





VOL. 9 NO. 46

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS





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What is this?

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Long-time Somerville political figures reflect on public service



The city's outgoing public officials rounding out their final terms took time to assess their accomplishments and look towards their futures.

By Melina Nguyen

With election season wrapped up, the residents of Somerville say farewell to some longtime local politicians, including Somerville Mayor Joe Curtatone, Ward 5 City Councilor Mark Niedergang and Councilor-at-Large William White. And the trio recently took time to reflect on their decades-long careers.

Curtatone announced in March that he would not run for a tenth term in office as mayor, ending his tenure as the longest-serving chief executive in Somerville history.

Noting the physical and emotional toll of guiding the city through the pandemic, Curtatone said COVID-19 operations demanded the full attention of the mayor's office, and he didn't want to lose his passion for the job.

"Some people say, Slow down, retire," he said. "I've been on an incredible Continued on page 4

Somerville Winter Farmers Market returns December 4

The Center for Arts at the Armory (CAA) has announced that it will host and manage the 12th Annual Somerville Winter Farmers Market (SWFM) every Saturday beginning December 4 through April 16.

This weekly market offers the best locally grown and regionally produced agricultural items, including vegetable produce, cheese, eggs, meats, fish, breads, pastries, sweets, and hard cider. Each market will feature more than 35 weekly vendors and several rotating guest vendors while welcoming an anticipated 1,000 – 1,500 visitors.

The mission of the Somerville Winter Farmers Market is to bring healthy, local food and



Re-energizing our playgrounds page 12 products to all customers regardless of economic status. In addition to cash, credit and debit, SNAP/EBT is also accepted at the Somerville Winter Farmers Market. The market provides a free \$15 match for every SNAP / EBT customer so that customers receive \$30 worth of food for only \$15. The market is Continued on page 11

The 12th edition of the Somerville Winter Farmers Market will kick off on December 4 at the Center for Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville.

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This Saturday, November 20, will be the last weekend to enjoy the Union Square Farmers Market. The market is open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at 366 Somerville Ave. Open-air access to fresh, local, healthy food, vital to strong immune systems, in the heart of Union Square. Shop the Square Saturdays by picking up the freshest foods from your local farmers. Then show your #LoveUnionSquare by staying #Loyal2Local and stop into your choice of dozens of locally-owned businesses whose goodies galore await you.

City staff at the Public Space and Urban Forestry (PSUF) and Parks and Recreation Departments, and a team of consultants, are finishing the last details of the renovation of the Dilboy Stadium track and field. They have scheduled a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with Mayor Curtatone for Friday, November 19, 10:30 a.m., at Dilboy Stadium, 110 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Somerville.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to a great guy, 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 lady who is in Somerville just about every day. She is also a very proud horse owner and trainer as well. We wish her the very best. Happy birthday to Diane Johansen, another lifelong and well-known resident from Winter Hill. A gracious and great lady, we wish her the very best on this her birthday. Happy birthday to Joshua Lewin, of Juliet in Union Square. A nice guy, a great place with great food. We wish him the very best. Happy birthday to one of Somerville's well-known activists, Joe Beckman. A nice guy, we wish him the very best of birthdays. 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, Philip D'Arcangelo, Continued on page 7



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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of November 10 – November 16 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
	Wednesday November 17	Cloudy	50°/44°	7%	5%	SW 9 mph
Ť	Thursday November 18	Partly Cloudy	67°/40°	9%	7%	SSW 13 mph
•••	Friday November 19	Rain	47°/30°	40%	33%	WNW 16 mph
¢-	Saturday November 20	Sunny	45°/34°	4%	2%	WNW 7 mph
	Sunday November 21	Cloudy	54°/40°	9%	6%	S 9 mph
	Monday November 21	Rain	54°/36°	44%	31%	WNW 16 mph
Ċ.	Tuesday November 22	Partly Cloudy	42°/32°	25%	17%	WNW 15 mph

TheSomervilleTimes.com **Comments of the Week**

Response to: Give Somerville 100 days to plan for 100 years?

Kevin Donovan says:

This is a bombastic, histrionic and jaundiced take on one of the singular accomplishments of the city in recent years that has more in common with the recent mayoral write-in campaign's opinion of city government than the average Somerville resident. I'm grateful it is but a falling tree in the forest, squelching nothing but sour grapes.

BMac says:

Not that there are not things to be mad about, but I see no reason to misrepresent (lie) about details. Also, for someone quoting so much city history, you utterly fail to use it correctly. https://voice.somervillema.gov/assemblynp

As you mention, this plan started over a year ago and has been an ongoing process, not something being rushed through in 100 days.

For the affordability, are they meeting the mandated percentage or offsetting it with in the letter of the law? No one is going to build something that doesn't make them a profit. As long as some of that is used to meet the percentage of affordable housing, what is the problem?

The proposed residential cap is 35%, not 50%, and the parking cap is not finalized.

As for being cut off from the city. That started when my grandparents had to pack up with my mother and uncle and move because the state was putting in 93 right on top of the house they were living in, but please tell me how city planning should fix that now? The other bit of history you are neglecting was self inflicted. When the old Ford plant was being turned into Assembly Square, every resident of Ten Hills screamed about how much traffic would be cutting through their quiet little neighborhood, so the state was heavily pressured into making changes to 28 so that there could be no cross traffic. Yes, it cuts the whole area off from the city, but fixing it is pretty much a state issue, so lobby at the state level to fix that, or have City Council do it.

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For the road, moving it may provide more green space, but I believe that was already private property and not a city owner way, so there would be the cost of taking it by eminent domain and then the cost of moving it. Personally I can think of a lot of things I would rather see my tax dollars doing.

David Dahlbacka says:

The 35% cap was on land use (see p. 59). On the same page, it mentions that "50% of new development be for workplace and lab use." This is very much a move in the right direction, but it doesn't go far enough, particularly since Assembly Square already has plenty of residential development, and Somerville is already 85% residential.

I'll add: land use is not the same as amount of development. If you have a 10,000 square foot (s.f.) lot and put a 10,000 s.f. one-story house on it, it's 10,000 residential s.f. If you put a 10-story apartment building on it, it's 100,000 residential s.f., with the same amount of land use.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

Life in the **VILLE** by Jimmy Del Ponte

Before the changes



As you all know by now, this is the place where we talk about the old days while dealing with progress. All I do is gather memories and share them. My job

is pretty easy. I try to keep the memories of our past alive. I love being that person who shared these memories and nostalgic commentary.

I asked the following question to my social media friends and city mates. What is your favorite memory of Somerville before all the changes?

• The conveyor belt for grocery pick-up at the Winter Hill Star Market.

• When families could afford living in an apartment not rooms rented.

• Hanging out at Prescott school yard.

• Somerville family. We were all in it together.

• Teele Square Sweet Shop.

• Playing Little League baseball with my dad as my coach.

• Playing on our side street (and at Hoyt Sullivan Park) with all the neighborhood kids.

• I miss hanging with friends, camping, baseball, and band.

Ice skating in Glen Park every winter!Our home and family together on Quincy St.

• When everyone knew all their neighbors and people were friendly.

• Meeting a variety of seniors hanging at McDonalds Davis Square.

The Venice Café.

Hanging out at Khoury's State spa and seeing everyone in the neighborhood.
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neighborhoods, egg fights on Halloween, knowing your neighbors.

• Everything closed on Sundays.

Not knowing how poor we all were.
Todi's Ball Square ... I lived right around the corner on Rogers Ave. The scrumptious sauce scent would make me drool.

• The bowling Alley in Ball Sq. and Harold's Luncheonette.

• No freakin' massive construction.

• The funky old wing of the high school because the floors were squeaky ... I happen to love antiques if you couldn't guess.

• Generations of families!

Somerville recreation

• Growing up and hanging at Glen Park with all my friends. Met and married my late husband there and we had 42 years of a grest marriage before he passed away from agent orange. Thanks to Somerville for having such a great life.

- The Flea market up at the high school
- Broadway theater movies \$.50 in 1977.
- Davis Sq before yuppies.
- + High school in 1980s.
- Southern Jr. High 1977 to 1980.

• Right do whatever on your property without getting a ticket!

• Right to be a collector without being called a hoarder! I sell things online and they labeled my Continued on page 6



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The Somerville Times



\$6,999 in snatched ice out there somewhere

Last week, a Somerville Police officer traveling on Artisan Way observed a parked, running vehicle obstructing the crosswalk adjacent to Kay Jewelers located at 360 Artisan Way.

The officer knew this location to be a common place for a getaway vehicle to wait when committing a theft in one of the adjacent stores.

The officer observed no occupants in the running vehicle, so the key was removed to prevent theft or flight.

While standing next to the vehicle, a man exited Kay Jewelers and began running towards the officer. It appeared to the officer that the man was going to try and enter the vehicle, but he reached out and

pushed him, then took off running on Artisan Way toward Grand Union Blvd.

The officer made contact with Kay Jewelers staff who stated the man stole a ring they believed was valued at \$20,000. It was later determined the value of the ring was actually \$6,999.

With the assistance of Assembly Row security, the suspect was observed on camera fleeing into Bed, Bath, and Beyond located at 119 Middlesex Ave.

A responding backup officer transmitted that he had the suspect at the front entrance of the store. The suspect then fled into the parking lot toward Canal St.

Police began searching the area and observed Assembly Row security directing the first responding officer to the front door of Sak's Off 5th Ave. on Canal St., where the suspect was on the ground. The officer placed the suspect into custody without further incident.

The officer informed the suspect of his Miranda rights to which he affirmed his understanding and was willing to speak with the officer.

The suspect identified himself as Julien Vasquez, from Providence, Rhode Island, and that he drove here from Providence, and went to Kay Jewelry. Vasquez then lost his train of thought, and did not proceed in telling the officer what happened.

Vasquez said he threw the ring in the area of Canal St. and Grand Union Blvd. The area was subsequently searched with negative results. Then Vasquez said he might have thrown it at Artisan Way and Grand Union Blvd. That area was also searched with negative results.

Officers also checked Bed, Bath, and Beyond because Vasquez shed his shirt inside the store in an attempt to alter his appearance. The ring was not located in the store.

Vasquez requested an ambulance and was transported to Cambridge Hospital along with an accompanying officer.

The manager at Kay Jewelers said the Vasquez entered the store and stated that he was looking for a ring for his mother. He requested to see diamond rings, and selected a

2 carat round cut diamond in a solitaire setting. The value of this ring was \$6,999. As soon as Vasquez was handed the ring he reportedly turned toward the door and ran out.

As of this writing, the ring has not yet been located. All video from Kay Jewelers and Assembly Row security is being preserved for evidentiary purposes. Vasquez was medically cleared and booked on charges of assault and battery on a police officer, larceny over \$1200, resisting arrest, attaching wrong motor vehicle license plates, and unregistered motor vehicle.

A citation was also issued to Vasquez for the motor vehicle charges. The license plate has been secured into evidence.

Long-time Somerville political figures reflect on public service

CONT. FROM PG 1

roller coaster ride ... At some point, that roller coaster is going to end, and I'm jumping on the next one. Don't expect me to slow down."

He felt "blessed, privileged and honored" to serve Somerville, stating he will continue to involve himself with city government, non-profit organizations and volunteering.

"My term's done. My job's not done," said Curtatone, who served Somerville as mayor for 18 years.

He will share his experience as mayor with the other elected officials to build, improve and expand their knowledge. The transition from Curtatone to the next mayor, Katjana Ballantyne, will be a personal, side-by-side process instead of just a shift in title, said Curtatone. After he leaves office, Curtatone will serve as the next president of the Northeast Clean Energy Council, leaving politics to work in the clean energy industry. His next job still builds upon his skills as a government leader as he plans to bring a "city perspective" to the non-profit organization.

picked up guitar again and is in the band "Uncivil Servants."

Mark Niedergang previously served as the Ward 5 School Committee member for eight years before becoming the Ward 5 City Councilor. In total, Niedergang completed 15 years of work on the City Council.

Niedergang was also a member of the Legislative Matters Committee, Land Use Committee, and Ward 5 Democratic City Committee.

He announced his retirement from City Council in December 2020.

Niedergang enjoyed the fulfilling work he has done on the council, but he admits that it's been exhausting. I'm 67 years old, and I've been banging away at this for 16 years," said Niedergang. "These are part-time jobs ... we have no staff, most of the meetings are at night." He performed what he called "behind-the-scenes work." The time spent on zoning drafts and emails and meetings allowed him to solve issues on the school committee and City Council. The merger of the Choice program and the Neighborhood program at Healey School in 2011 was particularly memora-

that used an annual lottery for admission, and the Neighborhood program that historically consisted of lower-income students with participants drawn mainly from the Mystic Avenue housing projects.

"It was extremely challenging ... it certainly stands out because in 16 years as an elected official, that was the most difficult, trying issue that I dealt with," said Niedergang. "I was the chair of the school committee at the time, so I was in the hot seat in terms of shepherding it through."

Also, for seven years, he worked on a complete overhaul of the city's zoning code, a large piece of legislation that was an "overall good decision."

ing a coalition called the Somerville Alliance for Safe Streets, composed of bicycle and pedestrian safety activists.

"To me, this is a really important issue," said Niedergang. "Almost half of the people that get hit by motor vehicles in Somerville are in a crosswalk, so that gives you a sense of how bad things are."

After his final term in office, Niedergang hopes to hold a leadership role in the B'nai Brith Congregation, a synagogue that he has been a member of for 30 years.

Councilor-At-Large City William "Bill" White also will not seek another term after more than 20 years on the City Council.

vere," said White.

During his time in office, White, his colleagues and developers collaborated to make Assembly Square a "transit oriented mixed use development site" instead of transforming into a static shopping center.

He also supported a 35% residential tax exemption in order to promote residential home ownership that reduced Somerville homeowners' taxes by \$3,455 last year.

White grew up in Somerville in the 60s, attending Somerville high school when the city was still primarily a working-class immigrant community. He earned his college degree from Harvard University, then received a law degree from Georgetown. He pursued a career in law at the federal and local levels.

"What allured me to this [position] is my experience as mayor and the work that is involved as mayor," said Curtatone.

He stated policy making is important in bridging the city's goals and people's wellbeing. In his free time, Curtatone has

ble, Niedergang said. Before that time, the Arthur D. Healey School had been divided into the Choice program, a project-based approach to learning We [the city council] have

almost all the power on zoning, so it was really our baby and our decision," said Niedergang. Throughout his time as a Somerville resident and councilor, Niedergang experienced a major demographic shift from working class and immigrant residents to more upper income people.

He also said Somerville's political values have changed and become more "liberal, progressive, radical."

Although he will retire from the city council, Niedergang plans to continue being involved in Somerville affairs, especially street safety.

This year, he was part of creat-

"The time and season for my service on the Somerville City Council has come to an end," said White.

Explaining the most pressing dilemma the city has faced since his first day in office, White said via email, "The challenge has been to make decisions that will allow Somerville to keep the best of its traditions and also welcome and serve all of the new people who come here." He noted that now more young, affluent individuals live in Somerville.

With the increase in real estate prices and the upcoming Green Line Extension stops, housing pressures will "become more se-

White plans to continue living in Somerville and to practice law from his office in Davis Square after his final term.

Newly elected officials include Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 5 City Councilor Beatriz Gómez Mouakad and City Councilors-at-Large Willie Burnley Jr., Charlotte Kelley and Jake Wilson. Inauguration Day for the city's most recent election winners is January 3, 2022. Note: Outgoing Councilor At-Large Mary Jo Rosetti was not available for comments in this

article.

The Somerville Times -

Ellen Shachter hard at work in Somerville's Office of Housing Stability

By Joseph Pauletto

Since early September, Ellen Shachter's schedule has been packed to the brim. Between managing her team in the Somerville Office of Housing Stability (OHS) and working on policies and programs to help tenants and landlords, every day brings new challenges.

The catalyst for the recent uptick in workload for the OHS is Somerville's extension of the residential eviction moratorium to April of next year, which gives residents time to secure a place to live if they cannot pay their rent. As a result, Shachter and her team have been working diligently trying to ensure that each and every tenant is successful in this process.

The housing crisis in Somerville has been a problem long before the pandemic began. According to a 2015 study by Massachusetts-based LDS Consulting Group, 73.8% of households with less than \$95,360 of yearly income cannot afford Somerville rental housing without difficulty. These housing issues also tend to fall upon those in marginalized groups, as African-Americans, adults with disabilities, and single-parent families take on these hardships at a higher rate.

Since COVID-19, these problems have been exacerbated. When the Somerville Board of Health announced the moratorium extension, they cited "severe physical and mental health consequences, school disruption, and job loss" as some of the damaging results of housing instability.

In light of these significant problems with housing in Somerville, Shachter has not changed the way she works, approaching her job in a very task-oriented manner. "I really like doing things that feel concrete," Shachter said. "Like helping somebody get a Section 8 voucher. One day they didn't have it, one day they did." Shachter's professional experience is an essential tool that helps her effectively execute her responsibilities. After studying law at Northeastern University, she worked as a legal service lawyer for almost 30 years. That helped her gain important knowledge of the



legal system and a knack for helping people who lack access to critical resources.

Shachter's passion for her job stems from her time working at Pathway's Family Shelter, the first state-funded shelter for families in Massachusetts. Fresh out of college, she had the opportunity to work closely with people in poverty, which made her realize just how significant affordable housing is to combat homelessness.

With so many responsibilities, Shachter cites her impassioned and diverse team as one of reasons she gets her job done. Lydia Lopez, a key member of Shachter's team, is one of the staff members who helps Schachter in day-to-day operations, specifically when it comes to dealing directly with Somerville residents and the city's immigrant community.

Lopez, an immigrant from El Salvador, gained her drive to help people find secure housing through her own life experience. "I came to the country, in the spectrum of immigration journeys, pretty well protected," Lopez said. "Largely, that informed my identity and the way communities...these are people that are really fighting to stay in the community they want to [stay in] even though everything points in the opposite direction." In addition to staff members like Lopez, Shachter collaborates with other agencies to delegate work with Somerville residents and help them deal with many housing-related issues. The Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) is one of the agencies that OHS collaborates with the most. CAAS helps people in the process of finding or stabilizing their housing. The agency's services include assistance with housing searches and applications for emergency shelter.

Ashley Tienken, the Director of Housing Advocacy at CAAS, has worked closely with Shachter and OHS. From her experience she views Shachter as a role model for anyone working in housing stability in Somerville.

"She is brilliant," Tienken said. "I admire her tremendously for her wealth of knowledge when it comes to homelessness. She is an incredible resource to me and my team."

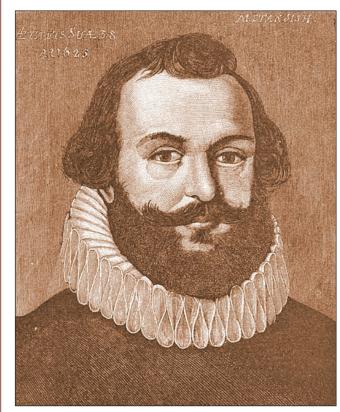
While Shachter and her colleagues continue to work every day to make Somerville a more affordable place to live, progress still needs to be made before the housing crisis is alleviated. In the midst of all this difficult work, Shachter remains hopeful for the future. "It is emotionally draining and certainly a difficult time for the tenants in Somerville and around the world," Shachter said."But at the same time, I feel hopeful about all the possibilities for solutions, and in some ways there is now more momentum for big, strong, bold change."

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week

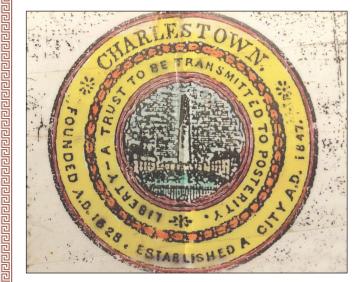
Eagle Feathers #242

The Neck By Bob (Monty) Doherty

When first settled, the pear-shaped peninsula of Charlestown reached out toward the great basin of Boston's Back Bay. At its stem or neck was a low, narrow strip of land. When it overflowed at high tide, the town became an island. At its low ebb, the town became a peninsula connecting with "Charlestown Beyond the Neck" or today's Somerville. The tidal flows emanated from the Mystic River on the north and the Charles River on the south. The historic nature of this narrow strip of land is far reaching.



• In 1622, Myles Standish was the protector of the Pilgrims and the first European to explore Somerville. He was successful in his mission after crossing the "neck" to create friendships with non-hostile Indians. It was at this time that the first Thanksgiving dinner was celebrated in Plymouth. Ninety Native Americans, Captain Standish and 51 other colonists hailed their newfound friendship and partnership ... Thanksgiving Day!



I wanted to help and uplift my community."

Lopez also has a very personal connection to Somerville and its housing issues. After moving to the U.S. from El Salvador 20 years ago, Somerville was her first home. But Lopez and her family had to move to another city because they could no longer afford their rent.

"This wave of gentrification, just to use that word loosely, has been going on for a very long time," Lopez said. "The people that we see here now in regards to marginalized, vulnerable • The sound of the herdsman's horn was familiar in early Charlestown's history. The neck area from the Mystic River to the Charles River Basin was once fenced in to keep cattle and wild beasts from straying into town. Wolves were widespread and bounties were paid or taxes lowered in exchange for their elimination. Somerville was Charlestown's cow common. A herdsman did his job for 50 bushels of Indian corn per year.

• On the night of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere and his steed galloped over the neck in a patriotic *Continued on page 13*

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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.

The 'takeover' of Somerville falls flat



By Ken Brociner

The Boston chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America had a rude awakening on election day. The city of Somerville wasn't ready to be taken over by a Boston-based group that backed a slate of candidates who did their best to conceal their support for the "abolish the police movement" as well as its goal of making Somerville the first city in the history of New England to have a socialist majority control its city council.

While Boston DSA did all it could to provide its slate of seven candidates for Somerville's City Council with considerable resources over the past four months, its heavy-handed vows to "takeover" our city's political agenda clearly backfired. And for anyone who thinks that calling out DSA's goal of taking over Somerville's political future has only been based on a single quote by a DSA spokesman that appeared in Politico last spring, the fact is that the Boston chapter of DSA made very similar vows on its Facebook page on at least two different occasions.

Perhaps DSA's greatest accomplishment in Somerville is that it has, for all practical purposes, taken over Our Revolution Somerville. Though another way of putting it is that the two organizations have essentially become one and the same.

over the U.S., and the hundreds of out-of-town volunteers that DSA recruited, DSA/ORS backed candidates lost four of the six competitive races for City Council that they ran in. All in all, including incumbents Ben Ewen-Campen and J.T. Scott, DSA/ORS backed candidates will only have four of the eleven seats on the incoming City Council.

Furthermore, in the city's most important election, the one for mayor, the DSA/ORS backed candidate, Will Mbah, lost to Katjana Ballantyne by a margin of 56%-38%.

Now, to be fair and clear up any possible confusion by what I have said so far, Will Mbah was endorsed by ORS but was not officially endorsed by DSA. Though given the amount of support DSA helped to generate for Will's campaign, not endorsing him was a meaningless technicality. Of more importance, unlike DSA/ORS, Will doesn't support abolishing the police and didn't play into the hands of Republican Party propaganda by using the "defund the police" slogan. It should also be noted that out of all of the DSA endorsed candidates for city council, Ben Ewen-Campen was alone in not going on record in support of the abolish the police movement.

Here I'd like to reiterate something I've suggested in previous columns. My disagreements with DSA/ORS haven't been based on any fundamental differences in political philosophy. As I've said before, I myself have been a socialist since my senior year of college back in 1970-71. Instead, my objections have mostly had to do with the ways arrogance with its vow to "take over" Somerville's political agenda; DSA/ORS candidates went on record in support of the totally unrealistic and downright foolish notion of abolishing the police; and DSA/ORS demonstrated a basic lack of political transparency by not being open and upfront about what their short and long-term goals were really all about.

On a much more upbeat note, let's take a look at who won on election day. As previously indicated, come January 3, Katjana Ballantyne will be our new mayor. The fact that Katjana won by such an overwhelming margin is clear proof that most Somervillians believe that she has the kind of experience, qualifications, and temperament to help lead us in the coming years. Personally, I think she is going to be an outstanding mayor and am really looking forward to having a new voice and vision leading our city government.

The four people elected to the At-Large seats on the Council are (in the order of the number of votes they received): Kristen Strezo, who is the only incumbent who ran for reelection, and first-time candidates Willie Burnley Jr., Charlotte Kelly, and Jake Wilson.

Kristen, as most people know, is a passionate supporter of women's rights, affordable housing, and the fight for equal justice. Willie Burnley Jr., one of the two DSA/ORS first-time candidates elected to the Council, has been active in a range of movements for political and social equality. Charlotte Kelly, the other first-time DSA/ORS candidate elected this year, has worked as a community orgaed this campaign. For example: Executive Director of the Mass. DSA displayed sheer political Education Justice Alliance. Jake Wilson has served as the president of Somerville Youth Soccer, and under his leadership, SYS reached out to recruit hundreds of additional children and families from immigrant communities into the city's youth soccer leagues.

In Wards 5 and 7, voters elected the first Latinas (or Latinos) to public office in the history of Somerville - a milestone that has been long overdue!

Ward 5's new councilor (as of Jan. 3), Beatriz Gómez Mouakad, has held upper-level positions in architecture, affordable housing, and project management. She's also been active in efforts to achieve greater social equity, including reducing language barriers in Somerville's immigrant communities. Judy Pineda Neufeld, Ward 7's new councilor, has worked with non-profit organizations to recruit, train, and support thousands of women and people of color to run for office and serve their communities through political leadership. In addition, since April of 2020, Judy has led Somerville's Immigrant Services Unit as part of the city's response to the crisis created by Covid-19.

In my view, the incoming City Council will have what I hope will be a creative balance between pragmatic progressives and progressives who will, at times, advocate for more radical change. And I can't think of anyone more qualified than our incoming mayor, Katjana Ballantyne, to help lead Somervillians of all political stripes in the years ahead.

Now that the Somerville elections are over and done with, at least for the next two years, it's my hope that we can join together to tackle the most pressing problems our community faces.

At the same time, I also hope that we can find ways to work together on issues and threats

that emanate far beyond the 4 square miles of our city. It was good to see that nearly every candidate who ran for office in Somerville this year stressed the urgency of fighting against the ongoing destruction and chaos caused by climate change.

But the truth is that our country, along with much of the rest of the world, faces an even more imminent threat than climate change. As anyone who follows the national news knows all too well, the far-right Republican Party, through gerrymandering and the voter suppression laws it has passed in state after state, has been very effectively laying the groundwork for a "legal" coup d'etat that will return Donald Trump to the White House in 2024.

Those of us here in Somerville won't have to worry about Trump, or some other Trumpist Republican, carrying solid blue Mass. in 2024. Which means that if we want to preserve our (highly imperfect) democracy, we need to join hands and find ways to help other states to stop the right-wing juggernaut before it destroys so much of what we all hold dear.

The all-important midterm elections are now less than a year away. Let's all do our best to work on issues like affordable housing here in Somerville, while also fighting like hell to keep hope - and our democracy – alive in the dangerous days that lie ahead.

Ken Brociner has lived in Somerville since 1975. His essays, columns, and reviews have appeared in Dissent, In These Times, the Boston Phoenix, and the Somerville Journal, among other publications.

the substantial in which DSA/ORS conduct- nizer as well as serving as the Despite amount of money that came from contributions from all

Before the changes CONT. FROM PG 3

house. Scum. I will never let them in my or not. house ever.

- + Coasting down Laurel St. No cars.
- + Bonfires in Glen Park.
- Napoli Pizza when we were kids.
- It would have to be way back when all the stores were in Davis Square. So many!
- + Family type neighborhoods where all the parents looked out for the kids theirs
- + Tech Tournaments in Boston Garden.
- When people never locked their doors. + I recall a time when people smiled a lot more.
- + Be extra careful driving on College Ave. Those concrete islands will rip the bottom out of your car.

I hope you enjoyed yet another stroll down memory lane.



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

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



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 upcoming Thanksgiving holiday reminds us to be grateful for the blessings we have received, likewise, the Christmas holiday allows 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. Especially after the past couple of very tough years in which a number of our favorite places of business did not make it.

We are certain that the rewards to be gained from this will soften the effects of whatever excesses we may experience along the way. Gratitude can be expressed in so many ways. So let's get to it.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Peggy Henderson, Nancy Jones, Joellen Guidi, Mary Silvestro, Suzanne Ferola, Bill Mccoy, Todd Easton and Marie Coady 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.

***** Next Wave/Full Circle is holding its annual Winter Holiday Wreath Sale. Each balsam wreath is decorated with a red bow and costs \$25. Payment can be made with check or by Venmo, and there will be three convenient pick-up locations the week after Thanksgiving. Learn more and find the link to preorder at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/wreathsale. Next Wave/Full Circle staff and students are grateful for ongoing community support of this annual event. All proceeds go toward enrichment programming for students. There will be no tree lot this year due to logistical complications from the pandemic. Learn more about this tight-knit Next Wave/Full Circle school community at their website, www.somerville.k12.ma.us/nwfc.

Ward 4 Councilor Jesse Clingan invite you to a virtual community meeting to discuss proposed streetscape changes in Gilman Square. This meeting will primarily focus on the feasibility study for constructing an accessible path from Marshall Street to the Medford Street bridge and Community Path, as well as options for protected bicycle lanes on Medford Street and Pearl Street from School Street to Skilton Avenue. The returns. As the days get shorter and the nights get longer, they are looking for ways to brighten the darkness. Building off of the success from last year's Illuminations Community Lantern project, they are encouraging residents to create their own lantern displays in their neighborhoods and Squares as a part of this year's month-long festivities. If you are interested in leading the charge in your neighborhood, contact SAC and they Auction items available for bidding include a brand-new Michael Kors purse, local artwork, a \$100 Mobile gas gift card, tickets to the Improv Asylum and much more. Tickets, which include one door prize entry, are \$25 and can be purchased online at https://kittyconnection2021auction.eventbrite.com. To learn more about Kitty Connection and pets available for adoption, visit: www. kittyconnection.net.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Ward 1 Councilor Matt McLaughlin, Ward 3 Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen, and meeting will take place Monday, November 22, at 6:00 p.m. To learn more and register to attend, go to somervillema.gov/gilmansquare.

Somerville's **COVID case numbers** in October did drop for the first time in five months, though sadly there were six COVID deaths, bringing the city's COVID death total since March 2020 to 96. Cases during the Delta outbreak of the virus have been more evenly distributed throughout the city. General caution is warranted. Currently, 75% of all Somerville residents are fully vaccinated. See the latest Somerville case data at somervillema.gov/covid19dashboard.

The Somerville Arts Council's Illumination Community Lantern Project will put you on the official Illuminations Map. The deadline to be included on the Illumination map is **December 1**. To light up your neighborhood and get involved, visit https://somervilleartscouncil.org/illuminationstour

Kitty Connection, an all-volunteer non-profit dedicated to rescuing and finding safe, loving homes for local cats and dogs, will hold a Silent Auction on Saturday, November 20, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., at the Medford Professional Firefighters Association, 340 Salem Street, Medford. In addition to the chance to browse and bid on dozens of auction items in time for the holidays, the event includes a delicious lasagna dinner, raffles, and beer, wine and mixed drinks available for purchase.

Giving Tuesday 2021 takes place November 30. There are so many different ways to express generosity on Giving Tuesday and every day. It's a simple idea: whether it's making someone smile, helping a neighbor or stranger out, showing up for an issue or people we care about, or giving some of what we have to those who need our help, every act of generosity counts and everyone has something to give. Visit /www.givingtuesday.org/ united-states

The **CHA vaccination site** at 176 Somerville Ave. (next to Target in Union Square) and **many local pharmacies** offer walk-in vaccinations. To find out more about these three clinics and where else you can get *Continued on page 11* Ms. Cam's

mixture, hodgepodge

Private Ryan?

museum?

FUN & GAMES

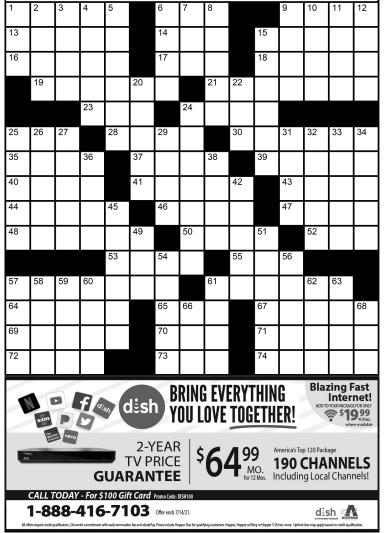
The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. The international telephone dialing code for Antarctica is 672. 2. "I am" is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD LANGUAGES

ACROSS

- 1. Lacking imagination
- 6. Afflict
- 9. Bob of boxing world
- 13. From then on
- 14. Ornamental pond dweller
- 15. Not asleep
- 16. Cuzco valley people
- 17. Overnight lodging
- 18.5th of 7 canonical hours
- 19. Brothers Grimm language
- 21. Language considered to have most words
- 23. Man's tasseled hat
- 24. Cross to bear
- 25. Retriever's word, for short
- 28. Person, place or thing
- 30. Like a bow or a racket
- 35. Pale _____ beverage, pl.
- 37. It has multiple limbs
- 39. Mister in Madrid
- 40. Spare in a trunk
- 41. Manuscript changes
- 43. Romantic occurrence
- 44. Letter-shaped girder
- 46. Russian mountain range
- 47. Curved molding 48. HNO3 acid
- 50. Egyptian goddess of fertility
- 52. Rub the wrong way
- 53. CISC alternative
- 55. Cry of horror, in comics
- 57. First language spoken in outer space 61. Once considered the language of
- diplomacy
- 64. Like old cracker 65. What acrimony and acrobat have in
- common
 - 67. Get ready to drive, on a golf course 69. It's often rewarded with a medal in military
- 70. Sturgeon yield
- 71. Backyards separator?
- 72. "That was close!"
- 73. "C'____ la vie!"



CROSSWORD

- © StatePoint Media
- 2. A year in a trunk
- 3. It's sometimes enough
- 4. Cozy accessory
- 5. Unquestioning ones
- 6. Similar
- 7. H+, e.g.
- 8. Flax-derived fabric
- 9. Deserter's acronym
- 10. Indian princess
- 11. Luau instrument, pl.
- 12. Mosquito net, e.g.
- 15. Teenagers' emotions
- 20. Nitrogen, in the olden days
- 22. Greek N, pl.
- 24. Relating to dreams

e.g.

- 25. "Veni, vidi, vici" language
- 26. "My wife can vouch for me",

- 32. Eel in a sushi restaurant
- 33. Annotator
- 34. Hellenic language
- 36. Popular way to cook tuna
- 38. Greek H, pl.
- 42. More like a fox
- 45. Quaggier
- 49. Langley, VA org.
- 51. Be full of anger
- 54. Rabbit trap
- 56. Land on patellas
- 57. Invitation acronym
- 58. One of Four Corners states
- 59. Price reduction
- 60. Snail-like
- 61. Guitar part
- 62. Ghana monetary unit

place?

5. How many calories are in a cup of raw vegetables?

6. What does "holistic" mean in reference to holistic medicine?

7. What is the name



8. What is the sixth 2. The Da Vinci Code planet from the sun?

10. What is an-

other name for the

11. Luxury vehicles

such as Ferrari, Mase-

rati, and Lamborghini

are manufactured in

12. Who are Mike

the series Stranger

Things?

Wheeler's parents in

Answers on page 10

what country?

Queensland nut?

positions?

for a sequence of yoga

#803

opens with a murder in which famous 9. Where did Aero-

Dio

3. In India, the use of herbal medicines is known as?

4. Who played Two Face in the movie Batman Forever?

smith's first public performance take

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous

1. Who played the ti-

tle character in Saving

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

74. "Silas Marner" novelist

DOWN

1. Pressure unit

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

27. Prince's "Raspberry 29. Pakistani language 31. Make over

63. Designer Boss 66. Trigonometry abbr. 68. Favorite one

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

	Е	L	s	Е			Т	0	М				0	Ν	0
	N	Α	Α	Ν		Т	R	Α	Υ		Α	Ρ	R	0	Ν
	Е	Ρ	Ι	С		Н	0	S	Т		L	U	С	R	Е
		Ρ	L	Υ	М	0	U	Т	Н		Τ	Μ	Α	Μ	
				S	0	R	Т	S		R	А	Ρ			
	Μ	Α	R	Т	Ι	Ν			В	А	S	Κ	Е	Т	S
_	0	В	Ι		L	Υ	С	Е	U	М		Ι	D	Е	А
	W	1	Ν	D	S		А	Μ	Υ		Α	Ν	G	S	Т
	Е	D	G	Е		U	Ν	U	S	Е	D		Е	Т	А
	R	Е	s	Т	0	R	Е			Ι	L	L	S	Α	Υ
				R	Α	Ν		Ρ	А	Т	Ι	0			
_		G	0	0	S		W	Τ	S	Н	В	0	Ν	Е	
	R	Α	D	Ι	Ι		А	С	Н	Е		S	I	G	Н
	0	Μ	Ι	Т	S		D	0	Е	R		Е	S	А	U
	W	E	Ν				Ι	Т	S			S	Ι	D	Е

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

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

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.

What is this?



By Jack Connolly Jackconnolly422@gmail.com

Honestly, as you drove up and down College Ave. In the last couple of weeks, did you have a clue what that concrete sidewalk slab was near the corner of Francesca Avenue?

Since the city has been reconstructing the sidewalks on College Ave. for the past couple months, I went right to their Transportation and Mobility Improvement Team with an email inquiry. Almost two days later, I received an email response and was informed that the concrete slab was a "bus island."

As someone who lives near and works on College Ave., I am up and down the street three to four times a day. Rarely have I seen more than one individual waiting for a bus which used to

be on the corner of Hall Ave. Speaking to a resident abutter (across the street), there have already been two vehicle crashes into the slab, with cars, buses, and trucks bobbing and weaving around the island. How safe is that for any means of travel?

Can someone answer why this "bus island" slab was needed at that particular location?

Would you stand on an elevated platform in the middle of the street with vehicles less than 10 feet away (traveling around 20 miles an hour) waiting for a bus, which as of now comes infrequently at best?

With a new mayor and city administration, and new city council about to be sworn in the first week of January 2022, a lot of questions need to be answered by the City of Somerville's Department of Transportation and Mobility Improvement.

Back in July, they recommended to the Traffic Commission (five members, only one elected) to "restrict" (actually meaning "remove") parking on College Ave., removing dozens of spaces between the College Ave. Red Line T stop and Morrison Ave.

No notice to Property owners. No notice to residents. No notice to several churches. No notice to dental and health care practices with dozens of patients needing short-term parking to access their healthcare providers. No notice to business owners and their employees (who survived the Covid pandemic), desperately trying to attract customers for pick-up and delivery services.

What is most puzzling is that the city is currently doing a citywide parking study that began back in August. Why is the city in a hurry to remove parking from one of the most heavily utilized streets in and out of Davis Square?

Time for reelected and newly elected city councilors alike, along with the new mayor and her administration to do a deep dive on what is – or isn't – happening in the Department of Transportation and Mobility Improvement.

Coming out of the Covid crisis, businesses, churches, and elderly residents in public housing on College Ave. (many with



therapists and personal care specialists in and out of these buildings all day) are barely keeping their heads above water. Why is the city making it more difficult for all of these folks to provide services?

Let's hit the pause button on parking removal on College Ave. until everybody can be at the

table after the citywide parking study is completed, mid-year 2022.

Editors' note: Jack Connolly is a native Somervillian, a Davis Sq. resident and insurance agent: He is also a former Somerville Ward Six and At Large Alderman (known now as City Councilor).

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff. Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to The Somerville Times. Please email your letters to News@TheSomervilleTimes.com or mail them to 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. The Somerville Times Reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and length. All letters must include an name and contact information. Contact information will not be shared with the public. We look forward to hearing from you.

To Whom it May Concern:

With the election behind us, I'm not sure whom, if anyone, would prefer their name to be removed from this circulation. Please let me know and I will be sure to do so. That said, it is my sincere hope everyone on this list will support Cobble Hill Apartment's desire to have the City cancel their plans to place a new fire and police station at 90 Washington Street, and find a more appropriate location instead. I have made our residents aware the City's first Community Meeting by teleconference has been reschedule a third time for December 13. As previously stated, only one Cobble Hill resident claims to have participated in a teleconference of any kind. To accommodate our residents, I signed up for remote access and will televise the presentation at a Cobble Hill Community Room so that all interested residents can watch the presentation. Noted below in this email string, on October 29 I attached 19 resident letters in opposition to the City's plans. These letters were written in the residents' own voice. This time I am attaching an addi-

tional 14 letters from Cobble Hill residents also in opposition. Please know a larger majority of Cobble Hill residents have asked me to circulate a petition they can sign in opposition to the City's plans as well. This will likely happen after those who have expressed a desire to write a letter are able to do so. Every workday I listen to residents express their disappointment with the City's plans. For me, I believe the letters do a far better job of expressing Cobble Hill's sentiments of fear, disruption and disappointment than any petition could. It is my hope those residents who have written a letter will receive a thoughtful response in return from every elected official. We ask this question at every community meeting. To date, I am almost in disbelief at the collective silence in the response for something so important to our 300 person elderly community. Is it possible these personal letters are simply ignored? Frankly, I am confident I would not be employed as the Cobble Hill Property Administrator if I acted similarly to an important community concern. I hope you agree that the residents of Cobble Hill deserve an answer as to how this happened and why the City thinks this is a good idea.

Still unanswered are the resident questions as to why the City Plans are proposing the following:

To situate a back-turning four-story parking garage behind 84 Washington Street

after every trip?

4) What is the decibel level on the safety alarm when a fire truck returns from a trip and parks the vehicle in reverse, and was this considered in site selection?

5) Who is ultimately responsible for the City's decision to replace housing development at 90 Washington St to build a municipal building for fire and police? This seems antithetical to every elected city official's promise to advantage Housing and Commercial development next to the GLX "green line" MBTA stop. 6) Why did the City's site selection scoring criteria give 90 Washington Street 4 out of 5 points for not being near a residential community? 7) Can you identify any examples of where community opposition has resulted in the City of Somerville reversing their plans? Your response will speak volumes to the Cobble Hill residents about the City's regards for the Community Process.

To eliminate green space and the access road to the trash dumpster and shed behind 84 Washington Street

To eliminate the parking lot next to 84 & 74 Washington Street

To situate a fire and police headquarters with expectations of 24/7 alarms next to the largest elderly development in Somerville.

Other questions most Cobble Hill residents want the City to answer include: 1) What are the number of projected annual emergency vehicle trips - fire and police - that will require siren producing noise pollution, and was this considered in site selection?

2) What are the projected decibel levels of both fire and police emergency vehicles and was this considered in site selection? 3) Will emergency fire vehicles be required to back themselves into the station

Respectfully,

Evelyn Ortiz Somerville

LEGAL NOTICES

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON SETTING THE TAX LEVY PERCENTAGES FOR FY22

There will be a public hearing at a regular meeting of the Somerville City Council on **Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at 7:00 PM**, on the Order of President Matthew McLaughlin, to determine the percentage of local tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal Year 2021, 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 by remote participation, using the GoToWebinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. To attend and be heard, enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7585240867915852044. You can also find this link on the City website's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.

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

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

KIMBERLY M. WELLS CITY CLERK

11/17/21 The Somerville Times



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

Web: www.sha-web.org

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority is requesting quotes from qualified contractors to furnish and install 20 countertops on an as needed basis for all SHA Developments.

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

The Project consists of: Labor and material for the installation of corian solid surface kitchen counters and backsplashes with sinks on newly renovated apartments. The apartments will be a mix of handicap (ADA-compliant) and non-handicap units. General cabinet layouts are provided within the bid package.

Contractors who intend on providing a quote shall email Travis Panzini at <u>travisp@sha-web.org</u> after <u>11:00AM on Wednesday, November</u> <u>10th</u> to request a quote package.

Proposals must be received by <u>11:00AM on Wednesday, November</u> <u>24th</u>. Proposals can be emailed to <u>travisp@sha-web.org</u>. Please contact Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org with any questions. 11/10/21, 11/17/21 The Somerville Times

Ms. Cam's ____

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Removal of Public Shade Trees

City of Somerville

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a **virtual public shade tree hearing on December 2nd, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.** using GotoWebinar software to consider the removal of the following public shade trees:

 495 Columbia Street (near Webster Avenue) – Removal of tree (3) trees for mixed-use development. Trees include one 8-inch diameter American Elm, one 5-inch diameter Ornamental Cherry, and one 15-inch diameter Ornamental Cherry. The area will be replanted.

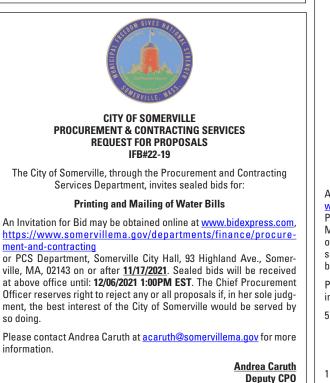
The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 87, any objections to the removal of any of these trees must be submitted in writing to the Tree Warden prior to or at this public hearing. Documents may be sent via email to: trees@somervilleMA.gov,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

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

TO USE A COMPUTER Webinar ID 868-680-267 Registration URL https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7794119489896499983

TO CALL IN UNITED STATES +1 (415) 930-5321 Access code: 419-394-601 11/17/21 The Somerville Times

11/17/21 The Somerville Times





CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP# 22-17

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement & Contract Services Department invites proposals for:

Assistant Web Editor

The RFP package may be obtained online at

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

https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/33100/home on or after: Wednesday, November 17, 2021. 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, Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

The City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive any minor informality in the RFP process, and accept the proposal(s) deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville.

Please email <u>purchasing@somervillema.gov</u> for more information.

<u>Thupten Chukhatsang</u> Senior Procurement Manager 617-625-6600 x. 3400

11/17/21 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS IFB#22-20

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

Operation & Maintenance of Municipal Street Light System

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at <u>www.bidexpress.com</u>, <u>www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids</u>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after <u>11/18/2021</u>. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: <u>12/07/2021 1:00PM EST</u>. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves 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 Andrea Caruth at <u>acaruth@somervillema.gov</u> for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required.

<u>Andrea Caruth</u> Deputy CPO 617-625-6600 x. 3400

11/17/21 The Somerville Times

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617-625-6600 x. 3400

Next Wave/Full Circle Annual Holiday Wreath Sale kickoff



1. Matt Damon	7. Vinyasa
2. The Louvre	,
3. Ayurveda	8. Saturn
4. Tommy Lee Jones	9. Miscoe Hill School
5. 24	10. Macadamia
6. Addressing the whole person, body,	11. Italy
mind, spirit, and emotions	12. Karen And Ted

Next Wave/Full Circle is holding its annual Winter Holiday Wreath Sale. Each balsam wreath is decorated with a red bow and costs \$25. Payment can be made with check or Venmo, and there will be three convenient pick-up locations the week after Thanksgiving. Learn more and find the link to preorder at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/ wreathsale.

NW/FC staff and students are grateful for ongoing community support of this annual event. All proceeds go toward enrichment programming for students. There will be no tree lot this year due to



logistical complications from the pandemic. Learn more about this tight-knit Next Wave/Full Circle school community at their website, www.somerville.k12.ma.us/nwfc.

Somerville Museum Penny Chronicles event

Penny Chronicles event with Dan Breen

The Most Glorious Fourth: 'President Taft comes to Somerville, July Fourth 1910'

Dan Breen is a professor in the Legal Studies Department at Brandeis and has received his Ph.D. in American History from Boston College.

Admission: \$10/person. Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m., Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood St, Somerville. www.somervillemuseum.org/taft-event, In-person at the Museum, tickets must be reserved ahead of time and space is limited.

For one week in the summer of 1910, Somerville found itself at the center of the American political world, as nationally prominent Republicans gathered here to kick off the party's congressional campaign season. The festivities culminated with a visit by President Taft, followed by a firework display that dwarfed anything the city had ever seen. But why Somerville? This presentation will address that question while telling the story of one of the most eventful weeks in the city's history.

Visit the Penny Chronicles and the Stories They Tell exhibit during these hours this week:

Thursday, 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. + Friday, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. + Saturday, 12:00 – 5 p.m.

Learn more about current and upcoming exhibitions on their website: https://www.somervillemuseum. org/events.



Somerville Winter Farmers Market returns December 4 CONT. FROM PG 1

is also participating in the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP), which allows qualifying customers to receive between \$40-\$80 worth of free farmfresh fruits and vegetables from participating HIP vendors.

"With the support of our community and vendors, we were able to sustain the Somerville Winter Farmers Market and run a very different market last season during the pandemic. This season we will be getting back to what our community is more typically accustomed to with the winter market. Masks and a one-way flow will be required, but there will be no pre-order system this season and we're looking forward to getting back to a more interactive vendor-shopper experience that even includes live music by local musicians. With food being a way to highlight different cultures, our vendors also reflect the rich diversity of our local community. We are proud to offer a weekly market that serves our community during the long, winter months and also provides economic opportunities for local farms and businesses," says Stephanie Scherpf, CAA Executive Director.

"The SWFM is a key part of our community, both for our vendors and for our customers. We want to continue to provide local, healthy, and affordable food in a time when food insecurity is rising," says Emily-Reckard Mota, CAA's Market Manager. "Please join us in fostering a sustainable food system by supporting local businesses and farmers during this challenging time."

The market will welcome back much-loved vendors, including Red Fire Farm, Heron Pond Farm, Winter Moon Roots, and Freedom Food Farm, each with a wide array of produce and winter greenhouse greens. Angry Honey will be selling honey that is both sweet and spicy, and Mycoterra will provide mushrooms once again this year. Cheeses will be available from Brookford Farm and Oake Knoll Farm, while savory meats will be available from specialty vendors like

Stillman Quality Meats and Lilac Hedge. Fresh artisanal pastries will return from Mariposa Bakery as well as newcomer The Bagel Guild, while frozen tamales will again be available from market favorite, Tex Mex Eats. Many delectable desserts and confections will be offered from Crepe du Jour, Bart's Handcrafted Ice Cream, and Sweet Lydia's, with chocolate specialties from Tick Tock Chocolates and Sueños Chocolates. Deano's Pasta and Valicenti Pasta Farm will offer fresh, homemade pastas, and Soluna Garden Farms will again offer a variety of herbs, spices, and tea blends.

Thus far, generous grant support for this season's SWFM has been provided by The City of Somerville and Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation. Middlesex Federal is a Friend of the Market Sponsor.

The Center for Arts at the Armory is located at 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. To learn more, and for a complete listing of vendors, weekly specials and live entertainment, please visit www.somwintermarket.org. You can find the market on Facebook at www.facebook. com/SomervilleWinterFarmersMarket, and on Instagram @ SomWinterMarket.

Please note that the Somerville Winter Farmers Market will not be held on December 25, 2021 or January 1, 2022.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

vaccinated, visit somervillema.gov/vaccine. Remember, vaccines are free, regardless of immigration status or health insurance. If you're not vaccinated, make a plan today to get your shot. At-home vaccinations available: Massachusetts offers in-home vaccinations for anyone who can't travel to a vaccination location. To learn more and sign up for an inhome vaccination, call (833) 983-0485. 9:30 a.m. The walking group will meet in front of the Holland Street Center and will enjoy walks through area neighborhoods. All classes and groups will be limited to 8 participants and will follow City of Somerville social distancing and mask policy. Pre-registration is required For additional info or to register for one of the above programs, contact Chris by email at ckowaleski@somervillema.gov or by phone at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 ***** The Somerville Board of Health has extended the citywide residential eviction moratorium until April 30 of next year. The moratorium applies to both renters and homeowners, and it means residents cannot be physically removed from their homes, though eviction cases may proceed through court. Back rent ultimately must be paid. If you find yourself or anyone you know unable to make rent or mortgage payments (or if you are a landlord owed back rent), assistance may be available. Immediately contact the Office of Housing Stability

at 617-625-6600 x2581 or the **Community Action Agency of Somerville** at 617-623-7370.

Get an early start on your holiday shopping on November 20 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the East Somerville Main Streets Holiday Market. Support small businesses as you shop local for food, art, jewelry and books. Wild Fox Pierogi will be on site serving their delicious food, and DJ Panda will be spinning all your favorite market jams. Located at Connexion, 149 Broadway in Somerville. Order-Proposed-8.21.pdf.

New Learn-To-Skate classes for children, ages 4 to 18 being held at the Founders Memorial Rink, 581 Somerville Avenue, 2:00 p.m. started on November 7 for 6 weeks. Classes are also available at 10 area rinks. Use either figure, recreational or hockey skates. Beginner, intermediate and advanced classes taught by professional instructors. For information and to register, call **Bay** State Skating School at 781-890-8480 or visit online at www.BayStateSkating-School.org. Bay State Skating School is compliant with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Covid-19 guidelines. The number of students allowed on the ice will be limited.

Students ages 5 years and older are now eligible for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Sign up for one of two vaccine clinics coming up this week and next at SPS facilities. This Friday, November 12, 4:00-7:00pm at ESCS, and next Friday, November 19, 3:00-6:00pm at the Winter Hill. Visit www.somerville.k12. ma.us/vaccineclinic for more information and registration link. Please reach out to your school family liaison if you need assistance setting up an appointment.

The Somerville Council on Aging is holding Walking Groups, Fridays at

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

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.

SHS Community Service Club re-energizes ESCS and Capuano playgrounds

Thanks to some hard working Somerville High School students, two Somerville Public Schools playgrounds are looking more vibrant and offering new features for outdoor active play. On two Sundays this October, students from the SHS Community Service Club helped beautify the East Somerville Community School and Capuano Early Childhood Education Center playgrounds, repainting existing images and creating new active play features.

The spaces are frequently used paved playgrounds, used by students during the day and the wider community outside of school hours. While the spaces were daunting, students tack-led the work with gusto – painting 4-square courts, hopscotches, a rocket ship hopscotch, school lineup images and a large labyrinth. Students also designed and painted a picnic table and a new alphabet activity path.

How were the new elements received? Minutes after the alphabet path dried, children began using it, shouting out letters as they hopped from letter to letter. Another family played naming and spelling games using the letter path, sounding out letters and asking children to 'find the sound' by searching and running to the letter sound. Research shows that children spend more time in active play when spaces are designed and enhanced with interactive activities where learning meets fun, creative play. Still to come are a few insects and perhaps an amphibian or two.

Many thanks to the following SHS students for their fantastic work: Hugo Rosales, Yuvica Sharma, Arthur Wittenbecher, Ali El-Saudi, Bhavroop Kaur, Hashem, Manjot Singh, Ambika Bhardwaj, Aliya Mekonen, Bhavroop Kaur, Zoe-Karen Valdes, Samantha Eatough, Suki Huang, Cam Grosser, Seline Pierre, Daniela Castro, Victoria Dutra, Ronnisha Walton, Nischal Tamang and Simran Tamang.

Thank you also to SHS Community Service Club and SHS History Teacher Kara Carpenter; SHS graduate and professional muralist Anthony Araujo-Amaral; SPS Volunteer Program Coordinator Jen Capuano; SPS Operations and Extended Learning Director Jose Mendez; Somerville Department of Public Works (DPW); and to Principals Obed Morales and Cheryl Piccirelli for providing outdoor painting palettes where volunteers can shine.



Dilboy Stadium Track and Field ribbon cutting, November 19

Somerville Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and Ward 7 Councilor and Mayor-elect Katjana Ballantyne invite you to a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the newly renovated Dilboy Stadium Track and Field on Friday, November 19, at 10:30 a.m.

Dilboy Stadium is owned by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and operated by the City of Somerville Parks and Recreation Department. The older track and field were well beyond their lifespan. Renovations began in June to install a stateof-the-art woven synthetic turf field with an organic infill and to resurface the running track.

Additional updates include a retaining wall constructed of large granite blocks salvaged from the old Charlestown Bridge, new electric and communication boxes, and new drains around the field perimeter with subsurface filters to prevent stormwater runoff sediments from entering Alewife Brook.

The Dilboy Stadium playing fields and track have served the athletic, recreational, and cultural needs of the community for many years, and with this renovation, it will continue to do so for years to come. For more information about this project, visit somervillema.gov/dilboystadiumrenovation.



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By Bobbygeorge Potaris

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November 17

On This Day in His

1558 – The Church of England is re-established.

1800 – The Sixth Congress (2nd session) convenes for the first time in Washington, D.C.

1842 – A grim abolitionist meeting is held in Marlboro Chapel, Boston, after the imprisonment of a mulatto named George Latimer, one of the first fugitive slaves to be apprehended in Massachusetts.

1869 – The Suez Canal is formally opened.

1913 – The first ship sails through the Panama Canal, which connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

1918 – Influenza deaths reported in the United States have far exceeded World War I casualties.

1967 – The American Surveyor 6 makes a six-second flight on the moon, the first liftoff on the lunar surface.

1970 – Soviet unmanned Luna 17 touches down on the moon.

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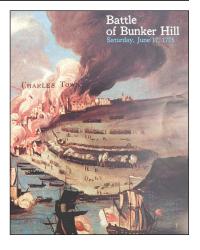
Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

quest. After near capture by British cavalry, he reversed his ride, skirting the neck again and rode over Winter Hill and onto Lexington.

• Most Americans are aware that the battle of April 19, 1775 began in Lexington and Concord. Yet, few are aware that it ended in what is now Somerville. The last casualty that day was thirteenyear-old Edward Barber who was shot by the British. He had been looking through his family's upper window as the English troops retreated across the neck.

• From the beginning, during, and after its end, the "neck" played a pivotal position in The Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775. A great part of the Colonial Army never arrived at the seat of battle. Furious cannonading from the British Fleet across the neck and raking gunfire into East Somerville left any crossing attempt defenseless.

Sullivan Square was named for James Sullivan, the popular fifth Governor of Massachusetts and founder of the Middlesex Canal. For fifty years this marathon-length canal brought the historic Concord River water and supplies from Lowell to the Charlestown neck. Of note, The Boston Marathon was originally planned along this route. At this section of the neck, a beautiful nineteenth century park and fountain once honored him. For over 170 years, from horses and ferries, to horse-drawn and electric trolleys, to buses and trains, Sullivan Square has been a transportation hub ... Paul Revere would be proud.



The Somerville Times

	SCATV is part of Somerville	Media C	SCATV Chan Center, home to Boston Free		3 Schedule	ews and	SMC Youth Media!		
Join SMC	today to make your own TV or Radio Pr	oduction, lea	rn skills like editing and field production	and sign up	for special media making workshops and	l classes for y	outh and adults! somervillemedia.org		
Wednesda	Nednesday, November 17 3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Pa								
12:00am	Free Speech TV	4:00pm 4:30pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	9:00am 9:30am	SMC Youth Media Science 360	5:00am	Free Speech TV		
6:00am	NASA TV	5:00pm	The Struggle Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00am	Dead Air Live	6:00am 7:00am	NASA TV Somerville Storytellers		
7:00am 7:30am	Community Bulletin Board DW In Good Shape	6:00pm	#AFAD	11:00am	TeleGalaxie	7:30am	Going Postal		
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm	#AFAD	12:00pm	Somerville Storytellers	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)		
9:00am	DW Global 3000	7:00pm	Community Lens: SHC 5K Race	1:00pm	Tele Magazine	9:00am	Science 360		
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	8:00pm 9:00pm	LIVE - Our View PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony	2:00pm	Reeling Review A House of Representatives Formal Session	10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News		
10:00am	Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer	10:00pm	Community Bulletin Board	4:00pm	Tele Krevol	11:00am 12:00pm	Our View The Thom Hartman Show		
10:30am 11:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News SNN Neighborhood Update	10:30pm	The World Fusion Show	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	12:00pm 1:00pm	SOM ARTS		
11:00am 11:30am	From My Heart to Yours	11:00pm	VOX POP Comedy Night	5:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:30pm	Somerville Storytellers		
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	Friday, No	vember 19	6:00pm	Sómerville Pundits	2:00pm	NÁSA TV		
1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	6:30pm 7:00pm	The Somerville Labor Show BLOWW Show a Go Go	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)		
1:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	4:00pm	African Television Network		
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	tumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Music Video Show	7:00pm	Tele Galaxie		
5:00pm	Hello Neighbór	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm 11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash Queer Cats	8:00pm	LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction		
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7:00pm	"The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP	11:00am	SOM ARTS	1:00am	NASA TV	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party		
7:30pm	Sidewalks Entertainment	11:30am	Cambridge Calendar	1:30am	NASA TV		November 23		
8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Pundits	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	2:00am	NASA TV	12:00am	Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing		
8:30pm	DW Euromaxx	1:00pm	Community Benefits Agreement	3:00am	Free Speech TV	6:00am 7:00am	NASA TV NASA TV		
9:00pm 10:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	2:00pm	Somerville Pundits tumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	6:00am 7:00am	Bate Papo com Shirley Nossa Gentes e Costumes	8:00am	Democracy Now!		
11:00pm	Flotilla	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series		
	November 18	4:00pm	Gay USA	9:00am	NASA TV	10:00am	Strata		
12:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	5:00pm	DW Global 3000	10:00am	Tele Kreyol	11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals		
1:00am	Free Speech TV	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?	11:00am	House of Representatives Formal Session	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show Revolution Awakening at VOX POP		
1:30am	Free Speech TV	6:00pm 7:00pm	Grandstanders Emergency Preparedness	12:00pm 1:00pm	Sidewalks Entertainment SOM ARTS	1:00pm 2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction		
2:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	The Somerville Labor Show	1:30pm	SNN Neighborhood Update	3:00pm	Democracy Now!		
3:00am 6:00am	Free Speech TV Bate Papo com Shirley	8:00pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville	2:00pm	Chico and B-Man	4:00pm	SMC Youth Media		
7:00am	DW Conflict Zone	8:30pm	Greater Somerville	3:00pm	African Television Network	4:30pm	Going Postal		
7:30am	DW Euromaxx	9:00pm	Fur, Fins and Feathers	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	5:00pm	LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer		
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Heavy Leather Music Video Show	5:00pm	Gay USA VOX POP: Somerville Connects	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?		
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	11:00pm	November 20	6:00pm 6:30pm	DW Tomorrow Today	6:00pm 6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News From My Heart to Yours		
9:30am 10:00am	Hello Neighbor The Chef's Table Series	Saturday, 12:00am	VOX POP Comedy Night	7:00pm	Emergency Preparedness	7:00pm	The Somerville Labor Show		
10:00am 10:30am	The Chef's Table Series	1:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Dead Air Live	7:30pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville		
11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	2:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Tele Magazine	8:00pm	LIVE - Dead Air Live		
11:30am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	3:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm 11:00pm	Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour TUTV	9:00pm	The World Fusion Show		
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	5:00am	Free Speech TV	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash	10:00pm 11:00pm	Totally Working Out Box House Productions Presents		
1:00pm 1:30pm	The Somerville Line The Somerville Line	6:00am 7:00am	DW Focus on Europe Effort Pour Christ		November 22	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash		
1.300111		7.000111				11.50pm			

13 (RCN) Schedule

CITY	TV	22 (Comcast)
Wednesday, November 17	5:30pm	Winter Hill Walking Tour	11:00ar
6:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV	6:45pm	SPD Ride Along	11:30ar
7:00am PorchFest 2021	7:00pm	Senior Circuit	2:30pm
7:50am Mental Health Resources	7:30pm	City Council Meeting 11-9-21	4:00pm
8:00am City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan	9:40pm	SPL Cooking - Mujadara	4:30pm
8:30am Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021		The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope	7:30pm
9:00am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1	10:50pm	Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone	8:00pm
9:30am The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope	Friday, N	ovember 19	9:04pm
10:30am West Branch Library Ribbon Cutting	12:00am	School Committee Meeting 11-15-21	10:00pi
11:00am Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7	6:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III	10:30pi
11:30am School Committee Update - Andre Green	7:00am	West Branch Library Ribbon Cutting	11:30pi
12:00pm School Committee Meeting 11-15-21	7:30am 1	The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope	Sunday
3:30pm West Branch Library Ribbon Cutting	8:25am	Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story	12:00ar
4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1	9:00am	City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan	6:30am
5:00pm Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021	9:30am	Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone	8:00am
5:30pm Land Use Committee Meeting 11-8-21	11:00am	Fit-4-Life Video #4	8:45am
9:10pm The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope	11:30am	Land Use Committee Meeting 11-8-21	9:00am
10:00pm Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021	3:10pm	COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA	9:30am
10:30pm City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan	4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	10:15ar
11:00pm HONK! 2021	4:30pm	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"	11:00ar
Thursday, November 18	5:01pm	SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1	11:30ar
12:00am Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021	6:00pm	Legislative Matters 11-18-21	12:00pi
12:30am Winter Hill Walking Tour	9:00pm	Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021	12:25pi
2:00am The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope	9:30pm	HONK! 2021	1:00pm
6:00am Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone	10:30pm	City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan	4:00pm
7:05am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II	11:00pm	West Branch Library Ribbon Cutting	4:30pm
8:00am Winter Hill Walking Tour	11:30pm	SPD Ride Along	6:30pm
9:15am Mental Health Resources	Saturday	, November 20	7:00pm
9:30am The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope	12:00am	Winter Hill Walking Tour	7:30pm
10:20am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I	1:15am	PorchFest 2021	9:40pm
11.00am Chair Yoga w Chris	2.02am	Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021	10:00pi

2:02am Vete 2:30am COVID Vaccir 6:30am 7:45am Yoga 8:30am City Cound 9:00am Vete 9:30am

8:00am 8:30am 9:00am 9:30am The 10:30am 11:00am 11:30am 12:00pm 3:30pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 5:30pm 9:10pm The 10:00pm 10:30pm 11:00pm Thursday, N 12:00am 12:30am 2:00am The 6:00am 7:05am 8:00am 9:15am 9:30am The 10:20am 11:00am Chair Yoga w Chris 11:30am City Council Meeting 11-9-21 1:40pm SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake 2:00pm City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan 2:30pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA

Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7

The Bilingual Brain Benefits of Bilingualism HONK! 2021 Educational

nmittee Meeting 11-15-21	10:00pm
with Jenn Falk - Practice III	10:30pm
hch Library Ribbon Cutting	11:30pm \$
nd the Architecture of Hope	Sunday, Nove
bel And Jerry - Senior Story	12:00am
cil Spotlight - Jesse Clingan	6:30am The
n Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone	8:00am
Fit-4-Life Video #4	8:45am
ommittee Meeting 11-8-21	9:00am
ne Portuguese Dr Kris CHA	9:30am
Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	10:15am
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ig - Summer's Bounty pt. 1	11:30am Heal
egislative Matters 11-18-21	12:00pm
erans' Day Ceremony 2021	12:25pm
HONK! 2021	1:00pm
cil Spotlight - Jesse Clingan	4:00pm
nch Library Ribbon Cutting	4:30pm
SPD Ride Along	6:30pm
	7:00pm
Winter Hill Walking Tour	7:30pm
PorchFest 2021	9:40pm
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ne Portuguese Dr Kris CHA	11:15pm
Winter Hill Walking Tour	Monday, Nov
with Jenn Falk - Practice IV	12:02am
cil Spotlight - Jesse Clingan	12:30am
erans' Day Ceremony 2021	2:30am The R
ain Benefits of Bilingualism	6:00am

1:00am	Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
1:30am	Legislative Matters 11-18-21
:30pm	Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
.30pm	School Committee Meeting 11-15-21
:30pm	City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
:00pm	Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
:04pm T	The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
0:00pm	Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
0:30pm	Climate Resilience & Health
1:30pm	SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
unday, I	November 21
2:00am	Land Use Committee Meeting 11-8-21
:30am	The Bilingual Brain Benefits of Bilingualism
:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
:45am	Mental Health Resources
:00am	City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
:30am	COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
0:15am	West Branch Library Ribbon Cutting
1:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3
1:30am	Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
2:00pm	Senior Circuit
2:25pm	Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
:00pm	Legislative Matters 11-18-21
:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #1
:30pm	Climate Forward Presentations
:30pm	City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
:00pm	Senior Circuit
:30pm	City Council Meeting 11-9-21
:40pm	SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
0:00pm	Winter Hill Walking Tour
1:15pm	PorchFest 2021
-	November 22
2:02am	Senior Circuit
2:30am	Climate Forward Presentations

ay	, November 22
m	Senior Circuit
m	Climate Forward Presentations
ı	The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
I	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II

7:00am	Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone
8:04am	HONK! 2021
9:00am	The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
10:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3
11:30am	School Committee Meeting 11-15-21
2:30pm	Winter Hill Walking Tour
4:00pm	Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
4:30pm	City Council Meeting 11-9-21
6:40pm	SPD Ride Along
7:00pm	Legislative Matters 11-18-21
10:00pm	Winter Hill Walking Tour
11:15pm	COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
Tuesday	November 23
12:00am	Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
12:30am	HONK! 2021
1:30am	Climate Resilience & Health
6:00am	City Council Meeting 11-9-21
8:10am	SPD Ride Along
8:30am	Chair Yoga w Chris
9:00am	City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
9:30am	Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
10:35am	Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
10:50am	Mental Health Resources
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
11:30am	Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
12:00pm	Senior Circuit
12:25pm	Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
1:00pm	Legislative Matters 11-18-21
4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3
7:00pm	City Council Meeting - LIVE
Wednes	day, November 24
12:30am	Senior Circuit
1:00am	Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone

15 Schedule

V

8:00a

Wednesday, November 17

4:00pm

4:30pm

6:00am	SHS Volleyball vs Masco 11-3-21	
7:30am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I	I
8:30am	SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1	
9:00am	SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn Eng 10-14-21	
10:30am	Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight	
11:00am	Cam-Som Girls' Hockey vs CC 2	
12:30pm	SHS Football vs LC 9-24-21	
2:30pm	SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake	1
3:00pm	SHS Volleyball vs Malden 10-6-21	
5:00pm	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I	
6:00pm	SHS Football vs Boston Latin 11-13-21	
10:30pm	SHS Volleyball vs Masco 11-3-21	

Thursday, November 18

12:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I
1:00am	SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
1:30am	SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn Eng 10-14-21
6:30am	Lets Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
8:00am	SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
9:30am	Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
10:00am	SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 10-19-21
11:30am	SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
1:05pm	SHS Football vs Malden 10-1-21
3:00pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21
4:30pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-29-21
6:00pm	SHS Boys Soccer vs Everett 10-28-21
8:00pm	SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 10-19-21

9:30pm SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21 11:05pm SHS Football vs Malden 10-1-21

Friday, November 19

12:00am

1:30am

3:30am

7:00am

1:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21 2:30am SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 10-29-21 School Committee Update - Andre Green 7:00am 8:00am Highlander History - ORourke and Dickerson Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight 8:30am 9:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn Eng 10-14-21 10:30am Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting 11:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs LC 9-30-21 12:30pm SPL Gardening - Garden Tour 1:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Medford 9-23-21 SHS Boys Soccer vs LC 9-30-21 3:00pm 5:00pm Highlander History - ORourke and Dickerson 5:30pm Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight 6:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Lynn Eng 10-14-21 7:30pm Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting 8:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs LC 9-30-21 9:30pm SPL Gardening - Garden Tour 10:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Medford 9-23-21 SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1 11:30pm Saturday, November 20

SHS Boys Soccer vs LC 9-30-21 SHS Football @ N Quincy 9-10-21 SHS Hockey vs Everett 4-8-21 Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV

8:00am	Lets Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
10:00am	SHS Football vs LC 9-24-21
12:00pm	SHS Football @ N Quincy 9-10-21
2:00pm	SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21
4:00pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21
5:30pm	SHS Volleyball vs Masco 11-3-21
7:00pm	SHS Football vs LC 9-24-21
9:00pm	SHS Football @ N Quincy 9-10-21
11:00pm	SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21

Sunday, November 21

1:00am School Committee Meeting 11-15-21 7:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Malden 10-12-21 SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1 8:30am SHS Football @ N Quincy 9-10-21 9:00am 11:00am School Committee Meeting 11-15-21 SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21 2:30pm 4:00pm SHS Volleyball vs Malden 10-6-21 6:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Malden 10-12-21 7:30pm SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1 SHS Football @ N Quincy 9-10-21 8:00pm 10:00pm SHS Football vs Medford 10-15-21

Monday, November 22

12:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Revere 10-5-21 SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21 1:30am SHS Volleyball vs Malden 10-6-21 3:00am West Branch Library Ribbon Cutting 8:00am 9:00am School Committee Meeting 11-1-21

1:30am	SPL Gardening w Green City Growers		
2:00pm	SHS Volleyball vs Masco 11-3-21		
:02pm	SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21		
2:30pm	Healey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting		
8:00pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21		
5:00pm	West Branch Library Ribbon Cutting		
5:00pm	School Committee Meeting 11-1-21		
3:30pm	SPL Gardening w Green City Growers		
9:00pm	SHS Volleyball vs Masco 11-3-21		
0:02pm	SHS Volleyball vs Medford 10-12-21		
1:30pmHealey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting			
Fuerday Nevember 22			

Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021

City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan

Tuesday, November 23 12:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21

2:05am

2:30am

4:

12:00am

2:30am

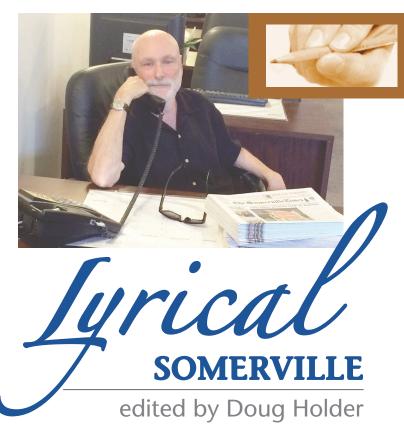
12.000111	3113 GIII3 300001 V3 N AUIED010 11-4-21
1:30am	SHS Football vs LC 9-24-21
8:00am	Lets Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
9:30am	SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
10:00am	School Committee Meeting 11-1-21
1:00pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21
3:00pm	SHS Volleyball vs Masco 11-3-21
4:02pm	SHS Volleyball vs LC 9-27-21
5:00pm	Lets Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz
6:30pm	SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
7:00pm	School Committee Meeting 11-1-21
10:00pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs N Attleboro 11-4-21

Wednesday, November 24

SHS Football vs Boston Latin 11-13-21 Lets Talk About a Poem - L. Schwartz

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The Somerville Times -



Timothy Johnson writes: My name is Timothy Johnson. I am a Sport Management Major and a Creative Writing minor at Endicott College. In my free time, you can catch me writing, playing basketball, bowling, and taking care of my puppy! I am also a devout Red Sox fan!



When You Lose A Best Friend:

When you lose a best friend It's like your anchor is being ripped out of the bottom of the sea And you're off to float. Alone. Isolated. The cold wind blowing Howling like a lone gray wolf. It's Like a part of you is gone Like some sort of magic trick. Your heart is Broken Shattered Into a million pieces. There's something missing Inside of you. But there is a light At the end of the hallway. It is a long walk But when you reach that light You know you're ready. To go back into the world To be somebody else's light. It will still hurt On birthdays, Holidays, Random days While walking down the street. Your heart will sink When you think Of them. You will get out your phone To tell them the good news And realize they aren't there. You'll want one more conversation. One more laugh One more smile One more hug. It may seem like they are gone But they are looking down On you Protecting you Loving you Until you meet again.

OFF THE SHELF by Doug Holder

'The Sum of Us' by Heather McGhee

The Sum of Us By Heather McGhee. Penguin. 2021 395 pages \$20.90.

Review by Off the Shelf Correspondent Ed Meek

Heather McGhee makes the argument that racism has hurt all of us and continues to harm the country as a whole. In doing so, she updates and expands on positions taken by Martin Luther King among others – that the way the wealthy and powerful maintain their status is by dividing the poor, the working class and the middle class into camps at war with each other often on the basis of race. McGhee claims racism is a weapon the Republican party has used to divide us, lower taxes on the rich, and transfer wealth upward.

McGhee does great research tracing the closing of public swimming pools in the US once Blacks were allowed. She travels to sites and speaks with people who were there when it happened. This movement serves as an emblem of the loss of support for community programs during the years following the 1960s when civil rights legislation was passed by Lyndon Johnson. Robert Putnam covers some of this territory in *Bowling Alone*.

Nonetheless, reading The Sum of Us can be frustrating since McGhee often reduces complex issues to racism. According to McGhee, whites support Republicans solely due to racism. Like the argument that Trump was elected because of racism, this is only partly true. Were Blacks who voted for Trump racist? Trump attacked Hispanics, Muslims as well as Blacks. Republicans promote libertarianism and equate the belief in it with what it means to be "real" Americans. This has been so effective during the pandemic it has resulted in millions of Americans reacting to vaccines and masks as an assault on their freedom. Republicans would rather risk sickness and death for themselves and the rest of us rather than go along with what Democrats recommend.

Do whites who consider themselves victims, those who think that Blacks getting Food Stamps (SNAP) are "takers and moochers" as Romney put it, think that way because they are racist or because they are ignorant of the facts or because they are libertarians who don't believe in government "handouts"? The Republican Party seems to operate in large part by playing on the fears of the uninformed. Of course, some of those elected to office (Marjorie Taylor Greene for example) seem to know as little as their constituents. On the other hand, Ted Cruz, Josh Hawley, Mitch McConnell and Ron DeSantis know better but will apparently do whatever it takes to maintain power. In The Sum of Us, all issues are viewed through the prism of race. McGhee says, "When college meant 'white' public colleges thrived." Government invested in college, covering much of the cost. When Blacks began attending public universities and community colleges, McGhee points out that state and federal resources dried up. Yet, contrary to what McGhee claims, it wasn't racism that was responsible for that. In the 1990s studies began coming out with evidence that college grads earned much more than



high school grads. Why should we fund college if those who go will make a lot more money than those who don't? Congress asked. Instead of funding, the government would provide low interest loans to students.

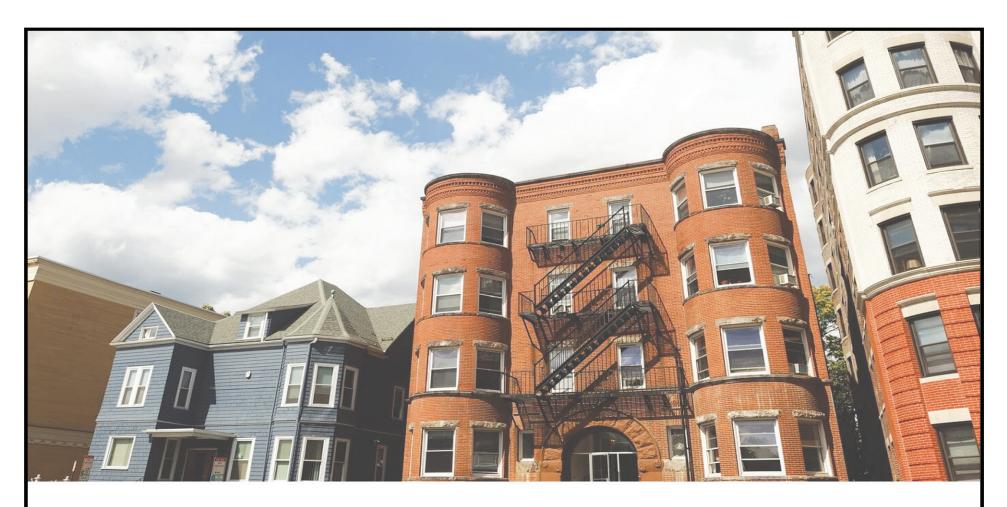
As a result, colleges raised tuition to cover costs. In addition, public colleges began competing for students by building beautiful gyms and stadiums and cafeterias. New technology added more costs. Colleges with strong sports programs drew alumnae who contributed to endowments. So, colleges recruited athletes and great students who would contribute in the future. At the same time, lawsuits and a growing awareness of mental health and disabilities prompted colleges to provide support services. Finally, there's an argument that allowing students access to open-ended loans provides colleges with the opportunity to keep raising prices. All of these factors drove up the cost of college. Oh wait, did I forget about paying stars like Elizabeth Warren 400K to teach a class?

The college arms race ties into some of the advantages and drawbacks of our meritocracy. Once professional and upper middle-class parents realized the financial benefits of a college education, particularly a degree from a select institution, they began investing in their children's future by sending them to private schools and public schools in tony suburbs with schools financed by property taxes. Private SAT tutors helped win admission and scholarships to the best colleges. When that wasn't enough, Hollywood stars and business tycoons bought admission. Under the aegis of equal opportunity, all Americans have an equal chance, but is that really fair to those without the means to compete - those whites, Hispanics and Blacks who are less well off? In addition, those kids whose parents haven't attended college don't necessarily know the ropes. As McGhee points out, these are problems that cross racial lines.

McGhee goes on to consider housing, the economy, our unrepresentative democracy, climate change and community. In each of these cases she does laudatory research combining facts and heartbreaking stories of the role of racism that hurts minorities primarily but working class and poor whites as well. In each case she emphasizes the role of racism often ignoring other factors. Nonetheless, she makes a strong case for the outsize role racism plays in each of these areas, especially when it comes to voting rights – a compelling issue given the current attempts by Republicans to disenfranchise Black voters. Despite my criticism, The Sum of Us is one of a number of must-read recent books about race including The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson, How to be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi, and Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates. McGhee's take is unique because she has a law degree and she is an activist and a scholar. Her research in The Sum of Us brings together the role of economics and politics to use race to divide Americans into tribes caught up in a zero-sum game fighting over what's left after the top 1% take 40% of the wealth. All that money gives that elite group a lot of power to fund and influence politicians and to employ media to sway the public. Fortunately for us, there are excellent writers like Heather McGhee writing and acting in the best interests of the country.

— Timothy Johnson

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