, and of course *Disco Inferno* by The Trampmps.

One of the best things about The Surrey Room was that it was within “stumbling distance” of that great after-hours breakfast spot, Kay and Chips. And if you could make it across Elm Street you could try to get into Ming Toy Chinese restaurant for an after-inebriation snack.

By 1987 a new era of music was playing in The Surrey Room with local bands like The Sleddogs, of which I was a proud member. The platform shoes were gone but the craziness remained for a few more



years. In The Surrey Room’s heyday, the booze flowed, the music pumped, and the people partied. When reminiscing about the old days of The Surrey Room, a Led Zeppelin song comes to mind: *Good Times Bad Times*. For the real juicy stories, ask someone who was there and be prepared for some wild tales.

Neighborhood Meeting



City Councilor JT Scott & the Union Square Neighborhood Council invite you to a follow-up community conversation about the future of Somernova.

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

7 - 9 PM



For more information and to register for the neighborhood conversation, please visit somernova.community

In Person – @ SOMERNOVA
29 Properzi Way.
(Enter through door next to Aeronaut)

Or Zoom –
somernova.community/meeting



SOMERNOVA



Are You Sitting On A Fortune?

Call Our Team at CRG To See What Your Home Is Worth.

617-764-4342

699 Broadway Ave, Somerville, MA 02144



Awareness for homeless during winter raised CONT. FROM PG 1

communications coordinator. “We are making sure everyone stays safe and warm.”

Among other steps SHC has taken to combat the cold and unfamiliarity of the city’s homeless population is a collaboration with Tufts University students for its Sleep Out event. The Sleep Out is an awareness campaign aimed at making residents and others more cognizant of the cold element for SHC’s clients who are sleeping outside.

The event [2], on Friday, November 17, is running in partnership with Jumbos for Nonprofits, a Tufts student-run advisory board that works with non-profits in the surrounding area. SHC staff, Tufts students and other participants will be sleeping outside through the night to experience the vulnerability of homeless people during winter.

“Now that it is getting colder, homelessness is a more difficult thing to experience,” said Rebecca Altholz, the student group’s vice president and a sophomore at Tufts University.

The Sleep Out event started in Arlington in 2020 during the height of the pandemic, but as clients’ needs shifted, Murphy said SHC switched the event to during the fall.

Homelessness has been on the rise [3] in Somerville. During a City Council meeting in late August, councilors called on the mayor to declare a state of emergency. An accurate number of homeless individuals is unavailable, the City Council said during its August 24 meeting [4], but they approved an order to produce data on these rates.

Altholz said Jumbos for Nonprofits has noticed a large increase in homeless people around the Tufts community living on the streets since 2020. As a result, the student group decided that their focus for this semester, or “impact area,” would be homelessness and housing insecurity.

Jumbos for Nonprofits started connecting with SHC for the Sleep Out to give Tufts students and other participants a real experience of what homelessness feels like during the winter.

“Having a sleep out during a cold month in November can show students how painful and emotionally difficult it can be to live in the cold,” Altholz said. “Many students never had to think about the possibility of homelessness.”

Murphy said SHC’s work with Jumbos for Nonprofits will create



a meaningful impact for students of different backgrounds to learn more about homelessness.

“(The Sleep Out) is a great opportunity for us to connect with the next generation and highlight the importance of homelessness and ways to help those who are homeless,” he said.

The winter season brings a unique set of challenges to SHC’s team, Murphy said. Many of SHC’s clients, as opposed to the summer months, tend to relocate further from the organization’s site in search of warmer shelter, making it difficult for the outreach staff to inform them of support and services.

Despite the challenges, Mur-

phy said SHC is working to prepare for the upcoming months. SHC staff has begun distributing winter clothing items, including hats, gloves and coats, food and other necessities.

The organization’s Civic Engagement Center will continue to provide access to these essential resources, in addition to a warming center for clients to stay warm. SHC has 16 beds for individuals, and this number will remain throughout the season.

“The gap when it is cold out ... we are locating and getting those resources to our clients,” Murphy said. “Our team tries to make sure our clients are (aware of support) so there is no neglect there.”

Murphy said that if anyone sees someone homeless or needs help during the wintry months, notify SHC.

Anyone interested in donating winter needs to SHC for their clients can make it on the organization’s website: <https://somervillehomelesscoalition.org/giving/>

Links:

- [1] <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>
- [2] <https://www.thesomerville-times.com/archives/128448>
- [3] <https://www.thesomerville-times.com/archives/127064>
- [4] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmvADJwDmVQ>

SHS carpentry students contribute school additions to Capuano

CONT. FROM PG 1

encourage school administrators to request all three lending library designs be built.

This was a rewarding project for the students with visible community impact, as the libraries

are already in frequent use.

The CTE Carpentry program and its students pride itself on

the variety of community projects completed through student dedication every year. They send a

special thank you to the SHS Art Department for their collaboration on the final painting process.



Traffic commission discusses changes to the streets of Somerville

By Jennifer Purcell

Last Thursday, November 9, Somerville’s Traffic Commission met to discuss several potential changes to the city’s streets. Although this meeting was relatively short, motions were made to accept all of the items without discussion, it was agreed that each item was no less important for the future of these streets.

Accessible Parking

The first item that was brought to Committee Chair Jill Lathan’s attention was a request for more handicap-accessible parking spaces at 38 Hansen Street and 22 Wesley Street (placed at 23 Wesley Street). Adrienne Pomeroy, a representative of the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities, mentioned that she has already discussed these changes with the residents and they are one hundred percent on board with these additions.

Fire Lanes

One of the two most critical issues the Committee members discussed was the lack of fire lanes on certain streets. There was a total of three different requests for fire lanes in Somerville which will be at the following locations:

- Warwick Street (from the corner of Cedar Street down both sides in an easterly direction of 20 feet).
- The even side of Cross Street East (extending from curb to curb at Blakely Avenue).
- Pennsylvania Avenue (from the corner of Cross Street East down both sides in an easterly direction). The fire lane on the odd side will run for 30 feet and the fire lane on the even side will run for 20 feet.

Eliminating Dangerous Curbs

The second and most important issue tackled on Thursday was the sheer number of dangerous curbs in Somerville. Out of the eleven Items that were addressed, almost half of them were in regards to one of these curbs. The Commission’s main concern was that the following curbs in particular are making it incredibly unsafe for cyclists and pedestrians: the curb on the east side of Beacon Street and the curb on the east side of School Street. In order to resolve this issue, it was unanimously decided that for the curb near 371 Beacon Street, the space that is approximately 220 ft.-260 ft. south of Somerville Avenue will be converted from unregulat-



ed space to a “no parking at any time zone.” A similar conclusion was made for the curb on School Street, except the no parking zone will be 190ft. and will be between 20 ft. and 210 ft. south of Medford Street.

The final three Items, while also in regards to the curbs, were focused more on adding and/or eliminating loading zones in order to incorporate more residential parking spaces as it is part of their commitment to monitor these sides in particular. The ar-

eas in which these changes would be made as well as each Item’s specific details are as follows:

- The curb on the north side of Holland Street (170 ft.-230 ft. south of Broadway) will be turned into a loading zone from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., metered parking from 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., and residential permit parking from 12:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
- The curb on the west side of Moore Street (30 ft.-90 ft. south of Holland Street) will be converted from a loading zone to

residential permit parking only. This will also extend to additional parking meters.

- The curb on the east side of Thorndike Street (20 ft.-60 ft. south of Holland Street), which is currently a 24-hour loading zone, will be modified it will be a loading zone from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and residential permit parking at any other time.

All of the above items were accepted immediately and without any further discussion from the commission.

City of Somerville continues Police Chief search

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and Somerville’s Police Chief Search Committee have announced that the city’s search for the next Chief of the Somerville Police Department (SPD) will continue.

After the initial round of interviews recently completed did not result in a successful hire, the process is reopening. The Police Chief Search Committee will continue working with GovHR– an industry-leading expert in executive recruitment – on a rigorous nationwide search for candidates. Acting SPD Chief Charlie Femino will continue to lead the Somerville Police Department until a suitable candidate is found.

The city will continue to prioritize stakeholder engagement as it continues the search for the best candidates for Somerville’s unique needs as a municipality and community. More updates will be shared about engagement opportunities and the hiring process as next steps are pursued.

Background on Somerville’s Police Chief Search Process

Somerville Chief of Police David Fallon retired from the Somerville Police force in December 2020 after 21 years of service. Chief Charles Femino accepted the role of Acting Chief at that time taking on pandemic public safety emergency response duties as well as the ongoing work of the department.

Somerville established a Police Chief Search Committee, consisting of constituents, subject matter experts, local elected officials, and City staff, to lead the community driven search. In February 2023, the city selected GovHR to lead the nationwide search to identify candidates with the requisite experience and principles to lead SPD. The firm has over 30 years of experience recruiting for leadership positions in the public-sector and shares Somerville’s commitment to equity, diversity, and accessibility. GovHR has successfully recruited for almost 80 Chief of Police roles in 14 states.

To learn more about the City of Somerville’s Police Chief search, please visit somervillema.gov/policechief.



Beacon Hill Roll Call



Volume 48 – Report No. 45 • November 6-10, 2023 • Copyright © 2023 Beacon Hill Roll Call. All Rights Reserved. By Bob Katzen

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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives' votes from the week of November 6-10. There were no roll calls in the Senate last week.

FREE PHONE CALLS FOR PRISONERS (H 4051)
House 132-26, (Senate on a voice vote without a roll call vote), approved and sent to Gov. Maura Healey a bill that beginning on December 1, 2023, would provide free phone calls and video calls for all prisoners in Massachusetts. Gov. Healey supports the bill and is expected to sign it soon.

The vote was mostly along party lines with all Republicans and one Democrat voting against the bill and all other Democrats voting for it.

Currently there is no legal requirement for free phone calls in correctional facilities. Each facility contracts separately for telephone service.

"The telephone is a lifeline for people locked in prisons and their families, but phone company profiteering and kickbacks to prisons, have made calls unaffordable," said Aaron Steinberg, Communications Director of Prisoners' Legal Services of Massachusetts. "This landmark law will allow for precious human contact between incarcerated people and their children and other loved ones. This will help families thrive and help incarcerated people succeed when they return to our communities."

Steinberg continued, that under current law, "each facility contracts separately for telephone service and with current contracting provisions, facilities are given kickbacks called 'site commissions,' with little incentive to negotiate for the lowest rate".

Despite repeated emails sent by *Beacon Hill Roll Call* asking the 25 Republicans and one Democrat why they voted against the bill, only Rep. Nick Boldyga (R-Southwick) responded.

"Every law abiding citizen that has a job and works 40 plus hours a week has to pay for phone calls," said Boldyga. "Why are criminals entitled to free phone calls? It's completely ridiculous and absurd that Democrats are giving free anything to criminals. Criminals and their families should be paying for their phone calls, not taxpayers."

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

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

\$2.8 BILLION FISCAL 2023 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 4167)

House 133-25, approved and sent to the Senate a \$2.8 billion supplemental budget to close out the books for fiscal year 2023. Provisions include \$2.1 billion for Mass-Health for caseload adjustments; \$300 million for a reserve to fund collective bargaining agreements with state employees; and \$10 million in additional flood relief for municipalities hit by severe rain events this summer.

Debate centered around a key controversial provision that provides \$250 million for the shelter system that Healey requested nearly two months ago, before she announced that she was capping the emergency shelter system at 7,500 families. Some \$50 million of the \$250 million is required to go toward "the identification, acquisition and operationalization of a state funded overflow emergency shelter site or sites" for families placed on a shelter waitlist.

The \$250 million also includes \$75 million for supplemental school district costs associated with additional mandatory student enrollments; \$10 million for resettlement agencies to connect families with housing and other services; \$5 million for migrant and refugee workforce programs; \$65 million for the costs associated with sheltering eligible families; \$18 million for temporary emergency shelter sites; and \$6 million for supplemental staffing needs at emergency assistance shelters.

"As the commonwealth's shelter system continues to face unprecedented challenges, the funding provided in this supplemental budget, along with the mandated establishment of an overflow emergency site, will help to manage this crisis and ensure that Massachusetts does everything that it can to provide shelter for vulnerable families," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "We continue to call on Congress to approve funds for the local management of this crisis, which is a direct result of legislative inaction on immigration reform, and we continue to urge the Biden-Harris Administration to expedite the work authorization process so that migrants can begin working and successfully exit the emergency assistance program."

"As the commonwealth works through this crisis, the \$250 million in additional funding for our emergency family shelter system will help support our communities and school districts have the resources they need," said Rep. Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston) Chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means. "The inclusion of \$50 million for a state funded overflow site will ensure that no family has to sleep out in the open as we approach the winter months."

"I can't endorse having the taxpayers of my district nor the taxpayers of the commonwealth pay hundreds of millions

of their hard earned tax dollars to bail out the horrible open border policy of the Biden administration," said Rep. Marc Lombardo (R-Billerica).

"I voted against the supplemental budget because I believe it's crucial for my fellow lawmakers and colleagues on the other side of the aisle to prioritize accountability and fiscal responsibility," said Rep. Marcus Vaughn (R-Wrentham). "We must halt the flow of taxpayer funding for illegal immigrants until we have a comprehensive understanding of the costs to our state and have implemented necessary policy reforms. In my districts, we have urgent needs that remain unaddressed, and a portion of the proposed \$250 million could significantly alleviate the financial burdens my six towns are facing, particularly in funding critical projects like the Tri-County school build and other essential capital necessities."

(A "Yes" vote is for the supplemental budget. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT (H 4167)

House 28-128, rejected an amendment that would amend the state's Right to Shelter Law which requires the state to provide shelter and other necessities to homeless parents with young children, pregnant women and recently the many migrant families arriving in the Bay State. Homeless individuals are not covered by the Right to Shelter law.

The amendment would require that people provide proof that they have lived in the state for at least one year to qualify for the program. It also exempts from the requirement a victim of domestic violence or a person whose living situation has been affected by a fire or other natural disaster that occurred in Massachusetts.

Amendment supporters said the current interpretation of residency in Massachusetts by the Healey administration is that the person can be in the state for a matter of minutes to qualify to get services.

"Massachusetts is the only state in the nation with a Right to Shelter Law, so out of state groups and organizations are intentionally sending families at our U.S. Southern Border to Massachusetts with no support, services or notice because of that," said amendment sponsor Rep. Paul Frost (R-Auburn). "Creating a 1-year residency requirement to qualify will stop these groups from sending migrants en masse to the commonwealth. It will protect families who have resided in

Continued on page 19

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Don't forget to shop local this holiday season.

Our View Of The Times



Here comes the holiday shopping season once again, and we are ready to embrace the opportunity to celebrate the only way we know how: with enthusiasm and optimistic attitudes.

Let the political and social pundits doom and gloom themselves into their usual perpetual state of the doldrums. We know how to lift ourselves, to rise to the occasion and make the most of what we

have, in spite of whatever challenges may confront us.

While the Thanksgiving holiday reminds us to be grateful for the blessings we have received, likewise, the Christmas and Hannukah holidays allow us the opportunity to share our bounty and to take stock in all the good things that life here in the 'Ville has to offer.

We know that prosperity of spirit is far

more important than the material wealth that may elude us from time to time. It may sound trite, but when you really think about it seriously the truth of it becomes clear.

As we are so often reminded, "local first" applies to our friends, families, and the occasional stranger as much as it does to our local economy. It's a time to be a little kinder, and a little gentler with one another, as

well as help local business to both survive and thrive.

We are certain that the rewards to be gained from this will soften the effects of whatever excesses we may experience along the way.

So, please try to remember those businesses within our immediate community when making your holiday shopping choices. They will be most grateful.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Joe Beckman. We wish him the very best of birthdays. A big happy birthday to **Joseph McKeon**, we wish him the very best. We hope he has a great day. Happy birthday to **Meghann Viens**, we wish her a very special birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such **Jim Powers**, **Sandrine Jeffreson**, **Dennis Biondo**, **Dennis Biondo**, **Philip D'Arcangelo**, **Nancy Jones**, **Peggy Henderson**, **Bill McCoy**, **Mary Silvestro**, **Todd Easton**, **JoEllen Guidi** and **Suzanne Ferola** a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the **Somerville Department of Health and Human Services** are inviting the Somerville community to join a **Transgender Day of Remembrance ceremony** on **Monday, November 20**, at 5:00 p.m. in honor of those members of the community who have lost their lives to violence. The ceremony will take place at the main entrance to **Somerville High School** (81 Highland Ave.). A short speaking program, with live ASL interpretation, will include remarks from Mayor Ballantyne and **Somerville LGBTQ+ Services Coordinator Izzy Starr**. The event is open to the public, and all are welcome. In order to protect vulnerable members of our community, masking is encouraged at this event; free masks will be provided. For more information about LGBTQ+ programming, events, and information, please contact LGBTQ+ Services Coordinator **Izzy Starr** at istarr@somervillema.gov.

Tickets on sale now for **Urban Waggle** on **Thursday, November 30**, 6:00 p.m., at **Arts at the Armory**. Urban Waggle is a live storytelling event in support of the mission and programs at the **Urban Bee Lab**, a registered non-profit organization.

They choose to amplify voices from the Greater Boston area that may not otherwise be heard. Audience members will leave feeling inspired, entertained, and more connected to one another through the uniquely human art of storytelling. More info here: <https://urbanbeelab.org/urbanwaggle>.

Join in for the **groundbreaking** of the **new Glen Park Community Garden Expansion** at 5 Palmer Ave., Somerville. **November 20**, 2:00 p.m. Rain date: November 21 at 12:00 p.m. Free and open to all. More information: <https://voice.somervillema.gov/glen-> Continued on page 18

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's
Olio
#898

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. A classic Banana Split dessert is topped with how many types of ice cream?

2. The Apple store on Fifth Avenue is known as what?

3. In what year was the mood ring first introduced?

4. Who was the first woman to be appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1979?

5. Who sang the rock anthem *Free Bird* in 1973?

6. What sort of crack-er is used to make s'mores?
7. In Greek mythology, who is the god of wine?

8. Phone calls can be made on an iPad using what?

9. What is the most commonly transplanted organ from living donors?

10. What is grown in an orchard?

11. Which sense has the closest link to memory?

12. Which U.S. city has a type of cream pie named after it?

Answers on page 10

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
2. The opposite sides of a die will always add up to seven.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
CATS & DOGS

- ACROSS
1. Baby powder

5. Hundredweight, acr.

8. Same as gauge

12. S squared, e.g.

13. Actor Wyle

14. Undergraduate's field of study

15. J. Edgar Hoover's man

16. Norse capital

17. Extremely angry

18. Tweety chaser

20. Bob Ross' do

21. Not quite right

22. Hawaiian dish

23. Directed

26. Brought down

30. Deed

31. Rifle's backward move

34. Denim innovator

35. Like salad greens

37. Greek R

38. Read-only memory device

39. Western Samoan money

40. Oklahoma athlete

42. Tiny guitar

43. Relating to dreams

45. Like certain Debbie?

47. U.S. Marine Corps gift recipient

50. Title for Turkish leader

52. 1929 Best Actor Oscar nominee

56. Lallygags

57. Medley

58. Pineapple producer

59. Suggestions

60. Lassie's mark in Hollywood sidewalk

61. Arabian bigwig

62. Banana leftover

63. New York time

64. "Wanted!" state

- DOWN
1. Labels with a name, on Facebook

2. Major or general employer

3. Same as #36 Down, archaically speaking

4. Painter's surface

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		

SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

5. Receipt listings

6. Corgi's homeland

7. Marvel Comics hammer wielder

8. Jon Arbuckle, Odie and ____

9. A bit cracked

10. Kind of move, 2 words

11. Bard's before

13. End of rugby match

14. Cat sound

19. Manicurist's file

22. Neighbor of Ger.

23. Nome, AK hero

24. Continental divide

25. Like old cracker

26. Rhodesian Ridgeback's target

27. Old episodes of Eddie Crane's TV show

28. Call forth

29. Two identical molecules put together
32. Rubber sandal

33. Exclamation of surprise

36. Fido, in Latin

38. More than one crocus

40. Canine command

41. Newspaper VIP

44. ____ beef

46. Meandered

48. Leaves at the alter, e.g.

49. Uniate church member

50. Of the highest quality

51. Open-mouthed astonishment

52. Thorny gift

53. Large book

54. Pelvic parts

55. Smart but awkward one

56. "A stiff upper ____"
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Arab Music Ensemble: Haya


The Tufts University Department of Music presents Arab Music Ensemble: Hayah at the Perry and Marty Granoff Music Center on Saturday, December 2, at 8:00pm.

Tufts Arab Music Ensemble directed by Na-seem Alatrash will be joined by Astaza, the Middle East Ensemble at Boston College, led by Nizar Fares, to present a concert entitled "Hayah", which is Arabic for Life.

They will present a selection of songs that describe all kinds of different aspects of the world.



LEGAL NOTICE



Somerville Housing Authority
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
Phase 1B (Lot C1) of the Clarendon Hills Redevelopment

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE LONG-TERM LEASE OR DISPOSITION OF SHA LAND AT 34 NORTH ST (LOT C1), SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS LAND FOR MARKET RATE AND MIXED-INCOME HOUSING

Issued on 10/18/2023, 2023

To select a developer partner to assist the Somerville Housing Authority ("SHA") in implementing Phase 1B at Lot C1 of the mixed-income redevelopment of its state-aided public housing development at 34 North St., Somerville, MA in conformance with the 40B Permit (as defined below) issued for the site, subject to modifications approved by SHA as discussed further below.

IMPORTANT DATES

Pre-Proposal Meeting/Site Tour:	11/01/2023 11:00 AM	at 30R Memorial Rd. Somerville
Proposal Submission Deadline:	11/21/2023 1:00 PM	
Developer Selection:	12/20/23	

Request for Proposal Documents should be made through email to BrianL@SHA-web.org on or after Wednesday Oct 18th. Brian Langton 617-625-1152 Ext.331

Please submit proposals to Brian Langton, no later than 12/21/23 at 1:00 PM.

OBJECTIVES

SHA desires to procure a developer who will (i) maximize the purchase price/upfront ground lease rent payment for Lot C1, while proposing a budget for the redevelopment of Phase 1B that covers costs for relocation and infrastructure and utilities (to the extent not covered by public funds already awarded as described more fully below), and (ii) complete the redevelopment of Phase 1B, Lot C1 on an expeditious timeline.

Background

On or about March 18, 2016, SHA issued a request for proposals entitled "Request for Proposals for the Long-Term Lease of SHA Land at 34 North St., Somerville, Massachusetts and the Development of this Land for Mixed-Income Housing," in connection with the contemplated development, rehabilitation, construction and operation of mixed income rental housing, including at least 216 units of state-aided public housing on 34 North St.

On or about April 8, 2016, Preservation of Affordable Housing LLC, a Massachusetts limited liability company, Gate Residential Properties, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and The Somerville Community Corporation, Inc., a Massachusetts nonprofit corporation, collectively (the "Original Developer") submitted a proposal to develop 34 North St. On or about May 6, 2016, SHA designated the Original Developer as the developer for 34 North St. As of January 11, 2023, SHA entered into a Land Disposition/Development Agreement with the Original Developer with respect to 34 North St. (the "Original LDA").

The Original LDA divided the redevelopment of 34 North St. into the following three projects:

First Building E (Phase 1A), followed by Buildings A & B (Phase 1B), and finally completed with Building D and Townhouses (Phase 2) as detailed further in the chart below (although the order of development of Phase 1B and Phase 2 is flexible). The full redevelopment includes 3 new streets, a new park, and demolition of 9 total buildings. Infrastructure, access and utility matters will be documented through one or more cross-easement agreements, and each phase shall pay its share of construction and maintenance of the same. Respondents should assume a baseline of \$3,100,000 for its share of construction costs of infrastructure, access and utilities.

SUMMARY	TOTAL	Phase 1A Building E	Phase 1B Buildings A&B	Phase 2 Building D and Townhouses
Replacement Units	216	130	15	71
Affordable (<80% AMI) [Inclusionary zoning requirement]	75	38	16	21
Affordable (<110% AMI) [Inclusionary zoning requirement]	5	0	5	0
Market Units	295	0	295	0
Total Units	591	168	331	92

10/18/23, 10/25/23, 11/1/23, 11/8/23, 11/15/23 The Somerville Times

The Somerville Times

Historical Fact of the Week

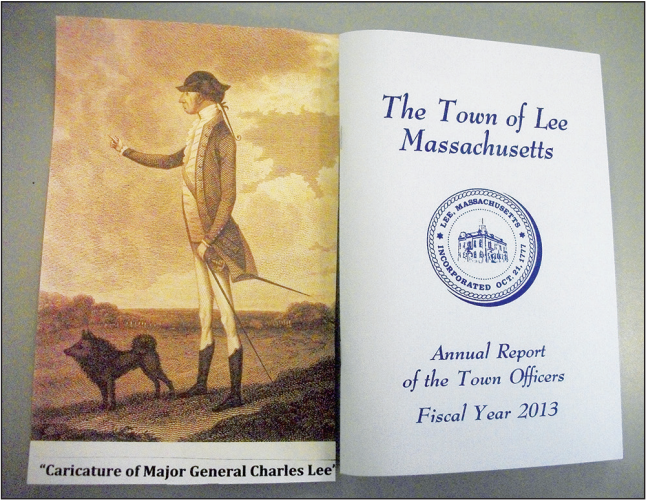


Eagle feathers #292

General Charles Lee

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

General Charles Lee was a well-seasoned officer and a soldier of fortune who was seriously wounded and barely survived at the battle of Ticonderoga. Before the revolution, he had a colorful military career serving with the British Army in the French and Indian War. He later helped Portugal in its fight against Spain and fought the Turks along with the Polish Army.



At the prelude of the revolution, he was considered the most experienced soldier in North America and was almost appointed commander of the Colonial Army. This was despite his English ties and his differences with General Washington.

Lee was General Washington's second in command. For a brief time, he enjoyed his quarters at Medford's Isaac Royal mansion which he nicknamed after an ancient Scottish castle "Hobgoblin Hall." Later as ordered, he moved to Sycamore Street (today's 310-year-old Oliver Tufts Homestead) in Somerville to be closer to his troops and Washington's headquarters. From here, he commanded the left wing of the Colonial Army during the siege of Boston in 1775-1776. Lee Street in Somerville bears his name.



General Lee was considered an extremely valuable prize for our new army. He shined in battle but was captured by the British and exchanged after a year of imprisonment.

After many serious and embarrassing blunders, he infuriated General Washington by starting an unauthorized and nearly disastrous retreat in the face of the enemy. He was convicted of disobedience of orders, misbehavior before the enemy and disrespect to General Washington. For this, Congress relieved him of his command.

Continued on page 10

LEGAL NOTICES

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



NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Date of Publication: November 15th, 2023
City of Somerville
93 Highland Ave
Somerville MA, 02143
617-625-6600

On or after November 17th, 2023, the City of Somerville will submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Small Business Resiliency
Purpose: Provide technical assistance to small businesses in the East Somerville and Union Square areas.
Location: Income eligible areas including East Somerville, Winter Hill, and Union Square. Specific addresses and locations will be subject to environmental reviews once identified.
Project/Program Description: Businesses may receive things such as: one-on-one consulting, coaching, and mentoring, direct financial assistance to help do things such as acquire property/clear structures/build, expand, or rehab a building/purchase equipment, provide operating capital or lease negotiations, or train new/existing entrepreneurs to understand fundamental business concepts. The assistance will be provided to small businesses that provide direct services to clients of whom a min of 60% reflect the target populations that follow: women/minority owned/operated businesses, immigrant/non-native English speaking, low-moderate income entrepreneurs.

Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.
Level of Environmental Review Citation: 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(1)(2)
Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): Once sites are selected, they will be reviewed to ensure that they: are not located in a FEMA designated flood area; are not near or containing hazardous, toxic, or radioactive materials; do not suffer from adverse environmental conditions; will not be adversely harmed by the proposed action as well as the surrounding neighborhood; do not adversely affect a Massachusetts historically significant site; do not have an adverse effect on endangered or threatened species, or critical habitats; are not subject to adverse noise levels; are in the proximity of explosive/flammable hazards. If the described Tier 2 review does identify any of these scenarios, HUD guidelines will be followed to best mitigate the concern.

Estimated Project Cost: HUD Funding: \$200,000 Estimated Cost: \$200,000

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per CFR Part 58.35(a)(1)(2). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, City of Somerville, 93 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA and may be examined or copied Monday - Wednesday 8:30 A.M to 4:30 P.M., Thursday 8:30 A.M. - 7:30 P.M. or Friday 8:30 A.M. -12:30 P.M. or can be requested through an email to mrubin@somervillema.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development. All comments received by November 17th, 2023, will be considered by the City of Somerville prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Somerville certifies to HUD that Alan Inacio, the Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Director of Finance and Community Development, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Somerville to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Somerville's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Somerville; (b) the City has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the HUD Office of Community Planning and Development at Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building 10 Causeway Street, 5th Floor Boston, MA 02222-1092, (617) 994-8350 or via email: ma_webmanager@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period. Alan Inacio, Director of Finance and Community Development, City of Somerville, Certifying Officer

11/15/23 The Somerville Times



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, December 5, 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_PyH-T4zkQEWa7XwuQqnOqA
Webinar ID: 834 9108 9062

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 COMPONENT

DETERMINATIONS OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION

HP23-000035– 69 Clarendon Avenue
Applicant: North America Development LLC
Owner: Arindam Samanta and Leah M. Samanta
The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

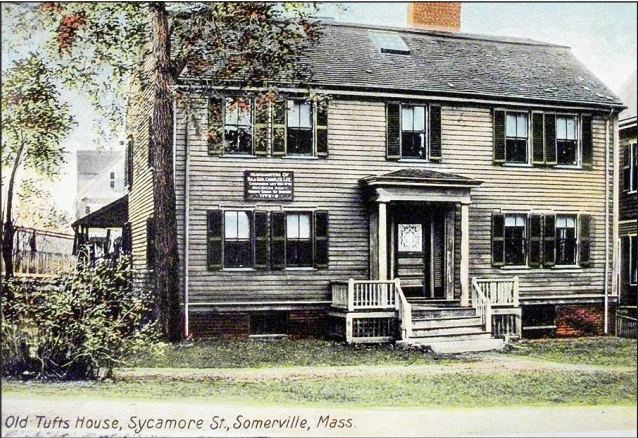
*Case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov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

11/15/23 The Somerville Times

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

In 1777, Lee, Massachusetts attempted to name itself Washington after the commanding General but a neighboring town won the privilege. At that time, because General Lee shared in riding the crest of popularity, the area's residents honored him by naming their town Lee. Despite the negative controversy regarding Lee, the town is still proud and is known as the "Gateway to the Berkshires."

Was he a great patriot or a mortal enemy? Was he a Nathan Hale or a Benedict Arnold? These questions still remain today.



Old Tufts House, Sycamore St., Somerville, Mass.

Ms. Cam's
Olio
Answers

From on page 8

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. 3 | 7. Bacchus |
| 2. The Cube | 8. VoIP |
| 3. 1975 | 9. Kidney |
| 4. Sandra Day O'Connor | 10. Fruit trees |
| 5. Lynyrd Skynyrd | 11. Smell |
| 6. Graham | 12. Boston |

LEGAL NOTICES

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



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
CITY COUNCIL

There will be a public hearing at a regular meeting of the Somerville City Council on **Tuesday, November 21, 2023**, at 7:00 PM, on the Order of President Ben Ewen-Campen, to determine the percentage of local tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal Year 2024, as required by MGL c40 s56. At this public hearing, Frank Golden, Chief Assessor and Chairman of the Somerville Board of Assessors, will provide information and data relevant to making a determination, including the fiscal effects of the available alternatives.

This meeting of the City Council will be conducted both in person and by remote participation, using the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person at the City Council Chamber, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9JmUcAw-pSMCVI3lxaiEucQ>. 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.
3. 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.

KIMBERLY M. WELLS
CITY CLERK

11/15/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR BIDS
IFB #24-29

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:

Water Distribution System Maintenance & Repairs

A bid package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at <http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress> on or after: **Wednesday, November 15th, 2023**. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: **2:00 pm, Thursday, December 7**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please email Felisa Garate at fgarate@somervillema.gov for more information.

5% Bid deposit required. Massachusetts Prevailing Wages apply.

Felisa Garate
Procurement Analyst
617-625-6600 x3406

11/15/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR BIDS
IFB #24-28

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:

AUTO BODY and COLLISION REPAIR

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or from the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **Wednesday, November 15, 2023**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **2:00PM, Tuesday, December 5th, 2023**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Sonia Castro at scastr@somervillema.gov for more information.

Sonia Castro
Procurement Manager
617-625-6600 x3407

11/15/23 The Somerville Times

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

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

Pee-Wee Herman tribute party at Crystal Ballroom

On Sunday, November 26, prepare to embark on a nostalgic journey into the whimsical and subversive world of Pee-Wee Herman, as the Somerville Theatre and Crystal Ballroom X Identical Cousins present a tribute event like no other. Celebrate the iconic character Pee-Wee Herman, portrayed by the legendary Paul Reubens (1952–2023).

What other entertainer has had the sheer cultural, aesthetic, and psychic impact of Pee-Wee Herman – let alone one so eccentric, deranged, arty, and queer? Cast off your Thanksgiving torpor with your own Big Adventure, as you are granted your wish to fly directly into the heart of the Playhouse. After screening Tim Burton's revolutionary 1985 film Pee-Wee's Big Adventure (served with a warm-up of highlights of the TV show), float upstairs to the ballroom for a raucous celebration of the icon's legacy.



A Super Friends-style cast includes comedy (co-hosting: Tooky Kavanagh, Angela Sawyer), drag (Celia Smokinbutts, Luke Warm), and oodles of live music from Pee-Wee's universe, featuring local luminaries like Red Sox organist Josh Kantor, Patriots/Bruins deejay TJ Connelly as D.J. Conky-2000, rock gods Hilken Mancini (as Cyndi Lauper/Pee Wee Aerobics for puppets) and Thalia Zedek (vocals), Teenbeat Records' Cotton Candy ('80s commercial breaks), and a Walter Sickert cameo.

Inhabit Pee-Wee's world with an immersive bicycle photobooth, an interactive Picture Phone, cartoons fit for a King, a Burton-esque nightmare installation, a Pee-Gee-Rated Peepshow, a commemorative activity book, on-theme cocktails, and reimagined Playhouse sets and props galore. Bust out your best elevator shoes for a Tequila dance party, bonus points and a shot at a prize for wearing your favorite Pee-Wee and friends costumes.

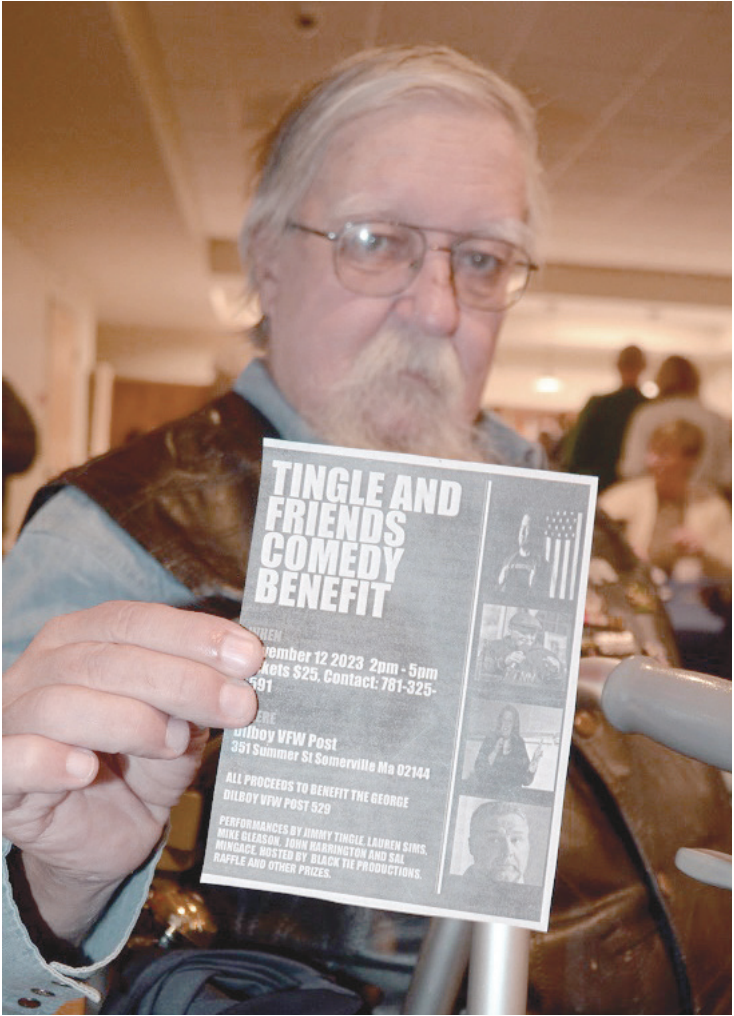
The Word of the Day Is ... you'll just have to join the party to find out! For ticket information visit bit.ly/werall-pee-pee. For more information, please contact Bridget Duggan or Emily Arkin, Identical Cousins, at: cousinsidentical@gmail.com.



Tingle and Friends Comedy Benefit

We would like to thank everyone who came out and supported the Tingle and Friends Comedy Benefit that took place on Sunday at the Dilboy VFW Post. Special thanks to Sal Mingace and Jimmy Tingle for putting the benefit together. A big thank you to all the comedians that participated in making the night a fun night of laughter. Thank you to Dilboy Post and the female members of the Auxiliary who handled the food, supplied by Leones, desserts, and raffles. Thank you to *The Somerville Times* for their support and Claudia Ferro for her photos of the event. The event was a great success and we wanted to thank everyone who made that happen. All proceeds went to benefit the George Dilboy VFW Post 529. Thank you to all the Veterans, we salute you!

— The Mingace Family





Photos by Claudia Ferro



CLASSIFIEDS

Place your classified ad today – only \$1 per word! E-mail: ads@thesomervilletimes.com

AUTOS WANTED

CASH FOR CARS! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled-it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! **NEWER MODELS** too! Call 1-866-258-6720

FINANCIAL

WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free Consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-428-7954

FOR RENT

Warm Weather Is Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

FOR SALE

YOU'LL WANT TO USE THIS TIMESHARE. Orange Lake, Florida. Near Disney. Weeks 8 & 9 (February) One floor living with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, full kitchen, laundry. Purchase both for \$19,000. Call 978.371.2442 or email carol@actionunlimited.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00. 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Español

Dental Insurance - Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Covers 350 procedures. Real insurance - not a discount plan. Get your free dental info kit! 1-855-526-1060 www.dental50plus.com/ads#6258

Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

HOME SERVICES

Aging Roof? New Homeowner? Got Storm Damage? You need a local expert provider

that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-878-9091

Water damage cleanup & restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809

MISCELLANEOUS

4G LTE HOME INTERNET Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-877-452-1183

CARING FOR AN AGING LOVED ONE? Wondering about options like senior-living communities and in-home care? Caring.com's Family Advisors are here to help take the guesswork out of senior care for you and your family. Call for your FREE, no-obligation consultation: 1-844-556-4158

DISH NETWORK \$59.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100. Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-833-800-0411

DISHTV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some Restrictions Apply. Promo Expires 01/31/2024. 1-877-494-7039

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-723-0883

FREE HIGH SPEED INTERNET for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits,

Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping and handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-877-559-8698

HUGHESNET SATELLITE INTERNET Finally, no hard data limits! Call Today for speeds up to 25mbps as low as \$59.99/mo! \$75 gift card, terms apply. 1-877-459-1615

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 and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe-Step 1-844-610-9711

SWITCH AND SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer: get 50% off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-866-926-5071

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Down + Low Monthly Pmt Request a free Quote. Call before the next power outage: 1-855-948-6176

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-761-1725

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

HughesNet - Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just

\$59.99/mo! Unlimited Data is Here. Stream Video. Bundle TV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 866-499-0141

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo.com/ads

DISHTV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/31/24. 1-866-479-1516

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! Financing available. 1-855-417-1306

MobileHelp, America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! 1-888-489-3936

Free high speed internet if qualified. Govt. pgm for recipients of select pgms incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet. Android tablet free w/ one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping. Call Maxsip Telecom! 1-833-758-3892

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971

DIRECTV Stream - Carries the most local MLB Games! Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/Choice Package or higher.) No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-866-859-0405

Are you a pet owner? Do you want to get up to 100% back on vet bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call 1-844-774-0206 to get a free quote or visit insurebarkmeow.com/ads

Diagnosed with lung cancer & 65+? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7 1-877-707-5707

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. Limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-844-501-3208

Reader Advisory: The National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the above classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather supply the readers with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients establish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card numbers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll free numbers may or may not reach Canada.

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.

An odd sort of City Council meeting



By Chris Dwan

The City Council met behind locked doors last Thursday night.

I know because I was there in person. When the council went into executive session around 8:40pm to discuss the property at the former Matignon School, I took the opportunity to step outside for some fresh air. When I tried to get back in, I was surprised to find the door locked. I've been attending council meetings on and off since 2017, and this was a first for me.

None other than Mayor Kat-jana Ballantyne showed up a few minutes later, leaving work around 9:00 p.m. After thanking her for letting me in I asked if we could get the door unlocked. Her response as she hurried off to catch her bus was that, "we can't just leave things unlocked."

To be fair, there was minimal practical impact. The city clerk asked staff to unlock the door, the meeting was streamed live on the internet, broadcast on community access television, and a recording is available on the city's

website. Still, under Open Meeting Law, this is very much not supposed to happen.

Later in the meeting, we heard that the administration had declined Ward 1 Councilor Matt McLaughlin's request that "the new Police sub-station in East Somerville [be] easily accessible to the public and [include] public restrooms," citing safety concerns by the staff. McLaughlin noted that a police station is among the safest possible places to locate a public bathroom and also that, "the one constituent in the audience tonight got locked out when he stepped outside for a moment. Beyond being a violation of open meeting law, do we live in a castle here?"

The meeting was disappointing on other fronts as well.

I had submitted a petition, along with 50+ of my neighbors, asking for traffic calming on our street. At-Large Councilor Jake Wilson dismissed it with a chuckle, saying that petitions – despite being the "officially recommended recourse," are basically a waste of time. He asked, "how long would you estimate you spent on that?"

Wilson pointed out that he had submitted a request to the administration in September 2022, asking that they "provide documentation of the current process for determining the locations of traffic calming measures, and



The lights at the front entrance of City Hall are all either burned out or turned off.

communicate this information to the public via the website." That request remains un-answered in committee, more than fourteen months later.

I didn't ask how long he had spent on it.

In the report from Licenses and Permits, we learned that there is no penalty for developers who work ahead of their permits. Two weeks prior, Comcast had

requested a routine "grant of location" to dig a trench across the sidewalk on Beacon Street. These requests are usually approved on the spot, but this one was sent to committee after Ward 2 Councilor JT Scott pointed out that the trench had already been dug.

A pedestrian pushes a walker in the street to get around un-permitted sidewalk work

In the committee meeting the developer shared that they had dug the trench ahead of the permit in the hopes of speeding up the project. He was starting to rant about fines the city had imposed on him for killing street trees when Council President Ben Ewen-Campen cut him off with a motion to approve the permit.

At the Council meeting, Councilor Ewen-Campen said that we would need an ordinance specifying fines and penalties in order to be able to take action when developers flaunt this particular law.

It wasn't all doom and gloom

though. The council introduced a home rule petition (a request to the state legislature) asking that the city be allowed to cap rent increases at 5% year over year – except on owner-occupied buildings with three or fewer units, along with six other exemptions to make sure that the interests of property owners are properly respected.

Getting the rents under control is a good idea and sorely needed, but it seems likely that this particular home rule petition will join an illustrious company of others languishing, dead on arrival, on Beacon Hill – even given that we are sending it pre-gutted. Even if it passes, the city has yet to implement the registries of rental and vacant properties that we already require by ordinance, so enforcement seems like a distant hope.

Under conditions like these, I can see the logic in locking the doors.



A pedestrian pushes a walker in the street to get around un-permitted sidewalk work.

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.

COA Holiday Luncheon – Thursday, December 14th – 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Dilboy Post located at 351 Summer Street. \$10 per person. Please reserve your spot by calling Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Joel Light & Dan Moore-Cultural Series Event – Thursday, November 30th starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Holland Street Center. Seasonal Holiday songs, Broadway tunes and familiar singalongs performed by Joel Light and Dan More with live piano music. Lunch and performance is brought to you at no cost by the Somerville Cambridge Elder Services Multicultural Meal Program, a City of Somerville, ARPA funded program. Please reserve your spot by calling Debby Higgins at 617-615-6600, 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, November 21st - Ralph & Jenny Center: Italian - Chinese - Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center.

Tuesday, November 28th - Ralph & Jenny Center: Haitian - Highland Creole Cuisine.

Thursday, November 16th – Holland Street Center: Portuguese - J&J Restaurant.

Thursday, November 30th - 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.

Holiday Fraud - Friday, November 17th from

11:00 a.m. to noon at our Holland Street Center. The holidays are around the corner and while this is a time filled with warmth and cheer, this is also the time of year when scammers are most active. Robin Putnam from the Office of Consumer Affairs & Business Regulations will be at the Holland Street Center to inform us on the latest methods and tricks being used by scammers and how we can recognize their scam. Stay scan savvy by attending this presentation. Lunch and transportation will be provided upon request. To RSVP, contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

Intergenerational Literacy Day – Wednesday, November 29th at 11:00 a.m. at the Holland Street Center. The Somerville Council on Aging, the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative and SomerPromise invite parents and young children to a heartwarming gathering where generations will bond through shared stories and books. RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Knitting with Natasha Group – Drop-in dates are Thursday, November 21st and Thursday, November 28th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 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. 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.

Bingo – Tuesday at the Ralph & Jenny Center starting at 10:00 a.m. November 21st & 28th. Lunch is available following Bingo. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Bingo – Thursday at our Holland Street Center - starting at 10:00 a.m. November 16th. Lunch is available following Bingo. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Project Outlook, Low Vision Group - (NEW TIME) Meets the 4th Thursday of each month (November 16th) starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Holland Street Center. Project Outlook is a group of residents with low or no vision who enjoy getting together for camaraderie and socialization. Project Outlook has been active for over 30 years. Come join in the conversation, we look forward to meeting you. All are welcome. Pizza will be served. For more information, please contact Claudia Ferro at 857-237-1801 or Molly Pagliuca at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318.

Game Hour – Mondays from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center. Please join us as we play a wide variety of board and card games. RSVP to Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 or email Maureen at mbastardi@somervillema.gov.

Coffee & Conversation – Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center. Join us as we discuss a range of topics. No books – no test – just friendly conversation. Please contact Maureen Bastardi at mabastardi@Somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 to RSVP.

The Council on Aging will be closed on Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.

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 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.

The Council on Aging's Senior Transportation Program

The COA is offering free taxi rides to Somerville residents over the age of 60. Rides are available to go to the grocery store, farmer's market, and pharmacy in Somerville and routine medical appointments in the surrounding communities. To best accommodate the needs of everyone in the city and to maximize the use of our funding, we will be capping the number of rides per week. To ensure the health and welfare of every resident of Somerville, exemptions will be made for chemotherapy and radiation appointments. To find out more information or to schedule your ride, please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319. All rides must be booked two business days in advance. This program is funded through ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funding.

Somerville Seniors Thanksgiving Dinner

On Thursday, November 9, the Kiwanis Club of Somerville once again hosted local senior residents of Somerville at the new Culinary Arts Department at the Somerville High School. Somerville High School Chef David and his students prepared a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixings followed by apple pie. The Kiwanis Club of Somerville sponsors the annual event, and member volunteers serve the guests. Following dinner, Kiwanis members led everyone in singing songs from the thirties and forties, and awarding door prizes. As always, the senior guests had a wonderful evening. Special thanks to Somerville Council on Aging for coordinating with the seniors. Kiwanis main mission is to support children through many programs throughout the year, including bike safety, scholarships, Reading Is Fundamental, school supplies for needy high school students, etc. To learn more about Kiwanis, please email SomervilleKiwanis@gmail.com.
— Photos courtesy of Somerville Kiwanis Club



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

park-community-garden.

Last month the **Somerville Council on Aging** launched a community survey in partnership with **UMASS Boston** to better understand the needs of **Somerville residents age 60+** to improve programs and services provided. The survey is now open until **Friday, December 1**. Take the survey online, over the phone, or print and submit a paper copy. Learn more at somer ville. ma. gov/ coa.

The **Somerville Community Growing Center** will be one of the 400+ organizations vying for a healthy piece of the **SeedMoney grant "pie"** starting at noon today, **Wednesday, November 15**. Know a food garden project that could use a grant? They have 432 of them up for grabs, but we need to grab fast. Get started here: <https://donate.seedmoney.org>.

Union Square Main Streets and **El Pootro Mexican Bar & Grill** present the **9th annual Holiday Stroll**. Join in The Holiday Stroll, a celebration of Union Square sparkle, discovery, and holiday delight on **Saturday, December 2**, from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Revel in this Union Square neighborhood tradition and enter to win cash prizes by conquering the **Elfie Selfie** and **Stroll the Square Challenges** when enjoying unique eats and rad retail. See the Square sparkle as participating businesses light up the night with the splendid **Storefront Decoration Contest** and with the incredible inflatables on the **Festivus Trail**. Dozens of locally-owned businesses await with all you need to stuff your stockings, deck your halls with local art, make your tastebuds celebrate, and more. Bundle up and come on down to unwrap Union Square in all its wintry wonderment! For more information on how to enter to win cash prizes, visit: <https://www.unionsquaremain.org/9th-annual-holiday-stroll>.

Wreath sales have begun. Buy a wreath from the **Next Wave / Full Circle Annual Wreath Fundraiser** (donations welcome). Wreath pickup for the community at NW/FC on **November 28 and 29** from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (There will be no tree lot this year.) Wreaths sold to staff members will be delivered to schools. The

cost is \$25. To order, visit <https://somer ville. k12. ma. us/ next- wave- full- circle- wreath- sale- 2021>.

The **Somerville Community Growing Center** is holding their **annual wreath sale** also. It's that time of year again. Time to order your wreath. Consider purchasing a beautiful, handcrafted holiday wreath, which helps to support programming and care for the Growing Center. Volunteers work behind the scenes starting as far back as the summer - growing, picking and drying flowers, and gathering nature materials from farms and woodlands. The results: Hand-decorated evergreen wreaths, each featuring a homemade bow (in your choice of three colors: red, burgundy, or purple), adorned with locally sourced pinecones, delicate dried flowers, and ornamental peppers and berries. To purchase visit their online store: bit.ly/fcgcstore.

Please join **Brickbottom Artists Building** and **Joy Street Studios** in celebrating their annual **Open Studios event** where 80+ artists and artisans open their studios to the public, exhibiting and selling work in a wide variety of media and formats. **November 18-19**, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m., 1 Fitchburg Street and 86 Joy Street, Somerville. For more information and a list of artists visit <https://brickbottom.org>.

Share your thoughts about **school food**. Fill out the **Somerville Food and Nutrition Services Department Survey**. Help them develop menus, education curriculum, and communication plans for the next three to five years. Find the survey in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole on the FNSD website: somer ville. k12. ma. us/ fnsd.

Join the **Somerville Council on Aging's Project Outlook**, **Thursday, November 16**, 2:00 p.m., at the **Holland Street Center**, 67 Holland Street. Project Outlook is a group of residents with low or no vision who enjoy getting together for camaraderie and socialization. Project Outlook has been active for over 30 years and is always welcoming new members. Come join the conversation, all are welcome. Pizza will be served. RSVP to **Molly** at 617-625-

6600 ext. 2318 or mpagliuca@somer ville. ma. gov.

The **Somerville Community Growing Center** is turning 30. Record a memory from the comfort of your own home or from anywhere on your mobile device. bit.ly/gc-30.

East Somerville Main Streets' Cozy Holiday Market invites you to savor a warm drink while exploring a variety of artisans, materials, and charming supplies to prepare for the winter ahead. Gather with friends, family, and even bring your pets to relish in the cozy atmosphere. Unearth that festive, ugly sweater from the back of your closet and capture memorable moments with Santa. Embrace the joy of the season and have fun at our cozy market. **Friday, December 8**, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m., 15 Garfield Ave., Somerville.

In preparation for the cold months ahead, the **Somerville Homeless Coalition** is in urgent need of **winter clothing and apparel** to keep their clients warm and safe. Donations of socks, hats, jackets, hand warmers, sweatpants, and more will go a long way towards keeping the most vulnerable clients protected against the unpredictable New England weather. All donations can be dropped off at their **Engagement Center** located at 1 Davis Square, Somerville between Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed each day from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. for lunch. Help keep our neighbors safe this winter.

Somerville Public Schools will be holding a **free Flu Vaccine Clinic** on **November 16**, 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. at the **East Somerville Community School**, 50 Cross St. Sign up for an appointment here: <https://www.somer ville. ma. gov/ vaccinations> or walk in. Clínica de Vacunación Contra la Gripe GRATUITAS16 de noviembre: 3PM-5:30PM, Escuela Comunitaria de East Somerville, 50Cross St<https://www.somer ville. ma. gov/ vaccinations>Clínica de vacinação contra a gripe GRATUITAS16/ nov/23: 15h-17h30, East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St <https://www.somer ville. ma. gov/ vaccinations> Klinik Vaksen pou, Grip GRATIS

16/11/23: 3PM-5:30PM, Nan East Somerville Community School ki sitye nan 50 Cross St <https://www.somer ville. ma. gov/ vaccinations>

Help keep our waterways clean in your neighborhood by joining **Somerville's Adopt-a-Drain program**. A storm drain clear of leaves, trash or other debris allows water to flow into the catch basin sump and can prevent flooding. When you adopt a drain (or drains), you commit to caring for a local storm drain of your choice by checking on it before and after heavy rain, wind, or snow. Bonus perk: you can also give it a name. Claim your drain at somer ville. mysticdrains. org.

Somerville Public Schools Winter Sports registration is now open for both middle grades and high school athletes. Learn more and register for middle grades sports: <https://somer ville. k12. ma. us/ mgathletics>. Learn more and register for high school sports: <https://somer ville. k12. ma. us/ teams>.

Visit the **Blue: The Celebration of a Color** exhibit at the **Somerville Museum**, through **December 2**, One Westwood Rd. The exhibit showcases paintings, photography, installation, fashion, and video works of local artists who incorporate blue in their studio practice. For hours visit www.somer ville. museum. org.

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.somer ville. youthhockey. org/ ltsltp>.

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.

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

WATCH: Future of Aging forum celebrates collaboration

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services celebrated 50 years of services by convening a Future of Aging forum in October.

The forum brought together industry leaders from the medical, aging, advocacy, political, and community-based services fields to discuss emerging trends and best practices to help stakeholders build a better future of aging.

“Today, our focus really is how we can all work together to create and strengthen the future of aging in our communities,” said SCES Board President Lesley Hergert.

Highlights of the forum can be watched on the SCES website; visit eldercare.org and search for “forum.”

The keynote discussion focused on advancing health, equity, and independence. Moderated by Olivia Umoren from USAging, the panelists were:

- Leading Age SVP of Research and Co-Director of the LeadingAge LTSS Center at UMASS Boston, Dr. Robyn I. Stone
- Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging at UMASS Boston Director Dr. Caitlin E. Coyle
- Fenway Health interim CEO and Founding Member of the Health Equity Compact Manuel Lopes

Also speaking during this segment were:

- SCES CEO Marta Corvelo
- Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs Secretary Dr. Elizabeth Chen
- Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Undersecretary for Health

Dr. Kiame Mahaniah

The breakout session “Driving Innovation through Social and Health Care Partnerships” explored the intersection of innovation, social and healthcare partnerships, and the population health needs of aging in place. Moderated by Marisa Scala-Foley of USAging, the panelists were:

- Greater Lawrence Family Health Center President and CEO Guy Fish
- National Committee for Quality Assurance Senior Content Engineer Amelia Bedri
- Older Adult Behavioral Health Network (OABHN) Project Manager Cassie Cramer
- AgeSpan Chief Strategy Officer Jennifer Raymond
- Commonwealth Care Alliance President of Clinical Ser-



LeadingAge Senior VP of Research Robyn Stone (center) speaks during the keynote panel on health, equity, and independence at the Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services Future of Aging forum in October. Also on the panel were Caitlyn Coyle of UMass Boston and Manuel Lopes of Fenway Health.

vices Hany Abdelaal

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services is a non-profit agency that supports the independence and well-being of older adults and adults with disabilities in Somerville and Cambridge. For free advice and guidance on questions of aging, caregiving or disability, contact our Community Support Center at 617-628-2601, email info@eldercare.org, or visit our website eldercare.org.

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

Massachusetts for years from being denied services because they will be competing with those from out of state who have been on Massachusetts soil for five minutes. There are 49 other states who can also be helping with asylum seekers or refugees as Massachusetts cannot afford to continue do it on its own, especially in this uncontrolled fashion.”

“I think that’s a fair amount of time to say that you’ve been here, that you’ve been participating in the community and that if you do need emergency shelter, then you could have it,” Frost continued. “And if you want to discuss or further amend or debate lowering that figure to six months or whatever, I’m willing to talk. But the fact is it can’t be 45 minutes, it can’t be a day, because it won’t stop. They’ll continue to come and be sent here. And it’s not their fault, I understand that. They’re going where they’re told, they’re going where other groups are sending them because they’re told they will be taken care of.”

“Given the humanitarian crises that are driving migrants here, it is unlikely that a 1-year residency requirement would reduce the flow, so the practical impact would be families with young children and pregnant women on the street with no shelter during the winter months likely resulting in emergency rooms and public spaces being overwhelmed at no small cost,” said Rep. Alice Peisch (D-Wellesley). “Such a residency requirement would undoubtedly fail if challenged in the courts as both the [state’s] Supreme Judicial Court and US Supreme Court have ruled that states cannot restrict benefits based on ‘alienage,’ which this residency requirement is doing, if not

in law, then most certainly in fact.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the 1-year requirement. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	No
Rep. Mike Connolly	No
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven	No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

NARCAN IN SCHOOLS (S 1274) – The Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery Committee held a hearing on legislation that would allow school districts the option of creating a Narcan overdose prevention program. The measure would require every school nurse to be trained in Narcan assistance and to have Narcan in the nurse’s office. Narcan is an emergency treatment used for the complete or partial reversal of opioid overdose.

“It is critical that all of our schools have access to Narcan and have the trained personnel to administer this life-saving medicine,” said sponsor Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield). “In several of my rural school districts, waiting for first responders to arrive and administer Narcan can mean precious time is lost. Expanding access to Narcan is so important for reversing overdoses and this legislation is squarely focused on that goal.”

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 November 6-10, the House met for a total of seven hours and 12 minutes while the Senate met for a total of three hours and five minutes.

Mon. Nov. 6	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:08 a.m. Senate 11:08 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
Tues. Nov. 7	No House session No Senate session
Wed. Mon. 8	House 11:02 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. No Senate session
Thurs. Nov. 9	House 11:35 a.m. to 11:42 a.m. Senate 11:21 a.m. to 2:19 p.m.
Fri. Nov. 10	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Somerville High Robotics Club at Somernova

On Monday, November 13, the Somerville High School Robotics Club hosted a Somerville Robotics League competition for local fifth and sixth graders at Somernova, the 7.4 acre campus for innovation and community



Somerville through the eyes of Denise



The last of October... — Photo by Denise Provost

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



I'm afraid for the calendar.
Its days are numbered.

On This Day in History

November 15

- 1533 – The explorer Francisco Pizarro enters Cuzco, Peru.
- 1626 – The Pilgrim Fathers, who have settled in New Plymouth, buy out their London investors.
- 1805 – Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and their party reach the mouth of the Columbia River, completing their trek to the Pacific.
- 1864 – Union Major General William T. Sherman's troops set fires that destroy much of Atlanta's industrial district prior to beginning Sherman's March to the Sea.
- 1917 – Kerensky flees and Bolsheviks take command in Moscow.
- 1942 – An American fleet defeats a Japanese naval force in a clash off Guadalcanal.
- 1957 – Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev asserts Soviet superiority in missiles, challenging the United States to a rocket-range shooting match.
- 1969 – A quarter of a million anti-Vietnam War demonstrators march in Washington, DC.
- 1988 – Palestinian National Council proclaims an independent State of Palestine.

The "Original"
All Types Vent Cleaning
Restaurant Hood Cleaning
Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning
Power Washing
Licensed and Insured
in Massachusetts
We travel all over
Massachusetts
Call today to find out
our weekly specials!
Call Jimmy 857-366-3761

To advertise in
**The
Somerville
Times**
call
Bobbie Toner
857-488-5138

The Somerville Times

To advertise in our Business Directory,
call 857-488-5138.

Let your customers find you in
Somerville's most widely read newspaper!

BUSINESS
DIRECTORY

Monica Calvo Realtor®
Real Estate Professional
Cell: 617-605-3308

Email: mcalvo@relocationnewengland.com
Web: remaxpartnersrelocation.com

RE/MAX

PARTNERS RELOCATION

44 Park ST
Andover MA 01810

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



The Law Offices of
Richard G. Di Girolamo

Richard G. Di Girolamo, Esquire
Anne M. Vigorito, Esquire
Breanna L. Rolland, Esquire

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Real Estate Law
Zoning
Civil Litigation
Criminal Defense
Family Law
Personal Injury

TELEPHONE: (617) 666-8200
FAX: (617) 776-5435
EMAIL: digirolamolegal@verizon.net
424 BROADWAY, SOMERVILLE, MA 02145



NINA SABLE

sell with sable

508.733.8935

Email: Nina.Sable@raveis.com
Web: NinaSable.raveis.com

15 West Central St. | Natick | MA 01760



Juscelia LoRusso
617.686.8095

Cakes for all occasions

facebook.com/JusceliasCakes
facebook.com/Juscelia.Lorusso



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



Closed Wednesday

Alibrandi's Barber Shop

Men & Boys Haircuts

"Best Somerville Barber"

194 Holland St, Somerville, MA 02144

617-628-4282

VELNEY
DEVELOPMENT

Josué Velney
President and CEO
Velney Development
VBE/MBE Certified

(617) 401-9339 | (617) 201-5769
www.velneydevelopment.com

Martin B. Dropkin
Nancy G. Matza



Attorneys at Law
Tel: 617-623-4600 Fax: 617-625-7315

DROPKIN & MATZA LLP

Attorneys at Law

424 Broadway
Somerville MA 02145

Bankruptcy
Family Law
Immigration
Personal Injury
Business Law
Estate Planning and Probate
Real Estate
Elder Law
Civil Litigation

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com

T. J. SILLARI, INC.

Over 50 Years Experience
Proud to be a Somerville Business Resident



• Plumbing • Heating
• Gas Fitting • Industrial Work
• Water Heater Replacement
• Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106 625-9877

Telephone:
(617) 625-2244
(617) 625-4344

Fax:
(617) 625-4350

EDWIN J. SMITH
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
RUMERY & SMITH

403 HIGHLAND AVENUE
SOMERVILLE, MA 02144

edsmithlaw@gmail.com

To advertise in
The Somerville Times call
Bobbie Toner: 857-488-5138

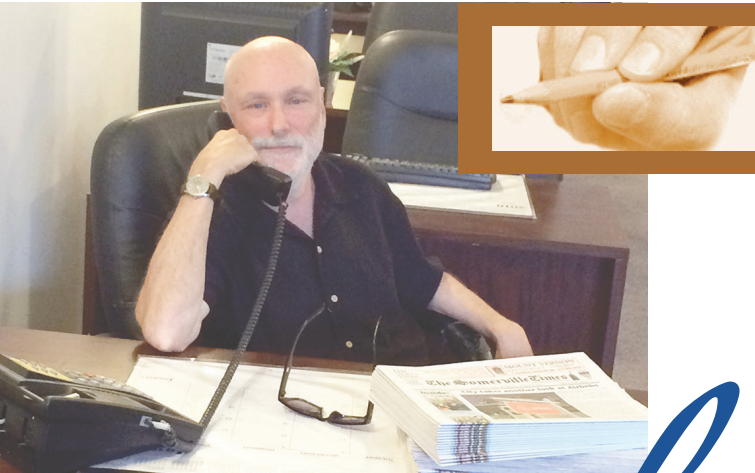
GovTV – Xfinity 22/Astound 13/613

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15			8:00 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	11:00 AM	Historic Bicycle Ride	12:30 AM	Somerville Museum: Access for All			
6:30 AM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	9:00 PM	Somerville Museum: Access for All	11:30 AM	School Committee Update	1:30 AM	City Council Meeting 11-9-23				
7:30 AM	Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy	10:30 PM	Senior Circuit	12:00 PM	City Council Meeting 11-9-23	6:30 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III				
8:00 AM	Museum of Bad Art Tour	11:00 PM	Museum of Bad Art Tour	2:30 PM	City Council Spotlight	7:30 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/Phelan				
9:00 AM	Veterans Day Ceremony 2023	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17			3:00 PM	Domestic Violence Vigil 2023	8:00 AM	Domestic Violence Vigil 2023			
9:30 AM	Senior Circuit	12:00 AM	Somerville Museum:	4:00 PM	SomerViva an Kreyol	8:40 AM	SPD Ride Along				
10:00 AM	Domestic Violence Vigil 2023		How the GI Bill Changed America	4:30 PM	Veterans Day Ceremony 2023	9:00 AM	School Committee Update				
11:00 AM	Finance Committee Meeting	1:30 AM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023	5:00 PM	Veterans Day at Milk Row Cemetery	9:30 AM	Cultural Capacity Forum				
12:00 PM	Historic Bicycle Ride	6:30 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II	5:30 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	10:30 AM	Finance Committee Meeting				
12:30 PM	HONK! Parade	7:20 AM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023	6:30 PM	Somerville Museum:	11:30 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol				
1:00 PM	School Committee Update	9:00 AM	Somerville Museum:		How the GI Bill Changed America	12:00 PM	School Committee Meeting				
1:30 PM	School Committee Meeting		How the GI Bill Changed America	8:00 PM	Somerville Museum: Access for All	3:00 PM	SomerViva an Kreyol				
4:05 PM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/Phelan	10:30 AM	Phil Reavis:	9:00 PM	School Committee Meeting	3:30 PM	Somerville Museum:				
5:00 PM	Phil Reavis:		Highlander to Olympian & Beyond	11:35 PM	Senior Circuit		How the GI Bill Changed America				
	Highlander to Olympian & Beyond	12:00 PM	HONK! Parade	SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19			5:00 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting			
6:10 PM	SPD Ride Along	12:30 PM	Historic Bicycle Ride	12:00 AM	Veterans Day Ceremony 2023	7:00 PM	School Committee Meeting				
6:30 PM	Historic Bicycle Ride	1:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting	12:30 AM	Veterans Day at Milk Row Cemetery	10:30 PM	School Committee Update				
7:00 PM	School Committee Update	3:00 PM	Veterans Day Ceremony 2023	1:00 AM	Senior Circuit	11:00 PM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023				
7:30 PM	Somerville Museum:	3:30 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	1:30 AM	Finance Committee Meeting	TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21					
	How the GI Bill Changed America	4:30 PM	School Committee Update	9:00 AM	Cultural Capacity Forum	1:00 AM	Veterans Day at Milk Row Cemetery	1:30 AM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023		
9:00 PM	Veterans Day at Milk Row Cemetery	5:00 PM	Senior Circuit	10:00 AM	Somerville Museum:	7:00 AM	Finance Committee Meeting	8:00 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/Phelan		
9:30 PM	School Committee Meeting	5:30 PM	Domestic Violence Vigil 2023		How the GI Bill Changed America	8:30 AM	School Committee Update	9:00 AM	Senior Circuit		
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16			6:10 PM	SPD Ride Along	11:30 AM	Veterans Day Ceremony 2023	9:30 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol	10:00 AM	Somerville Museum:	
12:05 AM	Somerville Museum: Access for All	6:30 PM	Union Sq Plaza Ribbon Cutting	12:00 PM	Senior Circuit	12:30 PM	Veterans Day at Milk Row Cemetery		How the GI Bill Changed America	11:30 AM	City Council Spotlight
1:30 AM	Finance Committee Meeting	7:00 PM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023	12:30 PM	Veterans Day at Milk Row Cemetery	12:00 PM	Senior Circuit	12:30 PM	Domestic Violence Vigil 2023	12:00 PM	Senior Circuit
6:30 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV	8:36 PM	Senior Circuit	1:00 PM	School Committee Update	1:00 PM	School Committee Update	1:10 PM	SPD Ride Along	1:30 PM	City Council Meeting 11-9-23
7:30 AM	Domestic Violence Vigil 2023	9:00 PM	HONK! Parade	1:30 PM	School Committee Meeting	1:30 PM	School Committee Meeting	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting - LIVE	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22	
8:10 AM	Union Sq Plaza Ribbon Cutting	9:30 PM	School Committee Update	4:05 PM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/Phelan	4:05 PM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/Phelan	12:00 AM	Somerville Museum:	12:00 AM	Somerville Museum:
8:30 AM	City Council Spotlight	10:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting	4:30 PM	City Council Spotlight	4:30 PM	City Council Spotlight		How the GI Bill Changed America	1:30 AM	HONK! Parade
9:00 AM	Phil Reavis:	11:00 PM	Solar Array Deployment for Somerville	5:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 PM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023	2:00 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol		
	Highlander to Olympian & Beyond	11:30 PM	SomerViva an Kreyol	7:36 PM	Senior Circuit	8:00 PM	Cultural Capacity Forum				
10:10 AM	School Committee Meeting	SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18			9:00 PM	Somerville Museum:		How the GI Bill Changed America			
1:00 PM	SomerViva an Kreyol	12:00 AM	Phil Reavis:		How the GI Bill Changed America	10:30 PM	Phil Reavis:				
1:30 PM	Veterans Day Ceremony 2023		Highlander to Olympian & Beyond	1:10 AM	Somerville Museum: Access for All		Highlander to Olympian & Beyond	11:40 PM	Somerville Civic Day: If I Were Mayor		
2:00 PM	Veterans Day at Milk Row Cemetery	2:30 AM	School Committee Update	2:30 AM	School Committee Update			MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20			
3:00 PM	HONK! Parade	7:00 AM	Finance Committee Meeting	7:00 AM	Finance Committee Meeting			12:00 AM	Senior Circuit		
4:00 PM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/Phelan	8:00 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II	8:00 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II						
4:30 PM	Solar Array Deployment for Somerville	9:00 AM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023	9:00 AM	Union Sq. Walking Tour 2023						
5:00 PM	City Council Meeting 11-9-23	10:40 AM	Union Sq Plaza Ribbon Cutting	10:40 AM	Union Sq Plaza Ribbon Cutting						
7:30 PM	Veterans Day Ceremony 2023										

EdTV - Xfinity 15/Astound 15/ 614

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15		FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17		SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19		TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21	
8:00 AM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	12:00 AM	School Committee Update	12:00 AM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	12:00 AM	Brown School Playground Ribbon Cutting
10:00 AM	School Committee Update	1:00 AM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea	2:00 AM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	1:00 AM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023
10:30 AM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	2:30 AM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	2:30 AM	School Committee Update	1:30 AM	GBL Cross Country Championship
12:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton	3:00 AM	GBL Cross Country Championship	3:00 AM	SHS Basketball vs Everett	2:30 AM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting
2:00 PM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Billerica	8:00 AM	SHS Basketball vs Everett	7:00 AM	SHS Volleyball vs Lynn Tech	3:30 AM	WSNS Playground Ribbon Cutting
4:00 PM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	9:00 AM	School Committee Meeting	9:00 AM	Brown School Playground Ribbon Cutting	8:00 AM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville
5:00 PM	2023 GBL Cross Country Championship	11:35 AM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Billerica	10:00 AM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton	10:00 AM	School Committee Update
6:00 PM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	1:17 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton	12:00 PM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Billerica	10:30 AM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting
8:00 PM	School Committee Update	3:00 PM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	2:00 PM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	12:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton
8:30 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	3:30 PM	GBL Cross Country Championship	4:00 PM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	2:00 PM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Billerica
10:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton	4:30 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	4:30 PM	School Committee Update	4:00 PM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16		5:30 PM	WSNS Playground Ribbon Cutting	5:00 PM	SHS Basketball vs Everett	5:00 PM	SHS Football vs Boston English
12:00 AM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Billerica	6:00 PM	SHS Basketball vs Everett	6:00 PM	SHS Volleyball vs Lynn Tech	7:00 PM	School Committee Meeting
2:00 AM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	7:00 PM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	8:00 PM	Brown School Playground Ribbon Cutting	10:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton
3:00 AM	GBL Cross Country Championship	9:00 PM	SHS Football vs Boston English	8:30 PM	School Committee Update	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22	
8:00 AM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	11:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton	9:00 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	12:00 AM	School Committee Update
10:00 AM	School Committee Update	SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18		10:00 PM	SHS Football vs Boston English	12:30 AM	SHS Football vs Boston English
10:30 AM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	1:00 AM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	12:00 AM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	2:05 AM	Brown School Playground Ribbon Cutting
12:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton	1:30 AM	GBL Cross Country Championship	2:00 AM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023		
2:00 PM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Billerica	2:30 AM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	2:30 AM	School Committee Update		
4:00 PM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023	3:30 AM	WSNS Playground Ribbon Cutting	3:00 AM	SHS Basketball vs Everett		
5:00 PM	2023 GBL Cross Country Championship	8:00 AM	SHS Volleyball vs Lynn Tech	8:00 AM	SHS Basketball vs Everett		
6:00 PM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	10:00 AM	AMSHS Girls Soccer vs Malden Catholic	9:00 AM	School Committee Meeting		
8:00 PM	School Committee Update	12:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Haverhill	11:35 AM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Billerica		
8:30 PM	Reavis Field Ribbon Cutting	2:00 PM	Songs & Stories from Tbilisi & Somerville	1:20 PM	SHS Football vs Boston English		
10:00 PM	SHS Boys Soccer vs Brockton	4:00 PM	Scrapheap Showdown 2023				
		4:30 PM	School Committee Update				
		5:00 PM	SHS Basketball vs Everett				
		6:00 PM	SHS Volleyball vs Lynn Tech				
		8:00 PM	SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden Catholic				

Now enjoy Somerville City Cable and SCATV in HD with Ville TV on RCN channel 613



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Bob Dylan at the Orpheum



Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

I'm William Johnson, a junior Mathematics major and Endicott college with a minor in Music. I am passionate about finding the creative connections between math and art. I started writing poetry as a form of journaling. However, my poetry professor, Daniel Sklar, helped me write more diverse poems.



William Likes:

William likes the color yellow,
The joy of play,
The way strangers look around when
Food falls from their mouth.
He likes the smell of hair,
The sound of music,
And the way light peers through
the leaves of spring.
He likes the feeling of wet sand,
The greek letter tau,
And the overwhelming feeling of
confusion when you first look at a math paper.
He likes the taste of lemons,
The tails of sea otters,
And the satisfaction of finally understanding
the conflict between us, and why we
are the way we are.
He likes Windex and Expo markers,
And starring endlessly at the colors
in abstract art, recounting what it means to be human.
He dislikes some people

— William Johnson
—Photo by Jonny Ratner

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

Article by Off the Shelf correspondent Richard Wilhelm

Touring behind his 2020 release of original songs, *Rough and Rowdy Ways*, Bob Dylan played a three-night stint at the Orpheum on November 3rd through the 5th. On the night of November 5th, the set began promptly at 8 PM, opening with one of his old chestnuts, *Watching the River Flow*. Though he focused the set on songs from *Rough and Rowdy Ways*, he also included some older hits such as *Gotta Serve Somebody* and *I'll be Your Baby Tonight*. The latter song was altered a bit but hardly beyond all recognition as Dylan is often wont to do with his songs in concert.

The songs on *Rough and Rowdy Ways* have a low-down, outsider persona describing his feelings, perceptions, and actions in a slow, at times dirge-like tempo, one that would be hard to imagine working in a concert setting. But Dylan and his band pulled it off. The backing band had a lot more presence in concert than on the record where they play mostly laid-back fills, an exception being on *Goodbye Jimmy Reed*, an up-tempo blues shuffle. The band brought the underlying structure of the songs, largely based on variations of I-IV-V progressions, to the fore and gave the songs more shape. Dylan played piano throughout the set backed by bass, drums, two gui-

tars, and a pedal steel guitar.

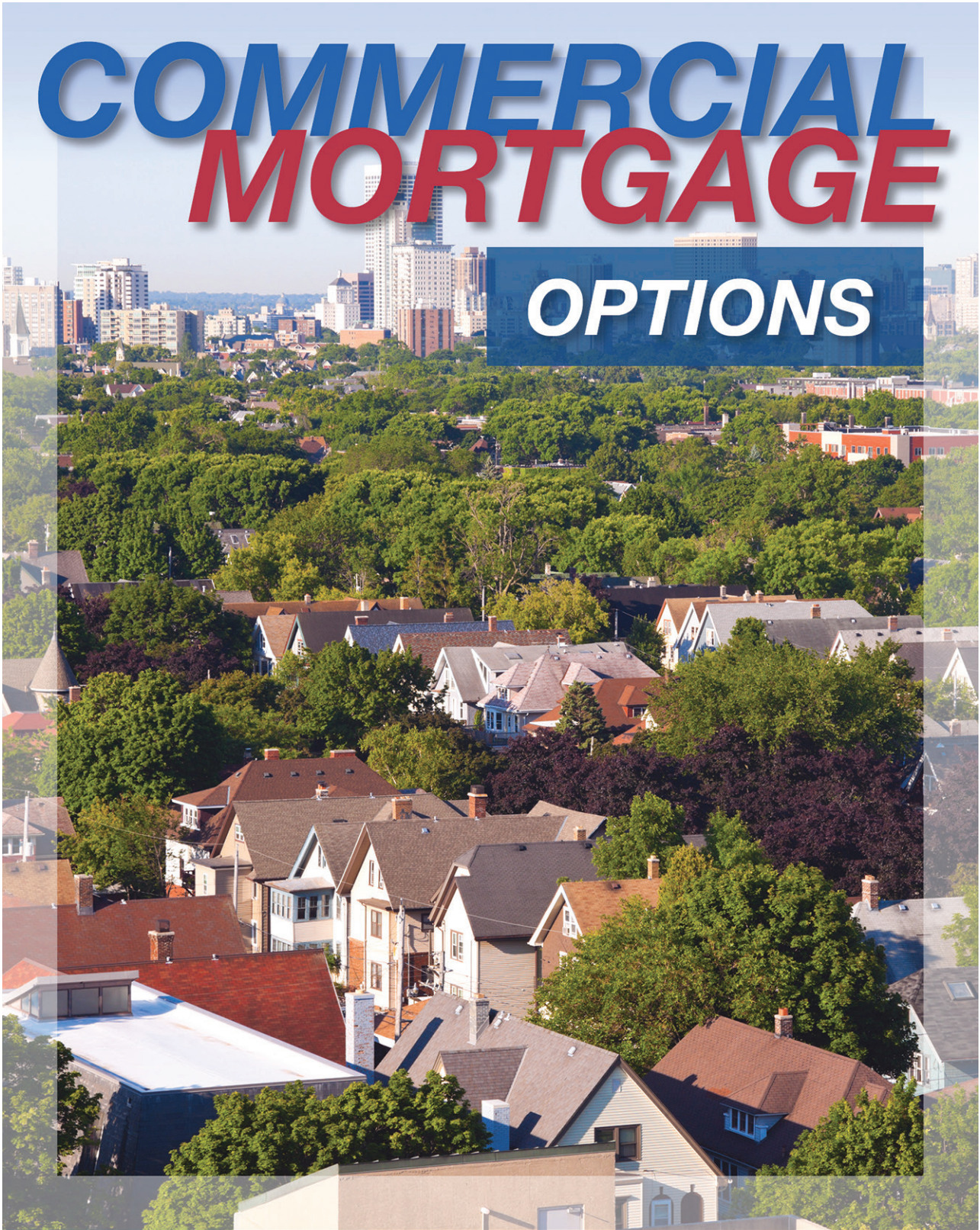
It should be noted that Dylan chose, perhaps wisely, perhaps not, to leave out the seventeen-minute-long song that comprises the album's second disc, *Murder Most Foul*. (The phrase comes from Shakespeare and is uttered by the ghost of Hamlet's father.) This song stands as a masterful work of art in which Dylan memorializes the assassination of John F. Kennedy by means of postmodernist bricolage, bringing into the song cultural milieu of the era. We encounter the Beatles, Terry Malloy (Marlon Brando's character in *On the Waterfront*) Wolfman Jack, Rhett Butler's "Frankly Miss Scarlet, I don't give a damn." Many songs mostly from the mid-60's he introduces by use of anaphora, singing "Play (this song)", "Play (that song)." He's asking Wolfman Jack to ease the sense of horror and tragedy by giving him – us – music to soothe our heartbroken souls.

The one major bummer about the concert is that, at least in the nosebleed section where I sat, nearly all the words were indecipherable. Only repetition of the song's titular phrase allowed one to figure out what particular song was being played. The fault was not Dylan's but was that of the sound system. There was a lack of vocal clarity in the upper balcony of the Orpheum, which was unfortunate because *Rough and Rowdy Ways* depends heavily on the lyrics.

Want to write local Somerville stories?

Call 857-488-5138 and speak to the Assignment Editor

COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE OPTIONS



Local real estate investors, builders, and developers need commercial mortgage options and best rates. We've got both!

- Residential Apartment Buildings of 5 or More Units
- Mixed Use Properties
- Office/Retail Properties
- Construction & Permanent Financing
- Competitive Rates and Programs

QUICK, LOCAL DECISIONS

VP Richard Brenner
617-629-3349



WINTER HILL BANK
CustomServe Lending

617-666-8600 | 1-800-444-4300 | winterhillbank.com