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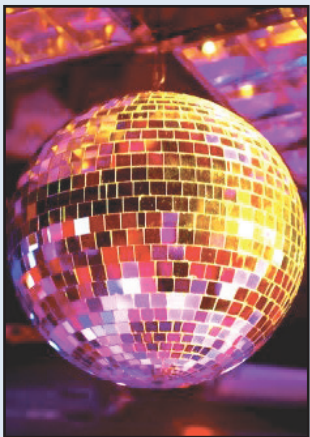


VOL. 8 NO. 47

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Disco nights in
the 'Ville

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for December

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An artist who paints
her life

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Human Rights Commission addresses hate crimes concerns



Noor Mediterranean Grill has recently become the target of alleged hate crimes. — Photos by Bobbie Toner

By Max Eidelman

The city's Human Rights Commission met virtually for its monthly meeting last Thursday. The first half of the meeting focused on the recent hate crimes directed at Noor Mediterranean Grill.

Sergeant Michael Perrone of the Somerville Police Department attended the meeting to provide details about the ongoing investigation of this incident and the precautions being taken to keep the restaurant safe.

The conversation developed into a candid discussion between Sgt. Perrone and folks at the meeting about hate crime reporting, and communication with the police department in general. Afterward, the focus of the meeting shifted to the Commission's plans for the annual Martin Luther King Day event on January 18. Much of the conversation dealt with

Continued on page 4

Screen-free holiday gift ideas that inspire kids

Shopping for holiday gifts for kids? Looking for activities that don't involve a screen? Consider toys and activities that will inspire them this holiday season and beyond. Here are four great gift ideas that will encourage kids to be creative and use their imaginations:

- ♦ Arts and crafts: Craft kits give kids all the tools they need to take a project start to finish. Whether it's beaded jewelry, scented soaps, or sand art, when projects are completed, kids will feel accomplished and inspired to take their crafting to the next level.

- ♦ Horse play: Create magnificent braids and let kids bring their own vision of horse beauty to life with a gift like Breyer Mane Beauty Styling Heads. Bringing a love of hair play and horses together, Mane Beauty Styling Heads are realistically sculpted and decorated with long, silky, no-tangle manes. Available in three styles – Blaze (black mane), Daybreak (white mane) and Sunset (blonde mane) – each styling head includes all the tools kids

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

The 2020 Illuminations Tour will have a new COVID twist this year. Even though the traditional trolley led Illuminations Tour this winter will not take place, the spirit of Somerville will shine through. The Somerville Arts Council believes that our neighborhoods and squares have much to share, so they are going to deconstruct their tour to allow you to develop your own self-guided tour. Come celebrate the folk artistry of residents who transform their houses and yards with lights, illuminated ornaments, and shrines of devotion and fantasy. Somerville Lights Up! They will be developing a Google Map so you can take a social distance personal tour. Their map will be available for viewing starting on December 12. The map will include different emojis and map layers to indicate the different kinds of locations you can visit. Are you illuminating and bedazzling your home or business? Tell them about it here: <https://forms.gle/K1x53vimTadT1k1d6>.

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development, on Wednesday, November 18, at 6:00 p.m., on the Order of Councilor Kristen Strezo, Chair of the Committee, for public testimony on the proposed Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan (#210787). Because of Governor Baker's and Mayor Curtatone's recent orders limiting the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoTo Webinar platform. You have two ways to be heard at this meeting: To attend and be heard, enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser any time before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9179575600740006156>. 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. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may send written comments by US mail to the City Clerk at 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or by email to cityclerk@somervilletimes.com *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of November 18 – November 24 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday November 18	Sunny	33°/20°	0%	10%	NW 14 mph
 Thursday November 19	Cloudy	42°/37°	0%	11%	SW 13 mph
 Friday November 20	Partly Cloudy	57°/40°	0%	9%	WSW 11 mph
 Saturday November 21	Partly Cloudy	56°/39°	8%	15%	W 7 mph
 Sunday November 22	Cloudy	59°/50°	9%	16%	SSW 10 mph
 Monday November 23	Cloudy	57°/35°	21%	22%	WSW 13 mph
 Tuesday November 24	Partly Cloudy	43°/31°	19%	21%	NW 15 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: City to consider banning use of tear gas

Arthur Moore says:

What is the response from the police department? If they have not used this should this not be kept in reserve in the case that it is ever needed? Certainly not something a council member should be even discussing without input from the people who defend us. And why is he wasting time on this when we have real problems in the city. And this is a problem if it is not used?

Selina K. says:

So-called "tear gas" is highly toxic and damaging to the lungs. It should universally be considered an archaic and inhumane measure for crowd control. Even in the most controlled of circumstances, collateral damage to those in the vicinity of its deployment is inevitable, whether participating in civil unrest activities or not. There are other less destructive means available to handle these situations. In my opinion, many who are against such a ban have questionable motives. Kudos to the Council for addressing this.

Arthur Moore says:

As a last resort and same as a gun. I expect it will probably never be used here as the police are doing a great job all these years without having to use it. But at the very least they should have access in case. We do not know what the future will bring and hopefully will be more peaceful. I am not advocating for the use of it, same as a gun. None of the police I know want to take that gun out of their holster. It is a last resort. But this is not for the council to decide. They are not the experts. They need to be working doing things that are needed here. This is a waste of time and didn't need to be discussed. Homelessness and other things is what they need to be working on. Leave this to the professionals.

Casimir H. Prohosky Jr. says:

Arthur. Dude. Weimar Era Germany also "left it to the professionals." Dozens of other examples could be cited.

And for the record – as well as stating the obvious – legislative bodies are professionals too, charged with protecting the public and its interests.

This stuff is inhumane and outmoded, as are police state fetishists.

Response to: Joe Lynch: On preserving hospitality

T says:

I wonder why this waiving of fees is only for the hospitality industry. There is no doubt it is an industry that needs help, but they have already received special help, such as using public space on the street for their business. Are there not other small businesses who could also use this help? People will cry as small shops and service providers close, and wonder why it had to happen. Every time the city does something like this it continues to pick the winners and the losers. Restaurants good. Other businesses not good.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Disco-Ville



Originally published
May 26, 2012

There's a small crowd of people standing outside near The Rosebud Diner in Davis

Square. It's not a line to get into the Surrey Room for a night of dancing. It was a line of folks waiting to buy donuts. Somehow, we went from shiny to crunchy, but it was sure a lot of fun.

As I drove by, I glanced at the path on the right of the door that led to the entrance of The Surrey Room. It was the back room of The Rosebud complete with a disco ball. For a lot of us it's where Somerville met disco.

Did you wear a three-piece white suit, wide collared shirts, and platform shoes? Were some of you ladies the proud owners of hot pants, mini dresses, and shoulder pads? my thoughts are directed back to that golden age of disco.

What was Somerville people's reaction to disco? I asked some of my friends who were there to share some of their disco experiences. I can also speak first hand because I played in a disco band briefly.

Disco arrived in the Rosebud's back room around 1977. It traveled down route 16 via Sammy's Patio at Revere Beach. A talented singer named Marie

Michaels was featured in her own band, backed up by local, seasoned musicians.

They had been making the Revere scene and found their way to the Surrey Room. In one of their configurations, I was the keyboard player. Eddy Mann was on lead guitar Butchie D played drums, and Bryan Bishop supplied that thumping disco bass line. Eddy and Brian were great singers also. They, along with Paul C, were in the legendary The Dream Machine, the house band at the infamous Sammy's Patio at Revere Beach.

With Marie Michaels, Steve Tello was the featured male singer and pretty much Marie's partner. Rick Carvahlo, Randy Jacobs, Rich Dorato, and Richard White were also in Marie's band at various times. Some of the songs we played when I was in the band were *I'll Always Love My Mama*, *Don't Take Away The Music* and *Love Is In The Air*.

I can still see the disco ball's shimmering, rotating light casting bright hypnotizing globs on every surface. The "chase" lights were the frosting on the cake. Speaking of cake reminds me of that great hit song *Cut the Cake* by Average White Band in 1975.

Many Somerville folks frequented Faces Disco on Route 2 and Jacob's Ladder in Revere, and 9 Lansdowne St. in Boston, along with too many others to mention.

Early on, I was a huge fan of the show



The Dream Machine.

band, Mason Dixon and The Line. Those horns went right through you! If you were there you know it was a short, shiny time in the history of music and shorter in Somerville.

Saturday Night Fever hit movie theatres in 1977 with a soundtrack that really left its impression on our society. Listening to *Disco Inferno*, *Night Fever*, and *Stay-in' Alive* will no doubt stir up many visions and memories. Donna Summer and The Bee Gees were integral parts of the disco era. If you listen to *Last Dance*, *Hot Stuff*, *Bad Girls* or any other Donna Summer hit from the 70's the memories will start

to fill your head.

Where were you when these songs were hits? Who were you hanging around with? Who were you dating? And what the hell were you wearing?

There was no in between with the disco scene. You either loved it or hated it. Many hardcore rockers used that phrase "Disco (fill in expletive)!" They just continued listening to Zeppelin, Skynard, and whatever new punk bands that popped up. They went clubbing in Boston but it was not at The Kenmore Club, K-K-Kathy's, or Lucifer's where disco was featured, it was at

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*Our menus and specials are posted on our Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/Mount-Vernon-Restaurants-103209019028/>*

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

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Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

The Somerville Museum presents: Voices from Somerville’s Brazilian Community

Come and hear members of the local Brazilian community talk about their work in Somerville’s neighborhoods! Panelists include the co-founder of the Brazilian Women’s Group, now celebrating its 25th year serving the Boston area; a community health worker who is also a celebrity chef; a leader from The Brazilian Times, a national publication based in Somerville since 1987; and a business owner who has served the city for 14 years.

Following the panel, listen to a historian from Somerville discuss connections between Brazilian and U.S. history. Special thanks to Erlene Tanice, Adda Maria Santos, Adriana Fernandes and Jhenny Saint-Surin for their help

in producing this event series. Also be sure to join us for our next event in December.

Panelists:

- ✦ Regina Bertholdo – Co-founder and Board President, Brazilian Women’s Group; Program Director, Somerville Public Schools Enrollment Office
- ✦ Robson Lemos – Community Health Worker, Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS) and local chef
- ✦ Liliane Paiva – Marketing Director, The Brazilian Times; Co-founder, Brazilian Heritage Community Foundation
- ✦ Josie Legros – Owner, Jozy’s Hair Salon

Also featuring:



✦ Dan Breen – Historian, Brandeis University and Somerville resident

Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

This event is part of a Somerville Museum Zoom series called “Voices from Somerville: Cul-

ture, Community and History.”

To register, please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/voices-from-somervilles-brazilian-community-tickets-128514252589>

This series has been made possible in part by the National En-

dowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Reward offered in connection with 2019 homicide of Paul Wilson in Cambridge

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan and Cambridge Police Commissioner Branville Bard, Jr. announced that the family of Paul Wilson is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the arrest and indictment of the person or persons responsible for his death, which occurred in Danehy Park, Cambridge Massachusetts, on January 2, 2019.

Anyone with information about this case can contact Massachusetts State Police assigned to the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office at (781) 897-6600, Cambridge Police at 617-349-3121 or through a third party.

The reward is being offered by the family of Paul Wilson. Anyone with information about the case should contact law enforcement. Investigators will di-

rect questions about the reward to the appropriate person.

At approximately 6:48 p.m., on January 2, 2019, the Cambridge Police responded to Danehy Park following a report of what appeared to be a body lying on the paved pathway under a lit street lamp. Upon arrival, police located Mr. Wilson suffering from significant head trauma. He was transported to Beth Israel Hospital where he was

pronounced dead as a result of multiple blunt force injuries to his head.

Mr. Wilson was approximately 6’6” tall and was found in a location visible from the parking lot wearing a pair of shorts, a red winter coat, a winter hat and gloves.

Investigators determined that on the day of the attack Mr. Wilson took a Blue Bike to and from work at IBM. He

came home from work by arriving at Porter MBTA Station and rode a Blue Bike home and parked it by his house on Sherman Street before walking through the park.

This incident continues to be actively investigated by the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office, Massachusetts State Police assigned to the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office and the Cambridge Police Department.

Human Rights Commission addresses hate crimes concerns

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the options that the Commission will provide for Somerville students to get involved with the event.

Sgt. Perrone spoke at length about police response to hate crime incidents and began by saying that the police “want everybody to feel welcome” at the department if something needs to be reported. Perrone mentioned that there has been recent global conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia, which has subsequently led to some instances of hate crime directed at Noor.

Some of the crimes have been committed by third-party delivery drivers making disparaging remarks to restaurant staff and shouting outside the restaurant. The sergeant indicated that there have been at least two instances of someone calling the restaurant saying, “Death to Armenians.”

A few of the crimes were even committed through the internet. Negative comments suddenly began to accumulate on the restaurant’s Yelp page, enough in

fact to make the star rating significantly drop. This is especially detrimental during the pandemic, as delivery and take-out business can be heavily affected by online reputation. Fortunately, the restaurant was able to contact the website and fix the issue.

Sgt. Perrone admitted that it’s been difficult to identify the culprits but said that the “most important goal in all of this is protecting patrons and staff at the restaurant.” He explained that patrols were initially placed in front of the restaurant to ensure that no further crimes were committed on the premises. The restaurant staff greatly appreciated this and requested that the patrol be extended for more time.

The department extended this service, and the Perrone said that these kinds of requests are almost always granted. It was clear from listening to him speak that he truly does care about keeping the community safe, mentioning the fact that he grew up here and saying of the department, “Protect everybody. That’s our job.”

Attendees at the meeting did point out room for improvement, though. Someone mentioned that there is no place that specifically addresses hate crime reporting on the police department’s website.

Since hate crime in particular can incite serious fear in victims and witnesses, as well as the fact that there are state policies for what distinctly qualifies as a hate crime, the department would be doing a service to the community by including specifics that can be readily found on the website.

Sgt. Perrone was receptive to this critique and reiterated that the department wants people to feel comfortable communicating with police. Everyone at the meeting agreed that honest conversation among Somerville citizens and with the police are vital to promoting cohesion in the wide spectrum of diversity that finds home in Somerville.

The conversation at the meeting shifted from the hate crime incident to the MLK Day event planning. While the

event has been celebrated in the past, this year of will feature many firsts. In particular, the event will be virtual.

The Commission so far has begun plans for a pre-recorded video that will be streamed throughout the day on January 18, although the possibility of live-streaming was discussed as well.

In the past, the Commission has created essay prompts for students to respond to. The Commission intends to do this again, but will also allow for other forms of expression, such as spoken-word poetry and visual art.

The Commission is also looking to incorporate more personalized student responses than have previously been done. One option that was proposed is to create a prompt for students to reflect upon a recent social movement they might have participated in or simply have had a reaction to.

This year has seen an abundance of events that cannot help

but make us reflect on Martin Luther King’s efforts to promote racial justice and national unity. Students’ perspective of this year’s turbulence in the context of Dr. King’s work will likely offer some surprising insight.

Nency Salamoun, the Manager of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion would like people to know that the Human Rights Commission is looking for new members and encourages people to attend and participate in Commission meetings.

The Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting will occur remotely on the evening of December 10 from 6:30 to 8:00. These meetings are an effective way to stay informed and be active in the Somerville community.

More information about the Human Rights Commission can be found by visiting its page on somervillema.gov, and Ms. Salamoun welcomes contact by email as well at nsalamoun@somervillema.gov.

Somerville schools will not reopen in December

By Jim Clark

As the Somerville Public School system has been pursuing a plan for a phased in return to in-person classroom attendance by early December, delays in fitting classrooms with suitable ventilation and other resources have forced officials to push the re-opening into January of next year.

Following the latest meeting of the School Committee on Monday, a joint update issued by Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Superintendent Mary E. Skipper, and School Committee Chair Carrie Normand verified that the delay was deemed necessary.

"As you know, we have been planning for a gradual re-entry to our schools as ventilation work on our school buildings is completed to bring buildings to within a Low Risk level of potential airborne transmission," the statement read. "Along with the building ventilation work, we have also developed a com-

prehensive COVID-19 testing plan for students and staff, and put in place health and safety protocols in our school buildings that align with CDC guidelines for when students and staff are back in our schools."

According to the statement, it was learned over the weekend that ventilation materials and equipment shortages would require the schools to delay their reopening start date, originally scheduled for December 3 for Group 1 buildings, by at least several weeks. "At this point, we do not anticipate being able to reopen any of our school buildings prior to January 2021," read the statement.

The update further indicated that Somerville's Department of Infrastructure and Asset Management is working closely with the contractor and is expecting a new projected timeline for Group 1 buildings from the contractor.

Buildings were grouped based

on the estimated time that it would take to complete the necessary ventilation work to bring each building to within the Low Risk range. The first group of schools scheduled to be completed are the Argenziano, Capuano, and West Somerville Neighborhood School. The new Somerville High School is slated to be ready for occupancy in January.

Additionally, the update stated, "We know that this is frustrating and disappointing news. We share your disappointment and will continue to do everything we can to expedite the building work so that we can safely start to bring our students and staff back to our classrooms. You also have our assurance that we will continue to be transparent and keep you informed throughout this process. Work on finalizing contracts and work schedules for Group 2 schools (high school mods and East Somerville Community School)



and Group 3 schools (Kennedy, Healey, Winter Hill) is also continuing to move forward. That work is slightly ahead of schedule of the initial timelines."

"As we have repeatedly emphasized, our focus has been on planning for a safe and sustainable reopening of our schools," the statement asserted. "That means ensuring that we meet all the guidelines that we have established for the gradual reopening of our schools to minimize the risk to students and staff,

and to minimize the disruption that multiple school openings and closings can cause. As we have continued to hear over the last several weeks, this virus is unrelenting, making our thorough and cautious approach all the more important."

Further updates will be presented at the next Schools Reopening Town Hall event for some time in early or mid-December. Updates will also be made at the December 7 and 21 School Committee meetings.

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.

Dear Friends of Next Wave and Full Circle,

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our annual NWFC Tree and Wreath Sale this year. The health and safety of our

students, staff, and community is of the utmost importance. We do not want to put anyone at risk of contracting or spreading the virus.

Staff and students look forward to this event every year. The NWFC Tree and Wreath Sale develops our students' busi-

ness skills and professionalism, and it funds several of their offsite learning experiences as well as our scholarships for graduates.

We hope all of you remain safe and healthy while enjoying the holiday season. Thank you to our patrons for 26

years of support. We can't wait to see you next year.

Sincerely,

Margaret Green
Principal
and the entire NWFC staff

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Oven Roasted Chestnuts

Chestnut season is finally upon us. The large baskets containing these gluten free nuts are low in fat, rich in vitamins and minerals, and a rich source of mono-unsaturated fatty acids. See more nutritional values and health benefits information here: <https://www.nutrition-and-you.com/chestnuts.html>.

Chestnuts are versatile and can be used in desserts like pies and other confections as well as savory soups, stuffing, pasta and even just as is, a delicious snack. They are quite easy to prepare. You just need a good, sturdy paring knife, a bowl of water, and a rimmed baking sheet.

Chestnuts

Prepare the bowl of water. Cut an X in each chestnut on the rounded side, just cutting through the outside shell.

Or, just cut from top to bottom, as seen in the picture. Try not to cut too deep. You don't want to cut through the meat of the nut.

Place all the chestnuts into the bowl of water, and let sit for about an hour. Preheat oven to 425°. Drain the chestnuts and place them the rimmed baking sheet. Roast for 20-25 minutes. The water will help steam the shell away from the nut meat, making them easier to peel.

Take the chestnuts out of the oven, and let sit for 10 minutes, or just cool enough to handle. Now, just peel the outer shell off. It's best to peel them while they are still warm.

Now, just give them a taste. They can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for a few days. That is, if they last that long.

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



OBITUARIES

Frank L. Di Fonzo



Frank L. Di Fonzo – A life-long resident of Somerville, passed away on November 5, 2020.

Beloved husband of Rafaella (DeBenedictis) Di Fonzo.

Devoted father of Frank J. Di Fonzo and his wife Nancy of Westford, John Di Fonzo and his wife Gabriella Spatolisano of Boston, and Catherine Di Fonzo and her husband Harold Tse of Arlington.

Born and raised in Somerville, he was the loving son of the late Frank Di Fonzo Sr and Catherine (Cavicchio)

Di Fonzo.

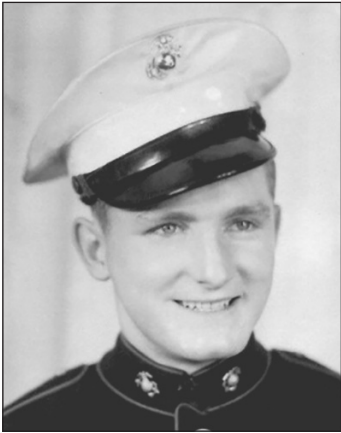
Cherished grandfather of Michael, Christopher and Alison Di Fonzo and Victoria and Alexandra Tse. Dear brother of the late Anthony Di Fonzo and his wife Arlene, Joseph Di Fonzo and his surviving wife Linda , and Ann Di Fonzo. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Calling hours Wednesday, November 18, 2020, 9:30 to 11:00am, followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Agnes Church, Arlington at 11:30. Relatives and friends invited. All attendees must wear facial masks and follow social distancing protocols.

Donations may be made in Frank's memory to St. Agnes Parish, 51 Medford St., Arlington, MA 02474.

Frank was the longtime proprietor of Bill's Food Shop on the corner of Conwell Ave. and Hillsdale Road.

Howard T. Winter



Winter, Howard T. "Howie" – of Millbury, formerly of Somerville, passed away on November 12, 2020.

Loving husband of Ellen T. (Broгна) Winter.

Beloved son of the late William and Helen Winter.

He is survived by 3 daughters, pre-deceased by 2 sons and 3 brothers. Also survived by many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was also blessed with many loving friends.

Howie loved his wife, politics, his service in the Marine Corps., and a good argument.

Interment Oak Grove Cemetery, Medford.

Proud veteran US Marine Corps., WWII.

Salvatore J. Pino Sr.

Pino, Salvatore J. Sr. – 86, of Somerville November 10, 2020.

Beloved husband of Natalie (Oliveira) Pino and the late Marie (Caizzi) Pino.

Loving father of John Pino and his wife Nancy, AnnMarie Pino, Salvatore J. Pino Jr., Natalie Pino,

James Pino and his wife Lisa, Anthony Pino, Christie Ricco and her husband Dominick. Dear Stepfather of Edward and Eric Conlon. Also survived by 5 grandchildren.

Retired Police Officer, City of Somerville, Veteran US Army Funeral Services are private

Council on Aging Book Club

Are you interested in discussing books and making new friends? Book Club is now meeting online via Zoom. The next meeting is on Friday, November 20 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. The book that will be discussed is *White Houses* by Amy Bloom.

Please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or nnaim@somervillema.gov for the Zoom link or to ask any questions.

Whole Foods Markets selling Thanksgiving pies to support meals program



Beginning November 18 and through Thanksgiving, Whole Foods Market stores throughout Massachusetts will be selling specially baked apple and pumpkin pies to support Community Servings, a nonprofit provider of medically tailored meals and nutrition services. As part of its sponsorship of the 28th annual Pie in the Sky bake sale-style fundraiser, Whole Foods will donate \$5 from each pie sale to provide a day's worth of nourishing meals to neighbors in need during the holiday season. For more information, visit www.pieinthesky.org



Screen-free holiday gift ideas that inspire kids

CONT. FROM PG 1

need like a mane comb, mane clips and elastics. Recommended for ages 5+, this gift is available at Tractor Supply, in stores and online. Visit breyerhorses.com to learn more.

♦ Screen-free adventure: Getting lost in a good book is a rewarding adventure every kid should experience. No screens required! Reading inspires imagination and helps children explore worlds outside themselves. Give classic books that you loved as a child for a shared experience you both

can enjoy. Traditional books are hugely popular again and are gifts that truly last.

♦ Open-ended playtime: From kitchen playsets that foster interest in the culinary arts to workshop playsets that spark an interest in carpentry and mechanics, playing pretend offers open-ended fun and helps kids build confidence and social skills.

This holiday season, make a list and check it twice to be sure that it includes gifts that inspire. (StatePoint)

Open House

Two Family - Winter Hill, Somerville



\$1,100,000

Saturday, November 21
11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

12 Rooms - 4 Bedrooms - 3 Baths

222 School St, Somerville

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COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Please don't gas grandma.

Our View Of The Times



The Somerville City Council is currently examining the feasibility of establishing an ordinance prohibiting the use of tear gas by local law enforcement authorities. While the proposed ordinance is only in the early exploratory stages by the City Solicitor's Office, the idea is already generating a fair amount of discussion throughout the community. Some are concerned that the proposed ordinance would unwisely constrain the police's ability to exercise crowd control in cases of civil unrest or other circumstances where such a measure would ordinarily be used. Advocates of the ordinance cite studies that indicate these chemical compounds can cause temporary debilitating irritation to the eyes, mouth, throat, lungs and skin. They point out that during most public demonstrations and protests there are invariably innocent bystanders who would be exposed to these toxic chemicals if they are deployed. It is also contended that various alternative methods of quelling violent confrontations exist and should be considered the first line of defense in such situations. It is certainly not in anyone's best interests if the police cannot effectively defend themselves, law abiding citizens, and private and public property. It is only a question of safe and viable methodology. Fortunately, Somerville itself has not experienced the type of social unrest that has been occurring in other cities as of late. Perhaps it never will. Still, in the public's best interests, it may be advisable to avoid the use of such toxic substances against our fellow citizens.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

cityclerk@somervillema.gov. 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 Committee.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to our very special guy **Bobby Potaris**, who celebrates this week. A great guy and a great father, he also writes those quirky dad jokes here in the paper. 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**. A very nice couple who love Somerville. Happy birthday to another 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 who lives in Winter Hill. A gracious and great lady, we wish her the very best on this her birthday. Happy birthday to a former East Somervillian who also loves Somerville, **John Hight**. Happy birthday to **Joshua Lewin**, of **Ju-liet** in Union Square. A nice guy, a great place and awesome food. We wish him the very best. Happy birthday to one of Somerville's well-known activists, **Joe Beckman**. A nice guy with a great sense of humor. We wish him the very best of birthdays. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Meghann Viens** – newly married, congratulations! – **Dennis Biondo**, **Philip D'Arcangelo**, **Peggy Henderson**, **Nancy Jones**, **Joellen Guidi**, **Mary Silvestro**, **Suzanne Ferola**, **Bill McCoy**, **Marie Coady**, **Todd Easton**, **Peggy Ryan Lookliss** and **T Leah Pratt** 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.

A virtual **Public Hearing on Affordable Housing Overlay District zoning proposal** will be held on **Thursday, November 19** at 6:00 p.m. The **City Council** and the **Planning Board** is holding this Public Hearing. **Dan Bartman** of the **City Planning Department** will explain how the **Affordable Housing Overlay District (AHOD)** would work. After that, members of the public will be invited to speak. Anyone may submit public comment in writing to cityclerk@somervillema.gov. The link and call-in number to get into the meeting, and the agenda, are here: http://somervillecityma.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_Meeting.aspx?ID=3267. To read up on the AHOD proposal before the meeting, go to <https://www.somervillezoning.com/>

Don't forget the **Union Square Farmers Market** is still open but in its final week. **Union Square Main Streets** runs a COVID-19 prepared market with a \$15 SNAP match **every Saturday until November 21**, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., **Union Square Plaza**. 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. is reserved for seniors and immuno-compromised shoppers. For more information visit <https://www.unionsquaremain.org/2020-season>.

On **November 6**, the governor issued a **stay at home advisory**. With exceptions for essential activities, such as going to work, grocery shopping, pharmacy and medical visits, or taking a walk, all residents are instructed to stay home with their household (not with guests) between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. For details, go to www.mass.gov/stayhome. Always wear a face covering in public – over your mouth and nose, indoors and outdoors – no matter how far you are from others. Face coverings are one tool we know works. The state now requires all persons over the age of five to wear face-coverings in all public places at all times, even when you are at a distance from others. Previous exceptions including for medical or disabling conditions remain. As a reminder, Somerville's face covering order applies starting at age 2 and up. Go to <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-state-of-emergency#masks-&-face-coverings-> to read the revised face-coverings order.

Ward 7 City Councilor Katjana Ballantyne is looking for your help with "naming" recommendations. She is gathering a list of Somerville notable women who you'd recommend for "naming" a civic space, public building, public pathway etc. Please provide name and background and email her at Katjana@Katjana.org.

Over the course of approximately the next four to six weeks, **Eversource Electric crews** will install underground conduit in **Ball Square** to support the **Green Line Extension**. Work is expected to primarily be conducted overnight to preserve on-street parking at local businesses.

Continued on page 9

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#756

1. In what year was the very first model of the iPhone released?

2. Who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize?

3. What kind of cells send and receive electro-chemical signals to and from the brain and nervous system?

4. In what TV show did Sheriff Andy Taylor first appear?

5. Who is Green Lantern's nemesis?

6. In which city in India would you find the Taj Mahal?

7. Who did Forbes

name the youngest self-made billionaire in 2019?

8. Which song has the most views on YouTube?

9. What are the surnames of the father-son duos who both served as US presidents?

10. What animal is on Levi's logo?

11. Who wrote *The Old Man and The Sea*?

12. How many stripes does the Adidas logo have?

Answers on page 15

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. A wind with a speed of 74 miles or more is designated a hurricane.

2. Peanuts can be used for a component to make Dynamite.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
DOCTOR'S ORDERS

- ACROSS
1. "Back to the Future" antagonist

5. Government Printing Office

8. Frugal driver's acronym

11. 1952 Olympics site

12. Afghanistan's neighbor

13. Letter-shaped girder

15. Wing-shaped

16. Narcotics agent, for short

17. Call it quits

18. One way to improve health

20. She played a TV genie

21. Cunning

22. Golfer's goal

23. "Kiss the Cook" garment, pl.

26. Keyboard instrument

30. Prefix for before

31. Greek god's libation

34. Door-stopping wedge

35. Full of meaning

37. Fleur-de-____

38. Do penance

39. Type of parrot

40. Ask for procaine when at this office

42. Unavoidable risk factor for many diseases

43. Rock grinding

45. Take a spoonful of sugar to avoid this taste

47. Genetic info carrier

48. Aqua-lung

50. Criticism

52. Annual ____

55. Fill with spirits

56. First rate

57. Purl partner

59. Vandalized a car

60. Coconut fiber

61. Bulgarian money

62. Filling station filler

63. More of the same

64. Water carrier
- DOWN
1. Feathery scarf

2. ____ of Man

CROSSWORD

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

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4 (2.8 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin
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9	5		8			6		
		8				1	2	7
	9			5	1			6
	1			6			5	
2			4	3			1	
7	8	1				2		
		9			2		8	5

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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.

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Serving Seniors 2020 recognizes pandemic difference-makers

By Nathan Lamb

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) recently recognized five essential workers for their compassion and excellence at Serving Seniors 2020.

The annual event was held virtually, with most of the award presentations filmed beforehand. Speaking to staff at the live portion of the program on Nov. 12, SCES Executive Director Paul Hollings said the changes were necessary to recognize those who are doing essential work.

“We thought it more important than ever this year to recognize those who are on the front lines of our mission, which is to promote the right of all individuals to live with dignity in the setting of their choice,” said Hollings. “We are proud to recognize these committed individuals, who do so much to make our communities safer and healthier for older adults.”

The following awards were given at Serving Seniors 2020:

The Compassionate Care Provider Award went to Nakaike Okpara, a Home Care aide with Anodyne, who has worked with people in their homes throughout the pandemic.

In nominating Okpara for the

award, SCES Bilingual Case Manager Ania Smietanko said he gave generously of his time for a 95-year-old client who needed additional help following a hospital stay shortly after the pandemic began.

“He would go every day, and the compensation for this half-an-hour extra service was not significant,” said Smietanko. “He did it because nobody else could.”

The Outstanding Caregiver Award went to Rosa Deleon, who is caring for her mother, who has dementia.

In presenting the award, Adult Family Care Social Worker Nathaniel Meyer said he wanted to recognize the hard work and compassion Rosa has shown in caring for her mother over the past five years.

“She has shown how an approach of patience and compassion instills in her mother a sense of safety and being understood,” said Meyer. “We all hope to age gracefully and with full and meaningful lives. Thanks to Rosa, her mother is living this life.”

The Tingle Volunteerism Award went to Caitlyn Dickinson, for her work with the Money Management program.

In presenting the award, SCES Director of Volunteers & Special Projects Colleen Morrissey described Dickinson as an amazing volunteer, who has been particularly helpful for one Money Management client.

“The work that you’ve done with him is unbelievable,” said Morrissey. “The situation he’s being going through with COVID has been really difficult and you have been there every step of the way.”

The Kahn Collaboration Award went to Dr. Daphne Schneider, for her work with the Cambridge Health Alliance House Calls program.

In presenting the award, SCES Mental Health Social Worker Cassie Cramer said Dr. Schneider excels at providing essential in-home care for people with barriers to attending outpatient



Serving Seniors 2020 award winners (L to R): Dr. Daphne Schneider, Nakaike Okpara, Caitlyn Dickinson, Rosa Deleon and Betty Mitchell.

appointments.

“The individuals served by you are among the highest risk for premature nursing home admission, emergency room use and hospitalization, and developing devastating but preventable health complications,” said Cramer. “You always seem to be working – fitting people in after hours and advocating on patient’s behalf and basically doing whatever it takes to meet the needs of those lucky enough to work with you.”

The Spirit of SCES Award went to longtime SCES Office Manager Betty Mitchell, who recently retired after 30 years with the agency.

The award was presented by SCES Assistant Director Annie Fowler, Quality Improvement Director Rachel Berry, HR Director Ellyn Torres, and Benefits Specialist Barbara D’Ermo—all of whom nominated Mitchell for the award.

“We nominate Betty Mitchell for the Spirit of SCES award because she embodies the best of our agency, exemplifying so many of our values before the values were even put on to paper in 2019,” said Fowler.

To see the award presentation videos, search for Serving Seniors 2020 at eldercare.org.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Where: **Broadway from Bristol Rd. to Boston Ave.** When: **Monday through Friday, 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.** Work hours may shift to daytime as the crew approaches Boston Ave. If you have questions, please contact **Project Supervisor Matthew Viens** at matthew.viens@eversource.com or 617-541-5709.

The **City of Somerville** is currently seeking applicants for 10 open positions on the **Somerville Commission for Women**. The Commission works to ensure the equal status of women in educational, economic, political, health, legal, and social spheres and provides information, referrals, and guidance. The Commission meets monthly, typically on the third Tuesday for an hour and a half. Its volunteer members are appointed by **the mayor** and approved by the **City Council**. Applicants interested in volunteering to serve on the Commission are asked to attend three meetings and then contact **Jennifer Mancia** at jdutra@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2406 for an application. Information on upcoming meetings, which are currently being held virtually, can be found on the city’s meeting and events calendar at www.somervillema.gov/events. Applications will be accepted

until all positions are filled.

CHA Somerville Hospital offers free COVID-19 testing at Assembly Row. To make an appointment, call 617-665-2928 (Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.). The mobile COVID-19 testing unit also offers testing in our neighborhoods to make access easier for residents. Mobile testing schedules and more information on both can be found under the **“Symptoms, Testing, & Medical Info”** tab on somervillema.gov/covid19.

Following months of suspended enforcement during the COVID-19 pandemic, the **City of Somerville** will resume **residential parking enforcement on December 1**. All **city buildings**, including the **Parking Department**, remain closed for the foreseeable future, but residents can renew or apply for new permits online, by mail, or by dropping off completed applications in a secure drop box at 133 Holland Street. There are several ways to apply for or renew your resident parking permit: online, by mail, or by dropping off a completed application in the secure drop box at the Parking Department office. To apply online visit www.somervillema.gov/parking and fol-

low the instructions carefully. This will be the fastest, easiest way for most people to get a permit. Online applications will be approved or denied within two business days of submission, and approved permits will be issued and mailed within two business days of payment. To apply by mail or drop box, gather the necessary materials in one envelope and leave it in the drop box at the Parking Department, 133 Holland Street, or mail it to the City of Somerville Parking Department, 133 Holland Street, Somerville, MA, 02144. For more information, visit somervillema.gov/parking or call 311.

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

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

New **Learn-To-Skate classes** for chil-

dren, ages 4 to 18 at the local ice rink in Cambridge at the **Simoni Rink**, on Gore Street in Cambridge, classes start **Saturday, December 5** at 2:00pm for five weeks. Use figure, recreational or hockey skates. Beginner, intermediate and advanced classes taught. For information and to register, call **Bay State Skating School** at 781-890-8480 or visit online at www.BayStateSkatingSchool.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. Masks and social distancing are required.

Have you thought you’d like to **do some writing**, a little story about Somerville as either a newbie or Villen? We have about 80K people and we would love to hear about your adventures here in the city. Maybe you want to write about a particular subject like our **Bob Doherty** and **Dorothy DiMarzio**, or like **Jimmy Del Ponte** with his stories about the city. Or maybe you’d like to express your opinion like **Bill Shelton**. Not just the politicians, but those from our community. Give us a call at 617-666-4010 or email news@thesomervilletimes.com and tell us about your idea. We would love to tell it to the rest of Somerville.

LEGAL NOTICES

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



INVITATION TO BID
SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
INVITES PROPOSALS FOR
ROOF REPLACEMENT AT THE
MYSTIC VIEW APARTMENTS
SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

The Somerville Housing Authority (Awarding Authority) will receive bids for Roof Replacement Project at the Mystic View Apartments, located in Somerville, MA. The estimated construction cost of this Project is \$165,322 (Base Bid only). Sealed General Bids will be received electronically until **2:00PM on November 27, 2020**, at which time they will be publicly opened, forthwith online. **General Bidders shall be DCAMM certified in Roofing.**

All General Bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a certified, cashier's or treasurer's check issued by a responsible bank or trust company made payable to the Somerville Housing Authority or a bid bond, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the value of the bid.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Labor and Material (Payment) Bond each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract sum. Bonds shall be obtained from a surety licensed to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the form shall be satisfactory to the Somerville Housing Authority. The cost of such bonds shall be included in the bid price.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for pick-up at www.biddocsonline.com (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

There is a plan deposit of **\$50.00** per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to BidDocs Online Inc.

Deposits may be electronically paid or must be a check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders and for one set for sub-bidders upon return of the sets in good condition within thirty days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise the deposit shall be the property of the Awarding Authority.

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for **\$40.00** per set for UPS Ground (or \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), payable to BidDocs ONLINE, Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer).

Attention is directed to the Davis-Bacon Act Wage Determinations, a copy of which is included in the Contract Documents, and will be made a part of the Contract.

Bidding procedures and award of the Contract and Subcontracts shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 149, Sections 44A through 44J inclusive, of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including all current amendments; and the guidelines established by the Deputy Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Capital Assets Management (DCAMM), dated June 30, 1981.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work – Roofing and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime Update Statement (Form CQ 3).

A pre-bid conference will be held at **2:00 PM**, local legal time, on **November 17, 2020** at the **Mystic View Apartments, 10 Canal Lane, Somerville, MA**. All bidders are invited to attend.

The Awarding Authority is exempt from sales and federal excise tax to the extent permitted under law. Bidders should not include such taxes in figuring or in references to any bid.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws Section 149, Sections 44A through 44L and Chapter 30, Sections 39F through 39P, are incorporated herein by reference. Any inconsistency between the Invitation to Bid, Instruction to Bidders, Bid Forms, Conditions of the Contract, and any other Contract Documents and these statutes, or any other applicable statutes, bylaws, or regulations existing on the date on which the bids are to be received, shall not be grounds for invalidating the bidding procedures, but, where required by law, such statute, bylaw, or regulation shall be deemed to govern.

The Awarding Authority reserves the right to waive any irregularities in or to reject any and all bids, if it be in the public interest to do so, and to act upon the bids and make its award in any lawful manner.

A brief description of the Project Scope and Schedule is as follows:

PROJECT SCOPE

General Bidders are to be DCAMM certified in Roofing The general scope of the construction work is as follows:

Complete removal and replacement of the existing 3-Tab Asphalt Shingles with Lifetime Laminated Architectural Asphalt Shingles, as indicated on the project drawings.

ANTICIPATED PROJECT MILESTONE SCHEDULE

Project out to bid	November 11, 2020
On-site Pre-Bid Meeting	November 17, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
General Bid Questions Due	November 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
Response to Questions By	November 20, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
General Bids Due	November 27, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

A contract is expected to be promptly awarded to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder. The construction phase is expected to commence upon the completion of the shop drawing phase, with the Base Bid work to be completed 30 days after the Notice to Proceed (weather dependent) and additional 30 days for Alternate I to complete. The work hours shall be as follows: Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm., Saturdays with prior permission.

All bids shall remain in effect for 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays excluded after opening of General Bids. Successful bidders shall agree to commence work and complete the Work in accordance with the dates set forth in the Bidding Documents.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to award or not award the project.

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

11/11/20, 11/18/20 The Somerville Times



Section 00.11.13
ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

The **Somerville Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Brady Towers Common Area Flooring Replacement, SHA project #2012, for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Reverse Architecture dated November 18, 2020.

The Project consists of: Removal and replacement of existing VCT flooring and resilient wall base in the common areas, hallways, elevator lobbies and elevators with new LVT flooring and resilient wall base on 9 floors.

The work is estimated to cost \$ 106,000.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by the Davis/Bacon Wage Rate. The project is subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 and the Somerville Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer).

General bids will be received until **2:00 pm on Friday, 04 December 2020** and publicly opened online forthwith.

All bids should be submitted online at www.biddocsonline.com and received no later than the date and time specified above.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternatives) and made payable to the **Somerville Housing Authority**.

Bid forms and Contract documents will be available for pick up at www.biddocsonline.com (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

There is a plan deposit of \$50.00 per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to BidDocs ONLINE Inc.

Plan Deposits may be electronically paid or by check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets upon return of the sets in good condition within (30) days of receipt of bids. Otherwise the deposit shall be the property of the Awarding Authority.

Additional Sets may be purchased for \$50.00.

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for **\$40.00** per set for UPS Ground (or \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), payable to BidDocs ONLINE, Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT:

Date and Time: **Tuesday, November 24 at 10:00AM**

Address: Brady Towers, Entry Lobby
252 Medford Street, Somerville, MA.

It is strongly suggested all prospective bidders attend the site visit.

Questions or requests for an appointment to see the work site should be directed to Brian Langton at brianl@sha-web.org or 617-625-1152, Ext 331.

The Contract Documents may be seen, but not removed at:

Somerville Housing Authority 30 Memorial Road Somerville, MA 02145 617-625-1152	Nashoba Blue Inc. 433 Main Street Hudson, MA 01749 978-568-1167
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11/18/20 The Somerville Times

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The Growing Center's Annual Holiday Wreath Sale

Hard to believe that it is already the time of year to request your wreath order for 2020! We understand there are a variety of choices when deciding what to spend your money on this holiday season and we are grateful for everyone who decides to purchase a beautiful, handcrafted holiday wreath – made with love by our volunteers – which helps to support programming and care for the Growing Center on Vinal Avenue. These wreaths include a handmade bow (in your choice of three colors: red, burgundy, or purple), evergreen cones, dried flowers, and other natural materials.

ORDER YOURS TODAY by visiting our website (<https://www.thegrowingcenter.org/wreathsale>) or by going to https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8t-ljjIQ8EIXN0FTN0cbZ4aJSY3nWVv87y0dnv_KYcbkPWpA/viewform to fill out an order form directly. Wreaths are \$40 each and the deadline to order is Nov. 24.

PICK-UP INFORMATION: Wreaths will be available for pick-up at the Growing Center on Vinal Avenue on Friday, December 4 (12:30 – 2:30 p.m.) and Saturday, December 5 (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.). Limited arrangements can be made for alternative pick-ups, so please indicate on the order form, if needed.

PAYMENT INFORMATION: You can pay at the time of pick-up by exact cash, check (made payable to the Friends of the Community Growing Center or "FCGC"), or Paypal.

HELP WITH WREATH-MAKING: We also welcome volunteers to help create the wreaths! More information on this is found on our website. Or, to learn more, contact Christine at volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org.

The Friends of the Community Growing Center would like to express our gratitude for all the community support over the years; these wreaths are consistently one of our biggest fundraisers of the year with your help.

Thank you,
The Friends of the Community Growing Center



SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Seniors & Veterans Box Lunch pick up – Wednesday, November 18 at 10:30 a.m. Ralph & Jenny Senior Center 9 New Washington Street. While we aren't able to share lunch together we hope you can stop by for this fun treat! RSVP is a must; spaces are limited. To enjoy a box lunch please call Connie at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319.

Music & Munch – Wednesday, November 18 at noontime. Why not pair your lunch with a celebration of music? This 45-minute session via Zoom will treat you to a playlist of diverse musical offerings: a little jazz, some "oldies but goodies," a smidgen of classical, a dip into barbershop, a trip to Broadway. The music is taped but the experience is live. Your guide is Somerville Resident, Laura Zoll, trained as a medieval musicologist and with a life-long love of all things musical. Your preferences will help shape the session. Learn a little, sing-along, relax and enjoy some Music while you Munch. Please RSVP by Monday November 16th to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2321. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via ZOOM.

Music & Movement – Friday, November 20 at 10:30. Join Steve as he plays guitar, sings and leads gentle movements. Just tapping your toe or singing along can help move your body in new ways. Being physically active is not just good for our bodies, but it is also one of Mental Health America's 10 tools to building resiliency; or the ability to overcome obstacles and manage through tough times. Physical activity can improve sleep, increase energy, decrease some kinds of pain, boost our immune systems and lower the risk for stroke and some cancers. It also helps to reduce our anxiety, depression, stress and tension. Join Steve as he shows us that exercise can come in all different forms and movements. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2321. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via ZOOM.

Virtual Bingo Day – Tuesday, November 24 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Join us online or via phone to

play BINGO. If you would like to participate please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov We will supply you with the bingo cards and instructions. Space is limited, RSVP a must.

Book Club – Friday, November 20 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Are you interested in discussing books and making new friends? Book Club is now meeting online via Zoom. The book that will be discussed is White House by Amy Bloom. Please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 or NNaim@Somervillema.gov for Zoom link or to ask questions.

ONGOING EVENTS

Open Enrollment for Medicare is here – October 15 to December 7. Medicare recipients are able to change their health insurance plans for January 1 of the following year. You don't have to make the decision alone, the Somerville Council on Aging has SHINE Counseling available over the phone or on Zoom to assist you with finding out what health insurance options are available for you. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317, to book an appointment.

Taxi Rides - Do you need a ride? The COA has a new program just for you. Taxi Rides for Somerville Residents 60 and over rides can be used for: grocery shopping in Somerville, pharmacy prescription pick up in Somerville, routine medical appointments in the follow areas: Somerville, Cambridge, Medford, Boston or the V.A. in Jamaica Plain or West Roxbury. Two days advanced notice required. For more information please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319.

Friendly Caller Program - Looking for a way to practice social distancing but still remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. We have many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

EXERCISE

Exercise Schedule

Mondays 1:00 p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise
Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise
Thursdays 1:00 p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise
Thursdays 6:30 p.m. = LBT Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise

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RCN = 13/Comcast = 22
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video # 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hd26HjpWBI&t=68s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwHfyoEZaws&t=247s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fcl2eBSS024&t=158s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EDtaldYSz0>

Yoga YouTube

Yoga with Janine video #1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDGF_EEbqF0&t=130s
Yoga with Janine video #3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Zezcj9XXBU>

For questions or to register for a Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise class, please contact Chris at CKowaleski@somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600, ext. 2315.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay connected via our Facebook page - often updated by Debby or Maureen. Informative, entertaining, lots of photos and updates. Visit our page at <https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCOA/>

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

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

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

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



If two vegans fight, is it still considered a beef?

On This Day in History
November 18

- 1861 – The first provisional meeting of the Confederate Congress is held in Richmond, Virginia.
- 1865 – Mark Twain's first story, *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*, is published in the *New York Saturday Press*.
- 1921 – New York City considers varying work hours to avoid long traffic jams.
- 1928 – Mickey mouse makes his film debut in *Steamboat Willie*, the first animated talking picture.
- 1936 – The main span of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco is joined.
- 1978 – Peoples Temple cult leader Jim Jones leads his followers to a mass murder-suicide in Jonestown, Guyana.
- 2003 – Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court rules the state's ban on same-sex marriages is unconstitutional

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Thea Paneth: An artist who paints her life, and paints to live

Thea Paneth is one of the many talented artists I have interviewed for *The Somerville Times*. And like many she works hard to make the daily nut and continue to produce evocative painting and photographs. I caught up with her recently.

Doug Holder: Somerville has been described as the "Paris of New England" because of all the creative stuff going on. You have been here a long time. How have you seen things evolve or devolve in our city?

Thea Paneth: I have known Somerville to be a creative mecca, hundreds of artists and musicians thrive here. Over my decades in the 'ville, it has become a younger city. I've seen a lot of changes, certainly Davis Square has changed a lot. I still miss the Supreme Deli, where I used to see the mayor all the time back in the 1980's. I love The Burren, great music was happening there all the time. Housing is ever more expensive, and I worry that when the GLX comes in, a lot of artists will be priced out or our studio buildings will be turned into housing. There is such a need for housing near public transportation, but the real estate goes up in value and that has consequences for artist communities.

DH: You have written that "I paint my life." Do you paint to live?

TP: So it seems. I found long ago that if I went any length of time without doing artwork, I would feel very low. Whenever I worked on a painting, I immediately felt lighter and as if I could breathe better. Realizing that was big, and then I had to figure out how I was going to live in terms of it, by continuing to make art. Sometimes the realization is absolutely staggering. I've managed to eke out a living, raise a child, and keep doing my art. It's day by day and all of a sudden, the years add up.

DH: You are known for evocative paintings of nature. But you are much more than that. For instance, you have a portrait series of folk/rock musicians that includes Patti Smith, Bonnie Raitt, and others. Did you ever have a subject pose for you, or do you work from photographs of the individuals?

TP: I spent a number of years drawing and painting from life, from models, so that hand-eye training forms the foundation for all the work I do. My mom drew and painted, one of her teachers would tell her class, "Go for the model," and she'd talk about it. As I grew up, I interpreted "go for the model" to mean seek the essence of any subject whether I paint a person, a tree, a still life, a landscape. I ask myself why I want to paint it, and then my job becomes bringing the sensibility forward, whatever it is, into an evocative work, that is my own.

I work from many photographs of public figures, so any portrait painting is composed of a number of different photographs. I listen to music all the time, specifically WUMB 91.9 out at UMass Boston. The music is the best, the announcers are all wonderful, they all have so much knowledge about the music and interesting stories that they share on the air. Over the years, I began to incorporate my love for folk music and an admiration for iconographic musicians into a number of paintings. Some are portraits, some are visual representations of a line from the song which becomes the title of the work.

DH: When you do a portrait, I am sure you try to capture the subject's essence. Could you talk a bit about your process?

TP: There is always something magical about creative work. There is the quiet space of the studio, the blank canvas in front of me, the relationship I have with my materials. I use palette knives a lot to move paint around on a canvas, small width sable brushes and paper towels, I try very hard to let my hands take over and not have my conscious or dictatorial mind oversee or analyze what I'm doing as I work. The time for evaluation comes later. I step back from the canvas and look at it carefully in a non-judgmental way, but trying to see what might pop out at me in a way I don't like, or an area of the work that maybe is not as realized as another area. In this way, I find a work comes to life in as free as way as I am able to achieve, through me, but not controlled by me or my conscious mind thinking it out.

I do research into a subject, getting books out of the library, seeing films about the subject. For paintings that spring from music, I listen to the music a lot, and let the music bring feelings out of me, down the arm, onto the canvas.

Working on the painting *Rock and Roll Women* with Patti Smith, I saw that I painted her hand as if it was a claw. That bothered me for a while, but not enough to change it. Then she put out a new album and was interviewed on the radio so I tuned in. I think it was the program *World Cafe*. She was talking about how sometimes after playing a lot or doing a long set, her hand felt like a claw, so that was the magic. I did not have that knowledge, but when it happened on the canvas, I let it be. It turned out to be meaningful in an unexpected way some time later.



I have found over the years, that several things are true for me as a painter. One is no matter how many times I make a painting such as a winter tree, which are very simple-seeming paintings, each one demands its own identity on the space of a canvas and is just as hard to make as if it were the only one. There is no formula.

Another thing is that sometimes a painting won't work, and I don't know why. I've found that if I set the unresolved work aside and don't try to make it work, that often I learn something from it down the road that is quite valuable and often leads to more resolved, different work down the road.

And, of course, sometimes there's no hope at all and I paint it out and do something else. That is important to be able to do, to let go and start over.

There's a great interview with John Lennon where he's speaking about creative work and he says, "Start over." Each blank canvas – or page – is starting over. There is tremendous freedom in that, it's yours for the taking.

DH: You have been involved with Somerville Open Studios for a long while. Can you briefly describe your experience?

TP: SOS is a great organization. When my daughter was an infant, I heard about an Arts Council meeting to vote on whether to bring SOS into being and I made sure to get myself there to raise my hand in favor! We organize the citywide open studios event every year, we artists, not an event company. It's a labor of love. Some visitors come every year. I've had folks in my studio tell me that SOS weekend is the best weekend of the year! I think so too. Artists are part of the life of the city, artists have been embraced by the community, we've embraced the community in return, it's a beautiful thing.

I've headed up traditional media publicity a number of times, it's one of those chores that has to be done and it turns out people are uncomfortable about taking it on. My philosophy is we work hard all year on our art, we work hard for months to make SOS happen, and we've got to get the word out! I'm hoping to put together a team next time to pass the skills along.

DH: If someone was to ask you, "Why should I look at your work?" What would your answer be?

TP: Be curious about everything. One does not have to like everything but be open to it. When people visit during SOS, I like to let them engage with my work so I keep to the background and just offer to answer any questions they may have, in as welcoming way as I'm able. I have no wish to push anything on anyone. Looking at art is a very personal thing; a viewer brings all kinds of associations and knowledge of their own that should be respected. And, of course, there are those visitors who talk about the window in my space, and that's ok too.

DH: How are you handling the pandemic? How has it influenced your art. Does great pain, bring great art?

TP: The past eight months have been extremely difficult. We had to cancel SOS, we are unsure if we will be able to hold it in 2021. So many people have been ill and died, I've been especially upset about the medical people we've lost, all that training lost. All this against the backdrop of government incompetence and malfeasance at the highest levels. I've been hanging in and hanging on, doing the best I can, but I know we need real relief for folks across the country and I hope that we see it happen in the new year.

I've been able to get to the studio most days and have found myself experimenting, doing more abstract work than usual, which is very interesting to me. I'm lucky in that I'm working remotely at my day job and still have my health insurance.

Does great pain bring great art? Yes, but probably down the road a bit, not in the moment. I've done paintings that dealt with grief and sorrow for beloveds who died, but in my experience, a creative resolution came after I lived through the worst of the crisis.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Sydney Leclerc writes: "I grew up in the small town of Gorham New Hampshire and am now a freshman at Endicott College studying Creative Writing. Unsure of what I want to pursue after graduation, I plan to use the next four years as an opportunity to explore the ways in which I can use my passion for writing to help others."



Running River

The river runs fearlessly free

Let the river run

Obedient to the opinions of others

It is not

Let the river run

Constrained by culture and commitment

It is not

Let the river run

Demanded to decide

It is not

Let the river run

Let the river run

Let me run

— Sydney Leclerc

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

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

1. 2007
2. Marie Curie, in 1903
3. Neurons
4. The Danny Thomas Show
5. Sinestro
6. Agra
7. Kylie Jenner
8. Despacito
9. Adams, Bush
10. Two horses
11. Ernest Hemingway
12. Three



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