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The Somerville Times

www.thesomervilletimes.com



VOL. 8 NO. 45

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2020

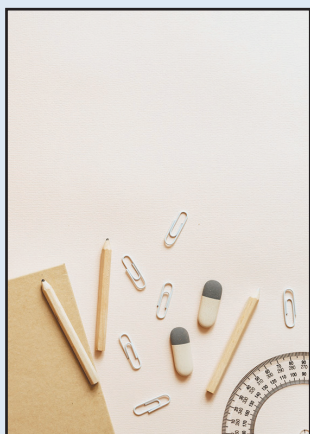
TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



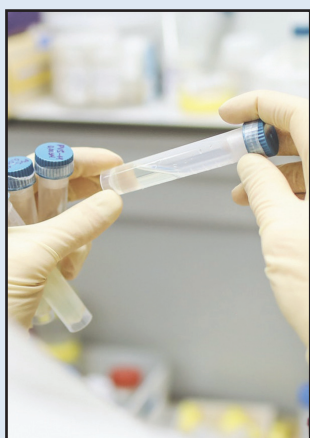
The name of
the game

page 3



A plan for
education

page 5



COVID-19 testing
for students

page 6

2020 Presidential Election

Unofficial local results for state and national races



Somerville voters did their part on Tuesday, showing up for the final day of voting.

— Photo by Bobbie Toner

By The Times Staff

After weeks of early and by-mail voting, the 2020 election, including state and national races, culminated in a busy day of mostly in person voting on Tuesday.

While the presidential and out of state senate races are too close to call on the national level at the time of publication, here are the preliminary, unofficial results of how Somerville voted as submitted by the Somerville Elections Department:

ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

BIDEN and HARRIS (D) 87.30%

HAWKINS and WALKER (G-R) 0.76%

JORGENSEN and COHEN (L) 0.81%

TRUMP and PENCE (R) 10.24%

WRITE IN 0.5%

BLANK 0.39%

Continued on page 4

Somerville Winter Farmers Market to open with online pre-orders

By Anqi Zhang

Entering its 11th year, the popular Somerville Winter Farmers Market (SWFM) at the Center for Arts at the Armory will be welcoming the community this winter from December 5, 2020, to April 10, 2021, with no market on December 26, 2020. The market is set to conduct online pre-orders along with a traditional live-shopping component while navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Emily Reckard-Mota, the new manager of SWFM, and her team has been working on exploring alternatives for in-person shopping since the summer. For the time being, SWFM has decided to operate in three forms – on-line pre-order shopping, indoor shopping at ROOTED Cafe and Farmstand at the Armory and outdoor shopping at the parking lot.

Most of the market will be operated through their online pre-ordering option, Reckard-Mota said, and she encouraged

Continued on page 12



The Somerville Winter Farmers Market is establishing alternative methods for keeping itself operating through the 2020-2021 season.

— Photos courtesy of Somerville Winter Farmers Market

ATTN: LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

REASON #2 WHY ADVERTISING IN PRINT IS BETTER:

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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 **Ignite Festival** will not be extinguished. Instead of a festival per se, this year Ignite will be more like a festive and delicious night out. On **November 7**, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. this en plein air gastronomic gala will take place at restaurants throughout **Union Square**, from the Plaza to Bow Market and beyond. Each eatery will feature special fiery dishes and libations to warm you up and delight your tastebuds. Diners are encouraged to dress up in festive and toasty attire, so come as an arctic explorer, Sasquatch, or don your giraffe onesie. Ignite is a chance to taste something new, be festive, and support Union Square restaurants. Oh yeah, it's B.Y.O.B. (bring your own blanket). Get updates on restaurant specials & sneak peaks of the art on the event Facebook page: <https://fb.me/e/1MHjcyv4s>.

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 follow 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 dropbox, 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.

Continued on page 7

Somerville Weather Forecast

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

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>November 4</i>	Sunny	52°/43°	0%	9%	S 8 mph
 Thursday <i>November 5</i>	Sunny	63°/51°	9%	10%	SW 12 mph
 Friday <i>November 6</i>	Sunny	63°/44°	10%	10%	SW 9 mph
 Saturday <i>November 7</i>	Sunny	64°/46°	10%	11%	S 8 mph
 Sunday <i>November 8</i>	Sunny	64°/44°	9%	8%	S 12 mph
 Monday <i>November 9</i>	Partly Cloudy	63°/51°	21%	16%	SSW 7 mph
 Tuesday <i>November 10</i>	Partly Cloudy	65°/53°	20%	17%	SW 9 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: *We need a city-wide ‘Affordable Housing Overlay District’ in Somerville*

Skip Schloming says:

I mind the intrusion of non-historic buildings in our historic multi-family neighborhoods. I mind the cost of this affordable housing, half a million to buy and build or rehab it (per MIT professor of affordable housing finance) and another half a million to subsidize the rent for 30 years, so costly that never enough can be built. I mind that all this housing creates government dependents and a political voting bloc that will vote for more government handouts. I suggest a totally different route: using existing privately owned rental housing and allow some large apartments to be subdivided into two smaller units, which would have “naturally” lower rent, no taxpayer subsidies needed — and better suited to today’s smaller household sizes. For more details, go to <http://www.spoa.com> and see the first article on the “Solutions” page.

<https://spoa.com/spoa-proposal-create-smaller-sized-lower-rent-units-rapidly-in-existing-rental-housing/>

Courtney O’Keefe says:

Why are we depending on large developers to provide our affordable housing. If there is development that can happen, why isn’t the City taking the initiative to buy the property, rehab it and own the affordable units as a municipality? If there isn’t an interest to do this, we need another (non-hypocritical) CDC in Somerville.

Matt says:

Courtney, I love the idea, i think it should be doing both. The thing to consider is speed, if the city puts aside 5M to do this each year we will see our affordable housing stock grow by only 6-8 units a year which is not enough.

Response to: *Somerville launches new round of small business relief*

David says:

Maybe we should have a license commissioner who isn’t trying to ruin businesses. His rating of Old Magoun’s is gross <https://bit.ly/34MsjL8>

Response to: *Halloween, full size*

Mehfooz Roy says:

This must be why I was compelled to eat a Reese’s, a Hershey bar and a chocolate chip cookie today. The basque chocolate cake doesn’t look so bad either!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.
Editor – Jim Clark
Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner
Arts Editor – Doug Holder

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Blake Maddux, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin
Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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Life in the

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Murph the Surf



Originally published July 24, 2004.

No one's name was safe from the teasing kids unleashed on each other back in the day. Almost everyone's first or last name became a source of adolescent taunting. Even though it was meant as harmless teasing in my youth, name calling is a form of bullying and is simply not tolerated in our society. These stories are at least 30 years old which doesn't excuse it, but thankfully we have grown!

They called me Jimmy the Pimmy. I still don't know what a pimmy was but it sure used to tick me off. Then there was my family's last name. The teasing came pretty easily. It was "Del Monte Beans," or "Del Monte Fruit."

In Boy Scouts we had a name for one kid that had nothing to do with his name. We called him Dirtbomb, and his brother was Dirtbomb Junior. We never taunted kids directly but it was still mean. We called a guy named Tim, T the G, for Tim the Goof. Another kid who spit when he talked became known as Bob "Slurp Drool." Not proud of that but we were kids. Eventually we grew out of it and started harassing people on social media instead.

One of my particularly cruel nicknames was "Jimmy the mini- (insert derogatory slur for Italians that rhymes with skinny)." With the last name of Wood, "woodpecker" seemed appropriate. My pal Scott Leake ... well, need I say more? They also called him "Sneaky Leaky."

Knowlton Brown, who worked at the YMCA for years was known affectionately as "Brownie." Jane was "Jungle Jane" and "Jane Jetson." Phyllis was "Philadelphia Cream Cheese" and "Phyllis Diller." Chris, Michelle and Andrew heard "Maoli ravioli," but their dad Andy was known as "The Duke." No one messed with The Duke.

As you can imagine, Teddy Bates had a few good nicknames as did Mike (Banas) Bonanno. Did you know Patty Pelican in the old days? I'm pretty sure her surname was not Pelican.

Everyone named Sullivan, Fitzgerald and O'Brien became "Sully" "Fitzie" and "O'B." Those were automatic nicknames. Murphy's were "Murph," "Murph the Surf" and even, "Murph the Smurf."

We sometimes assigned names for how we thought people looked also. I remember my dad went to school with a guy named "Stretch." Shorty at Barbaby's was an expert pool player. There was a very fair and decent police officer that we dubbed "Barney Fife." Of course, no one ever said it to his face!



My friend Tony was known as "Ton." And to this day, I don't know why our friend Steve became known as "Harry." I was talking to my friend Charlie, who we now call "Chucky," and he never knew that Harry's real name was Steve. Fast forward to "Harry the Hat" who also hung with us at Barnaby's, along with "The Skipper." I bet a lot of you Somerville readers know "Joe the Toe." All I remember is that he lost a toe somehow, a long time ago, and thus, his nickname was created.

To this day It's hard to keep my mask on. Even on TV, when his brother Wally couldn't pronounce Theodore, it became Beaver. I guess that was better than Clarence Rutherford's nickname, which was "Lumpy!"

That reminds me of the mean names my brother and sister used to call me. Because one of my ears folds over on the top, they called me Dumbo. They got punished when they called me that.

I have a friend who we have been calling "Bones" for years and it's not for the reason you think. When he was only 4-years old, he got hit in the head five times in one hockey game playing goalie. His brother later noted that after a haircut his head looked like a bone.

A couple of our friends' nicknames were "Bolo," "Ment" and "Bone Rack." Don't forget "Moose" Mason. If your name was Eddie, I'd bet the house

Continued on page 6

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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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Sun-Wed 11:30am to 8:30pm

Thurs-Sat 11:30am to 9:00pm

Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

NOTICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Please take notice: Ward 1 City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin invites interested parties to participate in a neighborhood meeting on **Tuesday, November 17th** at 5:00 p.m. to discuss a Special Permit with Site Plan Review (SPSR) being pursued for the XMBLY project at 5 Middlesex Avenue in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District of Somerville. Due to COVID-19, the neighborhood meeting will not be held in person and, instead, will be held virtually via Zoom.

Please contact Councilor Matt McLaughlin at mattforward1@gmail.com for more information and to obtain details on how to access the meeting.

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Saturday, November 7 • 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

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Somerville launches new round of small business relief

The city is making a new, \$750,000 round of relief available to Somerville’s small businesses as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the local character of the city’s commercial establishments during the coronavirus pandemic.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and City Councilors also united to request that the City Licensing Commission and City Council waive more than \$550,000 in annual licensing fees. This follows an earlier round of small business relief during the summer where the City distributed \$1 million in emergency funds to impacted small businesses and waived almost \$200,000 in fees.

“This ongoing public health crisis hits the local business community particularly hard and we need to help these establishments get to the other side of this ordeal,” Mayor Curtatone said. “These businesses are the cornerstone of our local economy and they create jobs, diversity and vibrancy in our city squares. By making sure restaurants, shops and service providers can weather the economic storm, we will enable Somerville’s economy to rebound more quickly when the virus is finally under control.”

The monetary relief will come in the form of forgivable loans through federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. It will be broken into two separate categories. Somerville-based businesses

with a brick-and-mortar location or at least one full-time employee may apply for Small Business Relief Funds of up to \$7,500.

Seven businesses who just missed qualifying for awards from the previous round of funding will automatically receive this new round of funding. Businesses that received funds in the previous round will not be eligible for the new funding.

The second category is Outdoor Dining Relief Funds for CDBG-eligible local restaurants that hold outdoor dining permits. They are eligible to receive \$1,000 each to help them procure equipment, such as heaters and barricades for outdoor dining areas, to help them continue serving customers through the winter.

A total of 84 businesses are eligible for that relief and the funds will be distributed to them on a rolling basis as their applications are approved by the City. Funds have been set aside to make sure every qualifying restaurant will receive this relief.

Business fee waivers

With the support of City Councilors who called for the same, Mayor Curtatone submitted a successful request that the City Licensing Commission waive numerous small business fees through the end of the City fiscal year on June 30, 2021.

On Thursday, October 29, the Licensing Commission waived the fees. These include liquor license fees and biannual build-

ing inspection fees for restaurants. The city still will conduct its regular inspections, but the fees will not be assessed. The liquor license fees alone can total up to \$4,000 per year for an establishment.

In addition, also with support of City Councilors, the Mayor will request City Council approval to waive City Clerk fees such as those for pool tables, taxicab medallions and livery licenses, as well as inspection fees for daycares and hotels. Again, the City will continue to conduct those inspections, but the fees will be waived.

In total, the fee waivers will amount to \$553,234 on top of the \$199,645 in City fees to local businesses waived earlier this year.

“The COVID-19 crisis has impacted all of us in many ways, but has been especially devastating for our small businesses, many of which continue to struggle with whether or not they will be able to keep their doors open each month,” said City Councilor At-Large Mary Jo Rossetti. “Not only does this impact their place of business, but their livelihood and their families.

For months, I have heard from devastated business owners seeking any additional support, and this small gesture can mean thousands of dollars in savings for small business owners, and it could not come at a more critical time. I am thankful to the administration



for taking this step to further support our businesses.”

Relief fund details

Due to federal rules, nonprofit institutions and liquor/cannabis stores are not eligible for the Small Business Relief Funds. The deadline for those applications is Monday, November 30, at 3 p.m. A live virtual lottery will be conducted on Friday, December 4, at 10 a.m. to determine which establishments receive relief funding. Extra lottery weight will be given to businesses unable to open as part of phases 3 and 4 of the state reopening guidelines, licensed daycare facilities and women/minority-owned businesses.

Applications and full eligibility requirements can be found at www.somervillema.gov/bizrelief.

Applications may be submit-

ted immediately and all Somerville-based businesses adversely affected by this pandemic are encouraged to apply.

“Do not assume you don’t qualify,” said City Director of Economic Development Thomas Galligani. “Our office is available to go through the application process to help out any local business that might be eligible for these funds, and in coordination with the Office of Immigrant Affairs, we can offer assistance in multiple languages.”

Businesses that have questions can contact Program Coordinator Nick Schonberger at nschonberger@somervillema.gov for more information, details or clarifications. Additional outreach will be made to local businesses that do not have an online presence.

2020 Presidential Election

CONT. FROM PG 1

SENATOR IN CONGRESS
EDWARD J. MARKEY (D)
87.58% – Projected winner overall
KEVIN J. O’CONNOR (R)
10.59%
WRITE IN 0.34%
BLANK 1.49%

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
AYANNA S. PRESSLEY (D)
85.08%
ROY A. OWENS, SR. (I)
10.47%
WRITE IN 0.61%
BLANK 3.84%

COUNCILLOR
TERRENCE W. KENNEDY (D)
82.99%
WRITE IN 1.49%
BLANK 15.51%

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

PATRICIA D. JEHLLEN (D)
86.59%
WRITE IN 1.07%
BLANK 12.34%

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 26th Middlesex
MIKE CONNOLLY
84.89%
WRITE IN 1.23%
BLANK 13.88%

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 27th Middlesex
ERIKA UYTERHOEVEN
86.08%
WRITE IN 1.32%
BLANK 12.6%

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT 34th Middlesex
CHRISTINE P. BARBER (D)
85.23%
WRITE IN 1.28%

BLANK 13.49%

REGISTER OF PROBATE
TARA E. DeCRISTOFARO (D)
75.97%
WRITE IN 0.95%
BLANK 23.08%

Ballot Initiatives

QUESTION 1 (RIGHT TO REPAIR)
This proposed law would require that motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities be provided with expanded access to mechanical data related to vehicle maintenance and repair.
YES 76.48%
NO 18.48%
BLANK 5.04%

QUESTION 2 (RANKED CHOICE VOTING)
This proposed law would imple-

ment a voting system known as “ranked-choice voting,” in which voters rank one or more candidates by order of preference. Ranked-choice voting would not be used in elections for president, county commissioner, or regional district school committee member.
YES 72.68%
NO 23.34%
BLANK 3.98%

QUESTION 3 (RENEWABLE ENERGY)
Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would require Massachusetts to achieve 100% renewable energy use within the next two decades, starting immediately and making significant progress within the first five years while protecting impacted workers and businesses?

YES 82.70%
NO 10.01%
BLANK 7.29%

QUESTION 4 (CHANGES TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RULES)
Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of changes to the applicable House of Representative rules to make the results of all the votes in that body’s Legislative committees publicly available on the Legislature’s website?
YES 86.7%
NO 5.17%
BLANK 8.13%

These are the unofficial results for how Somerville voted only. The final results will be updated as they become available on our website at www.thesomerville-times.com.
Thank you for voting.

A plan for stable education

By Max Eidelman

Last Thursday, a virtual town hall meeting was convened to address the plan for reopening Somerville’s schools. Mayor Curtatone and several others discussed the progress of the plan by focusing on its components one at a time, ending with a Q&A session.

The common sentiment throughout the town hall was that the safety of students and staff is the priority in creating this plan. The goal is to create a sustainable school-environment where students can find a sense of stability during this pandemic.

Speakers from various departments discussed their respective efforts in contributing to the reopening strategy. December 1 remains the expected date for the phased reopening of schools to begin. In advance of this date, Doug Kress, the Director of Health and Human Services, urged parents to ensure that their children’s health-care records are up to date with the schools.

Kress also advised how important it is for parents and students to get the flu vaccine as winter and flu season approach. This is advice the whole community should follow. The sustainability of the reopening plan depends on Somerville citizens practicing diligence and adhering to the recommendations for sanitation and hygiene that by now ought to be secondhand nature.

The departments have been developing protocol for the schools to implement routine and readily available COVID-19 testing for students and staff.

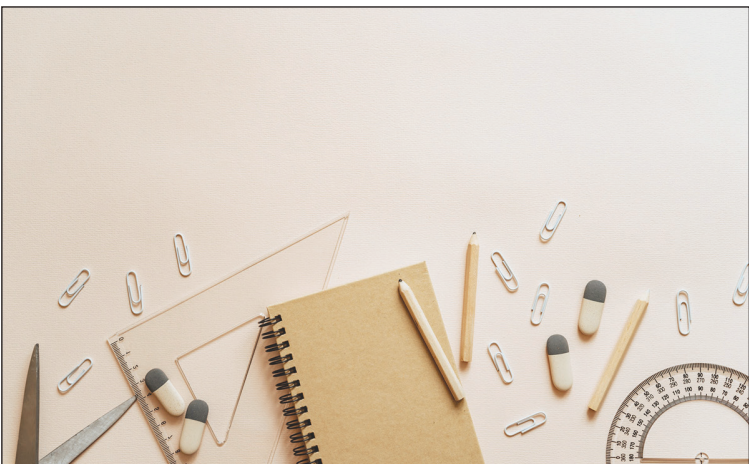
Amy Bantham, the CEO and Founder of Move to Live More, explained the details of Somerville’s partnerships with testing providers. One provider, Ginko Bioworks, will provide testing for school staff only. The other provider, the Tufts/Broad/Cataldo partnership, will provide testing for students.

School nurses will help administer the tests and coordinate the communication of test results. These partnerships reflect a fact that the mayor mentioned at

the town hall: despite the unfortunate circumstances of this pandemic, we are fortunate to be located in an area with myriad experts who have been able to offer their help.

In addition to testing procedure, the reopening plan depends upon the infrastructure of the buildings. Rich Raiche, the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management, discussed this topic in detail. The project of equipping the school buildings with the means to sustain student attendance has been underway since June and will continue into 2021.

The team has used metrics to measure buildings’ ventilation and HVAC systems in determining which buildings are eligible for students and staff to return to. There are three groups of buildings that are planned to be opened in phases beginning with Group One on December 1. This group includes the Argenziano, Capuano, and West Somerville buildings. Over the course of December, the plan is to bring ELL levels 1 and 2, Special Ed-



ucation, ECIP, Pre-K and kindergarten students back to the schools in this group. The plan for reopening the buildings in other groups and for other grades is still being developed.

All who spoke at the town hall reiterated the fact that the safety of students and staff remains the priority. The mayor is grateful to the community for practicing “patience and resiliency” as parents, staff, and students continue to contend with remote learning.

It was apparent at the town hall that the departments have been working hard towards creating a competent, long-term strategy as opposed to a plan

that ultimately leads to a cycle of opening and closing schools, which other school districts have fallen into.

In spite of the difficulties that the community has dealt with and continues to do so, the town hall demonstrated how citizens have been collaborating to create the safest possible situation for students to return to. As superintendent Mary Skipper said, the Somerville departments “have brought out the best in one another” in their effort to get students back in schools safely.

For more information, the town hall meeting is available to watch on Somerville City TV’s page on YouTube.

Dorothy’s Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Chard Tart

What’s the difference between a frittata, a quiche, and a tart? A frittata and quiche are basically the same, both are savory dishes with the only difference being the quiche has a crust. But now we add a tart into the mix.

A tart is similar to a quiche except for, in some instances, tarts are sweet, like a fruit tart. The crust itself may also be sweet, sometimes using a cookie dough as a crust. But tarts can also be savory, like this one. Plus, the presentation isn’t too shabby either.

- 9” tart pan, removable bottom preferred
- 1 pie crust
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 bunch swiss chard/rainbow chard - reserve the stems
- 4 extra large eggs or 5 large eggs
- 1/3 cup half and half
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- 1/2 cup shredded cheese, cheddar or Swiss
- 3 oz. pre-cooked bacon, small chop/ optional

- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, plus a pinch
- 1/3 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 400°. Prepare the crust and place it in the tart pan. Make sure it covers the bottom of the tart pan all the way to the edge and up the sides. Using the back of a knife, cut the excess dough off for a smooth top.

You can either make your favorite crust from scratch, or use a store-bought crust. Place in the refrigerator until you’re ready to bake it. Clean and chop up the chard leaves and reserve the stems. *See note below.

Add and heat the olive oil to the sauté pan, add the garlic and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add the chopped chard leaves add a pinch of salt, cook down for about 7 minutes. Once cooked set aside to cool.

Add the eggs to a medium bowl, scramble them, then add the half and half, salt, pepper, nutmeg, bacon if using, and cheese. Blend well. Add the cooled chard leaves and incorporate into the egg mixture.

Pour mixture into the tart pan and



evenly disburse the filling across the tart pan. Place into the middle of the oven. If you’re worried about spilling the filling, add a piece of foil to the rack below. I don’t place the pan on a sheet pan since I didn’t blind bake the crust first. This will allow the crust to crisp up.

Bake at 400° for 20 minutes, then lower the oven to 375° for additional 20 minutes or until the custard is firm

in the middle of the tart.

*The stems can be pickled and used to garnish a salad. I cut them into 1” pieces and used my favorite pickling spice and place them into a jar and refrigerate until use.

Enjoy for breakfast or lunch. Serves 6 people.

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

Tufts, Medford and Somerville launch COVID-19 testing for PK-12 schools

Tufts University and the Cities of Medford and Somerville today announced they have entered into a novel partnership that will bring COVID-19 surveillance testing to the cities' public school systems, using a new, more efficient pooled testing method developed by Tufts in collaboration with Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. The new method could improve and expedite communities' ability to return to and maintain in-person education.

The program, developed and validated by Tufts, enables the Medford and Somerville school districts to administer tests to students, faculty, and staff for approximately one-third of the cost of individual testing.

Tentatively, the program will begin in January; details are being finalized between Tufts and both cities. For the month of December, the university has agreed to support individual testing of Medford and Somerville teachers, custodial and administrative staff, health professionals, and other student-facing essential personnel working in person in the schools, as well as students learning onsite, splitting the cost with the cities.

"Getting PK-12 schools back up and safely running is critical for the education of our young people, their mental health, and their families' peace of mind, as well as the health and safety of the larger community," said Anthony P. Monaco, Tufts University president and renowned geneticist who designed the strategy. "This cost-effective solution provides a way for local school districts to hold in-person instruction while confidently knowing they will be able to identify and control potential spread of the virus. I applaud the mayors' leadership in adopting this solution and appreciate our close collaboration and partnership on this and many other projects throughout the pandemic."

Combined with the cities' and school districts' efforts on masking, social distancing, de-densifying classrooms, and ventilation system upgrades, the pooled

testing program will enable local health officials to reduce virus transmission risk in the schools. In particular, the frequent and system-wide testing of school staff and students will increase identification of carriers—particularly asymptomatic carriers—allowing the schools to intervene early and take steps to stem the virus from spreading as widely as it might otherwise.

"It is not enough to simply reopen our schools. We must open them as safely as possible and create the conditions that will help keep them open, and I want to thank President Monaco and the university for this significant contribution to that effort," said Mayor Joe Curtatone. "No student or family benefits when new virus outbreaks cause schools to see-saw from open to closed and back again. This universal testing plan plus the robust contact tracing we are putting in place is designed to break that cycle and better protect student and staff health. No measure is failsafe with this virus, but we are fortunate to have partners like Tufts at our side as we strive for a sustainable and safe reopening."

"Our school staff testing partnership with Tufts has allowed us to get our teachers and students back into the classroom with the added safety of knowing about a potential staff exposure in our schools, and with the ability to be proactive in our efforts at containing the spread of COVID-19. Although details need to be worked out and a final agreement needs to be reached, we are excited at the possibility of adding a pooled testing method that would greatly expand our ongoing efforts and continue to keep our students and staff safe and healthy," said Medford Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn. "We look forward to working with Tufts, Medford's elected leaders, and the community to continue getting our kids back to school and keeping them—and their families—safe as we work our way through the fall and winter."

Here is the design for the pooled testing program:



• Under the direction of school staff and/or EMTs, teachers and high school students will sample the front part of their noses with a non-invasive swab; PK-8 students will be swabbed by a nurse or EMT.

"... we are fortunate to have partners like Tufts at our side..."

• Eight swabs will be packaged into a single tube and sent to Broad Institute, which will analyze the group of swabs together.

• If the pool of samples comes back positive, all the people in that pool will be retested individually, which will enable health authorities to isolate the positive case(s) in the pool.

• The cities' health directors will manage follow-up, which will include contact tracing and Isolation for positive cases, and quarantine support for close contacts according to state and federal guidelines.

Even with the retesting required after a pool tests positive, the program is less expensive than large-scale individual testing because it requires only a fraction of the analysis.

Currently, Medford Public Schools are staging their reopening in a hybrid model, with some grades having returned to

a split-cohort, in-person model and some still remote. Somerville Public Schools are currently virtual, with a plan to phase in in-person classes through a hybrid model starting in early December.

Research indicates that testing is particularly important in densely populated environments such as Somerville, where many families live in multifamily units and multigenerational households. Medford, while not as densely populated, has higher percentages of families living with children under the age of 18 and in multigenerational households than Somerville has.

To support the success of the program, Tufts will make available to each city a scalable technology platform it has developed to support the scheduling, order submission, labeling, and monitoring of near real-time results from large-scale testing operations. This software platform is presently in use at Tufts and three other colleges in Massachusetts.

To develop the pooled testing program, Tufts took what it has learned from its own COVID-19 testing program, which has completed more than 120,000 individual tests since it began in August. The university continues to have a very low number of positive tests, with a rate of just 0.04 percent positive tests since August and just 0.03 percent over the last seven days ending October 26. Both

numbers are significantly lower than the state's over the same time periods. University officials attribute the results to a combination of factors, including testing and students' commitment to compliance with both city and university rules regarding masking, social distancing, hand hygiene, and avoiding large gatherings.

Studies have already found pooled testing to be effective with another type of COVID-19 test, in which swabs must be transported in liquid-filled tubes. Broad Institute's method, which uses dry tubes, requires less equipment and fewer supplies and personnel and is safer for a pooled testing approach.

The testing program is the most recent effort the university has undertaken to support its local communities during the pandemic. Other efforts have included:

• Providing free COVID-19 tests to neighbors who live on streets that abut and/or are near the Medford/Somerville campus;

• Housing police officers and firefighters from Medford and Somerville who needed a space to isolate and/or quarantine, as well as healthcare workers and COVID-positive patients from local hospitals;

• Lending freezer and cafeteria space to food relief groups; and

Awarding 30 emergency grants to nonprofits in our host communities for COVID-19 relief.

Murph the Surf CONT. FROM PG 3

house that you were called Eddie Spaghetti. And a special shout out to my friend, Gaily Wailay.

Sister Margerlaine became Sister Margerine. Teachers were called "Mr. S" or "Miss B" or "Mr. Son of a B!" Some politicians have a lot of cruel nicknames none

of which I will print! (Nut boy, do I have some great ones!)

My friend Pat, was Patrick Joseph, so he was known as "PJ." He actually had a band called the "PJ Five." There was "DJ" Sullivan too. I think everyone had a friend named DJ. I had two friends

named Richy Collins. They were known as "The other Richy Collins" and "the Richy Collins in the band."

Some people, especially in show biz, were very protective of their last names and just used a letter such as my friends Johnny C, and Billy K.

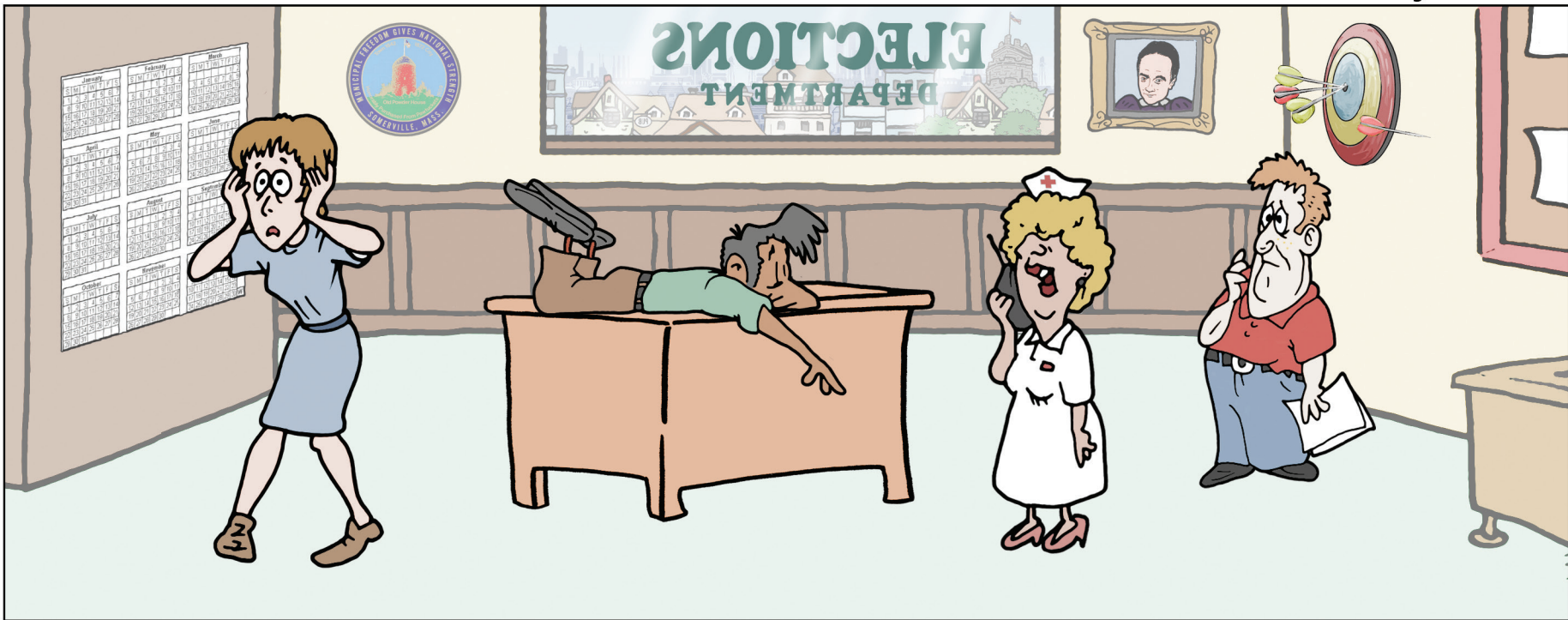
Nicknames could be cruel when we were kids, but today, we can laugh about them. We must also teach our kids that name calling is bullying, hurtful and wrong.

I have a friend, that to this day still calls me "Del Panty."

COMMENTARY

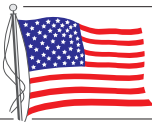
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Well, that was fun.

Our View Of The Times



The Presidential Election has come and gone, and those who fought long and hard – candidates and their supporters alike – are to be congratulated for once again participating our democratic process in these difficult times. Alternatives were presented and the voters made their choices. That’s what it’s all about.

Even as we await the final tally of votes in the presidential and congressional races, we can breathe a sigh of relief knowing that we have done our part. All we can do now is sit back, relax, and let the results come in as they will.

We should, however, not forget the efforts made by our election officials and the many volunteers who gave their all under difficult circumstances to make sure we all had every possible opportunity cast our votes.

Whether voting by mail, making use of drop boxes, or early voting at City Hall, we were presented with safe and secure means of making our voices heard.

Last but far from least, the voters themselves should be thanked for taking the time and making the effort to exercise their franchise in the process. All the hooplah and hype, debate and drama, would mean nothing if the common citizen refused to get involved.

And to do this in the face of a viral pandemic the likes of which have not been experienced in our own lifetimes.

Democracy is the one system that assures the little guy that he is, in fact, the big kid on the block after all. Public service to the public is the highest calling in the land. Let us once again give thanks that we enjoy this precious gift.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to **Amanda Fee**. We wish her the very best on her birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Herc Kalos, Edward Robaczewski, Mike Campbell, Betsy Almeida Pesce, Peggy Foley Arbeene, Mary Bean Fitzgerald** and **Billy Coiley** 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.

Don’t forget the **Union Square Farmers Market** is still open but in its final stretch of the season. **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>.

The **Alpine Restaurant Group** announced that **Elm Street Sweets** is expanding to an additional location due to the popularity of the delectable desserts that it creates daily. **Elm Street Sweets**

is now partnering with its sister company, **Posto Bedford**, to indulge their customers with a wide array of cakes, pies, and cookies, available during the day inside the 158 Great Road, Bedford, MA location. The bakery is now open and customers will still be able to purchase sweets from the original Davis Square location as well.

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 **GoToWebinar 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@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.

Join **SCC** on **November 7 at 6:00 p.m.** for a **Light Up Somerville Illuminated Walk**. Join in for a socially distant and safe Illuminated Walk to spread awareness about the dire need for affordable housing in Somerville. Walk participants will be given a handmade lantern representing one of SCC’s 100 Homes. They will walk from **Dunkin’ Donuts**, 220 Broadway through the streets in safe pods of less than ten and end in **Leathers Park**. If you care about keeping Somerville equitable, inclusive, and affordable, please be a part of our inaugural walk. This is a family friendly event. Masks required. **#SomervilleforAll #Keep-SomervilleLit**.

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.

The **Somerville Bicycle Committee** will be hosting **Bike Talk Virtual Hour** on **November 11** from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This is the Somerville Bicycle Committee’s **Monthly Bike Talk Series**. November’s talk features master bike mechanic, **Emily Thibodeau**, and she will tell you everything you need to know about getting your bikes, and yourselves, ready for the winter. Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/30zkHJd>

East Somerville Main Streets is hosting **November Holiday Market** on **November 15**. *Continued on page 13*

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#754

1. What U.S. President was the only one to serve two non-consecutive terms in office?

2. What U.S. President was given a speeding ticket for riding his horse too fast down a Washington street?

3. What U.S. President banned alcohol from the White House?

4. What U.S. President was the first presidential candidate to campaign using the telephone?

5. On what day was John F. Kennedy assassinated?

6. On what day did Parker Brothers introduce its *Monopoly* game?

7. When did the apartheid system in South Africa come to an end?

8. What was Dr. Frankenstein's first name in the novel by Mary Shelley?

9. Who created the cartoon series *Tom & Jerry*?

10. How many meters are in 1 Kilometer?

11. What Florida gym teacher with a strict policy against long hair inspired a rock band to name itself after him?

12. What band was named after letters they saw on a sewing machine?

Answers on page 11

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. In America you will see an average of 500 advertisements a day.
2. Winston Churchill was born in a ladies room during a dance.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
CARTOON CHARACTERS

- ACROSS
1. Brocadopa or Larodopa
6. They are often covert
9. Used for watering
13. Vexed
14. Took the bait
15. Spot for boutonniÈre
16. Old West pack animal
17. Big-headedness
18. Render harmless
19. Bamm-Bamm's dad
21. Angelica, Tommy and Dil
23. Opposite of yang
24. Archipelago unit
25. Solemn pledge
28. Depletes
30. Works, as in a bakery
35. Kind of beige
37. Hammer or sickle
39. ____ firma
40. Lecherous look
41. Computer key
43. Lure for a dieter, on a package
44. Tropical smoothie flavor
46. Health club offering
47. Hourglass filler
48. Popular saint's name
50. Pea ____, pl.
52. Limit, to some
53. Peace symbol
55. Like King George, 1760-1820
57. Ill-tempered fourth-grader's last name
61. Beast Boy and Starfire
64. Rossini's offering
65. Lobe locale
67. Sure sign of fire
69. Pretend, two words
70. Number cruncher, acr.
71. Lusitania destroyer
72. Gave the boot
73. Pivotal
74. Santa Maria's companion

- DOWN
1. Party choice, abbr.
2. Clobber
3. Southern stew staple
4. Stepbrothers' bipedal platypus
5. Apollo Creed's son
6. Toe the line
7. Peppa's or George's last name
8. "The buck ____ here"
9. King of the Hill
10. Milky-white gem
11. Dry as dust
12. Popular street-lining trees
15. Aglow
20. Related on mother's side
22. Type
24. Carbon-12 or carbon-13
25. The "brains" of Scooby-Doo's group
26. Billy of '80s Billboard charts
27. Small songbirds
29. Pinky Pie or Fluttershy
31. Unagi, pl.
32. A in A=ab, pl.
33. Did it to Kool-Aid
34. Land mammal in Bikini Bottom
36. Give a pep talk
38. Emmet Brickowski's brick
42. Spokes of a wheel, e.g.
45. Mr. Magoo or Mr. Burns, e.g.
49. Bygone bird of New Zealand
51. Opposite of 'lies down'
54. Sweater style
56. More than one iamb
57. Float liquid
58. Mt. Everest to Earth
59. Network of nerves
60. Walked on
61. Cafeteria carrier
62. High part of day
63. 3-handed card game
66. Magilla Gorilla, e.g.
68. Pilot's announcement

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

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

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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.

Rep. Barber and Sen. Comerford call for additional steps to scale back MA’s ‘estate recovery’ policy

As the Joint Committee on the Judiciary holds a hearing on An Act to address estate recovery issues due to COVID-19, State Senator Jo Comerford (D-Northampton) and State Representative Christine Barber (D-Somerville) are pointing to a policy change in Governor Baker’s recently filed budget and calling for additional steps and much greater reform.

MassHealth (the Commonwealth’s Medicaid program) demands repayment of its costs from estates of people who received MassHealth services such as nursing home care or hospitalization over age 55. Although federal law requires that some of these costs be recovered, Massachusetts’ program goes much further than federal requirements in demanding funds from the families of deceased recipients, including for care not provided in nursing homes.

Massachusetts law also requires that 12% annual interest be charged on amounts owed. This “estate recovery” policy can lead to families being forced to sell a home while dealing with the death of their loved one.

In his revised budget, Governor Baker proposed lowering the interest rate to 3.25%.

Senator Comerford and Representative Barber introduced legislation in June to put a pause on all estate recovery activity, as well as to waive the 12% interest rate during the state of emergency declared due to the COVID pandemic. The bills, S.2818 / H.4978 - An Act to address estate recovery issues due to COVID-19, are currently in the Joint Committee on the Judiciary. The Committee opened a hearing for both bills on October 27 and is accepting testimony until October 30.

Comerford and Barber’s legislation has been endorsed by the Massachusetts chapter of National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (MassNAELA), Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI), Massachusetts Councils on Aging, AARP, Massachusetts Senior Action Council, Massachusetts Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, and Mass Home Care. The legislators have also expressed their intent to introduce sweeping estate recovery reform legislation for next session.

“The Governor’s proposal is a half-step in the right direction,” said Senator Comerford, “given that current interest rates are far below 3%. We applaud the administration for their work on additional reforms to reduce the bite of this policy. However, we filed this legislation because we believe there should be a moratorium on all estate recovery during the pandemic. We also need comprehensive reform so that people who are ill do not have to choose between getting the medical care that they need and deserve and keeping their home secure for their children.”

Representative Barber added “We’re pleased the Governor’s budget addresses the Estate Recovery program, which is one of the most stringent in the country. Families need to count on health care to protect them without fear that it will result in the loss of their homes or life savings, especially now. We look forward to continuing to work with the Governor and our colleagues in the legislature to ensure families can access the care they need.”



SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mask Pick Up – Tuesday, November 3 – 10:30 a.m. to Noon – At the Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. The COA has masks available for Somerville residents who are 60 and over. If you are in need of a mask or may know of a friend or neighbor who may need a new mask, you can pick it up at our Drive -Thru location. If you have any questions, please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

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.

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.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Thursdays 1:00 p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

Thursdays 6:30 p.m. = LBT Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

Somerville City Cable

RCN = 13/Comcast = 22

The Fit-4-Life Exercise Show = Daily at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Fit-4-Life YouTube

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>

Yoga YouTube

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

Yoga with Janine video #2 = <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.

EXERCISE

Exercise Schedule

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, November 17, 2020** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/registration/1017778741966988043>
Webinar ID: 347-015-875

TO CALL IN


Phone #: +1 (631) 992-3221
Access code: 987-850-408

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

HPC.DMO 2020.21 – 211 Holland Street
Applicant: Silva Realty 8, LLC
Owner: same as applicant
Demolish principal structure

*While City Hall continues to be closed in response to the COVID19 pandemic, case documents reviewed by the HPC are only available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.*

10/28/20, 11/4/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB#21-27

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

Bituminous Concrete Supply

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids> or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **11/09/2020**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **11/30/2020 12:00PM**. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year with 2 optional renewals.

Please contact Prajкта Waditwar at pwaditwar@somervillema.gov for more information.

Prajкта Waditwar
Construction Procurement Manager
617-625-6600, x3407


11/4/20 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 16, 2020** at **6:00PM**, to be held by remote participation, on the Application for a Common Victualler and Entertainment by Devices License for Sinev, LLC D/B/A Zaruma Gold Coffee, 37 Woodbine St., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk’s Office.

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

Attest: Lori Batzek
Administrative Assistant

11/4/20 The Somerville Times



City of Somerville
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

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

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/registration/5453789190557139214>
Webinar ID: 283-484-931

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422
Access code: 707-364-929

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


54 Elm Street Kon La Yum, LLC seeks a Special Permit to establish a use Special Permit for a restaurant in a Neighborhood Residence district with a Small Business Overlay.

21 Cherry Street LaCourt Realty, LLC seeks to revise plans and conditions of a previously-approved Special Permit (ZBA 2016-25). Plan revision requests include the garage, floorplan, one window, exterior stairs, and a door. Condition change requests include a request for ZBA approval of landscape plan and the removal of conditions 21, 23, and 30.

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

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

11/4/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB#21-28

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

Ready Mix Concrete Supply

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids> or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **11/09/2020**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **11/30/2020 1:00PM**. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year with 2 optional renewals.

Please contact Prajкта Waditwar at pwaditwar@somervillema.gov for more information.

Prajкта Waditwar
Construction Procurement Manager
617-625-6600, x3407


11/4/20 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 16, 2020** at **6:00PM**, to be held by remote participation, on the Application for a Transfer of a Private All Forms 7 Day Restaurant License, a Common Victuallar, an Entertainment by Devices and Sunday Hours License, from Beacon Street Café Inc., d/b/a RF O’Sullivan’s, 282 Beacon St. to RF O’Sullivan’s Saloon, LLC d/b/c RF O’Sullivan’s at 282 Beacon St., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk’s Office.

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

Attest: Lori Batzek
Administrative Assistant

11/4/20 The Somerville Times



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville City Council’s Land Use Committee and the Somerville Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on **Thursday November 19, 2020** at 6:00pm. Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone’s Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/registration/2417029334256113421>

TO CALL IN

If you prefer to use your phone, you must register for the webinar at the link above and select "Use Telephone". Then, call in using the numbers below.


United States: +1 (562) 247-8422
Access Code: 332-705-676
Audio PIN: Shown after joining the webinar

The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public comments concerning the following proposed amendments to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

An Amendment to establish an Affordable Housing overlay district and to make associated changes to references for 100% affordable housing throughout the existing ordinance.

The proposed amendment identified above is posted online at somervillezoning.com. Interested persons may provide comments at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

11/4/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
RFQ # 21-32

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

On-Call Architectural & Engineering Services for Various Municipal Buildings (House Doctor Contract)

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) may be obtained online at: www.BidExpress.com, <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing>, and by contacting the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. on or after: **Wednesday, November 4, 2020**. Sealed qualifications will be received at the above office until: **Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.** at which time such applications will be opened. The City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive any minor informality in the proposal process, and accept the qualification(s) deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville.

Please send questions to acaruth@somervillema.gov.

Andrea Caruth
Assistant Director of Purchasing

11/4/20 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 16, 2020** at **6:00PM**, to be held by remote participation, on the Application for a Transfer of a Wine and Malt Package Store License., Sunday Hours License and a Change of Location from La International Food Corp., 318 Somerville Ave. to Jai Gitanjali Corp. d/b/a Get N Go, 152 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk’s Office.

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

Attest: Lori Batzek
Administrative Assistant

11/4/20 The Somerville Times

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LEGAL NOTICE


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Community Outreach Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a Virtual Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for Tuesday, **November 17th, at 6:00 PM**. The Virtual Community Outreach Meeting will be available at the following link and phone number. For those viewing this notice in print, please find the link below at <https://www.thesomervilletimes.com/> which will bring you directly to the meeting.

Link: Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87130461001>

Meeting ID: 871 3046 1001



QR Code: Zoom

Phone Number: Zoom +16465588656,,87130461001#
US (New York)
+13017158592,,87130461001#
US (Germantown)

The proposed Marijuana Retail Establishment is anticipated to be located at 67 Broadway, Somerville, MA 01245. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.

Please feel free to submit your questions to RevCSomervilleAU@rev-clinics.org in advance of this meeting.

11/4/20 The Somerville Times

Morning peak-hour bus lane planned for Mystic Avenue this fall

A new quick-build bus priority lane is scheduled to be added in late November to the eastbound section of Mystic Avenue (Route 38) between Main Street in Medford and Wheatland Street in Somerville. The project is a joint effort between the cities of Somerville and Medford and MassDOT, designed to create shorter bus rides, better reliability, and more social distancing along the MBTA 95 bus route.

Red bus priority lane markings will be painted on the roadway's right-side lane headed eastbound toward Sullivan Square, establishing bus-only regulations during the heavy commuter hours of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. The lane will be open to regular vehicle traffic the other 21 hours of the day, and cars may always use the bus lane to make right-hand turns or parallel park. On-street parking along Mystic Avenue in Somerville will not change.

The City of Somerville will host a virtual information session on Tuesday, November 10, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the project and answer questions. Visit bit.ly/BusBikeLanes to register to attend.

"Much of our essential workforce relies on the bus to get to their jobs, and in these times of coronavirus, quicker service is safer service," said Somerville Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. "It also creates a more efficient traffic pattern during rush hour where buses aren't weaving in and out of the traffic flow at every stop. We greatly appreciate MassDOT prioritizing these projects and the City of Medford in partnering with us to create a dedicated



lane for the 95 bus."

This corridor serves approximately 41 daily weekday inbound trips and 1,400 weekday total riders per day, with roughly 7,000 weekday total riders per week. The 95 route is in the top 50th percentile of bus ridership among all MBTA routes, but on-street traffic congestion contributes to a poor on-time performance of 67%. Ridership has been durable through the COVID-19 pandemic, illustrating the importance of Route 95 to local residents and the region's essential workforce.

Some key aspects of the project include:

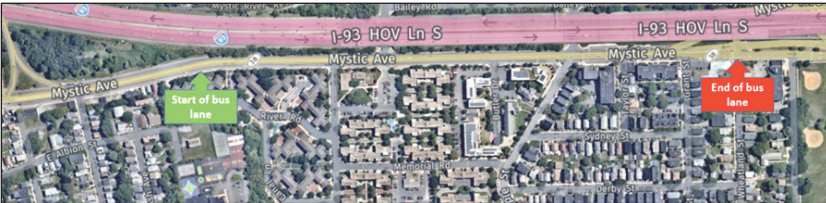
Improved travel time and reliability for MBTA Route 95 bus service
Shorter wait times for the bus at several intersections, including Mystic Avenue (Route 38) at Har-

vard Street, Mystic Avenue at Shore Drive, Mystic Avenue at Temple Street, and Mystic Avenue at McGrath Highway (Route 28)

More efficient and reliable transit service for environmental justice communities that face the consequences of poor air quality in East Somerville and Winter Hill due to proximity to I-93

Improved transit connectivity between Arlington Center, Medford Square, and Sullivan Square

Since the start of the pandemic, the city has designed other quick-build bus and bike improvements on the western section of Washington Street, on the eastern section of Washington Street, in Davis Square, and on Wellington Bridge. For more information, visit bit.ly/BusBikeLanes.



Ms. Cam's

From on page 14

Olio

Answers

1. Grover Cleveland, 22nd and 24th

2. Ulysses S. Grant

3. Rutherford B. Hayes

4. William McKinley

5. November 22, 1963

6. November 5, 1935

7. November 1, 1995

8. Victor

9. William Hanna and Joseph Barbera

10. 1000 meters

11. Leonard Skinner, band Lynyrd Skynyrd

12. AC/DC meaning "alternating current/direct current"

Public Health and Public Safety Meeting explores current issues of interest

By Emmanuel Vincent

On Monday October 26, the City of Somerville Public Health and Public Safety Meeting was held. Running for nearly two hours in duration, it was a virtual event, abiding by Governor Baker's emergency orders as it pertaining to the Open Meeting Law.

There were several items on the agenda for the meeting. One of them was to explore ways to assist law enforcement with detecting mental health issues during their encounter with civilians. To see that this can be

done effectively, the Sequential Intercept Model was presented by way of the Somerville Community Safety Coalition.

This model helps identifying resources and gaps at each intercept and from there, develop local, strategic action plans. This method has been adopted by communities across the country. "Many communities have used the model and community agencies to assess and address gaps in coverage, and to provide comprehensive treatment across a spectrum core population of safety," explained Sarah Courtney, MSW, LCSW.

This is essentially reimagining safety. Mental Health and Substance Abuse is an issue that exists in the community. It can be challenging for police to spot out a mental health episode when responding to a situation.

This is important as there is an overwhelming population of people dealing with Mental Health and substance abuse issues in incarcerated settings. The Sequential Intercept Model is beneficial for both law enforcement and residents.

Another issue that was addressed during the meeting is the impact of the COVID-19

pandemic. Ever since measures were taken in an effort to contain the spread of the virus, people across the country have lost a sense of normalcy. No longer can they spend they interact with family and friends at an intimate level.

Now people are encouraged to engage in social distancing, including isolation. According to Dr. Doug Kress, Director of Health and Human Services, this is not what the human experience was intended to be, as it can be challenging, especially to our youth. "I know that one of the things that we are worried

about with this pandemic is that people start to disappear and lose their, everyday normalcy," Kress said. "So, we are trying to keep up with much of that."

Steps that have been taken include the continuation of the Tobacco Control Initiative, which has seen new regulations passed over the last year. Also, meetings with the Somerville Positive Forces, which has seen an expansion with the inclusion of the Prospect Hill students.

While there is no definitive date set for the next meeting, it will most likely be held this coming Monday.

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Ensuring your home heating equipment operates efficiently all season

Want a snafu-free season of home heating? Better installation and quality service mean a longer life for your heating and cooling equipment, as well as increased energy efficiency and reduced energy bills. Not only that, regular service checks may actually detect problems before you notice them, and catching them in time may extend your unit's life.

So, what should you know before hiring an HVAC professional for your installation, repair or maintenance check? Here are a few things to keep in mind:

• Ask for credentials: Make sure that the contractor has all the necessary permits to do the job. Find out whether they have experience with the maintenance, repair, or replacement of your existing system in order to prevent future misunderstandings or technical problems.

• Ask for guidance: In the long run, knowing how to service the system yourself will save you a considerable amount of money, making a good contractor one who will be there to guide you through the maintenance process.

• Hire carefully: Be careful of the lowest bidder. Contractors who are charging more may be doing so because they are better qualified. You should read company reviews as well as ask the contractor if they have technicians certified by North American Technician Excellence (NATE). NATE-certified technicians have demonstrated their knowledge of today's increasingly sophisticated heating and cooling systems by passing a nationally recognized test developed and supported by all segments of the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning industry. To find a NATE-certified technician in your area, visit Natex.org.

• Take precautions: With a few precautions, you can safely hire an HVAC technician and have home repair work done during the COVID-19 pandemic. Just be sure to ask the contractor about their safety protocols. For example, do they do video conferencing for estimates? Do their techs wear masks, gloves and shoe covers on the job? Are they practicing social distancing?

• Make smart upgrades: Newer units, especially those with ENERGY STAR labels, operate more efficiently, reduce your energy bill, increase your comfort and even help protect the environment. You may not realize the amount of money you waste with a unit that is less efficient by today's standards, even if your heating or cooling system is properly maintained. Consider the age of your unit and think about updating older equipment for long-term savings.

• DIY these tasks: While a qualified professional is a good choice for complicated maintenance tasks, there are a few things you can do to optimize your system's efficiency on your own. This includes changing your air filters at least twice in



er the age of your unit and think about updating older equipment for long-term savings.

the season or as directed by the manufacturer. You should also inspect your furnace area as well as all vents and returns to ensure they are free of obstructions. For smooth, efficient operation of your home heating equipment and a more comfortable winter, be sure any service rendered is carried out by qualified professionals. (StatePoint)

Somerville Winter Farmers Market to open with online pre-orders

CONT. FROM PG 1

people to shop online to avoid lining up in the cold. Customers can make online orders among 35 to 40 market vendors from Sunday to Thursday, and then pick them up in person inside the main hall at the Armory on Saturdays between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. There will also be a curbside pickup option for customers.

SNAP and HIP customers can shop online as well by clicking the SNAP/HIP payment button, and then finish the payment in person at the SNAP/HIP booth when picking up the orders.

ROOTED Cafe and Farmstand, which opened at the Armory this summer during the pandemic, has been expanded to include products from SWFM vendors. The farm-

stands will still be there during the farmers market season. It's also a go-to for customers to enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner.

To satisfy customers who enjoy directly interacting with local farmers and miss the warm and cozy SWFM atmosphere, Reckard-Mota and the team are working on setting up an outdoor market from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays. If the city approves it, there will be 12 to 15 vendors in the Armory's parking lot.

Due to the pandemic, farmers markets have not always done so well. Several of them, including Cambridge Winter Farmers Market, were closed until further notice. SWFM, as a survivor, has also experienced bumps along the way. "We were at

a point that we were really trying to figure out if we were going to have to cancel it or not. And I think we really pushed through that and really tried to figure out a way to make this work," Reckard-Mota said.

For Reckard-Mota, who stepped into her position just three months ago, supporting SWFM is not only about taking care of local farmers and vendors who are making a living through the pandemic, but also about helping SNAP and HIP users. Thanks to the grant they received from the Farmers Market Coalition, SWFM is able to offer a \$15 match for SNAP customers. "This is one of the few places, especially in the winter, that will do that," she added. "You can't go to the



grocery store and use HIP" SWFM is currently looking for volunteers for Saturdays. You can subscribe to their weekly newsletter to learn more about SWFM.

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER
By Bobbygeorge Potaris

What rock group has four men that don't sing?
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On This Day in History

November 4

1493 – Christopher Columbus discovers Guadeloupe during his second expedition.

1842 – Abraham Lincoln marries Mary Todd in Springfield, Il.

1854 – Florence Nightingale and her nurses arrive in the Crimea.

1922 – The entrance to King Tut's tomb is discovered.

1946 – The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is established.

1952 – General Dwight D. Eisenhower is elected 34th president of the United States.

1979 – At the American Embassy in Teheran, Iran, 90 people are taken hostage by militant student followers of Ayatollah Khomeini.

1992 – Carol Moseley Braun becomes the first African American woman to be elected to the U.S. Senate.

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Support local businesses and pick-up gifts and goodies for the holidays at the November Holiday Market in East Somerville. Pre-order online at <https://www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/market>.

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OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

Somerville Photographer
Emily Falcigno:

Takes inspiration from the neighborhood,
people's essence, and even the
sexist remarks of Trumpism

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Jennifer Purcell, born and raised in Weston, Connecticut, is currently studying English with a concentration in Creative Writing as a freshman at Endicott College. She has also recently joined and became an active member of Endicott's literary magazine, *The Endicott Review*.



Treasures of the Mind, Comforts For the Soul

Jennifer Purcell likes a great many things.
She likes cats.
She has three of them-Oliver, George and Beau.
She likes Kevin Gray and The Phantom of the Opera;
She likes to sing; it's her favorite hobby.
She finds TV series both exciting and relaxing.
She likes to speak French and enjoys the French cuisine.
She likes most European things.
Maybe she would like to visit Paris one day.
She likes aesthetically pleasing things,
Like grey fluffy pillows,
And Bohemian-style objects.
She likes warm things,
Like wrapping herself up in a blanket like a tortilla on a chilly winter evening.
And soft, sweet scents,
Like cookies just after coming out of the oven,
And rosewater.
She also likes fires in fireplaces.
And Christmas.
Perhaps she also likes other holidays.
She likes Gaston Leroux, Victor Hugo and JoJo Moyes.
Probably others, too.
Traveling is fun;
She likes parasailing over the white beaches and clear waters of the Turks & Caicos.
Maybe she also likes staying home.
The soft, slow hum of a violin bow as it glides across the A string, she finds very calming.
The salty ocean breeze.
She likes the freezing waters on a hot summer day,
And also the sand.
She likes her hometown friends,
But not her hometown itself.

— Jennifer Purcell

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

Emily Falcigno is a photographer who is about making a strong statement – she boils people and things down to their essence. She is not after the sizzle but the steak. I was glad to catch up with her.

DH: First off, tell me about your experience as a photographer here in Somerville. How does it compare to other places you have lived? One person told me if you are taking pictures in the streets of Medford they think you are an insurance person or a real estate agent, in Somerville they think, "Hey just another artist."

EF: Ha ha ha! I never knew that about Medford. My association to Meffa is Italians, fig trees wrapped for the winter, and wine making. I can totally relate to the Somerville analysis.

My first real foray into photography was photojournalism and as they say in that industry, "If you wanna shoot a good story, look in your own backyard." As a local photojournalist in my hometown, one of the hardest assignments we had was to shoot "enterprise photos." We had to go around and look for single filler photos for the gray space in the paper. One time I hopped in the back of a landscaping truck to get a shot of the landscapers on the move. Another time, I was walking through a state park, and a ranger who could have been Hagrid's brother, was carrying a fawn he found alone in the woods. To see the soft side of this huge guy with a little tiny wild animal was so moving. The day was really foggy so it made for a beautifully moody photo.

Somerville is chock-full of eye candy, like the DPW during snowmageddon, unicyclers, School of Honk parading on a snowy day. Festivals galore! Honk and The Independent Film Festival are tied for my favorites. I have been volunteering for IFF since 2011 and got to photograph Dennis Leary, Miranda July, Jason Segel, MIT researcher, Joe Davis (look him up!), etc. It's a great opportunity to see films people care about deeply, and rub elbows with filmmakers in your own backyard.

I learned that no matter where you are: the more you look around, the more you see.

DH: In my research about you, I read you viewed a sexist video and this propelled you to create *In Her Words: A Collective Diary of Everyday Women*. Tell us about this project?

EF: Yes. *In Her Words Diary* started the day I heard about Trump's pussy grabbing video back in 2016. I refused to watch it, I was so angry. Instead, I pulled out my camera, and asked myself, "How do I show disgust and anger in a self portrait?" I have a whole series of me flipping the bird. After that, I decided to illustrate small battles and triumphs of other everyday women to tell a bigger story. We illustrate tiny things that go unnoticed and women brush off. The problem is, those little issues build up and trigger us when they're not acknowledged and healed. What started as a venting project became an inspirational one through women's stories of sisterly support.

We took the project to new heights in 2018 when I got a billboard in Times Square, and photographed AOC and Ayanna Pressley for it.

For 2019's Women's History Month, Heather Balchunas and I collaborated on *Visible Voices* for the Inside OUT gallery in Davis Square. We collected battles, triumphs, and supportive stories from all genders around the city to display on paper dolls alongside IHWD photos. Anonymous stories included one on collecting breastmilk for a baby who had lost his mother, and another was about a guy who got a job, had no idea what he was doing, and relied on a female colleague to teach him what she knew. We heard countless stories of body issues. And one of an older single woman who never married and felt outcast from society's norms. That one hit home for me.

DH: You are the founder of Savvy Singles. You photograph single people for the digital dating era. According to material I read you want to capture people in a natural way. How do you go about capturing the essence and energy of

your clients?

EF: Savvy Singles Studio started as a way to help people with their dating profiles. People were posting car selfies. Frankly, those kinds of selfies talk behind your back. All they tell me is: You wear a seatbelt, and you drive distracted.



Remember the point about photographing the story in your own backyard? We help singles pull out the real story they want to tell about themselves, not the story they think they should be telling because it's convenient.

Over quarantine I deepened my clients' Roadmap to Savvy by creating *The Visionary's Journey* workshop (and podcast on IGTV). I teach people how to get back to their core values, build a vision of their ideal lifestyle, and teach them how to manifest it. By giving singles permission to break society's rules and make their own, we help them cultivate confidence and enthusiasm.

I specialize in photographing people who don't typically like how they look in photos. We don't do styling makeovers, we do soul makeovers.

DH: Do you define yourself as a feminist?

EF: Yes, however, I don't like to put myself in a box. I don't like labels. If you ask different generations, you'll get different responses to what "Feminism" means. I like Gen Z's definition: Feminism is the equality of all genders.

A Black Lives Matter member once said to me, "Feminism: the White is silent".

Intersectional Feminism is important to keep in mind. This refers to one person who belongs to more than one oppressed group. For instance: Black + female + LGBTQIA + other-abled. When we do the work to lift up the most oppressed of us, everyone is lifted up.

In all of my work, I lead with compassion, and promote the acceptance of feminine values in our society. Balancing feminine energy (empathy, community, fluidity) and masculine energy (pride, action, efficiency) in our bodies will help us find balance in society.

DH: Did you formally study photography? What photographers are your role models?

EF: I was obsessed with my mother's Kodak camera in the 80s. I picked up my first photography class in high school, and in college I couldn't wait to get into the dark room. I was the photo editor on my paper for three years, and started learning Photoshop as soon as it came out. I was mostly interested in photographing people.

When I moved to Boston, I started photographing rock bands. I really loved Liz Linder's work, and 13 years later I got to work for her, which was incredible! I also loved Annie Leibovitz's work for *Rolling Stone* and referenced her in an homage photo I did for *In Her Words Diary*. I spent a long time with Lorna Simpson's work at the ICA too.

I am a painter first, so I look to Renaissance painters for inspiration. Caravaggio's dramatic lighting makes my heart sing.

DH: Any new projects in the works?

EF: I'm really excited about *The Visionary's Basecamp* (an intro to TVJ) coming up on November 14. I'm teaching people how to manifest new opportunities, like I manifested my billboard, my pop up at Bow Market, and small miracles every day. One client got her dream job after piloting TVB. It really is a game changer when you change your mindset.

Beyond that I'm mastering the art of the remote photo session. I am happy to help people who are curious and willing to do the work to upgrade their lives over quarantine and beyond!

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